Georgetown Architecture

NORTHWEST

MAP OF GEORGETOWN D.C.

Published by FAHRTZ & PRATT 1874

SELECTIONS FROM THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY NUMBER 6
GEORGETOWN ARCHITECTURE - NORTHWEST

Northwest Washington, District of Columbia

Historic American Buildings Survey Selections

Number 6

Issued by

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Room 7000, Interior Building
18th and C Streets, N.W.--Washington, D.C. 20240
The program for the surveys and publications of Georgetown architecture was under the direction of Charles H. Atherton, Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Georgetown Commercial Architecture--M Street (1967)

Georgetown Commercial Architecture--Wisconsin Avenue (1967)

Georgetown Architecture--The Waterfront (1968)


Georgetown Architecture--Northwest (1970)

Georgetown Architecture (1970)
1814 Map of Georgetown with the Additions by Francis Fenwick—portion showing western Georgetown (D.C. Surveyor's Office)
CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

I THE SITE 9

II THE RESEARCHERS 33

III THE SOURCES 39

IV THE STRUCTURES 55

John Thomson Mason House 56
3425 Prospect Street, N.W.

Goszler-Manogue House 94
1307 35th Street, N.W.

Teresa Fenwick House 116
3512 P Street, N.W.

Brown House 136
1404 35th Street, N.W.

Carroll Daly House 160
1306 36th Street, N.W.
William Mankins House
1411 35th Street, N.W.

Mahorney-O'Brien House
3522 P Street, N.W.

Buehler-Sullivan House
3617 O Street, N.W.

Holy Trinity Parish
36th Street between N and O Streets, N.W.

Simms-Lihault-Daly House
3610 O Street, N.W.

Herron-Moxley House
1503 35th Street, N.W.

McCarthy-Sullivan House
3623 O Street, N.W.

Longden House
1555 35th Street, N.W.

Goszler-Meem-Brown House
3412 O Street, N.W.

Jeremiah Sullivan Building
1331 35th Street, N.W.

Kelly House
1239 37th Street, N.W.

Georgetown Visitation Convent
1500 35th Street, N.W.
Simms-Dawes-Hurley House 416
3619 0 Street, N.W.

Bussard-Newman House 428
1311 35th Street, N.W.

Bronaugh-Bibb-Libbey House 446
1408 35th Street, N.W.

Prospect House 468
3508 Prospect Street, N.W.

Findley House 500
3606 N Street, N.W.

Daniel Kane House 518
1419 36th Street, N.W.

Zepp Row House 538
1407 37th Street, N.W.

Mahorney-Harrington House 562
1423 36th Street, N.W.

Harnedy Row Houses 576
3617, 3619, 3621 Prospect Street, N.W.

Halcyon House 590
3400 Prospect Street, N.W.

V SUMMARY 643

VI ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 649

VII APPENDIX 653
"Today we are not only speaking in terms of preserving streetscapes instead of isolated individual homes of the renowned, but we are also speaking of saving cityscapes as thriving communities."

Plague presented October 7, 1967 — located at 30th Street and the Canal Tow-path in Georgetown (Photographed by David Blume)
INTRODUCTION
INTRODUCTION

A new concept of historic preservation has developed in recent years. There is today an emphasis on noteworthy buildings as places for human use, where people have continuously worked and played, where houses have steadily been a part of the fabric of society, reflecting the economic and sociological flux of the country.

The importance of focusing the past on our current society is stressed in the recent findings of the Special Committee on Historic Preservation sponsored by the United States Conference of Mayors:

"If the preservation movement is to be successful, it must go beyond saving bricks and mortar. It must go beyond saving occasional historic houses and opening museums. It must be more than a cult of antiquarians. It must do more than review a few national shrines. It must attempt to give a sense of orientation to our society, using structures and objects of the past to establish values of time and place.

"This means a reorientation of outlook and effort in several ways."

No longer is historic preservation confined to the restoration of buildings connected with famous figures and events of the past, nor of re-creation of areas such as Williamsburg which typify a fragment of our past in a museum-like fashion.

Today we are not only speaking in terms of preserving streetscapes instead of isolated individual homes of the renowned, but
we are also speaking of saving cityscapes as thriving communities. Old buildings can be used in new and imaginative ways while the architectural character is maintained.

This modern concept of historic structures is illustrated in this report of some of the houses in the western portion of Georgetown. With a few exceptions these are not mansions. They are the dwellings of people from simple walks of life, people who worked and struggled to maintain their modest homes, and in the process contributed to the vitality and growth of their community.

Little research or organized study has previously been devoted to this area of Georgetown. It has been difficult to explore because of the scarcity of documentary data, of recorded reminiscences, or of validated evidence about the people who lived in these houses. Few of the residents of the homes have been recorded in written accounts, but their lives and dwellings represent an important aspect of our heritage.

The Old Georgetown Act of 1950 (P.L. 808) affords some protection for preservation of the area, but these controls have not entirely prevented inroads into the essentially residential character of the western portion of Georgetown. The possibility of further encroachments prompted the selection of this part of Georgetown for exploration.

This report of the western part of Georgetown was planned by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Historic American Buildings Survey, but the research is the result of widespread citizen participation. The volunteer program, described in Chapter II of this report, was a departure from customary procedures of conducting historic research where professional personnel plan and execute the work. It may be the first, perhaps the only, program in which citizens were organized into a unit, given briefings, and guided in the use of original documents for their research. A list of the materials contained in the Briefing Kit is included in the Appendix.

One aim of this study of structures in western Georgetown is to present a view of houses that have endured through the years as functional dwellings, having been altered by one generation after another to adapt them to each family's needs. The houses
represent quite a range in value, from modest homes to elegant ones.

The other purpose of the study is to be of service to future researchers, for there is much yet to be discovered in this portion of Georgetown. Analysis needs to be made of the forces which attracted such a large concentration of laborers to this area. Many other influences affecting the settlement of western Georgetown would be rewarding to independent researchers, volunteers in a research program, or to professional scholars.

In this report the first chapter contains a brief description of the area which was studied. In the second chapter an explanation is offered of how the volunteer program of research operated. Chapter III includes a discussion of the sources of information which contributed to the study and Chapter IV, which comprises the body of the volume, contains individual reports of each of the structures which was studied. These reports are written in the format used by the Historic American Buildings Survey in their nationwide record of old buildings.

Documentation of facts is indicated by a number in parentheses which refers to the list of references at the end of each historical analysis of a structure. Variations in the spelling of proper names in original documents have been faithfully reproduced in each narrative. A chain of title is included as part of each study of a dwelling so no additional documentation is supplied about deeds. Since city directories had a variety of titles through the years, it seemed simpler to list them under a single title, City Directory, in the list of references. A complete list, with specific titles, is found in the Appendix.

Chapter V contains a summary of the report and some conclusions which evolved as a result of the study. In the final chapter are acknowledgements to the many contributors to the report. The Appendix includes some useful materials which will aid in interpreting the report.

This volume represents a keen adventure to the many people who worked on it. The research awakened a new awareness of the impact of the past on the present day and a broader comprehension of the continuity of life.
References

"This is a diversified section, comprised of homes both large and small, bordering on a major university and on a renowned convent, each of which has exerted influence on the growth and development of the area." (Sketch by David Sheppard)
THE SITE
THE SITE

The structures described in this report are largely found on the western fringe of Georgetown, from approximately 37th Street to 35th Street and Prospect Street to P Street.

This is a diversified section, comprised of homes both large and small, bordering on a major university and on a renowned convent, each of which has exerted influence on the growth and development of the neighborhood.

It is an area of homes which has shifted with the economic tides of Georgetown—sometimes expanding, sometimes barely holding on, sometimes the center of hurried selling or bargain buying of property. Its history goes back to the beginning of Georgetown.

