THE DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE, GERMANTOWN
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
HISTORICAL DATA:
HISTORIC STRUCTURES, FURNISHINGS,
AND GROUNDS REPORTS

---AND---

THE BRINGHURST HOUSE, GERMANTOWN
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
HISTORICAL DATA:
HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

PREPARED BY:

Anna Coxe Toogood
Historic Preservation Team
Denver Service Center
National Park Service
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ATTENTION:

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INTRODUCTION

The Deshler-Morris House in Germantown, Pennsylvania, has been part of the National Park System since December 1948, when Elliston P. Morris and Jane Rhoads Morris donated the property in behalf of Marriott C. Morris, deceased. Since the transfer of ownership, the house has been under the administrative care of Independence National Historical Park in cooperation with the Germantown Historical Society. While considerable research on the house has been conducted through the years by historians at the park, no formal research projects received funding until fiscal year 1973. For obvious reasons, the structural, grounds, and furnishing history of the Deshler-Morris House have been incorporated into one report, although all three aspects have been separately funded.

In December 1973 the Germantown Savings Fund Society donated the adjoining property, 5448 Germantown Avenue, to the National Park Service, and early in 1974 funds were made available for a structures report on the Bringhurst House. Because of the functional inter-relationship planned for the two structures, the Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst houses, the research on the latter was included with that on the former.

During the process of writing up the research findings on these two properties, I found myself on numerous occassions in need of assistance, especially from associates in Philadelphia, where the structures and a preponderous of the documentation are located. My special thanks go to Dr. John D. Platt at Independence National Historical Park, who often assisted me by gathering and sending information from the park library and files. His willingness to help and his enthusiastic encouragement during the many months of compiling and writing this report, I will always remember.

Michael Adlerstein and Peter Snell, Architects, on the project, exchanged ideas and information with me during the preparation of the structures reports for the Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses, and from them I have learned a fresh awareness of historical architecture. Likewise, Reid Engle, Curator at the Germantown Historical Society, not only offered me assistance with the Society's manuscript collections, but also helped with my investigations on the structural history of the Bringhurst House. To all three I am most grateful.

In addition, my research at the Philadelphia Historical Commission and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania proved fruitful thanks to the friendly assistance I met at both locations. I would especially like to thank Peter Parker, Curator of Manuscripts at the Society, for locating, xeroxing, and sending research materials which I had missed on my trip to Philadelphia.

My research gave me a deep appreciation not only for the Deshler-Morris House and its history, but also for the many individuals who have worked for its preservation. An interview with the Elliston P. Morrises of Southampton, Pennsylvania, provided me a bountiful source of invaluable illustrations for this report, as well as a most pleasurable exchange with the last heirs of the Deshler-Morris House. In addition to their donation of the house, the Morrises have contributed numerous pieces of valuable antique furniture to the National Park Service, and their generosity in behalf of historical research and preservation ~~have and~~ will lighten many an historian's heart besides my own.

Mrs. Richard Wilson and Mrs. Mildred Montgomery, active officers of the Women's Committee for the Deshler-Morris House, formed as part of the Germantown Historical Society's supervision of the house, both ~~have~~ cheerfully donated their time and information ~~to me~~ concerning the house, its grounds and furnishings, and to them I extend a fond thank you.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the countless individuals ~~at~~ the park in Philadelphia and associates in Denver who have helped with the analysis, editing, proofreading, review, typing, and printing of this report.

A.C. Toogood
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A. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: THE SETTING AND BUILDER OF THE DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE

David Deshler, merchant of Philadelphia, purchased a 2-acre tract of land in Germantown --a village some six miles to the northwest of Philadelphia --in 1751-52, and built a summer house there in a rural setting populated by thrifty German immigrants. The town setting and the career of the builder of the Deshler-Morris house provide the historical background for the significant historic years, 1793 and 1794, when President George Washington leased the house for his official and personal use.

Eighteenth Century Germantown

By the close of the 18th century, the country town known as "German Town" had emmerged as a cultural center and resort for prominent Philadelphians. Most of the town's permanent residents had descended from German and Dutch immigrants and continued to observe their native customs and speak their native tongue. Prior to the Revolution many families lived in simple, 1 1/2 story houses built by local aritsans from grey stone quarried locally. By the end of the century many of these houses had been raised to two stories but still retained an appearance which in 1814 impressed one writer as being particularly ugly: "most of the houses were of dark, moss-grown stone, and of sombre and prison-like aspect, with little old fashioned windows and monstrous corner chimneys formed of stone."[1]

The Germantown community, out of necessity, remained self-sufficient during the century, as the humid spring and summer seasons often transformed the roads into impassable mud bogs, through which only single horses could travel. Consequently, until the completion of the first turnpike road the six miles from Philadelphia to Germantown in 1802, the town maintained its own commercial center. Three large country stores--Stoneburner's, Fry's, and Miller's--received the farmers'

1. John F. Watson, Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in the Olden Time, II (Philadelphia, 1844), 64. Watson moved to Germantown in 1814 and became interested in the town's history. In the Annals II he devotes a long chapter entitled, "Pennsylvania Inland --Germantown," pp. 16-72. to it

grain and cured meat in exchange for salt, fish, plaster of Paris, grass seed, and all kinds of groceries and dry goods. Industries developed by artisan tradesmen emmerged very early in the century, so that by 1748 Peter Kalm explained, "Most of the inhabitants are tradesmen, and make almost everything in such quantity and perfection that in a short time this province will want very little from its mother country." The skilled manufacturing in Germantown aroused so much interest in Philadelphia that by the mid-century the town had emmerged as a resort center. In 1760 John Adams of Massachusetts remarked on this new and brisk industry of Germantown:

> . . . Germantown, you all know is a Place of considerable Resort. Hardly any Gentlemen of Curiosity from any of the four Governments come to this Town, without taking a Ride to Germantown to see Manufactures there, that of Glass and that of Stockings. Great Numbers of People go out from this Town upon Parties of Pleasure to Germantown, and there is a considerable Number of Inhabitants upon the Place.

Tourism in Germantown did not, however, detract from the continued production of skilled manufactured items. Indeed, by the close of the century, Germantown's artisans had won the reputation for an "unrivalled manufacture of superior stockings," and for designing and producing a light-framed carriage, one of which President Washington requisitioned in 1780.[2]

2. L.H. Butterfield, ed., Diary and Autobiography of John Adams, 4 (Cambridge, 1961), 165; the quotations concerning Germantown's artisans come from Edwin C. Jellet, Germantown Gardens and Gardeners (Germantown, 1914), p. 20, and Watson, Annals, II, 67. Watson, Ibid, p. 486, describes plaster of paris as a soil fertilizer. He also explains on p. 67 that the horses which carried goods from Philadelphia during the summer "would enter the mud to their knees at every step, and not being able to progress faster than two or three miles an hour, and then often endangered." One old timer remembered seeing up to 500 wagons in Germantown in one day prior to 1812. Townsend Ward, "The Germantown Road and Its Associations," Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography 6 (1882), 378. Hereinafter cited, PMHB. Information on Germantown's industries comes from Watson, Ibid., p. 65, and an article by Naaman H. Keyser, "Early Transportation to Germantown," in a book entitled, Germantown History Consisting of Papers Read Before the Site and Relic Society of Germantown (Germantown, 1919), pp. 45-6. Hereinafter cited, Germantown History. Keyser also gives a description of the coach Washington ordered from Germantown's John Bringhurst. p. 46.

Francis Daniel Pastorius, the 17th century founder of Germantown, had made careful plans for the development of the town. The site he selected for the settlement stood on an airy hill only two hours' walking distance from Philadelphia, and offered good, black, fertile soil and many wholesome springs of water. By the time William Penn granted a Charter of Incorporation in 1691, Pastorius had already seen the town plan unfold. The main street was laid 60 feet in width, and on either side of the street the town lots contained space both for a house and garden of atleast three acres.[3]

3. Pastorius's writings are discussed in John T. Faris, Old Gardens in and about Philadelphia (Indianopolis, 1932), p. 77. Keyser, A History of Old Germantown (Germantown, 1907), p. 44.

Pastorius strongly encouraged his fellow settlers to experiment in horticulture so that the community might benefit from new and improved agricultural strains. He witnessed the planting of peach trees on either side of the mile-long main street, which, by 1700 were already bearing fruit. His interest in horicultural innovation was so heartily shared by many of the Germantown residents that in 1761 the town financed Adam Kuhn, a garden enthusiast in the community, to travel to Sweden to study under the famous botanist, Linnaeus. Prior to 1768 Christian Lehman opened the first nursery in Germantown and widely advertised his stock of imported seeds and grafted trees and roots ready for transplanting. By the mid-century Germantown gardens had already begun to receive the praise which won the town a widespread reputation for its natural beauties, a reputation which persisted well into the 20th century.[4]

4. Faris, pp. 78-9 and 81; Jellet, pp. 30-31, and 60. Jellet notes that Lehman's nursery was among the earliest in the colonies and quotes one of his advertisements in the Pennsylvania Chronicle of April 12, 1768.

In 1704 the town elders selected a 1/2-acre plot of ground for a market square in a location central to the Germantown community. For over 225 years this square stood at the heart of the town activities. At first, the town market, prison house, and stocks took a place on the square, to be followed

by a town hall and fire house. Across the Main Street from this community focal point, David Deshler purchased his two lots of ground from the Bringhurst family in 1751-52, and shortly after began construction of a stone farm house which served his family until 1774 when a far more elegant addition was completed. By the fall of 1777, when the British and American armies clashed in Germantown, well over 300 houses had been constructed on either side of Main Street. Few, however, matched David Deshler's for its elegance and recent construction, or for its convenient location facing the town's market square.[5.]

5. Keyser, p. 45; Thomas H. Shoemaker, "The Middle Ward Fire Company, of of Germantown," PMHB, 18 (1894), 429. Israel Acrelius in 1756 described Germantown as 3 miles long with 305 houses. Jellet, p. 30. As discussed later in this report, the historic architect has established that the back stone wing of the Deshler-Morris House dates to the mid-18th century. While no historical evidence exists to verify that Deshler built the stone house after he purchased the property, the likelihood that he was the builder appears to be high, considering the land deeds make no mention of a house as part of the grounds for sale. See the following section on Deshler for deed citations.

The American Revolution suspended the growth and improvements of Germantown, but the town's recovery and popularity seemed to be nearly instantaneous after peace was proclaimed in 1783. In 1784 David Schoepf wrote his impressions of the town:

> [Germantown is] between 2 and 3 miles long. All the houses stand off more or less from each other and each one has around, or near it, grounds, gardens, and thrifty outbuildings. Most of the houses are well and substantially built of stone, and some indeed are really beautiful . . . there are many well-to-do

people among the inhabitants; and much property and many houses here are owned by Philadelphians, who make use of this place as a Summer retreat -- and in general, on account of its nearness, frequent excursions are made hither. On Sundays, the whole road is covered with the wegons and carriages of the pleasure-loving Philadelphians. 6

Wealthy and prominent Philadelphians found Germantown so attractive primarily on account of its natural attributes -- its healfhful, green, and peaceful surroundings which were to be found only a short distance from the hot, crowded, dusty, and sometimes disease-ridden, city. Such was the attraction for President Washington and his Cabinet in 1793 ~~and 1794~~, when yellow fever favaged the seat of government, driving thousands of Philadelphians from the city. During the years Germantown's population swelled to overflowing, and no doubt far exceeded the permanent settlement of some 3000 persons which had been counted in the 1790 census. And while in forced exile from the city during these epidemics, many non-German Philadelphians probably discovered the allurements of Germantown for the first time. By the turn of the century the predominently German and Quaker characteristics of the town began gradually to dissolve in the face of growing resortism. The 19th century would herald the emmergence of Germantown as a society town and wealthy suburb for Philadelphia businessmen. 7

6. As quoted in Jellet, p. 31.
7. Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790, Pennsylvania (Washington, 1908), p. 10. The administrators of the Germantown Union School in 1761 placed an advertisement in the Pennsylvania Gazette boasting of the benefits of Germantown living: "The Air is known, from long experience, to be pure and healthy; often recommended, by the best Physicians, to Invalids; . . .Its small Distance from the City of Philadelphaa will enable the Citizen, in some Measure, to superintend both the Health and Education of his Child." As quoted in Charles F. Jenkins, The Guide Book to Historic Germantown (Germantown, 1902), p. ? . Watson, Annals, II, p. 63, states, "The yellow fever of 1793 brought out here all the officers of the general and state governments, and of the banks, and filled all the houses with new inmates. In the next and subsequent years, sundry families from the city became residents. Then English succeeded rapidly. . ."

David Deshler and the American Dream

The future looked bright for ~~young~~ 21 year-old David Deshler when he first set eyes on the bustling port of Philadelphia in 1733. His uncle, John Wister, had preceded him to the new country six years before and now wanted David to assist him in his Philadelphia counting house. David had another uncle in America, John's brother, Casper Wistar, who was on his way to becoming a prominent Philadelphian. Most likely other family and friends had also migrated from Germany to Pennsylvania, for since 1715 the German population in the colony had been noticeably swelling. With him from Germany David had brought a small, elegant chamois bag filled with gold coins, presumably inherited from his recently deceased parents. While his youthful expectations undoubtedly were high, David probably then hesitated to entertain the possibility that he would achieve the wealth and prominence which he enjoyed in his later life, or that he would be the builder and owner of an elegant country seat in Germantown.

8. David Deshler's name, spelled Johann David Deshler, appears on the passenger lists of the ship, Hope, which embarked from Rotterdam, and arrived in Philadelphia on August 28, 1733. Ralph Beaver Strassburger, Pennsylvania German Pioneers (Norristown, 1934), pp. 119-121. Helen Whittman Kohl, "Kohl Family of Pennsylvania, 1792," an unpublished manuscript in the genealogical collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, herinafter cited, HSP. The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, "Grumblethorpe --1744," a minifolder printed about the John Wister country house in Germantown. Henry Seidel Canby, Family History (Cambridge, c. 1945), p. 51. Canby, a Deshler descendant from David's daughter, Esther, refers to the chamois bag as if he had seen it or owned it himself. Gary B. Nash, "The Transformation of Urban Politics, 1700-1765," The Journal of American History LV, No. 3.(December, 1973), 607. A Swedish traveler in America, Peter Kalm, explained that the Germans all preferred to settle in Pennsylvania because they had received such poor treatment in New York, where they had originally chosen to settle. Watson, Annals, II, 254. Caspar Wistar's name is intentionally spelled differently from his brother's and the two families remain distinct to the present. According to family tradition, the German name, Wüster, when agglicized by the immigration officer, received two spellings -- John's being Wister, and Caspar's, Wistar.

David was born in 1711 in Baden, Germany, to Marie Wüster and Captain David Deshler. The Wüster family came from Hirschbach, and, like the Deshlers, had prominence in their community. David's father served as Captain of the cavalry and aide-de-camp to Prince Louis of Baden in the War of the Spanish Succession. Family records claim that the Deshler family ranked among the German nobility and that atleast three branches were honored with escutcheons.

David had graduated from the University of Heidelberg and had passed his twenty-first birthday before he decided to accept his uncle's offer to join him in Philadelphia. He left behind his two younger brothers, Anthony and Adam, both of whom later migrated to Pennsylvania, where they settled with

their families, the former in Philadelphia, the latter in Northampton County.

9. "Charlotte Grimshaw's Family Records, August 22, 1892," p. 37. Miss Grimshaw, a Deshler desdendent through David's daughter, Esther, collected family records in a notebook which today resides with her daughter, Mary Maclear, in Westport, Connecticut. Research notes taken from the notebook by Dr. John Platt have been incorporated in the files at Independence National Historical Park. Miss Maclear has sent this writer copies of pages from this notebook in addition to her own research on the Deshler descendants. Her collection of family papers herinafter cited Maclear MS. Most of the published histories of Philadelphia and Germantown which discussed David Deshler gave the same information as given above. See Ward, PMHB, 6, 141; Germantown History, p. 27; Keyser, p. 305; Harold D. Eberlein and Horace Mather Lippincott, The Colonial Homes of Philadelphia and Its Neighborhood (Philadelphia and London, 1912), p. 305. hereinafter cited INDE.

Deshler's prospects for a successful career in Philadelphia not only were founded on the confidence spawned by a comfortable, cultivated background, but on the sound example of his two uncles, who were both fast on their way to becoming prosperous members of the Philadelphia community. Moreover, Deshler and the Wister brothers, as part of the expanding German community, found themselves increasingly the subject of political attention and solicitation: the bridges to mutual cooperation and assistance between Philadelphia's Quaker founding fathers and the German community showed promise of many advantages for both groups.[10]

10. By 1750 the German community represented about 40% of the population of Pennsylvania. Nash, pp. 607-8. In 1738 Pennslyvania's Governor Thomas made a significant statement on the German immigration: "This Province has been for some years the asylum of the distressed Protestants of the Palatinate, and other parts of Germany; and I believe it may with truth be said that the recent flourishing condition of it is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people; and should any discouragement divert them from coming hither, it may well be apprehended that the value of your lands will fall, and your advance to wealth be much slower; for it is not altogether the goodness of the soil, but the number and industry of the people, that makes a flourishing country." As quoted in Keyser, p. 129.

Deshler apparently moved in with his Uncle John during his first years in Philadelphia. The Wister store stood at 97 High (Market) Street, near Philadelphia's busy wharves. John Wister then was on the road to becoming one of the most successful merchants in Philadelphia.[11]

According to one account, the "blue-eyed, flaxen-haired" young David was a bachelor "much admired by belles of the period." Some four years elapsed, however, before David asked the woman of his choice to marry. A family legend has been passed down about the couple's first meeting in 1737. As the tradition goes, David, while on a collecting tour for his uncle through Pennsylvania, sought shelter from a storm at the Le Fevre family home near Lancaster. When he saw Mary at the spinning wheel, it was love at first sight. Shortly after, he returned to the area and asked for Mary's hand in marriage.[12]

The couple were married on March 20, 1739, at Conestoga, in Lancaster County, by one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace. David looked superb, according to family memorabilia, wearing a suit of sage-green satin especially imported for the occasion. His bride, an only daughter of Huguenot parents, Isaac Le Fevre and Catharine Ferree, reportedly "was a very pretty woman, fair, with blue eyes and brown hair." After the wedding, the couple boarded a coach for Philadelphia, where David continued his career as a merchant.[13]

11. "Grimshaw's Family Records," Mac Lear, MS. According to Watson's Annals, II, 493, High Street was changed to Market Street on account of the markets on it. The original name of the street arose because the street followed along the highest elevation from the river of all others streets in the city. " Grumblethorpe-1744," as cited above in footnote 8.

12. Karle Theis Weger, "The Deshler Story," The Germantown Crier 7 (September, 1955), 8. Weger, according to Mrs. Kohl, p. 36, is also a Deshler descendant. His account of the first meeting of David and Mary varied slightly from that given in "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 37, Mac Lear MS.

13. Weger, Ibid.; "Family Records,"pp. 27, 38, and 41, Mac Lear MS. Miss Grimshaw's records also note that Conestoga lies about seven miles from Lancaster, Pa., and that the marriage certificate has been handed down through the James Canby family of Wilmington, Delaware. Miss Grimshaw's information was copied from notes made by John Morton Dillon, a Deshler descendant. For a record of the family descent from Esther Deshler, which includes the names of Dillon, Morton, Canby, Grimshaw, and Maclear, see Mary MacLear's application to the Huguenot Society in the files of INDE. For additional information on the prominent Huguenot families of Le Fevre and Ferree, see, Ward, PMHB 6 (1882), 142.

At 29 years old David's life took on new meaning with a wife to support. He built a house on two lots between Second and Third Streets, on the north side of High or Market Street, west of Grindstone Alley, and here established his countinghouse. Apparently David broke off his association with his uncle's enterprise at this time and began his own operation as a paint and hardware merchant. Eventually he expanded his business in imports so that he became known as a West Indian merchant who traded both with the Indies and England.[14]

14. Deshler's address at the present 223 Market St. location, then stood in a very fashionable part of Philadelphia. As Watson explained in his Annals, II, 225, it was "much more genteel" to "live up High Street," in the 18th century than in the early 19th. Watson also noted, prior to 1793 "all of the best and richest merchants dwelt under the same roofs with their stores." The most successful, he odds, were located on Water or Front Street, only two short blocks from Deshler's. Mrs. Kohl's original research

* The Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, Volume 24, pp. 12 and 392, show that on October 28, 1738 Deshler received a warranty warrantee of 200 acres in Lancaster County - where his bride's family lived - and on August 30, 1744, he received ~ 10 a warrantee to one lot in Philadelphia County. warranty

14. for her manuscript, "The Kohl Family", included recollections of a Deshler descendent, available at the HSP within the Sopia Seldon Rogers Collection. Her notes reveal that ~~his~~ a history of Lehigh County (Vol. 2, p. 234) quotes a Philadelphia Directory of 1767-8 which states, "David Deshler, Director of Philadelphia Contributionship, hardware, paints, etc." Mrs. Kohl's research notes have been included in the history files at INDE. See also, Grimshaw's Family Records," Ibid; Weger, Ibid.; and Ward, Ibid.; and, Horace M. Lippincott, Early Philadelphia, The People, Life and Progress (Philadelphia, 1917), p. 46, and Francis White, The Philadelphia Directory, (Philadelphia, 1785), p. 19.

Continued next page ...

* Bower's Germantown newspaper ran an advertisement on August 1, 1754, which read: "David Daeschler, Market Street, Philadelphia, dealer in paint and hardware.," as quoted in, Edward W. Hocker, compiler, Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers in Pennsylvania and Adjacent Territory from Advertisements in German Newspapers Published in Philadelphia and Germantown 1743-1800 (Germantown, 1935), p. 44.

The Deshlers' family life on Market Street reportedly had many comforts and conveniences. David and Mary converted to the Quaker faith shortly after their marriage, and probably attended the Friends Meeting House at Second and Market Streets, only one-half block from their home. Their house, according to family memorabilia, stood two stories high, with an attic and dormer windows, and was built of red and black brick brought over to Philadelphia from Holland. Deshler provided the house with front and back staircases as fire protection for his family. The Deshler lot carried through the block to Church Alley, in ear-shot of Christ Church. Tradition records that David and Mary enjoyed the sound of the church chimes, a musical luxury not permitted for the Friends Meeting Houses. The couple also reportedly kept a garden typical of the accomplished members of the community, handsomely laid out with box-bordered flower beds, grapevines, and fruit trees.[15]

Mary Deshler apparently not only was wife and mother, but also an assistant in the Deshler store. Between giving birth to six children, Mary kept her interest in shop affairs. As tradition records, she

15. Weger, pp. 8-9, and 27. Weger contended that the Deshlers attended the Arch Street Meeting House, presumably the one which was located on the north side of Arch and on the west side of Front Street, approximztely 4 blocks from the Deshlers'. Historic Philadelphia From the Founding Until the Early Ninetbenth Century (Philadelphia, 1953), p. 211. According to an account reportedly written in 1879 by one of Deshler's descendants, Mrs. Elizabeth McCullough Breeze, George Washington took a cutting from David Deshler's grape vines on Market Street, and transplanted it at Mount Vernon. This account also claims Deshler and Washington became well acquainted. When in Philadelphia, Washington's residence was at 6th & High Streets, just two blocks from Deshler. Kohl notes, INDE; Kohl, Kohl Family, p. 51. "Notes Relating to David Deshler Derived Principlly From From [sic] the statements of ...[?] Granddaughters Elizabeth (Roberts) Ca[nby] and Esther M. Roberts," Mac Lear MS. This handwritten document was written in 1883, presumably by Miss Grimshaw. Watson's Annals, II, 498.

paid £5 for a "Butcher's Salve" which cured boils and other ailments. Apparently the salve proved so successful that it became known as "Deshler's Salve" and continued to be so popular that a century later it received mention in Dr. Wistar's Pharmacopoeia. The recipe for the salve still remains in the family records as a proof and reminder of Mary Deshler's fortuitous purchase.[16]

16. "Grimshaw's Family Records," n.p. Mac Lear MS; Ward, Ibid. Keyser, in his history of Germantown, published in 1907, noted that Deshler's salve was "still sold by druggists of the present date." p. 305.

Tragedy visited the Deshlers on at least three occasions during these early years of marriage. Three of the six children born to Mary died in infancy, leaving three daughters -- Mary, Esther, and Catharine. David's successes would not be carried on in his name, but rather through his daughters' married surnames --Lewis, Morton, and Roberts. David, however, lived long enough to enjoy his grandsons, David Lewis and David Morton, for whom he carefully provided securities in his will.[17]

17. "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 38, Mac Lear MS.; Weger, p. 9; Will of David Desler, Will Book W, p. 283, on microfilm at HSP; The Deshlers lost two sons, Isaac and Samuel, and a daughter, Sarah, between the years 1745 and 1759. William Wade Hinshaw, Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, II (Ann Arbor, 1938), 344. Esther married John Morton, a Philadelphia flour merchant who rose in Philadelphia to be the 3rd president of the prestigious Bank of North America, a position he held for many years. Abraham Ritter, Philadelphia and Her Merchants As Constituted Fifty and Seventy Years Ago (Philadelphia, 1860), p. 185. Mary married Ellis Lewis in 1763. A sketch of the Lewis family is given in Ward, PMHB, 143-4. Catherine, the youngest daughter, married Robert Roberts, a Philadelphia socialite, who shared the company of such fashionable 18th Century Philadelphians as Gouveneur Morris, Tench Francis, John Wharton, and Richard Bache. He was a member of the very social club, the Fish House, and of the First City Troop, an outfit then and now more social then military. "Extracts From the Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer, 1768-1798," PMHB 16 (1892), 171; Canby, p. 56. Canby on the same page gives a brief historical sketch of Roberts' ancestors.

Besides ~~his~~ the immediate family, The Deshlers also had the comfort of other family members living close by ~~him~~ them in Philadelphia, and, later, in Germantown. ~~David's~~ uncles, John & Casper Wister, both lived on ~~Market~~ High or Market Street, only a few short blocks from him, as did his brother, Anthony, who followed David to Philadelphia and married Mary Elizabeth Bensel, daughter of Germantown's George Bensel. Anthony and Elizabeth spent their summers in the Germantown house built in 1727 by ~~Bensel~~ George Bensel, ~~and~~ After Anthony's early death in 1777, Elizabeth retired to Germantown as "The Widow Deshler." ~~His~~ In addition, Deshler's nephew, David Deshler, son of his brother, Adam, who settled in Northampton County, spent part of his youth with his uncle's family in Philadelphia in order to enjoy the benefits of family ties and business opportunities offered in the city.

During the Revolution this nephew did credit to the Deshler name as a patriot and leader in decision ~~matters~~, and following the war, ~~he won a reputation~~ distinguished as a leading citizen of Allentown. Finally, as each of ~~David's~~ the three Deshler daughters married, David and Mary found themselves fortunate to have sons-in-laws who chose to settle in Philadelphia near the ~~Market~~ Market Street residence.[18]

Lippincott, p. 142;

18. "A Directory of Friends in Philadelphia, 1757-1760," PMHB 16 (1892), 231-232 ; Kohl, "The Kohl Family" pp. 37, 39, and 53. Mrs. Kohl documents an impressive list of Revolutionary laurels won by Col. David Deshler of Northampton County. She notes that the Bensel house where "Widow Deshler" lived after the Revolution today is known as the Billmeyer House at 6506-7 Germantown Avenue. The Philadelphia Directory of 1785 lists the addresses of John Morton, Robert Roberts, and Ellis Lewis. Jellet mentions the "Widow Deshler Garden" among the better class of Germantown's formative period gardens. p. 16.

During his rise to wealth and prominence in Philadelphia, Deshler proved to be an active member of his community, during his rise to wealth and prominence. In 1738 he joined a group of 35 neighbors who voluntarily banded together to form the Fellowship Fire Company. David's name began to appear consistently on charity subscription lists, reflecting a civil responsibility encouraged among the Friends. In 1753 he helped promote a religious treatise translated from German to English entitled, "The Everlasting Gospel." The advertisement, which appeared in both The Pennsylvania Gazette and The Pennsylvania Journal, announced that he, Deshler, "Shopkeeper in Market Street, Philadelphia," and Christopher Sower, "Printer in Germantown," had available for sale this newly published work which, most likely, had been translated and printed in Sower's own shop.[19]

Weger, p. 8.

19. J. Thomas Scharf and Thompson Westcott, History of Philadelphia 1609-1884, III, (Philadelphia, 1884), 1884-5. The two advertisements, dated April 5 and April 3, 1753, were included in a typescript collection published by the Germantown Historical Society entitled, Newspaper Items Relating to Germantown Historical and Genealogical (Germantown, 1934) n.p. The Philadelphia newspapers were researched by Miss A. C. Voute who was described by the collection's editor as, "a careful historical worker."

Deshler's joint endeavor with the Germantown printer had a logical explanation. David's Uncle John Wister had purchased a tract of land adjoining Christopher Sower's in Germantown as early as 1741, and by 1744 had completed building a summer residence in this healthful country environment. David undoubtedly became familiar with the Germantown community through family visits during the following decade. In 1751-52, he too purchased a lot of ground in the town --two acres on the south side of Main Street, presently known as Germantown Avenue. Shortly after, Deshler constructed a 2-story stone house on his property where he and his family no doubt summered. Some twenty years later, in 1772, Deshler began construction of an elegant 3-story addition to the original house. When completed in 1774, this new structure faced Main Street and properly reflected the high social and economic status Deshler held in his later years.[20]

20. "Grumblethorpe --1744" as cited in footnote 8 above. Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 217; George Bringhurst et ux. to David Deshler, September 7, 1751, and Ann Bringhurst, George and John Palmer to David Deshler, April 13, 1752, as listed in the "Brief of Title," Box 1, Elliston P. Morris Collection, HSP. Although no documentation exists, architectural investigation of the house and its wing provides evidence that Deshler most likely was the builder of the first section/wing of the present Deshler-Morris house. See also ft. nt. 5 above, and of the the ~~histor~~ structural history section.

Deshler's family ties in Germantown, in addition to his land ownership there, gave him reason to invest his time and money in the town's development. In 1760 David Deshler accepted an invitation to serve as one of the first thirteen trustees for the "Germantown Union School," presently

known as Germantown Academy, and contributed £50, 10 shillings to the school's future, a donation matched or bettered by only four others in a list of eighteen monetary gifts. The first school in Germantown, the Academy played an important role in the maturation of the community.[21]

21. Weger, p. 9; Rev. William Travis, History of the Germantown Academy; Compiled from the Minutes of the Trustees from 1760-1877 (Philadelphia, 1882), pp. 12-13. The Minutes note that Deshler was reelected along with eight other original trustees, to serve during 1761. Travis, p. 16. Scharf and Wescott, I, 254-5; Keyser, pp. 81 and 84; John Russell Young, ed., Memorial History of the City of Philadelphia From Its First Settlement to the Year 1895, I (New York, 1898), 310. The other trustees for the school included ~~the leaders of~~ Germantown such as Christopher Sower, Jacob Keyser, Thomas Livzey, and Daniel MacKinet. Deshler had other logical reasons for his involvement in Germantown affairs. For instance, his neighbors in Philadelphia in 1767 included three prior members of the Germantown community. Lippincott, p. 46.

During the decade of the 1760s Deshler participated with Germantown leaders on another matter concerning the welfare of the population. In 1764 his name appeared on a subscription list to raise money for the town's first two fire engines which were to be imported from England. Presumably Deshler at this time actually lived in Germantown, for he appears on a record of residents in the town in 1764. While it has not yet been established whether David made other contributions to the German community, the fact that he was a fellow property owner as well as a conscientious Quaker suggests that he did indeed broadly involve himself in municipal matters.[13][14]

22. Shoemaker, PMHB, 13, 429, 432-3; Keyser, p. 102. Keyser's list of residents does not include Benjamin Chew, John Wister, or other wealthy Philadelphians who summered in Germantown.

While Deshler demonstrated his concern for the improvement of Germantown, his involvement in matters of economic, social, and political content naturally centered in Philadelphia where he lived most of the year. By 1769 he owned 12 acres of land, a horse and cow, and kept a servant in Philadelphia's North Ward; he also owned of land in the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia, 2 acres and a summer house in Germantown, and, had likely invested finances in other lands and property not readily researched. Reportedly he became so influential in the city that the Royal Governor beseeched him on several occassions to use his influence with the large German population in the colony. Deshler served on the Philadelphia Contributionship Fire Insurance Company's Board of Directors for 32 years, from 1758 to 1790, the year before his death. The Contributionship represented one of the earliest (founded in 1752) and most respected insurance companies in the city, and its Board of Directors reflected this with members drawn from among the most influential families in Philadelphia.[23]

23. Proprietary Tax, County of Philadelphia, 1769, Pa. Archives, 3rd Series, Vol. 14, pp. 188. Weger, pp. 8-9 ; Contributionship Board Minutes, Nov. 1774-March, 1791; 1791-1804; 1817-1824, Microfilm XVI, Roll 3, INDE. The full title of the insurance company reads: The Philadelphia Contributionship for the Prevention of Loss of Houses by Fire. Names taken from the same microfilm cited above for Board Meetings between 1784-7 included George Roberts, Tomas Morris, John Morton, Joseph Paschall, and Mordecai Lewis. Scharf And Wescott, III, 2114; Faris, p. 124; in 1923 Lippincott wrote about the Contributionship: ". . . [it] stands to-day not only the oldest Fire Insurance Company in America, but also one of the strongest active Fire Insurance Companies in the World." p. 133. Although Deshler attained both status and wealth in his community, he did not reach the pinnacle of wealth as measured in 1772 by a tax assessment which listed only 84 carriage owners in the city of Philadelphia, with a total population of 20,000. Robert F. Oaks, " Big Wheels in Philadelphia: Du Simitiere's List of Carriage Owners," Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography 95 (July 1971), 351.

Historical accounts of David Deshler as a Philadelphia merchant ~~speak~~ remarked glowingly of his lucrative success in the West and East Indies trade. As one writer described him, "he prospered exceedingly and became one of the eminently substantial men of his day." David also became known for his honesty and integrity while conducting his business. "As honest as David Deshler" reportedly became a common saying in the community.[24]

David's appearance and personality, too, made a noteworthy impression on his contemporaries. As his granddaughters' remembered him, he customarily wore suits of olive-colored silk velvet, knee breeches adorned with silver buckles, silk stockings, bright silver shoe buckles, a cane with silver engraving, and a three-looped, cocked hat. This elegant appearance apparently was not typical of Germantown Quakers, for as one Philadelphia historian reported, Deshler astonished the plain trustees of the Germantown Union School when he arrived at the first meeting in his full dress "regallia." Deshler's preference for elegant wear apparently did not ~~make any negative impressions~~ reflect negatively on his character, at least in the recollections of his family, who remembered him as "a gentleman of the old school, good, generous, and polite."[25]

24. Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 226; Keyser, p. 305; Ward, PMHB, 6, A. 141; Canby, p. 52; "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 41, Mac Lear MS.; Robert C. Moon, The Morris Family of Philadelphia, (Philadelphia, 1898), 678. Descendants of Anthony Morris II

25. Canby, Ibid.; "Grimshaw's Family Records," Ibid.; Ward, PMHB, 6, A. 145; "Notes Relating to David Deshlar," MacLear MS:; H.M. Lippincott, Early Philadelphia, p. 45. Canby claimed to own a silver shoe buckle of David Deshler's. Weger added, p. 27, that in his declining years Deshler was described as a man of venerable and majestic aspect, and that he often used the cane to "thump on the floor", to the terror of his mischievous grandchildren."

David's marked personal expression as seen in his address and demeanor extended as well to his formulation of forceful convictions which he supported both in word and deed. In 1765 he signed the Non-Importation Act in protest to the British taxation policy imposed by the Stamp Act of that year. At the same time, Deshler was appointed to a committee of eleven retailers who were to carry the agreement into effect. Symbolic of his personal committment to this political movement was Deshler's snuffbox, dated 1770, on which he painted in a lozenge: "May no laws Invade / Our Liberty and Trade."[26]

Judging from his stand on the issue of taxation, Deshler undoubtedly supported the American cause during the Revolution. He was sixty-five when the war broke out in 1776, an age which limited his options to influence the outcome of the issue. Being a member of the Friends Society may have caused him some alarm over the bloodshed which ensued, but being an individualist and astute business man, he very likely joined the troops in spirit, and endorsed them with funds.[27]

~~No historical evidence, however, has been uncovered to identify~~ his son-in-law John Morton, Jr., ~~a shipping merchant in Phila.~~ reportedly provided Deshler's personal reaction to the American revolutionary struggle Washington's destitute army in NJ with 10,000 pistols worth $3.[18]

26. Scharf and Westcott, I, 272-3; Canby, p. 52. Canby claims here to be in possession of the snuffbox.

27. Canby, p. 55, flatly stated that Deshler and his son-in-law, John Morton, Sr., supported the American cause. His sources, however, were not given. Canby and Deshler's great-granddaughter, Mary Morton Dillon, tell of John Morton's financial backing of Washington's suffering troops in New Jersey in December of 1776. "Notes of Mary Morton Dillon," MacLlear Ms. Deshler's nephew, David Deshler of Northampton County, who lived for some time in Philadelphia in close contact with his uncle, won many laurels in his fight for the American cause. See footnote 18 above. According to Weger, p. 9, Deshler's name also appeared on the Non-Importation Resolution of 1774, which would indicate Deshler's continued support of the American grievances. ~~His comments~~

One
~~Two~~ years prior to the outbreak of hostilities, in 1774, Deshler's wife died. Just before her death, David had finally seen the completion of the elegant addition to his Germantown summer residence, but his sense of joy and sharing must have been dimmed after Mary succumbed to scarlet fever, without even having spent any time in the new home.[28]

At the close of
~~After~~ thirty-five years of marriage, Deshler found himself still a vigorous man. His daughters had married and had established their own homes. Possibly to fill the void left by his womenfolk, ~~at the house~~, David joined the Philadelphia Library Company in 1776, and left his share to his daughter Catherine in his will.[29]

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28. At her death on Feb. 25, 1774, Mary Deshler was 59 years old. She contracted scarlet fever when one of her grandchildren, who was brought to the house to escape contagion, came down with the disease. "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 41.

29. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, Dec. 6, 1973, p. 4B, David Deshler's share, ~~in the library company~~, was dated April 30, 1776, and was numbered 169. Ten years later the Philadelphia Library Company had over 400 members and many other people who constantly took out books. Scharf and Wescott, II, 1178. This library company has the reputation for being the oldest in the country. Ibid, p. 1173.

Catharine's husband, Robert Roberts, operated a business as an ironmerchant just two blocks west of Deshler's on Market Street. However, judging from his reputation as a gay social blade, and the credit given to Catharine for her good business sense, it seems likely that Roberts may have had little to do with the actual office work.[30] After his death in 1791, Catharine apparently joined forces with her father, as Deshler and Roberts, Ironmongers, were listed in the Philadelphia Directory in that year at 97 High Street. As mentioned earlier, 97 High or Market Street, was the address of John Wister's shop. Wister died in 1789, and, according to family record, Deshler took over the business at his death. Very likely Deshler attempted to assist his newly-widowed daughter by offering her his property and experience, a gesture which extended for only one year, until his own death on March 20, 1792.

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30. For a description of Robert Roberts see footnote 9 above, and Canby, p. 56. Canby described Catherine Roberts in her later life: "David's daughter, Catherine, was a remarkable woman. After her husband's death in 1791, and her father's in 1792, she seems to have carried on the private banking business, since I had her account book, with the best names of Philadelphia recorded in it for varying amounts of guineas, including Robert Morris's. ... [She] lived to be eighty-four, and died finally in 'Brandywine,' the name by which the house Samuel Canby was built was called. My sister has a rather impressive painting of her in old age, in Quaker costume ..." Canby, p. 55. Philadelphia Directory, 1785, p. 81; Philadelphia Directory, 1791, p. 31. The Philadelphia Directory listed Catharine Roberts, widow, ironmonger, at 97 High Street, which indicates that she could and did run the business alone.* Wister's date of death is given in the "Grumblethorpe" minifolder cited in footnote 15 above. "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 41. David Deshler died was buried on March 22, 1792. Hinshaw, p. 344. Henry D. Biddle, Extracts from the Journal of Elizabeth Drinker, From 1759 to 1807 A.D. (Philadelphia, 1889), p. 184.

* The series of Philadelphia Directories of 1793, 1795 and 1796 all can be found at the HSP.

Catharine, it appears, was the daughter closest to Deshler during his last years. A family account copied by Miss Grimshaw in the late 19th century recalls, "My grandfather Deshlar's [sic] youngest daughter Catharine Roberts (then a widow), with two daughters, resided with him, and they all spend several summers together very happily at Germantown," in the house which survived the devastation of the British during the Revolution and which provided David an elegant retreat during his last years of life.[31]

31 . "Grimshaw's Family Records," p. 41, MacLean MS.

B. HISTORICAL OWNERSHIP AND OCCUPANCY

David Deshler, 1772-92

As mentioned above, David Deshler purchased his tract of two acres on the south side of Germantown's Main Street in 1751-52, and shortly thereafter he presumably built the 2-story stone kitchen. Twenty years later, in 1772, he commenced building an elegant addition to his country seat. The information pertaining to Deshler's experiences during the two years of construction on the main house and during his summers in Germantown has been limited to a scant selection of family memorabilia. According to the notes of his granddaughters, Deshler personally supervised the construction of the house, and brought in skilled carpenters and masons from the city to carry out his plans.[1]

For some unexplained reason, Deshler made ~~two~~ efforts to sell his Germantown property in 1782. ~~and 1786~~ Possibly the fighting during the Revolution damaged the house or Deshler's feelings towards his property. The fact that the British General, William Howe, had briefly set up headquarters in the house in 1777 may have left Deshler with some distasteful associations. On the other hand, David's will in 1791 specifically ordered the sale of his Germantown property

1. "Notes Relating to David Deshlar," Mac Lear Ms. The Elliston Perot Morris family in Southampton, Pennsylvania, kindly loaned the paint bill dated 1774 for the Deshler house in Germantown to Mrs. Richard Wilson, of the Germantown Historical Society, who in turn loaned it to me for copying. See ~~Introduction~~ Appendix C. According to the Morris family biographer, Robert Moon, this bill came into the family when it was given to ~~passed into the hands of~~ the first E.P. Morris ~~by~~ one of Deshler's descendants, David Lewis. Moon, II, 678. A recent paint study in the kitchen wing of the Deshler-Morris House confirms the construction of the house dates around 1750, but no exact year can be determined. Deshler's land deeds for the property make no mention of structures so presumably the kitchen wing was not contructed by the George Bringhurst family. See the Historical Architecture section by Adlerstein for further information on the paint study.

so that the monies would cover certain specified expenses; ~~which~~ This might indicate that Deshler's later years were marked with financial set-backs undisclosed in historical accounts of his successful career as a Philadelphia merchant. Deshler, then, in 1782 ~~and 1784~~ may have hoped to avoid the high cost of maintentnce and repairs which had accumulated during the Revolution. As John Watson noted in his Annals,[2] "Not a house was roofed or mended in Germantown in five or six years."

Nearly ten years elapsed between the close of the Revolution and the close of Deshler's life. In that period, according to the recollections of his granddaughters, David with his youngest and widowed daughter, Catherine, and her two children, spent several pleasant summers in the Germantown house. He had already before the war planted a garden in the true tradition of the Germantown founders, and by 1782 had raised "an orchard of the best grafted fruit of various kinds, and a large garden pailed in." Deshler, in fact, won the reputation of being such a conscientious garden enthusiast that tradition recorded ~~that~~ he had foreshortened the width of his house to accomodate a plum tree growing in his yard.[3]

The sparse information on Deshler's Germantown life is typical as

2. For a discussion of General Howe's occupancy, see the following section. Philadelphia Will Book W, p. 233, as copied for the research files, INDE. Watson, II, 40. [Pennsylvania Gazette, April 24, May 1 & 8, 1782;] Not first.

3. "Notes Relating to David Deshler," Mac Lear MsS. Quotation concerning the garden comes from the advertisement as cited in footnote 2. The plum tree legend has been repeated in ~~nearly~~ several accounts on David Deshler. See Ward, PMHB 6 (1882), 147; Hotchkin, p. 70; Eberlein & Lippincott, p. 227

well of the information available on the brief occupancy of the house by General Howe during the Revolution.

General William Howe, October 1777

According to published reminiscences of the Revolution, General William Howe set up headquarters at the Deshler house in October 1777. As James Wilkinson wrote in his Memoirs, published in 1816, 39 years after the fact:

> The main body of the British army encamped at Germantown the 3d October, 1777, occurpied ground nearly at right angles with the street; the front line on the schoolhouse lane to the west, and the church lane to the east, the park in the area south of the market-house, opposite to which, on the left, General Howe had his qurters in the house of David Deshler. 4

John Watson, who began collecting reminiscences from Germantowners early in the 19th century, wrote, "Gen. Howe lived a part of his time at the house now S.B. Morris', so said B. Lehman," and, later, repeated, "It ought to be mentioned as a peculiar circumstance connected with Perot's house, before mentioned, that it had been the residence severally of Gen. Howe, the British commander in the war of the revolution."[5]

double space

While these two accounts agree on the house which Howe chose at Market Square, they in themselves cannot be depended upon without contemporary evidence, which is provided by the Journal of Howe's Army, a manuscript preserved at the Houghton Library at Harvard,

4. James Wilkinson, Memoirs of My Own Times, I. (, 1816) 363.
5. Watson, II. 40 and 41.

According to the Journal for October 11, 1777, " The commander in chief [Howe] also moved his quarters, to a house more in front, near the market place at Germantown." The residency, however, lasted but one week, as the Journal records on October 19th:"the British Army broke up their camp at Gemantown, and took post near the city, behind the redoubts."[6]

Even though the Journal does not states specifically which house Howe chose near the Market place, Deshler's would have been a logical selection on account of its ~~recently completed~~ new and elegant appearance. From his investigation, Watson learned that Howe was remembered as "a fine large man," who looked "considerably like Gen. Washington," by the citizens of Germantown. Howe also impressed the townsfolk with his "very unassuming manner" and his plain clothes. This simplicity in dress and demeanor, however, did not belie his aristocratic background or his customary choice of fine surroundings. Typical of generals of any period, Howe, like Washington, selected elegant residences both in Germantown and Philadelphia, no doubt with careful consideration.[7]

Accounts of the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777, suggest the reason why Howe moved to Deshler's house. He had made his headquarters at James Logan's "Stenton" prior to the battle, and

6. "Journal of Howe's Army, 1777, (MS Am 1562), MSS (Houghton)" pp. 53, and 57, as cited in research notes, INDE.
7. Watson, Ibid., 38, 40 and 41.

when the fighting broke out he moved north as far as Market Square, where he remained the rest of the day. Possibly at this time he based himself at Deshler's and found it both comfortable and convenient, so much so that he decided to move there for the winter. Howe had been settled only a week, however, in his winter quarters, when he unexpectantly had to order his troops back to Philadelphia to prepare an attack on Fort Mifflin.[8]

Although his stay at Deshler's was brief, it lingered long in the memories of Germantowners. Besides the recollections cited above, atleast six 19th century and three 20th century histories referred to Howe's residency at Deshler's in October 1777. And no doubt General Washington had a recollection of Howe's choice of quarters in 1777 when he asked for Deshler's house in 1793, sixteen years later.[9]

8. Watson, Ibid.,p. 38-41. According to Watson's account,"a large body of Hessians were hutted in Ashmead's field, out the School lane, near the woods." Ibid., p. 55. Scharf and Wescott, 1, 354, shows a map illustrating troop posistion of the British army prior to the battle of Germantown; the Third and Fourth Brigades were stationed just behind the Deshler house.
9. Scharf and Wescott, 2, 897; Ward, PMHB 5 (1881), 135; Moon, 1, 678; Benson Lossing, Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution, 2, (New York, 1860), 108; Thomas H. Shoemaker, "Inhabitants of Germantown and Chestnut Hill in 1809," Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography 16 (1892), 43; L. Herbert, "The First American His Homes, Households," Harper's New Monthly Magazine (November, 1899), p. 852; Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 226; Keyser, p. 367; and, Herbert Pullinger, Old Germantown (Philadelphia, 1926), p. 23.

President George Washington, 1793-94

The Yellow Fever Scourge of 1793

Philadelphia, the seat of government and heart of commerce in the colonies in 1793, boasted a flourishing trade with the West Indies. Merchant ships unloaded choice exotic cargoes to the city wharves, much of which found its way to the scores of shops along Water (or Front) Street. In July 1793, however, the ships from the West Indies also transported sailors infected with yellow fever, some of whom found lodging in the crowded boarding houses along Water street. The contagious disease spread without notice until late in August. On August 23 the first official announcement of the plague set off a panicked exodus from the city.[10]

The thriving capital found itself crippled by fear. For a population of some 23,000, only ten clergy and ten physicians reportedly were available in the city to tend to the stricken and dying. No sure remedies existed for the fever so that most victims succombed quickly to the agonizing symptoms. An estimated 12,000 to 23,000 escaped to the country, leaving 2,728 of the 6,327 houses abandoned. According to graveyard records, over 4000 died during the months of August through October, a figure which did not account for the untold dead who had not been properly buried. The fever showed no signs of

10. Scharf and Wescott, I, 469-70; Charles F. Jenkins, Washington Visits Germantown (Germantown, 1932), p. 33.

partiality, either, for among Philadelphia's most respected citizens fell victim to its deadly infection.[11]

Realizing the imminent danger if they remained in session, the House of Representatives voted to adjourn on September 5 so that the members could flee the city. The State government also hastily abandoned their posts to find refuge in the country. Germantown, a short six miles to the northwest, accommodated the Governor's staff as well as the President and his cabinet members until word arrived from the city that the fever had abated and it was safe to return.[12]

11. Scharf and Wescott, Ibid.; Jenkins, Ibid., p. 34. The two sources just given quoted different figures on those who left the city. The former stated that about 17,000 fled, while the latter said that the Official report gave 12,000 as the number who fled. The Federal Gazette of November 17, 1793, reported that 23,000 had left Philadelphia. Philadelphia's eminent doctor, Benjamin Rush, published a descriptive account of "The Origin, Symptoms and Treatment of the Epidemic Fever" in the October 7th issue of the Federal Gazette. He prescribed mercurial sweating powder for the disease. As many as 110 persons died from the fever in one day. Jenkins, ibid, p. 37. On October 14 President Washington wrote James Madison from Mount Vernon informing him that the mayor of Philadelphia, Mathew Clarkson, had given an official report that upwards of 3500 had already perished. The plague continued to rage for over three more weeks. William S. Baker, "Washington After the Revolution, 1784-1799," PMHB 20 (1896), 364.

