D-36

PART I

HISTORIC BUILDING REPORT

Old Master Armorer's Residence (Bldg. 34-35)

and

Outbuildings (Bldgs. 32 & 34A)

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Distributed for Review by Region Five

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Old Master Armorer's Residence
and
Outbuildings

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Prepared by
Acting Superintendent Raymond L. Ives
October 10, 1957

SECTION I: ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

A. Name and Number of Building:

Building No. 34-35, "Old Master Armorer's Residence" and Buildings No. 32 and 34A, Outbuildings.

B. Proposed Use of Structure:

Under MISSION 66 Planning it has been suggested that the second floor be made available for emergency offices. The first floor should be restored to its residence appearance of pre-Civil War use, but visitors will not enter the structure.

C. Provision for Operating the House:

No funds have yet been programed for refurnishing the house. No cooperative agreements have been executed or proposed for furnishing and operating the house.

D. Preliminary Estimate of Cost for Rehabilitating the Structure and Grounds:

It is estimated that the cost of restoring the exterior and rehabilitating the interior of Building No. 34-35 will amount to $60,000.00

HISTORICAL DATA

Old Master Armorer's Residence and Outbuildings

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Prepared by
Park Historian Herbert H. Kissling
October 10, 1957
(Rev. Jan. 22, 1958)

SECTION II: HISTORICAL DATA

1. Introduction:

Building No. 34-35 was built by the Government sometime before 1835 as the residence of the Master Armorer. Following the Civil War it was sold by the Government to a private individual and used as a store and residence.

This report will present the presently known facts concerning the construction of the building and the historical associations of the structure. As the residence of the second ranking official of the Armory, this house has historical significance in the story of the Harpers Ferry Armory and Arsenal.

2. Location of Building No. 34-35:

By deed dated April 25, 1751, Robert Harper was granted a tract of land by Lord Fairfax, Proprietor of the Northern Neck of Virginia.[1] This 125 acres is the entire present site of Harpers Ferry and was part of the estate of Robert Harper which passed on his death in 1782 to his neice. The neice, Sarah Harper, married a John Wager and in this way the Wager family came into possession of the Robert Harper holdings. In 1796 in order to establish an Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry the Government bought the original Harper tract with the exception of six acres which were reserved by the Wagers. Building No. 34-35 was built on a lot of ground which remained in the hands of the Government from 1796 until after the Civil War and all records pertaining to the structure were therefore necessarily property of the Government during the pre-Civil War period.

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1. Northern Neck Grants, Book 6, p. 496, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

3. Construction of the Building:

At the time of the present writing no research has yet been done in regard to this building during the period when it was probably constructed.

The erection of the building or portion thereof took place prior to 1835 for it is named and located on certain 1835 maps.[2] During the 1830's contracts for the construction of buildings at Harpers Ferry were let by the Government and it is therefore quite possible that this house was built by private contractor under such an arrangement.[3] Further research should definitely establish whether this was the case.

Building No. 34-35 was built in several stages over the years. It was actually two houses which were joined together and added to creating one large structure which we now consider as a single unit. These steps in construction remain a subject for architectural and historical research.

We do know that by 1845 the Old Master Armorer's Residence was a two story house with a slate roof.[4] This was still the case in 1859, but it is not clear whether this reference is to both No. 34

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2. Reference should be made to the Appendix containing tracings of portions of 1835 maps and to Drawing No. NW-HF 3002, sheets 1 of 3 and 2 of 3, Harpers Ferry National Monument Master Plan. The building does not appear on the 1803 map, Drawing No. NW-HF 3004, which delineates the area very clearly.
3. Reference may be made to Office Chief of Ordnance Contract Book No. 13, p. 79-80 for John Markell's contract to build five houses in 1830 and Ibid., p. 190-191 for Daniel Matthias' contract to do the carpenter work on four houses in 1833. These two contracts give details of construction and typed copies are included in the Appendix.
4. Letters to Ordnance Officers, No. 19, p. 167, R.G. 156, National Archives.

and 35. The present third story was added well after the Civil War.

4. Outbuildings:

There were certain outbuildings constructed for this house and located on the lot. The number and their uses ~~is~~ are yet undetermined, but they existed as shown by a letter from Superintendent Harbour to Colonel Craig in which he remarked, "....The outhouses attached to the old [Master Armorer's] house, are wanted for the use of the occupant of the new one;...".[5] There remain two buildings, No. 32 and No. 34A, which are believed to date to the pre-Civil War period and could be at least part of the structures referred to above.[6]

5. Importance of Master Armorer's Position:

The Master Armorer has always been one of the most important of the officers of the Armory. In an Inspection Report in 1832 are found references to the duties and position of the Master Armorer. He reported the number of persons employed under the direction of the Superintendent and Master Armorer which puts the Master Armorer immediately under the Superintendent in importance. Later in the report are recommendations in regard to the duties of the Master Armorer.

> ....A reduction of the Master Armorer's duties is necessary at Harpers Ferry also, as well as at Springfield. The pressure is so severe that much is confided to other and subordinate hands which should be done by him in person. The receiving, counting, measuring and weighing out and in, the various articles of supply and consumption, can be

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5. Office Chief of Ordnance, Document File 1797-1894, Box No. 168, No. 466, R.G. 156, National Archives.
6. Reference should be made to Drawing No. NM-HF 3055, 13 Sept., 1955, Architectural Base Map of Harpers Ferry, The Lower Town.

done as well and at less cost under different regulations and the whole time of the Master Armorer be devoted to the appropriate duties of his station. His being responsible for the materials necessarily absorbs a portion of his attention, although the labor may be done by other hands.[7].

The Inspection Report of 1835 contains a description of the duties of the Master Armorer as follows:

....The Master Armorer's duties are ably fulfilled and it is a matter of great regret that the pay provided by law is so inadequate a compensation for his multifarious labors. A large part of the duty which properly appertains to the office of the Superintendent devolves upon the Master Armorer - from causes which are well known. The labor of preparing the new model muskets, with all the tools, gauges and appurtenances, is one of great extent and of the highest importance. It is truly an extraneous and separate matter and in strict justice he should receive a special allowance for it. In the absence of the Superintendent he necessarily fills that office, with no relaxation of his ordinary duties, and some provision should be made for a suitable compensation to him, when this state of things continues beyond a limited period.[8].

The above report does not state how much the Master Armorer received, but in 1842 his salary was reported as $1,2000,00 per year, 18 cords of wood and rent free living quarters or an equivalent.[9].

The Master Armorer then was clearly the second most important official of the Armory organization who was reportedly overworked and underpaid. In 1859 an Inspector recommended that the Master Armorer live, "where he can be near the scene of his duties in case of fire or of any disturbance, and where his immediate presence would be demanded".[10]. This recommendation reflected the importance

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7. Ordnance Office Special File, Box No. 28, R.G. 156, National Archives.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.

of his position and the extra duties which were expected of him, the second ranking Armory official. The importance of his work gives added historical importance to the residence he occupied in telling the story of the Armory-Arsenal organization and operation.

6. Master Armorer's Residence:

Harpers Ferry National Monument Building No. 34-35 was for years the residence of the Master Armorer of the Harpers Ferry Armory. However, in 1858 there was a change in Master Armorers and the new officer, Mr. Mills, did not wish to live in the quarters on Shenandoah Street. In a detailed letter from Superintendent Clowe to Colonel Craig dated November 26, 1858, are the facts in the case. At a meeting of the Colonel, the Superintendent, the Secretary of War and Mr. Mills verbal permission was granted for the Superintendent to decide where the Master Armorer should live. Colonel Craig had opposed it, but when the Secretary of War agreed, he did likewise. It was Craig's opinion that the Master Armorer should live close to the Armory. At the time of the letter Mr. Mills is requesting a final decision on the location of his quarters. Since the time of the meeting above referred to the Master Armorer and Paymaster's Clerk had exchanged residences and such an arrangement was agreeable to both. The Paymaster's Clerk was living in the old Master Armorer's Quarters until the new was completed. (This was accomplished in July, 1859.) Mills was very emphatic about the matter and said that he could not consider moving to the Ferry because he considered it too unhealthy for his family and should he be required to do so he would have to return to Kentucky. He desired an immediate decision

for he had offered his property in Kentucky for sale and if he was going to return, it would have to be soon before the property was sold. Superintendent Clowe felt that he was too valuable to lose over what he considered the minor point of which house he should occupy. Clowe then recommended that the present arrangement be continued and that the Paymaster's Clerk be assigned the new Master Armorer's Quarters when completed.[11] In replying to this letter, Colonel Craig conceded the issue and approved allowing the Master Armorer to live on Camp Hill even though he disapproved.[12] This settled the matter and on July 16, 1859, Superintendent Barbour confirmed the accepted fact in a letter reporting the completion of the new Master Armorer's Quarters and the assignment of it.

> The new Quarters built for the Master Armorer on the Arsenal Lot, on Shenandoah St., and now by the decision of the Hon: Secy. of War, occupied by Mr Daingerfield, Paymaster's Clerk, rather than the present M. Armorer, who occupies the Quarters on the Hill, are finished and thus occupied.[13]

Building No. 34-35 was the Master Armorer's Residence from the time it was built before 1835 until 1858 when by mutual agreement the Master Armorer and the Paymaster's Clerk exchanged quarters. In 1859 the Paymaster's Clerk moved into the newly completed house originally intended for the Master Armorer and probably from July, 1859, until after the Civil War was in progress this house was left vacant. The possibility that the house was left vacant is the

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11. Office Chief of Ordnance, Document File 1797-1894, Box No. 162, No. 508, R.G. 156, National Archives.
12. Letters to Ordnance Officers, No. 18, p. 392, R.G. 156, National Archives.
13. Office Chief of Ordnance, Document File 1797-1894, Box No. 168, No. 466, R.G. 156, National Archives.

conclusion drawn from the correspondence relating to the demolition of the Old Master Armorer's Quarters.

The proposal to demolish the Master Armorer's house on Shenandoah Street was not a new one in 1859. In 1854 there was a recommendation to build the new quarters for him on Camp Hill and remove the old from the west end of the Arsenal Square.[14] Upon the completion of the new quarters for the Master Armorer, the Superintendent on July 16, 1859, recommended razing the old house and salvaging the material for outbuildings for other officers' houses.[15] This suggestion was obviously unexpected in Washington for on the 18th of July, the Captain in charge of the Ordnance Bureau demanded clarification on the matter.

> Your letter of the 16th instant has been received, recommending pulling down the house on Shenandoah Street hitherto designated as the Master Armorer's Quarters. This building being so much in the way of the New Master Armorer's Quarters and in so dilpapidated [sic] a condition it would have been well to have brought it to the notice of Col. Ripley at his late inspection of your Armory. But before taking any action in this Office I wish you to state why it was not submitted to the Inspector, and, as far as you may know, to state the reasons for placing the new Quarters so contiguous to the old, as to render the pulling down of the old advisable. A "Brick House of 2 Stories slate roof" and ever since 1845 reported in the first class of the Armory dwelling houses.[16]

Almost immediately on the 20th of July, the Superintendent replied in his defence with a detailed letter outlining the sequence of

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14. Ordnance Office Special File, Box No. 28, R.G. 156, National Archives.
15. Office Chief of Ordnance, Document File 1797-1894, Box No.168, No. 466, R.G. 156, National Archives.
16. Letters to Ordnance Officers, No. 19, p. 167, R.G. 156, National Archives.

events in the construction of the New Master Armorer's Quarters. He was attempting to prove that it was not his fault that the house was built so close to the old structure and that t ere was good reason for his recommendation to remove the old building. He closed his explanation of the situation by saying:

> By reference to the report of the Board of Officers dated 24th Sept, 1851, it was recommended that all buildings on reserved ground should be pulled down; this was one of them.
> I have examined this matter closely, and am satisfied that it is entirely proper to remove the old building for many reasons - although it seems to have been borne on the Inventory as a first class house, its value as a dwelling was egregiously exaggerated on the Books, as is self-evident.[17]

Superintendent Barbour's conviction of the rightness and necessity of the action apparently did not convince his superiors for he, Barbour, wrote again on the 5th of September, 1859, as follows:

> Permit me to invite yr attention to my letter of the 20th July last, on the subject of removing the brick building formerly occupied by the Master Armorer, and contiguous to the new Quarters, on the same lot.
> An early decision on the subject is very desireable.[18]

It is hardly likely that the Superintendent while awaiting a decision on the matter of his recommendation to demolish the Old Master Armorer's Quarters would have put the building to the very use for which he maintained it was unfit. Inasmuch as no decision was ever made to remove the structure in the remaining months before the Civil War, it is most probable that the house was left vacant from July, 1859, until possible military use during the Civil War.

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17. Office Chief of Ordnance, Document File 1797-1894, Box No. 168, No. 477, R.G. 156, National Archives.
18. Ibid., No. 568.

7. Summary:

Harpers Ferry National Monument Building No. 34-35 was built by the Government on land acquired by purchase in 1796 from the Wager family. It was built as the residence of the second ranking Armory official, the Master Armorer, and used by him for many years. The house was constructed before 1835 and continued in service as a residence until 1859 when a new building was completed for the Master Armorer. In 1858, however, the Master Armorer for personal reasons moved from the house on Shenandoah Street to a new house on Camp Hill. This new residence had been built for the use of the Paymaster's Clerk, but he and the Master Armorer by mutual agreement made the exchange of living quarters. This arrangement was not looked on favorably by Ordnance Department officials, but due to the strong position taken by the Master Armorer the approval was given. On the completion of the new house on Shenandoah Street immediately next to the old house the Paymaster's Clerk moved to it and the Master Armorer continued to live on Camp Hill. The Old Master Armorer's Quarters were probably left vacant until some presently unknown use was made of the house during the Civil War.

At the present time the house is a three story building, but in 1859 the structure was two stories with a slate roof. The third story was added well after the Civil War. There were outbuildings for the house, but how many and their use are subjects for further research. Two presently surviving pre-Civil War structures, Buildings 32 and 34A, may have been at least a part of these outbuildings.

As yet there has been no thorough architectural study of the

building which has undergone numerous remodelings and changes.[19] Concentrated research and study of the records in the National Archives for the period when the structure was built remains to be done.

The important position of the Master Armorer in the organization and operation of the Armory is a factor which should be considered in determining the use and place of this house in the interpretive program of Harpers Ferry National Monument.

Harpers Ferry National Monument Building No. 34-35 should be named the "Old Master Armorer's Residence". This was its intended use and for many years before the Civil War it was so used. It is located immediately next to the "New Master Armorer's Residence" which provides a good opportunity for comparison in the interpretive program of two periods in Government housing for Armory officials. The Old Master Armorer's Residence should be restored to its two story appearance of 1859 which would conform to the historical evidence.

Report Prepared
by

Herbert H. Kissling
Park Historian

October 10, 1957

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19. Reference may be made to Drawing No. NP-HF 3077, 11 sheets, for Measured Drawings prepared during the summer of 1957.

APPENDIX I

JOHN MARSHALL CONTRACT FOR THE ERECTION OF FIVE HOUSES AT HARPERS FERRY, VIRGINIA.

R. G. 156 O.C.O.
Contract Book No. 13
pp 79-80
National Archives

24 Dec. 1830

JOHN MARKELL

1st page

For the Erection of Five

Memorandum of Agreement made and entered into this 24th day of December 1830. Between George Rust Junior Superintendent U. S. Armory at Harpers Ferry of the one part and John Markell of the other part as follows. Viz: The said Markell binds himself to erect at Harpers Ferry (in such sites as the said Rust shall select) previous to the first of August 1832 Five dwelling houses of the following description viz each dwelling house to be thirty seven feet front and running back twenty feet to consist of two and a half stories, the first of which (the basement story) to be eight feet in the clear divided into a cellar, Kitchen, and pantry the walls to be of stone, and twenty two inches in thickness. The Kitchen to be furnished with a fireplace and outer door with one window of twelve lights, and a stair way leading to the second story, the cellar to be furnished with a window of the same size and door communicating with the Kitchen. The second story to be built of brick nine feet in the clear, divided into two rooms and a passage the front and back walls fourteen inches thick and the end walls nine inches thick each room to be furnished with two windows (one in front and rear, of twenty four lights each, one fire place and a door communicating with the passage a door at each end of the passage with four lights over each and a winding stairway extending from the passage of the upper or half story. The upper or half story to be of brick five feet in the clear, divided into three rooms the walls nine inches thick two of these rooms to be furnished with two windows of twelve lights each and the other room with one window of the same size. The door and window sills to be made of locust or yellow poplar, the outer doors to be supplied with iron rimmed locks the inner or partition doors with common latches the houses to be plastered and painted throughout and covered with good cypress shingles. The whole of the materials to be of good quality and the work to be executed in a substantial manner, and the said George Rust Junior Superintendent as aforesaid on behalf of the United States agrees to pay to the said Markell at the rate of nine Hundred and forty dollars for each dwelling house of the description before mentioned which shall be finished and completed by the said Markell under this contract. The said Rust Superintendent as aforesaid further agrees that upon the application of the

2nd page 80

JOHN MARKELL

Dwelling Houses at Harpers Ferry Virginia

said Markell at any time during the progress of the erection of the said dwelling houses to pay the said Markell a sum equal to two thirds of the value of the materials then furnished and the work then performed by the said Markell.