In 1751 the Assembly of the Province of Maryland appointed six commissioners "...to lay out and erect a town on the Patowmack River...," a town which was to become "George Towne." This was a hundred and thirty years after Henry Fleete, the first Englishman to visit the future site of Georgetown, had sailed up the Potomac in 1621 and a hundred and seventeen years after Leonard Calvert founded the Colony of Maryland in 1634.

Sixty acres of land were to be purchased from George Gordon and George Beall, both of whom owned large estates. These acres, drawn from the two plantations, were to be laid out into eighty lots. (1)

Six additions were later made to the original eighty lots; the second of these additions to Georgetown was made in November 1785 by Robert Peter, Charles Beatty, John Threlkeld, and William Deakins, Jr. It consisted of twenty acres which were divided into sixty lots in the west end of Georgetown. (2)
1830 Map of Georgetown by William Bussard (Map Division, Library of Congress)
The land for the addition was laid out in the previous year upon part of the following tracts: one acre of "Frogland" owned by Charles Beatty; two acres of "Discovery" owned by Robert Peter; thirteen acres of "Conjurer's Disappointment" owned by William Deakins, Jr.; and three acres of "Re-survey on Salop" owned by John Threlkeld.(3) Most of the lots dealt with in this volume are part of the Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition.

The additions to Georgetown were necessary because Georgetown was expanding rapidly as an important seaport and trading center. The thriving town was fulfilling the prophecy of those who selected its strategic location near the head of the tidewater on the Maryland shore of the Potomac. With its navigable waters and its productive back country, Georgetown inevitably became an important center of shipping and inspection of goods.

The surrounding countryside of the Potomac Valley consisted of huge plantations owned by aristocratic Maryland and Virginia families who brought their tobacco to Georgetown to be shipped abroad. The plantation economy was dependent upon the imported labor force of slaves and indentured servants to cultivate the tobacco. Small tobacco farmers began to sell their crops to the large planters, for it was more profitable than dealing with the English agents. Gradually the large planters became traders and grew more involved with the life of the town.

After the Revolution and during the first quarter of the nineteenth century, Georgetown, which had become incorporated in 1789, was at its peak as a shipping port; factories and mills and shops and banks were flourishing. Prosperous men, many from the old plantation families, joined by a substantial number of New England merchants, built mansions such as the John Mason House and Prospect House, both included in this report. (4)

During this era of prosperity the west end of Georgetown developed rapidly. Georgetown College was founded in 1789, the same year in which Georgetown was incorporated. In Morrison's Strangers' Guide to Washington and Its Vicinity, Morrison quotes a letter which Archbishop Carroll wrote in 1790 describing the location of the College: "Next Spring we will commence our academy on a sight the most lovely the eye could wish to rest upon." Morrison, writing in 1842, endorses this viewpoint, praises the appearance of the buildings and grounds and adds one unusual fillip as an asset "...While its peculiar salubrity is attested by the extraordinary fact that no student has died on the premises since the
foundation of the College."(5) In 1815 Congress raised the rank of the College to a University, the first time such a distinction had been accorded to an institution of higher learning in the United States. (6)

Holy Trinity Church was established in 1788 as a parish church for Catholics in the neighborhood, on land purchased from John Threlkeld for five shillings—a virtual gift. (7)

The Academy of the Visitation, founded in 1799, is also contiguous to the western area of Georgetown. The Georgetown Visitation Convent, part of the Academy, dates back to 1816. (8) The school has a long and illustrious history. Morrison's description in 1842 of the aims of the school reflect the aims of the society of its day:

"The whole is under the direction of the Sisters of the Visitation, the sole object of whose united exertions is the advancement of the young ladies in piety and virtue, in intellectual and external cultivation, and in fitting them for the domestic duties of life." (9)

In 1861 the course of instruction included thirty-five subjects, among them "Orthography...Prose and Poetical Composition, Sacred and Profane History...Music on the Piano...Painting in Water Colors, in Oil, and on Velvet, Plain and Ornamental Needlework, Tapestry, Lace Work, Beadwork, etc." (10) These institutions all exerted a cultural influence in the area.

While Georgetown was thus expanding economically and culturally, the seat of government was being established at nearby Washington City. In 1790 Congress had passed an act establishing the Federal seat of government on the Potomac, but specified that Philadelphia should be the Federal capital for ten years while the Federal city was being built. (11)

Furthermore the act "...empowered the President to choose the exact location and to engage commissioners to take charge of planning and building the new capital..."(12) On January 22, 1791 President George Washington appointed Daniel Carroll and Thomas Johnson of Maryland and David Stuart of Virginia as commissioners for the new capital.(13) Much of the planning occurred in Georgetown at Suters Tavern.(14) The Forrest-Marbury House where the final arrangements for the purchase of land for the new city were made still stands today at 3350 M Street in Georgetown. For the next eleven years the three commissioners continued to manage the affairs of the future capital city. (15)
During the ten years before the government was transferred to Washington there was an avalanche of land speculation in the Federal city area. Many wealthy gentlemen residing in western Georgetown invested heavily in the new real estate venture, thereby diverting capital which formerly had served to develop Georgetown. The Duc de La Rochefaucault, a French nobleman traveling in the United States from 1795 to 1797, described the financial decline in Georgetown: "... the speculation in the lots of the federal city is a ... powerful cause of the decay. They have turned a great part of the capital of the merchants into that channel and consequently diverted it from the trade of that place." (16)

These "merchants" had hopes that their land would find a ready market in the influx of people who would be drawn to the capital of the nation. John J. Walsh in Early Banks in the District of Columbia 1792-1818 says of these gentlemen, "They were eager to see the new city prosper and develop for personal as well as patriotic reasons .... They staked their fortunes on their sincere optimism and lost heavily on the collapse of the land-price boom." (17)

Closely allied to this economic fluctuation in Georgetown fortunes was the establishment of the Bank of Columbia in 1793 by a group of prominent Georgetown residents. Two prime movers of the enterprise were Benjamin Stoddert and Samuel Blodgett whom Walsh characterizes as "civic-minded, well-meaning, landed gentlemen." (18)

Adverse criticism of the idea of having a bank in a small community like Georgetown roused Blodgett to a vigorous defense. Among the advantages of banks which he cited, a few particularly reflect the concerns of that era:

"...It reduces usury, wherever there is a sufficient number of rival banks, to prevent a monopoly of its benefits.
"...It affords well known strong and convenient places for safe keeping, and this prevents even a temptation to robbery.
"...It saves an incalculable sum in a fair estimate of the time saved in counting large notes instead of silver and other coins.
"...It saves the expense of carriage, which calculated for a long distance, on large sums, are great, and the post, on half notes, by mail, is always a safe mode of conveyance." (19)
Many of the incorporators of the Bank of Columbia were men who held important official positions and who were leaders in civic affairs. A few of them, all residents of western Georgetown, were: Benjamin Stoddert, a Revolutionary War hero, who built and paid for the rough sidewalk between Georgetown and Washington City; John Mason who was superintendent of the Indian trade in Georgetown; James Maccubin Lingan who was collector of the port of Georgetown; and John Templeman who superintended the construction of the Potomack River Bridge. (20)

The charter of the Bank of Columbia was so designed as to be of special service to two groups: 1) the commissioners of Washington City who were invited to buy up to $2000 worth of stock in it, and 2) the directors and stockholders who had first claim on loan facilities of the bank. Thus the bank served as the city's fiscal agent and also aided the bank's directors by extending credit for their large real estate transactions. John J. Walsh describes the policy of the Bank of Columbia and its economic effect on Georgetown:

"...The bank came along at the right time, the Commissioners became stockholders in it and when they needed land, the bank's directors sold them their private holdings. This explains in a measure why the demands of the Government and real estate operators took precedence over the needs of commerce and industry in Georgetown." (21)

Three other banks which appeared slightly later in Georgetown had less direct effect on the growth of the community.