12. "Extracts from the Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer," PMHB 16, 417. On November 8 Dr. Rush happily reported that no new cases had broken out in two days and on November 16 the committee organized to cope with the problems of the plague encouraged Philadelphians to return to the city. Federal Gazette, November 8 and 16, 1793, pp. 2 and 3 respecitively. Watson's Annals, II, 41. Governor Mifflin's house, Germantown, according to Watson, served as the seat of government for Pennsylvania, also.

Germantown: Familiar Surroundings for Washington

Germantown ~~appears to have been~~ was President Washington's first choice as a temporary location for the seat of government during the yellow fever epidemic. For atleast twenty years Washington had been familiar with Germantown in connection with military and personal matters. In 1774 he had dined in style and ~~social grace in the~~ elegance at the mansions of Henry Hill and Benjamin Chew, and in August 1777, two months prior to the Battle of Germantown, he had selected Hill's, as well as George Logan's, "Stenton", as his headquarters. While in Germantown during the Revolution General Washington "was often to be seen riding abroad, with a black servant, having a guard and some officers in company."[13]

Washington's exposure to the Germantown community in the decade of the '70s no doubt had brought him in contact with the Bringhurst family, skilled coachmakers and early settlers in the area. In 1780 Washington purchased from John Bringhurst a four-horse chariot, with real harness, ~~for four horses~~ which he had embellished with his arms and crest. During the subsequent decade Washington as President continued to visit prominent families in Germantown, and continued to impress those with whom he had contact with his dignified yet sociable manners.[14]

As noted above, Germantown's healthful environment and its convenient location along one of only three major arteries out of Philadelphia,

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13. Jenkins, Washington Visits Germantown, pp. 11-18; As quoted in Watson's Annals, II, 62; Keyser, "Early Transportation," Germantown History, pp. 45-6.

14. After Washington visited Stenton in 1787, Mrs. George Logan wrote in her diary, "I had always looked up to General Washington from the first time I ever heard his auspicious name ...and now that I beheld the colossal greatness at nearer view, I perceived it polished and adorned with all the amenity and gentleness which delights and endears in domestic society." As quoted in Jenkins, Ibid., pp. 31-2.

undoubtedly influenced Washington's choice of residence in 1793. The location of the house on Market Square, the center of the town's activities, also must have ~~strongly influenced~~ prejudiced Washington's decision to select his friend's, Isaac Franks's house. And, finally, the fact that General Howe had chosen the same ~~house~~ mansion in 1777, and that it still furnished one of the most elegant and pleasant surroundings in the middle of the administrative complex, certainly must have ~~provided~~ offered incentive in the final selection of a temporary seat of government.[15]

15. Isaac Franks, to be discussed below, purchased the Deshler home in 1792* in accordance with Deshler's expressed wishes in his will. The three main roads from Philadelphia led to Germantown, Frankford, and Lancaster. Ward, PMHB 6, 378. Watson specifically noted, "The yellow fever could make no headway in Germantown, although so near to Philadelphia" Annals, II, 63.

*when it came up for sale

Lodging Arrangements for Washington and His Cabinet

While President Washington's house and living style in Philadelphia provided him with every kind of luxury, he himself personally found himself comfortable as well in more simple circumstances. As a younger man during the Revolution, in fact, he had reacted with marked disdain at the display of ostentatious elegance ~~present~~ prevelent in Philadelphia society. Contemporary observers remarked often that the President stood out as a "very plain, very sociable man" or as a civil and courteous individual. When arranging his lodging there in Germantown, Washington placed no heavy demands on his Attorney General Edmund Randolph, who acted as advance man while the President ~~resided~~ remained at Mount Vernon through the month of October, 1793.[16]

16 At some point during the Revolution General Washington wrote to Col. Harrison, of Virginia, remarking on his impression of Philadelphians: ". . . I should in one word say, that idleness, dissipation, and extravagence seem to have laid fast hold of most of them. That speculation, peculation, and an insatiable thirst for riches seems to have got the best of every other consideration, and almost every order of men; that party disputes and personal quarrels are the great business of the day, whilst the momentous concerns of an empire, a great and accumulating debt, ruined finances, depreciated money, and want of credit, which in its consequences is the want of everything, are but secondary considerations, and postponed from day to day, from week to week, as if our affairs wore the most promising aspect . . . . . Our money is now sinking fifty per cent. a day in this city, and I shall not be surprised if, in the course of a few months, a total stop is put to the currency of it; and yet an assembly, a concert, a dinner, or a supper that will cost three or four hundred pounds, will not only take men off from acting in this business, but even from thinking of it; while a great part of the officers of our army, from absolute necessity, are quitting the service, and the more virtuous few, rather than do this, are sinking by sure degrees into beggary and want." As quoted in, Young, Memorial History, II, 56. [CONTINUED NEXT PAGE]

16. "Extracts from Diary of Hiltzheimer," PMHB 16, 415; Watson's Annals, II, 64; Young, p. 62; Scharf and Wescott, II, . Evidently, Washington's simplicity in this case is in context with the lavishness of Philadelphia, particularly after the Revolution, for descriptions of Washington's taste for finery at his Mount Vernon home appear to contradict descriptions of him at the capital during the 1790s. His peak years for self-indulgence, especially in lavish apparel, seem to have been prior to the Revolution. see Douglas Southall Freeman, George Washington, A Biography, III, Planter and Patriot (New York, 1951), 294. Washington refused to leave the city until September, when his associates finally prevailed upon him to take refuge at Mount Vernon. Anne Wharton, Women*

On September 30 Washington sent off a letter to Randolph in Philadelphia requesting that he keep him informed on the status of the epidemic, especially during the latter part of October when the President intended returning to the capital from Mount Vernon, where he had taken refuge. In case the fever were to continue to rage, the President requested his Attorney General to enquire whether "a tolerably convenient lodging for myself, one Gentleman of my family, with three Servants and as many horses could be had in or near German Town." Washington apparently feared his expectations would be misunderstood, for he cautioned Randolph, "I declare explicitly, that it is hired lodgings only I will go into, for, unless such can be had, I would repair to one of the most decent Inns."[17]

17. John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., The Writings of George Washington 33 (Washington, 1940), 107-109.

* of Colonial and Revolutionary Times (New York, 1897) p. 245.

Between October 13 and 15 Washington ~~sent off~~ posted seven letters to his associates in Philadelphia requesting additional information on the epidemic and their opinions on where the impending Cabinet meetings should be held. He showed his alarm at a recent report that the fever had spread to Germantown, that many of his acquaintances, including "Jno. Ross, Jonathan Sergeant, Mr. Howell and Colo. Franks," had fallen victim to the epidemic, and that already 4000 had died from the fever.[18]

That Washington was acquainted with Colonel Isaac Franks, the owner in 1793 of the Deshler house in Germantown, advances the possibility that he personally initiated the enquiry about leasing Franks's house, especially if he also had knowledge of the fact that Franks had taken his family to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to protect them from the plague. A letter received from his Attorney General on October 22 certainly suggests that Washington had asked him to investigate the situation: as if in reply to the President, Randolph explained that Franks had agreed to lease his house to The President, but that:

> the terms are excessive; being no less than 150 pounds per annum, or for a shorter period, under six months, at the same rate. Except a looking glass or two, and a few pictures, he will not suffer any of the furniture to remain; though I have prevailed upon his agent to permit a couple of beds and some chairs and tables to continue, until you can accomodate yourself from some other quarters.[19]

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18. Fitzpatrick, ed., Ibid., pp. 120-131. Washington mentioned the illness of his acquaintances as listed above in two nearly identical letters mailed on October 14 to his Postmaster General and to his Comptroller, pp.128-9.

19. As quoted in Eberlein-Lippincott, p. 228. Several of the secondary sources noted that Franks had fled to Bethlehem to escape the plague. See,

Evidently anxious to confirm his plans, Washington wrote to Randolph on the 23rd of October, having not yet received the letter Randolph had addressed to him the day before. In response to Randolph's letter of the 11th, which had only arrived that day, Washington indicated that he was at a loss to decide which of the three houses described in the P.S. would be best suited for his purposes. He was able to specifiy, however, that

> of course all idea of furnishing, and keeping a house myself (being entirely unprovided with Servants or means of any sort) ought to be banished entirely, if it be practicable, and some rooms, even in a tavern, (if I could be retired in them) taken in preference. On the other hand, if my stay there is likely to be of any continuance, then unquestionalby Colo. Franks (if to be had) would suit me best; because more commodious for myself and the entertainment of company; and, next to this, Bensel's. [20]

Washington's strong preference here for Franks's house suggests his familiarity with its accomodations. Atleast one family account told of David Deshler's close friendship with Washington, and, possibly, before his death in 1792, Deshler had invited the President to visit him at his Germantown home. Washington's second choice of Bensel's house might even extend this hypothesis, as George Bensel was the father-in-law of Anthony Deshler, David Deshler's brother. Whether Washington ever was the guest of David Deshler or Isaac Franks in the Germantown residence prior to the fall of 1793 cannot, however, be established from the available documentation.[21]

20. Fitzpatrick, 33, 135-6.
21. See section on historical background, footnotes 15 and 18.

When Washington set out from Mount Vernon on the 28th of October, , no final decisions had been reached on his Germantown lodgings. At their arrival on November 1, Washington and part of his company found temporary quarters with the Reverend Frederick Herman, pastor of the German Reformed Church on Market Square, and German teacher at the Germantown Union School. Herman's residence stood just two blocks west of Market Square, within visual proximity of the house Washington still hoped to lease during the epidemic crisis.[22]

Germantown in early November had few additional lodgings to offer anyone. Washington had requested his cabinet to meet him there, but they, too, found themselves pressed to find convenient quarters. As Jefferson explained to Madison on November 2:

> according to present appearances this place cannot lodge a single person more, as a great favor I have got a bed in the corner of a public room of a tavern, and must so continue till some of the Philadelphians make a vacancy by removing into the city. then we must give 4 to 6. dollers a week for cuddies without a bed, and sometimes without a chair, or table. there is not a single lodging-house in the place.[23]

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22. Fitzpatrick, 33, 143 and 150; Jenkins, Washington Visits Germantown, p. 38. Washington's company consisted of Bartholomew Dandridge, the President's Secretary; Lewis Lut, the coachman; and Austin, a servant. The party took with them five horses. The President remained at Herman's from November 1 to 10, 1793. Jenkins, Ibid., pp. 38-39; Jenkins, Jefferson's Germantown Letters (Philadelphia, 1906), p. 134. Interestingly, Dandridge was Martha Washington's nephew who had joined the President's staff in 1791, and had only served as the President's Secretary since June of 1793 when Tobias Lear resigned his service. Harold C. Syrett, ed., and Jabob E. Cooke, associate ed., The Papers of Alexander Hamilton, 19 Volumes, 15, June 1793-January 179[illegible] (New York and London, 1969), I [illegible]10.

23. Jefferson to Madison, James Madison Papers, Vol. XVI, Item 87, Library of Congress, as cited in Historical Research Notes at INDE. Washington to Jefferson, October 7, 1793, Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 112-13.

Shortly after settling at Herman's house, Washington himself took action to arrange for more satisfactory quarters. He sent off a personal request to Isaac Franks in Bethlehem for the use of his house. On receiving the President's letter on November 6, Franks immediately ~~responded by hiring~~ hired a horse and wagon and ~~leaving~~ departed the same day with his wife and a servant to prepare the house for the President's use. Franks also reversed his original decision not to furnish the house, and left an ample inventory of furniture for the lessee. By November 16, when Washington returned from a brief trip to Lebanon and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Franks had readied the house for occupation.[24]

24. The Germantown Historical Society has the original and INDE has a photostat copy of Isaac Frank's detailed account of expenses incurred by the President during his brief stay in the Germantown house. The bill makes the notation, " An Acct of Extraordinary expense Occured to Isaac Franks in Order to Accomodate the President of the United States with his House furniture Beds &c in Germantown, in Consequence of a writen Note from the President to that purport recd the 6th Novr. 1793 in a letter from Thomas Dunggan of Germantown." Frank's change of heart concerning the availability of his house and furniture possibly reflected his sense of patriotism which he abundantly demonstrated in the Revolutionary War. See the following section for a sketch of Isaac Franks. See Appendix G for an inventory of the furnishings Franks drew up for the President. Washington's trip to Lebanon and Lancaster lasted from November 11 to November 16. Jenkins, Ibid., p. 56 and "Washington's Household Account Book, 1793-97," PMHB 30, 47; Federal Gazette, November 11, 1793, p. 3; The President left for Lebanon to inspect a canal there under contruction. John Alexander Carroll and Mary Wells Ashworth, George Washington, 7, First in Peace (New York, 1957), 141.

As Jefferson had conjectured, once the yellow fever epidemic abated, around the ninth of November, the Philadelphia refugees "flocked back to town as fast as they had before left it," which opened lodging facilities in Germantown for the President's Cabinet. During the ten-day period of Cabinet meetings at Franks's house, Jefferson, Madison, and Randolph all lived within close range of the President, while the Secretary of War, John Knox, decided to return to the city with his family on the 18th of the month.[25]

Without his own family and proper staff, the President looked to the Germantown community for his daily provisions and needs. In addition to his private secretary and two servants, Washington hired the temporary help of Charles Byerly as cook and David Meredith as baker. When he entertained Washington called on the proprietor of the King of Prussia Tavern, William Bockius, who received $50.46 from the President for "dinners liquours etc. furnished at Germantown." Twice in the midst of lengthy meetings Washington provided dinner for his Cabinet members. Probably these two occassions represented the President's total entertainment during the brief residency at the Franks house in 1793, for he found himself (at this time) weighted down by heavy political matters and deadlines which required his immediate and close attention.[26]

25 As quoted in Jenkins, Ibid, P. 48, and Ibid, P. xvi, from Charles Biddle's autobiography; see footnote 18 above; the cabinet meetings were held between the 18th and 28th of November. Jefferson wrote Madison on November 17: "I have got good lodgings for Monroe & yourself, that is to say, a good room with a fireplace and two beds, in a pleasant and convenient position, with a quiet family." James Madison Papers, Vol. 16, Item 90, Library of Congress, as cited in Historical Research Notes, INDE. Hereinafter cited as HRN, INDE. According to Randolph on November 11, even though many had flocked back to Philadelphia, "The mayor and physicians dissuade the people from returning to the city yet, and especially in great numbers." As Quoted in Carrol & Ashworth, 7, 141.

Footnote 25 cont.

25. con't. Secretary Knox wrote General Henry Jackson on November 20: "We came in [to the city] yesterday with our family. The President remains yet at Germantown. Mr. Jefferson and Hamilton and the Attorney General are also in the neighborhood, although Hamilton comes into Town every other day on account of his business---I found if I stayed in the Country, I could not collect my clerks, nor be prepared for Congress." "Washington and His Cabinet, Knox to Gen Henry Jackson, November 20, 1793," Rare Book Room, Yale, as cited in HRN, INDE. According to Jenkins, Ibid., p. 60, Jefferson lived at 5275 Germantown Avenue, Hamilton stayed at Fair Hill, about half way to the city, and Randolph stayed at Spencer's out Mill Street.

26. See footnote 17 above for a list of Washington's staff from Mount Vernon. Phyllis Lee Levin, Great Historic Houses of America (Waukesha, Wis., 1971), p. 111; Washington perhaps also hired a chamber maid in Germantown, as his household expenses on the 20th of November included, "pd Patty Channing a mos wages." At the same time he paid a months wages to Jos Burke as a "House Exps/" "Washington's Household Account Book, 1793-1797," PMHB 30, 48-51.

27

The Seat of Government : November 16-30, 1793

When President Washington took up residence at Colonel Frank's house in Germantown in November 1793, he felt the "pressure of many matters, public and private."[28] Besides his awareness of a grim but ebbing death rate in the city only six miles away, Washington labored under personal and political tensions. Within the year he had found himself increasingly troubled by what he considered indecent and outrageous attacks in the Philadelphia newspapers published by Bache and Freneau. He had mourned the death of his personal secretary, Tobias Lear's, wife in July, and his close friend, Samuel Powell, in August. At the same time he had found it difficult to find a suitable manager for Mount Vernon. Although he had enthusiastically anticipated →

28 27. Washington to Howell Lewis, November 3, 1793, Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 143.

27, 28. Washington returned from Lancaster on November 16, at which time he presumably moved into the Franks house. See footnote 24 above. On December 1, Jefferson wrote to his daughter Martha, "The President moved in yesterday, as did I also." Letter #67, from Philadelphia: Jefferson Papers, Virginia State Library, Richmond, as cited in research note at INDE.

the completion of his political obligations in 1793, he had accepted a second term as President under pressure from his associates.[29]

[29] In a letter to Henry Lee, Washington wrote, "The publications in Freneau's and Bache's papers are outrages on common decency." Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 24. In a letter to Burges Ball on August 4 Washington explained his problem at Mount Vernon: "So much am I engaged in public business, and so little have I it in my power to visit, or attend to may [sic] private concerns, that it becomes extremely necessary (besides fidelity) to have an experienced and skilful man, of some weight, to manage my business; one whose judgment is able to direct him in cases which may arise out of circumstances that can neither be foreseen, nor previously guarded against." Ibid., pp. 38-9. Washington took his second oath on March 4, 1793. Scharf and Wescott, I, 473. Wharton, p. 244; Niles, p. 239. Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 133.

By November 1793 international tensions over the bloodshed of the French Revolution and France's subsequent war with England had reached a high emotional pitch in American politics. The pro-French sentiments had lingered from the American Revolution, and provided the French Foreign Minister, Édouard Genêt, the fuel he needed to arouse public support for a military alliance with France. Washington had received pressure from both the French and British foreign ministers to enter the United States in the Anglo-French war, but by April 1793, he had decided that a policy of neutrality would by the best way to protect the country from certain peril.

Outraged, Genêt personally slandered the President in the press, in correspondence, and in public appearances. Like the newspaper attacks from Bache and Freneau, Wsshington received these insults with increasing sensitivity. To make matters worse, Genêt, it was rumored, had initiated recruitment activities in South Carolina, and had, for certain, manned privateers in Charleston, which preyed

on American shipping off the coast, in flagrant disregard for Washington's Neutrality Proclamation. By November the public criticism and personal abuses from Genet and his enthusiastic supporters in the United States had made the President determined to defend his neutrality policy before the Congress and to resolve the problem of the disruptive French minister once and for all.[30]

30. The French Revolution broke out in 1789, and in January 1793 Louis XVI was decapitated, precipitating the "Reign of Terror." Morris, p. 125. Scharf and Wescott, I, 472-76; in a letter to Henry Lee on October 24th, Washington wrote about Genet's attacks: "The specimens you have seen of M. G-----t's sentiments and conduct in the Gazettes form a small part only of the aggregate; but you can Judge from these to what test the temper of the Executive has been put in its various transactions with this Gentleman." Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 138. In a letter to Hamilton on the same day, Hugh Williamson reported that a South Carolina newspapers had printed a (see below)

During the summer of 1793 Washington also faced an explosive situation on the southwestern frontier with the Creeks and Cherokees, and on the northwestern frontier with the British, who besides inciting the Northern Indians to war against American settlers in the territory, refused to evacuate the seven military posts agreed on as lying within the United States borders in the treaty of 1783. At the same time, the British navy, under order to seize all neutral ships carrying cargoes of flour or grain to France, captured numerous American vessels and continued to impress American sailors into service for the crown. This abuse of neutral shipping laws had brought the two countries to the brink of war, and the problem had yet to be resolved in November when the British Council issued a second series of Orders which counterd the international laws of the sea.

30. (con't.) letter from Genet to the Governor which spoke of Washington as "surrounded and bewildered by Messrs. Hamilton, Jefferson and Knox, who are rascals, liars and puppies . . . in the service of Great Britain and about to ruin the country, but I shall apply to Congress, expose their treachery and have them hanged." As quoted in Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 140.

In addition to tense relations with England and France, Washington faced the sensitive problem of negotiating a right of navigation on the Mississippi River with Spain. Attempts to ~~sign~~ negotiate a treaty in Madrid foundered on the fact that Spain had allied with the British in the Anglo-French War, and on the news that Genet reportedly had sent out French agents from Charleston to encourage the Revolutionary hero, George Rogers Clark, in Kentucky, ~~who intended~~ to carry out his intention to lead an expedition of angry frontiersmen against the Spanish in Louisiana. If executed, the expedition undoubtedly would involve the United States in war and thus wreck Washington's neutrality policy.[31]

31. Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 73; Robert Morris, William Grenleaf, and Robert Robert H. Ferrel, America, A History of the People (Chicago, 1971), ppl 160-61; . The problems with England were not resolved until Jay's Treaty of November 19, 1794. See the next section for further details. Not until October 27, 1795, was a treaty signed with Spain, called the Treaty of San Lorenzo, or Pickney's Treaty. Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 139.

International entanglements extended also to the Barbary States, in particular, Algiers, which was demanding ransom for American sailors captured off the African coast. Negotiations proved to be more complicated than anticipated, so that the Administration's efforts to rescue the American citizens in Algiers still were not completed in December when Washington presented his address to Congress.[32]

32. Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 13. See Appendix H for the President's address to the Senate on December 3, 1793.

Internal matters as well ~~had~~ put pressure on the President and his Cabinet during the summer and fall of 1793. Conflicts had arisen in the District of Columbia over the plans for the nation's capitol. Within ~~his own~~ the Cabinet itself a personal feud between Jefferson and Hamilton had grown so acute that ~~that~~ the former had that summer submitted his resignation. In August the President wrote to Jefferson personally requesting him to continue in office until the end of the session. Jefferson conceded, but the tensions during the November Cabinet meetings continued, causing the President considerable distress.[33]

During his stay at Isaac Frank's house, the President held four Cabinet meetings -- on November 18, 21, 23, and 28. The critical topics at all four meetings focused on the justification of the Neutrality Proclamation and on the French Minister's hostile attempts to undermine the President's position on the Anglo-French war. On Monday, the 18th, the Cabinet discussed the subject of neutrality from morning until 3:00 p.m., when they adjourned to dine with the President. After dinner the members investigated the possibility of requesting Genet's recall as the French Minister. Strongly in favor of this latter proposal, Washington expressed his disappointment at the disparity of opinion on the matter among his Cabinet members.[34]

33. Jefferson himself wrote that he and Hamilton were "pitted against each other other every day in the Cabinet like two fighting cocks." Morris, Greenleaf and Ferrel, p. 161. Fitzpatrick, Ibid., pp. 45, 57, and 74. As quoted in,

34. Henry Randall, The Life of Thomas Jefferson (New York, 1858), II, 203. Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 141.

Washington had no reason to hope that his four Cabinet members would agree unanimously on any subject, but particularly on the emotional issue of the United States' position towards France and its Minister Genet. Jefferson had just returned that year from the Continent and was inspired by the French Revolution and its cry of "Fraternity, Equality, and Liberty." He raised strong objections to the neutrality policy and to any *recall* of Genet. Hamilton argued for Genet's immediate removal, and found predictable support in the Secretary of War, Henry Knox. Attorney General Edmund Randolph, the usual tie-breaker or unalligned member of the group, stood firmly against the removal of the French Minister, but leaned towards the President's position on neutrality.

On Thursday, November 21, the Cabinet reassembled at the President's where they again debated on "the manner of explaining to Congress the intentions of the Proclmn." Randolph initiated the discussion by presenting his views, followed by Hamilton's statement of opinions in strong justification of the President's rights to declare a policy or treaty of neutrality. Randolph disagreed with Hamilton's position in that he felt that an act of the legislature was necessary to confirm any treaty, and Jefferson took the point a step further by insisting that the Constitution only gave the President and the Senate the authority to "carry into effect by way of treaty any powers they might constitutionally exercise." Of the two drafts under consideration—Randolph's and Hamilton's—Jefferson supported, with reservations, the former, while Knox sided with the latter. Washington dismissed the cabinet without deciding on either of the two drafts.

On Saturday, November 23, the cabinet members again met at the President's, with exception of Hamilton, who had fallen ill and had stayed home. They continued their consideration of the President's address to Congress with a discussion of two proposals: That Congress authorize the money to fortify the principal harbors, and to establish a military academy. The only point the Cabinet could agree upon was to amend the first proposal to read that Congress provide a means for enforcing respect for the United State's jurisdiction within its waters. The members could come to no consensus, however, on the incorporation of the proposals in the President's address to Congress, and the meeting adjourned with the understanding that Randolph and Jefferson would draw up drafts for the President's annual speech and ~~his~~ ~~to Congress~~ messages for discussion in the next meeting.

On Thursday, November 28, the Cabinet, all in attendance, met for the last time in Washington's Germantown residence. The ~~discussion~~ meeting opened with a ~~reading of~~ discussion of Genet's inflamatory letters to the President, Jefferson, and Randolph requesting the prosecution of Chief Justice Jay and U.S. Senator King. The group agreed to leave the issue to the press and to the private affairs of the men involved.

With that business completed, Randolph read his draft for Washington's speech, and debate followed, especially on the recommendation of a military academy. Washington, in his usual manner, tried to find a common ground on which his disparate advisors could agree.

No doubt expecting a long session on account of the rapidly approaching deadline, Washington had invited his Cabinet to stay for dinner, which William Bockius, of Germantown's King of Prussia Tavern, catered, repleat with liquours.

The meeting resumed with a discussion of Jefferson's draft of the President's messages on France, England and Spain. Hamilton and his colleague, Knox, objected to every point raised in Jefferson's proposal, and insisted, along with Randolph, that all the documents concerning Britain's policy toward the United States' corn commerce should be kept secret. Jefferson's reaction reflected his deep conviction in the Constitutional rights of Congress: "I began to tremble now for the whole, lest all should be kept secret."

Jefferson received immediate and uncompromising support from the President, and realized, "this was the first instance I had seen of his deciding on the opn. of one against that of three others, which proved his own to have been very strong." The meeting closed with this emphatic defense of the responsibilities vested in Congress by the Constitution. And the Fifth Annual Address of December 3, 1793, upheld the opinion of Jefferson and Washington that no matters of State would be kept from the public.[35]

Although as early as November 24th word had traveled to the President and his Cabinet that the epidemic had ceased and that Philadelphians were flocking back to the city, Washington chose to remain at Colonel Frank's house until the Congress had "themselves fixed." During these remaining days in Germantown the President occupied himself with "collecting and arranging the materials for [his] . . . communications to Congress," and, on occasion, found it necessary to make a trip into town. On Saturday, November 30, both Washington and Jefferson ~~returned to~~ resumed residency in Philadelphia,[36] only three days prior to the opening session of Congress.

Evidently Washington had become so engrossed in the pressing matters of State that he neglected to notify Colonel Franks of his departure from the house. Nearly three weeks later, Franks hired a wagon and rode to Germantown to enquire about the status of the lease. Finding that the President had already evacuated the premises, Franks submitted a total bill

35. The above details on the Germantown Cabinet meetings come from the notes originally penned by Thomas Jefferson, and published in Jenkins, Jefferson's Germantown Letters (Germantown, 1906), pp. 135-150. Appendices E & H.

36. Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 156 and 159. On the 27th the President wrote two letters from Philadelphia. Ibid., pp. 158-9. See footnote 25. On December 1, 1793, Thomas Jefferson wrote to his daughter, "The President moved in yesterday, as did I also." As copied on research notes from Letter No. 67, Jefferson Papers, Virginia State Library, Richmond, and filed at INDE.

for $134.66, which included all the additional expense attributed to the President's failure to contact him. Four months later, in March 1794, Washington settled his account with Franks, paying him only $75.56 "For house rent. etc. at Germantown." Considering that he had remained in the house for only ~~a short~~ two short weeks, Washington's adjustment of rent, even in comparison to today's rates, represented an exorbitant price. ~~He apply~~ Presumably, Germantown strongly appealed to him, however, for the following year Washington returned with his family by personal choice.[37]

Summer of 1794: July 30 to September 20

See next page

37. See Appendix G for Isaac Frank's total bill, and Appendix F for Washington's account book notation. Even though Washington's December correspondence is written from Philadelphia, and although he returned to the city on November 30th, according to Jefferson, Washington might have spent half of the month of December at Franks' house, for in his bill to the President, Franks noted that Washington did not leave his house until December 14th. See Appendix G.

38

Summer of 1794: July 30-September 20

Even though he had disputed with Isaac Franks over the rent in 1793, Washington obviously found the accomodations most adequate, for the next year he leased the house again as a summer residence. In May of 1794 Washington wrote Tobias Lear explaining his decision: "My public avocations will not, at any rate, admit of more than a flying trip to Mount Vernon for a few days this summer; this not suiting Mrs. Washington I have taken a house in Germantown to avoid the heat of this City in the months of July and August."[39]

Living in the country instead of in the capitol presented no real problems for the President's work schedule. As he wrote to William Pearce after his arrival in Germantown on July 30: " It is probable I shall remain here until about the middle of September. but letters will come to me as regularly as if I had resided in the City." The proximity of Germantown to Philadelphia also facilitated frequent trips to the city, so that Washington could readily fulfill his responsibility both to his family and to his office of President.[40]

38. Washington and his family arrived in Germantown on July 30 and left for the city on September 20, having spent over seven weeks in the Franks house. Fitzgerald, ed., 33, 452 and 502.
39. Ibid., p. 360.
40. Ibid., p. 452.

The Washington family of four -- George and Martha and their two adopted grandchildren, Eleanor Parke and George Washington Parke Custis -- apparently lived very quietly and unostentatiously in Germantown during the summer of 1794, for no contemporary accounts have been uncovered describing their stay in the Franks house. A conjectural glimpse of the family experience in Germantown, however, can be gleaned from 19th century reminiscenses and from the scant contemporary and circumstantial evidence available. John C. Watson, for instance, collected personal accounts from Germantowners about the summer Washington and his family spent in Germantown. Although he dates the recollections in 1793, mention of the family experience indicates the year was, atleast at times, 1794:

> General Washington, when residing here, in 1793, was a frequent walker abroad, up the main street, and daily rode out on horseback, or in his phaeton. So that every body here was familiar with the personal appearance of that eminent man. When he and his family attended the English preaching, in the Dutch church, at the market house, they always occupied the seat fronting the pulpit. It was also his own practice to attend the German preaching, thus showing he had some knowledge of that language. His house was closed on the Sabbath, until the bell tolled, when it was opened, just as he was seen coming to the church. . .
>
> When he left Germantown, to go onward to Carlisle, to join the western expedition, and was intended to have been escorted by a troop of horse, from Philadelphia, he wishing to shun the parade, went off in his single seated phaeton, drawn by four fine gray horses, out the School lane, and up the rugged back road of the township line, so as to escape notice and attention.
>
> Many remember his very civil and courteous demeanour to all classes in the town, as he occasionally had intercourse with them. He has been seen several times at Henry Fraley's carpenter shop, and at Bringhurst's blacksmith shop, talking freely and cordially with both. They had both been in some of his campaigns. His lady endeared herself to many, by her uniform gentleness and kindness. Neither of them showed pride or austerity. 42

Eberlein and Lippincott, P. 222;

42. Watson, Annals, II, 63-4. The reference to Washington's departure for Carlisle to join the western expedition must be inaccurate, for the President did not leave for Carlisle until September 30, 1794, 10 days after his return to Philadelphia from Germantown.* Perhaps the recollection concerned Washington's departure for Lebanon and Lancaster, Pa., early in November 1794

* Fitzpatrick, 33, 517.

— Continued next page

The modest, informal, cordial, and even retiring impression of the family as suggested in the above account, apparently applied in general to the Washingtons' preferred lifestyle when out of the political arena. In their domestic activities the family was remembered for its simplicity, atleast in comparison to the elaborate taste of the wealthy Philadelphians. At the same time, the family evidently maintained certain standards in their personal surroundings, for on August 16, 1794, they shipped two wagonloads of furniture from the city to their summer residence, presumably to improve upon the furnishings already provided by Isaac Franks.[43]

43. Scharf and Wescott, II, 905-8. Included on the latter two pages is a quotation from Viscount de Chateaubrian's 1791 journal of a trip to America in which he wrote about Philadelphia's society: "A man landing, as I did, in the United States, full of enthusiasm for the ancients, a Cato, who sought everywhere the rigidness of the early Roman manners, must have been greatly scandalized on meeting everywhere the elegance of dress, the luxury of equipages, the frivolousness of conversations, the unequality of fortunes, the immorality of banking and gaming-houses, the noise of ball-rooms and theatres. In Philadelphia I might have believed myself in an English town. There was nothing to announce that I had passed from a monarchy to the republic." Young, ed., Memorial History of Philadelphia, II, 62.

42., con't. Also inaccurate was Watson's conclusion, "thus showing he had some knowledge of that language," for Washington neither spoke nor understood any foreign language.

characteristically
During these hot, muggy months of August and September, the Presidential family most certainly found the airy, shaded rural setting of Germantown a pleasurable retreat from their quarters in Philadelphia. The long, narrow, sweeping yard behind the house provided a variety of play areas for the children, including a section with chickens and their chicks. Nellie and George did not pass all their time in summer entertainments, however, for the family accounts and anecdotes tell of the childrens' schooling in Germantown, the former child in the care of tutors and the latter at German Union School Academy, a short walking distance from the house.[44]

44. The width of the property was only about 100 feet when Deshler purchased the two lots, and thus it remained until Elliston Morris bought land to the south in the late 19th century. The Franks inventory listed chikens and a stable on the property. The household account book for August 1793 made note of payment to I.C. Moller "for teaching Miss Custis," and to M and Mrs Groombridge "for instructing Miss Nelly Custis in embroidery & drawing." See Appendices F, G, and I. Jenkins, Washington Visits Germantown, p. 67; Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 234, .

On a daily basis, the domestic scene at the Germantown house apparently revolved around the person of Martha Washington. Contemporary reminiscenses indicate that Martha provided her household with a "usual good flow of spirits."[45] Martha's letters to her relatives revealed that she was a good house-keeper and a woman dedicated to her family. A reminiscence by one of her granddaughter's friends showed Martha to be fond of simple tradition and close family companionship:

> Mrs. Washington was in the habit of retiring at an early hour to her own room, unless detained by company, and there, no matter what the hour, Nellie attended her. One evening, my father's carriage being late in coming for me, my dear young friend invited me to accompany her to grandmama's room. There, after some little chat, Mrs. Washington apologized to me for pursuing her usual preparations for the night, and Nellie entered upon a psalm from the old family Bible, after which all present knelt in evening prayer; Mrs. Washington's faithful maid then assisted her to disrobe and lay her head upon the pillow; Nellie then sang a verse of some sweetly soothing hymn, and then, leaning down, received the parting blessing for the night, with some emphatic remark on her duties, improvements, etc. The effect of these judicious habits and teachings appeared in the granddaughter's character through life.[46]

[46] As quoted in, ~~Anne~~ Wharton, ~~Women of Colonial and Revolutionary Times: Martha Washington~~ (New York, 1897), pp. 243, 246-9.

[45] As quoted in, Blair Niles, Martha's Husband, An Informal Portrait of George Washington (New York, 1951), p. 236.

Martha's fondness for intimate family relationships apparently carried over in her unpretentious and friendly exchanges with the Germantown neighbors. According to one account about the Washingtons' summer in Germantown, Martha was remembered "leaning out of the little window on the stair landing, talking to her neighbor, Mrs. Bringhurst, in the adjoining garden."[47]

[47] Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 223.

Possibly Martha was admiring the Bringhurst garden, for atleast one family anecdote speaks of Martha's enjoyment of raising flowers during the summer of 1794:

> While in this house Mrs. Washington raised hyacinths under glass, which was cut, and quite handsome in appearance. On leaving the house she presented the set of six to Catharine, the youngest daughter of David Deshler, who had married Robert Rogerts, of the First City Troop. One of these pieces of glass is now in possession of Mr. Edmund H. McCullough, a descendant.[48]

If Martha also took pleasure in other horticultural pursuits, as the above account suggests, then the gracious garden laid out by the David Deshler family certainly must have provided her with a rich outlet for her interests. Likewise, the elaborate gardens maintained by many other Germantown families must have offered Martha and her family many pleasurable community visits and exchanges.[49]

48. Ward, PMHB 6, 148; Rev. S. F. Hotchkin, Ancient and Modern Germantown Mount Airy and Chesnut Hill (Philadelphia, 1889), p. 71. Addition below:

49. See Historical Background section on David Deshler and Historical Grounds Section.

(18th Century Germantown and)

One problem with this account about the hyacinths Martha Washington supposedly raised while in Germantown arises from the fact that hyacinths bloom in February or early March. In a letter to William Pearce just after the family's return to Philadelphia in 1794, Washington wrote, "Mrs. Washington requests that the Gardener would send her some Artichoke seed of the best kind he has and by the first Post under cover to me," which certainly indicates that Martha did take an interest in horticultural matters. Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 502. This account also directly supports the contention of Deshler descendants that David Deshler's family shared a close friendship with the Washingtons.

Besides such informal social exchanges in Germantown during the summer of 1794, the Presidential family y no doubt invited company to the house, as befitted their social and political position. Unfortunately, no records remain to indicate how frequently and for whom the Washingtons entertained, but the household account book for the period show purchases of beef, lamb, and other groceries in quantities sufficient to feed large numbers.[50]

Descriptions of the Washington family's social affairs while in Philadelphia give some clue to the type of gatherings and to possible guests invited to the Germantown home. After dining at the President's city residence in New York in 1789, Roger Wolcott, auditor of the Treasury, wrote that, "The example of the President and his family will render parade and expense improper and disreputable." Evidently, the Washingtons as hosts set a tone of simplicity and economy at their home, while their guests, who included members of prominent Philadelphia families as the Hamiltons, Knoxes, Powells, Morrises, Stewarts, Bradfords, Rosses, Chews and Binghams, lent an air of refinement to the gatherings.[51]

50. See Appendix F for Household accounts in 1794.

51. As quoted in Scharf and Wescott, II, 906, and Wharton, p. 234. Wolcott succeeded Hamilton as Secretary of the Treasury in 1795. Washington himself noted about his spouse: "Mrs. Washington's ideas coincide with mine own as to simplicity of dress and everything which can tend to support propriety of character, without partaking of the follies of luxury and ostentation." As quoted in Scharf and Wescott, II, 906-7. When recalling his first year ***continued on next page ***

51, continued:
a Philadelphia resident in 1792, Samuel Breck wrote, "The city was all alive, and a round of entertainments was kept up by the following families: Robert Morris, William Bingham, John Ross, Henry Hill, Thomas Moore, Walter Stewart, Governour Thomas Mifflin, ex-Governour John Penn, Samuel Powel, Benjamin Chew, Phineas Bond, Thomas Ketland, Pierce Butler, Langton Smith, General Knox, Samuel Breck, Alexander Hamilton, etc. Besides these, General Washington, who was President of the United States, and John Adams, who was Vice-President, saw a great deal of company. Philadelphia contained then about fifty thousand inhabitants, and a much larger society of elegant and fashionable and stylish people, than at the present day (January, 1842), with its two hundred and seventy thousand souls in city and county." As quoted in Eberlein and Hubbard, p. 484.

Several of these Philadelphia families also owned country seats in or near Germantown, among them the Chews, Hills, Morrises, ~~and~~ Penns, and Burges. Besides their own entertaining, the Washingtons undoubtedly were invited to these homes, and, in the style of the day, they also likely paid informal visits to these families while on outings from the Germantown home.[52]

52. Wharton describes Martha's response to Philadelphia's social circles on p. 237-8: "During her longer residence in Philadelphia, surrounded by old friends, Mrs. Washington evidently led a life more congenial to her tastes than that in New York. . . . there was perhaps in consequence of the large Quaker element in the community, much simplicity in certain circles and great domesticity in family life. This homelike atmosphere rendered Philadelphia especially congenial to Mrs. Washington. Many of the well-to-do residents . . . owned country places on the Schuylkill, at the Fox Chase, and in and around Germantown. . . . Her carriage was frequently to be seen upon the roads around Philadelphia, when she was on her way to visit Mrs. Robert Morris at her country seat, The Hills, or Mrs. John Penn at Lansdowne, or upon the Germantown road en route to the Sarah Coates Burge." Samuel Breck recalled that in 1792 "General Washington had a stud of twelve or fourteen horses, and occasionally rode out to take the air with six horses to his coach and always two footmen behind his carriage. . . he knew how to maintain the dignity of his station." As quoted in Eberlein and Hubbard, p. 484. A description of several country seats of the 18th century can be found in Ibid., pp. 383, 418, 524. in and near Germantown

86,

Evidently one of the most enjoyable aspects of living in Germantown for George and Martha Washington in 1794 was their acquaintance with the great portrait painter, Gilbert Stuart, who agreed to execute a head of Washington. This painting apparently represented the second attempt by the artist to complete a portrait of the President to his own satisfaction. According to John Watson's account,

> At his [Stuart's] house Gen. Washington and his lady were frequent visiters, seen here, as such, by many. Mrs. Washington had a great desire to have possession of that finished head of the general; but as it was his chef-d'oeuvre, and he had no hopes to be able to execute another as well, it was conceded to him as an indulgence, to retain it for himself during his life. 53

53. Watson's Annals, II, 64-5.

Even though his stay at the Franks house in 1794 afforded the President such relaxation and entertainment, pressing public matters called him to the city at an average of two times a week, as a rule on days between Monday and Friday. At the same time, Washington's yearning to return to Mount Vernon and the life of a gentleman farmer found expression in long weekly letters to William Pearce, his manager, filled with advice and directions on the cultivation of the crops and the overseeing of the estate. 54

54. Obviously a disciplined and scheduled individual, Washington wrote his manager every Sunday. A survey of Washington's letters during his residency at Germantown in 1794 shows twelve correspondences dated from Philadelphia. See Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, pp.452-502.

The most pressing internal problem during the summer of 1794 was the insurrection in Western Pennsylvania, where the civilians objected to the federal excise tax on distilled liquors. The Whiskey Rebellion, so-called, especially alarmed the President, for he feared that such a resistance, if permitted, might spell the fall of the Republic. On August 7 Washington issued a Proclamation to the insurgents urging them to return home, and he called up 15,000 militia from Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. From Germantown he wrote to friends and associates asking for advice on the matter, and, finally, ten days after his return to the city from Germantown, he set off for Carlisle to give his personal attention to the explosive situation.[55]

International tensions also lingered in the President's mind during his stay in Germantown, specifically the Anglo-American relations. On August 30 Washington summarized his opinions on every aspect of foreign policy with Britain in a long letter to John Jay, his special envoy to Great Britain. The President's views no doubt strongly influenced Jay's Treaty of November 19 which provided for the British withdrawal from the Northwest Territory -- a point of contention since the Peace of Paris in 1783.[56]

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55 Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 176; Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 457, 461, 462, 464, 471, 490, 502. As Jacob Hiltzheimer noted in his diary for September 30th, 1794: "The great and good man General Washington, President of the United States, set out from his house on Market Street, with Secretary Hamilton on his left and his private secretary on his right, to head the militia who march to quell the Western Insurrection." "Extracts from the Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer," PMHB 16, 417.

56. Carroll and Ashworth, 7, 176; Fitzpatrick, ed., 33, 483-486.

By September 20, when the family returned to the city and had two loads of furniture hauled back to the Market Street residence, the Washingtons had enjoyed nearly two months of country living in a town famed for its resort attractions. Both the people and the setting of Germantown emited an air of health and relaxation, while the house which the family rented undoubtedly furnished a quality of familiarity, in that both members of the Deshler and Franks families were personal acquaintances of the Washingtons. And the elegant yet compact architecture as well as the location of the house on Main Street suited well the family's preference for simplicity and convenience in their daily living. Being at the center of town kept the family in the mainstream of the community activities, and reinforced the favorable impression which the Washingtons left whereever they lived during the years of the Presidency.

Isaac Franks, 1792-1801

When he purchased David Deshler's house on Main Street in Germantown, Isaac Franks no doubt was seeking a healthful location to live. Near the close of the Revolution, in 1782, he had resigned his commission as an Ensign in the Seventh Massachusetts Regiment, on account of poor health, and had moved to Philadelphia, where, during ten years of residency, he had continuously depended on the emminent Doctor Benjamin Rush for professional care. Even after his departure from the Philadelphia area early in the 19th century, Franks kept in close contact with Dr. Rush, both as a personal friend and medical advisor.[57]

57. In a deposition given in 1818 for his application for a Revolutionary pension, Franks wrote about his military career: ". . . he joined the seventh Massachusetts Regt. in the Army of the U.S. . . . and afterwards received his commission as an Ensign in said Regiment dated the 12 March 1782 . . . and continued in the Service till about the Month of June 1782 when the deponent resigned . . . Being severely afflicted with the gravel which still occasionally greatly distresses him." Franks, I., 1794-1819, Charles F. Jenkins Collection, HSP. Edwin Wolf, 2nd, The History of the Jews of Philadelphia from Colonial Times to the Age of Jackson (Philadelphia, 1957), pp. 197-8; Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution April, 1775, to December, 1783 (Washington, D.C., 1914), p. 236. An advertisement in the Pennsylvania Gazette in 1761 remarked about Germantown: "The Air is known. . . to be pure and healthy; often recommended, (see below

Germantown not only offered Franks a healthful environment, but a setting which appealed to his social and cultural preferences. After his marriage to Mary Davidson, daughter of Captain Samuel Davidson, in 1782, Franks discontinued his association with his Jewish heritage. He opened one of the first brokerage offices in Philadelphia, at 30 High Street, where he received merchandise for sale on commission.

57. by the best Physicians, to Invalids." As quoted in Jenkins, Guide Book, p. .

Like many wealthier and more prominent Philadelphians, Franks on occassion dealt in the Negro slave trade, and, possibly, as a symbol of his rise to higher social circles, he himself purchased a slave girl, Bell, who in 1790, ran away from his residence.[58]

58 Wolf, pp. 167-8, 192, 196; Clement Biddle, The Philadelphia Directory, 1791, (Philadelphia, 1791), p. 46.

While few records remain to document the type of social circles in which Franks moved in Philadelphia, the available information on his family, contacts, offices, cultural activities, and friends suggests that he stood as a peer of the prominent families in the city. Born in 1759, Franks grew up the son of a wealthy Jewish merchant of New York City, Moses Franks. During his childhood Isaac no doubt learned the basic rules for financial success. His service in the Continental Army during the Revolution won him early recognition and status, and his subsequent move to Philadelphia in 1782 brought him in contact with his prominent cousin, David Franks, whose daughter, Rebecca, dazzled the guests at many exclusive social gatherings in the city. His wife's family, the Samuel Davidson's of Philadelphia, offered him yet other social contacts.[59]

59. Wolf, pp. 97 and 189; Henry Samuel Morais, The Jews of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1894), pp. 34-6. Ward, PMHB 6, 145.

In 1789 Franks petitioned for and received the office of Notary Public for the Commonwealth, a position which brought Philadelphians of every social level to his shop for certifications. In 1792 he supported the cultural growth of the city by becoming one of the first subscribers to the Chestnut Street Theatre. Besides his friendship with Dr. Rush, Franks became acquainted with President Washington, possibly because they were neighbors of each other on High Street. Franks may even have known the Deshler family, who also lived on High Street nearby his shop, and this friendship may help explain why Franks decided to purchase the Germantown house in 1792, ~~from~~ David Deshler's ~~estate~~ heirs.[60]

When Franks purchased the Deshlers' country home in Germantown on May 21, 1792, he may have intended to use the house as a summer retreat in the style of many other successful Philadelphia businessmen during the decade. When he took his family to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in the fall of 1793 to protect them from yellow fever, he left his Germantown house full of furniture, indicating that he and his family had indeed been in residence there. At the same time, Franks himself ~~fell~~ had fallen victim to the fever, ~~which suggests~~ that he had been spending at least some of his time in town. After President Washington moved back to the city in late November 1793, the Franks family returned to Germantown, where they evidently remained until the Washington family moved out to the house on July 30, 1794.[61]

60. Morais, p. 29; "Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, February 7, 1789," Pennsylvania Colonial Records, 16, Series 1, p. 1.

61. See appendix A for deed citation; see previous sections on Deshler and Washington residencies. An advertisement in the Philadelphia Gazette for May 17, 1794, referred the buyer to Isaac Franks in Germantown. Newspaper Items, p. 156.

