Historic Grounds Report
for
Carpenters' Hall and Carpenters' Court
in
Independence National Historical Park

ON MICROFILM
Historic Grounds Survey Report
on
CARPENTERS' HALL AND COURT
Independence National Historical Park

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Prepared by
Staff
Independence National Historical Park

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August 1958
CHAPTER I
ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Prepared by Superintendent H. O. Anderson
TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA
Section 1. Recommended Treatment for Carpenters' Hall Yard and Carpenters' Court

CHAPTER II. HISTORICAL DATA
Section 1. Historical Associations and Evaluation of Importance
Section 2. Justification of Use
Section 3. Documentary Study (Physical History)

CHAPTER III. LANDSCAPE DATA
Section 1. Existing Landscape Features
Section 2. Historic Landscaping

CHAPTER IV. ARCHITECTURAL DATA
Section 1. Existing Structures
Section 2. Historic Structures

CHAPTER V. ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA
Section 1. Work Completed
Section 2. Further Research Needed

CHAPTER VI. RECOMMENDATIONS
Section 1. Recommended Treatment for Carpenters' Court
Section 2. Recommended Treatment for Carpenters' Hall Yard
RECOMMENDED TREATMENT FOR CARPENTERS' HALL YARD AND CARPENTERS' COURT

It is recognized that a basic plan and design for treatment of Carpenters' Hall Yard and Carpenters' Court was necessarily developed several months ago as a basis for proceeding with contract work in this area. These plans received the required approval. Such research data as had been assembled at the time was made available to the Eastern Office of Design and Construction. With the additional data now available and incorporated herein, we suggest that consideration be given the approved plans to determine whether, prior to the beginning of the basic construction work under contract, the plan and design might be appropriately adjusted in accordance with the following recommendations which are based on the additional research data obtained since the original specifications and plans were prepared and approved.

Carpenters' Hall Yard

It is recommended that the Yard be restored as closely as possible to its appearance as of 1791-1800, after the erection of New Hall. This would include a stone footway from the head of Carpenters' Court to the front steps of Carpenters' Hall, walks around the yard for the accommodation of visitors, and no trees, bushes, or flowers.

The evidence suggests that the yard was enclosed with a relatively plain, painted or white-washed board fence on the south,
east, and west sides and on the north to the east of the Court, with no fences or gates joining the old Hall and the fences to the east and west. Since gates are required in the fences to give access to the yard from the east or west, we suggest that these be in keeping with the simple fencing.

Although justifiable on historic grounds, the reconstruction of the two 18th-century necessities in the northwest and southeast corners of the yard is not recommended at this time due to a lack of adequate research information.

Carpenters' Court

It is recommended that the Court be paved as it was from 1798 to 1800: the cartway with cobbles, granite curbs, flagstone gutters, and the flanking footways with bricks laid end to end along the long axis of the Court. The historical evidence now available indicates that the cartway and east and west footways extended to a depth of 140 feet, and that an iron-chambered pump was located on the west side of the court about 30 feet in from Chestnut Street and about 25 feet east of the west line of the Carpenters' lot. Unless the width of the cartway is determined otherwise by archeological evidence, it is understood to have been about 6\(\frac{1}{2}\) feet wide with the brick footways about 3\(\frac{3}{4}\) feet.

It is apparent from the evidence that the court did not have a gate at Chestnut Street nor any chain-and-posts at the south
end, as these features were introduced only in the mid-19th century. We accordingly recommend that these features as incorporated in the presently approved design plan and contract, be restudied to determine whether they should be eliminated.
CHAPTER II
HISTORICAL DATA

Prepared by Historian David H. Wallace
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS AND EVALUATION OF IMPORTANCE

During its first fifty years Carpenters' Hall was a focal point in the political, intellectual, and economic life of Philadelphia. Between 1774 and 1791 it housed the First Continental Congress, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the American Philosophical Society, the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention of 1776, the Commissary General of Military Stores, the War Department, and, of course, the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia. From 1791 to 1802 it housed in succession the War Department, the Bank of the United States, and the Bank of Pennsylvania, and from 1803 to 1824, the United States Custom House and the Second Bank of the United States. New Hall, on the court leading to old Carpenters' Hall, had as its first tenant in 1792 the War Department under Henry Knox; later tenants included many of the social, cultural, religious, and educational organizations of the city.

The court leading to and the yard around Carpenters' Hall and New Hall share much of the historic interest usually centered on the buildings themselves. The roster of persons who walked up Carpenters' Court to the Hall would include practically every national figure of importance in the first quarter century of our history as a nation. The yard of the old hall, though primarily a utility area, possesses some interest in view of the fact that the Commissary General of Military Stores erected on it a number of shops for the servicing of military equipment during the Revolution.
Essentially, however, both Carpenters' Court and the yard on the Mall are important as part of the historic setting of Carpenters' Hall and New Hall and should, therefore, be treated as landscape elements in the development of the area.
JUSTIFICATION OF USE

Limited restoration of Carpenters' Court and landscape development around Carpenters' Hall on historic lines are justifiable as contributions to the Park interpretive program, inasmuch as such treatment would help to re-create the historic atmosphere of an important area of the Park. One reason for the early popularity of Carpenters' Hall as a meeting place was its retired position at the head of a narrow court. Any development tending to suggest this historic characteristic would be a distinct aid to interpretation.
DOCUMENTARY STUDY (PHYSICAL HISTORY)

The grounds of Carpenters' Hall consist of two connecting but distinct areas: the Court leading south from Chestnut Street to a depth of 140 feet and the Yard surrounding the Hall on all four sides. In order to preserve the distinction between them, they are treated separately in sub-sections, A and B, below.

This study is based primarily on the manuscript records of the Carpenters' Company. In interpreting this material the writer has received valuable aid from Archaeologist Powell and Supervising Architect Grossman and from the following works: Charles E. Peterson, "Carpenters' Hall," *Historic Philadelphia* (Phila. 1953); James C. Massey, "Carpenters' Court," report prepared for Independence National Historical Park, revised edition, 1954; and "A Survey Report on New Hall in Carpenters' Court," prepared by the Park staff, 1956.