It is further understood by and between the parties that if in making the excavation of the cellars of the before mentioned dwelling houses it should be necessary to remove any rock, the difference between the cost of plain rock ex-cavation.

In witness whereof the parties have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first written.

George Rust Jr. Sup Seal

John Markell Seal

Know all men by these presents, that we John Markell, William Lucas and Daniel Bedinger are held and firmly bound to the United States of America in the sum of Five thousand dollars current money to be paid to the said United States, for which payment well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves and each of us our, and each of our heirs Exectrs and Administrators for and in the whole sum jointly and severally. Sealed with our seals and dated this 24th day of December One Thousand Eight Hundred and thirty.

The consideration of this obligation is such that whereas the above bound John Markell has entered into the annexed and foregoing contract with the United States for theerection of Five dwelling houses at Harpers Ferry Armory Now if the said Markell shall faithfully perform the stipulations of the said Contract of his part then the above obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue in law.

Sealed
Signed and sealed in
presence of
H. L. Turner

Signed (John Markell
(William Lucas
(Daniel Bedinger

Original transmitted to the 2d Comptroller May 4th 1831

Copy " to the 2d Auditor

Chs Stile

APPENDIX II

DANIEL T. MATTHIAS CONTRACT

FOR CARPENTER WORK ON

FOUR BUILDINGS AT

HARPERS FERRY, VIRGINIA

R. G. 156 C.C.C.
Contract Book No 13, pp 190-191
National Archives

Daniel T. Matthias

For Carpenters work etc on 4 Buildings at Harpers Ferry

Memorandum of agreement made and entered into this 15th day of July 1833; Between Daniel T Mathias of the one part and George Rust Jr. Supt. Harpers Ferry Armory of the other part as follows:

The said Mathias binds himself to furnish all the materials and perform the carpenters' work painting and plastering of Four Buildings 28 feet front, 22 in rear, one and a half stories high: the first story to have six doors plain pannel doors, the front one to have plain transom— Six windows, two of 20 lights 8 x 10 glass each, the other four 15 lights same size — Windows and doors to be trimmed with plain architive: To be divided into three rooms with one Fire place. Plain winding stairs running to the second story one clocepress or cupboard in front room and closet under stairs — plain mantle piece — joice to be 10 inches wide 2½ thick double bridged and two feet from centre to centre. The following to be one and a fourth inches thick and not more than seven inches wide plain washboards. Story eight feet in the clear. walls of Brick 14 in. thick. The second story to have 2 doors seven windows three of 12 light each 8 x 10 glass. The other four 9 lights each same size, to be divided into three Rooms with one fire place. Doors & windows to be trimmed with plain architive (single) mantel piece and washboard plain. Joice 10 in wide 2½ thick, two feet from centre to centre and double bridged. Flooring one and a fourth in. thick and not more than seven inches wide. Walls inches thick.

Back building 16 feet front 12 rear, one story high 9 in. walls. one plain panel door, two windows 12 lights each 6 x 10 glass, one fire place, plain mantel, doors and windows to be trimmed with plain single architive. Joice 7 in. wide 2½ thick, two feet from centre to centre. Celler to have two windows one door etc.

The whole of the Carpenter work, excepting the roof to have two coats of paint - the door to be hinged & locked. The building both front & rear to be plastered in the interior with 2 coats & skimmed. and to be covered with good Cypress shingles. The whole of the work to be done in a substantial workmanlike manner, and of good materials well seasoned and completed on or before the 1st day of May 1834.

And the said George Rust Jr Supt as aforesaid agrees on the part of U. States that the said Mathias shall be paid for each building completed by him agreeable to the preceding specification.

Daniel T. Mathias continued

Specifications the sum of five hundred and forty dollars, to be paid on the completion of any one of the said buildings. In witness whereof the parties have hereunto set their hands & seals the day and year first written.

Test signed Dan T. Mathias Seal
George Rust Jr. Supt Seal

Bond

Know all men by these presents, that we Danl T. Mathias and William Anderson, are held and firmly bound to the United States of America in the sum of two thousand dollars, to be paid to the said United States, their certain Attorney or Assigns; for the said true payment whereof, we bind ourselves, jointly & severally, our joint & several heirs, Extrs & Admrs sealed with our seals, & dated 15th this day of July 1833.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that, whereas the above boundon Danl T. Mathias has entered into the preceeding agreement for furnishing the materials & furnishing 4 dwelling houses at Harpers Ferry Armory. If therefore the said Danl T. Mathias shall on his part faithfully perform the stipulations of said agreement then the above obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue.

Test	signed	Dan. T. Mathias	Seal
		Wm Anderson	Seal

Original transmitted to 2nd Comptroller November 7th 1834

C Welsh

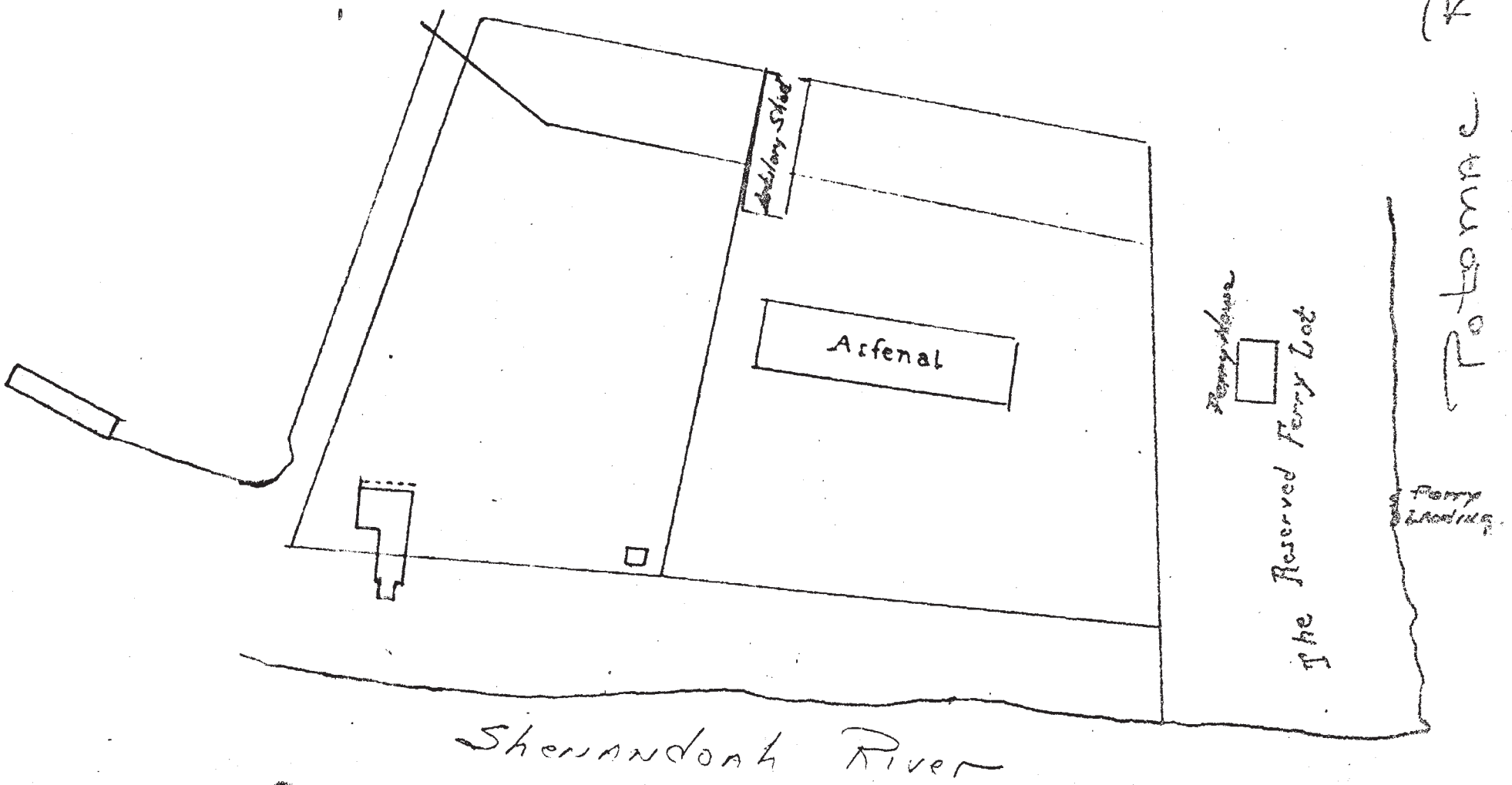
Faley bond signed by James Faley
F. Beckham
Henry Crampton

APPENDIX III

TRACING OF PORTION OF 1803 MAP

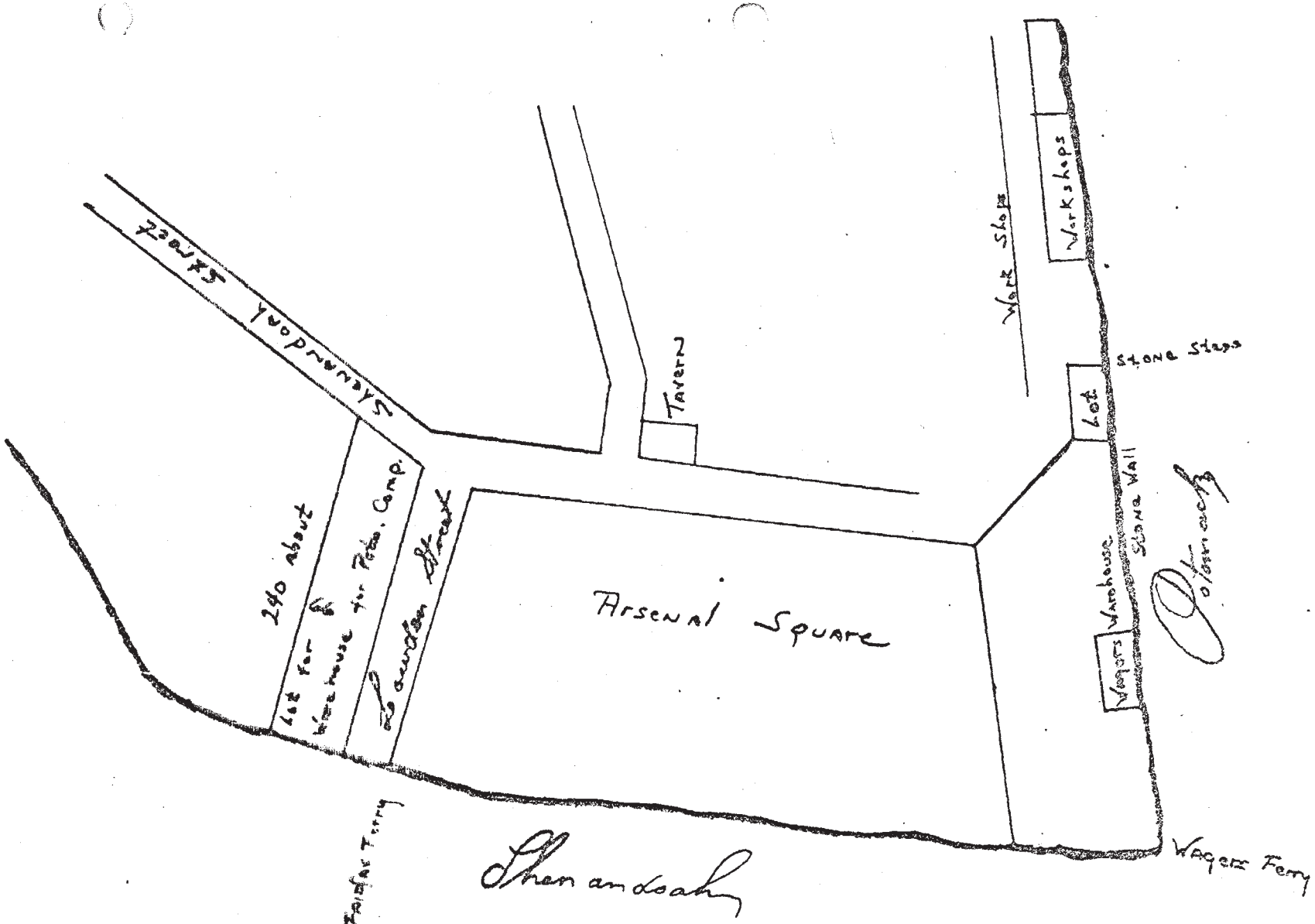
Tracing of Portion of 1803 map showing the Arsenal Square