While a resident in Germantown, Franks demonstrated a continued interest in public service. When President Washington called up the militia in 1794 to quell the Whiskey Rebellion in Eastern Pennsylvania, Franks received an appointment by the Governor as a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of the Philadelphia County Brigade. The next year Franks filled the position of justice of the peace for the townships of Germantown and Roxborough, an office which he apparently retained through all or most of his residency, for in 1800 Isaac Franks Esq. married a young couple in Germantown. From 1796 through 1801 Franks served as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees for Germantown Academy, where, no doubt, his son, Samuel D. Franks, attended school. Finally, in 1798 Franks' name appeared as one of twelve commissioners who were working to incorporate the Germantown and Reading Turppike Road Company, and in 1802 it appeared again as one of the names of stockholders in the Germantown and Perkiomen Turnpike Road Company.[62]

62. Wolf, pp. 196, 429; Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 227; Wolf argued that Franks received the title "Colonel" from this appointment, but as early as 1790 Franks appears in the State papers as Colonel Franks. Pennsylvania Colonial Records, 16, Series 1, 513. In addition, Washington refered to Franks as Colo. Franks in his correspondence to Randolph in October 1793. See above section on Washington's residency at the house. Newspaper Items, 167, 173, Travis, History of Germantown Academy, pp. 42 and 44 6, 188-9; 204, 214, and 216; Ronald Vern Jackson, ed., Pennsylvania Census I, A-K (1792), p. 138, shows that Franks had a white male between 10 and 16 in his family. Samuel later became prominent as a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Schuylkill, Lebanon and Dauphin Counties. Wolf, p. 429; Germantown History, p. 42.

No record of the private lives of the Franks family remains to provide anecdotes about their typical days spent in Germantown, except that Gilbert Stuart not only painted a portrait of Isaac Franks --as he had the President in 1794-- but that he signed the painting, "to friend Isaac Franks as a token of regard." Such an inscription gives some indication that Franks continued to be a cultivator of the arts while in the country community. According to the 1800 census, Franks, aged 41, supported a household of 8 people, probably an extended family, as only three were under 26 years old, whereas three were between 26 and 45, and two were over 45. With three bedrooms in the main house, and atleast one in the original wing to the rear, the Franks family obviously shared many communal experiences while in their house on Main Street.[63]

63. Gilbert completed the portrait in 1802, according to Wolf, p. 197, which might indicate that Franks returned to Germantown for the commission, as he moved into the city the year before. Jackson, ed., p. 138. The small room over the tea room would not be considered a bedroom, but for the obvious need for sleeping space during the Franks' residency.

According to the available records, the Franks family returned to a residence in Philadelphia late in 1801, putting their Germantown house up for rent. Franks appeared in the Philadelphia Directory that year as a broker situated at 33 South Third Street, but only a few short years later he moved his family to Ephrata, in Lancaster County, where he found himself increasingly plagued by financial and health problems.

What had begun as a life of prestige and recognition ended in 1822 with little more than a civil position won in 1819 after numerous applications, a skimpy inventory of his personal belongings, and a debt of $2500 which he owed to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.[64]

64. On November 16, 1801, the United States Gazette announced that, "the house in Germantown lately occupied by Isaac Franks to be let." Newspaper Items, p. 220; Wolf, p. 198; Cornelius Stafford, The Philadelphia Directory (Philadelphia, 1801), p. 58. Franks appeared for the last time in the 1804 Directory as a Philadelphia broker. James Robinson, The Philadelphia Directory (Philadelphia, 1804), p. 37; From 1819 until his death on March 4, 1822, Franks served as the Prothonotory of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Isaac Franks, Prothonotry Accounts, 1819-22, Jenkins Collection, HSP. Isaac Franks, Administration Number 117, 1822, Philadelphia County Courthouse, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Elliston and John Perot, 1802-1834

Elliston and John Perot, brothers and affluent partners in their own mercantile house in Philadelphia, together purchased the Franks house in April 1802, and until Elliston's death in 1834, their two families spent every summer season together in the Germantown residence. In the city the Perot brothers lived in adjoining houses on the fashionable High or Market Street, and, like the Deshlers, had joined the Friends Society. Their store near the wharves at 41 Water Street, between Market and Arch, offered a wealth of products from their West Indian trade.[65]

Elliston and John were born and reared in Bermuda, where their Huguenot father, James Perot, around 1710, had settled. In 1772, when still in their twenties, they joined in their first mercantile partnership on the island of Dominica; there they conducted a prosperous business until 1778, when they moved their operations to St. Eustatius. In 1781, the British, in an attack on the island, destroyed the lucrative Perot enterprises and imprisoned both brothers. Their captivity proved short-lived, however, and by 1784 Elliston and John had reunited in Philadelphia, where they formed a new partnership.[66]

65. The Perots paid $5000 for the house. See Appendix A. The Perots built their houses on Market Street in 1793 and apparently they shared in common a driveway and garden. Clara Perot D'Ambly, Compiler, "Jacques Perot, Hugeenot, and His Seafaring Descendants," Bermantown Crier, 14, (March 1962), p. 10; Ritter, pp. 29 and 31; Hinshaw, II, 621; Scharf and Wescott, III, 2217.

66. Henry Simpson, The Lives of Eminent Philadelphians, Now Deceased Collected from Original and Authentic Sources (Philadelphia, 1859), pp. 774-77. Moon, II, 667-676; D'Amby, p. 10.

The Perots' previous experience and success in the West Indian trade undoubtedly facilitated their rapid rise to wealth and prominence as Philadelphia merchants. In 1884 Scharf and Wescott noted that, "Among the eminent early mercantile houses of Philadelphia none stood highrr in character than that of John and Elliston Perot."[67] Socially, as well, the Perot brothers won respect and acceptance in ~~their community~~ Philadelphia. Elliston, the elder brother, especially gained recognition for his kind nature and his active support of numerous charities. In his will of 1831, he left $100 to each of nine separate causes, and during his 50-year residence in Philadelphia he served 22 years as a manager of the Philadelphia Dispensary and 17 years as a manager of the Pennsylvania Hospital. In addition, Elliston acted as a commissioner and President of the Philadelphia-Lancaster Turnpike Company following its formation in 1792.[68] After his death in 1834 the Germantown Teldgraph eulogized,

> Departed this life, at his residence in Philadelphia, on Friday last, the 28th of Nov. Elliston Perot, in the 88th year of his life; a worthy and exemplary member of the Society of Friends.
>
> The deceased was intimately known and highly esteemed in this place, where he has resided during the summer season (as he himself infommed the Ediptor but a few months since) for the last thirty-three years, without the omission of a single summer, and occupied the dwelling distinguished as the residence of General Washington during the prevalence of the fever in 1793. . . .[He] was of the kindest feeling and most affectionate manner, and had only to be known to be beloved. His mind, naturally strong, was enriched with a vast amount of varied knowledge, gathered from study . . . in every sense of the word, a really GOOD MAN -- such as we feel a pleasure and satisfaction in remembering and contemplating. His like is seldom looked upon.[69]

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67. Scharf and Wescott, 3, 2217.
68. Will Book 11, No. 190, Philadelphia County Courthouse, Philadelphia; Moon, 2., 672-3; D'Amby, p. 10; Pennsylvania Gazette, April 25, 1792, p. 3,
69. Germantown Telegraph, December 3, 1834, p. 3; Moon, II, 674.

During the thirty-three consecutive summers the Elliston and John Perots vacationed at their summer house in Germantown, the families grew and prospered. In 1800 the Perot clan totaled 25 members, Elliston's household having 13 people--7 male and 6 female--while John's numbered 12--7 male and 12 female. In 1825 Elliston's eldest child, Hannah, married Samuel B. Morris, ~~of the old shipping firm of Wain & Morris~~, and it was he who, in 1836, purchased the property from the Elliston Perot's estate, so beginning the first of three generations of Morrises to own the house.[70]

70. R.V. Jackson, ed., Pennsylvania Census 1800, II, L-M, (, 1972), p. 1241; Hinshaw, II, 621; Appendix A. The Elliston Perots must have lost six of their children before 1834, for Elliston's will mentions only 5 children, 4 men and one woman.

The Morris Family, 1836-1948

Samuel B. Morris, 1836-1859

Samuel Buckley Morris grew up in Philadelphia, the only son of the Luke Wistar Morrises, and grandson of Captain Samuel Morris. His father owned a part in the family brewing business and participated in Philadelphia's society life.[71]

In 1825, at age 34, Samuel B. married Hannah Perot at the Friends Meeting House on Mulberry (now Arch) Street, and six years later, after the birth of their third child, she died, leaving him with two sons and one daughter -- Samuel, aged 5, Beulah, 3, and new-born Elliston Perot.[72]

71. John W. Jordan, Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania, I, (New York, 1911), 61; Moon, II, 664; Faris, p. 23. According to the latter author, Samuel's grandfather was a leader in the Schuylkill Fishing Club, the oldest social club in America.

72. Moon, II, 664-666.

Although

Samuel had established a high reputation for mercantile integrity in the old and respectable shipping firm of Waln and Morris, he retired from the firm after Hannah's death in 1831 to take care of his children. Four years later, and seven months after his father-in-law's death, he moved his family out to the Perot summer home in Germantown. Evidently he had an understanding with Elliston's heirs that he would purchase the property, for the following spring he received the deed to "the Family Mansion" from his brother-in-law, Francis Perot.[73]

Instead of working in a firm, Samuel apparently derived an income from his stock shares and the rents from his numerous city and country properties listed in the inventory of his estate in 1859. Samuel devoted the bulk of his energies to his children, and to philanthropic work. He served as one of the first directors of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society, one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, as a manager of the Friends' Asylum for the Insane at Frankford, as one of the founders of Haverford School, now the College, and as the founder in 1854 of the Saving Fund Society of Germantown. As a devoted member of the Society of Friends, he actively supported their Westtown Boarding School which his daughter, Beulah, attended, and besides being a founder of their Haverford School, he sent his two sons, Elliston Perot, and Samuel, there to school. In addition to founding the

73. Moon, 2, 664-66, and 674; "Extracts from Samuel B. Morris Diary, 1831-37," in the family papers of Mr. and Mrs. Elliston Perot Morris, in Southampton, Pennsylvania. Elliston Perot is the great-great grandson of Samuel B. Morris.

Germantown Savings Fund Society, he donated to the Germantown community several buttonwood trees which he personally planted in a row along Main Street and Market Square, and which trees for many years shaded and beautified the center of town. According to the family historian, Samuel's "cheerful smile and hearty expression of good will, made him welcome everywhere . . . his charities were silent and unostentatious."[74]

On January 23, 1859, Samuel Morris, at 68 years old, died and left by his will the Germantown property to his second son, Elliston Perot Morris.[75]

74 Moon, 2, 664-5; According to his son, Elliston P. Morris, Samuel "was the first, perhaps, who took any interest in the care and preservation of the old Market Square, . . . and conceived the idea of giving it some form and shape by the use of shovel and rake and generous sowing of grass seed, then planting posts at the corner to keep the huckster and other wagons to the side next the house . . . My father planted a row of trees, some eight or ten in number, along the curb, and protected them from injury by horse or wheels by placing neatly-painted wooden tree-boxes around them." Morris, "Memories of Old Germantown, Particularly of Market Square," Read at a Meeting of the Site and Relic Society, April 18, 1902, and included in Germantown History, pp. 8-12. At the time of reading his paper in 1902, only one buttonwood tree remained. Ibid., p.10. Elliston P. Morris Collection, Box 2, Samuel B. Morris Domestic Bills and Receipts, HSP. Photograph of Samuel B. Morris Inventory, 1859, #39, in Deshler-Morris House folder, PHiladelphia Historical Commission.

75. Will Book 41, pp. 338-344, Philadelphia County, Philadelphia, Pa. Samuel's will, number 39, states: ". . . vest the full and complete Title absolutely in my Son Elliston Perot Morris of my House & Premises in Germantown situated upon the Main Street with a front of one hundred feet of thereabouts, extending to & across Green Street recently opened." Jordan, I, 61.

Elliston Perot Morris (1859-1914)

Elliston Perot Morris was born on May 22, 1831, and only two months later he lost his mother. At age four his father moved the family to the Germantown house, and here Elliston remained until his death in 1914--a period of 79 years. Elliston's life reflected his childhood upbringing under the devoted care of his father and the spiritual guidance of the Friends Society.[76]

In 1854 Elliston assisted his father in the organization of the Savings Fund Society of Germantown and that year began a 60-year service as the Secretary of the bank. Eleven years later he assisted in opening another Philadelphia bank when he became an incorporator of the Provident Life and Trust Company.[77]

Elliston resembled his father in his devout support of the Friends' Society and his numerous philantohropic associations. He was one of the founders of the Friends' Freemen Society in 1863 and the Germantown Dispensary and Hospital in 1864, and served as President for both; he served as a manager for the Friends' Free Library, the Friends' Asylum for the Insane, and for Haverford College; and, for many years he served as an overseer for Penn Charter School,[78] also founded by the Quakers.

Elliston married Martha Canby of Wilmington in 1861, and they had four children, Marriott Canby, Elizabeth Canby, Samuel Buckley, and Elliston Perot. In his will Elliston left all his Germantown

76. Jordan, I, 61; Clip File, Morris Family and Morris House, p. 111, Germantown Historical Society. Herinafter cited, Clip file, GHS.
77. Ibid.
78. Ibid.

property--which included three additional residences he had purchased along Germantown Avenue to the north and south of his home-- to his wife, Martha, and after her death, to his daughter, Elisabeth C. Morris.[79]

Martha Canby Morris, 1914-1919

Martha Canby seemingly complemented her husband well, for at her death in 1919, a newspaper eulogy noted that she had been one of the founders of the Germantown Hospital, and had served as its president for 37 years. She outlived her husband by five years, and at her death the house fell to the ownership of Elizabeth C. Morris.[80]

Elizabeth C. Morris, 1919-1947

Elizabeth C. Morris never married and remained her lifetime at the Morris home. She died intestate on December 13, 1947, leaving as her sole heir her brother, Marriott C. Morris.[81]

Marriot C. Morris, 1947-8

Marriott C. survived his sister by one year, and wrote two codicils to his will, the second one leaving the premises to the United States of America. The second codicil, however, contained a clause which stated that should he die within 30 days of signing the codicil, that the property would then go to his son, Elliston Perot Morris, instead.

79. Jordan, Ibid.; Will of Elliston Perot Morris, No. 2874, Probate Office, County of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.
80. Jane Campbell's Newspaper Clippings, Volume39, p. 181, Germantown Historical Society; Chain of Title to 5442 Germantown Avenue, p. 1, peepared by the Philadelphia Historical Commission and appended to this report. (A).
81. Chain of Title, Ibid.

Marriott C. Morris died on March 2, 1948, ~~within 30~~ only two days ~~of~~ after writing his second codicil, so that the porperty went to Elliston Morris.

Elliston Perot Morris, March to December, 1948

Elliston Morris, his wife, and his mother, Jane Rhoads Morris, chose to follow through with Marriott's decision to donate the property to the government for the preservation of George Washington's residence in 1793 ~~&~~ and 1794, and the deed was transacted on December 16, 1948.[82]

National Park Service, 1948 to the Present

With a federal grant of $20,000, the National Park Service set into motion plans to restore the house to its 18th century appearance. The restoration work began in the summer of 1949 and was completed within the year. The physical destruction and repair to the architectural fabric of the structure will be discussed in the section prepared by Historical Architect, Michael Adlerstein.[83]

Considerable community interest resulted in a cooperative agreement with the Germantown Historical Society in July 1949 which gave the Society the right to manage the property for the Service. The Elliston P. Morris family donated several valuable antiques to furnish the home; the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts agreed to loan seven paintings from its permanent collection,; and, the

82. Chain of Title, Ibid.
83. Evening Bulletin, December 9 and 10, 1949, and Germantown Courier, December 8, 1949, Clip file, The Morris Family and Morris House, GHS.

Philadelphia Museum of Art supplied some period furniture on loan to the house. On December 10, 1949, the National Park Service opened the house, which they called the Deshler-Morris House, to the public. On May 16, 1950, the Service held a special ceremony to dedicate the transfer of the property to the Government and the placing of the house in the custody of the Germantown Historical Society. The ceremony was held on the grounds, and with Robert F. Lee, Chief Historian, speaking in behalf of the government, and Bernard Samuel, Mayor of Philadelphia, speaking in behalf of the City.[84]

Since 1949 the management and interpretation of the Deshler-Morris House and grounds have been fulfilled by the Germantown Historical Society and its Women's Committee for the Deshler-Morris House. The volunteer women have provided guided tours through the house and they have held teas, coffees, and other parties on the grounds. The Park Service has supported the society with maintenance funds, and, more recently, with maintentnce crews for the buildings and grounds, although the latter, since 1969, has been under the close care and supervision of Mrs. Mildred Montgomery of the Women's Committee. In the 1960s, the park staff carried out extensive research on the structure and its history, but no final report was ever produced. In 1966 Dr. John Platt, a National Park Service Historian, completed a mini-folder on the house for distribution to the public. The present research has been authorized with expectations of restoring the structure,

84 Ibid.; Superintendent's Monthly Report, January 1951, as transcribed to research note, INDE.

grounds, and furnishings to the period of President George Washington's residency in 1793 and 1794.[85]

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85. Mrs. Richard Wilson of Germantown is presently the Chairman of of the Women's Committee and she furnished the writer with assistance and information on the Women's Committee work. The HSO, or Historical Research file on the Deshler-Morris House in the park files provided me with a picture of the interaction of the Historical Society and the National Park Service since 1954.

86. HSO file, HDE., includes a copy of Public Law 85-702. See Section f for information on Bringhurst House.

When the Morris Family donated the property and it was accepted by Congress in an Act of June 28, 1948 (62 Stat. 1061), the National Park Service received 0.629 acres of land which was then considered adequate for the protection of the historic structure and its environment. In 1957, however, the Germantown Savings Fund Society, which owned the structure to the north of the Deshler-Morris House, announced its intention to improve the property. Representative Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania agreed to sponsor a bill (H.R. 7403) to authorize the Secretary of Interior to acquire a certain narrow strip of land between the two properties which would assure the protection of the access, light, and air of the historic structure. On August 21, 1958 the 85th Congress approved the Act and it became Public Law 85-702. In December 1973 the protection of the Deshler-Morris House ~~has recently been~~ was further assured by the Germantown Savings Fund Society's donation of the same property to the north, called the Bringhurst House, to the National Park Service, ~~in December 1973~~. With the acquisition of this early Germantown house, the National Park Service arranged for historical research, as required by law, to provide the structural history and significance of the property.[86]

C. Structural History of the Deshler-Morris House

18th Century

X- Ray Techniques and Paint Analysis

Although no documentation exists to verify that Deshler erected the kitchen wing many years before his mansion house, the findings of the Service's historical architect and paint specialist confirm that the two-story stone portion of the back wing ~~closest to the main house~~ dates to the mid-18th century, and that it still retains its original door and window framings and evidence of its original blue coat of paint. The logical hypothesis follows that David Deshler anticipated building a larger, more elegant country seat in his later life, but, like many other early citizens of Germantown, he began with the kitchen, the most practical and necessary part of the house. He and his family no doubt slept in the two rooms upstairs and passed much of their time either outdoors or in the kitchen during waking summer hours.[1]

1. For a complete description of the architectural investigation of the kitchen and the results of the paint analysis, see the section completed by the historical architect. The curator of the Germantown Historical Society provided this writer with information on the building sequence of many Germantown houses.

1740 Survey of Market Square

As typical of most of Germantown's 18th century property owners, Deshler built his house close to the Main Street which led into Philadelphia, and closely adjoining his neighbors'. Only yards to the north stood the house of George Bringhurst, senior, saddler, who, according to the record of deeds, dold Deshler a 60-foot lot adjoining his own in 1751. A 1740 survey of ~~the adjoining~~ Market Square, ~~in 1740~~, however, suggests ~~indicates~~ that Deshler owned the same property, or part of it, at that earlier date as well. Possibly Deshler was only a mortgager for Bringhurst and did not actually hold the pooperty at this time. On the other hand, if he already was bringing his young family to Germantown in 1740, the 2-story stone kitchen may have been constructed a decade or more earlier that the estimated year of 1750.[2]

2. This ~~1740~~ survey was entitled a "Plan of the Germantown Market Place" and was dafwn up by Benjamin Eastburn on September 17, 1740. Witnesses to the survey included George Bringhurst and several of his neighbors. See illustration 4, for complete citation and for Bringhurst's and Deshler's neighbors in 1740. This writer has no way to confirm the 1740 owners of property, but it is my guess that the owners were superimposed on the 1740 survey in 1766, when Christian Lehman compiled information about Germantown's original lands. That would explain the names of Deshler and Waln, who, according to the record of deeds, acquired land opposite to Market Square in 1751-52 and c. 1760, respectively.

Family Memorabilia and Secondary Sources

Some twenty years or more elapsed before David Deshler decided to construct an elegant addition to his country house. The only available information for his choice of workers comes from family memorabilia and a paint bill from David Dominick during 1772 and 1773. According to his granddaughters' account, Deshler brought cappenters and masons from Philadelphia and he supervised the work himself. Other than these minor details and the 1774 fire insurance survey which describes the finished product, no evidence remains on the construction history of the main house.

3. See Appendix C for a copy of the Deshler bill from David Dominick, and Appendix B for the 1774 survey conducted by Samuel Wetherill. See Section B, footnote 1, for a citation on Deshler's granddaughters' recollection. Scharf and Wescott, I, 899. Watson, Annals, II, 64.

According to John C. Watson, "Before the Revolution, the most of the houses [in Germantown] were but one and a half stories, with high double-hipped roofs," which lends emphasis to the fact that Deshler's house must have been a notable and elegant home when completed in 1774.

In their history of Philadelphia published in 1884 Scharf and Wescott made an observation about the window glass in the house which has found no repetition in other sources and which cannot be confirmed by documentation, but, possibly, by some physical analysis: "the windows retain their old eight-by-ten glasses, imported from Germany for the buildings."[3]

Contemporary Germantown Construction

Less than a decade before Deshler began construction of his main house in 1772, Benjamin Chew was in the midst of having his Germantown country seat, which he called "Cliveden," built by the labor of both Philadelphia and Germantown craftsmen. The records, bills, and receipts from the construction have been preserved, and Dr. Margaret Tinckom has written a lengthy article describing the evidence from these papers. After comparing Cliveden with several other well-known period estates, Tinckom states, "Enough has been said to demonstrate the similarity that existed between houses of the same pretensions and building periods, whether they were being erected in Philadelphia, in Germantown, in Virginia, Maryland, or even farther afield." All these period country seats, she went on to say, seemed to bear "some relation to a common source of inspiration. . . . the design books and other architectual works which were published in England at the rate of about one a year from 1715 on.."

Whether Deshler happened to use the contemporary architectural pattern books cannot be established, but the suggestion from family memorabilia that Deshler brought carpenters out from Philadelphia to work on the house lends some support to the possibility that he used the Carpenters' Company which did indeed expect their craftsmen to follow pattern books.

In building the elegant ashlar-fronted "Cliveden," Chew employed one of Germantown's stone masons--John Hesser, who began work on the house in 1764. Chew also selected Germantown's Jacob Knor as the master carpenter, Philip Warner as the painter, Christopher Hergesheimer as the blacksmith, and John Keyser as the stone supplier. From Philadelphia's master craftsmen he hired Casper Geyer, a competent but high-priced stonecutter. Nearly all of his workmen were of German descent, and the product of their toil well demonstrated their great skill.

David Deshler had been a member of the Germantown community, atleast in the summer season, for over twenty years, and undoubtedly selected some of the competent town craftsmen and suppliers to assist in building his own country seat. Moreover, his estate made no pretense at the elaborateness of Chew's, ~~for~~ as he ordered simulated ashlar for the front of his house, ~~which in time stood~~ and deliberately planned its size to be no where near the height nor breadth ~~of~~ "Cliveden." Nevertheless, it seems possible from the elegant wood trim throughout Deshler's home, that he favored the skill of the carpenter, ~~and it was here that he laid out his greatest expense~~ to this craft. For this reason, the family recollection that Deshler brought carpenters from the city and supervised the work himself apperrs to stand up under visual observation of the well-perserved ~~carpentry in~~ interior of the main house.[4]

4. Margaret Tinckom, "Cliveden: The Building of a Philadelphia Country Seat, 1763-1767," PMHB 88 (1964), 12-17. See Architectural Section by Michael Adlerstein for a description of the front construction of Deshler's house.

1774 Insurance Survey

Most likely the house reached completion in the fall of 1773, for Samuel Wetherill, the Contributionship Company's agent, surveyed the "Quite New" structure on the first of February 1774. The house had recently received a final coat of paint "outside and Inside even to the Garret." The elaborate architectural detail, especially in the exterior and interior wood trim, spoke of the refined elegance which Deshler preferred in his personal surroundings, and the soft, quiet shades of rose-pinck, stone-ocher, and mahogony selected as the interior trim paints suggested his calm and confidence after thirty years as a successful Philadelphia merchant and member of the Friends Society.

Even though 200 years have passed since its completion, the house remains structurally identical to its original design. The spacious central hallway, the two stories of open newel staircase, the fireplaces in each of the three rooms on the first and second stories, and in the distinctive 24-paned windows, all reflect clearly the wealth of the builder.[5] architectural grace and detail evident in the

5. Dr. Margaret B. Tinckom and her husband, Harry M. Tinckom, wrote in their book, Historic Germantown From the Founding to the Early Part of the Nineteenth Century (Philadelphia, 1955), p. 66, that, "The plan of the house does not conform to any of the types usual in the Germantown houses of the period." See Appendix B for the 1774 insurance survey. The paint colors come from the Dominick bill, Appendix C .

1782 Advertisement for Sale of House

In April, 1782,

Shortly after the peace talks had begun in Paris to end the war

Deshler decided to sell his country seat, and this description of the house appeared in the Pennsylvania Gazette: "The house is 45 feet front, and 40 feet deep, 2 stories high, 4 rooms on a floor, all finished in the most elegant manner." Although both the dimensions and room count are inaccurate, the character of the house as viewed by its owner comes through clearly. He wanted and he built a house "finished in the most elegant manner."[6]

The noticeable discrepancy between the surveyor's measurements in 1774 of a house 36 feet front and 35 feet deep and those of the 1782 advertisement might be explained if the figures in the latter document were reversed, which would allow for the 9-foot balcony on the rear of the house. According to current measurements the house runs 36 feet 2 inches in the front, and 35 feet 2 inches in depth, with a 9-foot balcony on the rear of the house, making a total of nearly 45 feet in depth.

6. Pennsylvania Gazette, April 24, 1782, p.2, col. 3, as quoted from research note at INDE.

1792 Advertisement for Sale of House

Indeed, the Deshler family identified the errors in the 1782 advertisement, for when Deshler's heirs put the house up for sale in 1792, they printed nearly the exact same advertisement, but it had been corrected to read: "The house being 40 feet front, 45 feet deep, 2 stories high, 3 rooms on a floor, exclusive of a large hall, in which is the staircase, the whole finished in an elegant manner, and in complete order."[7]

1793 Inventory for President Washington's Rental

Isaac Frank's room to room inventory of his furnishings in November 1793, when the President leased the house for a brief few weeks, reveals the continuation of the main house in its 1774 floor plan, while it throws only a vague outline on the layout of the original two-story kitchen wing. According to the inventory, the back kitchen was divided into three rooms -- the back kitchen, the back room adjoining, and the back kitchen adjoining -- which, according to their respective furnishings, served as a pantry, servants' quarters, and cooking kitchen. No other mention of the kithhen wing room dividion exists until the 1839 insurance survey, which described the kitchen with two rooms to a floor, so the mystery of this inventory cannot be solved by any available documentation.[8]

7. Dunlap's Advertiser, April 14, 1792, as quoted in Newspaper Items, p. 147.
8. See Appendix G for copy of the Franks inventory.

After the inventorier listed the furnishings in the tea room, or small parlor on the first floor of the main house, he moved on to what he called, "the first kitchen," which held much of the cooking ware and a corner cupboard filled with dishes and plates and other serving utensils. The corner cupboard, according to the findings of the historic architect, stood in the southwest corner of the first floor in the original kitchen.

Next, the inventorier listed the furnishings of a room he called, "the back room adjoining," which appears to have been a servants' living room, for the painted chairs and table indicate a style typical of simpler homes of the period. ~~The~~ This room logically was located on the second floor, where a fireplace hearth was available to hold the tin-plated stove listed as part of the furnishings.

? tin-plate stove — would not require a fireplace. DHW

The third room -- "the back kitchen adjoining" obviously was located next to the main house, for the furnishings, which reveal it to be the room where the cooking, washing, and ironing took place, coincide with the findings of the architects, who uncovered the outline of a 9-foot hearth along the east side of the first floor north wall.

"adjoining" does not suggest upstairs. Don't there 3 rooms match the two rooms and kitchen described in 1839 insurance survey! DHW

1798 Direct Tax Assessment

With exception to the 1774 insurance survey, the 1798 Direct Tax list provides the best available 18th century information on the Deshler-Morris house, as well as its neighboring houses in Germantown. From this tax list it immediately becomes evident that Franks' house and outbuildings were valued considerably higher than any of the five houses on the south (west) side of Main Street, opposite Market Square. What's more, its valuation of $3900 was over four times as high as either of George Bringhurst's two houses on the lot to the immediate north, and over three times as high as James Ormead's house on the neighboring lot to the south.[9]

9. Tax List "No. I," Germantown Township, Philadelphia County, 1798 Direct Tax, Department of Treasury, R.G. 58, National Archives, on Microfilm No. 489 at INDE. For additional information on Bringhurst, see the following section. See Appendix J for a summary of the 1798 tax.

According to the 1798 tax assessment, the dwelling house had 15 windows with 375 lights. Since the house has a total of 17 large, 24-paned windows--9 in the front, 6 on the south side, and two on the back side-- and four smaller windows --two on the north wall, at the stair well landing and on the third floor, and two on the third floor of the south wall--the assessor's figures do not coincide with the present house fenestration. According to the historical architects, all the windows, with exception of the dormers, remain from the original construction, which leaves the writer with the conjecture that the assessor counted only the windows on the first and second stories on the front and sides of the house. That would give 360 lights in 15 large, 24-paned windows, and 15 lights in one smaller window at the stairwell, between the first and second floors, north wall.

The conflict between the tax record and the actual fenestration of the house suggests that the assessor made arbitrary or inaccurate calculations. Judging from the dimensions given of the main house, of 35 feet front and 33 feet deep, and those of the kitchen, of 27 feet by 14 feet, both of which are one to two feet off the correct measurements, the assessor's figures represent only rough estimates, and cannot be depended on to provide accurate structural information.

Nonetheless, the tax assessment of 1798 does document the general size and character of the Deshler-Morris property at the close of the 18th century, and by so doing confirms the fact that the house stood out noticeably as a residence suited for wealthy and prominent families--and such was, in fact, the case, as the previous section on historical ownership well illustrates.

19th Century

1839 Survey

According to the insurance policy records, the main house received no structural changes for 65 years after its completion. The original Contributionship policy, Number 1745, perpetuated during the Franks and Perot ownership and no alterations or additional coverage for the outbuildings went into the record of survey. Because the house served, except for a brief period, as a summer residence, no major alterations evidently were required. The thick stone walls kept the house cool during the summer and, when necessary, they helped to insulate the house during the fall and winter.

When Samuel Morris with his three young children moved into the house as a permanent residence, ~~in 1835~~, however, he not only arranged for structural improvements but also, in 1839, opened a new insurance policy with the same company, Contrbutionship. During the 25 years of his life in the house, Morris made several alterations for his family's comfort, only a minimal amount of which affected the main house. Unlike his predecessors, Morris insured the kitchen wing, ~~as well,~~ which, ~~and~~ in 1839, when a resurvey was taken, included a new, adjoining one-story stone kitchen[10] - the original two-story stone kitchen.

10. Samuel B. Morris's policy continued in the family after his death and was not closed until after the 1909 alterations to the house. His policy number was 6334. See Appendix B. On the cover of the 1839 resurvey for Samuel Morris was a handwritten annotation: "N 1745, David Deshler, Feb. 1, 1775, now Elliston and John Perot." A copy of this original document has been filed at the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

The 1839 survey offers the first definitive view of the interior of the back wing.

The original kitchen measured 16 by 30 1/2 feet, in 1839, and featured yellow pine floors on the first floor and rough heart board floors on the second. Each floor had two rooms with folding doors and the windows had outside shutters. The new, one-story stone kitchen addition measured 16 by 17 feet and had white pine floors, and a dresser with sash doors. A shed roof covered the addition, and over the door stood a shingled shed.

The survey doesn't specify this as "new."

1842 Morris Sketches

A drawing of the back of the house executed in 1842 by Samuel, the eldest of the three Morris children, furnishes a contemporary view of the exterior of the two kitchens. Samuel, aged 16 at the time of his artistic endeavors, showed the accuracy of his penmanship with another sketch showing the front of the house. This drawing shows the house as it was described in the 1774 insurance policy, with the exception of the two dormer windows which had been cut through the roof sometime after the 1839 insurance policy survey.[11]

1845 Survey

A resurvey of the Morris premises in 1845 makes the first mention of these dormer windows described as "two circular dormer windows in front--with fluted pilasters & pitch pediment." The lag of atleast 3 years between the completion and recording of the dormer windows indicates clearly that the insurance policies give only a rough date for structural changes to the house.[12]

11. The 1842 sketches of the house by Samuel Morris come from a book of drawings in the possession of Mr. and Mrs. Elliston P. Morris, who kindly loaned them for reproduction. See illustrations 2 and 13.

12. See Appendix B for a copy of this survey and all other insurance surveys mentioned in the subsequent text.

1851 Survey

The detailed account of the house and wing in the 1845 resurvey also shows that the insurance policy agents became more accurate in their descriptions of structural features as the 19th century progressed. Evidently, too, the resurveys began to follow more closely the physical changes made to the house. In 1851, for instance, the surveyor added to the policy, "I have examined a furnace lately built in the Cellar of the above described house which appears safely constructed." Possibly at this point the original kitchen fireplace, with its 9-foot width, was removed or altered to accomodate a smaller hearth or stove facility.

1856 Survey

In 1856 a resurvey indicates that Morris had enlarged the back wing again, adding five feet in depth of brick to the first story of the 1839 kitchen, and raising the same kitchen to two stories, "one side of the same being of wood and receding some 2 1/2 feet back from the front of the kitchen below, with a plain wooden railing to the same." The second story addition served as the family bathroom, containing a bath tub lined with lead, a shower stall walled with doors, a galvanized iron boiler, which connected with the cooking range below, and three windows. In the loft beneath the eaves a reservoir measuring 6 1/2 by 2 by 17 feet provided the hot water for the kitchen and bath below.

1859 Photograph (Illustration 3)

The earliest existing photograph of the Deshler Morris house shows the front of the structure from the southeast in 1859, the year of Samuel B. Morris's death. The photograph, when compared with the 1842 sketch of the house by Samuel Morris and with the 1774 insurance policy description, reveals that the only structural change made to the 18th century appearance of the house front was the introduction of two dormer windows.

~~As late 19th century historians were quick to observe, the Morris family not only recognized the historic significance of the House, but also were careful to preserve it as well.~~

1861 Photograph (Illustration 4)

The 1861 photograph of the house shows the ~~house~~ structure unchanged in the three years except for an extension on the southern chimney, which, alteration never received mention in the insurance policy surveys.

1868 Surveys

In accordance with Samuel Butler Morris's will, Elliston Perot Morris inherited the Germantown house, and, by 1868, he had completed a number of additions and alterations both to the main house and to the back wing. That year he took out an additional insurance policy with Mutual Assurance Company, retaining at the same time his father's Contributionship policy. From 1868 to 1909 the agents from both companies surveyed the structural changes to the house, and the combination of their separate descriptions helps to clarify the evolution of the house during the ownership of E.P. Morris.

The surveys for 1868 reveal that five major alterations had been completed on the house since the decease of Samuel B. Morris. From one, the lower story of the original two-story stone kitchen had been converted from two rooms into one large room, a stairway, pantry, and china closets. (This room remained as a dining room and pantry until 1949, when the National Park Service tore out the pantry and closet space.)

Secondly, Morris had installed two Matsinger furnaces in the house, one under the main portion, and one under the back wing. For necessary support, two brick piers 17 inches square had been built under the front joist of the main house.

Thirdly, all the roofs of the house and wing had been covered with tin, with exception to the front of the main house.

Fourthly, a dormer window had been cut through the brick roof of the main house. And, finally, a one story, part brick wash house or office, 15 feet by 13 feet 9 inches, with a tin roof, wood cornice, venetian shutters, brick floor and a hydrant, had been constructed on the end of the wing.[13]

1871 Survey

In 1871 Morris replaced the original lead-lined tub in the wing's second story bath with a galvanished copper tub, but made no structural changes to the house.

1884 Survey

In 1884 the Mutual Assurance Company agent came to the Morris house and reported that a second story had been added over the brick "out Kitchen," and that a straight, partly endlosed plank staircase led up to it.

13. Morris took out policy number 7329 from Mutual Assurance Company. The two different 1868 surveys do not always agree in their measurements or descriptions of alterations made on the house, but they, like all the latter 19th century surveys for the property, provide increasing architectural detail, not only on the new features but also on some that had been degletted in earlier surveys. See Illustration 21.

1887-8 Photographs (Illustrations 7 and 8)

Two photographs of the front of the house taken by Marriott C. Morris in the winter of 1887-8 indicate that the front roof house had been covered with tin,

1887 Survey

Three years later, in 1887, the Contributionship's surveyor described the 1884 alterations, but in his own wording. The first story out kitchen he called "the wash house," and the stairway he called "a step ladder partly enclosed." He also noted that the stairs met the second story at a lozenge-shaped window. This window still remains on the western most end of the wing, which indicates that the stairs went straight up to the wash house roof from the back end of the wing.

Like the Mutual agent before him, the Contributionship surveyor described this 18 by 9-foot addition as divided into two rooms, and he also specifically noted that there was no communication with the rest of the back wing. A door had been knocked out on the west side of the 1856 addition bathroom, however, so that only a brief few steps outside over the roof of the brick wash house were required to enter the new second story addition from the older part of the wing.

1890 Survey

In 1890 Morris added an open fire place to one of the front rooms of the garret in the main house. Other than this small addition, the family found all their needs met for 25 years after the major alterations of 1884.

20th Century

1909 Survey

In 1909 the conveniences of modern plumbing systems apparently prompted the elderly Elliston Morris to knock out the north wall all along the house, and add a brick extension for bathrooms and increased space. In the main house the extension measured about 19 by 6 feet on three floors, "forming a short passage and toilet on 1st floor, a bath room on 2nd and another bath on the 3rd floor." The extension of the back wing enlarged the basement and the rooms on the first and second floors, and provided a hallway and new bathroom at the western most end of the wing. Modern bathroom and kitchen hardware replaced the existing plumbing in the 1839 and 1856 portion of the wing.

Note
INDE has some manuscript documenting these alterations, which were done by Mantle Fielding. They are in the park's museum collection.
Stev

The improvements to the house did not just involve the installation of modern plumbing, however, for Morris took advantage of the additional space to add cabinets and closets in all the enlargements from the basement to the third floor in the main house and the wing. In addition to provision closets, The wing basement also received a new cellar-way with wooden steps, a new stairway to the house, and a brick shaft, which passed up to the garret, and contained a hand elevator with doors on each floor, a wire-glass sky light in metal frames, and electric wires encased in pipes. The main house cellar not only received a new gas water heater for the bathrooms but a small boiler for heating the conservatory, which was built each winter on the porch.
Moreover, the brick additions were covered with plaster to match the main house and back wing, the entire floor of the basement was laid with concrete, and the middle section of roof in the back wing was raised and three windows added.

Such drastic alterations to a house carefully preserved as a valuable historic landmark by the Morris family for close to a century, certainly interrupted a noteable record of maintenance for the 18th century portions of the house. Nonetheless, the completed additions to the house received commendation by the Mutual Assurance Company surveyor who noted, "these brick additions are . . . constructed in a very substantial Manner," and, ."all the work is in Keeping with the Original Building."[14]

14. Scharf and Wescott noted in their discussion of the Morris house in 1884, "Owing to its successive family ownership of eighty years, the property has been kept in perfect repair, and, with scarcely any change, remains to-day the same as when occupied by Gen. Howe and President Washington." II, 899. In 1882 Townsend Ward commented, "The interior of the house, of an unusual beauty of design and finish, remains almost unchanged from its earliest day." PMHB 6, 147. In 1907 Keyser observed, "Great care has been taken to preserve the original appearance of the interior of this stately and interesting old mansion." In 1955 the Tinckoms noted, "Most of the interior woodwork, including the trim, the floors, and the mantlepieces are original." p. 67. Evidently the house became a tourist attraction from the interest shown it in historical publications, for E. P. Morris wrote in 1906, "In reply to thy application, I must say our family have been so greatly annoyed by the inroad of strangers desiring to visit our house that we particularly object to views of the interior." Morris to Charles F. Jenkins, November 16, 1906, E.P. Morris Collection, Southampton, Pa. In 1898 Moon commented, "It is probable that no house of a similar age and historic association in the city of Philadelphia, has been kept in such perfect repair, as the Morris Mansion in Germantown, and the exterior as well as the interior, . . . remain almost unchanged from their earliest days." Moon, II, 682.

f. 307.

Insert above.

1949 Restoration

In 1949 the National Park Service completed the restoration of the Deshler-Morris house with $20,000 appropriated by Congress. Unfortunately, no historical research was completed on the house prior to this work and no drawings or written recommendations apparently were requested from an historic architect. Consequently, no documentation could be located on the physical alterations made in the house, other than the brief notations made on a blue print of the restoration. The recent analysis of the structural fabric by the historic architects has, however, provided adequate information on the work completed on the house prior to its opening as an historic house museum in 1950. Thus, this writer reserves any comment on the 1949 restoration, and refers the reader to the section prepared by the historical architect.

D. Furnishings History

November 1793

When President Washington moved to Germantown in November 1793 to escape the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia, he had already expressed an interest in leasing the house of his acquaintance, Isaac Franks. Franks, however, had informed Randolph, the President's agent, that he would only rent the house unfurnished, and at a rate of £150 per year. From his temporary Germantown quarters in the house of Frederick Herman, a town schoolmaster and Lutheran minister, Washington sent off a personal note by messenger to Franks requesting a reconsideration of his terms. Franks complied with the President's appeal, and left at once by rented wagon for Germantown to ready the house and take an inventory of his household furnishings.

Judging from the final bill he submitted to the President, Franks reacted to the brief business transaction with irritation. The account of costs reflected Franks' aggravation at the President's unannounced departure from the house, and his own intention to make a clean profit from the Presidential coffers. The detailed inventory and bill Franks drew up protected him from any losses, while they also provided an invaluable source of information on the 1793 furnishings, room use, and outbuildings.[1]

1. For a more detailed account of the exchange between Washington and Franks, see Section B, on Lodging Arrangements. The bill and inventory have been appended to this report.

Either due to preference or pocket-book, Franks had furnished his house stylishly but not ostentatiously. Typical of the wealthier classes, he had acquired some -- but not an abundance of -- mahogany furniture, imported China, chintz curtains and chair coverings, and floor carpets. His inventory of furnishings, at the same time, bore little resemblance to that of a wealthy contemporary Philadelphian, Thomas Ketland, whose death in 1803 precipitated the advertisement for sale of the following furniture from his Market Street residence:

> drawing-room suite of French chairs, curtains, and sofa, in yellow damask; one mahogany four-post bedstead, with two hair mattresses and down feather-bed; richly-painted cornices, and three window-curtains to match; mahogany sideboard; dining-tables; mahogany commodes; tambour and satin-wood secretaries; one lady's writing-desk, painted; mahogany wash-hand stand; fire-screens; wine-coolers; one upright fine-toned mahogany forte piano, with stops, by Stoddard; one large, superb wardrobe, with writing-desk, drawers, closets, etc.; French Sevres tea-china in sets; one pair vases, superbly painted; groups of several figures and hyacinths, pleatue, French; a very handsome French clock, of the finest workmanship; a pair of French bronzed and gilt andirons; sundry prints and pictures; one elegant painting of dead game; Derbyshire ornaments; Italian marble busts; one large set of cut-glass dinner-ware; girandoles; dessert-dishes, etc.; a large glass hall-lamp; one pair richly-gilt tripods; gilt brackets, etc.; dinner-sets of English earthenware; a large steel grate, with a variety of other articles. [2]

2. Scharf and Wescott, II, 911; Young, ed., II, 36.

Nor did Franks' inventory of furnishings fall into the class of household furniture advertised for sale by the heirs of William Bingham of Philadelphia in 1805, and described in the history of that city by Scharf and Wescott:

> In the drawing-room were a looking-glass seven feet six inches by five feet, a glass chandelier, four girandoles, four gilt candlesticks, three sofas, eight sets of blue satin window-curtains with gilt cornices, two gilt branch candlesticks, six large arm-chairs, two fire-screens, with shovel, tongs, and fender, carpet, with vases, figures, and artificial flowers. The parlor was furnished with ten looking-glasses, two rush-bottom settees, ten arm-chairs, and ten single chairs, dining-tables, mantel ornaments, Venetian blinds, and one harpsichord. The dining-tables probably were placed there for convenience. The furniture of the dining-room was a mahogany sideboard, wine-cooler, twenty-four mahogany chairs with morocco bottoms, brass and iron fenders, shovels, tongs, and bellows, with chandeliers, girandoles, brass lamps with reflectors, shade lamps, and a very large assortment of china, dinner, and tea sets, with bottles, decanters, and glass-ware. In the ball-room—probably placed there for convenience and sale—was a mahogany bedstead, seven feet square, with canopy, curtains, and mattress complete. The chambers were supplied with bedsteads with damask curtains, chairs with damask stuffed bottoms, yellow and pink chairs, and sofas with silk bottoms, and bureaux in japan, gold, and mahogany. There were figures in all the rooms, and in one of them a full-length portrait of Mrs. Siddons as the "Grecian Daughter," with vases and other ornaments. Silver plate was composed of tureens, vases, dishes, candlesticks, waiters, urns, bowls, goblets, trays, forks, spoons, etc., and weighed nearly two thousand ounces, in addition to which were several articles of plated ware. In the hall were twelve windsor-chairs, pedestals of composition and marble, with busts of Voltaire and Rousseau, three busts of Franklin, bronze and composition figures, two marble medallions in gilt frames, and a dial on a composition pedestal. In the library were three mahogany bookcases, a secretary, a copying-machine, four bronze figures, two urns, two busts, and a centrepiece placed on the top of the bookcases, with a costly collection of paintings and prints. [3]

3. Scharf and Wescott, II, 911.

While Franks clearly did not pattern his life after the most opulent of the Philadelphia families --in ~~the~~ whose homes ~~of whom~~ Washington often socialized -- he did have furniture much like that sold at auction after the death of the eminent Dr. Benjamin Franklin in 1792:

> "Mahogany sideboards, dining-, card-, and Pembroke tables, mahogany chairs, looking-glasses, clothes-presses, tea-urns, plated candlesticks, windsor-chairs, an elegant sofa, chintz window-curtains, chest of drawers, a forte piano, a harpsichord, a copying-press, circular and sundry other coal-grates, Franklin stoves, china and queensware, brass andirons, shovel and tongs, patent lamps, plated knives and forks, jack, etc., silver and plated ware, waiters, sugar canisters, snuffers and stand, a dish-cross, tea- and coffee-pots, cruet frame and castors, candlesticks, sauce-pans, butter-ladles, wine-strainers, funnels, tureen with handsome glass and elegant workmanship, milk-pots, etc. Also a sedan chair." [4]

Phrhaps the pervasive and lingering influence of Quaker taste ~~among~~ in the upper classes of Philadelphia society affected both Franklin and Franks' ~~own~~ lifestyles. The Quakers, for the most part, objected to any superfluous furnishings and to elaborately ~~be~~ carved furniture. To the eye of the fashionable European, who was accustomed to the ~~ornate~~ styles which had emerged from the courts of Queen Anne and Louis XVI, the furnishings ~~of~~ in Philadelphia homes appeared characteristically simple. As Moreau de St. Mery wrote in his

4. Ibid., as quoted from an unidentified newspaper advertisement.

journal between 1793 and 1797:

> Almost all Philadelphia homes -- and this is also the case with all houses in the United States -- have the simplest of furniture, usually consisting of several pieces of mahogany? mohegany, chairs of the same wood with seats covered with horse hair in the case of wealthy people. Other classes have walnut furniture and wooden chairs painted green like garden furniture in France. 5

Evidently all Philadelphians who made any pretense to be financially comfortable selected house furnishings as their showcase. As Bulow, another European traveler in Philadelphia during the 1790s, wryly observed, "The greatest expense is for furniture, which must be all made of mahogany. Travelers have been often astonished to find handsome carpets and mahogany tables and desks, -- and in log houses, or bather huts!" 6

While furniture served as the Philadelphians' fashion plate, imported goods ~~represented~~ Symbolized the epitome of ~~the symbols for~~ social elitism. At the same time, luxurious living increasingly was shared by citizens of more moderate means who invested in the growing home market. Thomas Affleck, who produced among the finest 18th Century domestic wood furniture available in Philadelphia, purchased a home in Germantown, close to Isaac Franks' property. Franks, who supported

5. Kenneth and Anna M. Roberts, eds,, Moreau de St. Mery's American Journal 1793-1798 (Garden City, 1947), pp. 263-4. Youngg, ed., II, 35-6.
6/ As quoted in Scharf and Wescott, II, 911.

no doubt also
the artists and actors of Philadelphia, recognized and encouraged
cabinetmakers
the talents of the American ~~carpenters~~ such as Affleck. He certainly
hesitated to purchase
would not have ~~evidenced any condescension from purchasing~~ locally built
~~judging from the fact that~~ did when he
furniture, David Deshler ~~was~~ acquired an elegant lowboy from
an
Affleck, and a large set of Chippendale chairs from unnamed but skillful
7
Philadelphia cabinet-maker.

7. Deshler's lowboy appears in William M. Horner's, Blue Book, Philadelphia Furniture (Philadelphia, 1935), p. . Canby mentions other furniture owned by Deshler's heirs in his Family History, pp. 53-4. Scharf and Wescott, II, 910.