A. CARPENTERS' COURT

The lot acquired for the Carpenters' Company in 1768 by Benjamin Loxley and two other members of the Company had a frontage of 66 feet on Chestnut Street and depth of 235 feet. At the time of its purchase Loxley drew a plan of the property (see Illustration No. 1) which, supplemented by data on the tenants also noted by Loxley, gives a fairly clear picture of the property before its development by the Company.
The lot in 1768 was roughly bisected to a depth of about 127 feet by a 14 foot alley, subsequently known as Carpenters' Court. On the east side of this alley, fronting on Chestnut Street, was a house rented to two shopkeepers; about 30 feet behind these shops stood a building identified as an office with two tenants; beyond this there was a garden and, near the south end of the alley, a small structure not identified by Loxley, possibly a privy or woodshed.

On the west side there was a range of contiguous buildings extending along the alley to a depth of 73 feet; these are identified by Loxley as the Front House, with five tenants, the North Kitchen and the South Kitchen, each with one tenant. Beyond the second kitchen there was a garden and, near the end of the alley, an unidentified structure, again possibly a privy or woodshed.

The back half of the Carpenters' Company lot, extending about 127 feet south from the head of the alley, was rented out to Samuel Pleasants for a garden, presumably a vegetable garden.

Loxley's plan and a 1775 deed to the property to the east of the Court indicate that the Court at first was 14 feet wide at Chestnut Street. The plan shows that it widened gradually behind the front houses to a maximum width of about 31 feet at the office on the east side, then returned abruptly to its original width about 25 feet from the head of the court. There is no information to suggest that it was paved or fenced. An old well on the property seems to have been
on the west side of the Court a short distance behind the Front house, now probably covered by the remains of the new Front Store erected in 1810. 4

The only recorded changes in the Court between 1768 and 1774 were the sitting of a 32-foot iron chamber pump in the old well, with paving around it (1770), 5 and the erection of "Fencing a Long the Hall Alley" (Dec. 1772 or Jan. 1773). 6 It is not indicated whether this fencing extended the whole length of the Court, but it may have, since John Adams mentioned "a long entry where Gent may walk" as one of the features of Carpenters' Hall which made it a convenient meeting place for the Continental Congress. 7 The fencing was undoubtedly of wood. There is no hint of its height, nor do we know whether it flanked the court on one or both sides.

Apparently the Court was still unpaved. When the Carpenters' Company sold the 26' by 140' lot on the east side to Joseph Pemberton in January 1775, the deed stipulated that Pemberton "shall and will well and sufficiently pave with brick or stone the Easterly moiety or half part of the aforesaid 14 feet alley and will keep the said pavement in repair hereafter." 8 In return Pemberton and subsequent owners of the property were given free use of the Court.

Between 1775 and 1792 the Court was put to considerably harder use than earlier. During most of this period the Commissary General of Military Stores occupied space in the Hall, which meant
such hauling back and forth of military equipment. It was during these years, apparently, that the first paving was laid down. The Carpenters' Company records are unfortunately not specific enough to throw much light on this question. They indicate, however, that £1:10:6 was paid for paving in 1784, that in 1786 £2:10:2 1/2 was paid for sand, gravel and stone and £1:10:0 for 750 paving bricks, and that in January 1792 £30 was paid for paving bricks, where these materials were used is not indicated, but it is certain that some, at least, were used to pave Carpenters' Court, because the paving in the Court had to be taken up in 1796 and relaid to meet the new grade of Chestnut Street (see below). In 1792 the paving probably consisted of brick for the footways and cobbles or pebbles for the cartway with no edging stones between them.

The only other recorded work on the Court between 1775 and 1792 was various repairs to the well and pump.

During this period there is no mention of the fencing along the Court, which may have been taken down piecemeal when the Pemberton house (1775) and New Hall (1791) were erected on the east and west sides respectively. If any of this fence remained in 1792 it would have been on the east side of the Court behind the Pemberton house, screening off the latter's back-buildings.

The Court underwent further development in 1798. Chestnut Street having been regraded, it was found necessary to do the same
at least part way along the Carpenters' Court. The Company at this
time took the opportunity to institute certain improvements, including
the narrowing of the cartway to a width unspecified and the setting
of curb stones between cartway and footways to an unspecified depth
along the Court. The materials used in this major reconstruction of
the Court included 161 feet of curb stone, six loads of sand, and
201 1/2 yards of paving brick. Four cellar windows had to be raised,
probably on the front store, and the well re-arched. The work cost
over $200, of which about half was paid by Edward Tilghman, owner of
the property on the east side of the Court.14

With the completion of this work the Court assumed approxi-
mately its final form—a cobbled cartway perhaps 6 or 7 feet wide,
high crowned and edged with granite curb stones, flanked on the east
side with a brick footway 3 1/2 or 4 feet wide, and on the west by a
similar footway 7 1/2 or 8 feet wide.15 The flag gutters visible in
the earliest photographs were not added apparently until 1843.16

The Court remained fundamentally unchanged from 1800 until
after the restoration of the Hall in 1857. A lamp was set up in
front of New Hall in 1803, apparently the first installed in the
Court.17 The old pump on the west side of the Court was moved
4 or 5 feet in 1807 to accommodate an addition behind the front
store, but was removed entirely in 1810 when the new front store was
erected.18 The new store was 4 feet wider than the building it
replaced and therefore its erection also took 4 feet off the west footway of the Court, reducing it to 3 1/2 to 4 feet, as on the east side.\textsuperscript{19}

Schuykill water pipes (wooden) were laid as far as New Hall in 1811\textsuperscript{20} and gas pipes in 1838.\textsuperscript{21} The cartway was repaired in 1843, when flag gutters were laid, apparently for the first time.\textsuperscript{22} Two posts were set at the head of the Court in 1851 and a chain hung to keep the Hall yard free of unauthorized traffic.\textsuperscript{23} The Court was not closed off entirely until 1858 when an ornamental iron gate was set up at Chestnut Street.\textsuperscript{24}

The earliest views of Carpenters' Court are three photographs taken between 1851 and 1873.\textsuperscript{25} These show that the cartway was still cobbled down the middle, bordered by curb stones, and flanked by brick footways. The flag gutters visible in these photographs were, we know, added in 1843; otherwise there does not seem to have been any essential change in the character of the paving. These views also show the footway bricks laid end to end along the court. The Carpenters' Company records are silent on this point and give no indication of a wholesale repaving of the brick footways at any time during the first half of the 19th century. Since the paving of the Court had otherwise undergone little change since 1796, it is likely that the brick pattern of 1851 was similar to that of the 1790's.
NOTES ON SECTION 3-A

1. Philadelphia Deed Book I-4/146-149. George and Ann Helden to Benjamin Loxley, Thomas Nevell and Robert Smith [acting for the Carpenters' Company], February 3, 1768:

"A certain lot or piece of ground...containing in breadth 66 feet and in length or depth 255 feet bounded eastward by a lot late of John Brienmull deceased, southward with Samuel Hudson's lot, westward with a lot late of William Forest deceased now belonging to the Quakers Meeting, and northward with Chestnut street...."