Scale: Four Perches to an Inch



APPENDIX IV

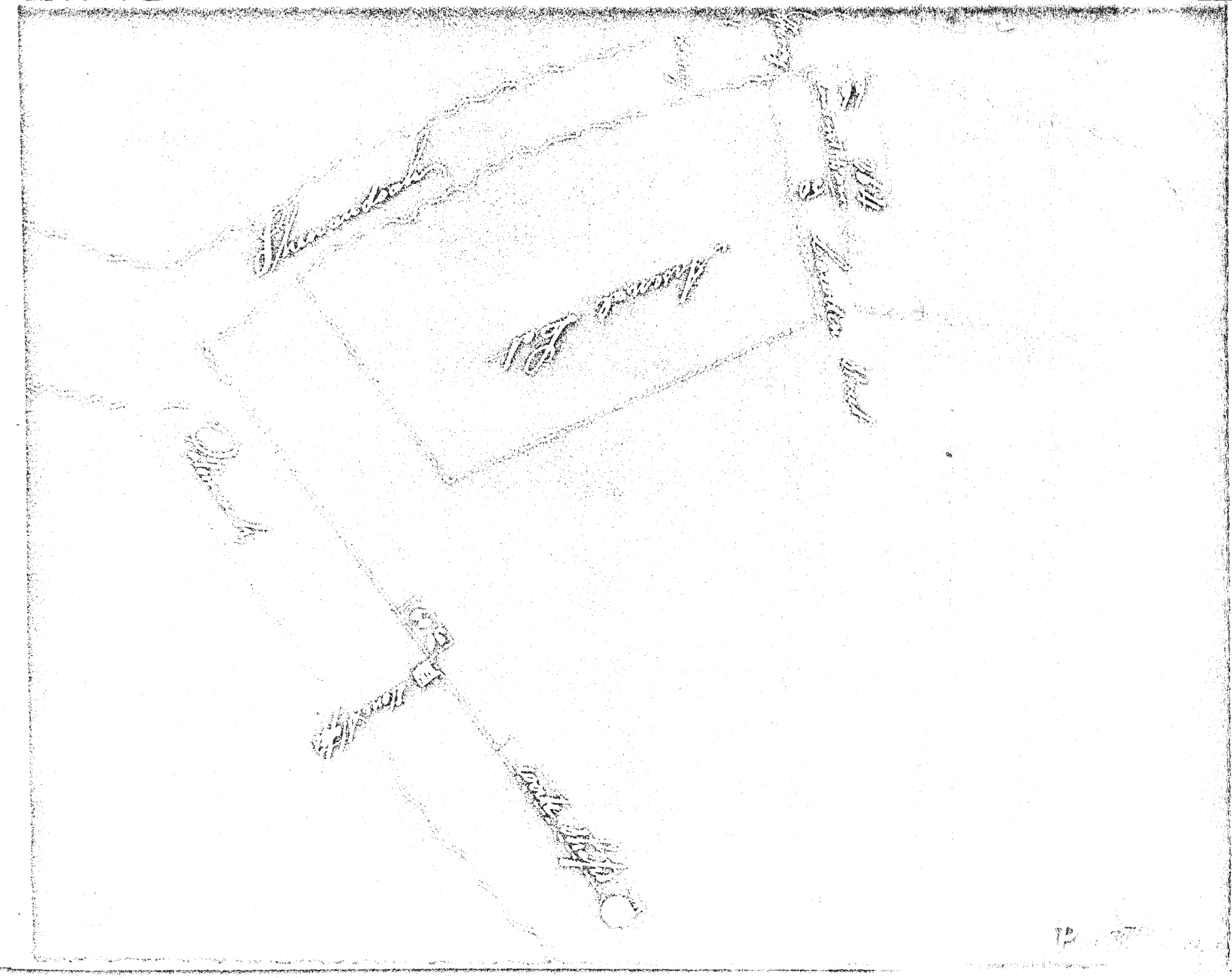
TRACING OF 1811 PLAT



Tracing of 1811 Plat

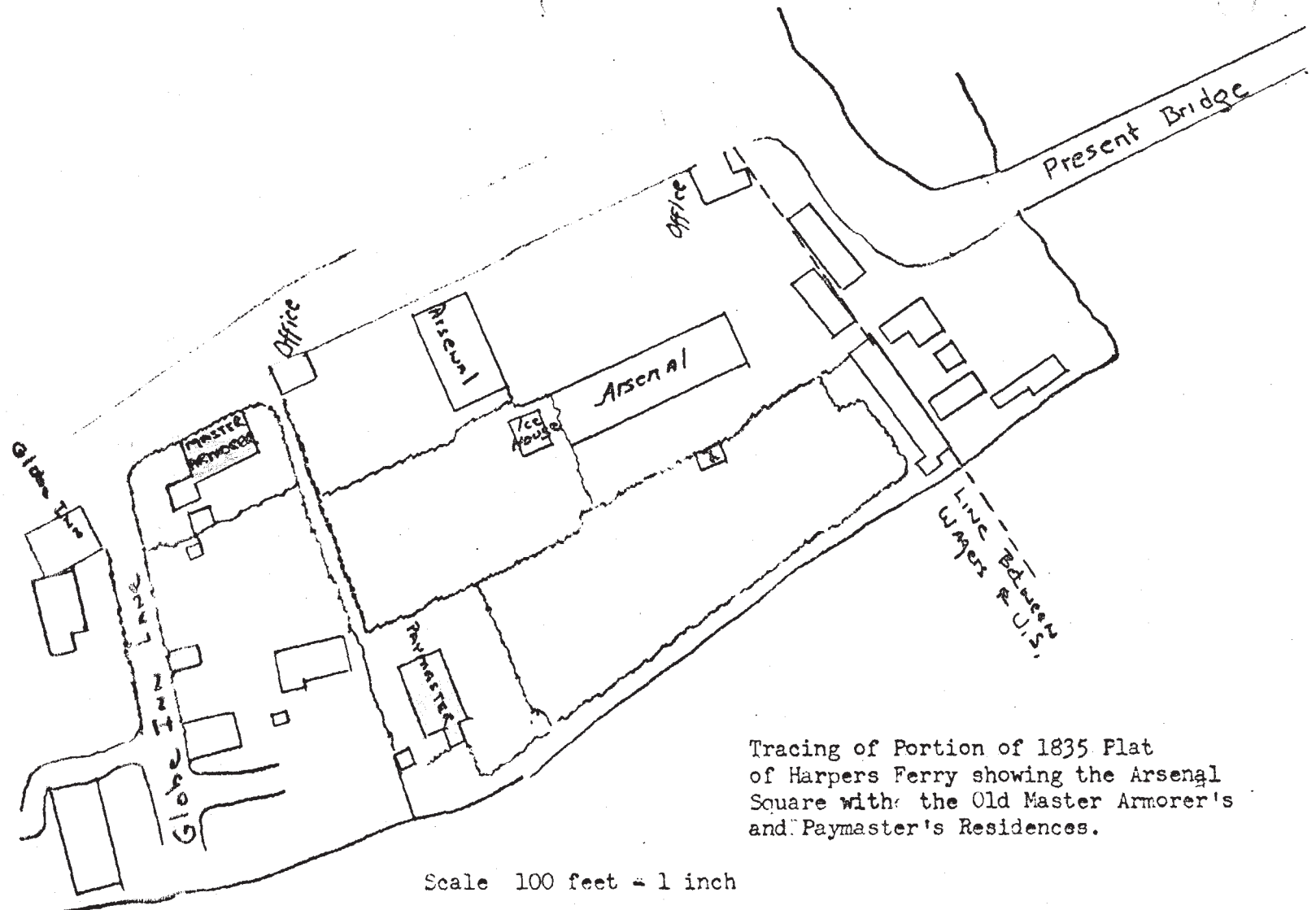
APPENDIX V

COPY OF 1811 MAP



APPENDIX VI

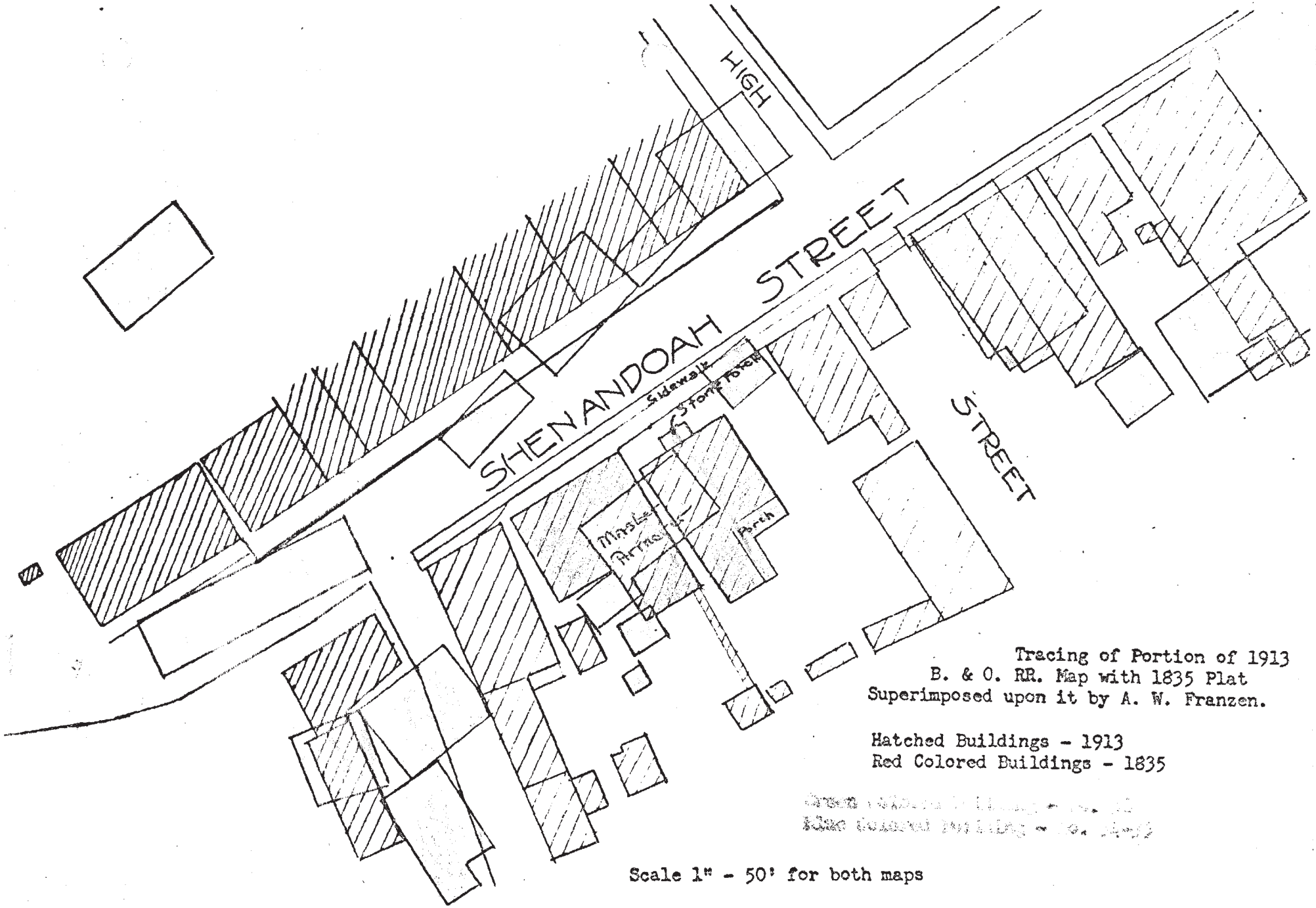
TRACING OF PORTION OF 1835 PLAT



Tracing of Portion of 1835 Plat of Harpers Ferry showing the Arsenal Square with the Old Master Armorer's and Paymaster's Residences.

APPENDIX VII

TRACING OF PORTION OF 1913 MAP



Tracing of Portion of 1913
B. & O. RR. Map with 1835 Plat
Superimposed upon it by A. W. Franzen.

Hatched Buildings - 1913
Red Colored Buildings - 1835

Scale 1" - 50' for both maps

APPENDIX VIII

PHOTOGRAPHS

CIVIL WAR SKETCH

"GENERAL STEVENSON'S HEAD-QUARTERS"

Building 34-35 immediately to left of
telegraph pole and with tree in front

Building 36 immediately to left of Building 34-35

Corner of Building 9 in right foreground



VIEW IN HARPERS FERRY.—GENERAL STEVENSON'S HEAD-QUARTERS, LOUDON HEIGHTS IN THE DISTANCE.—[SKETCHED BY A. R. WAUD.]

8. Comments:

"The Old Master Armorer's Residence", Building No. 34-35, was built before 1835 and represents the type of building which was done by the Government for Armory officers in the early period. It is located immediately next to "The New Master Armorer's Residence" and thus gives us the opportunity to provide a comparison to the visitors of two different periods in house building by the Government.

This house has been considerably altered from its appearance of 1859. In the final restoration picture this house should be returned to this earlier condition on the exterior. That will require the removal of the third floor and certain rear additions and reroofing the building with slate or a material which will give the appearance of slate. In the light of the anticipated acquisition of the Storer College property the recommended treatment of the interior should receive new consideration. There would then be little need to utilize the interiors of the buildings in the lower town section for other than limited interpretive purposes and the structures should be largely stripped to near shell condition. This building does not need to be opened to visitors and nothing further than storage space provided on the second floor. The first floor should be used only for displays which will be viewed from outside. The cost of restoring this structure then will be materially lessened. Very limited use, no heat, and with the building a virtual shell, the fire hazard will be reduced to a minimum. This will also reduce any possible loss due to flooding which might occur.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
~~H30~~
H2215

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Harpers Ferry National Monument
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

June 4, 1959

REGION FIVE — INITIAL AND DATE
JUN 5 - 1959
REG. DIRECTOR
ASST. REG DIR
OPERATIONS
~~INTERPRETATION~~ 2215
ADM.
REC. RES. PLAN
RANGER ACT'S
History
~~Nat. Hist.~~
Archeo.
Publ.
Museum
Sec'y.

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

Subject: Research Project No. HF-56, Historic Building Report, Part II-Historical Data Section, for Bldg. No. 34-35

Historian Charles W. Snell offers the following comments in regard to the question raised in Regional Historian Frank Barnes' memorandum of May 28 on the Part II-Historical Data Section for Bldgs. No. 34-35.

1. Length of quotes, page 4, 10, 11. It should be noted that on March 11, 1959, Regional Chief of Interpretation Nelligan and Mr. Barnes issued for the first time to the members of this research team definite (and verbal) instructions that all research reports must be kept as short as possible. The report under consideration was completed on March 4, 1959. As this research report has completely revelutionized our previous conception of the historical appearance of Bldgs. No. 34-35, it is my opinion that the quotes on pages 10 and 11 are of the greatest importance and should be left in the report as they stand.

2. Page 12. Further narrative analysis would be useful, re the finding that present Bldgs. 32, 33 and 34A must all have been erected after 1870. In the long quote objected to by Mr. Barnes on page 10 of the report, it is plainly stated that "There were no outbuildings except a small and badly damaged one story kitchen..." Photograph HF-361, cited in the report, page 27, also clearly indicates that Bldg. No. 33 was not standing prior to 1870. For these reasons I see no reasons to belabor a point, that has been well established on page 10, thereby lengthening the report. The exact location of Bldg. No. 35 and the lot are shown on the 1869 map, page 2, of the report.

3. Page 8. The statement that the kitchen was added to the Master Armorer's House and later became Bldg. No. 34 (or part thereof) is based on footnote 18 on that page, and on the four maps listed on page 9, and included in the Appendixes of the report. Every one of those maps shows Bldg. No. 35 with a small annex at the rear, located on the present site of Bldg. No. 34.

4. Pages 5, 8, 9 and 14, "discrepancies" in the various dimensions given for Bldg. No. 35. The measurements for Bldg. No. 35 of 32 feet long are quoted from a document dated 1816, page 5. The measurement for Bldg. 35, 36 feet long, is quoted from an 1821 document, page 8. The measurement of 48 feet long for Bldg. 35 is based on actual measurement taken by the writer from the 1834-35 maps, page 9. The length of 33 feet is based on the modern measured drawing of the building, Drawing No. NMHF-3077. All of the various dimensions have been listed for the benefit of the Architects who will use this report in their study of the structure. I cannot pretend to resolve the differences in distance given for the same building, other than to state that the error undoubtedly lay with the various people who measured Bldg. No. 35 in the 1816-35 period.

but the diff. are here given with.

5. Citing where photographs used may be readily found: A complete check list of every historical photograph showing Bldg. No. 34-35, and also where they may readily be found, is already included in the report on page 27 under the heading "HISTORICAL PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS."

but not in text where photos named

6. General. Mr. Snell also wishes to state for the record that in his opinion, this report represents a particularly brilliant piece of research work in that the study has completely revolutionized the previously held concept of the appearance of these structures in 1859. Indeed the Architects strongly argued that the theories advanced in this report could not be so. However, after preliminary architectural investigation, following the leads provided by this report, the Architects uncovered a considerable amount of structural evidence that substantiates the theories that had been advanced on the basis of documentary evidence. It now appears, on the basis of the structural investigation, that the one story brick kitchen was demolished by McGraw about 1870 and that its foundations and much of its material, such as trim, window and door casings, and even windows and doors, were incorporated into Bldg. No. 34, which is located in part on the site of the old kitchen. This Part II, in Mr. Snell's opinion, therefore, represents major contribution to the historical and architectural studies of the buildings in the Monument.

I agree.

Frank H. Anderson
Superintendent

In quadruplet

Region Five
421 Walnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

May 28, 1959

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

From: Regional Historian

Subject: Research Project No. HF-56: Historic Bldg. Report, Part II - Historical Data Section, for Bldg. No. 34-35

When the time comes for the inclusion of this Historical Data Section in a Part II Historic Structure Report on Building 34-35, we suggest some thought be given to reducing or summarizing at least the long quotes on page 4 and pages 10-11. The material in the first is largely irrelevant, it seems to me; the "heart of the matter" seems contained in the second narrative paragraph on page 5.

Additionally, we feel some further narrative analysis would be useful re the finding on page 12 that present Buildings 32, 33 and 34A must all have been erected after 1870. It would seem important to extract the statement from the McGraw affidavit in Appendix 4 to the effect that his lot and building were on the corner of Shenandoah and Market Streets.

Likewise, it would be helpful to have some further clarification of the evidence on Building 34, of which the 1827 kitchen is described as part. The narrative on page 8 speaks of this as an addition (how do we know it became part of Building 34?); the 1879 evidence on page 10 speaks of the kitchen as an "outbuilding." Part of the trouble may be the maps. We are unable to deduce therefrom the dimensions cited at the top of page 9. And Appendix IA, II and III identifications seem to be at variance with those on page 14.

The final report, incidentally, should at least indicate where the photos cited may be readily found by reviewers, and any apparent discrepancies in dimensions should be explained (as was attempted, for example, at the top of page 9 -- here, however, the "approximate" dimension of 48' should be compared with the 32' in the middle of page 5 and with the 36' in the middle of page 8).

Signed

Frank Barnes
Regional Historian

In duplicate

Copy to: Director w/report

FBarnes: em
General Daily Area

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Harpers Ferry National Monument
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

REGION FIVE MAY 23 1959	INITIAL AND DATE
REG. DIRECTOR	
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OPERATIONS	
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May 25, 1959

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

Subject: Research Project No. HF-56, Part II, Historical Data Section, Bldgs. No. 34-35, 32, 33 and 34A

Enclosed please find three copies of the "Historic Building Report, Part II, Historical Data Section, Bldgs. No. 34-35, 32, 33 and 34A, The Samuel Annin House, Lot No. 3, Block B, Shenandoah Street," as requested in your note of the memorandum of May 21, 1959.

Frank H. Anderson

Frank H. Anderson
Superintendent

In duplicate

Enclosures

HISTORIC BUILDING REPORT

PART II.

HISTORICAL DATA SECTION.

BLDGS. NO. 34-35, 32, 33 and 34A

THE SAMUEL ANNIN HOUSE

Lot No. 3, Block B

Shenandoah Street

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Prepared By:

Charles W. Snell
Historian (Park Supervisory)
March 4, 1959
45 Pages 10 Maps
HF-36

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CHAPTER I

OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND, 1796 - 1869

Lot No. 3, Block B, Shenandoah Street, the site of Bldg. No. 34-35 and the subject of this report, is bounded on the east by Lot No. 2, Block B, site of Bldg. No. 36; on the north by Shenandoah Street; on the west by Market Street; and on the south by the Winchester and Potomac Railroad. Lot No. 3 was a portion of the property purchased on June 15, 1796, by the United States Government from John Wager, Sr., for the purpose of establishing a Federal Armory at Harpers Ferry.[1] The lot remained the property of the United States and formed a part of the Harpers Ferry Armory from 1796 until 1869.

Lot No. 3 was described in 1869 as follows:

"BLOCK B, ON SHENANDOAH.....