Franks' inventory listed some furnishings which had become generally included in most Philadelphia homes. Carpets, as found
bed
in Franks' upstairs rooms, apparently had been the rage in the city since about 1750, and, in 1788, De Warville, a French tourist in America, noted,

> "It already appears that they have carpets,—elegant carpets. It is a favorite taste with the Americans. They receive it from the interested avarice of their old masters, the English. A carpet in summer is an absurdity; yet they spread them in this season, and from vanity. This vanity exercises itself by saying that the carpet is an ornament. That is to say, they sacrifice reason and utility to show.
>
> "The Quakers likewise have carpets, but the rigorous ones blame this practice. They mentioned to me the instance of a Quaker from Carolina, who, going to dine with one of the most opulent at Philadelphia, was offended at finding the passage from the door to the staircase covered with a carpet, and would not enter the house. He said that he never dined in a house where there was luxury, and that it was better to clothe the poor than to clothe the earth." 8

8. Scharf and Wescott, II, 910.
As quoted in,

Again, it seems, Ffanks' taste ran closer to that of the Quakers' than the opulent Philadelphia society.

Franks' "open stove" in the diningroom was similar to the Franklin stove listed in Franklin's estate sale. Dr. Franklin made his first open stove around 1742, and other than the German also first around 1742 stove manufactured by Christopher Sower of Germantown, and the Dutch stove, which appeared around 1760, his product had no competition, and moreover, was decidedly the better of the earlier models. The open stove had metal open plates with air chambers between them to diffuse a greater amount of heat into the room. The stove usually connected with the chimney flue, in some cases by means of a stove pipe.[9]

9. Scharf and Wesoctt, II, 877; Keyser, pp. 124-5.

A survey glance at the room-to-room identification of the furnishings listed in Franks' inventory provides a good indication of the function of each room in the main house and kitchen. Franks started with "the first right hand room" with its dining table, 6 chintz-covered chairs, breakfast table, china, and three ornamental wall ~~coverings~~ decorations -- a looking glass and 2 large pictures. He then proceeded across the central hall to "the first left hand room," which clearly served as the parlor, with its 8 mahogany stuffed bottom chairs, 2 mahogany armchairs, two dining tables and two card tables. Next, he passed into "the Back Room adjoining," which, on account of its small size, contained only 4 windsor chairs and a card table. According to tradition, this room was where Washington chose to take his afternoon tea. Certainly, the two corner windows looking out into the garden lent an airy, bright, yet intimate character to the room.

(The Morris family apparently inserted "a large piece of plate glass" in the door of the china cabinet in the southwest corner of this breakfast room to display a china plate, and cup and saucer which the President was said to have used while in residence in the house.)[10]

[10] In 1882 Townsend Ward referred to the southwest room as "the tea room," and made note to the change to the china closet. Ward, PMHB 6, 1'7-8. Moon referred to the same room as "Washington's Breakfast Parlor," and reported the tradition that the cabinet contained the Washington relics. Moon, II, 680.
He also referred to the china cabinet as one "with bevelled glass doors."
He also explained that "A cup and saucer used on occasion, and a dinner plate which was then in the house, are preserved in the beautiful china closet in the southwest corner of the old breakfast room. They are of those mentioned in the inventory of Col. Franks, and came from his family to the present owner."

From the ~~room~~ breakfast room Franks proceeded to list the furnishings in "the first Kitchen," which apparently was similar to a modern pantry, as the contents of the room, for the most part, were kitchen utensils and serving containers of various sorts, while the only pieces of furniture were a table, chair, and two benches. The mention of a corner cupboard locates the room at the western end of the original kitchen wing, where National Park Service architects uncovered evidence of the cabinet.[10]

The next room inventoried was "the Back room adjoining," which contained a ~~tin plated~~ ten plate stove, dresser, 2 yellow armchairs, 3 green windsor chairs, a painted table, and a looking glass. Evidently, this was the servants' living room, as painted furniture typically was found in the homes of the lower classes, and it logically was located on the second story of the original kitchen, where the ~~tin-plated~~ ten-plate stove could be connected with the chimney flue.

10. See section prepared by Historical Architect in this rekport.

Not so. Franklin and Washington + Bishop White, etc., had painted windows

Even though the inventories had to pass through the "Back Kitchen Adjoining" to climb the corner closet steps to the second story, this cooking kitchen next to the main house was the last mentioned room in the kitchen wing. Here the list of furnishings included all the typical utensils found at a colonial hearth -- iron pots and pot hooks, copper kettles and sauce pans, chafing dishes, tea kettles, frying pans, a tramil, andirons, bellows, and a sand seive. The inclusion of three wash tubs, a brass washing kettle, a table and ironing board makes clear that the laundry as well was carried out in this kitchen. ~~The~~ A table, two chairs and a bench no doubt served as a dining set for the servants at mealtime and as a work space during the preparation of ~~the~~ food for the main house occupants.

In the right hand column of the inventory the furnishings of the second story of the main house were ~~written~~ scribbled, evidently squeezed onto the page to ~~save~~ conserve Franks' paper supply. The column began with, "Upstairs" and then continued with, "in the Bed Chamber on the Right hand." This room ~~appears to have~~ had been ~~nicely~~ comfortably furnished with two carpets, six chairs, a bureau and cover, a looking glass, and a curtained bedstead ~~replete~~ replete with 2 blankets, a green rug, white counter pane, pillows and bolsters. In contrast to the downstairs rooms, no curtains were mentioned, since the second story windows had interior shutters which were fashionable at the time in Germantown.

The second upstairs bedroom--"the Bedroom Opposite"-- held a similar selection of furnishings as those just described, only slightly more elaborate. The substitution of an armchair and a mahogany chest of drawers provided additional comfort on the one hand, and a degree of added elegance on the other. The bedstead framed two beds, which were covered with a pillow and bolster, sheets, six blankets, and a chintz bedspread. The flowered pattern of the bedspread must have lent a brightness to the room, as perhaps did the 4 covered chairs and carpet. With its four windows--two of which overlooked the tree-filled garden to the south of the house-- this bedroom no doubt pleased the President, who never lost touch with his love of the outdoors.

Adjoining this bedroom to the west was a small room --"the Back room adjoining"-- furnished only with a writing desk, table, and two chairs. The President passed much of his time during his stay at the Franks house "collecting and arranging the materials for [his] . . . communications to Congress," and he probably chose this well-lit and private room overlooking the garden to his personal work area. ~~Considering the President's feeling of pressure from many ma- this room could not have been furnished more appropriately to accommodate his heavy task at hand.~~ Moreover, considering the President's sense of pressure from "Many matters, public and private," this sparsely furnished room afforded few distractions to completing his heavy task at hand.[11]

11. See Section B, footnotes 23 and 31 above for quotation citations.

Even though the late November weather no doubt brought damp and chilly days to Germantown, the President and his Cabinet had a choice of any of the six rooms in the main house, as each had a working fireplace. If the temperatures dropped to an unusual low, they probably convened around the diningroom table, close to the open stove. More likely, however, they met in the parlor where they had a good selection of armchairs, ~~and~~ cushioned chairs, and tables to gather around, during their day-long debates on the sensitive matters of State. For a company of five, the Franks house furnishings were more than adequate, and for the President and Mr. Dandridge, the President's personal secretary who stayed in the same rented quarters as he, the sleeping quarters provided both comfort and convenience in a time of political and social stress.[12]

12. In making the arrangements for the President's stay in Germantown, Randolph informed Washington that "I have agreed to three rooms and two beds for yourself and Mr. Dandridge". These accomodations were made at the house of "the German clergyman near the school house." Two weeks after his arrival in Germantown, Washington moved into the Franks house.

Randolph to Washington, October 28, 1793, George Washington Papers, Microfilm Reel 105, Manuscript Reading Room, Library of Congress.

Summer of 1794

When Washington rented the Franks house in November 1793, he ~~had~~ felt pressured to bring his political and personal affairs to a quick resolution, and ~~by the summer~~ to find temporary headquarters until the raging yellow fever epidemic abated in Philadelphia. Undoubtedly for these reasons, he ~~had~~ made few demands for his own personal comfort and convenience. By May of 1794, however, he already had decided to lease the house again for the summer so that he could be close both to his family and the seat of government; and late in July he and his family moved into the house. Over two weeks later, on August 16, the Washingtons had two wagonloads of furniture shipped from Philadelphia to the Germantown house, apparently to embellish the furniture which Franks had provided them.

Even though Franks' furnishings, as listed in the 1793 inventory, were fashionable and to some degree quite elegant, and although Washington considered both his and his wife's lifestyle a simple one, the Presidential family socialized with the most elegant families in Philadelphia, such as the Binghams, Logans, Hills, Chews, Madisons, Jeffersons, and Adamses. Perhaps, In order to entertain guests of this type, the Washingtons felt more comfortable with an abundance of

furniture. Certainly, on occasion, they offered their company a memorable evening of elegance at their Philadelphia residence, such as the one Miss Sally McKean so vividly recalled to a friend in New York:

> You never could have had such a drawing-room; it was brilliant beyond anything you can imagine; and though there was a great deal of extravagance, there was so much of Philadelphia taste in everything, that it must have been confessed the most delightful occasion of the kind ever known in this country. 13

A review of Franks' 1793 inventory of household furnishings offers a springboard for conjecture on what type of furniture the Washingtons may have added to the house in August 1794. Since much of official entertainment took place in the diningroom, Martha may have requested that dining room chairs be sent out to the house so that more than two couples could be invited to dine with the family. She may also have wanted another set of china and glassware for social occassions, even though the house came furnished with 72 pieces of Nankeen china and 9 elegant wine glasses. Most likely the family found need for additional beds to take care of their guests--both children and adults. And, too, the Washingtons may have sent for a piano, harpsichord, or other musical instruments, for the pleasure of their company and the exercise of their grandchildren, Nellie and Custis. The partial list of furnishings in their residence at the Robert Morris house on Market Street in 1796, as appended to

13. As quoted in Scharf and Wescott, II, 905.

this report, provides a guide to the possible furnishings which the family selected for their summer house in 1794.

E. Grounds History (See next page)

E. Grounds History

Natural Features

18th Century

Even though every available account of David Deshler tells of his fondness for horticulture, little is known about the vegetation on his property, except ~~that~~ the information given in the two advertisements for the sale of the house in 1782 and 1792. The Pennsylvania Gazette of April 25, 1782, made note that "the lot contains about 2 acres, in which is an orchard of the best grafted fruit of various kinds, and a large garden pailed in." Ten years later, Dunlap's Advertiser informed the public that the property boasted "a great variety of the best grafted fruit trees, a large garden inclosed in pail."[1]

1. See Appendix D for the advertisements and their sources.

When he purchased the 2-acre lot from the George Bringhurst family in 1751-52, Deshler may have acquired some fruit trees from the Bringhurst orchard, for that family had lived in the adjoining lot only yards to the north for more than a quarter of a century. Deshler's own initiative and enthusiasm for horticulture, however, evidently transformed the grounds into the notable orchards and large garden mentioned in the advertisements of 1782 and 1792.[2]

By themselves the two advertisements provide only a vague picture of Deshler's grounds, but when compared with contemporary description of Germantown gardens and with typical horticultural tendencies during the century, a better understanding of the probable vegetation when Washington resided at the house can be gleaned.

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2. According to an account of 1748, all houses in Germantown had orchards on their grounds. See footnote 3 below. For additional information on the Bringhursts, see Section F below. When Benjamin Chew purchased land in Germantown for his country seat, he acquired fruit trees on it. Tinckom, PMHB 88, 33.

When Washington lived in Germantown, the community was more than a century old. Its founder, Henry Pastorious, had encouraged the early settlers to experiment with new crops and seeds and the enthusiasm for horticultural diversity had been carried into the 18th century. Beginning around the middle of the century wealthy Philadelphians began to migrate to Germantown to find a good location for their summer seats. They found its proximity only two hours' walking distance from the city, and its good climate on a high and airy hill, most appealing during the hot and sultry Philadelphia summers. The first summer residents were predominantly German, like the first settlers had been, and they no doubt felt right at home in the thriving, German-speaking community.[3]

3. See Section A, ~~[illegible]~~ above, for information on early Germantown.

By the middle of the 18th century word of Germantown's diverse and rich countryside also had allured foreigh visitors, among them the famed Swedish naturalist, Peter Kalm, who wrote his observations about Germantown in 1748: "Every countryman even though he was the poorest peasant, had an orchard with apples, peaches, chestnuts, walnuts, cherries, quinces, and such fruits and sometimes we saw the vines climbing along them." At the same time he marveled, "each home had a fine garden."[4]

Another German visitor to Germantown, Gottlieb Mittelberger, found in 1754:

> The people live well, especially on all sorts of grain, which thrives very well, because the soil is wild and fat. They grow chiefly rye, wheat, barley, oats, buckwheat, corn, flax, hemp, fruit, cabbage and turnips. . . .Peach and cherry trees many a farmer plants in whole avenues from one plantation to the other, and they yield an abundant crop. One sort of peaches are inside and outside red as large as a lemon, but round and smooth, and they are ripe about St. Bartholomew's Day. Again, there are some yellow, red streaked, and green as grass. There is also a sort called clingstones; they are sweet when they are ripe; they are often preserved before they are quite ripe, like cucumbers. Pears there are but few, and damsons none, because they will not thrive, and are often spoiled by the mildew. [5]

4. As quoted in Jellet, Germantown Gardens and Gardeners, p. 20.
5. As quoted in Jellet, Ibid., p. 20.

As Mittelberger observed, most of the crops and fruit raised in Germantown produced abundantly, and those that had failed no longer were planted. Nonetheless, the long tradition of horticultural experimentation and innovation in Germantown continued; around 1760 Christian Lehman opened one of the first nurseries in the colonies, and began to sell imported seeds and plants and, ". . . well grown English walnut trees, as well as pear, and apricot, and a curious variety of the best and largest sorts from England of grafted plum trees fit for transplanting."[6]

During the same decade Samuel Powel and other Philadelphia cosmopolites were returning from England with news of the rage for formal gardening throughout France and England. Their enthusiam sparked a fashion among the Philadelphia rich, and the sale of imported seed soared in the city and countryside.[7]

Evidence of the keen interest the wealthy Philadelphians took in beautifying their country seats remains today in the many historical accounts of gardens in and around the city. In Germantown the gardens of such colonial Philadelphians as Benjamin Chew, James Logan, Isaac Norris, Christopher DeWitt, John Wister, and David Deshler have remained intact, although reduced and altered according to subsequent fashion for over two centuries.[8]

6. As quoted from Lehman's advertisement in the Pennsylvania Chronicle of April 12, 1768, in Ibid., p. 31.
7. Carl and Jessica Bridenbaugh, Rebels and Gentlemen; Philadelphia in the Age of Franklin (New York, 1942), pp. 215-216.
8. Faris, Old Gardens, pp. 76-123. These pages contain a chapter entitled, "A Germantown Garden Pilgrimage." Jellet, pp. 40-41. Hotchkin, pp. 69-70; Young, ed., II, 36, Ibid.

Even though many 18th century Philadelphians ~~had~~ won recognition for their horticultural accomplishments, to the eye of Johann David Schoef, A German visitor to Philadelphia in 1783-84, the "taste for gardening" in America was still in its infancy. According to to his ~~experience~~ observations in Philadelphia, as well as throughout the country, gardens were strictly utilitarian. "Pleasure gardens have not yet come in," he noted, and instead of the exotic plants and trees which Schoef fancied, he found that,

> Most of the vegetables and flowers of northern Europe have been introduced; Many of these do well and have even been improved, but others grow worse under careless management. American gardening has nothing of the characteristics to show, beyond several varieties and dubieties of pumpkins, squashes, and gourds, the cultivation of which was usual among the Indian. Several of our vegetables were first introduced by the German troops, e.g. kohlrabi, broccoli, and the black raddish. But certain of our good fruits are lacking, . . .such as plums, apricots, walnuts, good pears, the domestic chestnut, gooseberries, and others, and no other reason but neglect to make the proper efforts, with patience and attention for the American cares little for what does not grow of itself, and is satisfied with the great yields of his cherry, apple, and peach trees, without giving a thought to possible and often necessary betterments. They know little or nothing of grafting and inoculations, or use such practices very seldom. 9

Alfred J. Morrison, ed., Johann David Schoef, Travels in the Confederation, 1783-84, 1 (Philadelphia, W. J. Campbell, 1911), p. 93.

In the world of natural science, among the most famous Philadelphia horticulturalists of the 18th century are John Bartram and James Logan, the latter whose experiments with plants prompted Robert Brown to name an order of plants, "Loganiaceae," which includes the yellow flowering jasmine.

Jellet, Germantown Gardens, pp. 15, and the minifolder, entitled, "Historic Home of John Bartram, Colonial Botanist," printed by The John Bartram Association and the Fairmount Park Commission in Philadelphia. This information pamphlet explains that Bartram and his son, William, were "America's most famous plant explorers and propagators of the New World's first botanical garden." John started the garden on a farm he purchased in 1728. A catalogue list of Bartram's garden has been copied from the original at the American Philosophical society in Philadelphia, and incorporated into the research notes at INDE.

Deshler, however, was no typical American gardener as Schoef described, but, rather, according to his own testimony and to repeated tradition, an accomplished horticulturalist. His 1782 advertisement for the sale of his Germantown property specifically mentioned that his orchard contained "the best grafted fruit of various kinds." While both Nitel berger and Schoef claimed that plum trees were not grown in the Philadelphia area, Deshler apparently so favored a plum tree in his yard that he chose not to cut it down when he planned the construction of his main house in the early 1770s. Indeed, Deshler may have cherished the plum tree for its rarity, as it probably came from Christian Lehman's nursery, which for many years provided one of the few[10] commercial outlets for imported trees in the colonies.

This plum tree legend repeatedly was introduced into 19th and 20th century accounts of Deshler's garden to illutstrate his fondness for [illegible] and success with horticultural pursuits. As Hotchkin [illegible] Faris wrote as late as the 1930s,

> Deshler . . . planted and tended a garden that for many years was the marvel of the countryside. From far and near staid old Quakers and their friends came to see it, and many of them went back to their homes determined to make beauty where there had been barenness. Not only did Deshler have a garden about his fine country seat, but there were also fine orchards and vineyards.[12]

Hotchkin recorded in 1909, "The garden was the marvel of the region during his [Deshler's] occupancy of the country seat, and was flanked by thrifty orchards and vineyards."[11] And as Faris [illegible] (see above)

10. Jellet, Ibid., p. 30.
11. Hotchkin, p. 70.
12. Faris, p. 102; Ward, PMHB 6, p. 47; Moon, II, 678.

From Faris' description, Deshler's garden may have covered all the grounds on the house lot, whereas Deshler's own reference to "a large garden pailed in" in his 1782 advertisement undoubtedly translated to all colonialists as a typical kitchen and flowering garden. Like all contemporary gardeners, Deshler would have fenced this garden to keep the livestock from grazing among the vegetables and herbs which he grew for his family's food and medicinal supplies. In the fashion of the wealthy Philadelphian and Germantowner, Deshler also likely planted boxwood hedges along gravel paths which bordered beds of colorful perennials, such as roses, witch-hazel, snow-balls, lilies, tulips, lilacs, sunflowers, and morning glories. Atleast according to family tradition, Deshler followed this format at his Market Street residence in the city, where his garden was "handsomely laid out with box-bordered flower beds," grapevines, and fruit trees.[13]

13. See Section A, footnote 15, for citation on Market Street garden. Herbs with medicinal qualities which Deshler may have included in his kitchen garden are mustard, sage, tansy, wormwood, pennyroyal and purslane. Faris, p. 81; Scharf and Westcott, II, 875. According to Jellet, Ibid., pp. 40-41: "Early in the development period, as well as in the first period, all gardens were of the prevailing regulation type,--that is, if there was more than a kitchen or herb garden, additional was composed largely of perennial plants in beds enclosed in borders of box, with walks of gravel or "tan" extending between. So with varying degrees of extent and value were the gardens of Loudoun, Toland, Lorraine, Mechlin, Henry, Shippen, Harlan, Conyngham, Handsberry, Payntown, Wisher, Deshler-Morris, Vernon, Engle, Morris-Littell, Wyck, Johnson, Pomona, Upsala, Allen, and Schaeffer on Main Street, --and other gardens like those of Wakefield, Belfield, Hacker, Spencer, Roberts, Awbury, Gardette, Rosot, Rosengarten, Chancellor, Towarth, Wistar, Thomas, Spring-Bank, and others upon the side lanes. These are illustrative only, for there were many worthy gardens not here named."

Deshler's large garden in Germantown probably resembled his Uncle John Wister's who lived less than a mile down ~~Germantown~~ The Main Street.

As described by Suzanne Wister Eastwick, the Wister garden was of a ~~typical~~ fashionable colonial ~~period~~ style:

> Landscape design of the Colonial period was generally typical of early Tudor England, appearing again and again in the formal motifs of that time in early and mid-eighteenth century Philadelphia. These square and rectangular designs adapted themselves easily to small or large "lots," requiring the minimum of grading, and giving great flexibility to planting. Boxwood-bordered geometric patterns had paths between; the enclosures were large enough to devote to small fruit trees, fruits and vegetables but could be transformed into patterned knot gardens for herbs and flowers.

Deshler may even have selected flowers similar to those grown by his first cousin, John Wister's son. According to his journal for 1771-76, Daniel Wister introduced carnations in seven varieties; tulips, white and scarlet; hyacinths, blue and white; polyanthus, jonquils, and ranunculas to the garden beds of the house now known as "Grumblethorpe."[14]

14. Suzanne Wister Eastwick, The "Grumblethorpe" Garden, (reprinted from the Herbariist, 1963), pp. 3 and 6.

Like most of the other wealthy residents of Germantown, Deshler spent most of the year at his city home, ~~where he also raised a garden.~~ Family tradition records that Deshler's skill at growing grape vines at this house prompted President Washington to ask for a cutting to take home to Mount Vernon. Deshler apparently also planted grape vines out at the Germantown estate, for around 1848 a Mr. Jesse Waln stopped at the house and reminisced to Elliston Perot Morris about the afternoon in 179[illegible] when he took tea in the small back parlor with the President and with George Washington Parke Custis, his schoolmate at Germantown Academy: "The rear window, opening now upon the conservatory, then looked upon a large grape arbor, running far down the garden."[15]

15. See Section A, footnote 15, above; Hotchkin, p. 7[illegible]. The Morris family historian, Robert Moon, gives a lengthy account of the Waln visit to the house in, The Morris Family, V, 239-40.

In addition to the grape arbor at the back of the south parlor, Pehhler very likely planted ivy and other decorative vegetation around the buildings. As Deborah Logan, an 18th century socialite, recalled about Isaac Norris' grounds, "in the time of my remembrance, the out-buildings were covered with festoons of ivy, and scarlet bigonia." As Mittleberger noticed in 1754, vines thrived in abundance around Philadelphia: "In Pennsylvania, . . . plenty of wild black and white vines may be seen, which grow in the forests around the oak trees and along the hedges. Many a vine is at the bottom as thick as a tree, and it often is so full of grapes that the boughs of the trees bend beneath them."[16]

16. As quoted in Jellet, Ibid., pp. 15 and 27.

While Deshler's two-acre lot featured an orchard and large, fenced-in garden, it also no doubt contained many trees, some of which may have been ornamental trees as seen by the Reverend John C. Ogden in 1799: during his visit to Germantown: "the houses . . . are very universally shaded with weeping-willows, the Lombardy poplar, and other ornamental trees." He may also have planted exotic orange and sugar pear trees, as did Benjamin Chew and John Wister at their Germantown country seats. Possibly, too, he preserved on his grounds some native chestnut, hickory nut, or walnut trees, which Mittelberger found growing in abundance in 1754 around Germantown. And to the rear of his house, garden, and orchards, at the end of his long, 792-foot lot, the grounds may still have stood forested, or, perhaps, contained "valuable fields," as Ogden witnessed in 1799.[17]

17. As quoted in Jellet, Ibid., p. 32. On Ibid., p. 15, Jellet explained that Isaac Norris' "Fair Hill" served as a model for many Germantown gardens "of the better class," and that Deborah Logan recalled about the grounds of "Fair Hill," "Many lofty trees were preserved around the house, which added greatly to its beauty." Ibid., pp. 29 and 69; Tinckom, PMHB 88, 36. Fair Hill stood about halfway between Germantown and Philadelphia, and in 1791 was owned by Isaac Norris' grandson, Joseph Parker Norris, a prominent Philadelphia businessman. Harold C. Syrett, ed., and Jacob E. Cooke, Assoc. ed., The Papers of Alexander Hamilton, 19 Volumes, 15, June 1792-January 1794 (New York and London, 1969), p. 368.

19th and 20th Centuries

No records have been found to determine what alterations the Perot brothers may have made to the grounds during their 32 years of summer residence at the house. Elliston Perot's grandson, Elliston P. Morris, however, reported in 1904 that family tradition held that some of the "fine old trees" on the property had been planted by "my grandfather or members of his family."[18]

Samuel Butler Morris lived at the house from 1835 until his death in 1859. In the 24 years of residency, he apparently devoted considerable time and energy to his grounds, as well as to Germantown's Market Square, where he planted 8 or 10 buttonwood trees at his own expense to beautify the public square.[19]

A small fragment of Morris' horticultural diary for the years 1849-50 has been preserved in the Morris collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Although nearly illegible, Morris' diary entries clearly mention several deciduous trees, such as apple, mulberry, chesnut, scarlet oak, white oak, and willow oak. For the most part, however, Morris wrote about his own additions to

18. E.P. Morris to Edwin C. Gillett, March 5, 1904, Manuscript Book, p. 111, Germantown Historical Society.
19. E.P. Morris, "Memories of Old Germantown, Particularly of Market Square," Germantown History, pp. 10-11.

the garden, such as "planted 68 peach pits, . . .planted in box bush cranberries and mountain ash seeds, and two rows of the latter in seed bed. Planted 4 beds of crocus."[20]

Morris' diary also referred to a grape arbor which may be the same one ~~article~~ Jesse Waln recalled seeing from the south parlor window when he took tea with the President in 1794: "J.B. [gardener?] dressed all the grape vines around the arbor with stable manure and rubbish giving that at west corner more of the latter than the others." As conjectured about the 18th century grounds, vines grew elsewhere as well: "he manured as usual 3 vines at trees and those at trellis --that between boxes & trellis received equal parts of rubbish and manure." The 1842 sketch of the back side of the house by young Samuel, the 16-year old son, gives a good idea where these vines were growing. A sketch of the house around 1860 shows that the vines planted along the south wall of the main house had climbed around to the front, where they covered nearly half of the south face of the wall.[21]

20. Samuel B. Morris Diary, August 18, 1849-April 29, 1850, n.p., HSP.
21. The c. 1860 sketch of the house can be found at the GHS. ~~The~~ Keyser, p. 305, printed an undated sketch which looked similar to the c.1860 sketch by Richards seen at the GHS.

The Morris papers also contain two receipts for a gardener's labor, one of which was dated in 1859:

> Wages for gardener's mowing, for pruning fruit trees, 6 plants for flower bed, pruning, moving trees, 9 sugar and Sycamore @ .62; 4 Irish Ivy,(@.15) .60; 1 Red maple (.50); 1 Sugar maple (.50); a chestnut tree (.25).[22]

Clearly, Morris, as well as many other Germantowners of his generation, continued to show as much of a keen interest in the study and application of horticulture as their forefathers of the century before.

Elliston P. Morris, the youngest son, inherited the property in 1859 and continued to live there until his death in 1914. Having also grown up in the same house, Elliston passed all but four years of his life at the same address. Evidently, he valued the historic property not only for its national significance, but also because his family had owned the house since 1802, and kept it, and the grounds, in complete order.[23]

Elliston was the first owner to sell part of the original grounds. In his father's lifetime, the property extended all the way back to the Germantown Academy grounds, and near to the end of the lot Samuel had planted some bushes around two mounds which tradition said were graves of British soldiers. Around 1850, however, Greene

22. Samuel B. Morris, Bills and Receipts, Box 2, Elliston P. Morris Collection, HSP.
23. Morris mentions both the national and family history of the house in his 1904 letter as cited in footnote 18 above.

Street was cut through the west end of the lot, isolating a piece of land to the west which measured 218 feet across and 40 feet deep. In 1871, Elliston divided this piece of ground into three equal lots, constructed 2-story houses on each, and sold off the property. At an earlier date, in 1867, Elliston sold a large parcel of the house grounds fronting on the east side of Greene Street to Edward F. Rivinus. The Rivinus grounds measured 139.8 feet by 300 feet, leaving the Morris grounds at 100 feet by 407.94 feet. From The original measurement of 792 feet, the house lot depth had been reduced nearly in half.[24]

24. Keyser, p. 307; M. Sidney, C.E., Map of the Township of Germantown with the Names of the Property Holders (Philadelphia, 1848), n.p.; A.E. Rogerson and E. J. Murphy, Civil Engineers, Map of the Township of Germantown Philadelphia County, Penna From Actual Surveys (Germantown, 1851), n.p.; E.P. Morris Collection, Box 2, Unidentified Folder, and Box 5, Deeds, Elbert Ashmead, et.al. to Elliston P. Morris and Beulah S. Morris, April 28, 1853, with a memo which referred to a deed dated August 22, 1867 from E.P. Morris to Edward Florens Rivinus. The unidentified folder contains the HSP. agreements between Morris and the house builder, S.E. Hughes. Sm. L. Smedley, A Complete Atlas of the City of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1883) section 21, shows that a house already stood on the Rivinus property, which might indicate that Morris had given permission to the lessee of the property to build a house prior to its sale.

While Elliston sold part of the original grounds, he compensated the loss of property by the purchase of land both to the north and south of the property. In April 1853, he and his sister, Beulah, purchased the lot of Albert Ashmead, with its 18th century stone house and back buildings, and in 1907 and 1908 he acquired the lot to the north which measured 47 feet by 372 feet, from William Ashmead Schaeffer, so that he could enlarge the yard.[25]

In the tradition of all the house owners, Elliston maintained and preserved the beauty of the grounds with great care. In 1882 Townsend Ward, the earliest 19th century author to describe the

25. H. W. Hopkins, C.E., Atlas of (the late Borough of) Germantown, Twenty-Second Ward (Philddelphia, 1871), pp. 48-9; see footnote 24 above for citation on 1853 deed; Deed Book W.S.V. 1003, p. 110; see Appendix M for Bringhurst house chain of title; Jane Campbell's Newspaper Clippings, Volume 15, p. 102, GHS.

the Morris grounds, wrote, "Alongside [the house], to the south, commences the beautiful garden, one hundred feet wide, and extending westwardly four hundred and thirty-five feet, in which may be seen box bushes more than a century old." The ancient box bushes no doubt remained from Deshler's colonial flower and herb garden.[26]

The Morris family photographs of the grounds in the 1870's and '80s, and in the early 20th century, show a wide expanse of lawn with a long, curved gravel path, box bushes, shade trees, and ivy near and along its periphery. The grounds appeared in these photographs after they had been landscaped by Charles H. Miller around 1867.

Charles H. Miller was an accomplished landscape architect who had come to America in 1858, and had settled in Germantown in 1863.[27] As Elliston P. Morris recalled in a letter to E.C. Jellet in 1908:

> I have not been able to find my bill for the work then done, but so far as I can recollect, it was in October 1867, that I concluded to change the appearance of the ground in rear of my house 5442 Main Street, and give it more of a "landscape" effect; with this in view I called Charles Miller, then quite an authority in all such matters to my aid, and soon the present pleasing effect was evolved. The result I know has given myself and family much pleasure and belief has been appreciated by many of our townspeople.[28]

A few years later Jellet wrote up his description of the Morris grounds, explaining that, "in arranging the new garden, the trees of the first garden [which he described as the Colonial kitchen and Flowering garden], were not distubbed."[29]

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26. Ward, PMHB 6, 147.
27. Jellet, Ibid., p. 56.
28. E.P. Morris to E.C. Gillet [sic], March 7, 1908, Manuscript Book, GHS.
29. Jellet, Ibid., p. 72.

Four years earlier, in 1904, Morris had addressed a lengthier letter to Jellet in response to an enquiry from the latter. In it he explained,

> The exact age of some of my fine old trees is uncertain-- the family tradition is that some of them were planted by my Grandfather or members of his family. He bought the property just One Hundred years ago as a county Seat, and the ownership has remained in the family ever since, I doubt not some of the older trees were there when it was President Georye Washingtons residence during the yellow fever epidemic of 1793. But the great storm of two years ago [1902] with its wind and sleet sadly spoiled my most attractive trees, and in some cases left me but skeletons of their former beauty, notably a seventy year old tree planted by my father Samuel B. Morris, which still stands in the middle of my grounds.
>
> The secret of my lawn is the unbroken expanse of grass, and the planting in conformity with established rules of landscape gardening. I have still some choice specimens trees, notably an immense [sic] English Horse Chestnut (ascules Hippocastamum), a girth of I should think some ten feet; a hybrid English Walnut & Butternut (very unusual) about seventy feet high and a girth of say eight feet; a pretty specimen of the lovely cut leaved Beech; a seventy year old Magnolia (glauca); a fine box tree (Boxus arborescens) and some One Hundred year old Box Bushes (Semperi virens) and a good variety of shrubbery, with its ever changing bloom-- in early June when the grass is springing green and fresh, comes perhaps the most attractive time for my lawn; when after the winter storms and snows, my twenty five Hundred or three Thousand Bulbous roots come into bloom, in all their glory--these are freshly imported every year, sending out my orders in June or July & receiving the bulbs in October. [30]

30. See footnote 18 above.

While it is self-evident from his use of latin terms for many of the treess that Morris took a serious interest in gardening, he also closed his letter to Jellet with, "

> It is a great pleasure to mark the increasing interest in horticulture; and the feast which greets the eye of the visitor to Germantown in June, when the rose "queen of flowers" is in full bloom and is seldom found to so great an extent elsewhere--May the interest taken in our Horticultural Society grow and ~~incr~~ increase, and many new additions be made to its membership.

Possibly Morris' participation in the activities of Germantown's Horticultural Society intensified in his retirement years, for his purchase of the adjoining property to the north reportedly was made only so that he might enlarge his garden. A postcard of the grounds made after 1907 indicates that Morris used some of the additional land to raise a vegetable garden, and by so doing he returned ~~part~~ southeast part of the garden to its original colonial composition. (See illustration 28)

~~From~~ Several secondary sources of the period ~~several~~ provided complimentary descriptions of the Morris grounds, with occasional details included. In 1899 Harper's New Monthly Magazine remarked on the "arbor of green grape vines running far down the garden," and on the "crisp, trim hedges of box and shading trees [which] hid the back buildings."[31]

31. L. Herbert, "The First American, His Homes, Households," Harper's New Monthly Magazine (November 1899), p. 852.

In 1912 Eberlein and Lippincott, in their book on Philadelphia Colonial homes, remarked on the "charming garden, scrupulously kept in its pristine condition, whose box edges coeval with the house, mark off the borders of old-fashioned flower gardens from the greenest of lawns." In Pullinger's Old Germantown, published in 1926, it was noted that to the rear of the Morris home, "are the beautiful gardens common to all old Germantown houses," and in Faris' book on old gardens in the Philadelphia area, published in 1932, he wrote:

> The house and garden are practically as they were when Washington lived there. Unlike many Germantown houses, there is a bit of ground on the left. A door in the high wall leads from the street back under spreading trees, by a path down the long stretch of grass. This is the beginning of the garden, which reaches back in that direction for more than 400 feet and is 100 feet wide. Beds of old fashioned flowers are set off from the greensward by borders of box which touched the feet not only of Washington byt Jefferson, Hamilton Randolph and other members and friends. . .[32]
>
> The lawn is a marvel.

Faris' information about the grounds seems to come from some of the earlier sources, and may not closely reflect the state of the grounds in the 1930s; ~~some 15 years after Elliston's death. What~~ what seems clear from his and other 20th century ~~writers~~ descriptions, however, is that some of the garden had been carefully preserved, atleast in the style of the 18th century, by the Morris family for nearly a a century.

32. Eberlein and Lippincott, p. 225; Herbert Pullinger, Old Germantown (Philadelphia, 1926), p. 23; Faris, p. 105

In 1938 the National Park Service sent Regional Historian Roy E. Appleman to the Morris house to investigate the property and its history with a mind to its possible donation to the National Park System. He reported that the family had sold a strip of land deep the last 150 feet at the back of the lot, which left the Morris property with the measurements of 90 feet, 1/4 inch, by 277 feet 7 7/8 inches deep. Appleman included with his report several photographs showing the expanse of the grounds, including the part that had been sold, and that which Elliston Morris had added in 1907 when he enlarged the garden. Appleman noted that the some old boxwood stood within the parcel of land which the Society of Friends had purchased, and with the Society's permission, recommended that it be moved to the park lands for preservation. This recommendation was carried out, for the boxwood bushes stand today on the Deshler-Morris property.[33]

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33. Roy E. Appleman, Report on the Perot-Morris House, Germantown, Pennsylvania, August 6, 1938, two copies in IFDE files. (pp. 2, 13-14;

Although initial plans for the restoration of the house included a contract to restore the grounds to a typical 18th century garden, the authorization for the work fell through. After the house was dedicated in 1950, the Park Service gave over the interpretive and management responsibilities to the Germantown Historical Society by a cooperative agreement which still is active in 1974. The Historical Society apparently did not have the proper funds and staff to maintain the grounds, and for many years the gardens grew wild, almost permanently damaging and obscuring the historical vestiges of the 18th century growth.[34]

34. Mrs. Montgomery, the volunteer gardener for the property and member of the Germantown Historical Society, provided the writer with copies of the 1950 contract to restore the specifications grounds. The files at INDE have a grounds map made up as the guide for the restoration. None of the H30 Deshler-Morris files for these early years of park management were located at the park, after a search with the assistance of the park records staff. In an interview with the writer, Mrs. Montgomery described the chaos of the grounds when she began her work in the 1960s. See Appendix L.

The Women's Committee for the Deshler-Morris House, all members of the Germantown Historical Society, fortunately were able to provide a dedicated horticulturalist, Mrs. Montgomery, who was willing to donate her energies and assume some of the expense to revitalize the grounds. Her work began in the 1960s, and since that time she has restored the gardens to their former beauty, but not with their historic appearance in mind. In October 1969 Mrs. Montgomery began to keep a running journal of the alterations and additions she was making to the grounds. Thirty-four handwritten notebook pages document the many plants and trees either removed, transplanted, or added to the grounds between 1970 and 1973. Her steady and constant gardening has produced many changes which, if an historic restoration of the grounds were funded, will eventually have to be erased.[35]

35. In an interview with the writer Mrs. Montgomery also noted that she has deliberately attempted to cover over and obliterate the gravel paths, some wo of which might be 18th century, but all of which have appeared in 19th century photographs and sketches. A Xerox copy of her journal was made by the writer, with her permission, and has been added to the files at IMDE.

Outbuildings and Structures

18th Century

The 1782 advertisement for the sale of the property made reference to the outbuildings and important structural features on the grounds: "there are also suitable back buildings, all in good order, and a pump of excellent water in the yard. . . .large garden pailed in."

The 1792 advertisement slightly changed and added to the above description: "with convenient back buildings 2 stories high, a stable and chair-house, and a pump in the yard. . . .a large garden enclosed with pails."

The 1793 inventory completed by Isaac Franks only listed one outbuilding, a stable, which housed 2 1/2 tons of hay, a cart, one open stove, one six plate stove, 27 fowls, 20 ducks, and an iron fire fender. The inventory included 82 pales and 15 posts, no doubt counted from the paled fence which surrounded the large garden.

The 1798 tax assessment of the property listed the outbuildings as: a one-story stone wash house which measured 10 by 12 feet; a frame chair house which measured 16 by 17 feet; and, the 2-story stone kitchen discussdd above as part of the main house complex . The List No. II described "buildings and wharves" on Franks' land as: a small stable, 21 by 15 feet; a frame hay house, also 21 by 15 feet; and, a frame stable, 17 by 12 feet.

36

36. See Appendices D, G, and J and K.

From the above documentation, the property apparently had only three outbuildings close to the house --the wash house, the coach house, and a stable-- and at the far end of the long and narrow lot, where evidently atleast some hay was grown, likely stood two farm structures -- a frame hay house and stable. Likewise, the pump and fenced garden probably stood near to the house.

The paled fence around the garden probably resembled that which still stands behind the Wister house, or "Grumblethorpe." The picket fence encloses the remains of an 18th century garden which has evolved over nearly two centuries.

The garden fence at the Deshler-Morris house very likely differed from the fencing which ran along the property line on Main Street and on the boundaries of the north, south, and west sides of the lot. According to the Swedish naturalist, Peter Kalm, the fences in Germantown in 1748 consisted of horizontal planks and posts, similar in description to the fence which appears in the 1842 sketch and the three earliest photographs of the front of the Morris house (1859 and 1861 and 1870):

> the people here take posts from four to six feet in height, and make two or three holes into them, so that there was a distance of two feet and above between them. Such a post does the same service as two and sometimes three posts are scarce sufficient. The posts were fastened in the ground,

at two or three fathoms distance from each other, and the holes in them kept up the planks, which were nine inches and sometimes a foot broad, and lay above each other, from one post to the next. [37]

Kalm also indicated that the wood selected for fences around Philadelphia commonly was long-lasting:

> Chestnut trees were commonly made use of for this purpose, because this wood keeps longest against putrefaction, and an enclosure made of it can stand for thirty years together. But where no chestnut wood was to be got, the white and likewise the black oaks were taken for that purpose. Of all kins of wood, that of the red cedar holds out the longest. : . . There are many enclosures near the town made of this wood. 37

Considering the fact that until Samuel Morris moved into the house in 1834, ~~most of the families used~~ the Germantown residence was, for the most part, used as a summer retreat, it seems very possible that the fence which Deshler constructed ~~never~~ only received regular repair and, where needed, replacement, but its style remained the same, reflecting the conservatism and tradition typical in the Germantown community.

37. As translated and quoted in Jellet, Ibid., p. 22.

According to the testimony John Watson collected from "oldtimers" of Germantown, however, the British during the Revolution took up all the fences in the town to use them for building their huts, and "No fences remained." If this story is true, then Deshler, like all the property-owners in Germantown, ~~were~~ rebuilt his fences after the war, no doubt in the style in which ~~factio~~ they had been. ~~in~~ Apparently the soldiers used the rails from fences as supports for the hut roofs, which might indicate that only the typical rural post-and-rail fences were dismantled, and the plank fencing remained in tact. [38]

38. Watson, Annals, 2, 40.

While the front fence during the 18th century was probably of a horizontal board construction, the side and back fences were no doubt more simple, perhaps post and rail fences. The solid board fence on the front of the property served to assure privacy from the street crowds and noices, whereas the back yards of the 18th century Germantown houses nearly universally opened into gardens, orchards, and fields which required only the semblance of a division to identify land ownership. The expense and trouble, moreover, to enclose the long, narrow lots with solid plank fences would have been exhorbitant to the frugal Quakers and German inhabitants of the community.[38]

Although no documentation exists to support the conjecture, Deshler probably had a summerhouse on the grounds, for when discussing Benjamin Chew's Germantown estate, Dr. Tinckom flatly stated, "There was a summer house, too, of course. No countryseat would have been without one."[39]

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39. Tinckom, "Cliveden," p. 33.
38. David Schoef in 1784 observed about Germantown, "All the houses stand off more or less from each other and each one has around, or near it, grounds, gardens, and thrifty outbuildings." As Quoted in Jellet, Ibid., p. 31.

Samuel also drew a sketch of a small frame structure which he labled, "The Shop," and described it as a recent addition to the grounds:

> About the year 1838 My Dear Father to gratify my Brother and Myself partitioned off one end of the mow or loft of our Stable for a carpenter shop for us to work in at any part of the day between schools, but finding it too small as well as too far from the house we began to look about for a suitable place to make another and so about the year 1859 My Dear Father chose the spot on which the shop now stands. [40]

40. See illustrations 14-17; Samuel filled the pages opposite his sketches with poems or descriptions of his subjects. A xerox copy of his inscriptions can be found in the park files. The book of sketches is called, Reminiscences 1842 Germantown.

A Franklin Insurance Company survey of a 2-story stone barn on the property in 1856 indicates that Morris respected improvement as well as tradition, for this structure had not been built in 1798 when the tax assessment was taken, and no doubt had recently been completed. Not only a detailed description of the barn has been preserved but so has its location, as seen on late-19th century atlases for Philadelphia and Germantown. This barn, which stood on the southern line of the lot, , approximately 350 feet back from the front fence, no longer stands within the property boundaries. [40]

40. An 1851 map of Germantown gives no indication that the barn then stood on the lot. The earliest available atlas was dated 1863, and it, along with all other 19th century atlases, showed the stone barn. The policy survey was sent to Architect Adlerstein in xerox form from the records of the Philadelphia Historical Commission. Diane Leonetti to Adlerstein, March 11, 1974. Map of the Townsnip of Germantown, 1851; Hopkins, Atlas of Germantown, 1871; Smedley, A Complete Atlas of the City, 1863; G.W. Bvist, Atlas of the City of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1888) AAB (Philadelphia, 1895); G.W. Bromley, Atlas of the City of Philadelphia, 7, 22nd Ward, (Philadelphia, 1889), plate 5. See Appendix K.

19th Century

The earliest 19th century information on the house and grounds appeared in the 1842 sketches drawn by young Samuel Morris. Samuel's drawings suggest that few changes had been made on the property by the Perot family during its 33-year summer residency, or by Samuel B. Morris since his purchase of the house in 1836.

Indeed, the Morris family seemed to nurture the historic associations of the property. For example, young Samuel sketched a small frame back building which he entitled, "Schoolhouse," and made the notation, "Washington's Carriage House 1793. Our Summer School Room 1830 to 1842." This structure appears to be the same size as Isaac Franks' coach house, described in the 1793 tax assessment as 16 feet by 17 feet. Probably the coach house stood near the gate of the front fence which, according to Samuel's sketch, opened at the southern end of the fence, close to the property line.

In the two Morris sketches of back buildings of the shop and schoolhouse the fencing differs from that seen in the sketch of the front fence along Main Street, as it is of a vertical, pailed, plank construction. According to his own testimony, Samuel B. Morris in 1836 made an agreement with his neighbors, John Ashmead to the south, and Susan Mason to the north, to replace the post and rail fences along the boundary lines with a palisade fence such as appears in the sketches of 1842:

> Being desirous to prevent the free passage of dogs from the butchers below, and of idle persons across our lots--I have proposed to my said neighbors that I would make palisade fences upon the sides of my back lots at my own expense (where the fences have heretofore been made by them) and to give them the posts and rails now there. [41]

Even though Samuel learned from his neighbor Ashmead that the Perot brothers, whom he referred to as, "my father & uncle," had put up the post and rail fence between their properties, the style of fencing may have been consistent with that, if any, built by [42] Deshler or Franks prior to Washington's 1793-94 residency.

41. E. P. Morris Collection, Box 2, Unidentified folder, HSP. "Memorandum of Line Fences"
42. Ibid.

In his 1836 "Memorandum of Fences" Morris also noted, "The back, or fence between Academy & my lot should have been made one half by each of us, but I have made the whole." Prior to Morris' residency this back section of the lot may not have been fenced, as it probably stood in open orchard or woods. One of the 1842 sketches shows a post and rail fence running along the School House Lane property adjoining the Academy, and this style so typical of fural properties probably served as the first fencing on the back end of the Morris lot. (See illustration 18)

In addition to building fences, Morris also provided for their maintenance. The Morris papers preserve two bills received by Samuel, one for repairing the fence in 1845, and one for white-washing the front fence in 1858.[43]

Although Samuel showed signs of diligence in keeping up the fences, his son, Elliston, in 1863, implied by his letters to his neighbor, Dr. William Ashmead, that the side fences had fallen into disrepair. Elliston's comments evoked assurances from Dr. Ashmead that repairs to the fences would be carried out that fall or the following spring, and that no shrubs or trees would be disturbed in the process. Apparently Ashmead did not keep his

43. M.P. Morris Collection, Box 2, Samuel B. Morris, Domestic Bills and Receipts, 1856-7, HSP.

word, however, as Morris noted, "no repairs were made, but the fence was replaced by a new tight board the following Spring as far as Green St--that beyond being left still uncared for."[44] Whether Ashmead bettered his pledge and replaced the fence himself, or Elliston finally decided to take the responsibility rather than wait, does not become clear from the above notation.

44. E.P. Morris Collection, Box 2, Unidentified folder, HSP Dr. William Ashmead to Elliston P. Morris, November 13, 1863.

Between 1870 and 1876, Elliston Morris replaced the horizontal plank fence along Main Street with a vertical "link fence" six feet high.[45] In 1884 Morris insured this front fence, as well as those along the side property lines, with Mutual Assurance Company. The surveyor thus described the fencing:

> Rough board fence 6 ft. high with posts on all sides of yard. Link fence at street 6 ft. high; 4 by 4' red cedar posts 4 by 4' top and bottom rail. 7/4 & 12' planed & groved fence boards. d° top. panel gate. iron grating panel slide hung on hinges. large gate hung on strap hinges. latch and dead latch.[46]

The change of style for the front fence has remained to the present, although, assuredly, many times repaired. None of the

45. Two Morris family photographs confirm these years: the first, taken in 1870, shows the horizontal plank fence, and the second, dated 1876, shows the vertical link fence. See illustrations.

46. See Appendix B for Mutual Assurance policy for 1884. As mentioned earlier, the house lot had been considerably reduced by 1884, leaving the measurements 100 feet in width and only 407 feet in length.

fences on the back or sides of the grounds have withstood a century of change: the south property line now is a stone wall; the west line has a modern link fence put in by Mrs. Montgomery within the past five years; and the fence along the north line has been added since the National Park Service acquired the property in 1949.[47]

47. An article included in the Germantown Historical Society's clip file described a reason for repair to the front fence in 1925: "Glimpses at the beauty of the garden at the historic Morris house. . . have tempted many a person passing to break in and revel in this park-like enclosure . . .a motorcar. . .was traveling west on Chruch lane and continued directly across Germantown Avenue, crashing into the fence . . . the fence was broken and splintered for several feet."