2. Tenant list, in Benjamin Loxley's Memorandum Book, loc. cit.:

"A List of George Helden's tenants...Jany. 12th 1768"  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenant</th>
<th>Rent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Alstein</td>
<td>£10: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thos. Lewis</td>
<td>3: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Cary</td>
<td>3: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Donely</td>
<td>2: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo. Harvey</td>
<td>5:10:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in old F[ront] House</td>
<td>£23:10:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jno. Kaghill</td>
<td>7: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick O'Neill</td>
<td>3: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in 2 F[ront] Shops</td>
<td>10: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jno. Davis</td>
<td>8: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saml. Pleasants</td>
<td>3: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; Lott</td>
<td>11: 0:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash lost yearly</td>
<td>11:10:0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[in 2 Kitchens]</td>
<td>20: 0:0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total rent to be paid yearly £66:0:0


"A certain lot...bounded westward 3/ an alley
14 feet wide extg. from Chestnut street 140 feet to other ground whereof this was a part...."

4. The earliest reference to the old well on the Company's lot is an entry of April 19, 1770 (Larden's Book, Carpenters' Company Library), which reveals that Ivan Peters is to be asked "to make a pump to have an iron chamber in it & fix in the old well on the Comp'y lott...." On June 14, 1770 the Treasurer noted in his ledger (Bound with Minutes of the Friendship Carpenters' Company, Carpenters' Company Library) that Ivan Peters was credited "By 32 feet of Pump 3/ £4:16:0, by a set of Boxes, leathering, and Nozel [sic] 121:6, by a Head for d[ill]o 7:6, Paving about ye Pump & Stuff 5:0.

Repairs to the pump are noted on the same ledger at various times down to 1789, notably the making of "a rough well curb" by Joseph Esh (June 4, 1779).
None of these early references indicate the location of the well or pump. That it was on the west side of the Court just behind the front store (Fawcitt house) is indicated by the fact that in 1806 the pump was removed "four or five feet from its present birth [sic]" to make room for an extension of the front building "in a line with the [New] Hall" (Minutes of the Managing Committee, Feb. 26, 1806, and Account Book, Jan. 17, 1807, Carpenters' Company Library). This old well and pump were apparently replaced by a cistern and pump after the erection of the big new Front Store in 1810 (Minutes of the Managing Committee, March 6-May 1, 1811, and Account Book, May 1, 1811, Carpenters' Company Library).

5. See Note 4, above.

6. "Antiquities, Curiosities and Memoranda," bound volume of Messrs., Carpenters' Company Library:

   [Carpenters' Company, debtor to James Worrell] "Jany. 9 1773 - to 4 1/2 Day Scott 4 1/2 Day Garret 4 1/2
   Nelson working and putting up Fencing a Long the Hall Alley with sundry other Jobing work at that time £2:14:0".


9. The Commissary General of Military Stores occupied the lower floor and cellar, as well as part of the yard, from 1778 to 1791 (see Charles E. Peterson, "Carpenters' Hall," in Historic Philadelphia, Vol. 49, Part 1, Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, 1963). The sort of traffic to which the court was subjected at this time is indicated by the following entry, dated November 13, 1786, in the Account Book, Military Stores, 1781-1788 (Collection of Revolutionary War Records, War Department, MS National Archives XCVI, 336):
   "To cash paid Henry Javett for hawling 4 loads
   of Cannon &c to Carpenters Hall 72/90"


13. See Note 4, above.

14. The following pertinent extracts from the Carpenters' Company records cover this operation:

Minutes of the Committee of Seven, June 15, 1796:
"...it is agreed that] as far as the pavement is taken up that edging stone be put and that the cart way be made narrower than at present."

Minutes of the Committee of Seven, June 22, 1796:
"[Committee agrees to put in] curb stones in the best manner."

Carpenters' Company's Account with Benjamin Taylor, dated July 12, 1796, in box of miscellaneous manuscripts, Carpenters' Company Library:

"The Carpenters Company of Philadelphia by their committee James Pearson and Edward Garrigues to Benj. Taylor for—
to taking up paving, taking out sand and filling — 15/-
for paving Tilghman's side — 10/
for raising four sallar windows at 2/6 10/
to laying 49 1/2 yd. pavement at 1/6 3/14/
to laying 152 yds. Carpenters side, at 1/6 11/ 8/
to arching at [illegible] and work to pipe from the [illegible] 7/ 6/
to six loads sand at 4/6 1/ 7/
to hauling do. 12/2

£18/13/8"
15. This estimate of the width of the cartway and footways has been arrived at as follows: Total width of the Carpenters' lot at Chestnut Street, 40 feet, minus width of front (Fawcitt) House, 22 feet = 18 feet, width of Court. The cartway centered on the wall door. If it was 6-7 feet wide, the footway to the east was 3 1/2 - 4 feet wide, that to the west 7 1/2 - 8 feet wide. The erection of the new front store in 1810, with a 26 foot frontage on Chestnut Street, narrowed the west side of the walkway by 4 feet, or to the same width as the walk on the east side.

16. Rough Minutes, Managing Committee, Nov. 8, 1843:
"Order for $49.50 drawn in favor of Jeremiah Johnston] for laying flag gutters and repaying cartway in Carpenter Court."

17. Minutes of the Committee of Seven, Dec. 28, 1803, record an order to pay the City $19.16, "it being in full for Lighting the Lamp at the Wall door." In 1803, it should be noted, "The wall" meant New Hall.