The Union Bank of Georgetown, incorporated on February 18, 1811, included among its founders many names prominent in Georgetown's history--Samuel Davidson, Thomas Corcoran, Francis Dodge, Richard Parrott, John Teakle, among others. Walsh reports on the short life of the bank:

"The bank survived the business crisis of 1819 for on April 1 of that year it declared a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent per annum for the half year. However, the panic of 1837 must have proved too much for it as the next year Congress granted it permission to wind up its affairs and for this purpose its charter was extended to July 1, 1842. After July 1, 1838, the law prohibited it from incurring any new obligations or liabilities and it could not issue or reissue any bills payable to bearer." (22)
Congress extended the charter several times for the settlement of the bank's affairs, but in 1849 the charter finally expired.

Another bank which had an even shorter life span was the Central Bank of Georgetown and Washington. It was chartered by Congress on March 3, 1817, but its career was short, for in 1821 Congress ordered the bank to liquidate, permitting a maximum of five years for the settlement of its affairs. (23)

The Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown, organized in 1814 and chartered in 1817, the same year of the Central Bank's charter, had a successful history. William Marbury became the first President; Clement Smith was chosen cashier and in 1821 became President of the bank. (Smith's name appears on many deeds of trust involving real estate in the western part of Georgetown.)

The bank prospered, rendering service not only to the community but to the nation. Walsh describes the financial aid the bank supplied to the U.S. Government to meet the costs of the War of 1812. In 1872 it became a national bank called "The Farmers and Mechanics National Bank of Georgetown." In 1928 it merged with the Riggs National Bank, continuing as the Farmers and Mechanics Branch. (24)

When the land-boom in Washington City collapsed, most of the speculators, having over-extended themselves and failing to make a quick financial profit, lost the fortunes they had inherited or had earned as tobacco magnates. Gentlemen such as Benjamin Stoddert and John Templeman went heavily into debt, often leaving debts to be paid off by their survivors for years to come.

While these men were speculating on land in the Federal City, John Threlkeld, another prominent citizen of Georgetown, was devoting his efforts closer to home. He had been closely identified with Georgetown for some years. Most of the houses described in this report were once part of the John Threlkeld landholdings.

John was the only son of Henry Threlkeld, who emigrated from Cumberland County, England, "probably about 1730 to 1735," and Mary Brown Hopkins, daughter of Dr. Gustavus Brown, of Rich Hill, Maryland, and widow of Matthew Hopkins. (25) The Threlkeld family is said to be of Danish origin, although the facts are obscured by time. Reverend Balch says that the family name probably was "Thorkel" or "Turkil" and that
"While these men were speculating on land in the Federal City, John Threlkeld, another prominent citizen of Georgetown, was devoting his efforts closer to home."

Portrait of John Threlkeld (Smithsonian Institution)
the first of the family to settle in England may have been one of the three earls who governed England under Canute. (26) Proctor says that the Threlkelds were descended from a Danish general who settled in England in 1550. (27) Mamie Williamson, who compiled Threlkeld Family Data, notes that there is in Cumberland County, England, a town named Threlkeld which had a chapel as early as 1341. (28)

Henry Threlkeld's estate is described by Edgar Russell in his *A Short History of Berleith* as "...a thousand acres, known as Berleith, which bordered on the Potomac River. It ran north from the Potomac and included the grounds of Georgetown University, the Convent and Western High School." (29)

John grew up in a family "of culture and refinement," as the author Mary Lockwood describes it. (30) In his *Reminiscences of Georgetown, D.C.*, Reverend Thomas Bloomer Balch describes John Threlkeld as a scholar:

"My father has often told me that he was the preceptor of John Threlkeld, who lived near the Catholic College, and that he was one of the best Latin scholars he had ever known. He was also an admirable geographer and even topographer.... He was also well acquainted with Boccaccio, though we do not know he could read him in the Italian." (31)

In 1787 John married Elizabeth Ridgely of Maryland. A descendant of Threlkeld says, "Mrs. Threlkeld was a lady of great personal beauty. Mr. Threlkeld was widely known as a fine scholar, and of great benevolence." (32)

Reverend Balch throws further light on Threlkeld as an individual:

"He was a man of commanding appearance, and a fine equestrian. He rode a handsome sorrel horse, and was rather impetuous in his movements, but at times would rein in his steed, until he quoted some Latin epigram to any one liberally educated, and then he would wheel suddenly round and be off at a tangent." (33)

When Georgetown was incorporated in December 1789, John Threlkeld was one of the distinguished group who "...are hereby appointed alderman of the said town, so long as they shall well behave themselves therein." (34)
Proctor describes Threlkeld as one of the wealthiest men of his day, pointing out that in 1790 he owned fifty-one slaves. (35) As an only child he inherited his parents' estate; there he engaged in breeding stock on a large scale. He extended his property, for like many of his contemporaries he engaged in real estate transactions, selling plots of land and building houses for rental purposes.

Threlkeld and his family continuously played an active part in Georgetown affairs. Minutes of the Corporation of George Town reveal that in 1793 he was elected its Mayor and also appointed President of the Corporation. One of Threlkeld's daughters married John Cox, who was Mayor of Georgetown for twenty-two years and who built Cox's Row, still standing in Georgetown on the north side of the 3300 block of N Street. Their home, "The Cedars," was built on the Threlkeld estate, Berleith. (36)

Threlkeld's fortunes rose and fell with the economic fluctuations of the community. By the time of his death in 1830, at the age of 73, he was heavily indebted and some of his land had to be forfeited.

He, like John Bronaugh and others, had been seriously affected by the economic depression of the 1820's and 1830's. Trade had declined, owing to a number of factors. The canal and lock system of the Potomac Company had failed; the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad offered rapid transit of goods to Baltimore and Philadelphia; Washington City constituted serious competition in goods and services. (37)

The financial slump affected all areas of life. The failure of the Bank of Columbia was a serious blow:

"When the bank failed...it created considerable excitement in the community. Those who held notes in the bank, found them worthless. Those who owned stock in the bank and lived upon their dividends, found their incomes gone. Those who had money deposited there, discovered it was lost." (38)

As the history of the houses in the western part of Georgetown reveals (in Chapter IV), the real estate market during this period was seriously affected by the business slump. Property was sold at auction in default of trusts. There was a rapid turnover in houses. Some people who had small savings bought houses cheaply and moved their families into them.
Chief among this group were the Irish immigrants, many of whom had been brought here by brokers who would "...sell them into limited terms of indentured servitude in payment of the passage money to America." (39) The Irish immigrants, many of whom settled in the west end of Georgetown, were desperately needed as laborers.

Mrs. Margaret Smith, wife of the proprietor of The Intelligencer, writes in 1832:

"Several large public works are going on. The Canal, the McAdamizing Pennsylvania Avenue, and the opening of the ground for the conveyance of water... It is a great work, which added to others, has drawn to the city at least a thousand laborers; in addition to our own, most of them Irish." (40)

It was shortly after this, in 1839, when Georgetown was attacked by natural forces—a barrage of ants that for three years infested the area. Reverend Thomas Bloomer Balch gives a whimsical account of what was intrinsically a serious matter by comparing the invasion to a military campaign:

"...their operations were conducted with much more effective skill than Napoleon displayed either in Russia or Belgium. They moved on in solid columns, and so soon as one was killed another took its place; or, rather, a thousand came to bury it with military honors. They devoured evey herb. The gardens perished before them;...Property fell down to zero in those parts of the town which they assaulted. They attacked the specie in the old Bank of Columbia; Ben Stoddert's residence, because its former owner had once been Secretary of our Navy; General Mason's because the General was the commander of our militia; and Frank Key's, because he had written the Star Spangled Banner." (41)

So serious was the menace that the Mayor offered a dollar for every pint of slain ants—a measure quickly rescinded as infeasible in the control of an epidemic of insects. Suddenly, three years later, as mysteriously as the plague had arrived, it departed.

