Franey 7/14

JUL 15 1964

H30-RHA

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC

From: Acting Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: The Todd House Grounds and Neighboring Properties, Fourth and Walnut Streets (Supplement No. 1), INHP

Enclosed for your review is a copy of Supplement No. 1 to the report on The Todd House Grounds and Neighboring Properties, Fourth and Walnut Streets.

May we have your comments at your earliest convenience.

George A. Palmer

Enclosure

cc:
Superintendent, Independence
Mr. Whitcraft

GMFraney
General
Daily
Area

CRBIC #002092
391/134870

SUPPLEMENT I TO THE TODD HOUSE GROUNDS AND NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES: FOURTH AND WALNUT STREETS

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

June 1964

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

IN REPLY REFER TO:
~~D30LA~~
D32

Independence National Historical Park
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

July 8, 1964

Northeast Region
JUL 9 1964
Initial and Date
Reg. Director
Asst. to R[illegible] (PA)
[illegible] (Rec. L)
[illegible] as Adv.
Asst [illegible] dm.
[illegible] rop.
[illegible]
Programs
Asst. Reg. Dir. Oper.
Interp. & VS
Land & Water
Maintenance
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Superintendent, Independence NHP

Subject: Landscape Development, Walnut Street, Third to Fourth, Preliminary Drawing No. NHP-IND 3242A, Independence

Posted JMF

Forwarded in accordance with our memorandum of April 21, 1964 and that of Chief, EODC, April 15, 1964, are three copies of the supplement to the Todd House Historic Grounds Report effecting corrections of the dimensions and location of the Todd stable.

M. O. Anderson

M. O. Anderson

Enclosures (3)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Independence National Historical Park
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D30-LA

APR 21 1964

Northeast Region	Initial and Date
Reg. Director	
Asst. to RD (Ops)	
Asst. to RD (Plng)	
Resource Mgt & Adv.	
Asst. [illegible]	
Engineering	
Planning	
Properties	
[illegible]	
Interpretation	
[illegible]	
Management	
[illegible]	
[illegible]	
Asst. for Federal	
Fed'l Agency Assts.	
NPS Studies	
State Assistance	

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast

From: Superintendent, Independence NHP

Subject: Landscape Development, Walnut Street, Third to Fourth, Preliminary Drawing No. NHP-IND 3242A, Independence

Posted Ind

The memorandum dated April 15th, 1964 to the Regional Director, Northeast Region, from Chief EODC on The Landscape Development, Walnut Street, Third to Fourth, Preliminary Drawing No. NHP-IND 3242A Independence, has been reviewed by this office.

While the scheme in its present preliminary state is satisfactory, there are certain details and observations to which we would like to draw your attention to assist you in preparing the larger scale preliminary detailed plan.

Since the present drawing was made, we have obtained data from the Federal Direct Tax list of 1798 for this district which establishes that the stable on Fourth Street back of the Todd House was a frame building 12 x 15 feet on a lot 24 x 60. This will necessitate the re-study of this building and its location, and the related ground features. We will undertake to amend accordingly the relevant sections of the Historic Grounds Report, The Todd House and Neighboring Properties and forward the amended report for your information at an early date.

We anticipate that the more detailed and larger-scale preliminary drawings that precede the working drawings will give full weight and consideration to the recommended landscape and other features, such as fences, gates, pavement patterns, planting, movables, etc., shown in illustration No. 2 of the Todd House and Neighboring Properties Report of January 1963.

M. O. Anderson

M. O. Anderson

CC: Chief, EODC

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
Philadelphia, Pa. - 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D30-LA

April 15, 1964

Northeast Region
APR 15 1964

	Initial and Date
Reg. Director	
Asst. to RD (PA)	
Asst. to Reg. Dir. (Dev. I)	
Asst. to Reg. Dir. (Res. Adv.)	
Asst. to Reg. Dir. (Adm.)	
Finance & Prop.	
Personnel	
Regional Chief	
Asst. Reg. Dir.-Oper.	
Chief, S.V.S.	
Chief, S.W.	
Maintenance	
Master Plan Coord.	
Res. Management & VP	
Chief, Div. of Acq.	
Chief, Div. of Cons.	
Chief, Div. of Cons.	
Chief, Div. of Cons.	