18. See Note 4, above.

19. See Note 15, above.

20. On Jan. 21, 1811, the Company directed its Managing Committee "to have the Schuylkill water introduced into the Cistern" (Company Minutes) and the work was completed by the end of April (Minutes of the Managing Committee, May 1, 1811). The Treasurer's Account Book, under date of May 1, 1811, records payments of $52.63 to Frederick Craft "for water [sic] pipe &c &c", of $15.50 to Thomas Bixey "for a pump", and of $30.00 to Gitcheny & Poulson "for paving."

A year later neighborhood use of the new pump was such a nuisance that the following resolution was adopted by the Managing Committee (Minutes, June 10, 1812):
"Resolved that a notice be put on the pump that no person except those occupying the Carpenters Building can be permitted to take water from the pump in buckets or tubs and that a chain & lock be put on at night."

21. The Managing Committee was authorized to have a gas burner placed in the Court early in 1837 (Company Minutes, Jan. 16, 1837).
Gas pipes were accordingly laid sometime before December 1838, when a company refused receiving any sum short of the total amount of its bill for laying pipes. (Rough Minutes, Managing Committee, July 15 and 29, 1840).

22. See Note 16, above.

23. In April 1851 C. J. Colbert, tenant of old Carpenters' Hall, complained to the Committee that the space directly in front of the Hall door was frequently obstructed by wagons belonging to Howell & Bros., owners of the store on the east side of the Court. The Carpenters' Company therefore appointed a committee to have a chain placed across the southern terminus of Howell & Bros. line (Rough Minutes, Managing Committee, April 23, 1851). A chain and posts were set up the following month (Rough Minutes, Managing Committee, May 21, 1851). Two posts, but not the chain, are visible in the earliest photographic view of the Hall, dating from 1851-1857 (Illustration No. 7, below). Two more posts were added on the west side between 1859 and 1861 (Illustration No. 8, below).

24. Minutes, Managing Committee, May 3, 1858: "Resolved, that the managing committee be directed to procure and have set up suitable iron gates with appropriate finish at the end of Court fronting on Chestnut Street, they first obtaining the consent of owners of adjoining property." Iron gates, costing $180, were procured from Hood and Perot and installed late in 1858 (Minutes, Managing Committee, Jan. 12, 1859). These highly ornamental gates are well shown in Illustration No. 8, below.

25. See Illustration Nos. 6, 7, and 8, below.

3. CARPENTERS' HALL YARD

The back half of the Carpenters' Company lot, on which their Hall was built in 1771-1774, was under cultivation as a garden in 1788. The whole plot, 66 feet by 127' 6" was rented to Samuel Pleasants at $23.0:0 per annum. No fence is shown on Loxley's plan of 1788, but there may well have been one.
By 1774 Carpenters' Hall was substantially finished. Built in the form of a cross, it was roughly 51 feet square, with 10 foot breaks in the angles. There were doors both front and back on the first floor and a cellar door at the back. There was open space on all four sides, about 20 feet in back, about 7 feet 6 inches on either side, and about 57 feet in front to the head of Carpenters' Court. There were no buildings in the yard, except possibly a necessary built in 1770, which may have been in the extreme northwest corner of the front yard.

There is no record in the Carpenters' Company papers to indicate that any paving, gravelling, or planting was done in the yard before the Revolution.

Although there is no documentary evidence for fencing around the back and sides of the yard, it probably existed at this early date, especially on the west side where the yard bordered on the grounds of the 4th Street Friends School.

During and after the Revolution the first floor and cellar of Carpenters' Hall were rented by a succession of government agencies - the Barrack-Master, the Commissary General of Military stores, and the Department of War. The Commissariat was there for about ten years, during which time the yard of Carpenters' Hall must have been a busy place. Since the cellars could be reached only through the back yard, that area must have been subjected to as heavy use as the front. The Commissary General also secured permission in 1779 to put up a frame brassfounders and filecutters shop on the west side of the Court between the second kitchen and the necessary, probably on the site
of later New Hall. Permission to build a smith's forge in front of the hall was denied in 1781, but additional frame buildings may have been put up in the 1780's, for in 1791 secretary of war Knox was requested to remove "all the framed or wooden buildings built on the company's lot."

By 1800 it is certain that the yard was enclosed on the east, south and west sides. A "Fence round the yard" was mentioned in 1797 and the fence on the east side was repaired by a carpenter in April 1800. This was probably a comparatively plain board fence. Presumably it was painted, although the earliest reference to painting the fences occurs in 1836. A wooden palisade fence for the front of the old hall was made to the order of the Bank of the U.S., in 1791 but was never put up, the Bank having cancelled their order. No fences or gates were put up across the side yards until 1815-1816.

The only new structure built in the yard between 1792 and 1800 was a necessary in the southeast corner of the lot, behind the old Hall. The pit was brick-lined and the house above it was of wood.

Despite the heavy use of the yard around the hall during and after the Revolution, there is no indication that any part of it was surfaced earlier than Feb. 1791, when Joseph Englis rendered an account of £1.4.10 "for balling &c. 4 load Gravel to the Hall." Since this was before work was begun on New Hall, the implication is that
the gravel was used in the yard of the Old Hall. The following
year "the footway or opposite alley or front of Hall" was paved with stone. This could refer to paving in front of either
the old or the new Hall. The evidence is unclear in both cases,
but suggests that at least the area in front of the Old Hall was
gravelled during the 1790's, with possibly a stone path leading from
the Court to the front door.

The most notable alteration in the Yard after 1800 was the
appropriation of the northeast corner for a two story brick "store",
built in 1802, which extended about 39' from the Tilghman line to
within 6' of the old Hall. This structure ran up almost to an
external "fireproof" of brick, one story high, built about 1795 in
the northeast angle of the Hall. Only a narrow passageway there-
after existed to connect the front yard and the east side yard.