By the 1850's western Georgetown was sharing in the country's improved economic situation. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal had been completed as far as Cumberland, Maryland. It was in this period that Georgetown began to expand as a city—streets were illuminated with gas; two schools were built; Oak Hill
"In the west part of Georgetown houses were increasing. One house, Prospect Cottage at Prospect and Lingan (36th) Streets, became well known as the home of the popular novelist, Mrs. E.D.E.N. Southworth." (Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library)
Cemetery was laid out. In the west part of Georgetown houses were increasing. One house, Prospect Cottage at Prospect and Lingan (36th) Streets, became well known as the home of the popular novelist, Mrs. E.D.E.N. Southworth. (42)

Georgetown felt the impact of the Civil War in many ways. Situated between the North and the South, the town became a strategic location for both sides. Leading to the capital were highways, including the Georgetown-Alexandria Aqueduct which was drained to serve as a military road.

Union soldiers were quartered at Georgetown University as well as in many private homes. Forrest Hall on High Street (now Wisconsin Avenue) became a hospital, as did a number of schools, churches, warehouses, and hotels. The Washington and Georgetown Street Railway was incorporated in 1862 to operate horse cars which conveyed the crowds which swarmed to the town.

Although Georgetown did not serve as a battlefield, the Civil War—as do all wars—affected permanently certain aspects of life. There was a great turnover of houses during the 1860-65 period, as residents left for the North or the South, depending upon their sympathies.

Life in Georgetown under war conditions impinged on the economic status of citizens in widely differing ways. Southern businessmen suffered because they could not replenish their stocks. Inflation caused a sharp disparity in consumer needs and purchasing power. Constance Green describes the situation in nearby Washington at this time:

"Skilled workmen commanded unheard-of wages, some of them as much as $3.50 a day, merchants with stock bought cheap could sell at huge markups, and people with real estate to dispose of made killings; but petty tradesmen without the credit to purchase goods at the right moment, common laborers, and people on salaries suffered. Families whose income had derived from the South or from the hire of their slaves faced real want....

"Military priorities and the loss of easy access to former sources of supply heightened inflation." (43)

The west end of Georgetown was populated heavily by laborers and skilled workmen. Perhaps this war-time affluence, coupled with the vacant houses due to the exodus of many people, accounts for the number of houses in west Georgetown that were purchased during the war period.
"Georgetown felt the impact of the Civil War in many ways. Situated between the North and the South, the town became a strategic location for both sides. Leading to the capitol were highways including the Georgetown-Alexandria Aqueduct which was drained to serve as a military road." 1868 view of western Georgetown, showing Georgetown College, Holy Trinity Church, and the Aqueduct Bridge (Library of Congress)
By the end of the war investments by northern interests had begun to overpower local financial figures:

"New Yorkers and Philadelphians, having gained control of the local banks and the principal street railway, now overshadowed native capitalists like W.W. Corcoran and his associates." (44)

The Civil War left its wake many problems. The immediate shrinkage of business opportunities came at the time when soldiers were returning to civilian life in need of jobs. The political and social structure of Georgetown was affected by the large numbers of recently freed Negroes, who not only needed jobs but also the education and skill to execute them.

However, in the decade following the war Georgetown began once more to develop, and at an accelerated pace. Sewers and other urban conveniences began to appear. (45) Gradually, house construction, repair, and remodeling were resumed.

Social life in Georgetown became reactivated. In 1871 a newspaper account describes the Georgetown scene:

"...every afternoon and evening the fashionables are in a whirl of excitement and find it difficult, even with the aid of fine equipage and fast horses to make the round of calls between noon and midnight." (46)

However, only a few of the residents of western Georgetown were socialites. Most of the inhabitants of the area at this time were more likely to be artisans or to be working in a manual capacity.

In February of 1871 Congress revoked the charter of Georgetown and it became "...'an integral part of Washington, D.C.' though permitted to retain its name and the names of its streets." (47) But despite official edict, Georgetown continued to grow with an entity of its own.

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century eight public schools were opened in Georgetown, not counting Linthicum Institute, "...a free school 'for boys and youths of more advanced years...an evening school, to which, after the daily toil is ended they may resort for such practical instruction as will qualify them for active duties and business life'...." (48)

On February 11, 1895 Congress decreed that Georgetown, now with a population of about 15,000, "...shall no longer be known by name and title in law of City of Georgetown and same shall be known as and shall constitute a part of the City of Washington...."
"Most of the inhabitants of the area at this time were more likely to be artisans or to be working in a manual capacity." View of western Georgetown from Georgetown College, 1893 (Library of Congress)
The Commissioners of the District of Columbia were "... directed to cause the nomenclature of the streets and avenues of Georgetown to conform to those of Washington as far as practicable." At the same time all real estate square numbers in Georgetown were altered so that none was a duplicate of a square number in Washington. (49)

But although Georgetown lost its official identity, its aura continued to thrive, with occasional setbacks such as the period following the First World War. While the mansions maintained their elegance, many of the small houses had deteriorated, often being without sanitary facilities. Some parts of the town had become squalid.

During the latter part of the 1930's a metamorphosis began in Georgetown housing. The New Deal brought many young, bright newcomers to Washington. They discovered the convenience and quiet charm of a Georgetown residence. Swiftly, houses became in demand, restoration became fashionable, and within a very few years much residential improvement occurred.

This westernmost part of Georgetown has its roots in the early development of the town. There is a harmony of scale and texture in the small row houses and an enduring quality in their simplicity.

Unfortunately, the attentive and dedicated effort which has resulted in fine restoration and maintenance of this essentially residential area has also tempted an array of commercial interests to seek to capitalize on a sought-after neighborhood, and there is yet the possibility that they may serve to destroy it, or at least seriously mar it.

To recapitulate, western Georgetown is a diversified area, composed of many elements. Families living in houses from one generation to another have adapted their homes to new ways of living, retrenching during hard times and expanding during prosperous decades.

These old houses constitute a living museum, one that is not designed for exhibition, but one that represents a viewpoint of cherishing the old while simultaneously embracing more convenient ways of living.

This small area of the western part of Georgetown exemplifies the modern concept of preservation. It is a process that does not obstruct progress, but rather channels it for the convenience of twentieth-century people living in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century homes.
References


4. Same reference as #1. p. 16.


9. Same reference as #5. p. 82.


17. Same reference as #15. p. 71.


19. Same reference as #15. pp. 63-64.


22. Same reference as #15. pp. 132-134.

23. Same reference as #15. p. 150.


32. Same reference as #25. p. 32.


34. Same reference as #2. p. 45.

35. Same reference as #27. pp. 431-432.


42. Same reference as #38. Vol. 44-45, 1944, p. 94.

43. Same reference as #11. pp. 264-265.

44. Same reference as #11. p. 289.

45. Same reference as #11. p. 345.


48. Same reference as 47. p. 19.

Map of western Georgetown (Hopkin's Atlas, 1887)
THE RESEARCHERS
THE RESEARCHERS

The research for this study was executed by volunteers, citizens who were deeply interested in the preservation of historic Georgetown. None of the participants was a trained historian, although many of them were skilled in research techniques in other fields.

The decision to employ volunteer research assistance for this study was based on the success of the 1966 pilot project conducted jointly by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Historic American Buildings Survey. At that time six volunteers assisted the professional staff in documenting selected commercial structures in Georgetown on High Street (Washington Avenue) and Bridge (M) Street. These volunteers proved to be so outstanding in ability, dedication, and enthusiasm that it was recognized that a previously untapped resource was yielding great returns. Consequently, the volunteer program was expanded and used for this study of the western part of Georgetown.