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Chief, EODC

Subject: Landscape Development, Walnut Street, Third to Fourth, Preliminary Drawing No. NHP-IND 3242A, Independence

The subject plan has been revised and is resubmitted herewith for your review and approval. The plan, recommended by me today, incorporates more recent historic and architectural base information supplied by the Park, in respect to the Dilworth-Todd-Moylan and Bishop White Houses, as outlined in Superintendent Anderson's approval memorandum of the subject plan October 4, 1962.

Also, referencing your October 8, 1962 memorandum of implied disapproval, we attach our bibliography and a resume of the research information determining and supporting the preparation of the attached plan. Our research supported most emphatically that the use of simple geometric pattern, as expressed in our original submission, was the typical garden design principle of the Colonial period. The gardens proposed for the Walnut Street house have been conceived to provide that sort of Colonial atmosphere.

You will note the revisions to the grounds layout for St. Joseph's Church. The modification reflects a more basic and simplified layout for the Church setting -- a structure of considerable plainness, as you mentioned in your previous review.

The garden to the east of the Bishop White House was designed for its period interest and interpretation of the stately formal and dignified qualities of both the Merchants Exchange and the Bishop White House. We do not believe it valid in design to repeat the serpentine garden in this location, in spite of its successful application at Fifth and Chestnut Streets. It is our design intent to institute a variable -- but proportionate and accurate -- theme of gardens in the Park, which undoubtedly would have been Colonially devised.

The design for the gardens of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, as indicated in plan, were approved by mutual review between the Society and the Park, January 17, 1963, with your concurrence on February 27. Minor modifications requested by the Society have been incorporated in the plans.

The scheme of development for the grounds surrounding the Dilworth-Todd-Moylan and Hibbard Houses follows as closely as possible the Historic Grounds report prepared and recommended in March 1963. Also, note that the inner circulation through the gardens has been eliminated based on recent historic investigations of the property walls of the Bishop White House and the assumption of property wall detail between the Hibbard House and the Horticultural Society garden to the east.

Since Superintendent Anderson is in urgent need for an approved design for the ground adjacent to St. Joseph's Church for use as a part of the land agreement, we shall appreciate your early review and approval.

Robert G. Hall

Robert G. Hall

Attachments

cc:
Superintendent, Independence, w/plan and attach.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - Colonial Garden Design for Delaware Valley -
with references to Chesapeake Bay and New York State

OLD GARDENS IN AND ABOUT PHILADELPHIA - James Farris
A HISTORY OF GARDEN ART - Gotheim
A HISTORY OF HORICULTURE IN AMERICA TO 1860 - Hedrick
ABRIDGEMENT OF THE GARDENERS DICTIONARY - LONDON - 1771 - Philip Miller
PIONEER AMERICAN GARDENING - Elvenia Slossom
THOMAS JEFFERSON'S GARDEN BOOK
THE AMERICAN GARDENS - William Cobbett
GARDENS OF COLONY AND STATE - Garden Clubs of America
COLONIAL GARDENS - American Society of Landscape Architects Journal

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Very little material of graphic nature was found on particular town garden designs - few have survived for description - the attached prints are a sampling of very complete pictorial sources of reconstructions and an excellent source.

One recurring treatment was always in evidence - both town and country - this was the Knot garden, later called parterre in 18th century America. These were designs of simple geometrics - diamonds, crescents, squares and circles. However, there was no limit to the imagination of the designer in the elaborateness of laying out gardens. Some arrangements had as few beds as 6, 8 or 10; others had as many as 50 or 60, with beds or areas raised or lowered and held in place by brick, tile or other non-living material.

Many country houses or near city dwellings - as along the Schuylkill River (now in Fairmount Park) contained walled terrace gardens on levels. Summer houses of elaborate whimsy - arbors and rock grottoes - were in vogue (cool places of retreat).

The keynote for the Philadelphia scene in the 1780's was simplicity of material, but great variety within garden plots and between gardens - sometimes containing artistic effects with utilitarian growth of trees and shrubs for their fruit.

horse and one cow prior to 1780; two horses and two cows in 1783-1784; one horse, one chair, one cow in 1785." If this statement is regarded, then the stable at one time must have been able to accommodate a horse, a cow, and a chair. If in the supplement report the assumption has been made that the Morris house associated stable really refers to that on the Todd lot, then why does this assumption take precedent over the original report assumptions that the stable must accommodate a horse, a cow and a chair, or more? It is our feeling that although the owners or tenants of the Griffitts-Morris houses were taxed for horses, cows, or stables, these animals could well have been boarded at local liveries and grazing farms, and the stables would not have to be adjacent to the residences.

We feel that it is conclusive that the Morris house stable taxed in 1798 has no relation to the Todd house stable.