The remaining yard "round the Custom House" (old Hall) was
spread with gravel in 1807 and in 1808 the "gutters and pavement"
on the east side of the Old Hall had to be repaired. The earliest
photograph of Carpenters' Hall, taken between 1851 and 1857, shows
the entire front yard of the Hall paved in brick, except for what appears
to be a cobble strip from the head of the alley about halfway to the
steps of the Hall. There seems to be no way of determining when
the yard received this final paving pattern, but it must have been after
the graveling of 1807. The planting of grass, trees and shrubs in
the Yard came after 1857.
1. See Benjamin Loxley's "Plan of the Carpenters' Lott", dated April 7, 1768 (Illustration No. 1, below), and Loxley's "List of George Ablen's Tenants", dated Jan. 12, 1768 (see Note No. 2, Notes on section 3-A, page 7 above), both from Benjamin Loxley's Memorandum Book, John W. Dilks, Jr., Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

2. The space in front was reduced by about 13 feet in 1775 when Joseph Pemberton bought the lot on the east side of the Court.

3. On Feb. 10, 1770, the building committee arranged to "get a Little House Bugg &c on the west side of the Lott" (Benjamin Loxley's Memorandum Book, John W. Dilks, Jr., Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania). On January 18, 1771 Abraham Carlile rendered a bill (in "Antiquities, Curiosities and Memoranda," Carpenters' Company Library) for services and materials, including the following:

   "To begin & walling a messery vallt of 16 feet Deap
   & 9 feet 2 i wide at 8/
   6:0:0

   To arching & laying the foundation of ditto 1:10:0

   To 96 feet of oke Scantling 0:7:6

   To 16 lb of 20d nails at 10d 0:15:0

   To one lead Cedar post for the messery floor 0:2:6"

   An additional sum of £1:11:6 was credited to William Anderson, tenant in the South Kitchen, for "5 days work of his apprentice wheeling earth from the Necessary 3\(\frac{3}{4}\)"...one days work of ditto digging up old Posts...." (Account Book, Jan. 18, 1771, Carpenters' Company Library).

   The exact location of this necessary is not known, but it probably stood just to the south of the southern wall of New Hall, erected in 1791, soon after New Hall was built a second necessary was dug behind the old hall (see Note 15, below).

4. An entry in the Carpenters' Company Account Book, Feb. 4, 1774, crediting Cunning Bedford "By Cash paid for 3 loads Loom 9/" may indicate that loom was spread around the newly finished building, possibly in preparation for seeding with grass.

5. For an indication of the various kinds of military stores which passed through the yard, see the list of stores to be sold at auction at Carpenters' Hall September 10, 1784, Illustration No. 2, below.

6. Gardners' Book, April 19, 1779:

   "The company present taking in to consideration the rent that shall be paid for part of their Lott from
Anderson house to the Nessay in the yard; Agreed that, that part of the Lott now Lett to Col. Benj Flower Com. Gen. M. Stores in behalf of the United States to build a shop for the brassfounders & file cutters shall be rated at Twenty five pounds pr annum....

7. Warden's Book, July 16, 1781:
"At this meeting Col. Saml Woodson Com. Gen. of Milly stores proposed to the Comp'y for leave to erect a smiths forge on the Comp'y's lot front of the hall--when being put to the vote was unanimously determined that none should be erected, nor any part of the yard inclosed."

8. Minutes of the Committee, Aug. 18, 1791.

9. Minutes of the Committee of Seven, Aug. 3, 1797:
"This Committee being apprehensive that the late rain may have damaged the fence round the yard belonging to the hall request Joseph Morris to attend thereto and have any repairs done that may appear needful."

10. Minutes of the Committee of seven, April 30, 1800:
"[John Keen to be paid $29.37,] it being for Carpenters' work and materials for repairing fence &c at the east side of the hall now Bank of Pennsilv...."

11. Both plain and palisade fencing is shown in several early 19th century views of Carpenters' Hall (see Illustrations Nos. 3, 4 and 5, but these views are of doubtful value as historical evidence. By the time they were made the Carpenters' fence had been partly replaced (1810) by the party wall of Arthur Howell's store on Hudson's Alley and a party wall erected behind the Friends' school on 4th street. The fence shown in these 19th century views probably represents the artists' ideas of what it originally looked like.

12. Warden's Book, Jan. 20, 1836:
"The committee on the repairs of the hall suggested the propriety of having...the fences painted. It was on motion resolved, That the committee be authorized to have the same done...."

13. The fence was ready to be put up by January 19, 1792, when a committee was appointed to inquire of the Bank directors the reason
for suspension of the work (Minutes of the Committee [of seven], Jan. 19, 1792). On January 27, 1792, the Bank was billed £13:12:9 "for half the expense of a Pallisade fence prepared by their request, but order'd not to be put up."

14. In July 1815 the committee on repairs to the Custom House (Old Carpenters' Hall) were "directed to have a carrying put from the Custom House to the wall" (Minutes of the Managing Committee, July 12, 1815) and the work was reported completed on July 19. The following March Jonathan Roberts and Isaac Forsyth were directed "to investigate the propriety of erecting a fence near the Custom house &c" (Minutes of Managing Committee, March 27, 1816). In July Roberts presumably connected with this job (Minutes of Managing Committee, July 31, 1816). Although the location of these two fences is not clearly stated, it is probable that they ran from the sides of the old hall to the east and west boundary fences or walls and controlled access to the rear yard. Such fences are shown on all the early 19th century views (see Illustrations 3, 4 and 5).

15. The erection of New Hall in 1791 increased the number of tenants to the point where it became desirable to provide a second necessary. The new one was authorized on March 5, 1794 (Minutes of the Committee) and was located in the southeast corner of the Carpenters' lot, behind the old hall, occupied at that time by the Bank of the United States. The Minutes of the Committee, May 14, 1794, record the expenditure of £4:6:11 for "hauling dirt from yard," £6:7:6 "to wall digger."

The house over the necessary was repaired in 1818 by a carpenter, indicating wood construction (Minutes of the Managing Committee, Dec. 9, 1818). In 1823, following complaints from tenants using it, the original wooden structure was replaced with one of brick (Minutes of the Managing Committee, June 25, Sept. 24, 1823).