Each researcher was responsible for the historical documentation of one building. A skeletal chain of title for the structure was provided by a staff member of the Commission. The researcher's task was to determine the date of erection of the building, to find out who occupied it, and also to discover historical information about the structure and biographical data about the individuals connected with it. They were encouraged to develop new techniques and unearth new sources.

To assist in the study the Commission of Fine Arts prepared a Briefing Kit directed entirely toward historic research in Georgetown. The kit includes maps, bibliographies, and other source materials. (See Appendix.) Further
assistance provided by the Commission of Fine Arts consisted of conferences with specialists and small group meetings of participants where progress was evaluated and information shared. Tracking down facts in the District of Columbia was particularly tedious because records have been shifted from place to place as the government has expanded and changed.

"A program involving volunteer researchers who deal with primary sources and original documents may well be unique."

Miss Mathilde Williams, curator, and Mrs. Howard Cayton at the Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library (Photographed by David Blume)
"The research for this study was executed by volunteers, citizens who were deeply interested in the preservation of historic Georgetown."

Mrs. J.K. Mansfield at the Recorder of Deeds, Old Liber Room (Photographed by David Blume)
SOURCES
The nation's capital contains a myriad of sources for historical research about Georgetown. Some, like the National Archives and the Library of Congress, are well known. Many records are in obscure places and it takes a combination of skill and luck to locate them. Information from one source may provide clues for a pursuit that may disclose a cache of records the existence of which was not even known to the researcher.

This report reflects the variety of sources that were detected.

The following listing covers not only places where specific material was located for use in this volume, but also places which were explored and where related records were unearthed. The latter are included in the expectancy that they will be of assistance for future Georgetown investigators.

Federal Institutions

Arlington National Cemetery
Fort Myer, Virginia

Army Corps of Engineers
Historical Division
Baltimore, Maryland

Army Map Service
Bethesda, Maryland

Department of Navy
(Library)
Washington, D.C.

Department of State
(Library; U.S. National Commission for UNESCO)
Washington, D.C.
National Historical Publications Commission
National Archives and Records Center
Washington, D.C.

National Portrait Gallery
(Collection; Library)
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Division of History
(National Landmarks Program)
National Register of Historic Places
Division of Historic Architecture
(Historic American Buildings Survey)
(Historic Structures Branch)
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Post Office Department
(History Division; Library)
Washington, D.C.

Public Buildings Service
Historical Studies Office
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C.

U.S. Capitol
Art and Reference Library
Office of the Architect of the Capitol
Washington, D.C.

U.S. House of Representatives
(Committee on the District of Columbia)
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

U.S. Senate
(Committee on the District of Columbia)
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Washington Aqueduct Division
Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, D.C.

Washington National Records Center
Archives Branch; Reference Service Branch
Suitland, Maryland

District of Columbia Institutions

Assessment Services Division
Maps and Titles Section; Records and Information Section
Municipal Center
Washington, D.C.

D.C. Central Public Library
(Art and Picture File; General Reference Room; Washingtoniana Room)
Washington, D.C.
D.C. Register of Wills
U.S. District Court
Washington, D.C.

D.C. Recorder of Deeds
(General Land Index Room; Lot
and Square Index Office; Liber
Room)
Washington, D.C.

District of Columbia Government
Executive Office, Office of the
Secretariat
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Division of Licenses and Permits
Bureau of Licenses and Inspection
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Marriage Bureau
D.C. Court of General Sessions
Washington, D.C.

National Capital Planning
Commission
Washington, D.C.

Office of the Surveyor
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Property Assessment Division
Personal Property Assessment
Section; Real Estate Assessment
Division
Municipal Center
Washington, D.C.

United States District Court
for the District of
Columbia
(Civil Action Docket Room)
Washington, D.C.

State and Local Institutions

Alexandria City Hall
Circuit Court and Corporation
Court
(Land Records Office; Estate
Records Office; Marriage
License Bureau)
Alexandria, Virginia

Alexandria Public Library
Alexandria, Virginia

American Archives Association
Washington, D.C.
American Institute of Architects  
National Headquarters  
(Library)  
Washington, D.C.

Frederick County Court House  
Frederick, Maryland

Anne Arundel County Court House  
Annapolis, Maryland

Frick Museum  
(Art Reference Library)  
New York, New York

Capitol Hill Southeast Citizens Association  
Washington, D.C.

Georgetown Branch of D.C. Public Library  
(Peabody Room)  
Washington, D.C.

Citizens Association of Georgetown  
Committee on Historic Preservation  
Washington, D.C.

Maryland Hall of Records  
Annapolis, Maryland

Committee of 100 on the Federal City  
Washington, D.C.

Maryland Land Records Office  
Maryland Hall of Records  
Annapolis, Maryland

Corcoran Gallery of Art  
(Library)  
Washington, D.C.

Medical Society of the District of Columbia  
Washington, D.C.

District Public Library  
(Burton Historical Collection)  
Detroit, Michigan

Montgomery County Court House  
(Land Records Office; Marriage License Bureau; County Surveyors Office; Register of Wills)  
Rockville, Maryland

Enoch Pratt Free Library  
Baltimore, Maryland

Montgomery County Public Library  
Rockville Branch  
Rockville, Maryland

Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown  
Washington, D.C.

Montgomery County Tax Assessor's Office  
County Office Building  
Rockville, Maryland
National Geographic Society  
(Library)  
Washington, D.C.

Peale Museum  
Baltimore, Maryland

Prince George's County Library  
(Maryland Room)  
Hyattsville, Maryland

Richmond City Hall  
Richmond, Virginia

Virginia State Library  
Richmond, Virginia

Washington Metropolitan Chapter  
American Institute of Architects  
Washington, D.C.

Historical and Patriotic Organizations

Accokeek Foundation Inc.  
Accokeek, Maryland

American Historical Society  
Washington, D.C.

Alexandria Historical and Preservation Commission  
Alexandria, Virginia

American Philosophical Society  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

American Association for State and Local History  
Nashville, Tennessee

American Society for Legal History, Inc.  
Washington, D.C.

American Catholic Historical Association  
Catholic University of America  
Washington, D.C.

Arlington Historical Society Headquarters  
(Hume Museum)  
Arlington, Virginia

American Historical Association  
Washington, D.C.

Capitol Hill Restoration Society  
Washington, D.C.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, National Society</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Williamsburg (Research Department)</td>
<td>Williamsburg, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Historical Society (Library)</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughters of the American Colonists, National Society</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society (Library; General Registrar's Office)</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunston Hall (Archives)</td>
<td>Lorton, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Alexandria Foundation (Archives and Library)</td>
<td>Alexandria, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Georgetown, Inc.</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Society of Delaware</td>
<td>Wilmington, Delaware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Society of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Historical Society</td>
<td>Baltimore, Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts Historical Commission</td>
<td>State House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County Historical Society</td>
<td>Rockville, Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union (Library)</td>
<td>Mt. Vernon, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Genealogical Society</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Trust for Historic Preservation</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Historical Foundation (Truxton-Decatur Naval Museum)</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia Historical Commission</td>
<td>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potomac Lodge No. 5 Masonic Fraternity</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Rite Headquarters, Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction (Archives and Library)</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Society of Architectural Historians  
(National Headquarters)  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
(Latrobe Chapter)  
Washington, D.C.  

Society of Colonial Dames of America  
National and Local branches  
(Library and Historical Division)  
Washington, D.C.  

Society of The Cincinnati  
(National Headquarters and Museum)  
Washington, D.C.  

Society of the Oldest Inhabitants  
Washington, D.C.  

Sons of the American Revolution  
(National Society; D.C. Society)  
Washington, D.C.  