While changes have been made in the fencing, the brick privy, mentioned for the first time in the 1884 insurance policy survey, has remained in good condition, unaltered, but also unused. The surveyors' description makes clear that the Morris family was not only affluent but also numerous in persons, for the privy consists of four separate compartments, each with large and small holes which together number ten.

In the subsequent nine decades to the present year, the only outbuilding to survive the changes in the size of the lot was the brick privy, a structure which also represents the last addition to the grounds, one made nine decades after Washington's residency.

F. The Bringhurst House, 5448 (formerly 4784) Germantown Avenue

Historic Ownership and Occupancy

Although the property on which the house stands changed hands several times after William Penn issued the first land patents for it in 1697-8, the earliest known settlement on the land was not until George Bringhurst's purchase of 3.5 acres along Main Street from John Jarrett in 1726.[1]

. The Bringhurst Family, 1726-1834

George Bringhurst (1697-1752) immigrated from London or Amsterdam as a youth and settled in Germantown, where he met and subsequently married in 1723, the daughter of John Ashmead, a wealthy property owner in the town. Goerge began his career as an apprentice to Arent Klicken, a prominent townsman and weaver. At 29 years old Bringhurst purchased three tracts of land in Germantown, totaling 26.5 acres. One of the tracts--which measured 11 perches, 12 feet by 48 perches, and contained 3.5 acres adjoining his father-in-law's property on Main Street-- included the future home lots for the Deshler-Morris, Bringhurst, and Armat houses as they are known in Germantown today.[2]

1. See Chain of Title, Appendix H.
2. Josiah Granville Leach, History of the Bringhurst Family (Philadelphia, 1901), pp. 25-8. For a schematic evolution of the Bringhurst House Lot, see Appendix O. . According to Jenkin's, The Guide Book, p. 67, John Ashmead purchased 500 acres of land in Germantown in 1711.

Although he apprenticed as a weaver, George changed his trade and became a saddler at some time during his later life. Apparently his business enddavors never proved too lucrative, however, as George mortgaged his property on atleast two occassions, in 1747 and 1749, and in 1751 advertised his land for sale, which he had divided into 17 lots, 3 of which measured 36 feet by 48 perches and were cut out of the 3.5 acres of his house lot. Thirteen other lots lay along the Cross Street to the Schuylkill River, now known as Schoolhouse Lane, each of which measured 4 perches by 28 perches 10 feet, totaling 1,456 square perches, or 31,020 square feet, or close to 3/4 of an acre. And one lot of ten acres lay at the northern end of Germantown, where Bringhurst had planted good grafted apple trees on 1 1/2 acres of cleared land.

Bringhurst's advertisement attracted interested buyers, one of whom, David Deshler, purchased a total of two acres adjoining the Bringhurst house lot in 1751-52, and another, Christopher Ming, a Saddletree maker and neighbor, purchased two of the Cross Street lots just weeks before George's death in January 1752, and two more in November 1752, after the widow Bringhurst advertised the remaining estate for sale in May of that year.[3]

3. Deed Book G9, p. 118; Mortgage Book X 1, pp. 179-80; The Pennsylvania Gazette, May 2, 1751, and May 21, 1752, in The Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728-1789, pp. 159 and 399; Deed Book H 1, p. 640, H 2, pp. 194 and 197; and, Deeds, Bringhurst Family File, Germantown Historical Society. One acre measures 43,560 square feet. See Appendix N for extracts from above citations.

Anna Bringhurst (1707/8-1760), survived her husband by eight years. In her care were Samuel, age 12 at his father's death, and William, age 7. The two older boys, John, 25, and George 20, had inherited their father's saddle and saddletree making tools, and no doubt continued the family business, helping, at the same time, to support their mother and younger brothers. After Anna's death in 1760, the estate was divided equally in five parts, between the four brothers and the children of their recently deceased sister, Sarah Palmer.[4]

John Bringhurst (1725-1795), had lost his first wife, Mary Finney, only a year after George, senior's, death, and remarried, in 1754, to Elizabeth Shute. His ambition made him not only a good family provider, but a wealthy and prominent man both in Philadelphia and Germantown, for John became the accomplished coachmaker who sold President Washington an elegant carriage in 1780, and who, the same year, possessed the second highest estate on the Germantown taxlist.

The business of constructing "Germantown waggons" and chariots, however, John did not develop until after the Revolution, when he and his cousins in the Ashmead family gave Germantown a name for the manufacture of lightweight coaches. Before he sold his share to the Bringhurst home lot in 1763 to George, John joined with his brother

4. Leach, Ibid. A copy of George's will is given on pp. 25-7. Will Book L-M, p. 506, p. 321, Anna Bringhurst, August 6, 1760. See Appendix for excerpts from Bringhurst family estate papers.

in the sale of land to the trustees for the campus of the Germantown Union School in 1760. He also served himself as a member of the school's building committee and, after, for many years as one of its trustees. And, from 1767 to 1789 he acted as president of the board of trustees, a position of honor which reflected well both on the school and the man.[5]

George Bringhurst (1732-1797), appears to have been more of a traditional family man, following his father's lead by becoming a saddletree maker, and purchasing the family homestead from the remaining heirs of his parents. In 1763 he bought out John's share, and in 1767 he purchased the two fifths of the house lot owned by his two younger brothers. Like his father, George found it necessary to mortgage the property, while, at the same time he acquired additional land in Germantown and the Northern Liberties. George married Sarah Trump in the year of his mother's death, and they had, over the next 18 years, six children, atleast three of whom, Robert, and William, and Clement, became coachmakers,[6] like their highly successful Uncle John Bringhurst.

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5 Leach, pp. 33-5; Leach also observed, "That Mr. Bringhurst came to be recognized as the foremost man in Philadelphia County in his line of business is apparent in that he was selected to lead the coach-builders in the famoun "Federal Parade" which took place in Philadelphia, 4 July, 1788, to celebrate the adoption of the Constitution in the United States." He footnoted this statement with, "In the printed account of this Parade, the XLIX Section in the line is thus noted: 'Coach Makers.--Preceded by Mr. John Bringhurst in a phaeton, drawn by two horses, and bearing a draft of a coach on a white silk flag.'"

6. Deed Book I.C. 20, p. 342; Mortgage Book Y 11, p. 324; Leach, p. 33; Newspaper Items, p. 229, is an excerpt from Poulson's Advertiser for June 6, 1803, announcing the wedding of Robert Bringhurst, Coachmaker, and Margaret Brewster. Shoemaker, "Inhabitants of Germantown in 1809," p. 498. Deed Book H 21, p. 189

According to the proprietary tax list of 1769, George Bringhurst had been joined by his widowed brother-in-law, George Palmer, a saddler.[7] Possibly Palmer had learned the trade as an apprentice to his father-in-law, as George, Senior, had left both sadler's, as well as saddle-tree maker's, tools to his sons, and had made Palmer one of his executors by his will of 1751.

A provincial tax list of 1772 shows that William Bringhurst, George's younger brother, had joined him in residence as a shopkeeper, and that George, the property owner, was taxed, while William was not. Evidently, the two brothers had become partners in the saddletree making trade and operated their business right on the premises.[8]

Two years later another provincial tax reflected the same evidence, and showed, too, that the Bringhursts had taken on an additional man--John Denny--who must have lived on the property, but he, like William, paid no tax, as neither owned land.[9]

of the City and County of Philadelphia,

7. Proprietary, Supply and State Tax List, 1769, Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, 14, 88; Leach, pp. 26-7. Palmer appeared on deeds in **
8. "A Transcript of the Fifteenth Eighteen Penng Provincial Tax Assessed March 13, 1772," on microfilm, HSP. George had inherited (*)
9. Proprietary, Supply and State Tax, 1774, Pennsylvania Archives, Ibid., p. 340.

** 1752 and 1760 as a "sadler." Deed Book H21, p. 189; and Deeds, Bringhurst Family File, Germantown Historical Soeicty.

(*) his father's saddletree making tools and utensils, while John had inherited the sadler's tools. According to the dictionary, a daddler is "a maker, repairer, or seller of saddles and other equipment," while a saddletree maker is one who makes the frame of a saddle. When he purchased John's share of the house lot in 1765, George styled himself a saddletree maker, and John called himself a saddler. See footnote 6 above.

In 1776, when the Revolutionary War broke out, George, age 44, evidently served atleast one year as a Second Lieutenant of the Flying Camp of Philadelphia County's Light Dragoons. According to the recollections printed by John C. Watson, George met General Washington during his military service, and, later, when Washington returned to Germantown as President in 1793 and 1794, he paid George several visits at his shop and residence next door.[10]

At some time during the Revolution, William Bringhurst apparently left the family business and George, 47, continued on by himself. George's oldest son, William, about 14 years of age, appeared on the 1779 tax list with his uncle, John Bringhurst, which suggests he already had begun his apprenticeship as a coachmaker.[11]

The 1780 supply tax clearly showed that Bringhurst's valuation placed him as one of the least prosperous persons on the block, especially in comparison to Isreal Pemberton's and David Deshler's valuations, which exceeded his own by four and two times.[12]

Saddletree making evidently did not advance George financially, and, possibly for this reason, he encouraged his sons to learn their uncle's trade of coachmaking. In 1796 the business directory for

10. Pennsylvania Archives, Sixth Series, Volume 1, 980; Watson, 2, 64, states, "He had been seen several times at Henry Fraley's carpenter shop, and at Bringhurst's blacksmith shop, talking freely and cordially with both. They had both been in some of his campaigns." According to Ward, 6, 154, a Dr. Fraley, no doubt an ancestor, lived "in a very old stone house, which stood on Schoolhouse Lane."
11. Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, Volume 14, 596 and 601.
12. Ibid., Volume 15, 407.

Philadelphia showed two George Bringhursts, both coachmakers, at separate addresses. Very likely John's own son, George, 41, and George's second son, George, 29, had opened competitive shops in the city.[13]

At his death in 1797 George's children had all grown to adults, his youngest being Robert, 19, who probably that year was working with his uncle, or in the shop of his brother, George. George apparently was the only one who had remained a resident at the Bringhurst family home, for the 1798 tax list indicated that he lived in one stone house, and his mother, the Widow Bringhurst, lived in the second house which then were built on the family lot.[14]

Sarah Bringhurst (1737-1812) remained a widow until her death in 1812. George, her son, died a year after her husband, and probably shortly thereafter her oldest and youngest sons, William and Robert, came to live at the family residence. According to tradition, the Bringhurst brothers set up a coachmaking business on the premises, using one of the two stone houses as a shop. In 1803 Robert married Margaret Brewster, which raised the number of residents of the two houses to atleast four. According to the 1810 federal census, William and a woman over 45 years old, presumably his mother,

13. Stephenson's Philadelphia Directory for 1796, p. 21; Leach, pp. 35 and 36.
14. Leach, p. 36; see Appendix .

lived in one house, and Robert, with a family of ten others, lived in the other, which must have made a crowded household, considering the small size of both the structures on the lot.[15]

When Sarah didd in 1812, the executors of George Bringhurst's will of 1797 met again to settle the estate. As the property belonged equally to all the heirs, a decision was required on who would acquire the family house lot.

Robert Bringhurst (1778-1832) purchased the lot with its two houses from his father's estate for $2600 in March of 1812, and lived on the property until his death in November 1832. Possibly he continued to operate a coach-making business on the premises; wherever or whatever his work, however, Robert did not shine as a moneymaker. At his death the estate fell to the Orphans' Court to settle his debts. His executors, Clement, a brother, and Tudor R., a son, advertised the property for sale, and in February 1834 sold the property outside the family for the first time since their paternal ancestor, George Bringhurst, purchased the 3.5 acres in 1726.[16]

36,

15. Leach, pp. 35 and 45; Shoemaker, Ibid.; Anne McCaughey, "Bringhurst House Turned Over to the National Park Service," Germantown Crier (Spring, 1974), 46; Third Census of the United States, Pennsylvania, 1810, Reel 13, Philadelphia, County, p. 5, Denver Public Library.
16. Population Schedule of the Fourth Census of the United States, 1820, Pennsylvania, Roll 109, Volume 14, p. 103-A; Population Schedule of the Fifth Census of the United States, 1830, Pennsylvania, Roll 168, Volume 15, p. 9-; The Germantown Telegraph and Philadelphia and Montgomery Advertizer, Volume LV, No. 167, October 9, 1833; Deed Book AM 44, p. 572.

Susanna Mason, (?-1844), paid Robert's exectors $1775 in 1834 for the 134 perches of land and two houses which comprised the Bringhurst house lot. Susanna apparently was elderly when she bought the property, for in the census of 1840 her executor-to-be, William Green, appeared as the head of the family, with two women in his household, one between 30 and 40 years old, presumably his wife, and the other between 70 and 80, no doubt Mrs. Mason. Evidently Susanna Mason was related to the Bringhurst family in some way, for she left the property by her will to her nephew, James Ashmead, and the Ashmeads were cousins to the Bringhursts.[17]

James Ashmead (?-1845), had the ~~choice~~ opportunity of purchasing the lot from his aunt's estate for $3000, by her will, and he did so on May 4, 1844. But James lived for only one more year, and at his death, the property fell to his six children to be divided among them equally.[18]

17. Population Schedule of the Sixth Census of the United States, 1840, Pennsylvania, Roll 489, Reel 55, p. 254, DPL. A photograph copy of Susanna Mason's will is filed in the Bringhurst House File at the Historical Commission of Philadelphia.
18. Deed Book ACH 58, p. 55. See Appendix M. James Ashmead no doubt had been a close friend besides a cousin to Robert Bringhurst, for he signed as a witness to Robert's will in 1832. Will Book 10, p. 452, No. 175.

William Ashmead, James Ashmead, Charles F. Ashmead, Elizabeth F.A. Schaeffer, Catharine Ashmead, and George Ashmead, together inherited the property at their father's death, but only George lived at the own residence during the years before his death in 1875. Between 1844 and 1875 two of the other heirs passed on, James And Charles F., ~~so leaving George's heirs~~ By his will of 1866, George's only heirs were his two sisters.

Elizabeth and her husband, Charles W. Schaeffer, apparently moved into the house after George's death. Their move within the family compound was short, for they had been living only three doors down, in the house at the corner of Germantown Main Street and Schoolhouse Lane. Dr. Schaeffer, like many of his in-laws in the Ashmead family, had become a prominent figure in the Philadelphia area.

As the pastor at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Mount Airy, a proffessor at the Lutheran Tehological Seminary, and a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, he upheld the tradition well founded in the community of a dedication to the well-being of others.

William Ashmead, M.D., Elizabeth's brother, lived next door, at 4788 Germantown Avenue, until his death in 1888, when his right to the property left him by James Ashmead fell to his two sisters.[19]

19. See Appendix O; The Ashmead Family (Philadelphia, 1933), p. 13; Hopkins, Atlas of Germantown 1871, pp. 48-9; Keyser, p. 307; Will Book 83, p. 492, No. 190; Will Book 136, p. 136, No. 231.

The Reverend Schaeffer died in 1890, and his wife, Elizabeth, died in 1892. Their son, the Reverend William Ashmead Schaeffer, apparently moved in with his mother after his father's death, for, when Elizabeth's will was read, [20] , he was a resident at 4784 Gemmantown Avenue.

William A. Ashmead lived on in the house until 1901, when he officially purchased the property from his aunt Catharine and the other executors of his mother's estate. In 1907 William died, leaving his wife [21] , Elizabeth H.T. Schaeffer, as his heir.

Elizabeth H. T. Schaeffer, the sole owner of the property, chose to sell the lot to her neighbor, Elliston P. Morris. Before her husband's death in 1907, they together sold part of the back yard to enlarge Morris' garden, and the following year, in March, she sold the house lot itself to Morris, [22] so ending over 60 years of Ashmead family ownership.

The Morris Family, 1908-1948

Elliston P. Morris owned the house for six years before his death, and by his will he left the property to his wife, Martha C. Morris, who in turn left it to her son, Marriott C. Morris. As the Morris' lived next door in the Deshler-Morris house, the occupancy of the "Brimhurst" house during the years between 1908 and 1948, when Elliston's daughter-in-law sold the house, has not been determined.

The Commerical and Public Ownership, 1948-1974

Jane Rhoads Morris in June of 1948 sold the house to the Saving Fund Society of Germantown, , which bank renovated the house for offices, and, in 1973 donated the property to the National Park Service, [23] The present owner.

20. Keyser, Ibid.; Will Book 164, p. 206, No. 1752;
21. Will Book 288, p. 185, No. 1719.
22. Jane Campbell's Newspaper Clippings, Volume 15, p. 102, GHS; Deed Book W.S.V. 1003, p. 110.
23. See Appendix M.

According to the decription in the deed of transfer of January 1763, George received only one house at the purchase of John's share of the house lot:

> one fifth part of and in a Certain Two Story Messuage or Tenement and of a piece or lot of ground whereon the same Messuage is erected fronting the Germantown Market Place (It being the late dwelling or Mansion House of the late George Bringhurst Senr the late Father of them the said John and George Bringhurst.

In 1767 George mortgaged his property to John Ingle of Germantown, and the mortage deed again referred to only one house: "a Certain Messuage or Tenement, wherein he now dwells and lot or piece of land therennto belonging .. . opposite the Market Place."

Both of the above legal documents describe the boundaries of the property as enclosing 134 perches, and this nearly 4/5 of an acre of land remained the same size until early in the twentieth century. Although the names of ajoining property owners changed, the lot measurements remained the same as those given in the 1760s:

> Beginning at a corner of this and David Deshler's lot and thence extending by the Main Street of the said town Northwesterly forty six feet and six inches to a corner of this and Robert Walns Lot thence by the said Robert Walns Lot South West twenty-one feet to a corner and southeast seven inches to another corner thence by the same South West forty six perches and twelve feet to a corner and further by the same South East forty five feet and eleven perches to a corner of this of the said Robert Walns and of the said David Deshler's lot thence by the said Desherls lot North East forty eight perches to the place of beginning.

Unmistakenly, then, George Bringhurst, Senior and Junior, lived on the lot adjoining Deshler's and Frank's until the latter's death in 1797. But according to his will of 1797, George Bringhurst left "my two houses and lot of land thereunto," and these two houses undoubtedly were those described by the federal tax assessor the following year.[25]

The federal tax assessor listed the house that the Widow Bringhurst lived in as a 2-story stone house measuring 15 feet by 24 feet, with 3 windows and 38 panes, while the house George lived in also was a 2 story stone house measuring 21 feet by 18 feet, and had 5 windows with 75 lights. Both of these small houses received comparatively low valuations of $900 and $800 respectively, especially considering that Franks' house next door alone was valued at $3900. Unlike all the neighbors' houses, except Morgan's on the lot adjoining to the north, the two Bringhurst houses had no separate kitchen listed, which indicates that the first floor of each must have held a kitchen fireplace, with its typical wide girth of the colonial period.

25. Will No. 383, April 21, 1797, a copy at the Philadelphia Historical Commisison.

19th Century: Deeds, Wills, Photographs and Maps

The earliest known photograph of the Bringhurst property shows only a section of the house in 1859. The sketch by Samuel Morris of the front of the Morris house in 1842 also shows the same corner of the Bringhurst house. Both of these illustrations reveal that they depict the existing structure as it stands today, without the ~~mansard~~ gabled roof. The present structure, however, measures 38 feet, 7 inches by 27 feet, 10 inches, which measurements do, in no way, resemble those given in the 1798 tax assessment.

Clearly at some point between 1798 and 1842, the two stone houses of the 18th century became the one large house of the 19th and 20th centuries. The land deeds help to understand when the alterations to the property were made: in 1812 Robert Bringhurst purchased two houses for $2600, and in 1833 the executors of his estate advertised the public sale of "two certain messuages or tenements and lot or piece of ground," which they sold thet winter to Susanna Mason. Mrs. Mason, an elderly, and probably wealthy relative of the Ashmead family, evidently made the change to the house from two structures to one, for, in accordance with her will, James Ashmead, a nephew, purchased in 1844 her House and lot which She had specified be his if he paid $3000 for the property.[26]

26. Will of Susanna Mason, January 15, 1844, photostat at Phila. Historical Commission; Deed Book ACH 58, p. 55, Phila. County Courthouse.

A physical survey of the present Bringhurst House basement provides a possible clue to the structural changes made between 1834 and 1842. The front basement facing Germantown Avenue measures 19 feet 1 inch by 17 feet 10 inches, which, after adding 18 inches for each of the stone walls, comes to approximately 21 feet by 20 feet. These dimensions closely resemble those of 21 feet by 18 feet given for one of the 1798 houses. As mentioned earlier, the 1798 tax assessor never gave exact measurements, and usually measured from the exterior of the structure.[27]

27. See Appendix P.

As ~~noted~~ stated above, the main house measures 38 feet by 27 feet, while the front basement only measures 19 feet by 17 feet; under the south side of the house, from the front door, there is only crawl space, and for six feet beyond the back wall of the front basement the wing basement floor and ceiling continue at the same level, and then both rise about 4 to 5 inches. On the first floor, this 6-foot space takes the form of the stairwell of the main house.[28]

Directly above the front basement on the first floor stands a room which measures 13 feet by 18 feet, and a 6-foot wide central hallway. Possibly, the 1798 house, which measured 21 feet by 18 feet, contained one room to a floor, with a hall and staircase on the south side, and, sometime around 1835, the house was enlarged by constructing a 2-story addition on the south side, and a new staircase on the west end of the house.

A measuring of the wing basement suggests another possible clue to the alterations made in the 19th century. The Widow Bringhurst's house in 1798 measured 15 feet by 25 feet, while the present wing basement measures 13 1/2 feet by 37 feet. With 16-inch walls, the basement width exceeds that of the 1798 house by little over a foot. Moreover, the rise in the basement floor and ceiling levels six feet from the front basement suggests that the second stone house might have stood on a perpendicular with the first, and six feet distance from it.

28. Reid Engle to Anna Coxe Toogood, July 21, 1974, Deshler-Morris File, Denver Service Center., National Park Service.

The available evidence, then, indicates that the present house either contains one or part of both of the 18th century houses, or that only the basement foundations remain under a house constructed completely new in the 1830s. That Mrs. Mason may have knocked down two stone houses and replaced them with the existing structure, however, has very little likelihood, considering the substantial nature of the Germantown architecture of the 18th century.

Guesswork, ~~however,~~ does not provide a reliable source, and however, in the absence of documentation, a thorough architectural investigation of the fabric of the house and wing should be made to determine the probable sequence of events. Unfortunately, two major obstacles lie in the path of such an architectural evaluation: first, the funding and planning for the structure's use does not cover such a study, and second, the house has received extensive interior renovation, in 1948, by the Germantown Savings Fund Society, and, recently, by the National Park Service. Thus, if architectural evidence of the original stone houses still remains, a management decision will be required to provide the necessary funding for further investigation, ~~of the house~~.[29]

29. The Bringhurst House will be a visitor center for the interpretation of the Deshler-Morris House and for Germantown History. Development Concept Plan, Deshler-Morris House and Bringhurst House, 1974.

The 1859 photograph of the Deshler-Morris house reveals that the adjacent Ashmead house had a gable roof with two gabled dormer windows and that a new window apparently had been recently added on the first floor of the south wall. The 1861 and 1887-8 photographs reveal that the house had received no major alterations, atleast on the exterior. In 1904, however, a photograph taken of Market Square shows that the Bringhurst house had received a gambrel roof, thus changing the appearance of the house considerably. The gambrel roof still remains on the structure thereby concealing much of the flavor of the typical 18th century Germantown architecture.

Possibly when the new roof was added, the Schaeffers also constructed a 12-foot additon to the brick wing, for, according to the observations of the historical architect, the wing was built at two different times.

If any alterations were made in the 20th century, they were probably limited to the frame shed added to the south ~~d~~uncture of the house and wing. This addition houses a small bathroom today.

Recommendations for Further Research

The first suggestion for additional research on the Deshler-Morris house concerns the furnishings of the house in 1794, when the Washington family shipped a wagonload of their furniture out to Germantown. Appendix I of this report provides a partial list of the President's furniture in 1796, when he lived at the Morris house in Philadelphia, but a complete collection of the available information on the Washington's household furniture would be helpful in selecting pieces to represent the family's lease of Franks' house during the summer of 1794.[1]

1. According to the research notes at INDE., the George Washington Collection at the Library of Congress contains letters from Tobias Lear to Washington concerning the President's household furniture, and includes inventories, dated 1797, of his furnishings fixtures, and paintings with notations as to whether they were supplied by the United States or Washington. Time did not permit the writer to gather this information, or that at the National Archives, where an inventory of the White House furnishings in 1801 is preserved in Record Group 46, Papers of the Senate of the United States, 6A-J5, Thomas Claxton to Wilson C. Nicholas, February 26, 1801, as cited in the research files at INDE. (This information was provided to the writer by Dr. John Platt, several months after the research had been completed.) The microfilm of the 1796 inventory at the National Archives ordered by the staff at Independence National Historical Park was missing two of the original pages.

Secondly, if funds should come available, a researcher who can read German should be assigned to scan the 18th century newspapers printed in Germantown for possible leads on Washington's stay at the house. Some of these German newspapers are available at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The funds available for historical research on the Bringhurst house did not allow for time to check the Germantown newspapers for possible leads on the major alterations to the house in the mid-1830s. If any consideration is given to the historic appearance of the Bringhurst houses, funds should be allocated to investigate the local newspapers, atleast for the years 1833-1842. As already noted, a more reliable source of information on the structural history of the Bringhurst house would come from a careful architectural study of the interior fabric, especially in the basement where no known alterations have been made. This sort of investigation would be essential to any resotration of the Bringhurst house to blend it with the historic appearance called for by planners looking to a future historic district around the Market Square.[2]

2. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Germantown Historical Society both have collections of 19th century Germantown newspapers.

Specific Recommendations on Restoration:

The Deshler-Morris house has been owned and leased by prominent Philadelphians and national figures since its construction. The main house has undergone no major alterations, other than the addition of dormer windows in the attic prior to 1842, and, in 1909, of bathroom facilities along the north face of the house. The wing, on the other hand, has grown and changed throughout two centuries, and its appearance reflects the varying tastes and needs of each subsequent owner. The total effect does not, however, distract from the beauty and historical significance of the residence. Rather, the house reflects the Morris family's concern for preservation on the one hand, and its wealth and refined taste on the other. Because the visitor can experience the main house as it was in the 18th century when President Washington lived there, as well as in the 19th and 20th centuries when one of Philadelphia's most prominent families cherished its historical traditions, there seems little need to remove the later additions to the structure, except for in the earliest section of the house, the 1752 kitchen.

Since the kitchen preceeded the main house by some 20 years and represented the Deshler family summer home during this period, and since it did not receive major alterations for many years after the President's residency, it is recommended that the 1909 addition be removed, and the original colonial appearance be restored.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
PART A
THE DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE
CHAIN OF TITLE, A SUMMARY

DATE	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	PRICE	DEED BOOK	PAGE
12/16/ 1948	United States of America	Elliston P. Morris et.ux. Jane Rhoads Morris	Gift	C.J.P. 2228	281
3/4 1836	Samuel Buckley Morris	Frances Perot		A.M. 74	240
4/28/ 1802	Elliston and John Perot	Isaac Franks	$5000	E.F. 9	161
5/21/ 1792	Isaac Franks	Mary Lewis Catharine Roberts John Morton, execrs. of David Deshler	£1500	D 34	41
4/13/ 1752	David Deshler	Ann Bringhurst John Bringhurst John Palmer, execrs. of George Bringhurst	£66.13, 4d	H3	157
9/7/ 1751	David Deshler	George Bring-hurst et. ux.	£100	H 1	646
4/8/ 1726	GEOrge Bringhurst	John Jarrett et. ux.		G 5	1
4/27/ 1711	John Jarrett	Isaac Van Bebber & Mattias van Bebber		G 5	1

Appendix A
Summery

DATE	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	PRICE	DEED BOOK	PAGE
3/1/ 1710/11	John Jarrett	Henry Cunrads		G 5	1
4/3/ 1689	Jacob Isaac Van Bebber	William Penn	Patent	G 5	1
12/29/ 1710	Henry Cunrads	Dennis Kunders		G 5	1
4/1 1699	Dennis Kunders	Albertus Brand et. ux.		G 5	1
8/1/ 1698	Albertus Brand et. ux.	Jacob Telner		G 5	1
3/9-10/ 1682	Jacob Telner	William Penn	Patent	G 5	1

APPENDIX A

PART B*

THE DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE

BRIEF OF TITLE, 1682-1836

(PREPARED FOR HEIRS OF SAMUEL B. MORRIS)

*Original in the Elliston P. Morris Collection, Box 1, Deeds, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Brief of Title

to

All that certain messuage or tenement and lot or piece of ground Situate on the Southwesterly side of the main Street (Germantown) containing in front or breadth on said street 100 feet and extending in length or depth South Westward 48 perches

1682 March 9 & 10 Recited

Lease and Release William Penn Proprietary &c to Jacob Telner in fee for 5000 acres in the Province of Pennsylvania

Recited in the hereinafter mentioned Deed from John Jarratt and wife to George Bringhurst, which also recites that the 150 acres granted by the next hereinafter recited deed was part of the said 5000 acres

1698 August 1. Record Examined

Deed Jacob Telner to Albertus Brandt and Susanna his wife she being the only daughter of the said Jacob Telner granting three several pieces of land situate in Germantown, County of Philadelphia containing together 150 acres of land To Hold to them their heirs and assigns forever

Acknowledged in open Court held at Philadelphia 9 March 1698/9 and also signature proved 6 of 12 mo 1698. Recorded in Deed Book E.3. vol 5. page 266 and at Philadelphia in Exemplification Record No 7. page 357

1699 April 1.

Deed Albertus Brandt and Susannah his wife to Dennis Kunders in fee granting 50 acres part of said last mentioned 150 acres

Acknowledged in open Court 26 June 1700.

recited in deed Jarratt to Bringhurst

1710
December 29
Recited in Deed
Conrad & Bringhurst

Deed Dennis Sanders to Henry Conrads in fee granting said 50 acres of land

1710/11
March 1

Deed Henry Conrads to John Jarratt in fee for a piece of land in the inhabited part of Germantown containing 20¾ acres part of the last mentioned 50 acres

1711
May 22
Recited in deed from Jarratt to Bringhurst

Deed Henry Conrads to the said John Jarratt in fee granting a piece of land containing 14½ acres situate in the adjacent side land between Germantown & Kriesham part of said 50 acres

1689
April 3.
Recited in Deed
Jarratt to Bringhurst

Patent William Penn Proprietary &c to Jacob Isaac van Bebber for a piece of land containing 161 acres in Germantown
Recorded in Book A. page 245

1711
April 27
Recited in deed
Jarratt to Bringhurst

Deed Poll Isaac van Bebber and Matthias van Bebber sons and heirs of the said first named Isaac (then deceased) to John Jarratt in fee for two pieces of land One of them containing 21 acres in the inhabited part of Germantown and the other containing 29 acres in the side land parts of the said 161 acres

1726.
April 8.

Record Examined

Deed John Jarratt and wife to George Bringhurst in fee for three parcels of land (parts of the premises conveyed to the said John Jarratt as hereinbefore mentioned) one of the said three tracts being described as follows Beginning at a stone set for a corner by the Germantown Street being also a corner of John Ashmeads land thence South East by the said Street 15 perches 12 feet to a stone set for a corner thence

South west 48 perches to another stone set for a corner, thence North West 11 perches 12 feet to a stone being another corner of the said Ashmeads land thence North East by the said land 48 perches to the place of beginning Containing 3½ acres of land more or less

Proved 30 November 1743

Recorded 3 December 1743 in Deed Book G. vol 5. page 1. &c

1747 November 7th Record Examined Satisfd 11 June 1753

Mortgage George Bringhurst to Joshua Crosby in fee granting said last mentioned three tracts of land to secure payment of the sum of £400 with Interest

Acknowledged 12 December 1747

Recorded 19 February 1747.8 in Deed Book G. vol 9. page 118.

1751 September 7. £100. Produced & Examined

Deed George Bringhurst and wife and the said Joshua Crosby to David Deshler in fee granting and releasing a certain lot of ground in Germantown aforesaid (being part of said Mortgaged premises) containing in breadth 60 feet and in depth Southwestward 48 perches Bounded Northeastward with the Main Street, Southeastward with the ground of George Bringhurst intended to be granted to Henry Shellberg at the distance of 40 feet from Christopher Mengs lot Southwestward and Northwestward by other part of said Mortgaged premises This deed recites that the hereby granted premises formed part of the lots conveyed as hereinbefore mentioned by John Jarratt and wife to George Bringhurst and are said to be part of the 20¾ acres conveyed as aforesaid by Henry Conrads to the said John Jarratt

Acknowledged 7 September 1751 by George Bringhurst & wife and the signatures of Joshua Crosby proved by subscribing witness 18 September 1751 Recorded 20 September 1751 in deed book H. No 1. page 646

1752
21 January

Recorded Examined

Will of the said George Bringhurst whereby (inter alia) he devises in the words following to wit Item and in order for the discharging of my just debts I will and require that such a part of my Real Estate as to my Executrix and her assistants hereinafter named shall seem necessary shall be sold and disposed of in the best manner for the best price that may be had for the same (with this proviso that if possible my house wherein I now dwell with some part of my land and buildings lying contiguous and convenient thereunto be reserved and kept for the use and benefit of my wife and children in such manner as I shall hereinafter direct) wherefore I empower and authorize my Executrix hereinafter named or those whom I may appoint Executors in her room in case of her disability or the survivor of them to sell and dispose of part of my Real Estate in manner as is above directed and make and execute good and sufficient deed or deeds conveyance or conveyances for the same to the purchaser or purchasers and to his her or their heirs and assigns forever in fee simple &c and also appointed his wife Anna sole Executrix and his son John and son in law George Palmer Trustees and assistants to his said wife in case of need

Duly proved 21 March 1752
Recorded in Will Book I page 503.

1752
April 13.

366. 13. 4d

Produced & Examined

Decd. Ann Bringhurst Executrix aforesaid and John Bringhurst and George Palmer (the said Executrix acting herein by and with the consent and assistance of the said John Bringhurst and George Palmer) to David Deshler in fee for a piece of ground containing in breadth on the said Main Street 40 feet and in depth Southwestward 48 perches. Bounded South Eastward by Christopher Mengs lot North Eastward with said street Southwestward with other ground of the said George Bringhurst and Westward by other ground of the said David Deshler being the last above described lot) Said hereby granted lot being a part of the aforesaid mortgaged premises

Acknowledged 13 april 1752

Recorded 18 april 1752 in Deed Book F. vol 3 page 157

1791 November 15. **Will** of David Deshler wherein inter alia he did devise as follows "Item I will and direct that my messuage garden and lot of ground in Germantown shall be sold and I do hereby empower my Executors hereinafter named and the survivors and survivor of them to bargain and sell the same for the best price that can be obtained and by one or more deed or deeds under their hands and seals to grant and convey the same to the purchaser or purchasers thereof his her or their heirs and assigns forever and the monies arising by such sale or sales shall be counted in the Residue of my personal Estate" and appointed his two daughters Mary Lewis and Catharine Roberts and his son in law John Morton Executors

Rec Exam'd I H M

Duly proved 31 March 1792.

Recorded in will Book W. page 233.

1792 21. May. £ 1500. **DCCA** Mary Lewis, Catharine Roberts and John Morton Executors of the last will of David Deshler to Isaac Franks in fee for a certain messuage and piece of land situate on the South westerly side of the main street containing 100 feet in breadth and in length or depth Southwestward 48 perches, being composed of said two Lots of ground conveyed to Deshler by deeds from Ann Bringhurst Ex^x and George Bringhurst her wife et al. before recited

Recorded & Examined

Acknowledged 26 May 1792

Recorded 2 June 1792 in Deed Book D. No 34 page 411

1802 28. April £ 500 **DCCA** Isaac Franks to Elliston Perot and John Perot in fee as tenants in common for said lot of ground last described

Recorded & Examined

Acknowledged 29 april 1802

Recorded 30 April 1802 in Deed Book S.F. No 9. page 161.

1831

23 of 11 mo (Nov)

Certified copy
Produced & Examined

Will of Elliston Perot wherein and whereby he devised as follows: "as to all the rest, residue and remainder of my Estate, Real and Personal I will and direct that the same be divided into five equal parts or shares, and I give devise and bequeath the same in manner following that is to say:

"I give and bequeath unto my brother John Perot and my nephew James Perot, my sons Sansom Perot, Francis Perot, Joseph Perot and William Sansom Perot, and my son in law Samuel B. Morris and the survivors and survivor of them and the heirs, executors administrators and assigns of such survivor the sum or value of Twenty thousand Dollars out of one of the said five equal parts or shares and to be part thereof. In Trust to have hold or invest the same in good real or personal Estate and to permit and suffer my said son in law Samuel B. Morris to take and receive all the clear rent, interest, income or product thereof, for his own use and enjoyment for and during the term of his natural life and at his death to assign, transfer, grant and convey pay and set over the capital so invested to the issue of my dear deceased daughter Hannah P. Morris wife of the said Samuel B. Morris and their heirs executors, administrators and assigns in equal portions or shares, and in case either of the said issue shall die without leaving lawful issue, then that the share that could have gone to such decedent shall go to the survivors or survivor of such issue, their, his or her heirs executors administrators and assigns and I do direct and provide, that in case of vacancy in the trust by death, removal or resignation of and of the Trustees the same may be filled by an appointment by the surviving or remaining Trustees and so from time to time in order to preserve the number of Trustees the same, and that the Trustees for the time being may from time to time and as and when they shall deem it expedient change the investment of the Trust funds always preserving the evidence of the trust in the Title deeds and

that no Trustee shall be liable for any loss that may happen in placing out monies at interest or otherwise investing the fund or from the act or default of another Trustee or Trustees. And I do give devise and bequeath unto the children of my deceased daughter Hannah B. Morris their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in equal shares and proportions all the rest, residue and remainder of the said one full equal fifth part or share after taking therefrom the said sum or value of Twenty thousand Dollars to their own use forever: and I do direct that the same be under the care and guardianship of my son in law Samuel B. Morris during the minority of the said children respectively. I give devise and bequeath unto my sons Sansom Perot Francis Perot, Joseph Perot and William Sansom Perot severally and their several heirs, executors, administrators and assigns one full equal undivided fifth part or share of the said five equal parts or shares of my estate to each of them and to his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever, and I do will and direct that in the division of my Estate the Brew house, dwelling house and lot of ground and additional Building with all the coppers, tubs, vats, engine fixtures and property of every kind belonging to or used in the Brew house and premises now occupied by my sons Francis Perot and William Sansom Perot be allotted to my said sons Francis Perot and William Sansom Perot and to their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns as tenants in common at the price or sum of which I have paid for the same in the purchase and improvement thereof, and which is stated in a book which I have kept for the purpose of an account thereof and in which I have entered the same and I do direct that my said two S be charged with the price or sum so paid by me therefor, as stated in said Book, and in case the amount so charged to them shall with the amount charged to them respectively in the small Ledger hereinafter mentioned, exceed the shares of my estate to which they would be entitled, then the difference shall be paid by my said sons respectively to my Executors to be applied in making up the other shares of my other children: and such difference shall be a charge on said Brew-

house Estate until it shall be so paid.

For the purpose of making an equal distribution of my estate among my children I have opened a small Ledger, and debited each of them with the money which they have had on account of their proportion of my estate and I direct that the sums so charged in said Ledger be considered as so much of my estate and that in the distribution of my estate my children and the children of my deceased daughter be respectively charged with the sums so advanced to my children respectively

Lastly I do nominate and appoint my dear Brother John Perot my beloved sons Sansom Perot, Francis Perot and William Sansom Perot and my son in law Samuel B. Morris Executors of this my will and I do hereby authorise and empower my said Executors and the survivors and survivor of them to make partition by deed of any estate or estates holden by me in common with any other person or persons and also to sell and convey to the purchaser or purchasers any part or parts, parcel or parcels of the real estate of which I may die seized and to hold the proceeds thereof for the purposes of this will without any liability in any such purchaser or purchasers to see to the application of the purchase money"

Proved December 3 and 16 1834

Proceedings in Partition were afterwards commenced in the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia to make partition and division of inter alia said Estate, the following are copies of the Docket Entries in the case

Appearance Docket December Term 1835

Chauncey & Chester

113

Recd. Examined

John Perot	Sums in Partition Exc'd nov
vs	Ret'd non Dec
Sansom Perot Francis Perot Joseph Perot and William Sansom Perot and Samuel Morris Beulah Sansom Morris & Elliston Perot Morris minors	Dec 12. 1835 on motion of Mr Chauncey for demandant and filing the agreement in writing ordered by the Court

(Writ amended by order of Court - on motion of Dorsey)

by Samuel B. Morris their guardian

(Description of property filed)

Dec 12. 1835. Narr filed

Breve D. 35.

Breve de part fac D. 35. 337

that Judgment be entered for the demand and that partition be made according to the demand in the Declaration and that a writ to make partition issue accordingly

by agreement for judgment filed

Execution Docket December term 1835.

page 98.

Chauncey 337.

John Perot

vs

Sansom Perot et al

carried to page 133

Breve de part D. 35. 113.

Parted & divided

Same docket page 133.

John Perot

v.

Sansom Perot et al

Brought from page 98.

January 20. 1836. on motion of Mr. Chauncey and agreement of the parties filed, ordered that the precipe, summons, narr, writ de partitione faciendo, in this suit be amended by inserting (herein respectively after the description of the premises last therein recited &c.) words following that is to say. All that certain lot or piece of ground situate on the East side of a twenty eight feet wide alley laid out on the East side of the public square between the High and Chesnut Streets in the City of Philadelphia containing in breadth North and South twenty feet Bounded Northward at the distance of one hundred and eighty feet from High Street by ground of Thomas Leiper, Eastward by ground late of Margaret Duncan deceased Southward by ground devised by the said Margaret Duncan to her grandson William McKine now or late belonging to Noble Caldwell Nelson and Westward by the said alley. also all that certain lot or piece of ground situate on the East side of a certain twenty eight feet wide alley laid out on the East side of a public square between High Street and Chesnut Street in the City of Philadelphia, containing in breadth North and South twenty feet and in length or depth East and west eighty two feet Bounded Northward at the distance of two hundred feet from the

Record Examined

aforesaid High Street by a lot of ground devised by Margaret Duncan to her grandson Isaac Mc Kine, Eastward by other ground late of the said Margaret Duncan deceased, Southward by ground devised by the said Margaret Duncan to her granddaughter Margaret Bailey and Westward by the said alley. Being the same premises which Francis Johnson Esq. High Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia by Deed Poll bearing date the Twenty seventh day of January A.D. 1813 and recorded in the office for the recording of Deeds &c for the City and County of Philadelphia in Deed Book I C No 24 page 194 &c granted and conveyed to the said Elliston and John Perot in fee. Also all that certain lot or piece of ground situate on the East side of a twenty eight feet wide alley now called Juniper Street in the City of Philadelphia, containing in front or breadth on the said Juniper Street twenty feet and extending in length or depth eighty two feet. Bounded Westward by the said Juniper Street and Eastward by other ground of the said Elliston and John Perot and Southward by the Arsenal lot. Being the same premises which Margaret Bailey by Indenture bearing date the Thirteenth day of July A.D. 1813 and recorded in the office for the recording of deeds &c for the City and County of Philadelphia in Deed Book I C No 27 page 7 &c granted and conveyed unto the said Elliston and John Perot in fee.

Same day by writing filed it is agreed that the respective interests of the defendants in the premises whereof the Plffs seeks a partition in this suit shall remain undivided.

February 27, 1836. The Return of the Inquest to the writ De partitione facienda issued in the above suit, having been exhibited to the Court and Read in open court it was thereupon ordered on motion of Chauncey and Chester Esqs. Atty for demandant that the said partition be confirmed and remain firm and Stable forever.

1836
7 January. **Return of Partition** John G. Watmough Esq. Sheriff and Inquest by him summoned, wherein and whereby they divided the said Estate into Ten equal parts equalized by valuing the purparts respect

Recorded Examined

ively and charging the most valuable allotments with the payment of such sums of money as are equal to the difference in value of the other shares.) and assigned One tenth part of and in said Estate consisting of inter alia All that certain lot of ground and messuage or tenement Situate on the South westerly side of the main Street in Germantown in the Township of Germantown in the County of Philadelphia, containing in breadth on the said Street 100 feet or thereabouts and continuing of that breadth in length or depth Southwestward to the distance of 48 perches from said Street. Bounded North Eastwardly by the said main street, South Eastwardly by a lot of Christopher Ming and Southwestward and Northwestward by land late of George Bringhurst, unto Francis Perot in severalty in fee, together with certain sums of money for equality of partition. Confirmed by order of Court February 27. 1836

Entered among the Records of the District Court in Book marked "Records of Partition No. 1 & 2" page 21 and 28.

1836. 4 March. 17 mo. Produced & Examined

DCCCV Francis Perot and wife to Samuel B. Morris in fee for same premises

Acknowledged same day

Recorded 8 March 1836 in Deed Book A M No 74 page 240 &c

Taken from the Records and Papers produced

By

Anthony P. & J. Morris

Third month 1859.

APPENDIX A

PART C*

CHAIN OF TITLE FOR
5442 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
1792-1948
(PREPARED BY THE HISTORICAL
COMMISSION OF PHILADELPHIA)

*Original in the 5442 Germantown Avenue file, Historical Commission of Philadelphia.

No. 5442 Germantown Ave.

Deed

1948
12/16

Elliston P. Morris and Anna Saylor h/w
Jane Rhoads Morris - Widow of Marriott C. Morris, decd.
to
United States of America

(Purpose of making a gift)

All that certain lot or piece of grd with the bldgs and improvements thereon erected situ. in 22nd Wd. of C of P
Survey 4-14-1948 amended 7-14-1948 S Ws Germantown Ave. (60'w) 171' 1 1/2" S.E. from S.Es. School House Lane (50'w)th ext S 48° 58'40" E alg sd Gtm Ave 99' 1/4" to pt. th ext S 41° 50' 37" W 277' 7 7/8" to pt. th ext N 47° 56' 40" W. 99' 3/8" to pt th ext N 41° 50'46" E partly through a wall 275' 10 3/8" to beg.
Being known as No. 5442 Germantown Ave.

Rec L.R.B. 156/533

Rec 12/23/1948
C.J.P. 2228/281

Recited in C.J.P. 2228-281

Elliston P. Morris died 12-3-1914 leaving will dated 2-17-1913 probated at Phila. W.Bk 864-191 by such Will sd Elliston P. Morris devised such prems (describing the prems as 5442 Main St. Germantown) to his wife Martha C. Morris, for life with remainder to his daughter, Elizabeth Canby Morris - in fee.

The name of Main St. has been changed and is now Germantown Ave.

Martha C. Morris survived her husband and died 11-1-1919.

Elizabeth Canby Morris died 12-13-1947 intestate, unmarried, leaving as her sole surv next of kin, her brother, Marriott C. Morris.

Marriott C. Morris died 3-2-1948 leaving Will dated 11-8-1946 with two Codicils probated at Phila W Bk P.S. 482-609.

By 2nd Codicil to his Will, sd Marriott C. Morris, recited that George Washington, President of the United States, had occupied such prems as his residence in the summer 1793, and by such Codicil sd Marriott C. Morris devised such prems to the United States of America as a perpetual memorial to Elizabeth Canby Morris and Marriott C. Morris, however the sd Codicil contained an alternative gift to Elliston P. Morris son of Sd Marriott C. Morris in fee without restrictions or conditions to take effect if the sd Marriott C. Morris should

die within 30 days from the execution of such Codicil thereby making the gift contained in such Codicil to the United States of America invalid. Sd Marriott C. Morris died within the 30 days foll the execution of such Codicil so that the gift to his son, Elliston P. Morris became effective.

Sd Elliston P. Morris son of Marriott C. Morris, has decided to give such prems to the United States of America as a perpetual memorial to Elizabeth Canby Morris and Marriott C. Morris. Sd. Marriott C. Morris was survived by his wife Jane Rhoads Morris, who has not elected to take either under or against the Will of Marriott C. Morris, and she has joined in this Deed so that her right title and interest in such prems will be conveyed to the United States of America.

Deed.

1866
3/16

Joshua H. Morris - Grantee in Trust as within mentioned

to

Elliston P. Morris - within named

(1a)

The messuage and lot of grd situate on the S.W. ly side of Main St. Germantown.

Discharged of all trusts

Rec 3/16/1866
L.R.B. 156/533

Deed.

1866
3/16

1 (Samuel Morris) Exors and Trustees u/w of
(Elliston P. Morris) Samuel B. Morris, decd
to
2 (Joshua H. Morris (Conveyancer)

(1a)

187

No. 5442 Germantown Ave.

All that certain messuage or tenement and lot or piece of grd. situate on S.Ws of Main St. in Germantown, 22nd Wd. C of P. contg in breadth on sd Street 100' or thereabouts and continuing that breadth in length or depth S.W. at the dist of 48' P from sd Street. Bd N.E. by sd Main St 3 E by Christopher Menges lot and S.W by land late of George Bringhurst, decd.