17. In a volume of miscellaneous manuscripts, entitled "Antiquities, Curiosities and Memoranda" in the Carpenters' Company Library there is the draft of a letter from the President of the Company to the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, dated Sept.
18, 1801. This letter, described the facilities available for rent on the Carpenters' lot. In an accompanying plan of the property (now missing) was shown "where a store may be built of 32 feet North and South by 22 feet East and West, or may be extended to 40 feet in front on the Court by 22 feet in depth (deducting a part for a purpose shown on the plan) and may be built one or two stories high as may be judged most convenient, with a Cellar under great part thereof." That this store was actually built in 1802 is indicated by the Minutes of the Committee of Seven. On August 11, 1802, Joseph Morris was directed by the Committee "to make out a bill of scantling...to have the Joies procured for the Store to be built." The store is visible in several photographs taken before its removal in the 1870's (see Illustrations Nos. 6, 7 and 8).

19. Minutes of the Managin. Committee, July 15, 1807:
"George Summers is appointed to have some Gravell halled & spread about the Custom House."
Ibid., Sept. 2, 1807:
"The Committee to have gravel put round the Custom House are Discharged."

20. Minutes of the Managing Committee, Sept. 6, 1809:
"Joseph Morris is appointed a committee to have the Gutter & pavement done between Custom house & Arthur Howell's Store."
Ibid., Sept. 14, 1809:
"The Committee to have the Gutter & Pavement put in order are continued..."

21. See Illustration No. 6.

22. Minutes of the Managing Committee, June 22, 1857:
"...decided to have the back yard laid out for garden and the walks paved..."
Ibid., May 19, 1858:
"[$11.25 to Sarah Stewart, custodian] for purchase of Tree on front of hall and removing coal ashes."
Ibid., May 28, 1862:
"Saml. Williamson was authorized to have an arbor erected in yard of Hall."
See also Illustration No. 9.
CHAPTER III

LANDSCAPE DATA

Prepared by Historian David H. Wallace
In obedience to a Resolution of the Honourable Congress of the States, called the 4th of July, 1784, and an Order from the Secretary in the War-Office, to me directed,

On Friday the 10th of September,
Will commence the S A L E of the following

Military Stores,

Deposited in this City, viz.

EMPTIES: Basket cases, carriage and common fiddles; Hungarian and common fiddles, Circlets; Girths and girth webs; Saddles, Leather and canvas covers; Harness, Pitch and staff forks, Tin Scales; Cantasses (tim & wood) Cantasses trays; Soybeans and handles; Wheel and hand barrow cases; Curtains, Saddle trees; Furrows with hobbles, perforated binding; Store plates; Tin splicing pins; Pruner spoons; Narebne plades; Fine file, Damaged deck furniture; Drets houch chairs; Curry combs; Croak chairs; Wood and iron truck wheels; Herbs and spices; Cutting boxes & knives; Leather pocket books, Candelsticks & handles; Tow lines; Somewhere and coolet wires; Hanks; Maiz rings; Iron weights; Wood Trenchets; Hay cribes; Ink powder; Bag dooms; Glue; Scrap nail road iron, Anisome; Red frocks; Band hags; Spaulders (silver and wrought)

Note: (Sent by the Genl. Superintendant of frames, has office certificates; and all other liquified public securities, will be received in payment; but it will be expected that the purchasers will furnish the small amount of their parcels, as it will be inconvenient to make change; payment must be made previous to the delivery of any articles sold, but if more agreeable to the purchasers, they may remain in store six months after the sale, during which time payment may be made.)

Philadelphia, Augt. 20, 1784.

The Sales to be held at Carpenters' Hall, in Chestnut-street, between Third and Fourth-streets.
EXISTING LANDSCAPE FEATURES

4. Carpenters’ Court

The present paving of the Court dates from the late 19th or early 20th century.

5. Carpenters’ Hall Yard

The present planting, paving and walks surrounding Carpenters’ Hall were introduced after 1857.
HISTORIC LANDSCAPING

A. Carpenters' Court

The Court was 14 feet wide throughout the historic period (1774-1800). Until some time in the 1780's or early 1790's it was unpaved. The earliest paving probably consisted of a wide cobbled cartway flanked by narrow brick footways. In 1796 the Court was regraded and repaved. At this time the cartway was narrowed, probably to a width of 6 or 7 feet, and edged with granite curb stones. No further changes are recorded before 1800.

As of 1796-1800 the Court ran back 140 feet from Chestnut Street. The cartway, 6 or 7 feet wide and centered on the front steps of Carpenters' Hall, was paved with cobbles and bordered by granite curb stones. On the east side there was a 3 1/2 or 4 foot brick footway and on the west a similar footway almost 8 feet wide toward the Chestnut street end and somewhat narrower in front of New Hall. The bricks in the footways probably were laid end to end in lines paralleling the axis of the Court (see Chapter II, Section 3, page 6).

The only other feature in the Court up to 1800 was an iron-chambered pump which stood in the space immediately behind the Front (Fawcett) House on the west side of the Court, probably some 30 feet back from Chestnut Street.

B. Carpenters' Hall Yard

Carpenters' Hall was built in the middle of what had been a garden. What sort of surface treatment was given to the space around
the new building is nowhere clearly indicated, although the purchase of three loads of "Loam" (loam) in February 1774 suggests the possibility that a grass cover was planned. Four loads of gravel delivered to the Hall in February 1791 may have been spread in front of the Hall. The first clear reference to the surfacing of this area occurs in 1807, when gravel was spread around the old Hall, then occupied by the Custom House. A stone footway was laid down in front of "the Hall" in 1792, but there is no means of knowing whether this was New Hall or Carpenters' Hall.

There is no documentary evidence that trees or shrubs were planted in the yard before 1858. The fact that both Carpenters' Hall and New Hall were insured against fire in the 18th century by the Philadelphia Contributionship, which refused to insure buildings with trees nearby, is a further indication that the Yard of Carpenters' Hall was bare of trees in the historic period.
CHAPTER IV

ARCHITECTURAL DATA

Prepared by Historian David H. Wallace
EXISTING STRUCTURES

A. Carpenters' Court

There are no existing structures in the Court which date back before 1857.

B. Carpenters' Hall Yard

There are no existing structures above ground which date from the historic period. Three brick-lined circular pits within the compound, two, at least, dating from the 18th century, are discussed in Chapter V, ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA, below.
HISTORIC STRUCTURES

A. Carpenters' Court

The only architectural feature in the Court during the historic period (1774-1800) was some "Fencing a long the Hall Alley", put up in 1773. This was undoubtedly wooden fencing, probably of a relatively simple character. Just what parts of the alley were fenced is not known. Nor is it known when the fencing was taken down, though it was almost certainly before 1800.