We therefore recommend that the Todd house rear lot and stable be designed to fulfill the documented needs of the residents of the Dilworth-Todd-Moylan house post 1781 (date of first reference to a stable--see City and County of Philadelphia tax records).

The maximum needs at one time so far known are for one horse and a chair. These are listed in the inventory of Dolley Todd's husband, John Todd, Junior, who died while living in the Dilworth-Todd-Moylan house during the 1793 yellow fever epidemic.

We therefore recommend that the Morris house associated stable as described in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax be used only as one more of the accumulated comparative design sources and that the design of the stable receive further study.

We do not recommend approval of this report.

Robert E. Smith

By: Donald F. Benson

Donald F. Benson, Acting

cc:
Superintendent, Independence

INDE-th-63-02
CRBIB # 002092

SIGNATURE SHEET

RECOMMENDED

M. O. Anderson Date 7/8/64
Superintendent

_____ Date _____
Regional Director

_____ Date _____
Chief, Eastern Office, Division of Design & Construction

APPROVED

_____ Date _____
Director

CHAPTER II

HISTORICAL DATA

Prepared by Historian Paul G. Sifton

STUDY OF HISTORIC GROUNDS

In the sub-section of the January 1963 grounds report entitled Features of the Todd House Back Lot several paragraphs were devoted to John Todd's stable. From the information then at hand, the historian concluded that the stable had 16½ by 26 foot dimensions, stood a stable-door width in from Fourth Street, and had a stable yard to the rear. A number of subsidiary ground features--fences, water trough and pump, stercorary, and yard surfacing were suggested by the assumed location and disposition of the stable of this size.[1]

The reasoning behind this arrangement has been altered by a recent discovery in the "B" List for the South Ward, Philadelphia County, of the 1798 Direct Tax (Federal).[2] This discloses that a stable 12 by 15 feet in dimension was associated with the names of the owner and tenant of the Morris House, the easternmost of the three houses at the northeast corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets. An evaluation of $400 was placed on this lot and stable by the federal enumerator.

Chapter II
Section 1
Notes

1. See pages 9 to 11, Chapter II, Section 1, Historical Data Section of "The Todd House Grounds and Neighboring Properties," (January 1963).

2. 1798 U. S. Direct Tax List, South Ward, Philadelphia, National Archives; on microfilm in Independence National Historical Park files.

DOCUMENTARY STUDY

A thorough search of 1798 and 1799 Direct Tax Lists (Federal) fails to yield further information such as: Todd House tenant General Moylan or Todd House owner James Madison renting or having a stable. Insurance surveys of both the Todd and Morris Houses fail to note the presence of a stable. And it is deemed unlikely that a 15 foot by 12 foot stable could have been squeezed into the 9 foot 4 inch by 16 foot area northward of the Morris House without trespassing on the Todd House back lot north of the 37 foot long and 3 foot 6 inch wide alleyway.

Also, in connection with the Todd-Madison stable, the Pennsylvania Tax on Carriages Lists for the years 1783 to 1794 inclusive[1] permit some logical deductions in regard to Congressman Cadwalader Morris (Todd House tenant, 1787-88) and attorney-at-law William Lewis (renter of the Todd House "frame stable & Lott" in 1799-1800). Morris was taxed for one phaeton in 1783, 1784, and 1786; Lewis was taxed for two phaetons (one each in the Dock and the Southwark West Wards) in 1786, 1787, 1789, 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794.[2] It may be fairly concluded that Messrs. Morris and Lewis were accustomed to board horses and carriages near to their residences and a stable and stableyard on the Todd House back lot was certainly one of the logical places to do so.

John Todd, Sr. was taxed for one chair in 1788 and 1789.[3] And since John Todd, Jr. and/or Dolley Todd were not taxed for a chair as residents of the Todd House it may be concluded that the "Chair"

described in their correspondence and inventories of the 1793-94 period refer to the elder Todd's vehicle. It was boarded by his son and daughter-in-law at the Todd stable on their back lot.

The absence of a location for the 15 foot by 12 foot frame stable in Schedule "B," South Ward, 1798 Direct Tax List (Federal) leads one to suspect that the federal enumerator was in error in attributing tenancy to Daniel Wm. Cox and ownership to Richard H. Morris. The frame stable the federal enumerator saw was immediately northward of the Richard Hill Morris property on the Todd House back lot.