Rec. A.M. 74-240

In Trust and to the end that (2) shall convey same to sd Elliston P.Morris, subject as afsd so that a good title in fee simple absolute and discharged of all Trust shall be vested in sd Elliston P. Morris according to the provisions of will of Samuel B. Morris -

Rec 3-16-1866 L.R.B.156-527

Recited in L.R.B. 156-527

Whereas at a Court of C.P. Phila on 3-3-1866 the petn of Elliston P. Morris was presented setting forth the Will of Samuel B. Morris and other matters in sd petn mentioned and praying the Court to direct Samuel Morris to join with the petr as Exors u/w of Samuel B. Morris, decd. in executing such conveyance as shall vest the entire estate both real and personal legal and equitable in and to the prems devised by will of sd Samuel B. Morris to sd Elliston P. Morris therein described.

(1a) Proms next desed.

Whereupon sd Court did order and decree sd Samuel Morris and Elliston P. Morris Exors and Trustees u/w of Samuel B. Morris shall forthwith execute a deed in fee simple for sd properties (as)

Proms next desed to Joshua H. Morris in Trust and to the end that sd Joshua H. Morris shall at once convey the same to sd Elliston P.Morris, so that a good title in fee simple absolute and freed and discharged of all Trusts shall be vested in sd Elliston P. Morris according to the provisions of will of Samuel B. Morris, sd Elliston P. Morris giving to sd Exors a refunding bond with himself as surety in usual form in sum of $10000.00 and whereas sd bond has been duly intered.

Will of Samuel B. Morris

Dated
4/23/1858

I.G.D. and B all my estate R and P to my Exors in Trust etc.

(6) Upon the further trust as regards the R.R. and R of my estate afsd to collect income for 4 yrs and to apply same to payment legacies taxes, interests repairs etc and upon expiration of sd term of 4 yrs then in trust.

(1) x x
(2) x x
(3) (1a)

No. 5442 Germantown Ave.

Further in trust to execute and deliver such deed and instrument as may be necessary to vest full and complete title absolutely in my son Elliston Perot Morris of my house and prems in Germantown situated upon the Main St with a front of 100' or thereabouts, extending to and across Green St. recently opened, the boundaries being more fully dessd in the deed to me dated 3-4-1836 from Francis Perot and wife.

Appts sons, Samuel Morris and Elliston Perot Morris and Henry Cope and Alfred Cope Exors.

Henry Cope and Alfred Cope renounce right to act as Exors.

W. Bk 41/238

Deed

1836
3/4

Frances Perot, (Brewer) and Elizabeth M. h/w
to
Samuel B. Morris - (Gentleman)

Proms as next

Rec 3/8/1836
A.M. 74-240

Recited in A.M. 74-240

Whereas Isaac Franks, thenae of the City of Phila. Broker, by Ind. dated 4-28-1802 did grant and convey unto Elliston Perot and John Perot of C of P. Merchants in equal moieties as ten in com and not as joint tenants (proms as next dessd) recd in deed book - p - and whereas in pursuance and by virtue of Sundry proceedings in partition lately had and issued out of the District Court for the City and County of Phila wherein the sd John Perot was Plff and Samsom Perot and the sd Francis Perot and others were Defdts a Breve de partitioned Facienda thereupon issued and the return thereto by the Sheriff and an Inquest by him for that purpose summoned tested 1-7- last past the prems above dessd and intended to be hereby granted were (ia) assigned allotted and delivered unto the sd Francis Perot his h and a in severalty forever.

Deed

1802
4/28

e. 5468 Germantown Ave.

Isaac Franks (Broker)
to
Elliston Perot } (Merchants) as ten in com
John Perot }

Prems as next.

Rec D 34-41

Rec 4/30/1802
E.F. 9-161

Deed

1792
8/21

Mary Lewis } Exers u/w of David
Catharine Roberts } Deshler, (Merchant) dcad
John Horton }
to
Isaac Franks (Broker)

Prems as next

Rec. (60' of sd lot Geo. Bringhurst etux, etal to David Deshler H-(Vol 666)
Rec (40' of sd lot Ann Bringhurst etal to David Deshler H.(Vol 2-157)

Rec 6/2/1792
D 34-41

APPENDIX B*
DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE
FIRE INSURANCE POLICY SURVEYS
1774-1948

DAVID DESHLER, 1774, Philadelphia Contributionship For the Insurance of Houses From Loss By Fire, Policy No. 1745:

Survey'd

A House belonging to David Deshler situate on the southwest side of the main street in Germantown nearly opposite the market House 36 feet front & 35 feet deep. Two story high. 18 Inch stone walls three Rooms, an entry, and stair case on a floor; Rooms below all Finisht with a Brest, Tabernacle frame, & mantle, wainscoted pedistal high, and Double cornice round; Entry wainscoted pedistal High and double cornice; Lower floor doweled and narrow boards. Second story, each Room finisht with a Breast, a mantle on two of them, Subbace skirting & single cornice Round. Inside window shutters - Two story of Open Newel Stairs, the first wainscoted and Bracketed, the Second Bracketed and half Rail up the wall, the garret Plaistered - away out on the Roof and Iron Rails near each chimny, the Roof Painted with two coates - Modillion and Frett in the Front Eves, and plain Dorick Frontispiece, a Plain Cornice Back, and Balcony from the Second floor The whole Painted outside and inside even to the Garret, and Quite New

Sam Wetherell Jr.

2m. 1st. 1774

£ 500 - @ 30/ &c

*As copied in the historical research files, HDE, and in the files of the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

APPENDIX B

SAMUEL BUCKLEY MORRIS: 1839, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have Resurveyed the within described House for Samuel B. Morris - an addition made - viz - a Back building 16 feet by 30-1/2 feet - two stories high - Kitchen 16 feet by 17 ft one story high - the lower story of the first is divided in two rooms - the floor of 5/4" yellow pine plain base round, single mouldings - folding doors, painted, glass 8 by 10", outside shutters - The 2nd story in two rooms - floor of wide rough heart boards plain base round dbl architraves to one door - one large closet - glass 8 by 10" outside shutters - Kitchen floor of white pine, plain base, single mouldings - mantle shelf - & a dresser with sash doors shed roof - plastered cove eave tin gutters & pipe. a shingled shed over the Kitchen door - A Piazza back of the main house 9-1/2 feet by 21-1/2 feet - supported by two plain Columns - & a pilaster - plastered cieling - plain eave - & shingled roof. - floor of yellow pine. -

2 Mo. 9th. 1839 John C. Evans

Sam.l B. Morris

(endorsed: 1745 / David Deshler / Feb. 1, 1774 / now / Elliston & John Perot)

APPENDIX B

SAMUEL BUCKLEY MORRIS, 1845, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have Surveyed a Stone House & back buildings belonging to Samuel B. Morris, situate on the south west side of the main street in Germantown, opposite Church Lane -- The House being 36 feet front, 35 feet deep,-two sitting rooms-16 feet by 30-1/2 feet - all two stories high, Kitchen 16 feet by 17 feet, one story high. 18" stone walls. - The lower story of the main House is divided into a large Hall & staircase, & three rooms, - The floor of clean narrow yellow pine, base round, & all wainscotted, subbase high, double faced architraves to the doors, kneel'd at the top, & single architraves to the windows, pannel'd chimney breasts & breast closets. - plain mantles. - Glass 8 by 10" outside shutters. -- The 2nd Story in three (torn) _____ & wide passage - the floor of clean, narrow yellow pine, plain base & subbase round, single architraves, pannel'd chimney breasts, plain mangles & closets, - Glass 8 by 10in. - plain inside shutters. -- The garret in three rooms & passage - the floor of clean wide yellow pine, plain base & single architraves.-- two circular dormer windows in front - with fluted pilasters & pitch pediment. - Open Newel stairs leading from the Hall into the garret - with open string, plain brackets, turn'd ballusters & straight rail painted, - wainscotted one story. & half rail to the garret. -- Medillion & dentil Eave front, plain cornice back. tin gutters & pipe. - The lower story back, in two rooms, the floor of 5/4in yellow pine, plain base round, single mouldings, one mantle shelf.

(continued)

SAMUEL BUCKLEY MORRIS, 1845 and 1851, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

& large closet. - folding doors between the rooms, painted. -- Glass 8 by 10^{in} outside shutters. - - - The /2nd Story/ in two rooms, the floor of wide yellow pine boards plain base round, one sett of double architraves - one large, & 1 small closet in the corner. Glass 8 by 10^{in} outside shutters. - plastered cove Eave, tin gutter & pipe.-- Kitchen floor of com^{n} white pine, plain base. single beads - Mantle shelf - & dresser with sash doors. - Glass 8 by 10^{in} outside shutters. shed roof, with plain rails round - A balcony back of the southermost parlour - 9 ft. wide by 21 feet. Yellow pine floors. plastered ceiling turn'd ballusters & plain rail on the upper floor, - plain frieze & cornice supported by 2 plain Columns. & pilaster against the wall. --

10th Mo. 16th 1845 John C. Evans

Surveyor

Policy No. 6334 $D^{\frac{G}{-}}$ 2500 $D^{\frac{O}{-}}$ 55 /?/

Agreed to be correct

Saml B. Morris

I have examined a /Furnace/ lately built in the Cellar of the above described house which appears safely constructed /October 1^{t} 1851

D. R. Knight

Surveyor

APPENDIX B

SAMUEL BUCKLEY MORRIS, 1856, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have Resurveyed the annexed described Building & find the following alterations & additions viz. The one story Kitchen has been raised to two stories in height one side of the same being of wood & receding some 2½ feet back from the front of the Kitchen below with a plain wood-en Railing to the same. The Kitchen has been enlarged some 5 feet in depth of Brick, one story high, & that part Covered with tin. A Board shed over the door about 4½ feet by 6½ feet supported by 2 Brackets, also a shed of about 5 feet by 10 feet the end of which adjoins the Kitchen, In the Kitchen there is a Cooking Range, Iron Sink with hot and cold water & an additional dresser with doors & drawers

The second story (over the Kitchen) in one room, the floor of Common white pine, plain washboards & plain mouldings a Bath Tub lined with lead. Hot & Cold water & shower Bath enclosed with doors, & the wall lined above the tub. There is a galvanized Iron Boiler in this room which is connected with the cooking range below, one 20 light folding window the glass 6×8, & two 12 light windows as common the glass 8×10, outside venetian shutters. In the loft above opening to the Roof there is a Reservoir 6½ feet wide 2 feet deep & 17 feet long lined with Lead which supplies the Bath & Kitchen below, the Gas pipes are plastered in in the lower story main Building & Back Building

October 30th 1856 H. R. Knight, Surveyor

Agreed to be correct Elliston P. Morris

for Sam'l B. Morris

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON PEROT MORRIS, 1868, Mutual Assurance Company for Insuring Houses From Loss By Fire, Policy No. 7329:

Survey of Mr. Elliston P. Morris's Stone house & brick building situated on the South side of the Main street in Germantown opposite Church Lane No. 4782[5442]. Thirty six feet front. Thirty five feet deep, two sitting rooms 16ft by 30 1/2 feet all two stories high. Kitchen 16 by 17 feet one story high. 18 inch stone walls.

The lower story of main House is divided into a large Hall and stair-case and three rooms. The floors of clean narrow yellow pine base round, and all wainscirted, surbase high double faced architraves to the doors kneed at top, and single architrave to the windows, paneled chimney breasts and breast closets plain minutia [mantles]. Glass 8x10 outside shutters.

Second story in three rooms and wide passage. The floor of clear narrow yellow pine plain base and surbase round single architraves paneled chimney breasts plain mantles and closets Glass 8x10 plain inside shutters.

Garret in three rooms and passage The floor [of] clear wide yellow pine plain base and single architraves two circular dormer windows in front with flutted pilaster and pitch pediment. Open newel stairs leading from Hall into the garret open string plain brackets turned ballusters and straight rail painted wainscotted one story and half rail to garret Modillion and dental eave front, plain cornice back tin gutter and pipes. The lower story back in two rooms. The floor 5/4" yellow pine, plain base around single mouldings one mantle shelf and large closet folding doors between the rooms. Glass 8x10 outside shutters.

Second story in two floor of wide yellow pine boards base around. one sett of double architraves. one large and small closet in the corner. glass 8x10 outside shutters. plastered cove eave in gutter and pipe.

Kitchen floor of common white pine plain base single heads mantle shelf and dresser with sash doors glass 8x10 outside shutters shed roof with plain rail around, A balcony porch [back] of the Southern most parlour 9 feet wide by 22 feet yellow pine floor plastered ceiling, turned ballasters and plain rail on the upper floor, plain frieze and cornice supported by 2 plain columns and pilasters against the walls.

Following alterations and additions. The one story kitchen has been revised to two stories in height one side of the same being wood and residing some 2 1/2 feet back from the front of the kitchen below with a plain wooden railing to same. The kitchen has been enlarged some 5 feet in depth of brick one story high and that part covered with tin a board shed over the door about 4 1/2 feet by 6 1/2 feet supported by 2 brackets also a shed of about 5 feet by 10 feet the end of which adjoins the kitchen. In kitchen there is a cooking range Iron sink with hot and cold water, an additional dresser with doors and drawers. Second story over kitchen in one room the floor of common white pine plain wash board and plain moulding a bath tub lined with head hot and cold water and shower bath enclosed with doors and the walls lined above the Tub - There is a Galvernized Iron boiler in this room which is connected with the cooking range below one twenty light folding window the glass 6x8 and two 12 light window as common the glass 8x10 outside vinetion shutters. In the loft above opening to the roof there is a reservoir 6 1/2 feet wide. 2 feet deep and 17 feet long lined with lead which supplies the bath and kitchen bel[illegible] The gas pipes are plastered in in the lower story main and back building. furnance in cellar. The above is copied from a survey in the Contribution Insurance Office [Policy No. 6334; 10th Mo. 16th 1845; John C. Evans Surveyor] George W. Wharton

May 13 1868 Turn over

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1868, Mutual Assurance Co., Policy No. 7329:

On viewing the within described property I find a one story part brick office[?]-proof rolling blinds erected and adjoining said premises 16 ft 4 in by 14 ft 4 hiped roof most plain wood cornice tin roof and conductor brick work two sides 3 feet from ground rolling blinds above same Two doors rolling blinds above panels below one 12 light window frame 12 glass 10x12 sash double hung vinction blinds or shutter to [illegible word] walls painted brick floor ceiling plastered
On further examination I find the following improvements and alterations Dining room wash boards moulding on same Marble mantle closet shelved Hinge drawers 6 panel door to same double worked finish around doors and windows 4 inch moulding wide jambs and beads to Doors and windows sill & [illegible word]. Two doorways to yard, on outside panel door, 5 panels in each door. Sash door in two parts on inside 4 glass in each 12x16 panels below Passage way to kitchen 2 Closets shelved 2 Six panel doors double worked.
Two 6 panel double worked one to dining room the other to kitchen finish around doors and window same as dining room. Kitchen one dresser 4 ledge doors 2 drawers one closet shelved 2 ledge doors one six panel door to cellar double worked finish around doors and windows 3 inch moulding one sash door 9 glass 9 1/2 x 15 1/2 panels below

Bathroom water closet china receiver seat risers and lid necessary fixtures to same from nursury to passage way or door way 6 panel doors double worked [illegible word] 18[?] to passage way steps and risers.
Roof covered with tin with exception of front on Germantown pike.

George W. Wharton
May 13th 1868.

Note There is a Malsinger furnace in the front Cellar and a Similar One in rear building. Also the lead bath tub has been removed, and a planished copper one in its stead, & in the Kitchen a Soap Stone sink taked the place of the Iron one, the hydrant in ~~ex~~ out Kitchen is a double one.

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1868, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have resurveyed the annexed described premises, being now No. 4782 Germantown Avenue, 22nd Wards, and find the following alterations and additions &c.

The Lower Story Back has been made into one Large room, Dairy, pantry and China closets (3 doors 2 drawers and dresser with 4 doors are in said closets) door frame in east side with folding sash 4 lights glass 12x16 inches and outside panel shutters - a slate mantel with fire place and register has been put up. also a new hearth & also stairs from the white pine steps - part wainscot from the first to the second story the same

Tin Roof - 2 hot air furnaces of "Mattinger Bros" make has been put in the cellars which appears to be safe - there are 2 windows on east side with folding sash 12 lights glass 8x10 inches - 2 brick piers each 17 inches square have been put up under front first - The back part of the roof of main house and also all the roofs of back buildings have been covered with Tin - a dormer window with ridge Tin roof - 12 light glass 10x15½ inches double hung has been put in back roof of main house. 16 feet

A one story wash house has been erected back - 15 feet access 13 feet 9 inches deep, with tin roof, wood cornice and plastered ceiling rough [illegible] 3 feet 9 inches wide on the west side and 2 feet 9 inches high on the North and glass 10x12 inches double hung, and venetian outside shutters - 2 brick floors and one hydrant

May 15. 1868 — Jas. N. Campbell, for
Daniel R. Knight - Surveyor
Agreed to be correct

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1871, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

The owner states that the bath tub line with lead described in the Survey dated 11 Mo 30 1858 has been removed and a bath tub lined with planished copper substituted; also, that the Survey dated 5 Mo 15 1866 describes a Hydrant which is a double one.

6 Mo 2 1871

Agreed to be correct

Elliston P. Morris

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1884, Mutual Assurance Policy No. 7329:

The following Alterations have been made.

Second story back building. Wash room finished with walnut caps. lining boards &c. one window at rear end removed. Sash door one light of plate glass 22' by 32' twenty four ditto 5 by 5' in ditto, inside walnut shutters in place thereof.

A second story over out Kitchen 9ft by 18ft 6' one side and end of frame plane & groved boards covered with feth [?] and outside with red wood octagon shingles. other side brick. Tin roof & gutters wood cornice. Pilasters reeded and beaded with moulded cap outside of windows. story divided into Two rooms. 8/4 sash door, one light of plate glass 22 by 26' eight lights 5 by 5'. panel slide inside iron sink wood sink and water. one wood mantle shelf. one side of one room finished with drawers. closets and shelves. moulded skirting. Doors & Windows finished with 4' reeded & beaded Architraves. one onelight window glass 13 by 17'. one light of ruby & one ditto white plate. one Twin window. Two sash in each with center glass 14 by 20'. eight side lights 5 by 5' double hung. one window sash hung and on hinges, diamond chassed glass. one wood mantle shelf. one closet. 5/4 five panel ditto. stairway & closets enclosed by planed & groved boards. one small closet over top of stairs and one ditto over large closet.

(Continued)

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1884, Mutual Assurance Co. Policy No. 7329:

First story out Kitchen, ceiling lined with planed & groved boards. straight stairs to second Story. plank horses. yellow pine steps. under part of horses & side enclosed by planed & groved boards. rail at top. All of Roofing now of Tin. two galvanized iron ventelators on top. for ventelating garret. Cellar doors steps to cellar sash door at foot. 12 lights of glass 12 by 16:

A one story brick privy. 10 ft. 6' by 10 ft 6! Tin roof. wood cornice. Divided into four apartments. Two of ditto with one large & one small hole. & two of ditto with two large and one small hole with lids. four windows 6 light sash glass 8 by 10' hung on hinges venetian shutters. beaded skirting. Doors & Windows finished with 2' Mouldings ledge & panel doors.

Rough board fence 6 ft high with posts on all sides of yard. Link fence at street 6 ft high. 4 by 4' red cedar posts 4 by 4' top and bottom rail. 7/4 & 1/2' planed & groved fence boards. d° top. panel gate. iron grating panel, slide hung on hinges. large gate hung on strap hinges. latch and dead latch. It is agreeded that this insurance covers fences & privy, provided the other perpetual insurance also doors.

Alfred Ogden
Surveyor
Mar. 27. 1884

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1887, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have Resurveyed the annexed described premises and find that a Building 6 ft 2 in wide, by 18 ft 6 in deep, Two Stories high, has been built over the Wash-House described in Resurvey dated 5 March 1884 the 2d Story of the new Structure being in common with and a part of the Wash-House, Two sides of the new part are sheathed Roof, in form of Shingles, with moulded ends, and placed Vertically as provided in wooden framing, A Stick ladder partly inclosed leads from the Wash House to the Second Story, a paneled door at Lozenge shaped window at head of

(Continued)

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1887, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

Second Floor divided into 2 rooms, with no communication, Yellow pine floors, Moulded base, One single light 22x26 dc door, with 8 light 7x8½ border-lights. Two windows, each with two 14x20 sash lights and sixteen 3½ by ⅞ in border-lights, 3 in Architraved. Three closets with panelled doors, and two small closets with battened doors above stairs from first story; a recess in one room finished. A small fire place in each room, slanting in 2nd story, No register.

Bath room. A window at the end of the room has been removed, the opening enlarged, and a single light 22x31 in door, with 12 border lights each above and below it, placed in the opening. Two risers from the floor of room to sill of door.

Dec 6 1887 Louis Moore, Surveyor

The owner does not use open sink with cold water in 2nd story.

2 Nov 1888 E. P. Morris

Agreed to be correct
Elliston P. Morris.

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1890, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have examined the annexed described premises & find in addition open fire place with iron back & jambs & soap stone hearth, with brick & enameled tile hearth in front 19½" by [illegible] iron has been constructed in one of the front rooms in attic & is piped safe.

Dec. 9. '90. Wm. N. Frazier, Surveyor.

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1909, Contributionship Policy No. 6334:

I have ~~examined~~ Reexamined the above and find a 2 1/2 brick extension (plastered on the outside) about 19' × 6' forming a short passage and toilet on 1st floor, a bath room on 2nd and another bath on the 3rd floor. Adjoining this is a small flue for the new gas water heater in Cellar.

There is a clothes closet in short passage.

Toilet has tile floor and wainscot, porcelain wash basin and closet, hard wood seat, lid and tank covering.

Bath in 2nd floor has tile floor and wainscot, porcelain wash basin, closet and tank coveding, enamelled seat and lid, enamelled bath tub and large cl[illegible] clothes closet. 2 small closets one either side of door to bath.

Bath in 3rd has tile floor and wainscot, small sized porcelain wash basin, closet of porcelain, hard wood seat, lid and tank covering, an enamelled iron [illegible] tub and a large clothes closet with drawers.

Adjacent to this is a 1 story brick extension 7' × 7', adjoining the latter is a 3 story brick extension 7' × 28 1/2' and adjoining this one 7' × 36'. All of these are on the West side and plastered on outside.

In the Cellar one heater has been replaced by a hot water heating boiler. There is also a small boiler for heating the conservatory, a new cellar-way with wooden steps, a provision closet, and hand elevator in brick shaft with doors on each floor and a wire-glass skylight in metal frames, electric wires in pipes, and a new stairway to 1st floor.

1st floor part of West wall in dining room torn out making arched openings into new section also new closets built.

The pantry also is enlarged and 2 new wood dressers, copper sink with nickle plated faucets, wood drip board, marble splasher and rough opaque glass in windows.

The kitchen has enamelled iron sink, wood drip, tiled floor and wainscot about sink; and a new cupboard. There are 3 soapstone wash trays with [illegible]ced lids, hot and cold faucets. Water closet with marble under porcelain bowl, hard wood seat & lid and tank covering.

2nd floor rear has a passage with 2 large linen closets and a hopper closet. Bath room with wood wainscot, enamelled iron bath tub, porcelain bowl and hard wood seat, lid and tank covering.

Room over the dining room enlarged by removing wall and a very large closet built in.

The roof has been raised over middle section of rear and 3 windows added.

The old bath room in 2nd floor now has a marble top wash stand and closet with hard wood seat, lid and tank covering, both with modern plumbing.

Cellar has concrete floor throughout.

Feb. 28, 1909. Burton D. Blair, Surveyor.

Agreed to be Correct.
Elliston P. Morris.

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1909, Mutual Assurance Policy 7329:

Survey of the Three Story brick rough cast Additions to the property of Mr. Elliston P Morris situated on the west side of Main Street No 5442 Germantown. Dimensions 7[10] by 64[10] and 6[12]" by 19[12]". These brick additions are built on the North end of the property with Openings to the same through the old Original wall. Constructed in a very substantial Manner. Plastered throughout-, Tin roofs. Copper rain conductors. Brick Elevator shaft with with skylight top of rough hammered glass. Freight elevator running from basement to attic with all the necessary ropes pulleys and safety devices. Heated by hot water-gas and electric lights. All underdrained

First floor front a Toilet and Cloak room. Two windows D.H. sash 12 Lts 8 by 9 am glass. Inside shutters four fold with iron gratings outside 6 panel doors. Oak floor in cloak room. Large closet with shelves and hooks. Toilet room has tile floor side walls tiled with glazed tiles 55" high. One porcelain water closet with low tank. Oak seat &Lid. One porcelain pedestal washstand. Nichel plated fixtures all of good quality. 6" architrave 8" Moulded base. Brass hardware.

Two small rooms connected with dining room with Elevator shaft in centre. One window each D.H. Sash one light 30" by 30". 6 Ditto 10" by 10 in each sash. One circular head Opening from dining room to each small room with plain pilaster finish with moulded base & Cap Yellow pine floor.

One Pantry. One window D.H. Sash One Lt-20" by 20 1/2 Six Ditto 10" by 10". Inside blinds 4 fold. Two Dressers 67" long 9[12]" High with 20" ash counter shelf four doors with two panel each: four Ditto with one panel each. two drawers each bronze locks and pulls

one copper planished sink 18" by 20" with ash drip board 24" by 81" with marble splash 12" nichel plated plumbing.

One Pantry. one window casement sash four Lts 10" by 12" each am glass Bronzed hardware. Inside shutters 6-fold. one closet in two parts with three doors one panel each hinged.

One closet one 6 panel doors 4" architrave 8" Moulded base

One Pantry. One window same as above. Tile floor. One enameled sink with splash 20" by 32" with ash drip board. the space back of same 24" by 69" tiled 5 feet high. H & C water

Laundry. One window casement sash 4 Lts same as above. One sash door 9 Lts 9" by 14" am glass. One Ditto One Lt-20" by 30". One three part Stationary wash trays with Lids. H & C water

Small Toilet room with small window one porcelain water closet with low down tank on slate slab 30" by 32".

Plain Open yellow pine stairs to Cellar. 7 areas with blue stone curb. Iron gratings with sash and screens. One Opening from yard to Cellar. blue stone face wood cellar Doors. heavy horses and yellow pine steps. One wood hanging shelf one Ditto Marble

One Rudd hot water Heater

econd Story Back

ne Bathroom. One window one Lt 16 1/2" by 25". 6 Ditto 8" by 8" Inside blinds 4 fold. room wainscoted with tongue & grooved boards w pine 50" High. One enameled bathtub. One porcelain water closet and tank Oak seat and lid Nichel plated fixtures. yellow pine floor 4" architrave

One small room 22" by 28' Tile floor side walls tiled 5 feet high. One enameled stop hopper H&C water.

APPENDIX B

ELLISTON P. MORRIS, 1909, Mutual Assurance Policy No. 7329:

One Pantry with two windows same as above. One Linen closet fitted up with shelves. Doors. Closets etc. Two small Closets.
Two windows one light 21" by 31'. 6 Ditto 10" by 10" am glass in each
Second Story front
Two windows DH Sash one light 24 1/2" by 30 1/2" Six Ditto 10" by 12" in each am glass
One closet shelved.
Bathroom. Three windows D.H. Sash 18 Lts 8" by 8 1/2" am glass. Inside blinds 4 fold. Bronze Hardware. One roll rim enamel bathtub. one porcelain water closet with low tank. One porcelain pedestal washstand 24" by 34" Tile floor side walls tiled 61" High with glazed tile. One closet. brass hardware. 5" architrave room finished in white enamel.
Third Story front. Bathroom.
One sash door one light 23" by 55" plate glass. Three windows. DH Sash 12 Lts each 8" by 10" am glass. Inside blinds 4 fold. One front window circular head 9" by 12" glass 5 cut to pattern. One enameled Bathtub
One porcelain water closet-with low down tank. Cherry seat & lid. One porcelain washstand 20" by 24" H. C. water. Nickel plated plumbing. One Large closet.
Third story. Loft or store room
Three windows. Yellow pine closed stairway etc
All the plumbing is of fine quality all the work is in Keeping with the Original Building

Walter Tryday Surveyor
April 29th 1909

INSPECTED APR 22 1912 THIS BUILDING REMAINS AS PER SURVEY.
Walter Tryday
SURVEYOR.

APPENDIX B

ELIZABETH CANBY MORRIS, 1940, Mutual Assurance Policy No. 7329:

DATE..10.21.1940.. POLICY NO....7329.....ASSURED... ELIZABETH CANBY MORRIS.....

THE SEVERAL CLAUSES SET OUT BELOW ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED INTO AND MADE A PART OF THIS POLICY; IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS THE POLICY REMAINING UNCHANGED.

1. PERMISSIONS GRANTED

OTHER INSURANCE. Permission is hereby granted for other insurance without notice until required.

WORK AND MATERIALS CLAUSE. Permission is hereby granted for such use of the premises as is usual and incidental to the occupancy herein described and to keep and use all such appliances, devices, articles and materials, including such materials as are prohibited by the printed conditions of this policy, in such quantities as are usual and incidental to such occupancy, provided, however, that the foregoing permission shall not be construed to permit the storage of gasoline motor ~~gx~~ vehicles, and is granted subject to the conditions of any automobile warranty which may be attached to this policy.

MISCELLANEOUS. Permission is also granted without further notice for the building ~~kaxe~~ hereby insured to remain unoccupied or vacant; to use electric current; to use fuel oil ~~fo~~ for heating; and to make such alterations, additions and repairs as do not increase the hazard, and this policy to cover thereon.

2. CONDITION OF BUILDING

If the building described herein become untenantable by reason of neglect of the Assured or if the building or any part thereof fall except as the result of fire, then the insurance under this policy shall immediately cease.

3. ACTS OF WAR, EXPLOSION

This policy does not insure against loss caused directly or indirectly by Acts of War, Invasion, Insurrection, Riot, Civil War or Commotion, or military or usurped power, or by order of any Civil Authority other than as provided under Item ~~2~~ 4 below; or losses caused by explosion, unless fire ensues, & in that event for the damage by fire only.

4. ACTS OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

This policy covers direct loss and damage to the described property caused by acts of destruction executed by order of duly constituted civil authority during a conflagration to retard the spread thereof, provided, however, the ~~same~~ conflagration is not caused directly or indirectly by or ~~indi~~ incident to: war, invasion or other warlike operations (whether war be declared or not); riot, insurrection, or civil commotion; military or usurped power; subject, moreover, to all the other terms and conditions of this policy. This Company shall not be liable, however, for more than the amount for which it would have been liable had the loss been caused by fire.

APPENDIX B

ELIZABETH CAREY MORRIS, 1940, Mutual Assurance Co. Policy No. 7329:

5. APPORTIONMENT OF LOSS

This company shall not be liable for a greater proportion of any loss under this policy than the amount hereby insured shall bear to the whole insurance whether ~~a~~ valid or not, and whether collectible or not.

6. LIGHTNING

1. Except as hereinafter provided, this policy also covers direct loss or damage to the property described in this policy caused by lightning (meaning thereby the commonly accepted use of the term "Lightning" and in no case to include loss or damage caused by cyclone, tornado or windstorm) whether fire ensues or not.

2. If electrical appliances or devices of any kind are covered under this policy, this company shall not be liable for any electrical injury or disturbance to the said electrical appliances or devices, whether from artificial or natural causes unless fire ensues, but if fire does ~~xxx~~ ensue, then, in consideration of the rate of premium at which this policy is written, this company shall be liable for its proportion of loss or damage caused by such ensuring fire.

3. It is also a condition of this policy that if there be other fire insurance upon the property covered, this company shall be liable only for such proportion of any direct loss or damage caused by fire or by lightning as the amount of this policy bears to the whole amount of fire insurance applying, whether such other insurance contains a similar clause or not.

4. The liability of this company for any or all of the hazards covered under the [illegible] the amount stated in this policy and except ~~xx~~ as specified herein shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions of this policy.

APPENDIX B

ELIZABETH CANBY MORRIS, 1951, Mutual Assurance Co. Policy No. 7329:

RE-SURVEY
POLICY NO. 7329

MARTHA CANBY MORRIS, Owner for Life,
then to ELIZABETH CANBY MORRIS.

On plastered stone, brick and frame dwelling house situate No. 5442 Germantown Avenue, Germantown, Philadelphia, Penna.

AMOUNT $2,500 @ 2% = $50.00

Policy Cancelled Jan. 5, 1951

DATE OF POLICY October 23, 1867

APPENDIX C *
DESHLER HOUSE PAINT BILL, 1772-3

Mr. David Deshler to David Dominick D:

1772 May	5	to gilding 1 Gr of Colours				15	
June	16	to Do. ¼ Gr of Do.				3	9
	25	to Do. 1 Gr of Do.				15	
		Days Work.	Days Work.	Days Work.			
May	6	to 1 at 7/	1 at 6/	1 at 5/		18	
June	17 18	to 2 at 7/	2 at 6/	2 at 5/	1	16	
	26 27	to 2 at 7/	2 at 6/	2 at 5/	1	16	
July	10 11	to 2 at 7/	2 at 6/	2 at 5/	1	16	
	17	to	1 at 6/			6	
Sep	10 11	to 2 at 7/	2 at 6/	2 at 5/	1	16	
Dec	10	to	1 at 6/			6	
1773 Jan	17	to	1 at 6/			6	
		to Painting 516 yards Done 3 times at 9			19	7	
		to Do. 11 Do. Done 2 times at 6			2	15	6
		to Do. 41 Do. Done 1 time at 3				10	3
		to Do. 61 Do. of Mohagony at 1/			3	1	
		to ½ ℔ of Rose-pinck				2	
		to 3 ℔ of Stone-Ocker at 8				2	
		at Germantown.					
1774 July	11	to Painting 40 yards Done 2 times at 6			1		
		to Do. 111 Do. Done 1 time at 3			1	7	9
		to Do. 30 Lights at ½				1	3
		to 1 ℔ of Span: Brown Paint 1/ & glasing 1 Light 1/				2	
		at Philadelphia.			£	39	2 6

* From collections of Germantown Historical Society.

APPENDIX D
DESHLER FAMILY ADVERTISEMENTS
FOR SALE OF HOUSE
1782 and 1792

Pennsylvania Gazette, April 24, 1782, p. 2, column 3:

TO BE SOLD

A HOUSE AND LOT, situate on the west side of the main street in Germantown, an airy, high situation, commanding an agreeable prospect of the adjacent country. The house is 45 feet front, and 40 feet deep, 2 stories high, 4 rooms on a floor, all finished in the most elegant manner; there are also suitable back buildings, all in good order, and a pump of excellent water in the yard. The lot contains about two acres, on which is an orchard of the best grafted fruit of various kinds, and a large garden pailed in. Any person inclining to purchase may be informed of the terms, by applying to the subscriber, in Philadelphia.

David Deshler

(as copied for research notes at IHDE)

Dunlap's Advertiser, April 14, 1792

To be Sold, Pursuant to the last Will and Testament of David Deshler, late of the City of Philadelphia, deceased, A House and Lot of Ground, Situate on the west side of the main street in Germantown, about 6 miles from the city. The house being 40 feet front, 45 feet deep, 2 Stories high, 3 rooms on a floor, exclusive of a large hall in which is the staircase, the whole finished in an elegant manner, and in complete order, with convenient back buildings 2 stories high, a stable and chair-house, and a pump in the yard. The lot is 100 feet front on the said street, and about 800 feet deep, containing a great variety of the best grafted fruit trees, a large garden inclosed with pails. The situation is high and pleasant, commanding an agreeable prospect of the adjacent ground. Whoever inclines to purchase may know the terms by applying to Joseph. Feree, esq. near the premises, or to the subscribers in Philadelphia, John Morton, Mary Lewis, Catherine Roberts, executors.

(from Newspaper Items, p. 147)

APPENDIX E*

DAVID DESHLER, GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENTS, 1783-1792

1783-	David Deshler - 2 acres & dwelling	£650
1785-	David Deshler - 2 acres & dwelling	£600
1786-	David Deshler - 2 acres & dwelling	£450
1787-	David Deshler - 2 acres & dwelling	£450
1788-	David Deshler - 2 acres & dwelling	£450
1791-	David Deshler - 2 1/2 acres & dwelling	£500
	1/4 acre & dwelling	£182
1792-	David Deshler - 2 1/4 acres & dwelling	£682

ISSAC FRANKS, GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENTS, 1793-4

1793-	Isaac Franks (Broker)	
	2 acres & dwelling	£600
	1 horse	£ 10
	1 cow	£ 4
	30 oz. plate	£ 12
	1 chair	£ 15
	personal	£ 60
		£701
1794-	Isaac Franks (Broker)	
	2 acres & dwelling	£600
	1 horse	£ 40
	1 light waggon	£ 40
	30 oz. plate	£ 12
	personal	£ 60
		£722

* As copied for research notes, INDE.

APPENDIX F*
WASHINGTON'S HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT BOOK
EXCERPTS FROM 1793 and 1794

November 11th 1793.

Sundries	Dr to Cash	
Saml Fraunces, delivd to him at the Bank of the U. S. on accot of the President from 10 Sept to 6th inst	180.	
Do pd him in full of his weekley accot to the day	13.33	
Contingt Exps pd for sundry articles while in Virginia for the President's accot as per Memo book	61.67	
Do pd for Ditto as per do	5.22	
Do pd for a quire of paper, Inkstand &c at Germantown	.46	
Do pd for making a Coatee and overalls for Lewis List	1.34	
House Exps pd Lewis List on accot wages while at Alexa to buy a pr hose	.82	
Do pd Mary Bailey 2 mos wages . .	10.	
By Dandridge pd for sundry articles for him at Alexa	18.67	291.51
Cash Dr to the Treas. of the U. States recd for accot of the President . . .		2000.
Cash Dr to the President, recd at Mt Vernon		86.88

16th

Sunds	Dr to Cash	
House Exps pd Lewis List 2 mos wages	14.	
Contg Exps pd travelling Exps in a trip to Lebanon and Lancaster	29.17	43.17

18th

Sund's	Dr to Cash	
House Exps pd Fred Herman in full for 1½ weeks board & lodging of the President & B D—Candles etc per rect .	37.94	
Do pd John Merkel for board and lodging Lewis & Austin 1½ weeks—and for washing	15.82	
Contg Exp pd Christ Wirtz for cloth and trimmings for stable suit for Lewis	5.27	59.03

20th

Sundries	Dr to Cash	
Contgt Exps. pd for putting a lock on the door of the Presidents room at Ger.town	.13	
House Exps. pd Patty Channing a mos wages	5.	
Do pd. Jos Burke a mos wages . . .	7.	12.13

* From, "Washington's Household Account Book, 1793-1797," Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography 30 (1901), 46-51, 159, 172, 181, 313-321,323. 166-7,

21st

House Exps. Dr. to Cash
Pd. for a bottle of old Spirits 38

22nd

Sund's. Dr. to Cash
House Exps pd for a doz eggs 16
Contg[t] Exps pd. Wm Bringhurst sent by M[r] Randolph express to Col[o] Franks at Nazareth with a letter relative to renting his house in Germantown for the Presid[t]. . . . 15.67 15.83

23rd

Sundry Exps. Dr to Cash
Saml Fraunces deliv'd him the 20 inst to discharge sundry bills bro't in during the Presidents absence 78.73
Do. delivered him this day to purchase sundries for the house . . . . . 73.
Do delivered him this day to purchase sundries for the House 166.48
Stable Exps pd for 15 bush of oats . . 5.
Do pd Christ Kauck for Oats & bran furnished during the Presidents absence 11.87
Contg't Exps. pd J Phile for sundry articles of clothing for the Dutch girls 28.35
Do pd Mary Hawkins for whitewashing the house 15.20
House Exps pd Dean Timmons a bill for Soap & Candles 29.58 408.21

26th

House Exps Dr. to Cash
P'd for 10¼ cords Hickorywood and warfage 60.59

27th

Sundries Dr to Cash
House Expenses pd. P. Kennedy on accot wages . . . . . 3.
Do pd Jno Shee Esq. treasurer of the City a years rent, due the 1st Oct. last for the House occupied by the President 1333.33
Stable Exps pd for 30 bush Oats . . . 10. 1346.33
Cash, Dr to the Treasury of the U. S. rec'd for the Presidents use . . . . 1000.

28th

House Exps Dr to Cash
pd Wm Bockius per accot in full for dinners liquors etc furnished at Germantown as per rect 50.46
pd for sawing and carrying in 2¾ wood 1.38 51.84

29th

House Exps Dr to Cash
pd for ¾ cord hickory wood bot the 19th inst 4.25

NOVEMBER 1793

30th

Sundries Dr to Cash

Contingt Exps pd. for 2 pair hose for Austin	1.50	
House Exps. pd Geo. Bringhurst for Indian Corn for the fowls at Germantown	2.00	
Do pd Dᵈ Meridith in full for Bread furnished for the House in Germantown	3.07	6.57

DECEMBER 1793

4th

Sunds Dr. to Cash

Stable Exps pd. for 2 Shovels	2.	
Conting Exps pd for bringing Miss Custis Harpsichord from the Custom House	3.50	
Do deliv'd the President to send to Mrs Washington on her way from Virginia	50.	
Do pd Ch: Byerly for cooking done to the 23 Nov	4.67	
Do Thomas Passmore for the work done to 23ᵈ Nov	1.61	61.78

JANUARY 1794

2nd

Sundries Dʳ to Cash.

Conting't Exps. pd for Jenning's Evidence of the Chr Religion and the Klopstock's Messiah for Mrs. Washington	1.75	
Contingt Exps. gave the carrier of Dunlap's paper	1.—	
Dᵒ p'd for sundry tables of fedᵒ money	.38	
Dᵒ gave the carrier of the Penna. Gazette	.50	
Dᵒ gave Watchman	3.—	
Dᵒ gave the carrier of Bache's paper	1.	
Dᵒ p'd the Trustees of the University of Penna for the tuition of G. W. P. Custis	2.	
Stable Exp's pd. Jos. Ferree for stabling horses at Germantown	24.64	
Dᵒ pd do for Milk furnished at Germantown	.53	34.80

FEBRUARY 1794

----19th-----

pd. Chas Taus in full for tuning
Miss N. Custis Forte piano .17

MARCH 1794

----- 1st---------

Contg't Exp p'd Adam Franks
for dress'g the President 4
times .80

-----26th---------

Contg't Exp's
Delivd. Lau. A. Washington to
byy a p's linen etc 25.62
Paid Isaac Franks in full for
house rent etc at Germantown 75.56 101.18

MAY 1794

----21st-----

Contg't Exp's. p'd. for a pc
of Music (Lullaby) for
Nelly Custis by order .25

----23rd-------

Contg't Exp's p'd Mrs. Groom-
bringe for instructing Miss
Nelly Custis in embroidery 12.29

30th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

Contgt Exps pd Chat for sund's for Mrs Washington per bill	3.00	
D°. delivd to Mrs Washington	20.00	
D°. delivd to Lan A. Washington to bear his expenses to Virginia	30.	
D°. delivd to the President	10.	
Stable Exps pd Wm. Crouch for 15 tons of Hay to be delivered as wanted	280.	343.00

August 1st

Sundries Dr to Cash

House Exps. p'd Jas André a mos wages	8.00	
D°. p'd Jno Greene a mos wages	11.00	
D°. pd Lewis List 3 mos wages	24.00	
D°. pd for mutton and potatoes	1.25	
Stable Exp's. pd for 2 bush Oats 4/6	1.20	
Contgt Exps. pd for 2 chain pots	.37	45.82

4th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

House Exps for ½ bushl Indian meal	.53	
Stable Exp's. for bush bran	.40	.93

5th

Sundries Dr to Cash

Contgt Exps. p'd for mending 2 tables	.75	
D°. p'd Jacob Freitz for a cow and calf	43.33	
House Exps. p'd for 24 beef 16/a q^{r} veal 7/10 1 q^{r} Lamb 3/9 Eggs 1/9 Vegetables 2/7	4.33	48.41

6th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

House Exps. pd Ann Emerson on ac't wages	10.	
Contgt Exps. p'd for 2 milk pails	.40	10.40

7th

House Exps. Dr to Cash.

p'd for Vegetables and eggs		1.00

8th

House Exps. Dr to Cash.

p'd for 1 qr lamb 5/3 28 beef 20/ vegetables 8' 4 watermelons 7/6		4.60

9th

Sundries Dr. to Cash

House Exps. p'd for cabbage beans eggs & cucumbers	1.25	
Ditto p'd Jacob Baur on acco't of wages	120.	
D°. p'd by (J. G.) Fanny	7	
Frank for 4 days work	2.14	
D°. p'd (by do) for sawing wood	75	
James Germain—deliv'd him to purchase sund's for the house	259.34	
Contgt Exps pd. (by J. G.) for a pr. shoes for Davy & 2 pr for the Dutch girls	3.13	
Stable Exps for 9 bush bran	3.52	390.13
Contgt Exp's p'd I. C. Moller for teaching Miss Custis & for sundry articles per bill		125.27
Cash dr. to the Treasury of the U. S. Rec'd on accot of the Presidents Compensation		1000.

11th

Contingt Exps Dr to Cash.

p'd for bleeding Dutch girl	.20	
p'd for three milk pans	.25	.45

AUGUST 1794

12th

Sundries Dr. to Cash.

House Exp's p'd for Eggs & vegetables . .	.90	
D° 1 barrel of potatoes	.67	
Contg't Exp's. p'd for putting a shelf in Mrs. W'n room by her desire . . .	.60	
D°. p'd for making table cloths etc . .	1.80	3.97

14th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

Contingt Exp's. p'd M & Mrs Groombridge for instructing Miss Nelly Custis in embroidery & drawing . .	15.94	
D°. p'd Thomas Palmer for shoes for D°.	2.67	
House Exp's. p'd Mary Bailey a mos wages	5.00	23.61

15th.

Sundries Dr to Cash

House Exp's p'd for 10 lbs beef 5/10 Eggs & vegetables 8/8 Indian Corn 6 . . .	2.00	
Contingt Exp's. for a pr of shoes for Hercules	1.50	
Stable Exp's. for 600 wt of Hay . . .	6.00	9.50

AUGUST 1794

16th

Sundries Dr to Cash

Contingt Exp's for hauling two loads of furniture from Phila to Germantown	6.00	
D°. pd for No 37 of Careys Geog'y for the President and Mrs W	.50	
House Exp's. p'd Patty Channing wages in full to this day	9.00	
D°. p'd for 3 cords of Hickory wood . .	18.00	
D°. p'd butchers bill for the last week .	15.40	
Stable exp's. p'd for a bush. of bran . .	.38	49.28

19th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

House exp's. p'd for 29 lb beef 2 1/2 vegeables 5/4 1 butter 1/8	3.84	
D°. for 1 bl. Indian corn meal	1.07	
Stable Exp's. p'd for one bl of chop't rye & 2 bar'l bran	1.25	6.16

AUGUST 1794

21st

House Exp's. Dr. to Cash

p'd for 16 lb of beef	1.42	
Vegetables	.75	
1 butter pat	40	2.57

22nd

Contingt Exp's. Dr to Cash.

Exp's for keeping Martin in the work-house for misbehaviour 16 days	2.14	
P'd boatmen for taking German servants to & from the ship for the President to look at	.75	
Pd Cap Chris. Franklin for the passage etc. of John Klein for which he is to serve three years	57.10	
for drawing Indentures	1.00	60.99

23rd

Contgt Exps Dr to Cash.

Gave Oney to buy a pr of shoes, by order		1.25

25th

Sundries Dr to Cash

Contgt Exps. pd for a pr of shoes for Geo. W. Custis	1.00	
House Exps. pd for 4½ doz Eggs 5/7 1/2 vegetables 1/4 1/2 Damsons 3/9	1.50	2.50

26th

Contingt Exps. Dr to Cash

delivd to Mrs. Washington to pay M. Whitlock for filling Miss El. Custis teeth		12.00

AUGUST 1794

28th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

House exps. pd for 17 of butter @ 25c	4.25	
2½ doz eggs	.37	
buns	.06	
Contingt Exps. gave a poor man—by order	1.00	
Gave Baur to buy a stick of pomatum for Mrs. W-n	.25	5.93

29th

House Exps. Dr to Cash

pd for 11 lb of beef 8/3 vegetables peaches	1.87	
1 bl potatoes	.67	
Salt	.25	2.79

30th

Sundries Dr to Cash

Stable Exps. pd per 700 Hay	7.00	
House Exps. pd for 16 lb beef 12/a p° do for soap 2/ Cucumbers 5c	1.93	8.93

September 1st.

House Exps Dr to Cash.

pd for liver	.20	
8 lb beef & leg	1.00	
Vegetables	.52	1.72
Cash—Dr to the Treasury of the U. S. Recd on accot of the Presidents compensation		1000.

2nd

Sundries Dr to Cash		
Stable Exp pd for 3 bs bran and one of rye	1.60	
Contgt Exp. gave a poor woman by order	.25	1.85

3rd

House Exps Dr. to Cash		
pd. for 8 lb beef & a leg of do	1.00	
12 lb butter and 2½ doz Egg's	3.33	4.33

4th

Sunds Dr to Cash		
House Exps-pd for beef	.75	
D°. pd Pat Kennedy on a/c wages	13.00	
Contingt Exps pd for a 75/. powder flask 9/4½ 2 lb shot 1/10½ powder 1/10½—6 Flints 6° for Geo W. Custis	11.82	
D°. pd for a whip for E. P. Custis	2.00	27.57

5th

House Exps Dr to Cash		
pd for 21 lb beef	15/9	
leg of do	2/	
Sundry vegetables	7/6	
8 lb Mutton	4/8	
	£1.9.11	3.99

6th

Sundries Dr to Cash			
James Germain, delivd him to pay for abt 88 cords wood—to pay his weekly accot during 4 weeks—& to discharge Sundry bills—as renderd this day		821.00	
Contingt Exps pd for going to and from the Ship to procure servents		2.00	
D°. for drawing 2 Indentures		2.00	
Ditto pd B. Bohlen for 2 Dutch servants as follows Jo. Henry Waskan £25.19.0			
Marg[t] Held	24. 4.6		
	£50. 3.6	133.80	958.80

8th

Sundries Dr to Cash		
Contingt Exps paid for a pr of shoes for Austin	1.67	
House Exps pd for ¼ Lamb 6/. vegetables 5/	1.47	3.14

9th

Sundries Dr to Cash.		
pd Jno Fraley for repairs to the Stables in Germantown	6.00	
D° pd Ben Lehman for plank & scantling for D°.	11.62	
D°. pd C. Wirtz for nails	1.67	
House exps pd Petr Deal in full for beef and mutton from 7 Aug	30.00	49.29

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SEPTEMBER 179[4]

10th

Sundries — Dr to Cash.