Lot No. 3, 88 feet front on Shenandoah street, 122 feet front on Market street, running back to embankment of Winchester and Potomac railroad, with it 106 feet to Lot No. 2, and with it 134 feet to Shenandoah street. Fine brick house and other buildings. The last three lots have an alley 10 feet wide along embankment of the railroad, from Washington (or High Street) to Market Street..." [2]

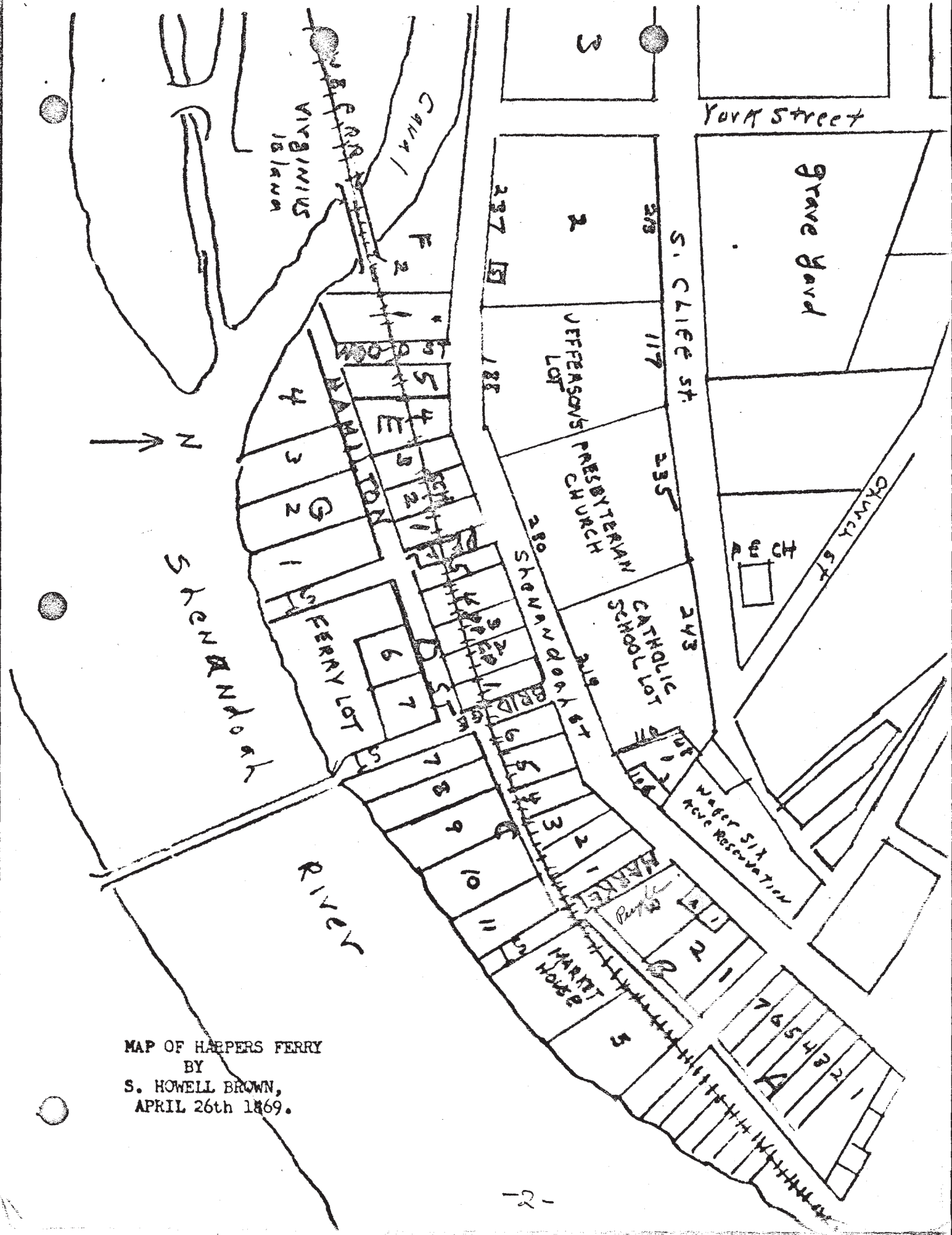
(See 1869 map of Harpers Ferry on the next page of this report for the location of Lot No. 3.)

Lot No. 3 was purchased on December 6, 1869, by M. T. C. A. and James C. McCraw for $5,100.[3]

1. Deed, June 15, 1796, Wager to U. S., National Archives, Reel 21, V.7, pp.704-708.

2. Catalogue of the Harper's Ferry Armory Property to be sold by the United States on the 30th November, 1869, at the Town of Harper's Ferry, Va., p.1.

3. Wolfsinger, James P., "Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, Contributions Towards a Physical History," November, 1958, p.136.



MAP OF HARPERS FERRY
BY
S. HOWELL BROWN,
APRIL 26th 1869.

CHAPTER II

CONSTRUCTION OF BLDG. NO. 34-35 AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA

On April 4, 1812, Samuel Annin, Paymaster and Military Storekeeper of the Harpers Ferry Armory, informed William Eustis, the Secretary of War:

"The bearer hereof Joseph S. Annin is desirous of opening a Druggists shop at this place. Will you be pleased, Sir, to grant him permission to erect a small brick building for the purpose in some convenient spot where it will not interfere with any of the public works. It appears necessary to have a store of this kind in a place like this, it would very frequently save the trouble & expense of sending a distance for a Physician. General Dearborn when Secretary of War granted me permission to procure for my son Doctor Annin (who then kept a Druggists shop) medicine for all the Armorers, chargeable to the United States. He has since removed to Battletown, 20 miles distant, and for a considerable time no medicine has been furnished them at the public expence. My son Joseph lived some years with his Brother and attended to the shop & therefore is acquainted with the business. It would be a very great accommodation to the Mechanics again to be furnished with medicine, and very useful to the neighbourhood generally. Be please, Sir, to take it into consideration, and I doubt not you will grant the request." [1]

On May 12, 1812, Secretary of War Eustis approved the request, writing: "You may authorise Mr. Joseph Annin to erect a small brick building for an Apothecaries' shop, provided it will not in any way interfere with the public works..." [2] From this, and evidence to be presented hereafter, it would appear that front portion of Bldg. No. 35, brick, 2½ stories high, and measuring about 23 feet by 34 feet, was erected by Joseph S. Annin in 1812 as a dwelling and apothecary shop.

Samuel Annin, who had served as the Paymaster of the Armory since 1808, retired on May 15, 1815, because "I find it impossible to discharge my duty as Paymaster & Store Keeper at this Post..." [3]

1. Annin to Eustis, April 4, 1812, Reel 18, V.7, p.628.
2. Eustis to Annin, Reel 18, V.2, p.157; Reel 13, V.2, p.131.
3. Annin to Secretary of War, May 15, 1815, Reel 13, V.2, p.112.

From 1800 to May, 1815, while serving as Paymaster, Mr. Annin had resided in the Paymaster's House (see the 1834-35 maps) which was located on what was later known as Lot No. 5, Block B, Shenandoah Street, in House No. 43. On resigning, Mr. Annin turned the Paymaster's House over to Superintendent James Stubblefield [4] and went to live with his son in Bldg. No. 35.

In February, 1816, Samuel Annin wrote in great heat to Major John Graham of the War Department, revealing considerable data about Bldg. No. 35:

"Not wishing to intrude on the Honorable Secretary of War, I have taken the liberty of addressing you on a subject that immediately concerns myself and family—— A few days ago a Mr. Basil Williamson (who had leased and operated the Harpers Ferry Hotel, located Wager Lot No. 15, from the Wager family from 1803 to 1815) informed me that the Secretary of War had granted him one acre of ground—— By the records of the War Office it will appear that Dr. Eustis, when Secretary of War, did grant permission to Joseph S. Annin to erect a brick building on any lot that should not be wanted for public use, in consequence thereof he built a house on a lot which I now occupy, I have converted the lot into a garden. Mr. Williamson has made choice of this lot to build his Tavern house upon, and with the assistance of Major Beall (the new Paymaster of the Armory) and Mr. R. Humphreys, has actually laid off the ground, leaving only __ feet south of the house, the porch at the west end (in order to have a covering over the steps that descended to the cellar kitchen) they say must be taken down, that Mr. Sons house may be joined to this— the case has certainly been misrepresented to the Secretary, otherwise he surely would not given such a grant to a man that never has done one single act whereby the United States at this place has been benefitted, why should he be accommodated with one whole acre and the Man that has devoted his whole time for 15 years, and to whose care, attention, and industry the prosperity & security of the establishment (the Armory) in a great measure has depended should not be accommodated with a small lot (not wanted for any public use) for a garden? I believe the Secretary to be a gentleman of too generous a mind to suffer (let alone sanction) such proceedings— lest silence on the occasion might be construed into an acquisience I have stated a few facts, and shall now rest satisfied in full assurance that the Honble Secretary will permit me peaceably to enjoy the fruits of my Sons labor, as I no longer can enjoy the fruits of my own, Major Beall being in full possession of (what cost me immense labor, expence for many years to cultivate an extensive garden, and lot adorned with a variety of trees, fruits, &c., (that is, the Paymaster's House and Yard) which I relinquished without one cent being paid

4. Ordnance Department to Stubblefield, June 28, 1815, Reel 14, V.1, p.53. Samuel Annin to Captain John Morton, Ordnance Office, July 7, 1815, Reel 21, V.1, p.76.

me by him, or any other person..." [5]

Four days later, Mr. Annin wrote again: "I recollect to have omitted filling the blank left for the number of feet left for a door yard, the blank should have been filled with 14 by 32..." [6]

From the above letter it appears that the original kitchen in Bldg. No. 35 was located in the cellar and that the kitchen was entered by means of exterior stairs located at the west end of the house; the cellar steps were sheltered by means of a small porch. From Mr. Annin's remarks about being left with only a small yard measuring 14 feet by 32 feet in size on the south side of the house, it would appear that his brick house fronted about 32 feet on Shenandoah Street.

Due at least in part, no doubt, to Annin's protest, and also to objections of the powerful Wager family, who had no desire to see their former inn keeper set up a tavern on a Government Lot in competition with their Harpers Ferry Hotel, the proposed lease of land to Williamson was cancelled by order of the Secretary of War on April 21, 1816; [7] thus Mr. Annin not only saved his garden but was spared a close neighbor. As events transpired, however, Williamson purchased another Government lease that had been granted to a Major Jamison and erected his tavern on a lot near the Armory on the Potomac River side. [8]

5. Annin to Graham, February 8, 1816, Reel 13, V.2, p.127.

6. Annin to Graham, February 12, 1816, Reel 13, p.126.

7. Secretary of War Wm. H. Crawford to Major Lloyd Beall, April 22, 1816, Reel 16, V.1, p.35; Crawford to Beall, February 6, 1816, Reel 16, V.1, p.33. Beall to Crawford, February 13, 1816, Reel 13, V.2, pp.149-150.

8. Beall to Crawford, April 26, 1816, Reel 13, V.2, p.152; Stubblefield to Col. D. Wadsworth, September 19, 1818, Reel 14, V.2, p.163; Col. Bomford to Acting Superintendent R. Lee, April 30, 1827, Reel 14, V.6, p.514.

In March, 1818, Superintendent Stubblefield informed Col. George Bomford:

"Mr. Annin is about to leave this place, will you be pleased to say, whether or no it would be advisable to purchase his son's House at a fair price. I am of opinion it would be better for the Govt. to have it than for it to be owned and occupied by an individual..." [9]

The Ordnance Office, in response, asked "we wish to know under what circumstances it was built, if it does not form a part of his Security &c. & what has been the Cost thereof & its present Value?" [10]

In answering these questions Mr. Stubblefield stated:

"I have understood from him (Mr. Annin) that Doctor Eustis, when Secretary of War gave his son the privilege of building of a house for the keeping a apothecaries shop which was thought would be an accommodation to the people of this place. Mr. Joseph Annin has been offered $2500 for it, but he wishes the Government to receive it, and credit his father's Acct. with the Amt., if that will not suit the Government, to receive the house these terms, he wishes to have the privilege of disposing of it to the best advantage for cash, which will be paid over to the Government, to his father's Credit, but Sir I would think it most adviseable for you to receive it, and not suffer it to pass into the hands of any other person, I am of an opinion that the house could not be built for much less than what he asks for it,..." [11]

Mr. Samuel Annin apparently left Harpers Ferry in 1818 and there the matter lay as far as the Ordnance Department was concerned until 1819. In February of that year Mr. Annin again wrote to the Secretary of War on the matter of his "brick house" and another round of questions were issued to Superintendent Stubblefield on the subject. [12]

On March 20, 1819, Col. Wadsworth reported to the Secretary of War:

9. Stubblefield to Bomford, Ordnance Department, March 16, 1818, Reel 21, V.3, p.231.

10. John Morton, Ordnance Department to Stubblefield, March 16, 1818, Reel 14, V.2, p.142.

11. Stubblefield to Bomford, March 23, 1818, Reel 21, V.3, p.234.

12. Col. Wadsworth, Ordnance Department, to Stubblefield, February 15, 1819, Reel 14, V.2, p.186.

"...Mr. Annin claims a Credit of $2500 being the estimated Value of a brick house built by his son on the public lands at Harpers Ferry by permission of the Sec. of War. There can be no objection I conceive to admit this Sum to his credit." 13

This favorable recommendation would seem to close the matter, but such was not the case. Two years later, in October, 1821, Superintendent Stubblefield again notified the Ordnance Office:

"I enclose you a letter from Mr. Annin, late paymaster at this place to the Master Armorer respecting House which he now occupies. The House was built by Mr. Annin or his son, and on the settlement of his account with the Govt, as I suppose, there was an understanding that it ought be post to his credit at $2500, but he now comes forward and demands of Mr. Beckham (the Master Armorer) the possession of the House, stating that he has not received credit for it &c.

Will you be pleased to take the matter into consideration and inform me what shall be done." 14

Lt. Col. Bomford answered on October 11, 1821, stating:

"...a letter has been addressed under this date, from this Department to Mr. Annin, acquainting that if, on an examination at the Treasury, it shall appear from his Accounts that he is justly entitled to be credited for the amount of the Cost of said House &c. and that the same has not yet been so admitted at the Treasury, it would be recommended from this Office that he be credited for that Amount in his general account with the United States. He has also been informed however, that even this admission to his credit will leave a Balance against him on the Books of the Treasury.

Under these circumstances and other considerations, I have it in direction, from the Secretary of War to direct that you keep possession of the House in question and maintain the same on the part of the United States." 15

Mr. Annin was apparently credited with $2,500 as payment for the value of his house in 1821, as we find no further correspondence on the subject, and also because his name is not included in the "Statement of Buildings erected

13. Wadsworth to Secretary of War John Calhoun, March 20, 1819, Reel 19, V.12, pp.1182-1183.

14. Stubblefield to Col. Bomford, October 9, 1821, Reel 21, V.5, p.447. Italics mine.

15. Bomford to Stubblefield, October 11, 1821, Reel 14, V.3, p.288.

by private individuals on the government lands at Harper's Ferry, Virginia," dated February 23, 1828, which listed the names of all people having claims outstanding or acquired from 1822 to 1828.[16]

Thus probably in 1818 and certainly by 1821, Mr. Samuel Annin's house had been taken over by the United States Government and was being used as quarters for the Master Armorer.

We find this house described in the 1821 "Statement of the number and dimensions of the buildings at the United States Armory at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, together with the materials of which they are built, and their estimated value," as follows:

"One Dwelling House, 36 by 26 feet, two stories and a cellar. Built of Brick. Estimated Value: $2,500."[17]

In 1827 this building was enlarged by the following addition:

"Building Kitchen for the Master Armorer's 20 by 22 feet, 1 story brick... $500."[18] This addition was a part of what is now Bldg. No. 34.