St. Mary's County Historical Society  
Leonardtown, Maryland  

United States Capitol Historical Society  
Washington, D.C.  

United States Civil War Centennial Commission  
Washington, D.C.  

United States Daughters of 1812, National Society  
Washington, D.C.  

Virginia Historical Society  
Richmond, Virginia  

White House Historical Association  
Washington, D.C.  

Religious Institutions  
(Birth, Baptism, Marriage, and Death Records)  

Christ Episcopal Church, Georgetown  
Washington, D.C.  

Convent of the Visitation  
(Archives)  
Washington, D.C.  

48
"Information from one source may provide clues for a pursuit that may disclose a cache of records the existence of which was not even known to the researcher." Holy Rood Cemetery (Photographed by David Blume)
Friends Meeting House
Washington, D.C.

Georgetown Presbyterian Church
Washington, D.C.

Grace Episcopal Church, Georgetown
Washington, D.C.

Holy Rood Cemetery
Washington, D.C.

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church (Georgetown)
Washington, D.C.

Mormon Records Center (National Genealogical Records)
Salt Lake City, Utah

Oak Hill Cemetery (Georgetown)
Washington, D.C.

Pohick Episcopal Church
Lorton, Virginia

Potomac Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
(National Genealogical Research Records)
Washington, D.C.

Quaker Records Center
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

Rock Creek Cemetery
Washington, D.C.

St. John Episcopal Church, Georgetown
Washington, D.C.

Educational Institutions

American University
Institute of Genealogical Research (Summer session)
Washington, D.C.

Dumbarton Oaks
Harvard University-trustees (Research Library)
Washington, D.C.
George Washington University
(Library-Wright Collection)
Washington, D.C.

University of Maryland
(Library-Maryland and
Rare Book Room)
College Park, Maryland

Georgetown University
(Archives; Library;
   Department of History)
Washington, D.C.

Woodstock College
(Archives)
Woodstock, Maryland

John Hopkins University
(Library)
Baltimore, Maryland

**Business Institutions**

Board of Trade-Metropolitan
Washington
(City Directory Library of R. L.
   Polk & Co.; Nineteenth Century
   Club)
Washington, D.C.

Distict Title Insurance
Co.
Washington, D.C.

Book Dealers—Used and Rare
Park Book Shop; W. H.
   Lowdermilk & Co.
   (Old Books, maps, and prints)
Washington, D.C.

Firemen's Insurance Co. of
Washington and Georgetown
Washington, D.C.

Chesapeake and Potomac
Telephone Co.
Washington, D.C.

General Accident Insurance
Co.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Columbia Real Estate Title
Insurance Co.
Washington, D.C.

Georgetown Pharmacy
(Old prescriptions)
Washington, D.C.

Guardian Federal Saving
 and Loan Association
(Archives and Museum)
Washington, D.C.
"Many records are in obscure places and it takes a combination of skill and luck to locate them."

1883 Prescriptions, Georgetown Pharmacy
(Photographed by David Blume)
Harris and Ewing
(Photographers)
Washington, D.C.

Montgomery Mutual Insurance Co.
Sandy Spring, Maryland

Insurance Company of North America
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

National Bank of Washington
Washington, D.C.

Kiplinger Letters
(Washingtoniana Collection)
Washington, D.C.

Potomac Electric Power Co.
Washington, D.C.

Leet - Melbrook, Inc.
(Photographers)
Rockville, Maryland

Riggs National Bank
Washington, D.C.

Local Newspapers
(Reference files including obituaries, photographs, etc.)
Washington, D.C.

R. L. Polk & Co. (Publishers)
Washington, D.C.

Millicent C. Chatel, Wise and Gilliat Inc. (Real Estate)
Washington, D.C.

Rufus S. Lusk & Son, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

Washington Gas Light Co.
Washington, D.C.

People

Persons associated with a structure by family, location, business or other circumstances (Interviews)

Long-time residents in Georgetown (Interviews)

Persons owning private collections (Business records, diaries, family records, letters, photographs)
THE STRUCTURES
JOHN THOMSON MASON HOUSE

("Quality Hill")

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Address in 1969:</strong></th>
<th>3425 Prospect Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 80 Prospect Street.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>The house occupies Lot 42 in Square 51 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 835, out of Lot 808, in Square 1221 in the City of Washington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of erection:</strong></td>
<td>1797-1798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Owners in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>Senator and Mrs. Claiborne Pell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupants in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>Senator and Mrs. Claiborne Pell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>Private residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Significance:</strong></td>
<td>This structure is one of the finest of the few surviving large, free-standing, late eighteenth-century town houses of Georgetown. From its first owner, John Mason, to its present one, Senator Claiborne Pell, it has been continually occupied by individuals prominent in local and national affairs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1798-1807

In August of 1798 John Threlkeld and his wife conveyed Lots 41 and 42 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown to John Thomson Mason, attorney at law. The price paid for those lots which were "... in the tenure and occupation of the said John Thomson Mason..." was 450 pounds. This sum for the two lots would indicate that the land was not vacant at the time of Mason's purchase, so it is probable that his house was already standing when he took title to the land in the late summer of 1798.

John Thomson Mason may well have been living in the house when this deed was recorded. A letter written by Mason in March 1798 mentioned his residence in Georgetown.(1) The birth of his first child in Georgetown in January 1798 would suggest that the Masons had moved to the Prospect Street house by the autumn of 1797. Mason may have commissioned the house soon after his marriage in January 1797, and construction may have been completed when he took title in August 1798. As it was assessed after 1800 as a "new house," it is not likely that it was built much earlier than 1797-1798.

Tax assessment records for the period 1800-1807 show two different entries for John T. Mason (one no doubt earlier than the other):
"As the tax records indicate, Mason was a man of means when he built his home in Georgetown."

Georgetown Assessment of Real and Personal Properties 1800-1807 (National Archives)
"John T. Mason

new house $2356
2 lots with improvements $3000
   opposite Mr. Stoddert
2 Nigroe men 280
1 Nigroe boy 120
1 Nigroe woman 100
2 cows 24
2 horses 120
Furniture 500

and

3 Improved lots on Prospect St. $6000
2 lots on Fayette St. 300
1 Nigroe Man 150
3 Nigroe Women 450
1 horse 20
2 cows 30
Furniture 800" (2)

As the tax records indicate, Mason was a man of means when he built his home in Georgetown. He came from a family of the Virginia landed gentry.

John Thomson Mason was born on March 15, 1765 at Chappawamsic, Stafford County, Virginia. He was a younger son of Thomson Mason and Mary Barnes Mason. Mary's father, Colonel Abraham Barnes, of Leonardtown, St. Mary's County, Maryland, was a prosperous tobacco merchant. Since much of his time was spent in England, his son-in-law, Thomson Mason, managed the business for him. Mary had two brothers, Richard, who was a prominent leader in the Revolutionary party in Maryland, and John, whose firm, Barnes and Ridgate, owned stores in Georgetown and on the shores of the Potomac before the Revolutionary War. Since neither of Mary's brothers had children who survived them, her son, John Thomson Mason, ultimately inherited property from both of his uncles. From Richard he received "Tudor Hall" near Leonardtown and from John "Montpelier" in Washington County, Maryland. (3)
When John Thomson Mason was very young, his father moved to "Raspberry Plain" in Loudoun County, Virginia. Thomson Mason took an active part in the government of Virginia during the Revolution and in the political settlement afterward. His "Letters of a British American" were published in Rind's Virginia Gazette during 1774.(4) Thomson Mason died at "Raspberry Plain" in 1785, leaving his Loudoun County lands to his eldest son, Stevens Thomson Mason, United States Senator from Virginia, and a part of his property in Stafford and Prince William Counties to John Thomson Mason. (5)

John Thomson Mason was educated at David Griffith's Academy in Loudoun County by the Reverend Robert Buchan of Over- wharton Parish and at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.(6) He was admitted to the bar in Maryland and became an eminent member of his profession.