Contingt Exps Gave a poor frenchman by order	7.00	
House Exps pd for 12 bo Indian meal	.50	
Do 1 bo potatoes 5/. 2 lb butter 3/9— vegetables 67—	1.97	9.47

12th

Sundries — Dr. to Cash

Contgt Exps, pd Geo Hark's blacksmith for sundry jobs per bill	3.14	
Do. gave a poor old man	1.00	
House exps pd Lewis List his wages in full to this day, when dischargd including a mos pay given him by the President	19.20	23.34

13th

Sundries — Dr to Cash.

Contingt Exps pd for Fig blue	12.00	
Do. for a Shot bag for Geo W. Custis omitted before	1.00	
House Exps pd for 10 lb butter	2.50	3.62

15th

Sundries — Dr to Cash

Contingt Exps, gave Geo W. Custis to buy powder & shot by order	.25	
House Exps pd for 14 lb of beef 8/2 leg of do 1/10 1/2 2 qts of vinegar 12 @	1.46	
Stable Exps pd for 700 of Hay	7.00	8.71

SEPTEMBER 179[4]

16th

Sundries — Dr to Cash

House Exps, pd for 16 lb of beef 12/. leg of do 2/4 1 qr. Mutton 5/10 Peaches, Egg's, beans etc 12/19 Plums 2/4 5 Chickens 9/41/2	5.95	
Stable Exps pd for 2 bush bran	.74	6.69

18th

House Exps — Dr to Cash

1 qr. lamb 5/. Eggs 3/9		
Vegetables 4/8 two tongues 3/9. 2 lb. butter 3/9 Salt peter—11 @	2.91	2.91

19th

Sundries — Dr. to Cash

House Exps pd Henry Bohlen mos wages	8.	
Do. pd Butchers bill in full	14.14	
Do. a leg of beef	.27	
House Exps pd for 12 lb butter	3.00	
Do. bakers bill in full	16.76	
Contingt Expens pd for tuition of Geo W. Custis	4.12	
Do. gave a poor woman	1.00	
Do. gave Bain to buy pomatum for Mrs. Washington	.37	47.66

20th

Contingt Exps — Dr. to Cash

for hauling goods from Germantown	7.00	
Delivd to Mrs. Washington	42.00	49.00

SEPTEMBER 1794

22nd

Sundries Dr. to Cash.

Jam's Germain, delivd him to pay his weekly accot for two weeks & to discharge sundry bills 173.02

Contingt Exps, pd for ferriage of the President etc going to see the Militia at Peter's farm 25

D°. pd Fred Sliker in full for painting & glazing per bill 28.20 201.47

24th

Sundries Dr to Cash.

Contingt Exps–pd Isaac Frank's in full for house rent etc, at Germantown . 201.60

Stable Exps pd D°. for 1600 lb Hay . . 16.00 217.60

25th

House Exps Dr to Cash.

House Exps pd Henry Bohlen a mos wages 8.00

D°. pd Ben Dorsey in full for groceries per bill 65.28

Contingt Exps pd Mr. Smart for sundries for Mrs. Washington 42.75

D°. pd Jno Jones for sundry jobs pr. bill 5.07

D°. pd. duties on a pipe of wine from Ostend 58.51 179.71

Cash—Dr. to the Treasury of the U. S.

Recd for the use of the President . . 2000.00

NOVEMBER 1794

----3rd-----

Pd Jno Bartholemy for teaching Miss Custis french 4 months 10.67

APPENDIX G*
ISAAC FRANKS' BILL & INVENTORY
1793

* ORiginal in manuscript collections of the Germantown Historical Society, and photostat copy in research files at INDE.

An Acct of Extraordinary expences Incurred by
Isaac Franks in Order to Accomodate the President
of the United States with his House furniture Bed &c
in Germantown, in Consequence of a invitation & Letter
from the President to that purport rec'd the 6th Nov. 1793
Nov. 6. 1793
For the hire of a light two horse waggon & Driver
3 Days @ 6 Dollars pr day ——— 18 —
for the purchase of Corn for the horses ——— 24
for the purchase of Corn for the horses ——— 24
for Mrs Franks Self and Sister & Miss Franks Journies
for the Rent of a Furnish'd Parlour Bed room &
Kitchen in Order to Accomodate my Family
& 4 Servts of the President and Servants not having
Room to take them for a Night ——— 32
For the hire of Plate & Bed Furniture &c to Accomodate my
Family during the time the President Occupied mine ——— 16
that out on the 19 Dec. to Germantown to
Ascertain from the President, how long he
intended to keep my house, being the
Winter Season, that I might Accomodate
my Family Accordingly not being advised
nor receiving any notice of his having left my
house on the 14th Dec. until I arrived
at Germantown on the 20 Dec. February,
the Expences attending this Journey and back
to my Family ——— 10 —
2.10
2
6
6
12.10
The Rent for 2 months more I had to pay Mr Hillman ——— 66.16
for house Furniture Bed &c ——— 132.66

First Right Hand Room

Curtains 2 Blinds
three windows Blinds & Curtains one Looking-Glass
Six Chairs with Chintz Cottons.
~~One Looking Glass~~
1 Dining Table
1 Breakfast Table
one Desk
a pr Plated Candle Sticks
a Doble Sett of Nankeen China 72 Pieces
1 Large Waiter
1 Snuffer Tray
~~2 Urns~~
2 Hand Irons Shovel & Tongues
1 Goblet Pint Cup with 2 handles
2 Large Pictures

First Left Hand Room
Chintz Window Curtains
1 Green Venitian Blinds
1 Looking Glass & 2 Sconces
1 Dining Table
2 Card Tables
1 Dining Table
2 Mahogany Arm Chairs
8 Mahogany Stuffed Bottom Chairs
1 Large Hand Irons Shovel & Tongues
2 Sconces
2 Pictures
1 pr Plated Candle Sticks
1 Sett Mantle China

82 Rods.
15 Posts.

In the Back Room Adjoining

One Card Table
4 Veneer Chairs
2 Small Pictures —
China in the Closet
6 China Plates —
1 Bason Basin & China Chamber Pot
1 Do Castor —
1 Large China Tureen
1 China Punch Bowl
1 Do Sugar Dish
1 Pr Hand Irons Shovel & Tongues

In the First Kitchen —

1 Cast Iron Dead Iron —
3 Flat Brass Candle Sticks —
1 Spit Complete
1 Flesh fork
1 Egg Stick
1 Cullender
2 Iron Ladle, — 1 D
1 Iron Ladle —
1 Pudding Box & Funnel
2 Graters
1 Do Snuffers
1 Quart Pewter Tankard —
1 Pewter Mug —
1 Pat Irons & 1 Stand —
1 Oven Tester —
1 Iron Pot Large —
3 Large Patty Pans —

In the Bed Chamber on the Right Hand

Bed
One Bead Head & Curtains
One Bed Bolster & 2 Pillows
One pair Sheets & 2 Pillow Cases
2 Blankets & Green Rug & a White Counterpane —
1 Looking Glass
1 Bureau & Cover
Six Chairs
1 Pr Hand Irons Shovel & Tongues —
One Carpet & fire side Carpet

In the Bed room Opposite

One Bead Head & Bed & Bolster & Pillows
One Pr Sheets 1 Pillow & Sheets
Six Blankets —
One White Bed Spread.
1 Looking Glass.
1 Table
1 Arm Chair
4 Chairs with Covers
1 Carpet
1 Mahogany Chest Drawers —

1 Table 1 Chair & 2 Benches & one Tamel
a Corner Cupboard one Picture
~~One Coffee Mill~~
1 Black Jeboler
3 Coffee Pots 1 Tea 1 China 1 Large Cuppe
4 Decanters
3 Elegant Wine Glasses
6 Cups & Saucers —
1 Milk Pot
1 Mustard Pot
1 Soap Bowl —
1 Tea Kettle with Cover
32 Plates —
4 Large Dishes
2 Gravy Saucers —
1 Salt Box
1 Salad Dish

In the Back room adjoining
a Tin Plate Stove —
a Dresser
2 Arm Chairs Yellow
3 Green Windsor Chairs —
1 Table Painted —
1 Looking Glass —

In the Back Kitchen Adjoining
1 Tramil —
1 Table
3 Chafing Dishes
1 Lanthorn

2 frying Pans
4 Iron pots & one Iron Cover
2 Chairs —
3 Pails
1 Table & Rolling Board
2 Tea kettles
4 Candle-Sticks
2 Copper kettles
1 Tin mug
1 pepper mill
2 pair and irons
1 Hand saw
1 rolling
1 pair bellows
2 pair Pot Hooks
1 Large Copper Sauce pan
1 quart Black-mug
1 bench
1 Brass washing bowl
3 washing Tubs

In the Backroom
2 Chairs
1 Writing Desk & Table

In the Stable
2 Cart one open the other Stable Horse
2 Sacks 20 Bushels
1 Iron Tire Sadler

£31,000

23 Cups & 23 Saucers.
16 Do. 16 Do. 12 Coffee Cups. Pint Sugar Dish. one Cream Jug
2 Tea pots. Two Stands for Do. 2 Cake plates. Small Do. 2 Slop Bowls
a Spoon Tray all of Nankeen China

16
16
12
12
56
Out 14
10 pieces Nankeen.

Hay.
Potatoes.
Goats.
Chicks.

M 1
40

APPENDIX II *
THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS OF DECEMBER 3, 1793

*FIFTH ANNUAL ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

Philadelphia, December 3, 1793.[1]

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives

Since the commencement of the term, for which I have been again called into office, no fit occasion has arisen for expressing to my fellow Citizens at large, the deep and respectful sense, which I feel, of the renewed testimony of public approbation. While on the one hand, it awakened my gratitude for all those instances of affectionate partiality, with which I have been honored by my Country; on the other, it could not prevent an earnest wish for that retirement, from which no private consideration should ever have torn me. But influenced by the belief, that my conduct would be estimated according to its real motives; and that the people, and the authorities derived from them, would support exertions, having nothing personal for their object, I have obeyed the suffrage which commanded me to resume the Executive power; and I humbly implore that Being, on whose Will the fate of Nations depends, to crown with success our mutual endeavours for the general happiness.

As soon as the War in Europe had embraced those Powers, with whom the United States have the most extensive relations; there was reason to apprehend that our intercourse with them might be interrupted, and our disposition for peace, drawn into question, by the suspicions, too often entertained by belligerent Nations. It seemed therefore to be my duty to admonish our Citizens of the consequences of a contraband trade, and of hostile Acts to any of the parties; and to obtain by a declaration of the existing legal state of things, an easier admission of our right to the immunities, belonging to our situation. Under these impressions the Proclamation, which will be laid before you, was issued.

In this posture of affairs, both new and delicate, I resolved to adopt general rules, which should conform to the Treaties, and assert the priviledges, of the United States. These were reduced into a system, which will be communicated to you. Although I have not thought myself at liberty to forbid the Sale of the prizes, permitted by our treaty of Commerce with France to be brought into our ports; I have not refused to cause them to be restored, when they were taken within the protection of our territory; or by vessels commissioned, or equipped in a warlike form within the limits of the United States.

It rests with the wisdom of Congress to correct, improve or enforce this plan of procedure; and it will probably be found expedient, to extend the legal code, and the Jurisdiction of the Courts of the United States, to many cases, which, though dependent on principles already recognized, demand some further provisions.

Where individuals shall within the United States, array themselves in hostility against any of the powers at war; or enter upon Military expeditions, or enterprizes within the jurisdiction of the United States; or usurp and exercise judicial authority within the United States; or where the penalties on violations of the law of Nations may have been indistinctly marked, or are inadequate; these offences cannot receive too early and close an attention, and require prompt and decisive remedies.

Whatsoever those remedies may be, they will be well administered by the Judiciary, who possess a long established course of investigation, effectual process, and Officers in the habit of executing it. In like manner; as several of the Courts have *doubted,* under particular circumstances, their power to liberate the vessels of a Nation at peace, and even of a citizen of the United States, although seized under a false colour of being hostile property; and have *denied* their power to liberate certain captures within the protection of our territory; it would seem proper to regulate their jurisdiction in these points. But if the Executive is to be the resort in either of the two last mentioned cases, it is hoped, that he will be authorized by law, to have facts ascertained by the Courts, when, for his own information, he shall request it.

I cannot recommend to your notice measures for the fulfilment of *our* duties to the rest of the world, without again pressing upon you the necessity of placing ourselves in a condition of compleat defence, and of exacting from *them* the fulfilment of *their* duties towards *us.* The United States ought not to endulge a persuasion, that, contrary to the order of human events, they will for ever keep at a distance those painful appeals to arms, with which the history of every other nation abounds. There is a rank due to the United States among Nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known, that we are at all times ready for War.

* As quoted in John C. Fitzpatrick, The Writings of George Washington 33, 163-69.

The documents, which will be presented to you, will shew the amount, and kinds of Arms and military stores now in our Magazines and Arsenals: and yet an addition even to these supplies cannot with prudence be neglected; as it would leave nothing to the uncertainty of procuring a warlike apparatus, in the moment of public danger. Nor can such arrangements, with such objects, be exposed to the censure or jealousy of the warmest friends of Republican Government. They are incapable of abuse in the hands of the Militia, who ought to possess a pride in being the depositary of the force of the Republic, and may be trained to a degree of energy, equal to every military exigency of the United States. But it is an inquiry, which cannot be too solemnly pursued, whether the act "more effectually to provide for the National defence by establishing an uniform Militia throughout the United States" has organized them so as to produce their full effect; whether your own experience in the several States has not detected some imperfections in the scheme; and whether a material feature in an improvement of it, ought not to be, to afford an opportunity for the study of those branches of the Military art, which can scarcely ever be attained by practice alone?

The connexion of the United States with Europe, has become extremely interesting. The occurrences, which relate to it, and have passed under the knowledge of the Executive, will be exhibited to Congress in a subsequent communication.

When we contemplate the war on our frontiers, it may be truly affirmed, that every reasonable effort has been made to adjust the causes of dissension with the Indians, North of the Ohio. The Instructions given to the Commissioners evince a moderation and equity proceeding from a sincere love of peace, and a liberality, having no restriction but the essential interests and dignity of the United States. The attempt, however, of an amicable negotiation having been frustrated, the troops have marched to act offensively. Although the proposed treaty did not arrest the progress of military preparation; it is doubtful, how far the advance of the Season, before good faith justified active movements, may retard them, during the remainder of the year. From the papers and intelligence, which relate to this important subject, you will determine, whether the deficiency in the number of Troops, granted by law, shall be compensated by succours of Militia; or additional encouragements shall be proposed to recruits. An anxiety has been also demonstrated by the Executive, for peace with the Creeks and the Cherokees. The former have been relieved with Corn and with clothing, and offensive measures against them prohibited during the recess of Congress. To satisfy the complaints of the latter, prosecutions have been instituted for the violences committed upon them. But the papers, which will be delivered to you, disclose the critical footing on which we stand in regard to both those tribes; and it is with Congress to pronounce what shall be done.

After they shall have provided for the present emergency, it will merit their most serious labours, to render tranquillity with the Savages permanent, by creating ties of interest. Next to a rigorous execution of justice on the violators of peace, the establishment of commerce with the Indian nations in behalf of the United States, is most likely to conciliate their attachment. But it ought to be conducted without fraud, without extortion, with constant and plentiful supplies; with a ready market for the commodities of the Indians, and a stated price for what they give in payment, and receive in exchange. Individuals will not pursue such a traffic, unless they be allured by the hope of profit; but it will be enough for the United States to be reimbursed only. Should this recommendation accord with the opinion of Congress, they will recollect, that it cannot be accomplished by any means yet in the hands of the Executive.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

The Commissioners, charged with the settlement of Accounts between the United and individual States, concluded their important functions, within the time limited by Law; and the balances, struck in their report, which will be laid before Congress, have been placed on the Books of the Treasury.

On the first day of June last, an instalment of one million of florins became payable on the loans of the United States in Holland. This was adjusted by a prolongation of the period of reimbursement, in nature of a new loan, at an interest at five per cent for the term of ten years; and the expences of this operation were a commission of three pr Cent.

The first instalment of the loan of two millions of dollars from the Bank of the United States, has been paid, as was directed by Law. For the second, it is necessary, that provision should be made.

No pecuniary consideration is more urgent, than the regular redemption and discharge of the public debt: on none can delay be more injurious, or an œconomy of time more valuable.

The productiveness of the public revenues hitherto, has continued to equal the anticipations which were formed of it; but it is not expected to prove commensurate with all the objects, which have been suggested. Some auxiliary provisions will, therefore, it is presumed, be requisite; and it is hoped that these may be made, consistently with a due regard to the convenience of our Citizens, who cannot but be sensible of the true wisdom of encountering a small present addition to their contributions, to obviate a future accumulation of burthens.

But here, I cannot forbear to recommend a repeal of the tax on the transportation of public prints. There is no resource so firm for the Government of the United States, as the affections of the people guided by an enlightened policy; and to this primary good, nothing can conduce more, than a faithful representation of public proceedings, diffused, without restraint, throughout the United States.

An estimate of the appropriations, necessary for the current service of the ensuing year, and a statement of a purchase of Arms and Military stores made during the recess, will be presented to Congress.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives

The several subjects, to which I have now referred, open a wide range to your deliberations; and involve some of the choicest interests of our common Country. Permit me to bring to your remembrance the magnitude of your task. Without an unprejudiced coolness, the welfare of the Government may be hazarded; without harmony, as far as consists with freedom of Sentiment, its dignity may be lost. But, as the Legislative proceedings of the United States will never, I trust, be reproached for the want of temper or candour; so shall not the public happiness languish, from the want of my strenuous and warmest cooperations.[42]

APPENDIX I

THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

1796

(AN INCOMPLETE LIST)

* LIST compiled by Steff, H.DE.,from park microfilm roll 15, an incomplete copy of original at National Archives, Record Group 6[illegible], Records of the Registers Office, Volume 188; pp. 316-24. . (Missing 2 pages)

List of Articles furnished the Household of the President of the United States

No		Articles Furnished	of whom Purchased			
1	1	large Toilet Glass	Beiry & Roger	4		
	3	large Glass lamps complete	"	14	8	
	4	pair Silver Salts with blue Glass	"	19	4	
	2	do Silver bottle Stand	"	12	16	
	4	do large Plated Candlesticks	"	22	8	
	2	Setts of 5 Glass Casters Silver	" "	24		
	1	large Oval plated Waiter	"	7	9	4
	1	do Round do £6.18 two Small do do £5	"	11	18	
	1	large plated tea pot	"	8		
	1	Plated Coffee Urn with heater	"	8	10	
	1	do do without	"	7	5	
	3	Large Oval Waiters with landscapes	"	14	8	

1 of 13

	2	Smaller do £6.8 two Mahog^y Knife cases £8	"	14	8	
	3	ditto Knife Cases £9.12 two wire fenders £3.12	"	13	4	
	4	pair Carvers Silver Mounted	"	3	4	
	6	double doz. Knives & forks Silver Mount^d	"	30		
	1	plated bread basket	"	8		
2	2	Jappan'd Waiters £1.12 one do 10/	"	2	2	
	2	do do 16/ one do 4/	"	1		
	1	Knife Box £1.8 two pair Sconces £2.8	"	3	16	
	2	brass fenders £9.12 three doz Ivory handle Knives & forks, deserts Silver mounted	"	19	4	
	1	doz. Knives & forks Silver panels	"	2	16	
	2	pair Guilt Tumblers	"	7	4	
	4	do Salt Spoons	"	2	8	
		Ladys dressing Box £5.12 two pr Glass lustre £ 9.12		15	4	
	1	pair Glass Lustre 14.18.8 one pair Andirons £8	"	22	18	8
			carried forward of whom purchased	£299	15	

2 of 13

No	Articles Furnished				
	Amount brought forward		299	15	
1	Plated tea Urn £16.16 two oval top brans £18.4	Wm Buckle	30		
2	Spangled top Branches	"	12	10	
2	Plain top do £11. two Small do £8	"	19		
1	Oval Silver frame £15 two Silver fish Knif £10.10	"	25	10	
1	pair Silver Salts	"	4	10	
3	Plated Disk Crosses	"	16	6	
2	Pair Bottle Stands	"	5	6	
2	large Plated Waiters	"	6		
2	Smaller do £ 4 & two Steel Snuff £1.4	"	5	4	
3	Pair Silver Mounted Snuffers	"	6		
1	Plated Snuffer Stand		1	10	
1	Plated Stand & Snuffers	"	2	8	
2	Pair dº Goblets £9.12 four pair dº dº £14.8	"	24		
4	Silver Tureen Ladles		16	19	9
4	doz Silver table Spoons		58	9	7
4	dº Silver desert dº		33	17	1
4	dº Silver Tea dº		17	8	1

3	pair Silver Butter Ladles	"	9		
2	pair Silver tea tongs	"	2	14	
1	Plated tea shell	"		5	
2	dº Tankards	"	11		
2	dº Pints £6.6 and dº Tea Cady £5	"	11	6	
2	Steel Corks Screws	"	~~~		
8	White Metal dº	"	~~~		
3 4	Sets Breakfast China	Jas Roosevelt	14		
2	Plated Snuffer Stands	"	2	8	
3	Bottles & Basons	"	3		
2	large bowls £4 four small dº £6	"	10		
1	pair large Jars ONE	"	10		
4	Jerendoles £14 and dº £4 one dº £5.15	"	23	15	
1	do £4.15 one dº £4.18 two dº £9.10	"	19	3	
	Card forward		701	14	6

	Articles Furnished	of whom Purchased			
3	Amount brought Fored		701	14	6
1	large Chimney Piece	Js. N. Roosevelt	12		
2	Ellegant Carved Gold framd looking Glasses	"	53	14	

3	pair Plated flat Candlesticks	"	8	5	
1	large Bordered Guilt Binn'd looking glass	"	29		
	Sundry India Paper	"	19	1	10
4 8	Pieces Linnen 200 yards	Jn° Shaw	54	13	4
3	Ditto D° 74 d°	"	20	7	
1	Pipe Madeira Wine 112 Gall^{s}	"	112		
5 1/2	gall d° @ 20/ in 2 doz Bottles at 4/	"	5	18	
2	Quarter Casks Port Wine	"	24		
2	Hampers Porter 8 doz.	"	8		
1	peice Linnen 24 yards	"	6	16	
	Add for Error in the Linnen	"	2		
5 1	Mahogany Close Tress	Thos Barling	21		
1	Mahogany Bureau	"	6	10	
1	best Mahogany Wash Stand	"	4	10	
1	d° d° plain Do	"	1	12	
1	Mahogany Cabinet	"	13		
1	Mahogany Bedstead	"	8	10	
1	best Mahogany Circular Side board	"	19		
1	pair Mahogany Card Tables	"	7		
1	Mahogany Dining Table	"	5		
12	Ditto chairs	"	21		
8	Ditto Plain Ditto	"	13	4	

1	Pair best inlaid Card Tables	"	12		
1	Best inlaid Tea Table	"	6		
1	d° Mahogany Wash Stand	"	4	10	
1	d° d° plain d°	"	1	12	
1	d° d° Close Press	"	21		
	Carr^{d} forward £		1222	17	8
	Articles Furnished	of whom purchased			
N° 5	Amount brought fore^{d}	Thos Burling	1222	17	8
1	Mahogany Night Stool & Pan	"	6	2	
3	Toilet Tables	"	1	10	
1	Inlaid Breakfast Table	"	5	15	
2	Mahogany Knife boxes	"	1		
1	Plain d° Breakfast Table	"	3		
1	Ditto Gatt lath			10	
a	large Sett Mahogany Dining Tables		25		
1	Mahogany Desk & book Case	"	21		
1	Ditto Voidore	"	1	10	
1	large Bedstead with Carv^{d} Mahogany Posts	"	6	10	
24	Mahogany Chairs	"	42		
2	Ditto Arm d°	"	5	10	

6	Plain Ditto Chairs	"	9	12	
2	Ditto Arm Ditto	"	4	14	
1	best mahogany Circular Side board	"	19		
2	Sophas £12 two Small ditto £10	"	22		
1	Bedstead Mahogany Posts	"	6	10	
3	large Mahogany Window Blinds	"	5		
2	Sakenbotom Bedsteads	"	7		
1	Corded Bedstead & Cord	"	1	5	
2	Window Cornishes Carved & guilt	"	5	10	
10	Mahogany Carved Chairs	"	21		
8	Mahogany Chairs £14:16 an Easy Chair £2:15	"	17	11	
	Brass Castors for the Sophay & Easy Chair	"	3	15	
1	Sackenbottom field Bedstead	"	3	10	
1	Bedstead plain Mahogany Posts	"	6		
1	low dº Mahogany dº	"	4		
1	Mahogany Dining Table	"	4	10	
1	Ditto Breakfast Ditto	"	2	15	
1	Large Press £9 Night Stool & puter Pan £2/2		11	2	
	Carried Forward		£1504	8	8

		Articles Furnished	of whom purchased			
		Amount brought Forwd	Thos Furling	£1504	8	8
5	1	Mahogany Wash Stand		1	12	
	1	Pair large Mahogany Coolers	"	8		
		Box best lock Hinge & handles	"	1	10	
		24 Pieces & two Mahogany Rulers	"		5	
6		Champaine Wine &cª p bill	NV Shaler	57	15	7
7		59 1/4 Yards of Sheeting p dº	S. & L. Clarkson	11	12	
8	1	pair Looking Glasses	Saml Dunlap	28	15	
	1	large Damask table cloth & 12) Napkins to match)	"	12		
10	1	large Copper Stew pan £2.12 one dº dº 2.9	Embrec & Laurence	5	1	
	1	Ditto Ditto dº £1.16 one dº dº £1.7	"	3	3	
11	1	Brass Kettle £4.10 one Iron Pott 1819	Jnº Graham	5	8	9
	1	Iron Pott £1.8 four Frying Pans £1.9.4	"	2	17	4
	4	Plate wicker baskets lined with tin	"	4		
	1	pair large Kitchen Shovel & Tongs	"	1		
	1	large Iron Dripping Pan	"	1	5	
	2	Copper Tea Kettles	"	3	10	
	2	Setts Black Tin Dish Covers	"	8		

1	Setts Scalers	"	1		
2	Ditto best Carving Knives & forks	"		18	
2	dozen table Knives & Forks	"	1	6	
4	Iron Potts with handles	"	1	4	
1	Pair Neats Bellows	"		6	
3	Tin Kettles with Covers	"		15	
1	large Grater 4/ three Copper Soups Potts £4	"	4	4	
9	Copper Stew Pans	"	12	15	
1	Square Japanned Sugar box			14	
6	Flat large tin Candlesticks	"		15	
2	dozen Patty Pans	"		12	
6	Jelly Same	"	1	16	
3	large tin Cake Pans	"	£1	1	
3	less Ditto Ditto	"		8	
	Carrd forwd £		1687	17	4

	Articles Furnished	of whom purchased			
	Amount brought forwd		£1687	17	4
No11 4	Trummels 21.12 two Cullenders 12/	Jno Graham	2	4	
2	large Oval tin Pans 10/ Six less do 12/	"	1	2	
12	ditto Ditto 12/ twelve Ditto Ditto 9/	"	1	1	
6	deep Oval tin pans	"		9	
6	Ditto round Ditto	"		8	
6	Squar Pan 9/ one Mellon form 11/	"	1		
1	Drudge box 3/ one Japand Spice box 12/	"		15	
8	Copper Ladles Scimmer & Slyces lin'd	"	2	8	
1	Coffee Pott 6/ two Freizing Moals 16/	"	1	2	
3	Brass Kettles	"	5	18	
6	Iron Candlesticks	"		12	
1	Jappaned Oval Cannister	"		8	
1	Copper 10 Gallon Boyler	"	3	17	
2	large Copper Bake Pans	"	5	13	6
1	Brass Ladle & Scimmer	"		10	
1	Sauspan Copper 16/ two do £2	"	2	16	

1	large Iron ash Pail	"		1	10	
1	Wood Screen lined with tin	"		3	5	
6	Pair Sad Irons	"		2	3	6
1	large Marble Mortar & Pestel	"		2		
2	dust Pans Jappaned	"			7	
4	Knife trays Ditto	"		1	4	
6	Oyster Scollopts	"			15	
6	Ditto Ditto	"			12	
1	Round Sugar box	"			5	
1	Copper Dripping Pan	"		4	12	5
1	pair Copper Scales & Weights	"		11	15	
1	Pea Boyler 18/ one dozen Spoons 6/	"		1	14	
2	Cheese toasters £1.4 one Copper Lobeing pan £2.15	"		3	19	
	carried Forward £			1744	8	9

	Articles Furnished	of whom purchased			
	Amount brought Forward	£	1744	8	9
No11 3	Copper Lamps	Jn° Graham	2	5	
1	Fluted tin Pudding Boyler	"		16	
1	Copper Pressing Pan	"	1	15	
2	Candle boxes 16/ one Cannister 2/	"		18	

1	Stable Lanthorn 6/ two small bake pans 8/	"		14	
1	dozen plain raised pans £1.4 two doz d° £1.12	"	2	16	
1	lamp & Tapers 6/ one Copper Stew pan £2.11	"	2	17	
2	Oval Pudding Pans 6/ one raised d° 2/6	"		8	6
1	large Coffee Pott 8/ one large oval spice box 10/	"		18	
2	Milk Kettles 6/ one large Copper Pye Pan £6.17.3	"	7	3	3
2	Tower Forms 16/ one large Copper Tea Kettle £2	"	2	16	
4	Fluted Forms £1.6 three do Ice Cream £1.16	"	3	2	
4	dozen plain raised Patty Pans	"	1	10	
	Lamp for Lanthorn 2/ three tin Funnels 3/	"		5	
1	Grid Iron 7/ two Copper Chaffing dishes 2.8	"	2	15	
2	Iron Spoons 4/ two Iron dripping Pans £1.4		1	8	
3	Pint Shaving Potts 3/ one crokant cutter £2	"	2	3	
1	drawing Pan £3.16.3 Six fluted Salt forms 6/	"	4	2	3
1	Copper Pye Pan made new	"	1		

a	peaked Crokant£1.5 three large 4 sq[r] tin Pans £1.4	"	"		2	9
	Copper handles for Stew Potts		"			10
1	Copper Ammlet Pan		"		1	
1	Brass Kettle £1.8 one hash desk & lamp £1		"		2	8
3	dozen 4 Square Pans		"			18
1	dozen large ditto		"		1	10
2	Copper Oval Bake Pans		"		2	
2	Fluted Ice Cream Moulds		"		1	12
3	dozen Knives & forks £1.4 one brass Kettle £1.8		"		2	12
1	pair Bellows 7/ one Iron Pot 15/one Fetter pan of copper £1.4		"		2	6
1	Pott 12/ one Preserving Pan £2.10		"		3	2
1	Pott 10/ Six plate large tin to bake on 15/		"		1	5
	Carried Forward £			1805	12	7

[last 2 pages were omitted from film - reorder]

DAK 2/11/58 13 of 13

APPENDIX J PART A

COMPILATION OF DATA FROM LISTS I & A, FEDERAL TAX OF 1798, GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP, FOR DWELLING & OUT. - HOUSES ON MAIN STREET, ACROSS FROM MARKET SQUARE

1 Name of Occupant	2 Name of Owner	3 Dwelling Houses	4 Outhouses Appurtenant	5 Dimensions of Area	6 Materials	7 No. of Stories	8 Nol & Dimensions of Windows Windows	 Lights	Valuation of each Dwelling-House with the Lot
199 G. Bensell	George Bensell	1		45x27	Stone	2	17	309	$2000
200 Geo. Bensell	George Bensell	1	 Kitchen	42x23 30x9	Stone Stone	2 2	-	-	$2000
201 William Ashmead	William Ashmead	1	 Kitchen	18x18 13x30	Stone Stone	2 2	5	140	$1900
202 Will[m] Clepper	Est. of Morgan	1		24x21	Stone	2	7	84	$600 in bad repair
203 George Bringhurst	George Bringhurst	1		21x18	Stone	2	5	75	$800
204 Widow Bringhurst	George Bringhurst	1		15x24	Stone	2	3	38	$300
205 Isaac Franks	Isaac Franks	1	 Kitchen Wash House Chear House	35x33 27x14 10x12 16x17	Stone Stone Stone Frame	2 2 1	15	375	$3900
207 James Ormead	James Ormead	1	 Kitchen	25x15	Stone	2	7	84	$1100

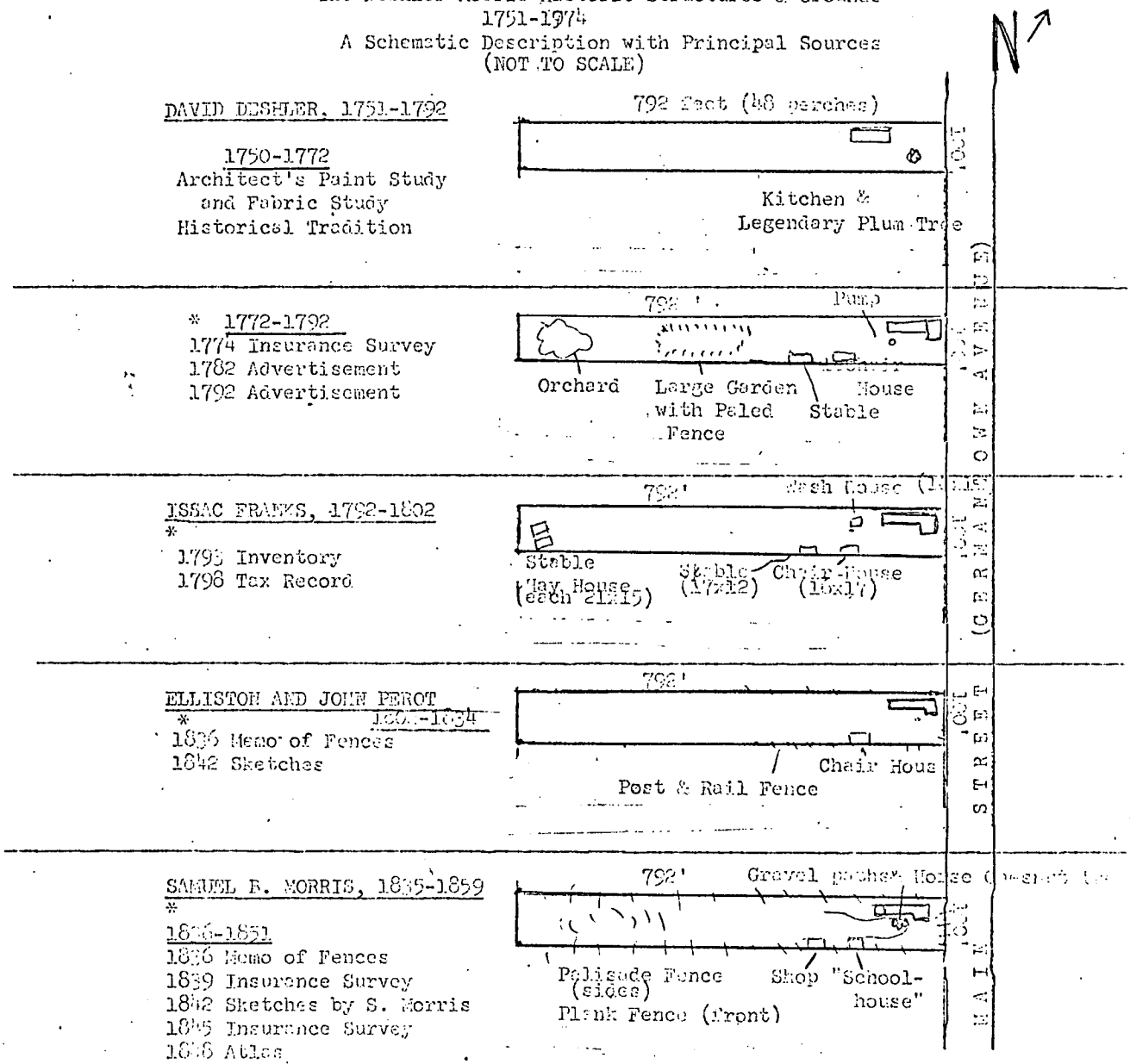
APPENDIX J, PART B

A COMPILATION OF DATA FROM TAX LISTS II, & B, FEDERAL TAX OF 1798, GERMANTOWN TOWNSHIP,
A LIST OF ALL LANDS, LOTS, BUILDINGS & WHARVES

NAME OF OWNER	NO. & DESCRIPTION OF ALL OTHER BUILDINGS & WHARVES	QUANTITY OF LAND IN EACH TRACT OFLLOT			CLAIMS OF EXEMPTION (IF ANY) & CIRCUM-STANCES THEREOF. . . Valuation
		Acres	Perches	Sq. Ft.	
George Bringhurst	1 frame shop 21x11 1 frame barn 20x20		80		1/2 60 Shop 50 Barn 50 170
					1 1/2 180
Isaac Franks	1 small stable 21x15 1 frame hayhouse 21x15 1 frame stable 17x12	1	80		60 40 50 330

APPENDIX K

The Deshler-Morris Historic Structures & Grounds
1751-1974
A Schematic Description with Principal Sources
(NOT TO SCALE)



* Outbuildings located by conjecture.

APPENDIX K

SAMUEL E. MORRIS, 1855-1859

1851-1859
1855 Deed
1856 Insurance Survey
1859 Photograph

ELLISTON PERCY MORRIS, 1859-1914

1860s
1861 Photograph
1865 Atlas
1865 Morris Correspondence
1871 Atlas
1875 Photograph

1870s
1870 Photographs
1870 Agreement with Builder
1871 Atlas
1876 Photograph

1880s and '90s
1884 Insurance Survey
1889 Atlas
1895 Atlas
1899 Atlas
c. 1899 Photograph

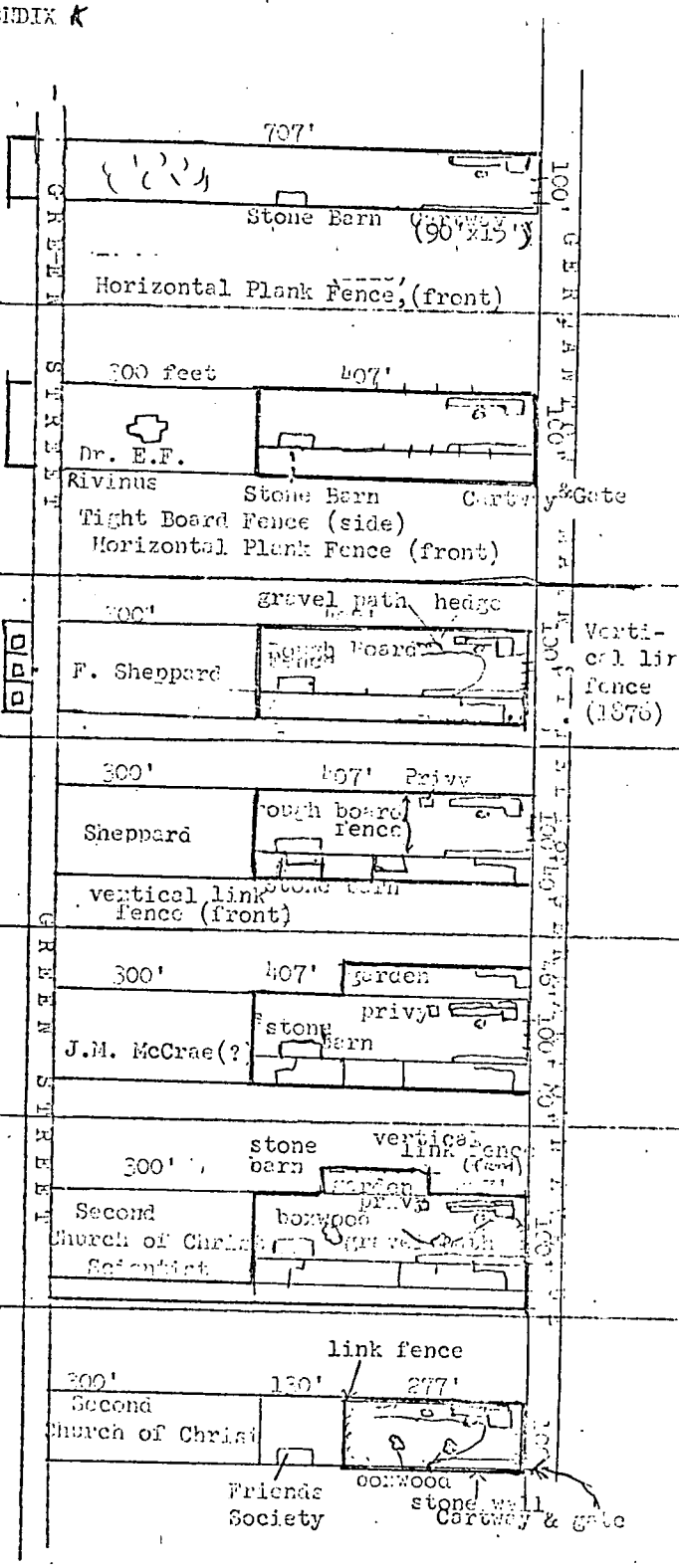
1900-1914
1906 Atlas
1907 Deeds
c. 1909 Postcard
1909 Insurance Survey
1914 Will

MORRIS FAMILY, 1914-1948

1923 Atlas
1948 Photograph

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, 1968-1974

1968 Photographs
1973 Inspection



APPENDIX

VEGETATION SELECTED FOR HISTORIC GROUNDS RESTORATION AT THE DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE, 1950

STANDARD GOVERNMENT FORM OF CONTINUATION SCHEDULE FOR STANDARD FORM 31 OR 33

PLANT MATERIAL: QUANTITIES & SIZE REQUIREMENTS

(NOTE: *Plants to be balled and burlapped.)

Item No.	ARTICLE	Size	Ball	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Amount Dols	Amount Cts.
	DECIDUOUS							
1.	*Franklinia alatamaha	3-4'	1'-3"	2				
2.	Cornus racemosus	3-4'		2				
3.	Cornus sanguinea	3-4'		3				
4.	Clethra alnifolia rosea	2-1/2-3'		4				
5.	Cydonia japonica (pink)	2-3'		2				
6.	Hamamelis mollis	3-4'		6				
7.	Myrica gale	2-2-1/2'		9				
8.	Sambucus canadensis	4-5'		3				
9.	Symphoricarpos chenaulti	2-3'		10				
10.	Syringa-Ludwig Spaethe	3-4'		4				
11.	*Viburnum acerifolium	3-4'	1-3"	5				
12.	*Viburnum carlesii	3-4'	1-3"	5				
13.	*Viburnum sieboldiana	3-4'	1-3"	8				
14.	*Viburnum tomentosum	3-4'	1-3"	9				
15.	Radiance roses -#1 grade	2 yr.		13				
	EVERGREEN	Size	Ball					
16.	*Azalea-Kurume-Snow	0'-10"	12-15"	2				
17.	*Buxus suffruticosa	1'-6"	2-1/2' Ht. 3' Spr.	13				
18.	*Buxus suffruticosa	1'-4"	1-1/2' Ht. 2' Spr.	13				

** The grounds restoration was never funded; Mrs. M. Montgomery loaned the writer this form copy for xeroxing. The restoration base map can be found at Independence National Park under file number IND NHP 1002.

19.	*Buxus suffruticosa Hedging	1'-2"	2-1/2' Ht. 1' Spr.	24
20.	*Cotoneaster horizontales	3"Pots	12-15"	18
21.	*Ilex cren. bullata	1'-4"	2-1/2' Ht. 3' Spr.	17
22.	*Ilex cren. microphylla	1'-2"	1-1/2' Ht. 16" Spr.	42
23.	*Ilex opaca (Specimen)	2'-6"	6-7' Ht. 4-1/2' Spr.	2
24.	*Jasminum nudiflorum	0'-10'	18-24" Ht.	4
25.	*Kalmia latifolia	1'-4"	18-24"	10
26.	*Leucothoe catesbaei	1'-2"	2-3"	5
27.	*Osmanthus aquifolium	1'-6"	3-3-1/2"	14
28.	*Pieris floribunda	1'-0"	18-24"	2
29.	*Pieris floribunda	1'-2"	2-2-1/2'	4
30.	*Taxus cusp. nana	1'-2'	2-3-1/2' Spr	5
31.	*Taxus cusp. nana	1'-1"	20-24" Spr.	4
32.	*Taxus repandens	1'-4"	3-3-1/2 Spr.	12
33.	*Rhodo Caroliniensis	1'-3"	2-2-1/2' Ht. 2-1/2' Spr.	16
34.	*Rhodo rosea elegans	1'-10"	4-5' Ht. 3-4' Spr.	5
	GROUND COVER			
35.	Pachysandra terminalis	2 yr.		90
36.	Phlox divaricata	2 yr. field		300
37.	Vinca minor	2 yr. field		400
	PERENNIALS			
38.	Astilbe - June	2 yr.		12
39.	Anemone japonica	2 yr.		12
40.	Hemerocalis-Fulva	2 yr.		12
41.	Hosta plataginea	Clumps		14
42.	Iris germanica-blue	Single rhizome		15
43.	Lilium-Regale	8-9" circum pots		25

PLANT MATERIAL TO BE TRANSPLANTED

WORK TO BE DONE: Transplanting existing plant material from present growing location to proposed location within grounds. (All plants to be moved with as much soil adhering as conditions will allow).

Item No.	ARTICLE	Size	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	AMOUNT Dols. Cts.
44.	Azalea ledifolia	2-1/2' Ht. 3' Spr.	2			
45.	Buxus suffruticosa	2-2-1/2'	6			
46.	Cornus stolonifera	8'	3			
47.	Hydrangea quercifolia	2-4'	5			
48.	Ligustrum ovaliforlium	28" (Hedge)	15			
49.	Mahonia aquifolium	36"	12			
50.	Peonies (various)	28" Spr.	8			
51.	Philadelphus coronarius	5-7' Ht.	5			
52.	Shrub roses (Old fashinned)	30" Spr.	9			
53.	Syringa-hybrid French lilac	8' Ht. 5' Spr.	1			
54.	Dryopteris intermedia (ferns)	Clumps	60			
55.	Lonicera maacki	7'	1			
56.	Making crushed stone walk as outlined in Paragraphs 37 & 38.					
	140 linear feet by 30" wide		1	Job		
57.	Making stone slab walk as outlines in Paragraphs 37 and 38.					
	125 linear feet by 20" wide		1	Job		

APPENDIX M
PART A
THE BRINGHURST HOUSE
CHAIN OF TITLE SUMMARY

DATE	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	PRICE	DEED BK	PAGE
12/20/ 1973	United States of America	Germantown Savings Fund Society	Gift	DCC 530	30
6/29/ 1948	Savings Fund Society of Germantown	Jane Rhoads Morris Provident Trust Company of Philadelphia		CJP 2082	180-99
3/13/ 1908	Elliston P. Morris	Elisabeth H. T. Schaeffer, et. al., execrs. of William Ashmead Schaeffer		W.S.V. 1003	110
9/28/ 1901	William Ashmead Schaeffer	Catharine Asmead & others, execrs. of Elizabeth F.A. Schaeffer		JV 295 JV 277	451 516
8/29/ 1855	William Ashmead & Charles F. Ashmead, et. al.	Jacob D. Prevost, et. al., execrs. of James Ashmead		RDW 1	493
5/4/ 1844	James Ashmead Jr.	William Green et. al., execrs. of Susanna Mason	$3000	ACH 58	55
2/5/ 1834	Susanna Mason	Clement Bringhurst Tudor R. Bringhurst, execrs. of Robert Bringhurst	$1775	AM 44	572
2/25/ 1812	Robert Bringhurst	Shubert Armitage William Bringhurst execrs. of George Bringhurst	$2600	IC 20	455
4/8/ 1726	George Bringhurst	John Jarrett		See Appendix A, Part B, for title from 1682-1726.	

APPENDIX M
PART B*
CHAIN OF TITLE FOR
5448-GERMANTOWN AVENUE, 1797-1973
(PREPARED BY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
OF PHILADELPHIA)

*Original in the 5448-5450 Germantown Avenue File, Historical Commission of Philadelphia.

No. 5448 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

(NOTE - PLEASE OMIT ALL MY MARKINGS FOR FINAL TYPE)

Board of Revision of Taxes

W s Germantown Ave 525' 2 1/4" N of Coulter St.
47' 3" x W 300' 10 3/8" S 1 x N 46' 9 1/8" rear x E 272' 8 1/4" M. l x 10" E 1 27' 4" to Gtn Ave.
No. 5448 Germantown Ave.

3 Story Stone House - R.C. 2 Story Frame B.B. 3 Story Brick B. B.

Saving Fund Society of Gtn

22-3 p 270

Board of Rev. of Taxes

W s Germantown Ave. 563 ' 5 1/4" N. of Coulter St.
46' 3 1/2 x 300' 0 1/2 W. l S 47' 1 3/8" rear x E 272' 8 1/4" S l N 10" x E 27' 4" S l to beg #5450.
3 Story Stone House 2 B.B.
1 Story Bk Bldg.
Bk Garage and Offices Bldg.