In 1833 the roofs of the Offices of the Paymaster, located on Lot No. 2, Block B, and of the Superintendent, located on Lot No. 1, Block A, in the vicinity of the two Arsenals were slated to lessen the danger of fire. It is therefore probable that the roof of Bldg. No. 35 was also slated about this time.[19]

16. Reel 17, V.3, pp.234-237.

17. Reel 17, V.3, p.204.

18. Entry 935, National Armory Accounts, 1795-1831. War Department Ordnance, National Archives R.G.156, 1827.

19. See Smith, Philip R., Jr., "A History of the Arsenal Tract, 1796-1869," dated December 19, 1958, pp.18, 20.

Four maps showing the Master Armorer's House (Bldg. No. 34-35) and yard in the 1834-35 period will be found in Appendixes I to III of this report. These maps give Bldg. No. 35 dimensions of 48 feet by 28 feet, and the kitchen (Bldg. No. 34) is shown as being 22 by 18 feet in size. In both cases the figures must be regarded as only approximate. In the rear of the Master Armorer's House is to be seen a small outbuilding 16 by 14 feet in size, which was possibly a smoke house and may be Bldg. No. 34A. The other building just beyond it was probably a privy and may be Bldg. No. 36A. At the rear of the yard, adjacent to the Winchester and Potomac Railroad right of way and fronting on Globe Inn Alley, is Bldg. No. 3, which was described by the engineers on August 12, 1834, as "No. 3 carriage-house and stable of Master Armorer, value $150; can be removed [to permit construction of the railroad]," thus indicating that this was probably a frame building.[20]

Bldg. No. 34-35 is described on the 1848-51 list of Government Dwelling Houses as "Dwelling House No. 2, Brick, two story, slate roof, located on Shenandoah Street," and valued both in 1848 and 1851 at $2,700 and placed in Class No. 1.[21]

In the annual report for the year July 1, 1850-June 30, 1851, Superintendent Symington reported: "Two coats of patent paint, in oil, have been applied to the exterior walls of...also to the Commanding Officer's, Pay Master's and Master Armorer's Quarters. Lightening Rods have also been attached

20. Reel 17, V.4, p.372.

21. "List of dwelling houses belonging to the United States at Harpers Ferry, 30th June 1848," Reel 18, V.12, p.1185; "List of Dwelling Houses belonging to the United States at Harpers Ferry, December 31, 1850," Photostatic Collection Map Case, Drawer No. 4; "List of Dwelling Houses at Harpers Ferry, Per Inventory 30 June 1851," Reel 18, V.12, p.1177.

to all these buildings."[22]

Col. Henry K. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, directed Major W. H. Bell, Superintendent of the Armory, to make "such repairs on the house recently occupied by Mr. Burton (James H. Burton, the new Master Armorer), as are necessary to fit it for the new Master Armorer..."[23]

Thus in the Annual report of operations for the year July 1, 1853, to June 30, 1854, Major Bell reported:

"Master Armorer's Quarters, also, the five buildings occupied by the Clerks, have been generally repaired, painted and plastered."[24]

As has already been mentioned, H. T. C. A. and James C. McGraw purchased Bldg. No. 34-35 in 1869. On December 1, 1879, Jesse W. Graham submitted the following description of the building as it had appeared in 1869, when McGraw purchased it:[25]

"On this 1st day of December 1879 personally came Jesse W. Graham before me Wm. H. Moore, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and State, and being by me duly sworn according to law deposes and says, that he had lived at Harpers Ferry since 1850 excepting a part of the time of the War of 1861, that he was employed in the U. S. Armory at Harpers Ferry before the war, and is a practical mechanic. That he has carefully examined the House and lot bid off at the sale of the U. S. Armory property by H. T. C. A. and James McGraw and he finds the condition of the House would be as follows <u>without</u> the improvements of their Father James McGraw: viz, no pavement in front of the building or shade trees, both ends and one side wall badly cracked, a badly broken slate roof, that would make the house untenable. Floors sunken, and without the Brick Pillars put in by Mr. McGraw to support the floors, it would have fallen in long ago. There was no outbuildings except a small and badly damaged one story kitchen (Bldg. No. 34), without floor or windows, and in fact to my own knowledge Mr. McGraw's children bought a House that was

22. Report of Operations, October 28, 1851, Reel 20, V.1, p.92.

23. Craig to Bell, April 10, 1854. Reel 13, V.7, p.523.

24. Report of Operations, dated October 24, 1854, Reel 20, V.2, p.185.

25. National Archives Record Group 121, Public Buildings Service, Harpers Ferry Abatment Cases under the Act of June 14, 1878, Box No. 388.

condemned by United States ten years before. Major Byington (Supt. of the Armory) (actually Master Armorer and an Acting Superintendent) stated to me while he lived in the House about 1858 or 1859, that he was fearful that it would fall in whenever he went in the upper part of it. And had Mr. McGraw not put in about $1500 worth of repairs, the house would have probably fallen in long ago, with Mr. McGraws improvements the property would be high at seven hundred dollars.

The lot is worth-as shown by recent cash sales on the same street, and within four doors of it, also on the same side of the street- $1.75 per front foot, and in my judgement no more, in 1869 it was not more valuable, but the hope of improvements through the water power excited out people until they bid fabulous prices for the property, underwent was really far from the true condition of affairs. The repairs Mr. McGraw put on the House alone, as above stated, and 2,000 dollars worth of new outbuildings and fencing, makes the property look quite valuable, but in its exposed condition from the floors, and from its liability to be bodily swepted away, as the fencing & outbuildings & coal and other goods were either damaged or entirely swepted away from the property in 1870 and 1877, few people would care to pay more for the property than the amount I have named and take the risk of loosing so heavily. Mr. McGraw has had a large portion of the House replastered this summer, and built a new corn Houses, and large Ware Room for coal, goods and etc, in the yard besides, so steadily improving the purchases, but without his improvemetns the building bought by his children was not worth over $430, and that is a high estimate for the material in it, as the true Value of the Building at the Time of the purchase was the value of the material in it, it being condemned by the U. S. as unfit for use.

Jessie W. Graham." [26]

On August 6, 1878, Maggie T. McGraw, Katie A. McGraw and James C. McGraw submitted a sworn statement to the Solicitor of the Treasury listing the following repairs and improvements to the property:

"Roofing, Flooring, Fencing, Pavements, cistern, Brick support in cellar for house, stable, Ice House, Sewer in yard, and painting,"

total improvements amounting to $1601.32. They also stated that a "Mrs. Kirby occupied the property until the spring of 1870, and since that time we have occupied it with the exception of 5 or 6 months." [27]

In Appendix IV will be found a long itemized list of repairs made by the

26. National Archives Record 121, Public Buildings Service. Harpers Ferry Abatment Cases under Act of June 14, 1878, Box No. 388.

27. Ibid.

McGraws to Bldgs. No. 34-35, 1870-1878, and a statement made by James McGraw regarding the property.[28]

From the above evidence it is clear that all original outbuildings, fencing, pavements and trees located on Lot No. 3, Block B, Shenandoah Street, were swept away by the 1870 and 1877 floods. It therefore follows that present Bldg. No. 32, 33 and 34-A must all be non-historic structures that were erected by James McGraw after 1870. The same holds true for the present pavement in front of Bldgs. No. 33, 34-35 and the present stone wall that extends along the lot line between Lots No. 2 and 3, running from rear of Bldg. No. 35 to the Winchester and Potomac Railroad tracks. Photograph HF-141 indicates that there were two shade trees located in front of Bldg. No. 35 in 1865 and that the sidewalk was also paved at that date. Original fencing on the lot apparently consisted of a wooden picket fence that was carried off by the floods. The original outbuildings on the lot probably consisted of Bldg. No. 35A, one story brick privy, a small brick smoke house, and one and a half story frame stable, the latter building probably fronted on Market Street. The original stable was probably the building shown on the 1834-35 maps, measuring approximately 15 feet by 20 feet in size, moved slightly further north from its original location in the right of way of the railroad.

Evidence to be presented in the following chapters of this report also indicates that all of the original outbuildings for Bldg. No. 34-35 were being used in the 1859-61 period by the occupants of Bldg. No. 36. This being the case, there were, therefore, probably no fences in the 1859-61 period dividing

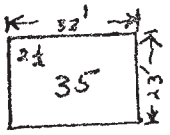
28. National Archives Record 121, Public Buildings Service. Harpers Ferry Abatment Cases under Act of June 14, 1878, Box No. 388.

Lot No. 2 from Lot No. 3.

The most important conclusion to be drawn from the 1878 evidence, however, would appear to be that Bldg. No. 34, before 1865, was only a one story brick building, the 20 by 22 foot kitchen erected in 1827. The roof and a rear chimney of Bldg. No. 34 is to be seen in the 1865 Photograph HF-361. The larger portion of Bldg. No. 34 as it stands today, an 18 by 39 foot 3½ story brick and stone structure, is therefore non-historic, having been erected after 1869.

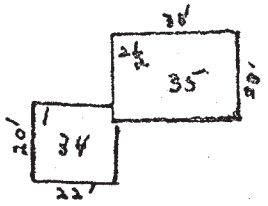
On the following page we present a drawing that indicates, in our opinion, the various stages in construction of Bldgs. No. 34-35.

1/. BLDG. NO.35, 1812-1827



2½ story brick house, as erected by Joseph S. Annin. 33 by 23 feet.

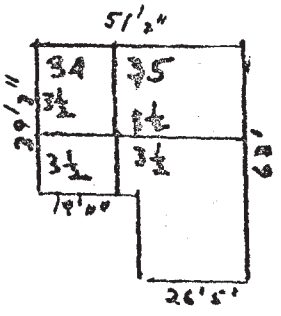
2. BLDG. NO. 34-35, 1827 to 1869



Bldg. No.35 a 2½ story brick house, 33 by 23 feet. Slate roof.

Bldg. No.34, a one story brick kitchen, 20 by 22 feet, slate roof. Added to Bldg. No.35 in 1827.

3. BLDG. NO. 34-35, 1870's to 1959



3½ stories brick and stone structures.

Bldg. No.34 much enlarged.

Before 1861

After 1869

CHAPTER III

USE OF BLDG. NO. 34-35, 1812 - 1933

1. 1812-1818, Dwelling and Drug Store

Bldg. No. 35 was erected by Joseph Annin, the son of Paymaster Samuel Annin, as an apothecary shop and dwelling house in 1812 and as such it was used from 1812 to 1818. On retiring from his position as Paymaster of the Armory on May 15, 1815, Samuel Annin also resided from that date until some time in 1818 in Bldg. No. 34-35. The Annins left Harpers Ferry in 1818 and at that time their house was taken over by the Armory for use as a Government Dwelling House. Probably in 1818 and certainly in 1821 Bldg. No. 35 had become the quarters of the Master Armorer of the Armory. Prior to occupying Bldg. No. 34-35, the Master Armorers had been living in a one story frame house, 25 feet by 14 feet in size, that had been located on Camp Hill.[1]

2. 1818-1858, Master Armorer's House

Bldg. No. 34-35 was thus occupied by the following Master Armorers and their families from 1818 to 1858:

1. 1818 to May 14, 1830, Master Armorer Armstead Beckham, (Mr. Beckham served as Master Armorer at Harpers Ferry from December 13, 1815, to May 14, 1830.)[2]

(Note: The early Master Armorers, 1798-1815, were as follows: 1798-1801,

1. Public Buildings At Harper's Ferry Virginia, 1st January 1810. Bldg. No. 33, Harpers Ferry Photostatic Collection. Map Case, Drawer No. 9; also Stubblefield to Secretary of War Wm. Eustis, April 7, 1810, Reel 18, V.5, p.419.

2. Beckham to Secretary of War, December 13, 1815, accepting appointement. Reel 21, V.1, p.39. Lt. Col. George Bomford to Beckham, May 14, 1830, Reel 14, V.8, p.734.

Thomas Annely;[3] 1801-1808, Charles Williams;[4] 1808-1811, Marine T. Wickham;[5] April,1811-September, 1815, George Mallory.[6])

2. May 14, 1830 to November 10, 1849, Benjamin Moor.[7] Mr. Moor was allowed to retain his quarters in Bldg. No. 34-35 until the spring of 1850.[8]

3. November, 1849, to March 16, 1854. James H. Burton.[9] By June, 1850, Mr. Burton had occupied Bldg. No. 34-35 as his free quarters.[10] The house was painted on the exterior at this time. On leaving the Armory in 1854, Mr. Burton then became Superintendent of the Enfield Arsenal in Great Britain.

4. March 16, 1854, to October 29, 1858. Mr. Samuel Byington.[11] From August 16, 1854, to January 17, 1855, Master Armorer Byington also served as the Acting Superintendent of the Harpers Ferry Armory.[12] Bldg. No. 34-35 was repaired,

3. Secretary of War to Superintendent Joseph Perkins, May 20, 1801, Reel 18, V.1, p.14.

4. Ibid., Secretary of War to Stubblefield, June 6, 1808, Reel 18, V.1, p.40.

5. Secretary of War to Stubblefield, November 9, 1808, Reel 18, V.1, p.88.

6. Col. Bomford to Secretary of War L. Cass, July 2, 1836, Reel 19, V.14, p.1329.

7. Lt. Col. Bomford to Beckham, May 14, 1830, Reel 14, V.8, p.734; Brig. Genl. George Talcott, Chief of Ordnance to Superintendent Symington, November 10, 1849, Reel 19, V.5, p.411; see also House No. 2-List of Dwelling Houses, June 30, 1848, Reel 18, V.12, p.1165.

8. Talcott to Symington, February 1, 1850, Reel 19, V.5, p.411; also Symington to Talcott, February 4, 1850, Reel 34, V.1, p.99.

9. Talcott to Secretary of War, November 9, 1849, Reel 20, V.1, p.56; Col. H. K. Craig to Superintendent W. H. Bell, March 16, 1854, Reel 19, V.7, p.617.

10. House No. 2, List of Dwelling Houses, December 31, 1850; also List of Dwelling Houses, 30 June 1851, Reel 18, V.12, p.1177.

11. Col. Craig to Superintendent Bell, March 16, 1854; Reel 19, V.7, p.617; Col. Craig to Superintendent Henry W. Clowe, October 29, 1858, Reel 19, V.10, p.995.

painted and plastered in 1854 for the use of Mr. Byington. In May, 1855, Mr. Byington applied for and received permission to have a garden located on Camp Hill near the Commanding Officer's or Paymaster's Quarters.[13] Mr. Samuel Byington, as we shall see, was the last of the Master Armorers to reside in Bldg. No. 34-35.

(Note: The other Master Armorers for the 1858 to 1861 period were as follows: October 29, 1858, to October 8, 1859, Benjamin Mills.[14] November 3, 1859, to outbreak of Civil War, April, 1861, A. M. Ball.[15])

3. Plans for a New House for the Master Armorer, 1852-1858

The Master Armorer's yard, as it was situated in relation to other buildings located on the Arsenal Tract, may be seen by glancing at the 1848 map of Harpers Ferry, which appears on the next page of this report.

A board of officers met at Harpers Ferry, in September, 1851, to consider and recommend plans to the Secretary of War for the sale of Surplus Government lots and houses of the Armory. In relation to Bldg. No. 34-35, the board recommended:

"The Master Armorer and Clerks now occupy houses on ground which should be sold; these houses should be reserved from the sale until suitable ones are erected for their use. All other dwellings should be removed from the land reserved..."

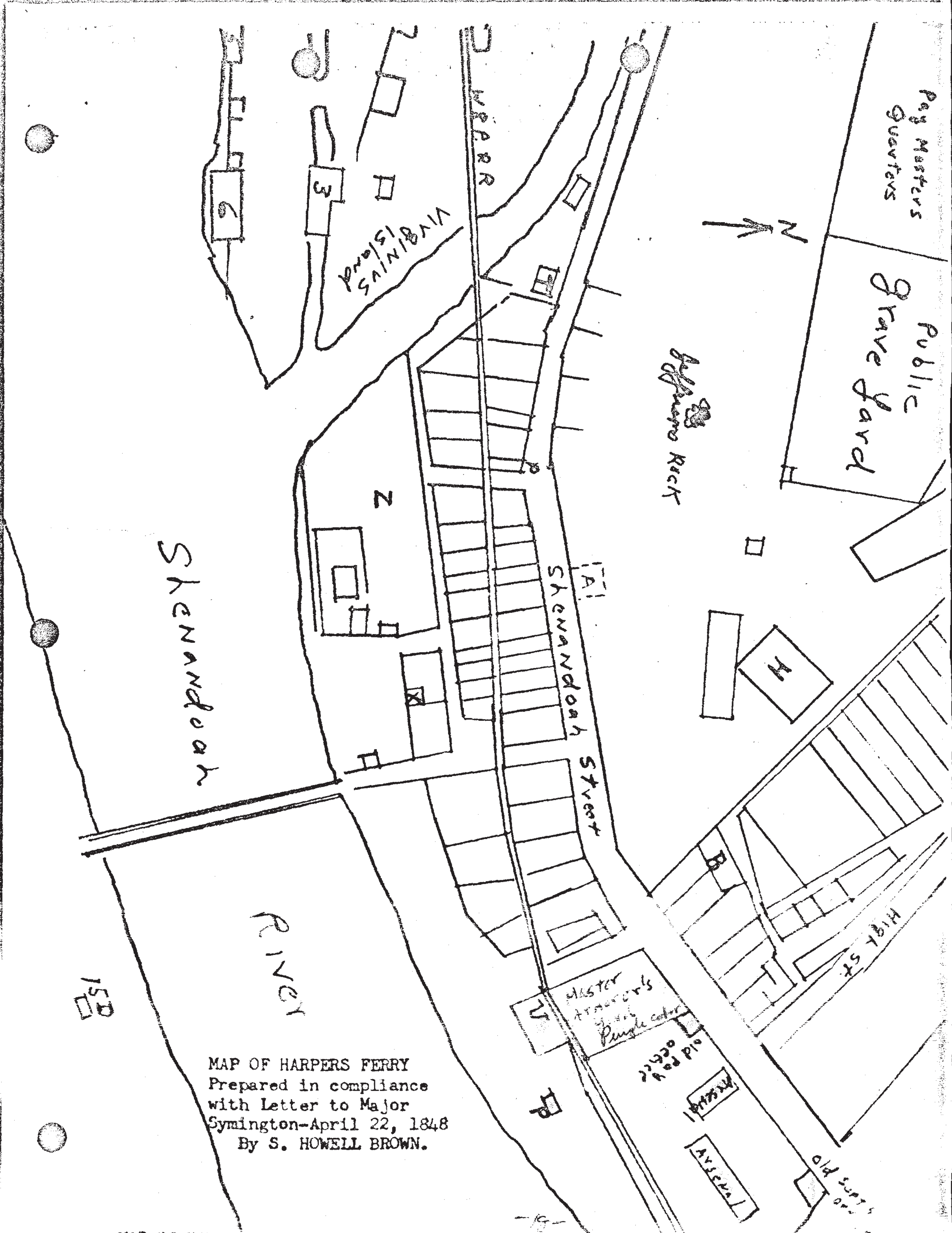
This recommendation was approved by the Secretary of War on June 10, 1852.[16] As a result of this decision, the Arsenal Tract was laid out into

12. Byington to Col. Craig, August 18, 1854, Reel 35, V.3, p.128; Superintendent Clowe to Col. Craig, January 17, 1855, Reel 25, V.4, p.372.