E. Carpenters' Hall Yard

During the historic period ending in 1800, at least four structures stood in the yard of Carpenters' Hall:

(1) A wooden necessary house, with a brick-lined pit 9 feet 2 inches in diameter and 15 feet deep, was constructed in 1770 on the west side of the lot. The exact location is not known, but it may have been in the northwest corner of the front yard, near the southern end of later New Hall (see Chapter V, ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA, below, for comment on this point).

(2) Another wooden necessary house was constructed in 1794, in the southeastern corner of the yard, behind Carpenters' Hall. This structure was replaced in 1823 with a brick privy. The pit was uncovered by accident a few years ago (see Chapter V, ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA, below).
(3) From 1779 to about 1791 there was at least one other frame building on the west side of the yard, probably on the site of New Hall. This was a brassfounders' and filecutters' shop erected by the commissary General of Military Stores, whose office was in Carpenters' Hall. This building was demolished at the time New Hall was built in 1791.

(4) The yard probably was fenced on the east, south and west sides throughout the historic period. The earliest documentary evidence for it occurs in August 1797, however, when fears were expressed lest late heavy rains had damaged the "Fence round the Yard." The fence on the east side was repaired by a carpenter in April 1800; presumably the entire fence was of wood. Early 19th century views of the Hall suggest that it was a plain board fence.
CHAPTER V

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA

Prepared by Archaeologist B. Bruce Powell
A. Carpenters' Court

No excavations have been made in the Court itself.

B. Carpenters' Hall Yard

Two areas within the original yard were partially excavated by Archaeologist Paul Schumacher:

(1) The South Yard of Carpenters' Hall was partially excavated in 1963 in conjunction with the laying of a new Park steam pipeline. For a report on this archaeological survey, see Archaeologist Schumacher's report; "Archaeological Project No. 1, Archaeological Reconnaissance of Library Street from Fifth Street to Carpenters' Hall," pages 19-22.

Of particular interest in that report is the following paragraph:

"The large 12-1/2 by 13-1/2 foot hole some 13 feet deep excavated in the southeast corner of the yard for the purpose of building a concrete manhole was opened up previously to the archaeologist's arrival. Mr. [Charles E.] Peterson [Resident Architect] had a brief look at this hole and it was either an old well or a privy vault. It was six feet in diameter with a 4 inch circular brick wall, dry laid. A great many 19th century artifacts were located while excavating here, and some of them were saved and numbered T5 and have been incorporated in the Franklin Court Report [Archaeological Project No. 4]."
The above-mentioned pit was undoubtedly the necessary vault dug in 1794 "for the accommodation of the [Carpenters'] estate" (See Chapter II, section 3, page 13, above).

Schumacher also noted that the original ground level behind Carpenters' Hall was some 7 feet below the present pavement. He distinguished at least two layers of fill, the first of clay mixed with shells and broken earthenware, the second of clay mixed with brick rubble. Which level or levels date to the historic period it is not possible at this time to say.

(2) Excavations on the site of New Hall in 1966 revealed the existence of two circular, brick lined pits. Archaeologist Schumacher excavated completely Pit "A" in the southwest corner of the original basement of New Hall. Pit "B", just to the south of Pit "A" outside the original line of New Hall, was recorded and recommended for future excavation.

Schumacher's conclusions regarding "Pit A", presented in Chapter IV, Section 1 of a Survey Report on New Hall (Nov. 1966), were as follows:

"This investigation [of New Hall basement] uncovered a large brick pit (designated as Pit "A") in the southwest corner of the basement. The fill in the pit was removed and sifted to reveal quantities of artifacts of mid and late eighteenth century, which have been placed in eight large crates to be cleaned and
identified for future reference and exhibition. Along one side of the pit, alone, were great quantities of slag, 17 iron chain links, one iron shot ball, and 4 cannon balls, each weighing 5-1/2 lbs.

The pit wall is one brick wide, dry laid, and 8 feet in diameter. It appears to have been a cistern, since it is too wide for a privy, and probably was filled in prior to the building of NEW HALL in 1791.... At the top of the cistern a brick vault was laid to support the chimney near the southeast corner.... The top of the brick vault is at the elevation of 11.9' - mean city datum. The bottom of the pit is very wet and full of mush. The base of the pit walls rests on natural clay and sand and is at 4.36' elevation - mean city datum."

Pit "B" is located just south of the original south wall of New Hall within a few feet of Pit "A", on the site of the 1833 privy addition to New Hall. Pending its excavation it is impossible to say whether this pit dates back before 1833.

Although both Pit "A" and Pit "B" are in the general area where the Carpenters' Company erected their 1770 necessary, it is as yet impossible to say whether one of the extant pits dates from that time. Pit "A", indeed, seems to be excluded because the 1770 necessary seems to have been in use even after New Hall was built over the present Pit "A". Pit "B", therefore, seems more likely to be a survival of the 1770 necessary. No firm conclusions on these two pits can be made until further research has been carried out.
Further Research Needed

A. Carpenters' Court

The present paving should be removed and several test trenches should be run across the Court from east to west to establish the 18th century elevation, to locate possible early paving elements and features, such as the old well, and to determine, if possible, the width of the cartway and footways.

B. Carpenters' Hall Yard

Ft "B", just south of the original south wall of New Hall, should be completely excavated in order to determine its use and date.

Efforts should be made to determine the level of the ground behind Carpenters' Hall during the 1774-1800 period.

Artifacts recovered from Ft "A" and the privy pit behind Carpenters' Hall should be analyzed for dating purposes.
CHAPTER VI

RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared by Historian David H. Wallace
RECOMMENDED TREATMENT FOR CARPENTERS' COURT

It is recommended that the Court be paved as it was from 1796 to 1800: the cartway with cobbles and granite curbs (but no flag gutters), the flanking footways with bricks laid end to end along the long axis of the Court. The cartway and east footway should extend to a depth of 140 feet, the west footway to the south end of New Hall. An iron-chambered pump should be installed on the west side of the court about 30 feet in from Chestnut Street and about 25 feet east of the west line of the Carpenters' lot. Unless the width of the cartway is determined otherwise by archaeological evidence, it should be about 6-1/2 feet wide and the brick footways about 3-3/4 feet.