When John Thomson Mason built his Georgetown residence, 1797-98, he was thirty-three years old, he had a large independent income from his landholdings in Virginia and Maryland, and wanted a house to which he could take his young bride. In January 1797 he had married seventeen- year-old Elizabeth Beltzhoover, daughter of Melchor Beltzhoover of Frederick County, Maryland. (7)

Mason was one of a group of eminent gentlemen, like Benjamin Stoddert, who were drawn from the counties to Georgetown by the activities of the nearby rapidly developing Federal City. John Mason sought to establish his law practice in the new center of national affairs. His family connections, including his brother, a Senator from Virginia, brought John in close contact with the political scene.
During Mason's tenancy of the house on Prospect Street he became active in public affairs in Georgetown as well as on a national scale. However, he apparently had no interest in public office, for in 1801 he refused President Thomas Jefferson's offer to become Attorney General of the United States and ten years later refused a similar offer by President Madison. Nor would he accept the post of Attorney General of Maryland. (8)

The Prospect Street home in Georgetown was the scene of much social activity, a place where friends gathered to enjoy the Mason's expansive hospitality. Some of the guests were leaders of the nation. According to reminiscences by John Thomson Mason, Jr., Thomas Jefferson visited the Mason house so plainly dressed on one occasion that a servant refused to admit him!(9) One speculates about the matters of state that were exposed, discussed, and decided amid the light social chatter under the Mason's roof!

It is not clear how long John Thomson Mason and his family lived in the house. Legal documents concerning the settlement of his brother's estate describe him as "of George Town" in 1804.(10)

Mason's interest, however, drew him more and more away from Georgetown and involved him in the complicated operations of plantations in the extremities of southern and western Maryland. The estate of his uncle, Colonel Richard Barnes, was finally settled in 1804. It had been involved for a long time in litigation because, by his Will, Richard Barnes had freed over two hundred slaves. The final settlement provided for their manumission over a period of ten years, with John Thomson Mason as the trustee and surety for their freedom. The settlement of the estate of his other uncle, John Barnes, also provided for the freedom of all of his slaves, but they numbered less than fifty. (11)
"The Prospect Street home in Georgetown was the scene of much social activity, a place where friends gathered to enjoy the Mason's expansive hospitality." John Thomson Mason and Elizabeth Beltzhoover Mason (Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Burdick Loudonville, New York)
In 1806-1807 Mason's flour accounts from "Montpelier" are noted as paid by him in "Georgetowne."(12) When he sold the house on Prospect Street in 1807, however, the new owner was already living in it as a tenant. Mason is described in the deed as "late of George Town, now of Washington County." while the deed is headed at St. Mary's County, Maryland. At the time Mason and his family were living on his estate in Maryland.(13) On August 8, 1808 John Thomson Mason paid freight charges on a barge-load of furniture shipped from Georgetown, which suggests that the family took the last of their possessions from the Prospect Street house at this date. (14)

The Masons, however, with their many connections, maintained an interest in Georgetown. Letters from Elizabeth Beltzhoover Mason to her children (now preserved at Gunston Hall, Lorton, Virginia) indicate that the children attended school in Georgetown in the 1820's and 1830's as boarding students.(15) John Thomson Mason's Account Book (now in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress) is a farm account book from his "Montpelier" plantation in Washington County, Maryland. There, Mason raised wheat with free Negro laborers and tenants, sending his flour to markets in Georgetown and Baltimore. The accounts show a perceptible shift from hired labor to tenancy and afford an interesting example of efforts to break away from a slave-oriented economy.(16) John Thomson Mason sold all of his lands in St. Mary's County to Philip Key between 1811 and 1813, possibly because wheat was better suited to free-labor farming than tobacco. (17)

The Masons had eight children. John Thomson Mason, Jr., named for an older brother who had died while the family was living in Georgetown, was Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals. A daughter, Mary Barnes Mason, married the Reverend John Winter of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, Maryland. (18)
Another son, Melchor Beltzhoover Mason, is mentioned in the correspondence of Governor Stevens Thomson Mason of Michigan (a cousin) as active in the development of western lands. (19)

John Thomson Mason, first owner of the house, died at "Montpelier," near Clear Spring, Washington County, Maryland on December 10, 1824. Elizabeth Beltzhoover Mason, his widow, also died at their Maryland estate on June 30, 1836. Both are buried in the family burying ground on the "Montpelier" property. (20)

1807-1810

The new owners of the Prospect Street house, John and Elizabeth Teackle, had been leasing the house from the Masons before purchasing it. The deed discloses that John Thomson Mason, "late of George Town, now of Washington County, Maryland," and Elizabeth, his wife, conveyed to John Teackle, "late of Accomac County, Virginia, now of George Town," for $5000, a tract of land comprising Lots 41, 42, 53, 54, and 55 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown including "... the brick house now occupied by the said Teackle...at the intersection of Prospect and Fayette Streets...."

The Teackles were a distinguished family of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The second owner of the Mason Prospect mansion was "John Teackle of Kegotank," Accomac County, Virginia, who had very extensive business and land interests at the time of his death in 1835. He was a son of Levin Teackle and married Elizabeth Dennis, daughter of Littleton and Susanna (Upshur) Dennis of "Beverly on Pocomoke." (21)

John Teackle was a Federalist and was closely allied by political views, as well as by personal friendship, with other Federalist leaders such as Josiah Quincy and Thomas Sim Lee. Mrs. Quincy's letters describe their frequent visits to the Teackle home. (22)
The Teackles had three daughters, one of whom, Henrietta, was married to Elihu Chauncey in the parlor of the Prospect Street house on October 13, 1810. A week after the wedding the Teackles vacated the house, for they had sold it to the eminent physician, Dr. Charles Worthington.

1810-1856

Dr. Charles Worthington first came to Georgetown in 1783 from Anne Arundel County, where the Worthingtons have long been an important family. He was born at "Summer Hill" in Anne Arundel County on October 8, 1759, and was a younger son of Colonel Nicholas and Catherine (Griffith) Worthington. His father, Colonel Nicholas Worthington (1734-1793), was a member of the Anne Arundel County Committee of Observation and commanded the Severn Battalion of the Maryland militia during the American Revolution. His older brothers served with honor in the Maryland Line at the Battle of Long Island and elsewhere.

The war years were years of study for Charles Worthington, however. He was granted his M.D. in 1782 by the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Worthington volunteered at once for military service, and on July 31, 1782 he was appointed Surgeon in the Continental Navy and assigned to the four galleys under the command of Captain Zachariah Walley. This squadron patrolled the Chesapeake Bay against raids by the Royal Navy. Dr. Worthington was honorably discharged on January 31, 1783. (23)

He came to Georgetown that same year. Dr. Charles Worthington practiced medicine in Georgetown for 55 years. Before moving to this house in 1810, he had lived in a house at the southwest corner of Market (now 33rd) and Bridge (now M) Streets.

On February 14, 1788 Dr. Charles Worthington had married Miss Elizabeth Booth of Jamestown, Virginia. Cordelia Jackson in her reminiscences of Georgetown gives a clue to the bride's affectionate regard for her new community:
"When preparations were begun for the wedding, she [Elizabeth] informed the prospective bridegroom, 'she would buy her trousseau in Georgetown or there would be no wedding.'"

The Worthingtons had five children. Their eldest son, Dr. Nicholas W. Worthington, received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1807. He stayed on in the family homestead on Bridge Street, later bequeathed to him by his father, and died there in 1849. John Griffith Worthington, the second son, moved to Cincinnati, Ohio in 1849. The third son, William N. Worthington, died in Washington in 1842, leaving a young widow and a son. The two Worthington daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth Ann (Eliza), and the two younger sons lived in the Prospect Street house with their parents.