13. Col. H. K. Craig to Supt. Clowe, May 1, 1855, Reel 19, V.8, p.746; Clowe to Craig, May 3, 1855, Reel 25, V.5, p.486.

14. Craig to Clowe, October 29, 1858, Reel 19, V.10, p.995; Mills to Secretary of War Floyd, October 8, 1859, Reel 27, V.6, p.542.

15. Superintendent Alfred M. Barbour to Col. Craig, November 3, 1859, Reel 27, V.5, p.411; Col. Craig to Secretary of War J. Holt, February 14, 1861, Reel 20, V.4, p.347.



MAP OF HARPERS FERRY
Prepared in compliance
with Letter to Major
Symington-April 22, 1848
By S. HOWELL BROWN.

MAP OF HARPERS FERRY

two blocks, but not offered for sale in 1852. Bldg. No. 34-35 and the Master Armorer's lot was described in 1852 as follows:

"BLOCK B, ON SHENANDOAH....

Lot No. 4- 97 feet front on Shenandoah St., 140 feet deep to Alley (along line with Lot No. 3) - 124 feet on Alley, and from Alley 122 feet on Market St. to Shenandoah St. Dwelling No. 2-Master Armorer." 17

(See Brown's 1852 Map of Harpers Ferry on next page of this report.)

Following the sale of Government land, which was held on August 31 and September 1 and 2, 1852, Superintendent Benjamin Huger recommended to Col. H. K. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, on October 15, 1852:

"I now recommend that the amount received from the sale of part of the public property here, may be taken up, under the appropriation of repairs and applied to improving the part retained by the U. S.

I would propose to apply these funds 1st to building quarters on the blocks reserved for the purpose, for the Officers of the Armory, (Master Armorer & Clerks).

The buildings now occupied by these are on lots to be sold. As they are entitled to quarters, these cannot be sold until others are built.

New quarters should be erected & the sale of the lots and houses now occupied by these Officers would replace the amount so used..." 18

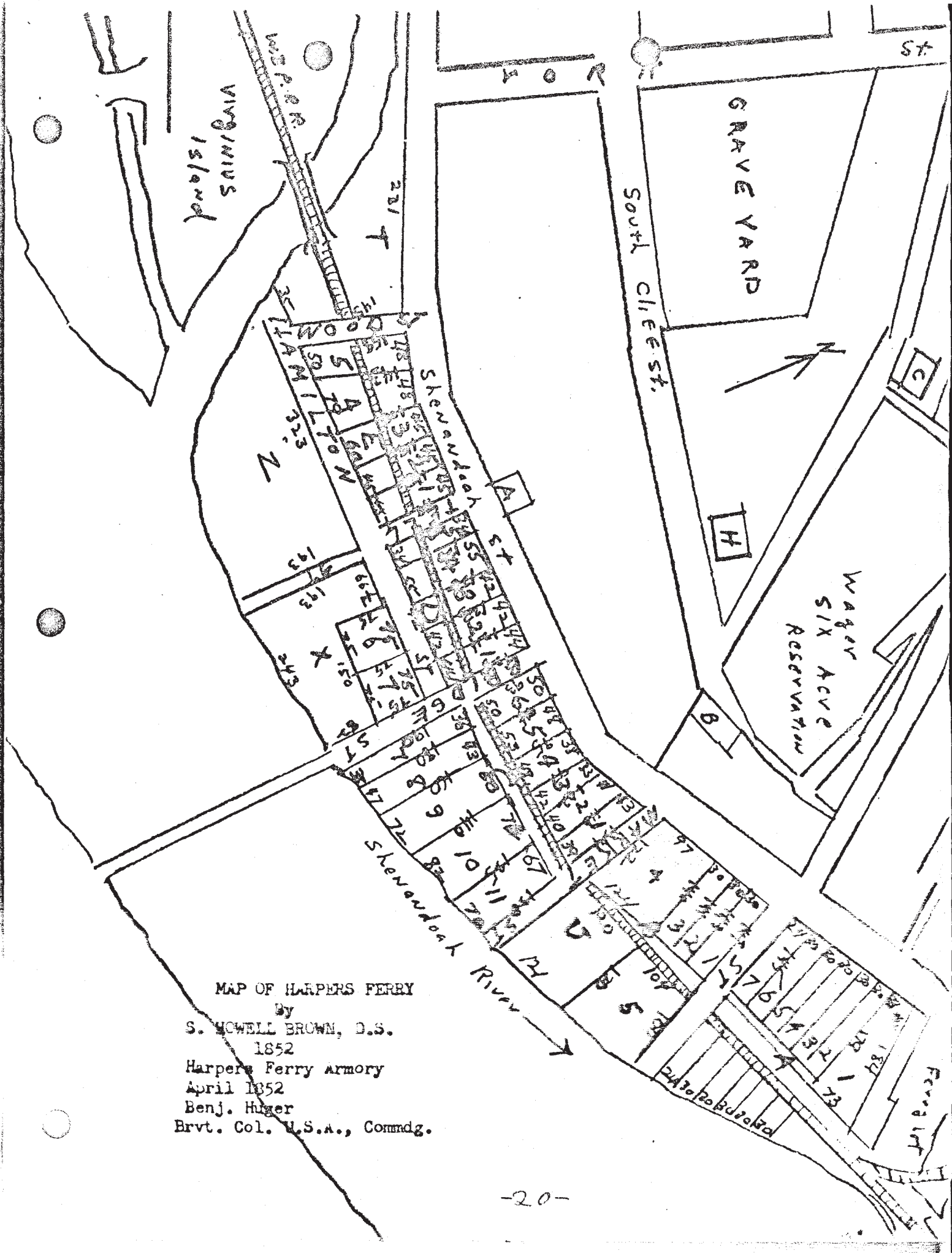
This suggestion to use funds from the 1852 sale in this manner was disapproved by the Secretary of War on the grounds that Congress had not appropriated funds to be spent for these purposes. 19 These plans for new quarters

16. Report of a Board of Officers, dated September 24, 1851, approved by Secretary of War C. M. Conrad, June 10, 1852, Reel 24, V.8, pp.802-806.

17. Legend Exhibiting the Corresponding Numbers of the Houses, as per the Inventory of the 30th June, 1852, with the Lots of Land as per Brown's Map of the same, where Correspondence Exists, and in other cases, an Approximation. Photostatic Collection, Map Case, Drawer No. 3, Map No. 82.

18. Huger to Craig, October 15, 1852, Reel 24, V.8, pp.777-778.

19. Craig to Huger, November 13, 1852, Reel 19, V.6, pp.545-546.



MAP OF HARPERS FERRY
By
S. HOWELL BROWN, D.S.
1852
Harpers Ferry Armory
April 1852
Benj. Huger
Brvt. Col. U.S.A., Commdg.

were therefore shelved for four years because of the lack of funds to execute them.

On April 23, 1856, a joint resolution was passed by Congress authorizing the Secretary of War to apply the proceeds of the 1852 sale of lots at Harpers Ferry to the improvement of the public property at that place.[20] On June 28, 1856, Col. Craig therefore informed Superintendent Henry W. Clowe that a total of $36,606.70 had been made available from the proceeds of the 1852 sale to be spent on permanent improvements at the Harpers Ferry Armory. From this total, $18,000 was allotted for the "erection of three quarters."[21]

Thus in 1858-1859, present Bldg. No. 36 was erected as the new quarters for the Master Armorer and located on a lot adjoining Bldg. No. 34-35.[22] The erection of Bldg. No. 36 resulted in a reduction in size of the lot for Bldg. No. 34-35 as described in 1852, in order to create a yard for Bldg. No. 36. Thus in 1869 the lot for Bldg. No. 34-35 was reduced from a 97 foot frontage on Shenandoah Street to an 88 foot frontage on the same street. (See 1869 Cat., page 1 of this report.)

On October 29, 1858, Mr. Samuel Byington, Master Armorer since 1854, resigned and was replaced by Benjamin Mills. Mr. Byington vacanted Bldg. No. 34-35 at this time and the house was then occupied by John E. Daingerfield,

20. Secretary of War to Secretary of Treasury, May 7, 1856, Reel 26, V.8, p.458. Secretary of Treasury to Secretary of War, May 10, 1856, Reel 25, V.8, p.464.

21. Craig to Clowe, June 28, 1856, Reel 19, V.9, p.471. For full story of 1852 sale, etc., see Snell, Charles W., "A Comprehensive History of the Construction, Maintenance and Numbers of Armory Dwelling Houses, 1796-1869," revised January 13, 1959, Chapter VIII.

22. Kissling, Herbert H., "Historic Building Report, Part I, for Bldg. No. 36, Master Armorer's New Quarters," revised January 22, 1958, pp.7-8.

the Paymaster's Clerk, in November, 1858. Superintendent Henry W. Clowe reported on this situation as follows:

"...I also acquiesced in the arrangements made by Mr. Mills and Mr. Daingerfield, to exchange their quarters. The arrangement was very decidedly and exceedingly agreeable to both parties, and has been accomplished by the removal of Mr. Daingerfield to the old Quarters (Bldg. No. 34-35) of the Master Armorer, until the new house (Bldg. No. 36) is finished, and the occupation by Mr. Mills, of those on the Hill..." 23

Mr. Daingerfield, under this agreement, was to live in Bldg. No. 34-35 until the new quarters, Bldg. No. 36, were completed; he was then to move into the new house.

On July 16, 1859, Superintendent Alfred M. Barbour therefore informed the Chief of Ordnance, Col. Craig:

"The new quarters (Bldg. No. 36), built for the Master Armorer, on the Arsenal Lot, on Shenandoah St., and now by the decision of the Hon. Sec.'y of War, occupied by W. Dangerfield, Paymaster Clerk, rather than the present M. Armorer, who occupied the Quarters on the (Camp Hill), are finished and thus occupied.

The old house (Bldg. No. 34-35) is on the same lot, and very near to one of its (Bldg. No. 36's) gables, and is quite in a dilapidated condition. The outhouses attached to the old house, are wanted for the use of the new one; if the old house is retained, new outhouses will have to be built for the new house, and for these, there is not sufficient space upon the lot, without materially marring the appearance and enjoyment of the grounds. Besides the materials in the old house can be very profitably employed in the construction of outhouses for the new Quarters on the Hill, where they are much wanted, and will soon be needed for that purpose.

I therefore recommend the pulling down of this house (Bldg. No. 34&5), and the saving of the materials, as above named." 24

Bldg. 34-35 was therefore vacant in July of 1859 and Capt. William Maynadier, of the Ordnance Department, replied to Superintendent Barbour's request, remarking:

23. Photostatic Collection, V.3, p.57, Clowe to Col. Craig, November 25, 1858.

24. Barbour to Craig, July 16, 1859, Photostatic Collection, V.3, p.60A.

"...it would have been well to have brought it (the poor condition of Bldg. No. 34-35) to the notice of Col. Ripley at his late inspection of your Armory. But before taking any action on the subject in this Office I wish you to state why it was not submitted to the Inspector, and, as far as you may know, to state the reasons for placing the new Quarters (Bldg. No. 36) so contiguous to the old, as to render the pulling down of the old advisable- A 'Brick house of 2 Stories slate roof" and ever since 1845 reported in the first class of Armory dwelling houses'?" 25

Mr. Barbour answered these questions on July 20, 1859, stating in part:

"...The building (No. 36) was so commenced long before I had charge of the Armory, and I am hence wholly unable, as you request, to state the reasons why it was placed so contiguous to the old quarters, and utterly unconscious that the matter was an open one, for so long a time I did not for a moment deem it necessary to invite Col. Ripley's attention to it.

By reference to the report of the Board of Office, dated 24th Sept., 1851, it was recommended that all buildings on reserved ground should be pulled down; this was one of them.

I have examined this matter closely, and am satisfied that it is entirely proper to remove the old building for many reasons- although it seems to have been borne on the Inventory as a first class house, its value as a dwelling was egregiously exaggerated on the Books, as is self-evident." 26

Superintendent's Barbour's letter was apparently ignored by the Ordnance Department, for he returned to the attack on September 5, 1859, writing:

"Permit me to invite yr. attention to my letter of the 20th July last, on the subject of removing the brick building formerly occupied by the Master Armorer, and contiguous to the new Quarters, on the same lot.

An early decision on the subject is very desirable." 27

Mr. Barbour's wish was granted, in part-a prompt reply-and on September 7, 1859, Col. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, informed him:

"...upon a full examination, it appears-there is no authority for pulling down or removing said house (the Master Armorers old quarters). It will, therefore, have to remain, as it is, until the attention of the Secretary of War shall have been called to the subject and has decision been given; which

25. Maynadier to Barbour, July 18, 1859, Photostatic Collection, V.3, p.91.

26. Barbour to Col. Craig, July 20, 1859, Photostatic Collection, V.3, pp.92-93.

27. Barbour to Col. Craig, September 5, 1859, Reel 27, V.4, p.331.

will be communicated to you without delay." [28]

Thus at the time of the John Brown Raid in October, 1859, Bldg. No. 34-35 stood vacant. Permission to tear down the house was never granted by the Secretary of War and the building therefore still stands.

As a result of the John Brown Raid, Superintendent Barbour requested on October 24, that force of regulars of the United States Army be stationed at Harpers Ferry to protect the Armory.[29] This request was approved by the Secretary of War; and the troops arrived in November, 1859. On November 8, 1859, George Mauzy informed James H. Burton, former Master Armorer and then Superintendent of the Enfield Arsenal, "Your old quarters (Bldg. No. 34-35) are now used as a recruiting station by Capt. Burton, there is a Co. of Soldiers, who were sent here from Govs. Island to protect Government property..."[30]

Bldg. No. 34-35 was therefore probably used for this purpose until April 5, 1860, when Captain Barton's company was withdrawn from Harper's Ferry.[31] There is no record of use for the building from April, 1860, to February, 1861, and it is probable that the house was vacant. In February, 1861, regular army troops were again stationed at the Armory and it is possible that Bldg. No. 34-35 was again used to quarter the officers and also to serve as an office or recruiting station, although no direct evidence has been found relating

28. Craig to Barbour, September 7, 1859, Reel 19, V.11, p.1058.

29. Barbour to Craig, October 24, 1859, Reel 27, V.4, p.396; Craig to Secretary of War J. B. Floyd, October 25, 1859, p.556.

30. Mauzy to Burton, November 8, 1859, Copied by C. W. Snell, from MS letters in possession of Mrs. Kenneth Glasgow, Md. Italics Mine.

31. Barbour to Craig, April 4, 1860, Reel 27, V.7, p.691; also Mauzy to Burton, April 5, 1860; Virginia Free Press, April 19, 1860, p.2, c.1.

to Bldg. No. 34-35.[32] The troops remained at Harpers Ferry until April 19, 1861, when on the approach of Confederate forces, the small garrison fired the arsenals and withdrew across the Potomac.

On July 27, 1865, Brigadier General Edward D. Ramsay made a detailed inspection and report of the buildings and stores at Harpers Ferry. He described Bldg. No. 34-35 as follows:

"Dwelling House No. 2- two story, brick, located on Shenandoah Street. In fair condition and occupied as quarters for Officers."[33]

Use of Bldgs. No. 34-35, 1866-1933

Following the Civil War, Bldgs. No. 34-35 and Lot No. 3 were offered for sale by the United States in 1869 and purchased by M. T. C. A. and James McGraw. The building was apparently rented during the 1866-1869 period by a Mrs. Kirby as a dwelling house.[34] From the spring of 1870 to 1878, the structures were next occupied by the owners and much improved and enlarged, being converted to use as a store.[35]

By November, 1894, Bldgs No. 34-35 had assumed their present sizes and both were 3½ story bruildings. Bldg. No. 34 was being used in 1894 as a post office and Bldg. No. 35 as a dry goods store. Bldg. No. 33 is shown as a 3 story stone building and was being utilized as a hardware store. Bldg. No. 32 is delineated as a two story stone structure and was being used as a beer

32. Master Armorer Ball to Ordnance Department, February, 1861, Reel 27, V.11, p.1037.

33. Ramsay to Brig. Genl. A. B. Dyer, Chief of Ordnance, July 27, 1865. National Archives R.G.156, Harpers Ferry Photostatic Collection, Map Case, Drawer No. 10.