The preponderance of evidence (see Appendix A) points to the existence of a frame stable on the Todd House back lot on Fourth Street from 1781 to 1808. This was the one and only stable appertaining to the Todd-Griffitts-Morris Houses group.

The lot had a 16 foot frontage along Fourth Street and in depth was 48 feet. The evaluation of $400 placed on the lot and stable by the federal enumerator indicates that a higher assessment was applied to property located in the then residential area of Fourth and Walnut Streets at the close of the eighteenth century.

1. [Pennsylvania] Tax on Carriages [lists] for 1783, 1784, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794, Public Records Office, Harrisburg; on microfilm in Independence National Historical Park files.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Archaeological Investigation

Since the exact configuration and precise location of the frame stable are unknown, it is strongly recommended that archaeological excavations be undertaken to determine its shape and location. It is suggested that such archaeological investigation be concentrated in the easternmost section of the Todd House back lot, 67 feet north from Walnut Street and 33 feet east of Fourth Street; an area not more than 20 feet in width. Any artifacts, structural materials, pump remains, etc. located in such an archaeological "dig" would greatly aid in positioning the historic frame stable in its correct shape and location on the Todd House back lot. The archaeologist can expect to find the cellar of a nineteenth century building; the dig should therefore go below this feature and relate his findings to whatever may be found in that section below the foundations.

Recommended Treatment

Having checked photographs of the Morris House prior to its demolition in 1957; and the rendering of the grounds to the north of the Todd-Griffitts-Morris Houses (see Illustrations Nos. 3, 4, and 2, respectively, in "Todd House Grounds and Neighboring Properties," Historic Grounds Report, January 1963), it is possible to make the following recommendations.

The reconstructed 15 foot by 12 foot frame stable should be located in the easternmost section of the Todd House back lot and its

doors should face Fourth Street on the west. (See Illustration No. 1.) The smallness of the structure precludes the use of elaborate architectural features and of extensive furnishings and fixtures. The rather substantial evaluation of $400 for the stable and lot, however, indicates that the structure and its fixtures were of good quality and reasonably complete for the period. The stable should therefore include a harness; saddle; bridle; small feedbox; pegs; racks; boxes for storage of gear; 1 horse stall; and 1 "Chair" (see Illustration 8 of the "Todd House Grounds and Neighboring Properties," Historic Grounds Report, January 1963).

To fit a 12 foot by 15 foot stable on the Todd House back lot (see Illustration No. 2) necessitates placing its long axis in an east-west direction, as the chair, which was 13 feet 6 inches long, must have twice its length in order to get into the open; and in order to turn the chair around for replacing it in the stable, a square court the width of the lot is also necessary.

For proper functioning, the stable is placed with its east and north walls on the party lines. The horse, fed from the front of his stall, would occupy the south portion; leaving the north for the chair. This placing of the building leaves a small utility yard to its south, which may be used for the horse, for putting hay in a small loft, a rain barrel, and for other implements.

A 9 foot wide straight driveway from the chair stall to Fourth Street permits an area 15 feet by 7 feet 6 inches to be planted in

broad-leafed or Orchard Grass (such as a lot in use as a part of James Hamilton's garden to the east on Walnut Street) and allowed to grow along the driveway and be grazed. A small area, 2 feet 6 inches deep, would be to the east of the Orchard Grass and would be occupied by a water trough and pump. At the Fourth Street end of the driveway is a wooden gate to keep outsiders out and the horse in.

As far as the chair is concerned, William Felton's A Treatise on Carriages (London, 1796), shows scale drawings of a variety of chairs, with descriptions and illustrations of the proper harness for various occasions and divers minutiae pertaining to the service of the vehicle.

The arrangement indicated above would return the lot to the north of Todd, Griffitts, and Morris Houses to its modest, historic appearance in the final quarter of the eighteenth century.

STABLING: A COMPARISON OF THE MORRIS AND TODD HOUSES

On only two occasions tax records note that for the Morris House there was: in 1783 a County Tax on 1 horse and chair belonging to Owen Jones, merchant; and in 1798 a 15 foot by 12 foot frame stable was listed in Schedule "B" of the Direct Tax List (Federal) as in the tenancy of Daniel Wm. Cox and as owned by Richard Hill Morris. (See discussion in Section 2 of this report.)

The City and County of Philadelphia tax records for the Todd House note a stable for the following years: 1781, 1784, 1787, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1797, 1798, and 1800. In addition, Mrs. Ann Dilworth's notice in the American Daily Advertiser for April 20, 1791 specifically mentions a frame stable; Dolley Todd's will, dated May 13, 1794, mentions the structure; and an October 24, 1808 letter of Dr. Thomas Parke to Mrs. Madison mentions rent of the stable.