The Court should not have a gate at Chestnut Street nor any chain-and-posts at the south end, as these features were introduced only in the mid-19th century.
RECOMMENDED TREATMENT FOR CARPENTERS' HALL YARD

It is recommended that the Yard be restored to its appearance as of 1791-1800, after the erection of New Hall. There should be a stone footway from the head of Carpenters' Court to the front steps of Carpenters' Hall. In the absence of evidence that the other parts of the Yard were paved, it is suggested that they be planted with grass or covered with loose gravel. Walks will have to be provided for the accommodation of visitors; these should be of gravel. There should be no trees, bushes, or flowers.

The yard should be enclosed with a relatively plain, painted or whitewashed board fence on the south, east and west sides and on the north to the east of the Court. There should be no fences or gates between the old Hall and the fences to the east and west. If gates are required in the fences to give access to the yard from the east or west, these should be in keeping with the simple fencing.

Although justifiable on historic grounds, the reconstruction of the two 19th-century necessaries in the northwest and southeast corners of the yard is not recommended, as it is felt they would attract to themselves undue attention and adversely affect the interpretation of Carpenters' Hall.
APPENDIX

ILLUSTRATIONS
Two plans of the Carpenters' Company lot, from the Memorandum Book of Benjamin Loxley, (John H. Silks, Jr., Papers, Hist. Soc. of Pa.). The plan at top shows the lot as it was in April 1768 when taken over by the Carpenters' Company. The lower plan probably shows Loxley's idea of how the lot should be improved. This plan was never carried out.
In obedience to a Resolution of the Honorable
Committee of the States met the 29th of
July, 1784, and an Order from the Secretary
in the War-Office, to me directed,

On Friday the 10th of September,
will commence the Sale of the following

Military Stores,

Deposited in this City, viz.

EMPTY Bandolier cases,
WAGONS CARRIERS,
Hallows,
Iron wire,
Blazing,
Cotton wool,
Timber,
Tent,
 medals,
Hampers,
Hoppers,
Bar and scrap iron,
Steel,
Sheet iron,
Shoe and brass copper,
Antimony,
Spanish brown,
Brass sheel,
Nails,
Hors and ox shoes,
Locks and keys,
Bending articles of clothing,
Sheet tin,
Sheet plate (joints)
Sweet oil,
New paper,
The end iron camp kettle,
Upper hoops,
Bent rates & heading,
Thimbles,
Lather of different kinds,
Scrap irons & leathers,
Spurs & spur leathers,
Bridle bits,
Ditto rings & head stalls,
Lather hopplers,
Ditto neck slips,
Blood bridles,
Blood dito bits,
Blood dito buckles,
Cutters, Hames,
Brass dito buckles,
Buck & belly bands, 
Crappers,
Banding lines,
Brace bands,
Fen, chains, rings and straps for breech bands,
Trace chains,
Breast & tongue chains,
Sweat tears,
Sewn bars or waggons,
Tie post,
Whip staves,
Curt fiddles & frames,

Hungarian and common saddles,
Circlets,
Girths and girth web,
Saddle bags,
Leather and canvas veils,
Hors,
Pitch and hill forks,
Tin ladles,
Canteens (tin & wood)
Canteen flasks,
Seychels and handles,
Wheel and hand hammers,
Curt body,
Saddle trees,
Screws with heads,
Wooden binding,
Screw plugs,
Tin watering pans,
Pitcher spoons,
Herb deeps,
Fine t-bites,
Damaged dark furniture,
Ditto hour chairs,
Curry combs,
Curry chains,
Wood and iron truck wheels,
Hors bells,
Cutting boxes & knives,
Leather potter books,
Candeleck & snuffers,
Tow lines,
Sorows & faders knives,
Maul rings,
Iron wedges,
Wood Trenchers,
Hay rakes,
Ink powder,
Rag staves,
Glee,
Scrap nail road iron,
Andirons,
Red sacks,
Sand bags,
Epauttes (silver and
fitted)
Water buckets,
Half bushel measures,
Chafing in a cauld,
Knives and forks,
Cups and saucers,
Pine benches,
Brake belt buckles (damaged)
Damaged camp kettles.

Notes issued by the honored superintendent of finances, last office certificates, and all other li-
quidated public securities, will be received in 
payment; but it will be expected that the pur-
chasers will furnish the exact amount of their purchases, as it will be inconvenient to make 
change; payment must be made previous to the delivery of any articles sold, but if more agree-
to the purchaser, they may remain in store
one month after the sale, during which time pay-
ment may be made.

SAMUEL HODGESON, Com. Mi. Stores.
Philadelphia, August 20, 1784.
The Sale to be held at Carpenters-Hall, in Chelten-street, between Third and Fourth-streets.
Appendix
Illustration No. 3

CARPENTER'S HALL, THE PLACE OF FIRST CONGRESS.—Page 419.

Wood engraving, c. 1830, in Watson's Annals of Philadelphia (Hazard edition, 1909, p. 419). This view, like the two succeeding ones, does not give an accurate picture of the forecourt in the mid-19th century. In all three, the artist has removed from the east (left) side the store and fire-proof safe which stood there between 1802 and 1874.
Wood engraving, mid-19th century, drawn by Brightly, engraved by R. Telfer. The woodsy setting is imaginary; probably also the iron picket fence on the left side. The board fence and gate on the right side may be more authentic, since that part of the yard was visible at the time.
Wood engraving, mid-19th century, by Devereux. The spacious forecourt is largely imaginary, as are the trees.
Appendix
Illustration No. 6

Photograph, 1851-1857, before restoration of the Hall. Original at Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
Photograph, 1859-1861, taken after the installation of the iron gate in 1858 and before erection of the flag pole in 1861.
Photograph, 1861-1871, taken after erection of the flag pole and before the inscription was placed in the pediment in 1871.
Photograph by John C. Browne, 1886, showing the rear of Carpenters' Hall. The garden dates from the post-1857 period. Original at Historical Society of Pennsylvania.