34. National Archives R.G.121, Box No. 388, August 6, 1878, McGraws to Solicitor of Treasury.

35. See Appendix IV.

bottling plant. Bldg. No. 34-A is shown as a two story brick structure and is listed as being used for oil storage.[36]

In September, 1907, Bldgs. No. 34-35 contained a general store. Bldg. No. 34-A is listed as a "stge. No." Bldg. No. 33 contained a Pool Room and residence and Bldg. No. 32 was vacant.[37]

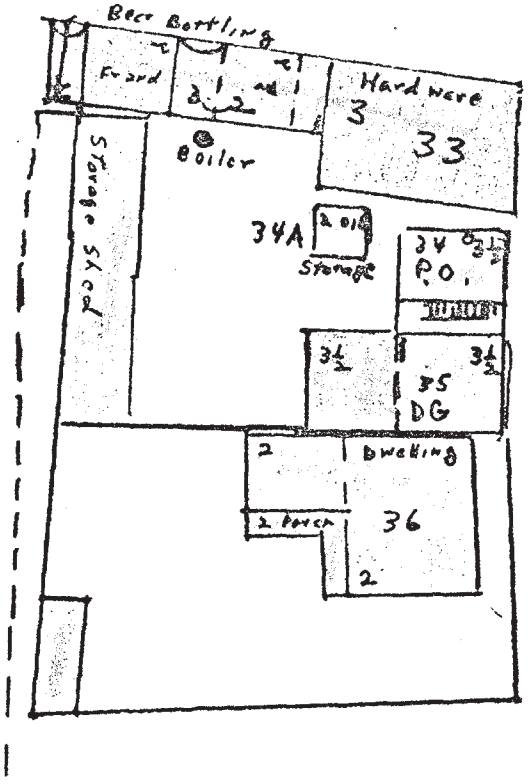
By 1913 the property was owned by Wm. and M. E. Doran and Bldgs. No. 32, 33, and 34-35 are listed as containing stores.[38] In 1933 Bldg. No. 33 is listed as containing a store and Bldg. No. 34-35, two stores.[39]

36. Sanborn-Perris Map of Harpers Ferry, November, 1894.

37. Sanborn Map of Harpers Ferry, September, 1907.

38. 1913 Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Map of Harpers Ferry.

39. Sanborn 1933 Survey of Harpers Ferry, Drawing No. MM-HF-2004, sheet 1 of 1.



From Sanborn-Perris Map of Harper's Ferry, W. Va., November 1894

Scale: 1 inch equals 50 feet.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

1. HISTORICAL PLANS OF BLDGS.

A careful search of thousands of pages of documents in the National Archives has failed to turn up any plans relating to Bldg. No. 34-35 and it is therefore highly unlikely that any such plans will ever be located. Modern measured Drawings of Bldg. No. 34-35 will be found in Drawing No. MMF-3077.

2. HISTORICAL PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Historical prints and photographs showing Bldgs. No. 34-35 will be found in the following reports that have already been submitted:

1. 1865 print, Photograph HF-141, by A. R. Waud, in Kiesling, Herbert H., "Historic Building Report, Part I, for Bldgs. No. 34-35, 32 and 34A," dated January 22, 1958, page 20. (Bldg. No. 35)

2. 1865 original sketch of HF-141, Photograph HF-224, by A. R. Waud, in Snell, Charles W., "Historic Building Report, Part I, for Bldg. No. 10 and 10-A, the John C. Unseld Buildings," dated May 28, 1958, page 37, (Bldg. No. 35).

3. 1865-1869 photograph, HF-361, in Snell, C. W., "Historic Building Site Survey Report, History of Lots No. 1 to 11, Block C, Shenandoah Street, 1796 to 1865," dated January 23, 1959, p.112. This is the only photograph that shows Bldg. No. 34 before it was enlarged. Also visible is a one story smoke house or privy in the rear of Bldg. No. 34 and the roof and west chimney of Bldg. No. 35. HF-431 1870-75 Plats (in 68A Bldg Record) shows front elevation of Bldg.

4. 1893-1894 photograph, HF-99, in Snell, C. W., "History of Block C, Shenandoah Street," page 110. Excellent view of rear of Bldgs. No. 32, 33, 34-35, and 34A after the structures had been altered.

3. SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL DATA

A. Ownership of the Land

Lot No. 3, Block B, Shenandoah Street was owned by the United States Government from 1796 to 1869. In May, 1812, the lot was leased to Joseph S. Annin, the son of Paymaster Samuel Annin, for the purpose of erecting an apothecary shop. Joseph Annin thus held a lease to this lot from 1812 to 1818. In October, 1821, the United States Government settled all of Mr. Annin's claims to the house he had erected on the leased lot for $2500 and thus regained full control of the property.

B. Construction of Bldgs. No. 34-35

Bldg. No. 35 was erected in 1812 by Joseph S. Annin as a dwelling house and apothecary shop. The house, a 2½ story brick building, fronted 33 feet on Shenandoah Street and was about 23 feet deep. The original roof was probably composed of wooden shingles. The original kitchen was located in the cellar of the house and was entered by means of an exterior stairway located at the west end of the building. These steps were sheltered by means of a small porch on the west end. Bldg. No. 35 was valued at $2,500 in 1821.

Bldg. No. 34 was erected by the Armory in 1827 at a cost of $500 as a one story brick kitchen for Bldg. No. 35. The kitchen measured 20 by 22 feet in size. Either at this date or perhaps in 1833, and certainly by 1845, Bldgs No. 34-35 were covered with a slate roof.

Bldg. No. 35 was used from probably 1818 and certainly 1821 to 1858 as a dwelling house for the Master Armorer of the Armory. Bldgs No. 34-35 were painted on the exterior in 1851 and in 1854 the interiors were repaired, plastered and painted. No wallpaper was used in the quarters prior to 1869.

C. Outbuildings and Fences

Original outbuildings situated on Lot No. 3 were apparently comprised of the following structures: 1. A one story brick smoke house about 16 by 14 feet. 2. A small one story brick privy, and 3. A one or one and one-half story frame stable, measuring about 16 by 20 feet. These structures are all shown on the 1834-35 map. The stable was valued at that date at $150 and it was stated that the building could be removed from the proposed right of way requested by the Winchester & Potomac Railroad. It is therefore most probable that the stable was relocated on few yards north of its original site, still fronting on Market Street. It is also probable that the yard for Lot No. 3 was surrounded by a wooden fence, as shown on the 1834-35 maps and the 1848 map. All of these pre-Civil War structures, and including fencing, sidewalk and trees, with the exception of the privy, Bldg. No. 36-A, were swept away by the 1870 and 1877 floods.

Thus the present outbuildings, No. 32 and 34A, and Bldg. No. 33 are all non-historic buildings. The present stone fence between Lots No. 2 and 3 is also non-historic, being erected after 1869.

D. Uses of Bldg. No. 34-35, 1812-1865

1. 1812-1818. Residence and apothecary shop of Joseph S. Annin. From May, 1815, to 1818, also residence of Samuel Annin, retired Paymaster of the Armory.

2. 1818-1830. Master Armorer's Quarters. House taken over by United States in 1815. Residence of Master Armorer Armistead Beckham.

3. 1830-1850. Residence of Master Armorer Benjamin Moore.

4. 1850-1854. Residence of Master Armorer James H. Burton.

5. 1854-October 28, 1858. Residence of Master Armorer Samuel Byington.

6. November, 1858-July, 1859. Residence of John E. Daingerfield, Paymaster's Clerk.

7. July, 1859-November, 1859. Vacant at time of John Brown Raid, October, 1859.

8. November, 1859-April, 1860. Recruiting Office and probably quarters of Captain Barton, who commanded a company of regulars stationed at Harpers Ferry to protect the Armory.

9. April, 1860-February, 1861. probably vacant.

10. February, 1861-April 19, 1861, outbreak of Civil War. Probably recruiting office and quarters of regular Army officers stationed at Harpers Ferry to guard the Armory.

11. 1861-1865, Civil War. Used as quarters for Officers of both sides.

Catholic School
Catholic Church
Brick
Stone
Frame
MARKET STREET
Alley
Side Walk
Block C
Block B
Shenandoah Street
Lot 43
Lot 44
Lot 45
Market House
Stable
Smoke House
Porch
Small Arsenal
1859 HISTORICAL BASE MAP
Scale: 50 feet equals 1 inch.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that Bldg. No. 35 be reduced to 2½ stories in height as it was prior to 1865. Non-historic additions on the rear should also be removed.

2. It is recommended that Bldg. No. 34 be reduced to a one story building, approximately 20 by 22 feet in size, as it was before the Civil War.

3. Bldg. No. 34A is a non-historic structure and can be either completely demolished or reduced to a one story brick building, restored as a smoke house. It is located on the approximate site of the orginial smoke house.

4. Bldg. No. 32 is also a non-historic structure, but will undoubtedly be retained as a flood buffer. It is suggested, however, that Bldg. No. 32 be reduced to one story in height.

5. Bldg. No. 33 is also a non-historic structure and it is planned to retain this house as a flood buffer. It is suggested that Bldg. No. 33 be reduced to a two story building so that it will not completely dominate the restored 1859 historic scene.

6. The stone wall running back from Bldg. No. 35 to the railroad tracks is also non-historic. It may be well, however, to retain this fence so that personnel residing in Bldg. No. 33 will have some area for a private back yard.

7. It is recommended that Bldg. No. 34-35 be called the Samuel Annin house, after the first Paymaster of the Harpers Ferry Armory.

8. It is suggested that Bldg. No. 34-35 be exhibited as an 1859 Army Recruiting Office.

(Sgd) CHARLES W. SNELL

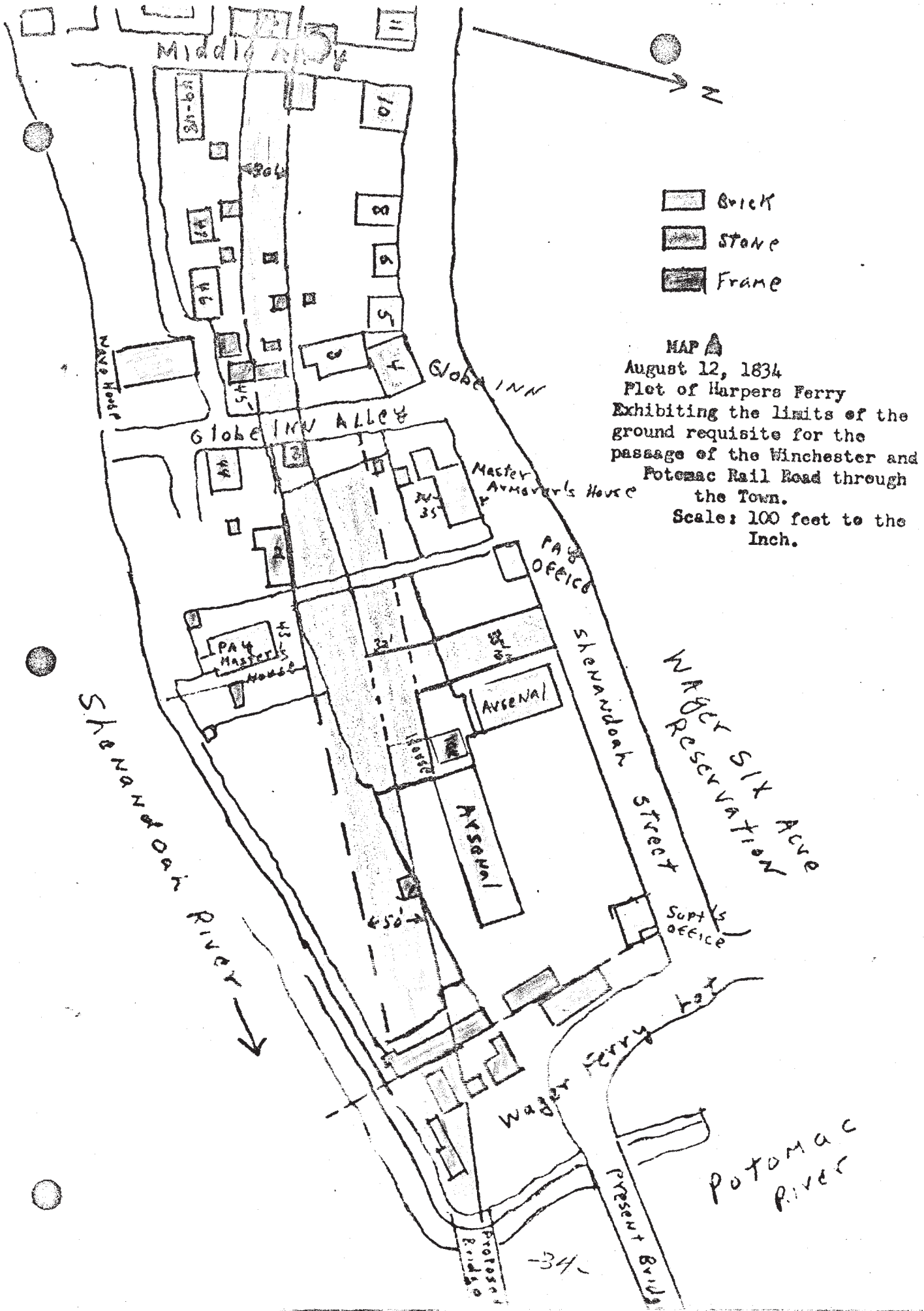
Charles W. Snell
Historian (Park Supervisory)
March 4, 1959

APPENDIX I

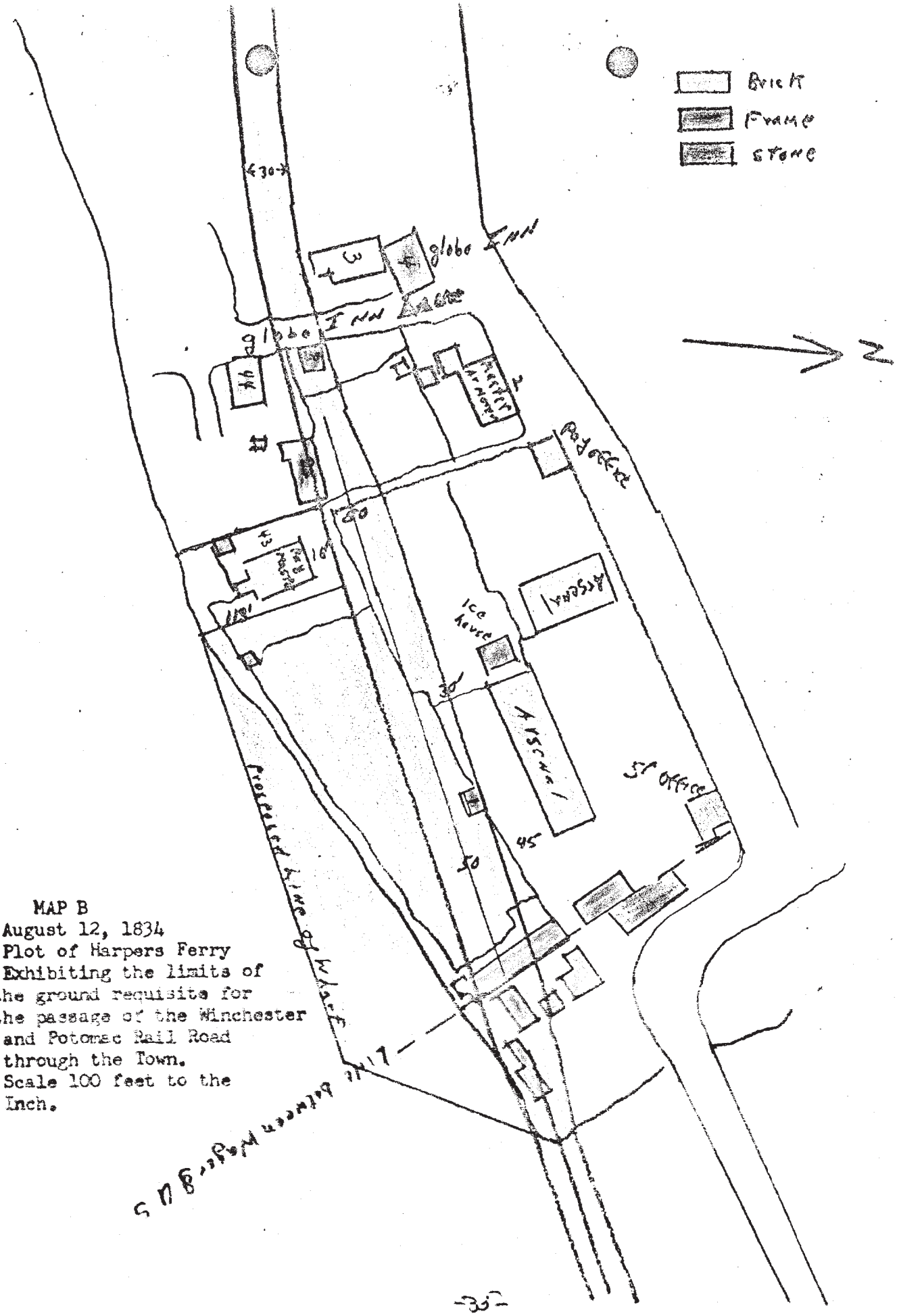
"MAPS A AND B. PLOT OF HARPERS FERRY Exhibiting the limits of the ground requisite for the passage of the Winchester & Potomac Rail Road through the town." Undated map, but prepared August 12, 1834.