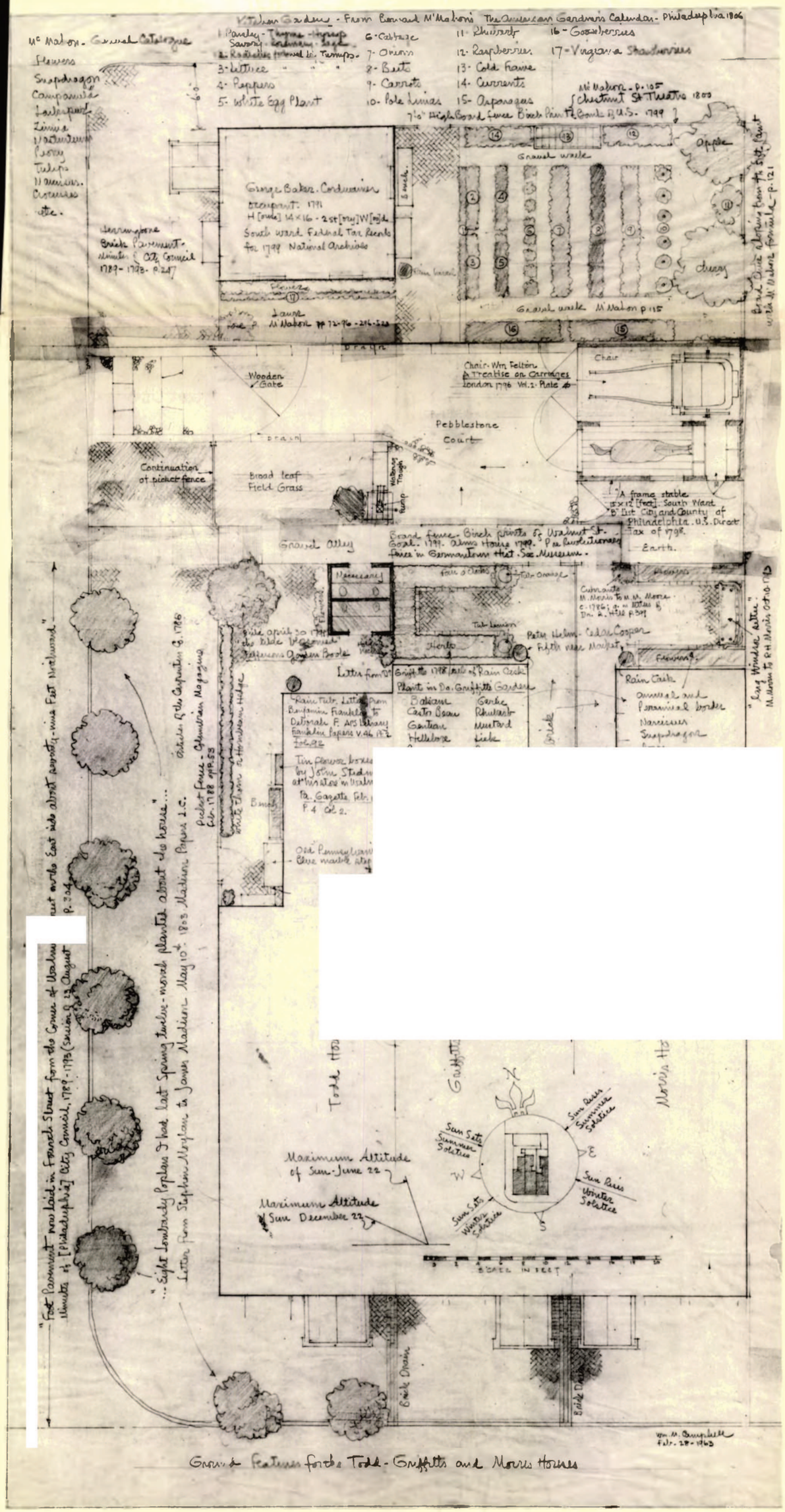
ILLUSTRATIONS

Chapter II
Illustration No. 1



Todd Stable

Chapter II
Illustration No. 2



Grounds & Features for the Todd - Griffitts and Morris Houses

Chapter II
Illustration No. 3

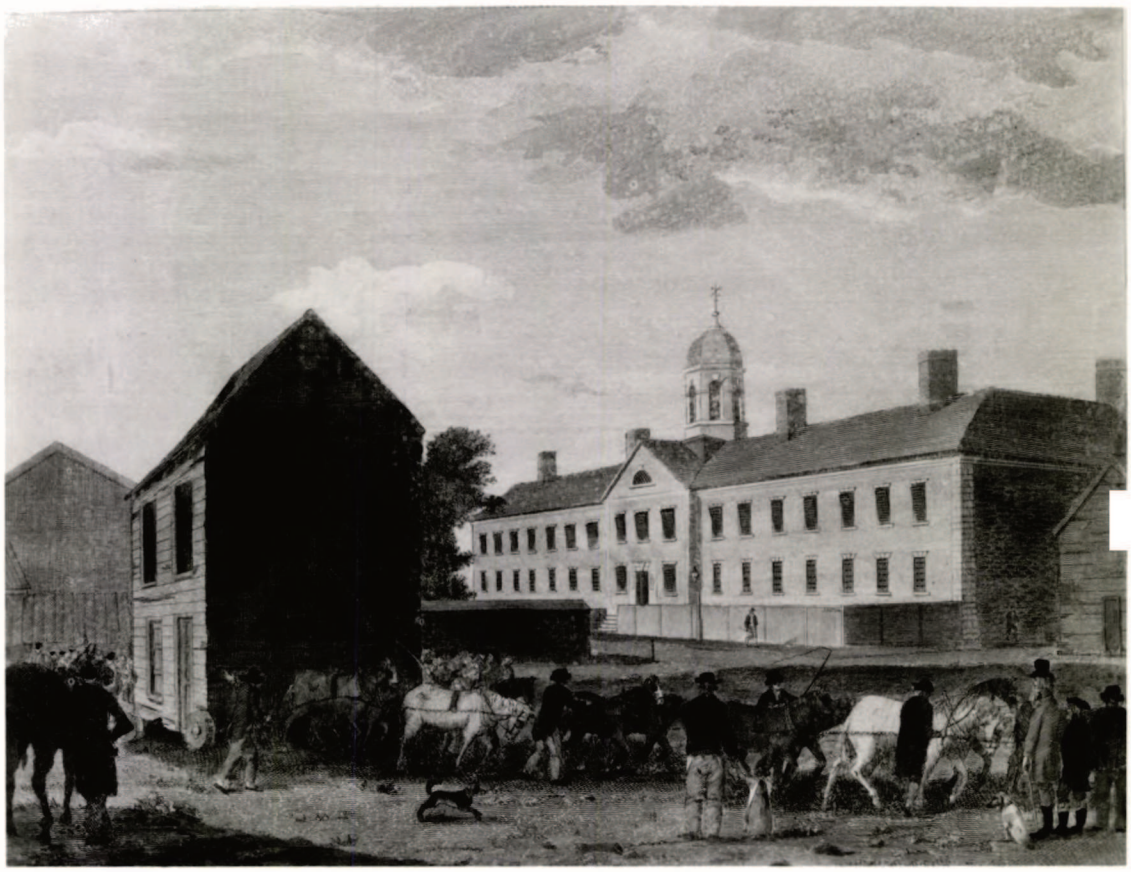


Note at the left, immediately adjacent to the First Bank of the United States, a short section of board fencing. From a 1799 Birch print.



Board and post fencing runs southward from Congress Hall (at the left), enclosing the State House Yard. From the illustration entitled "View of several Public Buildings in Philadelphia," in the January 1790 issue of the Columbian Magazine.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 5



Note the board fence encloses the northwest corner of the prison. The 1799 Birch view of the Walnut Street Gaol [Jail] in Philadelphia.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 6



Note in this 1800 Birch view of "Congress Hall and New Theatre on Chesnut Street," a board fence enclosing the northwest corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets. It apparently ran up to both sides of the theatre's entrance awning.



This 1799 Birch view of the Philadelphia Alms House on Spruce Street shows a long board fence enclosing the entire property.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 8



Drawn, Engraved & Published by W. Birch & Son Nehaminy Ferry.

View in THIRD STREET, from Spruce Street PHILADELPHIA

Note the vertical board fence to the rear of the poplar trees adjoining the William Bingham mansion in the 1799 Birch "View in Third Street from Spruce Street Philadelphia."

Chapter II
Illustration No. 9



Note a picket fence, at the extreme left behind a street pump, in this 1788 Columbian Magazine illustration of the New Market at Second and Shippen Streets.