Saving Fund Society of Germantown.

Bk 22-3-271

Title to part.

No. 5449 Germantown Ave.

Recited in I. C. 20 - 456

Whereas George Bringhurst by divers mesne conveyances and assurances in the law duly had and executed became in his lifetime lawfully seized in his demesne as of fee of and in (prems as next dosed) sd George Bringhurst died leaving Will dated 4-7-1797 devising sd prems to his wife Sarah during her natural life provided she should so long remain his widow, and after her decease or remarriage the same should be divided among all his children to wit:-

Ann Armitage
William Bringhurst
Mary Bringhurst
Clement Bringhurst
Robert Bringhurst

in equal portions to hold to them their h and a forever, or sold as they should find it most agreeable between themselves - which latter case he fully empowered and authorized his Exors and the surv of them to sell and dispose of sd prems and to convey same to the purc etc, sd Will proved 4-21-1797 - at Phila.

1.

247

No. 5448 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

Sarah Bringhurst, widow Testator died -
Anne Armitage, Geo Bringhurst and Mary Bringhurst, three of the above named devisees also since departed this life intestate, the sd Ann leaving 4 children namely:-
Mary
Almirah
Rebecca
Eliza
Sd Geo. leaving one son, namely John Bringhurst. ?
Sd Mary died without issue -
And the sd surve of the sd devisees have assented to a sale of sd prems.

Deed

1812
2/25

(1) Shubert Armitage
William Bringhurst
} Surv. Exers u/w of George Bringhurst - Saddle-tree Maker, dead

(2) Clement Bringhurst
to
(3) Robert Bringhurst

(1) with consent of (2) testified by becoming a party to these presents do grant bargain sell etc.
Prems as next (134P)

Rec 6/22/1812
I C 20/455

Recited in A M 44/372

Robert Bringhurst died testate after whose death to wit at an Orphans Court held at Phila 9-12-1833 upon petn of sd Clements Bringhurst and Tudor R. Bringhurst Exers of sd Robert Bringhurst presented to sd Court setting forth that the personal Estate of sd Testator was insufficient for the payment of his debts and prayed the Court for an Order to make sale of sd real estate for payment of the debts of sd Testator -
Prayer of petn granted Order of Sale by sd Court.
1/17/1834 - Sale to Susanna Mason for $1775.00 confirmed by the Court.
Security apprd by the Court.

248

No. 5443 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

Deed

1834
2/5

Clement Bringhurst) Exors u/w of Robert
Tudor R. Bringhurst) Bringhurst, dcsd
to
Susanna Mason - Widow of Christopher Mason, dcsd.

Prems as next

Rec I. C. 20/455

Rec 2/24/1834
A.M. 44/572

Recited in A.C.H. 58 - 55

Susanna Mason died leaving Will dated 1-15-1844 wherein she did direct that if her nephew James Ashmead Jr pay into the hands of her Exors the sum of $3000.00 that then her Exors might and should make to sd James Ashmead Jr his h and a as full and ample a deed for this house and lot as she could do where she living at the time - as in and by sd recited will proved at Phila. and remaining in the Registers Office.

Deed

1844
5/24

William Green) Exors of Will of Susanna
James Ashmead Jr) Mason, dcsd
to
James Ashmead (nephew of Susanna Mason) Atty at Law

Prems as next (containing 134 P ½)

Rec A.M. 44/572

Rec 7/30/1862
A.C.H. 58/58

Recited in J.V. 295-451

James Ashmead died 11-16-1845 intestate without leaving a widow him surv. but six children and no issue of any dead child or children to wit:

No. 5448 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

SONS & DAUGHTERS OF JAMES ASHMEAD; DCD 11/16/1845 - INTESTATE

(4) William Ashmead died 1888 - left all to his 2 sisters WB 136, p. 569.
(1) James Ashmead - died 1850 intestate
(2) Charles P. Ashmead died 1866 - left all to bros. & sisters April 10, 1866
— Elizabeth F. A. Schaeffer
— Catharine Ashmead
(3) → George Ashmead died 1875 left all to his sisters, Eliz. & Catharine

James Ashmead one of the children of sd James Ashmead died 6-30-1850 intestate unmarried and without issue.

Charles P. Ashmead died 11-15-1866 (leaving to surv him a widow Clarissa B. Ashmead) leaving Will dated 4-10-1866 wherein he devised all his estate and property - R and P whatsoever and wheresoever unto his brothers and sisters namely:-
William Ashmead
Elizabeth F. A. Schaeffer
Catharine Ashmead
and George Ashmead
in equal shares as ten in com.
Sd Will proven 11-20-1866 at Phila. W Bk 58-599. No. 604
Clarissa B. Ashmead, widow of Chas P. Ashmead died on --

George Ashmead died on 2-3-1875 unmarried and without issue leaving Will dated 7-24-1866 wherein he devised all of his estate and property R and P whatsoever and wheresoever unto his sisters Elizabeth F. A. Schaeffer and Catharine Ashmead in equal shares as ten in com - sd Will proven 3-9-1875 at Phila. W. Bk 63-498. No. 190

Whereas Wm Elliott Esq High Shff of the C of P. by virtue of a writ of execution (in the above recited judgment) seised took in execution and sold and by Deed Poll dated 7-15-1876 ack'd in open court of C P #4 - and entered among the records thereof in Bk #2 p 532 granted and conveyed the Estate of sd Chas P. Ashmead, decd, and of the devisees and devisees of devisees of sd Chas P. Ashmead unto William A. Schaeffer.

Deed

1876
11/1

William A. Schaeffer (Minister)
to
William Ashmead (Doctor of Midicine)
Elizabeth F. A. Schaeffer - wife of Rev. Charles W. Schaeffer D.D.
Catharine Ashmead S.W. as ten in com.

All estate right title and interest of (1) being an und 1/5 part or share of in and to
(As)

Prems as next

Rec 11/21/1876
D.H.L. 60/86

No. 5443 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

1888

Recited in J.V. 295 - 451

William Ashmead died 8-2-1888 leaving to surv him a widow, Nancy M. Ashmead, having first made and pub his last W and T dated 2-11-1887 - wherein he did (ia) devise to his Trustees $30000.00 the income to be pd to his wife Nancy M Ashmead for life in lieu of her dower and did further will as foll. "all the R.R. and R of my estate R and P-I-G.D and B to my two sisters Elizabeth F.A. Schaeffer and Catharine Ashmead to be equally divided bet them - sd Will proved at Phila on 8-15-1888 W. Bk 136-569 #231

Nancy M. Ashmead widow died 1/13/1889

Deed

1890
10/30

1890

Catharine Ashmead - S.W.
to
Elisabeth F. A. Schaeffer wife of Rev Charles W. Schaeffer

All her estate right, title and interest of in and to

(ia)

(5) All that certain two story stone dwelling without bldgs (#4764) and lot of grd S.W.s Germantown Ave - 22nd Wd. beg at a cor of a lot of grd formerly of David Doehler and now or late of Samuel B. Morris th ext by the sd Germantown Ave N W 46' 6" to a cor of the land formerly of Robert Waln now or late of Mrs Armat - th by the sd Armats land S W. 21' to a cor-th S E 7" and th S.W alg sd Armats land 46 P 12' to a cor th S E 45' 11" to a cor th by land now or late of sd Samuel B. Morris 48 P to beg.

Rec 11/18/1890
G G P 720/133

1892

Death of Eliz
F.A. Schaeffer
WB 164, P206, No 1752

Deed

1901
9/28

1901

Catharine Ashmead S.W.
William Ashmead Schaeffer)Surv Exers and Trs u/w
Katharine E. Schaeffer)of Elizabeth F. A. Schaeffer, dcsd
Katharine E. Schaeffer, S.W
Evelyn Schuyler Schaeffer - Widow
George Schuyler Schaeffer - unmarried
Thomas J.D. Fuller and Elizabeth Ashmead Schaeffer h/w
Real Estate Title Ins and Trust Co Gdn of
Estate of Gertrude King Schuyler Schaeffer - a Minor
to
Rev. William Ashmead Schaeffer - D.D.

5.

251

No. 5448 - 5450 Germantown Ave.

1901

All their estate right title and interest of in and to

(1a) (2) All that certain lot or piece of grd with the bldgs and improvements thereon erected sit in 22nd Wd. Survey -
S.Ws Germantown Ave (#5448) 181' 7" S E from S.Es of School St. th ext alg the S W s of Gtn Ave S 45° 54' 20" E 47' 3" th S 44° 36' 20" W 268' 9" th N.W par with Gtn Ave 47' 3 1/4" ± N 45° E 247' 9" th N 45° W 7" th N 45° E 21' to beg. formerly (# 4784).

Rec A C H 58-55 Rec 10-21-1901 - J V 295 - 451

Recited in W.S.V. 1003-110

Whereas Catherine Ashmead and others by 2 separate indentures dated 9-28-1901 - rec in J.V. 295 p 451 and J.V. 277-516 granted and conveyed several larger lots or pieces of grd (inc prems hereinafter desed) unto Wm Ashmead Schaeffer.

Wm Ashmead Schaeffer died 7-27-1907 (leaving to surv him a widow Elizabeth H. T. Schaeffer) leaving Will dated 2-14-1907 with Codicil thereto proved and rec'd in Phila in W. Bk 288-195 wherein he did will as foll - appoints wife Elizabeth H.T. Schaeffer and E. Augustus Miller, Esq Exors with power to sell real estate and Lets Test were granted to sd Exors on 8-9-1907.
Whereas at an Orphans Court for C of Phila - 1908 as of Jany T. 1908 #200-the petn of Elliston P. Morris was presented setting forth that he had agreed to pure prems hereinafter desed for $25606.66 and prayed that the Court order and decree he pay unto sd Exors to be disposed of according to the uses and trusts contained in Will of Wm Ashmead Schaeffer, dead the pure money.
Decree granted on -- 1908
Security entered in sum of $52000.00

Deed

1908

1903
8/13

Elizabeth H.T. Schaeffer
E Augustus Miller
to
Elliston P. Morris

} Exors of Will of Wm Ashmead Schaeffer, dead

All those 2 lots or pieces of grd with the bldgs and improvements thereon erected sit in 22nd Wd of C. of P.
Survey 1-28-1903

(1a)
(1) S.W.s Germantown Ave (60'w) 123' 10 1/2" S.E. from S.Es School House Lane (50'w) as on the City Plan th ext alg sd S.Ws of Gtn Ave. S 69° 58' 40" E 47' 5" to a pt - th S 42° 50' 46" W 150' 3 7/8" to a pt th N 48° 58' 40" W 46' 7 1/8" to a pt th N 41° 54' 50" E par with School House Lane

APPENDIX N
THE GEORGE BRINGHURST PROPERTY
IN 18TH CENTURY
DEEDS, MORTGAGES, WILLS, AND NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Deed Book G9, p. 118
George Bringhurst, Yeoman[?]
to
Joshua Crosby, Gentleman
Philadelphia City
November 7, 1747 — November 7, 1747
£400 Mortgage

*** . . . beginning at a stone set in Germantown Street It being also ye corner of land late of John Ashmeads and thence extending southeast by the said Street 11 perches and 12 feet to another stone set for a corner thence southwest 48 perches to a third stone set for a corner thence northwest 11 perches & 12 feet to a fourth stone being another corner of ye said John Ashmeads land to the place of beginning . . . 3½ acres

. . . beginning at a stone being also a corner of Henry Pastorius Land by the Cross Street towards Schuylkill & thence extending southeast by the said Pastorius' land 28 perches 8 feet to a stone. . . 13 acres

. . . Between Germantown and Cresheim . . .10 acres.

Mortgage Book X 1, pp. 179-80:

George Bringhurst, Sadler, & wife
to
Joseph Sims, Merchant, Philadelphia
£100 Mortgage — February 27, 1749

/. . .two certain pieces or parcels of land situated in the Inhabited part of Germantown Beginning at a stone standing by the Cross Street towards Schuylkill being a corner of John Ashmeads Land Thence by the said Ashmeads Land, other Land of said Bringhurst and Land of Mathias Tyson & Land late of Henry Pastorius deceased South East 28 perches & 8 foot to the meeting house lot; Thence by the same Lot South West 10 perches and 4 foot to a Corner Stone of Samuel Ashmeads Land Thence by the said Samuel Ashmeads land North West 28 perches & 8 foot to a stone by the Cross Street towards Schyylkill thence Northeast 10 perches & 4 feet to the Place of beginning containing 1 acre and 4/5. . . and,

8 acres in Northern Liberties. . .

APPENDIX N

Pennsylvania Gazette, May 2, 1751: May 1751

To be sold by publick vendue, by the Subscriber, in Germantown, on the 19th day of May inst. Seventeen lots of land,* three whereof fronting the market-place, each containing in breadth thirty-six feet, and in depth seven hundred ninetyOtwo feet; thirteen lots in the land leading from the market-place to Robeson's Mill, joining Samul McCall, Senior, his land, each lot four perches front, and twenty-eight perches, eight feet in depth; and one lot of land containing ten acres, at the upper end of Germantown, joining John Johnson's land, three acres wherof cleared, and one half planted with good grafted apple-trees. The vendue to begin at ten o clock, where due attendance will be given by George Bringhurst.

Pennsylvania Gazette, May 21, 1752: May 1752

All persons indebted to the estate of George Bringhurst, late of Germantown, deceased, are desired to pay their respective debts. . . Anna Bringhurst, Execuu

N.B. To be sold, by said Anna Bringhurst, eleven lots of land,* 9 on the road leading to Robinson's mill, joyning Mc Call's land: Also ten acres of land, at the upper end of Germantown, the most part having wood thereon. Likewise 8 acres and a half of land, in the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia: . . .most part wood land and meadow.

Deed Book H2, pp. 154 and 157:
Anna Bringhurst
to
Joshua Crosby
£26, 13 shillkngs, 4 pence April 11, 1752
close mortgage of 1747 on lot or piece of ground 40 feet by 48 perches.

Anna Bringhurst
to
David Deshler, Shopkeeper April 13, 1752
£66-13s-4p
lot of ground 40 feet front by 48 perches

* Underscoring the writer's.

APPENDIX N

Will Book I-K, p. 503, No. 310 1/2:
Inventory of the Estate Late of
George Bringhurst, April 21, 1752 — April 21, 1752

The house & Lot whereon the widow lives	£200
The house John Bringhurst Dwels in	£200
The lot a Joyning David Deshlers	£ 66-13-4
The young orchard frunting Ashmeads land	£ 40-0-0
Ten acers Seven therof woodland at the upper end of Germantown	£ 66-0-0
Eight acers & half land lying in the Northern liberties of Philadelphia	£ 50-0-0
12 lots frunting Ashmeads land	[£289]*

Aprised John Jones
Dan[l] Mᵉckenet

Total Estate valued at £905-0-1 1/2
*Writer ommitted this figure unintentionally when transcribing from original.

Will Book L-M, p. 506, No. 321:
Will of Anna Bringhurst
August 6, 1760 — August 6, 1760

Anna divided the estate equally in five parts:

to: John		to: Sarah Bringhurst Palmer's	
George	sons, and,	children,	Elizabeth
Samuel			Anna
William			Mary
			George

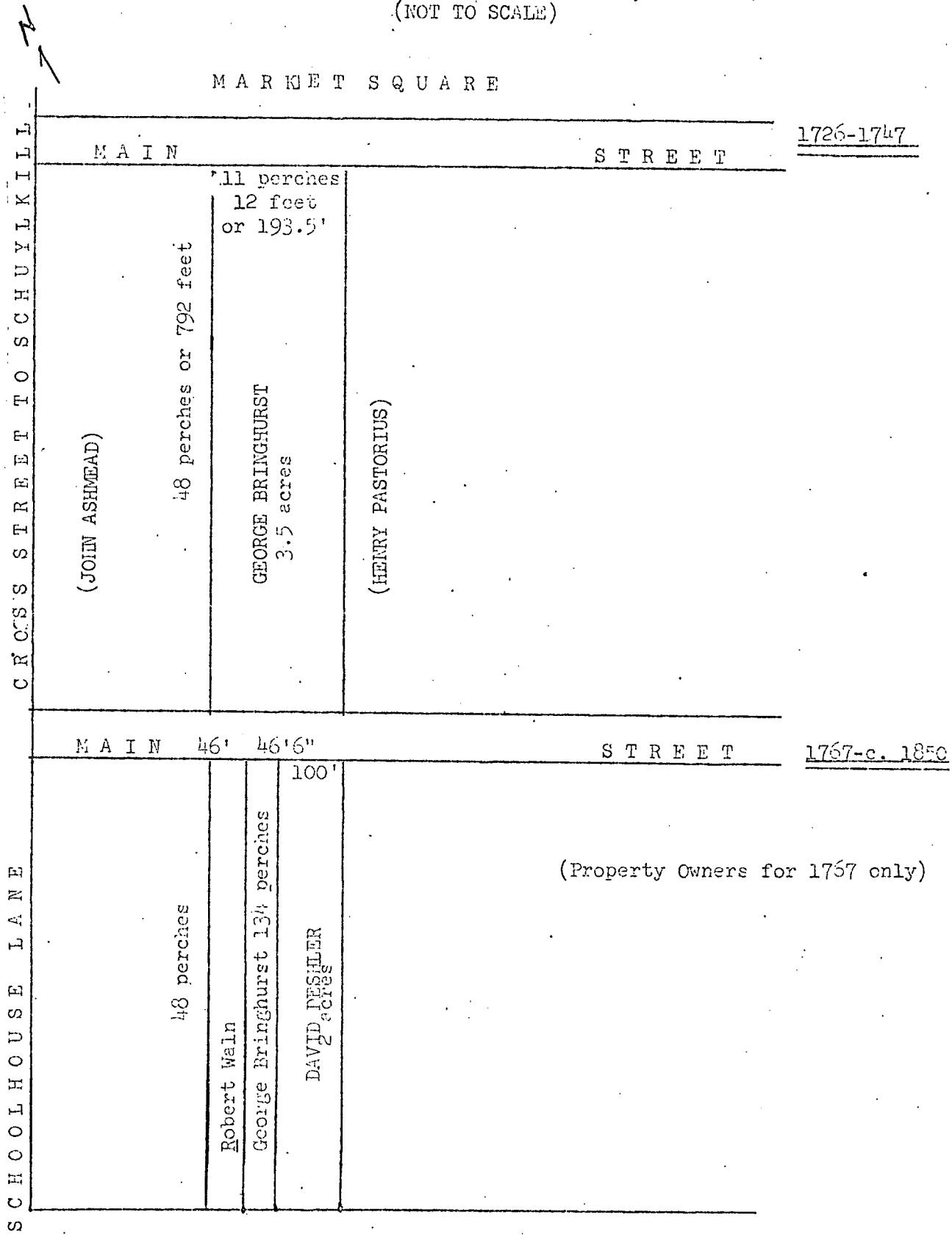
Deed Book I.C.20, p. 442:
John Bringhurst, Sadler
to
George Bringhurst, Saddle tree maker
January 5, 1763 January 5, 1763

£60 . . .
"one fifth part of and in a Certain Two Story Messuage or Tenement & of a piece or lot of ground whereon the same Messuage is erected fronting the Germantown Market Place (It being the late dwelling or Mansion House of the late George Bringhurst Senr the late Father of them the said John & George Bringhurst parties hereunto which said piece of land or lot of ground Beginning of this and of David Deshlers lot fronting the Main Street or Market Place. . .by the Main Street 46 feet 6 inches to another corner of this and of a lot lately granted by the said John Bringhurst to Robert Waln thence by the said Robert Waln's lot Southwest twenty one feet to a corner southeast seven inches to another corner thence further by the said Robert Waln's lot southwest forty six perches twelve feet [134 perches] the same lot. . .which Daniel Markennet Junr. May 26 1755 did grant to Anna Bringhurst the late mother. . . part of certain three and one half acres . . . John Jarret [to] George Bringhurst, 1726.

Mortgage Book X 11, p. 324:
George Bringhust, Saddletree Maker
to
John Ingle, Cordwainer, of Germantown
February 7, 1767 February 7, 1767

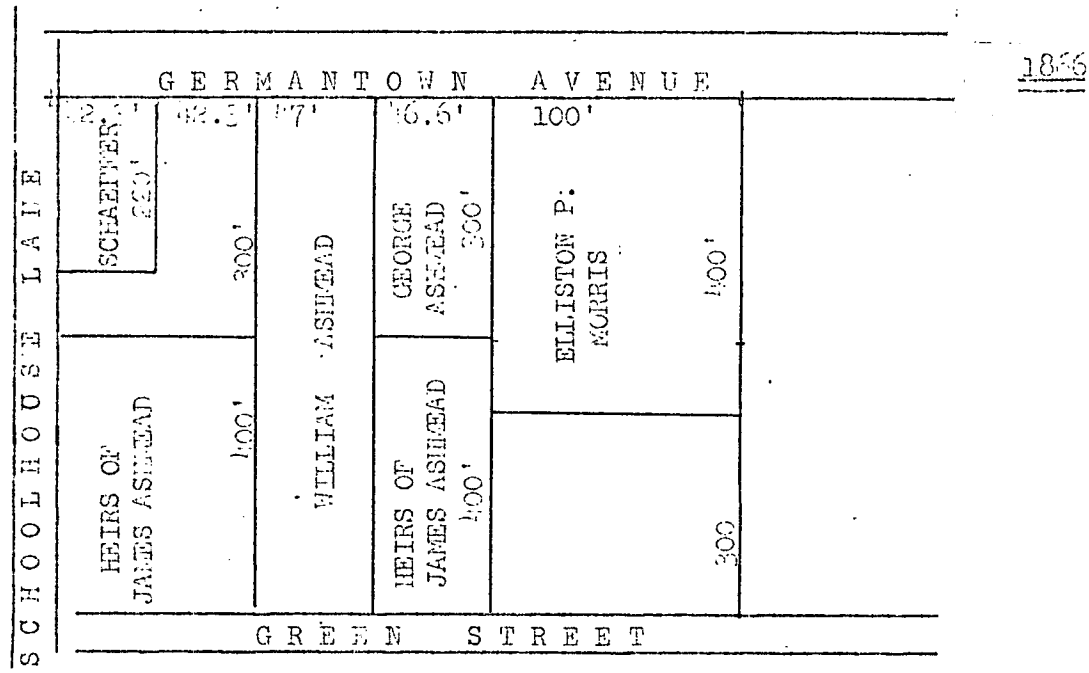
£200 Mortgage
For equal and undivided parts of and in a certain Messuage or Tenemenet, wherein he now dwells & lot or peice of land thereunto belonging . . . opposite the Market Place or ground of said house beginning at a corner of this and David Deshlers lot and thence extending by the Main Street of the said town Northwesterly forty six feet and six inches to a corner of this and Robert Walns Lot thence by the said Robert Walns Lot South West 21 feet to a corner and southeast 7 inches to another corner thence by the same southwest 46 perches and 12 feet to a Corner and further by the same Southeast 45 feet & 11 perches to a corner of this & the said Robert Walns & of the Said David Deshlers Lot thence by the said David Deshlers lot Northeast 48 perches to the place of beginning, containing 134 perches.
4/5 parts...
[Samuel & William the day before transferred their rights to George, John in 1763, and George's from will of 1760.]

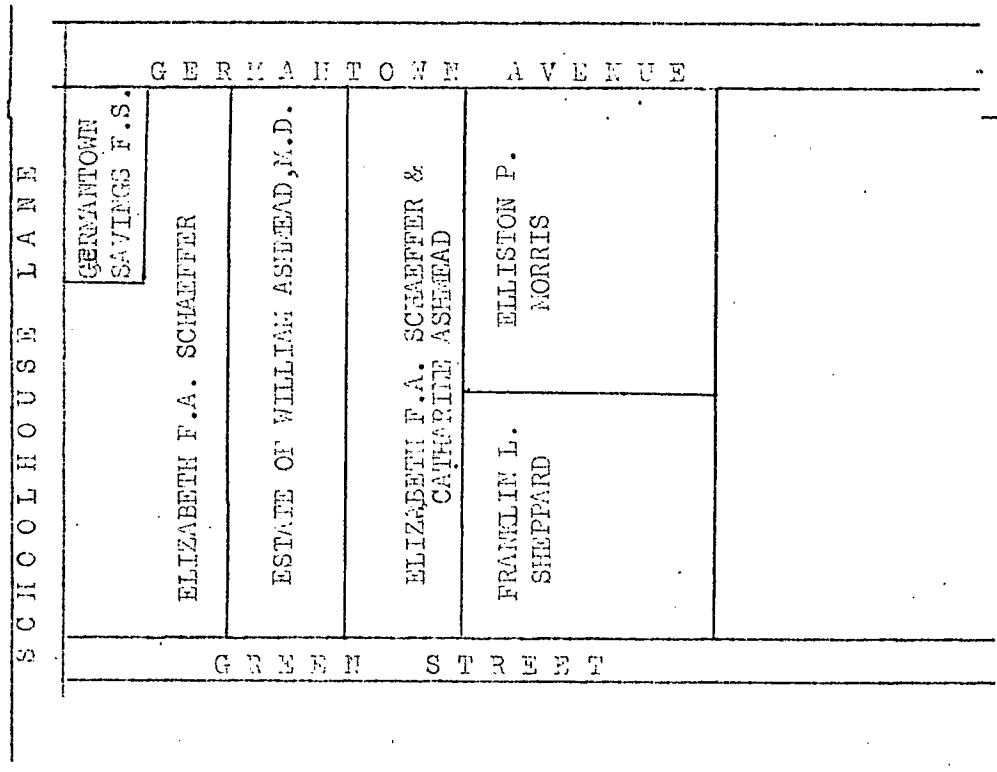
APPENDIX D
THE BRINGHURST HOUSE LOT, 1726-1889
(NOT TO SCALE)



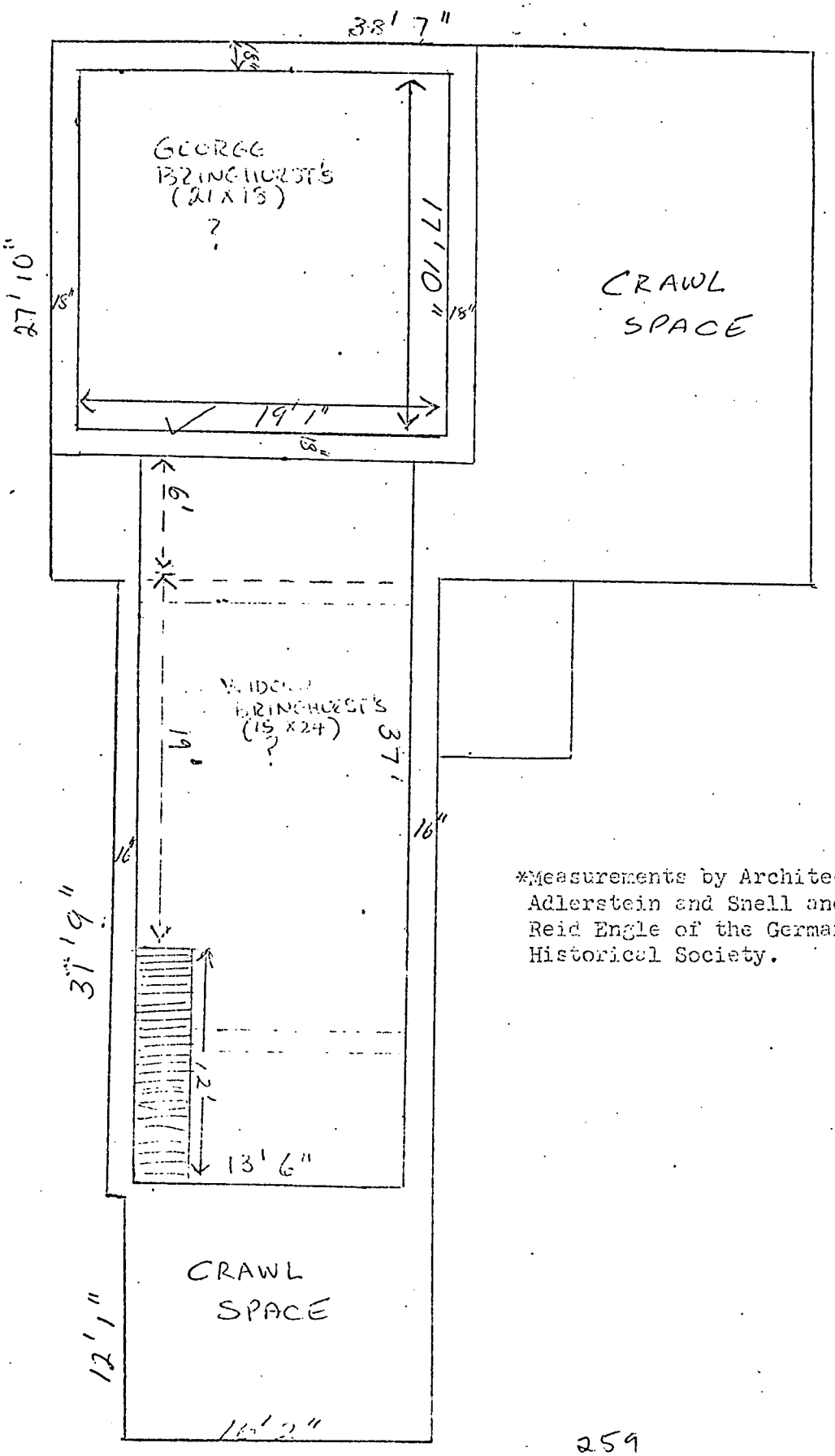
APPENDIX O

MARKET SQUARE





APPENDIX B
THE BRINGHURST HOUSE & BASEMENT, 1974
(NOT TO SCALE)*



*Measurements by Architects Adlerstein and Snell and by Reid Engle of the Germantown Historical Society.

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Many bibliographical leads as well as sources had been collected by researchers at Independence National Historical Park before this report was programmed. The microfilm collection, the photogtats, the published histories and articles, and the research notes in the park library provided the core of research for this project.

The available information on David Dehhler proved dissappointing, as it relied heavily on family recollections gathered by Deshler descendants. While family tradition usually perpetuates innaccuracies, it also provides a kernel of truth which supplementary documentation may support. Similarly, the information gathered by John Watson, in his Annals of Philadelphia, contain predictable errors-- products of man's frail memory. Neverthcless, these sources develpp a basis for understanding the public reactions of and to the owners or residents of the Deshler-Morris House, and for this reason have been incorporated into the report.

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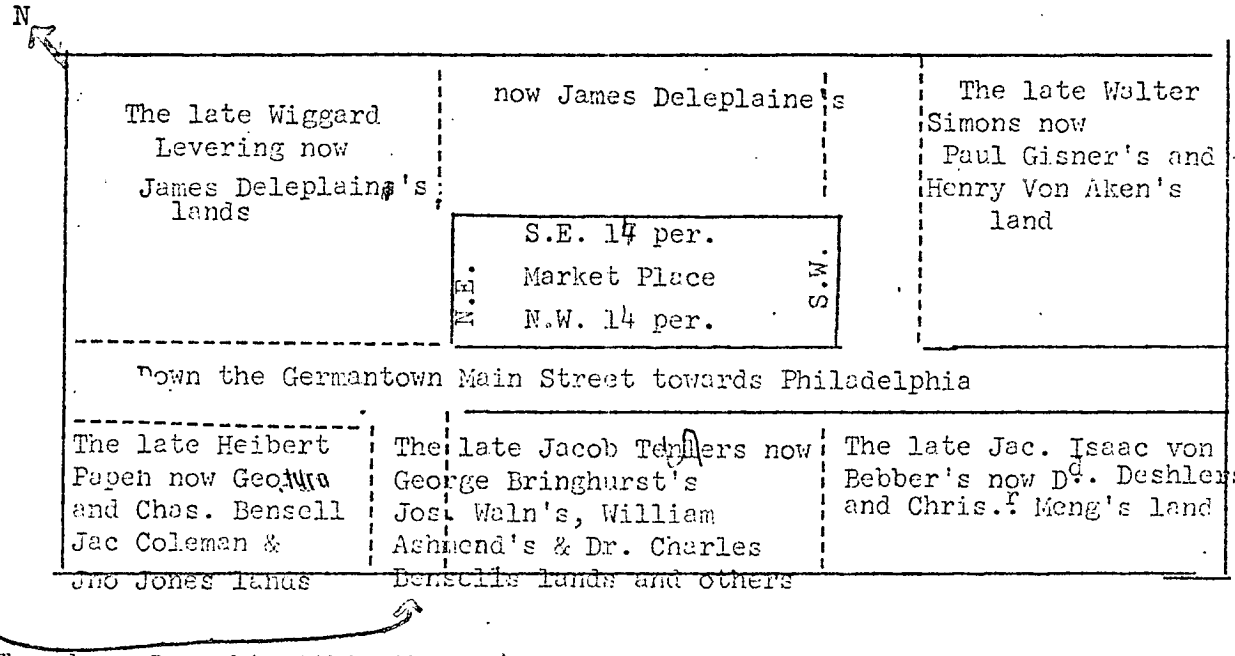
Interviews:

M. Montgomery with Anna Coxe Toogood, October, 1973

ILLUSTRATIONS

1. " An Explanation of the Original Location & General Plan or Draught of the Lands & Lots of Germantown & Cressam Townships copied from Mattias Zimmerman's Original of June 26, 1746 and of the Several Districts & Divisions thereof Part extracted from Original & Former Draughts & part done & taken from actual Mensuration Drawn by Christopher Lehman July 28, 1766. Now carefully recopied (Jany 1st 182^{4}) by his Grandson Joseph Lehman for his father Benjamin Lehman, " p. 49.

This large, bound volume is part of the collection at the Gemmantown Historical Society.



The above Draught within the Red and Green Lines is a Plan of the Germantown Market Place containing 1/2 an acre of Land . . .And the above limits agreeable to the above Draught were on the 14th day of September A.D. 1740 properly surveyed fixed & ascertained by Benjamin Eastburn Surveyor General of the Province of Pennsylvania in the Presence of the Sundry Inhabitants to wit

James Delaplain Junr
Dirck Johnson
George Bensell
John Jones Senr
Blasius Danl Mackenet
John Johnson
George Bringhurst
Frederic Ax
Richard Johnson

Paul Engle
Mathias Adams Hogermead
John Ashmead Junr
Christopher Meng
Dirck Keyser
Christian Warner
& Also in my Presence . . .
Christian Lehman

True Copy from the original 1823 Joseph Lehman

Not to Scale or in Proportion

1. " An Explanation of the Original Location & General Plan or Draught of the Lands & Lots of Germantown & Cressam Townships copied from Mattias Zimmerman's Original of June 26, 1746 and of the Several Districts & Divisions thereof Part extracted from Original & Former Draughts & part done & taken from actual Mensuration Drown by Christopher Lehman July 28, 1766. Now carefully recopied (Jany 1st 1824) by his Grandson Joseph Lehman for his futher Benjamin Lehman, " p. 49.

This large, bound volume is part of the collection at the Gemmantown Historical Society.

2. Samuel Morris' Sketch of His Family Home, 1842

This sketch by 16-year-old Samuel for his father provides the earliest known pictorial evidence of the Deshler-Morris House.

From, Reminiscences 1842 Germantown, loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises, Southampton, Pennsylvania.

3. Photograph of Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses, 1859

This photograph is the earliest one known to exist. Note the close likeness with the 1842 sketch by Samuel Morris, and the construction of the Bringhurst House before the present roof was added.

Photograph by R. Newell & Son; a print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs.

4. The Deshler-Morris House and Bringhurst House, 1861

Note the changes made to the chimneys of the Deshler-Morris House and to the south wall of the Bringhurst House.

Photograph by R. Newell & Son; print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

5. The Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses From Market Square, 1876

On the back of this family photograph Marriott C. Morris, Printer, set the date of 8th Month 1876. Note the new "vertical link" fence and the back roof line of the Bringhurst House.

Photograph by Marriott C. Morris; print from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

6/ The Deshler-Morris House from Market Square, 1883.

Note the two buttonwood trees lining Market Square which Samuel B. Morris planted to beautify the public grounds, and note the new roof on the house.

Photograph by Marriott C. Morris; print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

7. The Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses, Winter of 1887-8

On the back of the photograph was written:
"The Old Home. No. 4782 Main St. Germantown Philadelphia
Now the residence of Elliston P. Morris
Taken by Rebecca K. Cooper, winter of 1887&8
On the sop step stands Elliston P. Morris, on the
Second Step, Joseph B. Cooper, and on Dr. Wm Ashmeads
pavement is Merriott C. Morris.
Present to Beulah M. Rhoads by her
Cousin Joseph B. Cooper 1 Mo. 1887"

Note the additions and alterations on both roofs.

Photograph by Rebecca K. Cooper; print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

8. The Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses, Winter of 1887-8

See Preceeding photograph for notes and source.

9. Deshler-Morris House, 1891

This photograph shows the earliest known view of the north wall.

Photograph of Arthur M. Wood, Germantown; Print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

10. The Deshler-Morris and Bringhurst Houses, 1901

Note the roof alterations and "face lift" of the Bringhurst House.

Photograph by Marriott C. Morris; print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs

11. The Houses on Main Street, Across from Market Square, 1904

From left to right, in 1904: the Morris house, the Schaeffer house, the Ashmead house, the Ashmead house(?), and the Germantown Savings Fund Society. The two structures on the right no longer stand. A new bank building replaces the one shown here.

Photograph byJJ. B. Rich; print made from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs.

12. The Deshler-Morris House and Bringhurst House, 1974

Note the recessed 1909 bathroom addition on the north wall of the Deshler-Morris House.

The Bringhurst House appears with a new facing, no doubt applied during the Germantown Savings FundSociety's 1949 remodeling for office use.

Photograph by Michael Adlerstein.

13. Sketch of Deshler-Morris House from the Grounds, 1842

Samuel's depiction of the house and wing revealed the original door locations for the 1752 kitchen.

The sketch offers a good picture of the shaded grounds.

Sketch from, Reminiscences 1842 Germantown, loaned by the Ellistons P. Morrises.

14. The "Schoolhouse," 1842

The Morris childrens' schoolhouse from 1839-42 apparently served as President Washington's carriage house in 1793-4. (See next illustration for source.)

From, Reminiscences, 1842, Germantown, loaded by the Elliston P. Morrises of Southampton, Pennsylvania.

L5. The Schoolhouse with Pupils, 1842

Samuel's sketch of the interior of the schoolhouse whith his summer schoolmates is explained in the following illustration.

From, Reminiscences, 1842, Germantown, xx loaned by the Ellistcn P. Morrises of Southampton, Pa.

16. The Schoolhouse Pupils,[1842]

This key to the 1842 sketch by Samuel Morris was provided in 1887 by his sister, Beulah, as noted on the backside of this illustration in the volume of sketches.

From Reminiscences, 1842, Germantown, loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises of Southampton, Pennsylvania.

17. "The Shop" 1842

As explained in the text, this small, frame structure was built by Samuel B. Morris for his two sons as a carpenter's shop around 1840.

From, Reminscences, 1842, Germantown, loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises of Southampton, Pa.

18. Fencing along Schoolhouse Lane, 1842.

This post-and-rail fencing down Schoolhouse lane probably served as well in the 18th century as property lines.

From, Reminiscnences, 1852, Germantown, loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises, Southampton, Pa.

19. Market Square, Germantown, 1842.

This sketch of Market Square shows the
18th century fire house and market house,
, which indicates that Germantown
had not yet "modernized" in 1842.

From, Reminiscenses, 1842, Germantown,
loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises,
Southampton, Pa.

20. Mill Street or Church Lane from the Deshler-Morris House, 1842

Looking east down Mill Street Samuel captured the rural setting in Germantown in 1842, one which had changed little from the precedding century.

Note the young buttonwood trees which Samuel Sr. had planted along the perimeter of Market Square.

From, Reminiscenses, 1842, Germantown,
loaned by the Elliston P. Morrises,
Southampton, Pa.

21. The Deshler-Morris House and Grounds, 1870.

The earliest dated photograph showing the broad expanse of lawn, and the shaded protection of the grounds.
The gravel path remains as it was in 1842, when Samuel sketched the back of the house, even though E.P. Morris had the grounds landscaped in 1867. This gravel path has been obliterated only within the past 5 years by Mrs. M. Montgomery.

Photographer unknown. Photo copied from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pennsyvlania.

22. The Deshler-Morris House and Grounds, c. 1870.

Although not dated, this photograph resembled the preceding one in appearance (cardboard backing, coloration, etc.).

Note the horizontal plank fence which appeared in the 1842 sketch of Samuel Morris.

The large horsechesnut tree apparently was planted by Samuel B. Morris, according to the inscription on another, later, photograph. This tree remained a spectular feature on the grounds until the 1960s, when it was removed.

The Morris family members (?) have not been identified.

Photographer unknown. Photograph copied from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pa.

23. The Deshler-Morris House Grounds, c. 1876.

The existence of the vertical link fence along the front of the property dates this photograph atleast 1876, (see Illustration 5), and the absence of a second story over the brick washn house dates it earlier than 1884.

Another undated family photographs identifies the Horse Chesnut tree as one planted by Samuel B. Morris.

Photographer unknown. Photograph copied from Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pa.

24. Deshler- Morris House and Grounds, Post-1884.

The wash house has a second story, barely discerned through the trees, which indicates the photograph was taken after 1884.

Note the gravel path, possibly a vestige in part from the 18th century gardens.

Marriott C. Morris, Photographer. Photograph copied from Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pa.

25. Deshler-Morris House and Grounds, Post-1884.

Again, the second story over the wash house can be barely discerned as shadow through the trees, so dating the photograph after 1884.

The gravel paths, lawn, and hedge all appear well tended, as all accounts of the grounds during the 19th and 20th centuries have docuemnted.

Photographer unknown. Photograph copied from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pennsylvania.

26. Deshler-Morris House Grounds, no date.

The only family photograph of the west end of the grounds.

Photograph by Merriott C. Morris. Photo copied from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, pa.

27. Deshler-Morris Grounds after Storm, 1902.

On the back of the photograph was written:
"Great Elm Tree at 5442 Main Street Germantown,
After the great sleet storm of 2 mo. 21, 1902."

Photographer Unknown. Photograph copied from the
Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pa.

28. Deshler-Morris Grounds, Post-1909.

This postcard photograph of the grounds shows the addition of the Bringhurst House grounds to the garden , and what appears to be a large flower or vegetable garden.

The porch of the house has been enclosed to make a conservatory during the winter.

Photographer unknown, Photograph copied from the Elliston P. Morris Family Photographs, Southampton, Pa.

29. Deshler-Morris House and Grounds, 1974

The house with its 1909 additions and after the 1949 National Park Service Restoration.

The grounds appear as they have been restored by Mrs. Montgomery of the Germantown Historical Society. Note the absence of the horse chesnut tree and the gravel paths.

Photograph by George Eisman.

PLANNING DIRECTIVE

PACKAGE NO. 129

recommended

Acting Team Manager, Historic Preservation Team — Date 8/8/74

Manager, DSC — Date

Superintendent, Independence NHP — Date

Manager, Harpers Ferry Center — Date

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Harpers Ferry Center
Library

Deshler-Morris House

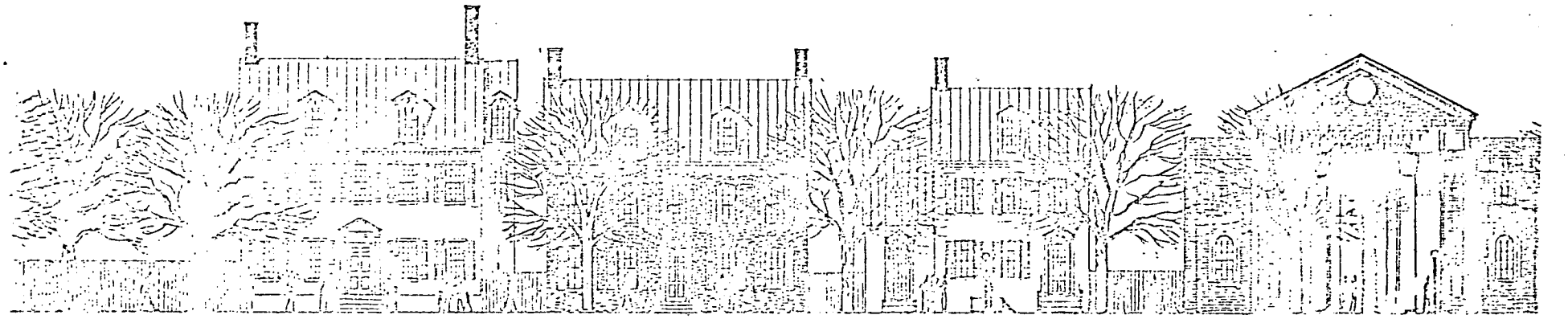
Independence National Historical Park

Denver Service Center
August 1974

approved

Regional Director — Date

Mid-Atlantic
Region



GERMANTOWN AVE MARKET SQUARE

PART I

DESCRIPTION

The Deshler-Morris House stands about six miles northwest of downtown Philadelphia, in Germantown, on Market Square, the hub of the Germantown Historic Neighborhood. Package No. 129 will contain the historical data section and the architectural data section required for an historic structure report. The package will also include research by the historian on the historic grounds and furnishings at the period of interest, 1793 to 1794, when President Washington leased the house.

The adjacent structure, known as the Bringhurst house, has recently been acquired by the National Park Service to be included in the development of historic Germantown. The historian and architect will study this historic structure to make recommendations for its future use. The proximity of the Bringhurst house allows the two structures to have complementary functions and restoration proposals for either must include both.

TEAM

Anna Coxe Toogood, Historian, Denver Service Center
Michael Adlerstein, Architect, Denver Service Center
Wilfred D. Logan, Archeologist, Denver Service Center

CONSULTANTS

Superintendent and staff, Independence National Historical Park
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
Harpers Ferry Center
Historic Preservation Team, Denver Service Center
Team Manager, North Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic Team
Office of Contract Administration, Denver Service Center
Planning and Design Consultants, Mid-Atlantic Team, Denver Service Center
Park Historic Preservation, WASO

PART II

SCOPE OF WORK:

A. Historic Structure Report

This report will be prepared by the Historian and the Historical Architect. The Historian will provide data from documentary sources on the history of the structure, its inhabitants, its historical significance and physical changes to the structure over the years.

The Architect will examine the structure to provide written and graphic data on the physical attributes, construction sequence of the fabric, and condition of the structures and their environments. In addition, he will generally describe the work required for the continued use and preservation, interpretation, and management function of both the Deshler-Morris House and the historic Bringhurst House. The basic research criteria will include, but not be limited to, the following general requirements:

1. Consideration of the aesthetic, historical and functional relationship between the Bringhurst House and Deshler-Morris House to coordinate recommended development of the historic structure.

2. Study of past restoration work, including reevaluation of a previous paint study.

3. Study of fabric of remainder of main house of the Deshler-Morris House and the historic Bringhurst House.

4. Study of adjoining outbuildings of Deshler-Morris to determine their construction sequence, their value to the complex and their level of treatment.

5. Consideration of interior and exterior spaces and their appropriateness for exhibits and audio visual installation and management functions.

6. Brief evaluation of the Bringhurst House: reconstruction sequence of the fabric and structural and mechanical conditions.

7. Study of need for visitor restroom facilities.

8. Study of need for fire detection, suppression systems and security systems.

9. Consideration of air conditioning system and/or renovation of existing heating system.

10. Consideration of renovation of existing plumbing and electrical systems and telephone system.

B. Historic Furnishings Report

The historian will provide data from documentary sources on the historic furnishings in the house during Washington's residency in 1793-1794.

C. Historic Grounds Report

The historian will provide data from documentary sources on the historic grounds of the Deshler-Morris house in 1793-1794.

D. Archeological Investigation

Archeology will be carried out to establish the historic grade of the grounds, especially between the wing and old outbuilding of the house, as well as to determine what else stood in this area. In addition, archeological investigation will identify the location of historic outbuildings and will reveal the character of the building's exits by an excavation around the floors between the wing and main house.

E. Interpretation

Furnishings plan and mini-propectus for Deshler-Morris will be accomplished by park personnel. Preservation of existing furniture items and acquisition of new furniture and furnishings will be the responsibility of Harpers Ferry. The Germantown Historical Society will provide interpretive services until the park can take over.

The Bringhurst House will serve as an adjunct to Deshler-Morris, with historical exhibits. Funding of this interpretive design is projected for the post-Bicentennial period.

PART III

BASIC DATA

Roy E. Appleman, "Report on the Perot-Morris House, Germantown, Pennyslvania, August 6, 1948," Independence National Historical Park

PROGRAMMED FUNDS -- PACKAGE NO. 129

Project Type	Amount	F.Y.	Account No.
31 Archeological Investigation	$ 15,000	'75	A123
34 Historic Furnishings	7,500	'74	5150
35 Historic Grounds	6,000	'74	5189
35 Historic Structure Report (History & Architecture)	12,500	'74	5185
36 Historic Structure Drawings	30,000	'75	A137
36 Historic Structure Drawings	40,000	'75	A137-402
37 Supervision	71,000	'75	B151
53 Museum Services	20,000	'75	A122
54 Museum Services (Acquisition of Furnishings)	200,000	'75	A005
91 Construction (Preservation of Furnishings)	270,000	'75	A005

ESTIMATED WORK SCHEDULE

Archeological Investigation of Grounds	July 1974 - September 1974
Historic Furnishings	September 1973 - April 1974
Historic Structure Report (History)	September 1973 - April 1974
Historic Structure Report (Architecture)	January 1974 - June 1974
Historic Structure Drawings	July 1974 - September 1974
Museum Services	July 1974 - June 1975
Construction	November 1974 - September 1975