From National Archives R.G.77. Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers. Fortification Map File, maps Dr. 150, sheets 78-1 and 78-2. Scale 100 feet to 1 inch.

Dwelling Houses on the map have been numbered in ink according to the 1848-1852 lists of Government Dwelling Houses and the records pertaining to the 1852 sale of Government Houses and Lots in the Shenandoah Street area.



MAP A
August 12, 1834
Plot of Harpers Ferry
Exhibiting the limits of the ground requisite for the passage of the Winchester and Potomac Rail Road through the Town.
Scale: 100 feet to the Inch.



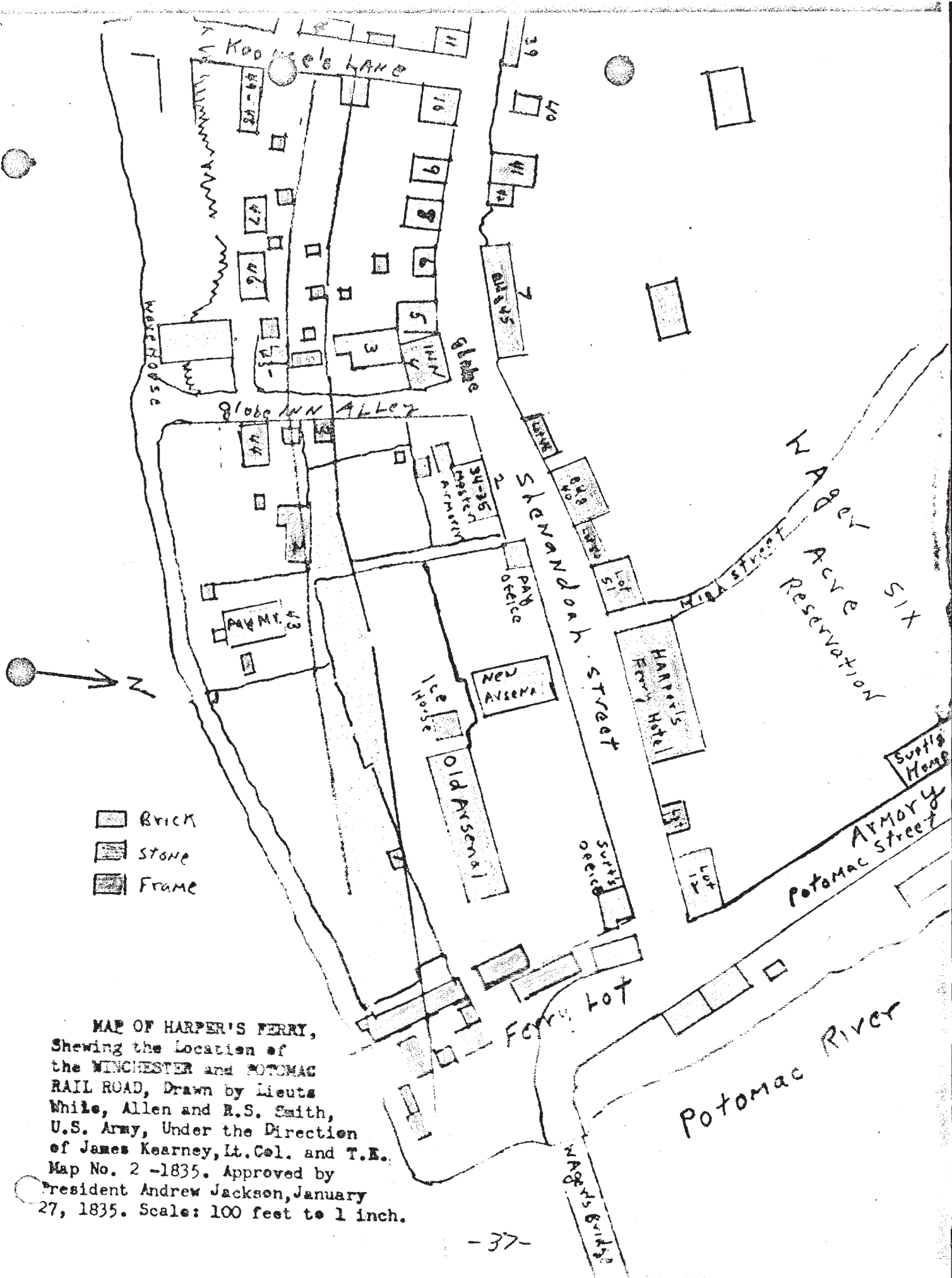
MAP B
August 12, 1834
Plot of Harpers Ferry
Exhibiting the limits of
the ground requisite for
the passage of the Winchester
and Potomac Rail Road
through the Town.
Scale 100 feet to the
Inch.

APPENDIX II

"MAP OF HARPER'S FERRY, Shewing the Location of the WINCHESTER and POTOMAC RAIL ROAD, Drawn by Lieuts. White, Allen, and R. S. Smith, U. S. Army, Under the direction of James Kearney, Lt. Col. and T.E., 1835-No.2. Approved by President Andrew Jackson, January 27, 1835."

National Archives R.G. 77. Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers. Fortification Map File, part of map. Dr. 150-Sheet 82-2. Scale: 100 feet to 1 inch.

Dwelling Houses on the map have been numbered in ink according to the 1848-52 lists of Government Dwelling Houses and the records pertaining to the 1852 sale of Government Houses and Lots in the Shenandoah Street area.



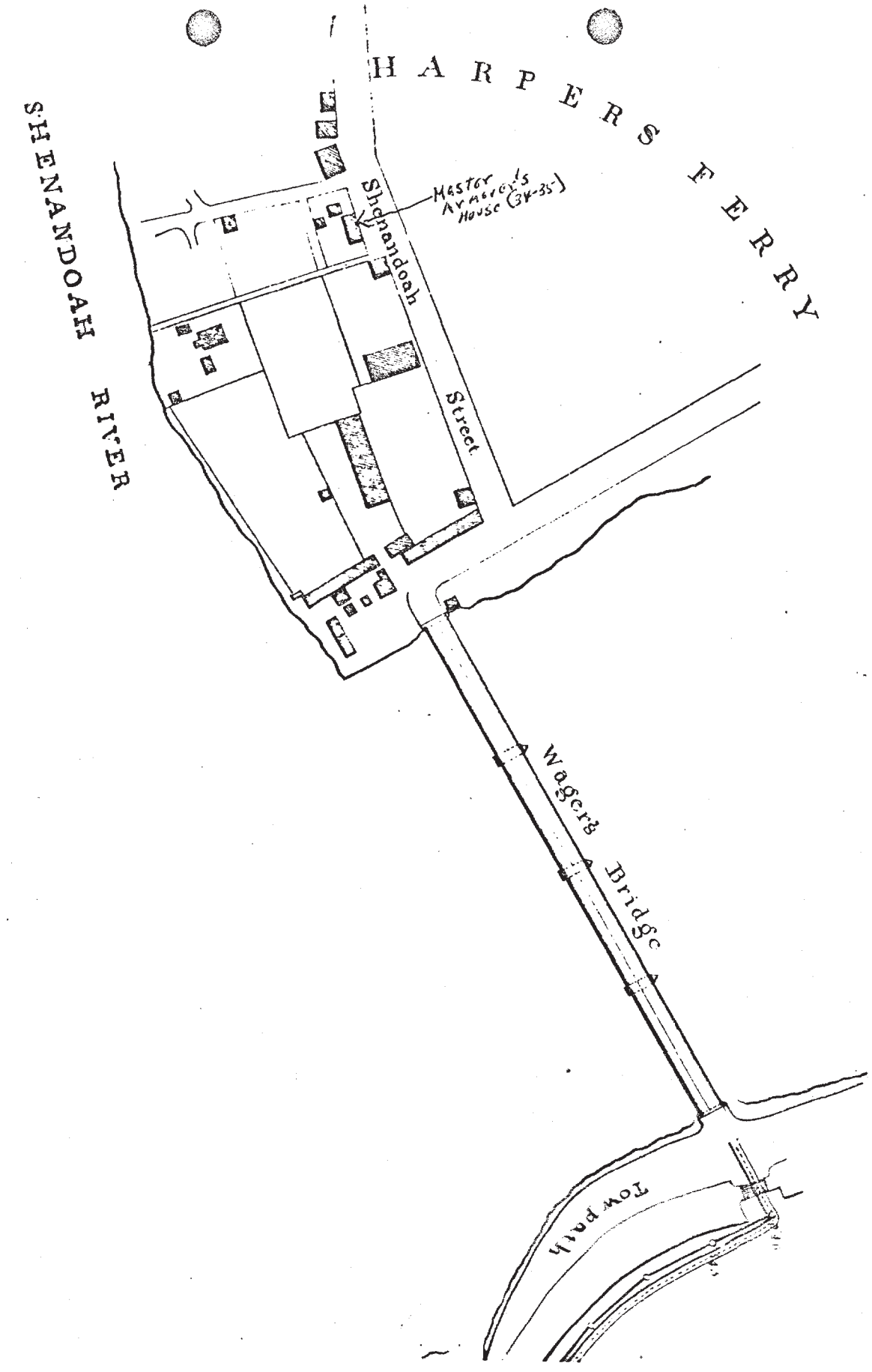
MAP OF HARPER'S FERRY, Shewing the Location of the WINCHESTER and POTOMAC RAIL ROAD, Drawn by Lieuts White, Allen and R.S. Smith, U.S. Army, Under the Direction of James Kearney, Lt. Col. and T.E. Map No. 2 -1835. Approved by President Andrew Jackson, January 27, 1835. Scale: 100 feet to 1 inch.

APPENDIX III

MAP OF HARPERS FERRY

Made in 1834 or 1835.

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad
Company Archives


HARPERS FERRY
SHENANDOAH RIVER
Shenandoah Street
Mestor Armeroy's House (3K-35)
Wagers Bridge
Tow Path

APPENDIX XV

1878 list of repairs and statement by James Mcgrew in regard to Light. 34-35.

From National Archives Record Group 121, Public Buildings Service. Harpers Ferry Abatment Cases under Act of June 14, 1878, Box No. 388.

A

The Amounts of Improvements on House and Lot No. 3 Block B purchased.

1870	By M. T. K. A. J C. McGraw	
Feb. 19	" Paul M. Gault & Son, for slate	4.70
" "	" Freight and Drayage on slate	1.00
May 3d	" Geo. W. Tacey & Son, for 5 days work repairing slate roof of House @ $4.50 pr dy	22.50
	" George W. Tacey, for furnishing Snow irons and erecting snow boards	7.50
May 6th	" Francis Gaunon, for 100 feet of plank for Snow Board a 4¢ per ft.	4.00
" 11	" " J. L. Butt for 2½ days work (as carpenter) @ $2.00	5.00
" 18	" " J. M. DeCaulue, for Paint, Oil, Glass etc	10.15
" 28	" " John C. Storm, for 6 days carpenter work @ $2.00	12.00
June 3d	" " Hardt & Kufer for door Counter & lumber	65.86
" 4	" " Albert Harns for cleaning out cistern	6.00
" "	" John H. Baylis, for laying Brick 2½ days at 3.00	7.50
" 9th	" " Francis Gaunon for Lime, Hair Laths etc.	27.81
" 11th	" Benj. Hobbs for 3½ days Carpenter work @ $1.50	4.87
" "	Jos. Manuel, for 10 spout & 6 meat hooks	1.25
" 15	" " Thos. Gallaher for Hauling 6 loads of sand and lime	3.50
" 17	" G. C. Johns for 14 days Carpenter work @ $3.00	42.00
	" L. N. Andrews & Son for Plastering Self 12 3/4 days @ 2.75 Son 4 days @ $2.00	43.00

June 29	" "	Charles Smith for 12 3/4 days work tending plasterers @ $1.50	19.12
" 24	" "	H. Kines & Son for Painting and Glazing	12.25
Aug. 8	" "	Thos. Beale for 167 Ft of Spouting & 1 Head	24.52
June 4	" "	for 743 Brick used in Sewer & filter of cistern	7.43
	" "	10 Door Locks and fixtures	10.00
	" "	1 pump for cistern	8.00
	" "	5 Maple Trees 1 planted @ 2.00 ea	10.00
	" "	318½ feet of string pieces @2¼	7.10
	" "	1287 " " plank @ 2¼	28.95
	" "	27 Posts @20¢	5.40
	" "	50 lbs of nails @5¢	2.50
	" "	James Gardner (Carpenter) for 10 days work @ $2.00	20.00
Nov.	" "	489 Bricks used in Smoke House	4.89
	" "	Laying the Bricks " "	2.00
	" "	2 Shutters on " "	2.00
	" "	4 iron Bars " windows of " "	1.00
	" "	Laying 42 3/4 square yards of stone pavement at $1.00 per sq. yd.	42.75
		Paid for laying 2940 Bricks (on pavement in 1870)	7.35
	" "	2940 Bricks used on do in 1870	29.40
	" "	2 step stones	8.00
	" "	100 feet of curbing @20¢	20.00
	" "	2 bbls of cement @$2.50	5.00

	" "	500 Bricks used on pavement in 1877	5.00
	" "	Laying 500 Bricks & repairing pavements	3.00
	" "	31 scantling 387½feet @ 2	7.75
	" "	3 Joists 104½" @2	2.09
	" "	6 Posts @ 20 ca	1.20
	" "	1240 feet of plank @ 2	24.80
	" "	5 Sills 494 feet @2½	11.11
	" "	Paving Stables Hauling Sand & Stone	20.00
	" "	10 perch of stone work on foundation @ $3.00	30.00
	" "	Moving stable off the road	5.00
	" "	4 prs of Hinges and screws @50	2.00
	" "	2 Hasps and Staples @25	.50
	" "	2 Latches and Screws @15	.30
	" "	2 Pad Locks @50	1.00
	" "	50 lbs of nails @5	2.50
	" "	Adam Ault for 19½days Carpenter work @ 2.00	39.00
	"	Thos Roach "3" work @$1.00	3.00
	"	Michael Roach " 19 " " @$1.00	19.00
	"	Chas Dikes " 10 " " @$1.00	10.00
Oct	"	for cleaning mud out of House & removing drift etc. after the flood of 1870	100.00
	"	for 770 Bricks in Cistern & Cellar under the House	7.70
	"	Robt Anderson, for Stone work in Kitchen	3.00

Fb. 25 1871	" H. Gaunon for lathes & fitting it in		3.25
May 4th	" H. Gaunon for Repairing House washboard		2.50
Oct 9 1872	" Alex Hassett for Glass and Glazing		2.20
Apr. 15 1873	" G. C. Johns for Carpenter work		3.62
Oct. 8, 1874	" Wm Exner repairing pumb & spout		3.58
	" R. H. Cavalier " Glass and putty		1.92
1877	" for 64 feet of siring pieces @1½		1.44
	" " 684 " " plank @ 1		6.84
	" " 14 Posts @20		2.80
	" " 20 lbs of nails @5		1.00
	" Jas. Gardner (Carpenter) for 10 days work repairing doors fences etc, @ $1.00		10.00
Nov.	" for 4 windows @ $1.00		4.00
	" " 3 window shutters @ $1		3.00
	" " 1 Hen House		10.00
	" " 1 Ice, Carriage & Coal House		600.00
	" " Cleaning Mud out of House and hauling drift away after the flood of 1877		100.00
			$1601.32

State of West Virginia)
County of Jefferson)

On this 23d day of September 1870 personally came before me a Notary Public in and for Said County and State James McGraw and being duly sworn according to law depores as says that the above Bill is correct account of charges so far as his receipts for work and materials show purchased and used and of the improvements made on lot No. 3 Block "B" purchased Nov 30, 1860 by M. T. C. A. J. H. McGraw (his minor children) (and for whom he was surity) of the U. S. Government at Harpers Ferry W. Va. That he expended other money in improvements at this property that he has no account of or receipt for, That this lot and Building being on the corner of Shenandoah and Market Streets at the flood of 1870 he lost largely in his store by

reason of the location and exposed condition. An again in 1877 he lost over 300 tons of coal besides a large amount of goods from his store and amounting in the agregate to about four thousand Dollars ($4000.00) in the two floods of 1870 and 1877) that the house on said lot appears to have been condemned by the U. S. Government in 1859 or 1860, The walls are now badly cracked not withstanding the improvements made by him, and had he not put a brick support under a portion of said Building he believes that a portion of the house would have fell in and made a perfect view of the building purchased as aforesaid, of the U. S. That he has relaid in Cement places in the wall of said building at different times since 1869 and had cracks cemented up to protect and preseve the building.

That it now requires a considerable expenditure to put the said Building in a safe and comfortable condition.

James McGraw

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H-30

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Harpers Ferry National Monument
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

March 12, 1959

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

Subject: Research Project No. HF-56: Historic Bldg. Report, Part II-Historical Data Section, for Bldg. No. 34-35

We submit one copy of the "Historic Building Report, Part II, Historical Data Section, for Bldgss. No. 34-35, 32, 33 and 34A, the Samuel Annin House," dated March 4, 1959, 45 pages, by Historian Charles W. Snell, for technical review by Regional Historian Frank Barnes.

Frank H. Anderson

Frank H. Anderson
Superintendent

In duplicate