When he moved to Prospect Street in 1810, Dr. Charles Worthington was well-established in his profession and in the affairs of the community. He was an active member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Georgetown and served as a vestryman for several years, beginning in 1807. He was also the first president of the Medical Society formed in the District of Columbia. In politics he was an old-line Federalist. Personally austere, dignified and serious, Dr. Worthington kept the old style of hair in queue, knee breeches, and shoe buckles until his dying day.

During the War of 1812, Dr. Worthington brought wounded British officers (evidently paroled prisoners) to this house and gave them an opportunity to recuperate there as his guests. After the war they presented him with a gold snuffbox (mentioned in his Will) as a token of their gratitude. (25)

Dr. Worthington clearly opposed "Mr. Madison's War" and Margaret Bayard Smith, an astute observer of early nineteenth-century life, described his elation at the American defeat at Bladensburg and the British advance on Washington in 1814.
Ironically, he heard the news while ministering to Anna Maria (Murray) Mason, who lay sick in her Georgetown home, while her husband, General John Mason, and President Madison attempted to rally the retreating American forces. (26)

On September 3, 1816 the Reverend John A. Grassi, S. J., President of Georgetown College, solemnized the marriage of Elizabeth Ann Worthington to Congressman William Gaston of North Carolina in the parlor of her father's Prospect Street residence. William Gaston (1778-1844) was the first student on the rolls of Georgetown University and had a distinguished career as a jurist in his native state, serving as Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court from 1833 to his death in 1844. The courtship of Elizabeth Worthington and Congressman Gaston is preserved in their letters, quoted at length by his biographer. (27)

Dr. Charles Worthington lived in the Prospect Street house for more than a quarter of a century. He is said to have called the house "Quality Hill," a name also used by later owners. He died in this house on September 10, 1836, when he was 76 years old. In his Will Dr. Worthington left the house on Prospect Street to his eldest daughter, Catherine, the widow of Joseph Pearson, a former Congressman also from North Carolina. In addition he left bequests to his grandson, William Gaston Pearson. Dr. Worthington's eldest son, Dr. Nicholas Worthington, who was a bachelor, was willed the old family home on Bridge Street, Dr. Worthington's "Maple Grove" farm (within the limits of the District of Columbia), his medical library, slaves and other bequests. The younger sons and his daughter, Elizabeth, Judge Gaston's wife, were generously remembered in their father's Will. (28)
"Dr. Charles Worthington lived in the Prospect Street house for more than a quarter of a century. He is said to have called the house 'Quality Hill,' a name also used by later owners. (Library of Congress)
1856-1915

On June 20, 1856 Catherine Worthington Pearson conveyed the house and land, comprising lots 41 and 42, to James Kearney for the purchase price of $6000. Members of the Kearney family resided in this house from 1856 until 1915, so that it might justifiably be called the Kearney House, as it often was in the late nineteenth century.

James Kearney was born in Ireland. On April 11, 1813 he was commissioned as an Infantry Lieutenant in the United States Army and the following day was transferred to the Topographical Engineers. He saw action in northern New York State during the War of 1812. Later, as a Captain, he was assigned to Washington. During his nearly fifty years of active duty Colonel Kearney rose to be Chief Topographical Engineer. His reports of surveys and works undertaken, chiefly the improvement of rivers and the harbors on inland waterways, chronicle the work of the Army Engineers from the War of 1812 to the Civil War. He co-authored a report on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in 1832 and one on the potential development of the Tennessee River at Muscle Shoals in 1836. He was engaged in a survey of the Great Lakes harbors over a long period of time. He retired as a Colonel on September 9, 1861. (29)

Colonel James Kearney and his family lived in the city of Washington during most of his active service. For many years their home was at the corner of 14th and F Streets, N.W. (30) In 1855 Colonel Kearney is listed at 80 Prospect Street, so that the family had evidently moved to their Georgetown house before buying "Quality Hill" from Mrs. Pearson in 1856. (31)

He died in his Prospect Street house on January 10, 1862. By his Will, Colonel Kearney left all of his property to his wife, Louisa Kearney. She continued to live in the house after his death.
Her name last appears in the Washington City Directory for 1892. (32) The 1866 Directory also lists "Robert, clk. Comm. Dept." at the same address. (33) Robert S. Kearney, son of Colonel James and Louisa Kearney, was an official of the War Department for more than forty years. He lived at 42 First (N) Street in Georgetown from 1868 to 1870 and at 73 Fayette (35th) Street from 1871 to 1874, then moved to Alexandria. He returned to the Prospect Street House in 1900 and was living there when the house was sold in 1915. (34) Blanche Kearney, a daughter of Colonel James and Louisa Kearney, first appears in the City Directory for 1876, residing with her mother. George Kearney, another son, is listed at different times as assistant librarian at the Library of Congress, librarian of the Justice Department, and as a lawyer. He edited a number of official publications, including the State Department series of documents on foreign relations. He is listed as head of the household in 1915, but did not reside at the Prospect Street house continuously. (35)

Louisa Kearney, the widow of Colonel James Kearney, deeded the property to Maria O'Reiley, unmarried, on July 29, 1889. However, Mrs. Kearney continued to live in the house until 1892 when she died. (36) Maria O'Reiley, unmarried, conveyed the property to Blanche Kearney, unmarried, on May 31, 1898.

Blanche Kearney never married. She died on May 15, 1910, and in her Will she left the house to her nephew, Alexander Kearney, to be held in trust for her two nieces, Louise and Estelle Kearney.

The estate of Blanche Kearney was settled by a decree of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, March 5, 1915, in the case of Louise Kearney vs. Alexander Kearney, Estelle Kearney and George Kearney.
Alexander Kearney and A. Leftwich Sinclair were appointed as trustees to administer the estate. All parties agreed on May 7, 1915 to terminate the trusts set up under the Will of Blanche Kearney, and Louise Kearney elected to take title to the house on Prospect Street as part of her share of the estate. On June 10, 1915 a deed was recorded giving title to the property to Louise Kearney.

Less than a month later, on July 5, 1915, Louise Kearney married Prince Agustin de Iturbide. Agustin was the grandson of Emperor Agustin I, Liberator of Mexico, and Empress Ana Maria Huarte de Iturbide (who after her husband's death came to Georgetown to live); and he was the son of Prince Angel and Alice Green de Iturbide (granddaughter of General Uriah Forrest). As a child Agustin had been adopted against his family's wishes by Maximilian, the brother of Joseph I of Austria, whom Napoleon III of France set up as the puppet Emperor of Mexico during the United States's preoccupation with the Civil War. Prince de Iturbide was raised in Mexico and the United States, both in Philadelphia and Georgetown. At the time of his wedding he was professor of Spanish and French at the Georgetown College preparatory school. (37)

Louise Kearney de Iturbide and her husband sold the Prospect Street house immediately after their marriage and set up their home at Pelham Courts, 2115 P Street N.W. Agustin died in 1925, but his widow, born at "Quality Hill," outlived him by forty-two years and was just a few days short of ninety-five when she died in 1967. (38)

1915-1942

Albert Adsit Clemons, the next owner of the John Thomson Mason House, was an eccentric individual who lived nearby at Halcyon House (3400 Prospect Street). Among other peculiarities, he was a compulsive collector of miscellaneous articles, ranging from genuine art objects to the residue of demolished buildings. He never lived in his
house at 3425 Prospect Street but used it as storage space for his miscellaneous collections which outgrew the proportions of Halcyon House. It was during Clemens' ownership that "Quality Hill" was known in the neighborhood as the "haunted house." (39)

Clemens died in 1938. The proceeds of his estate, including 3425 Prospect Street, were bequeathed to Harvard University. After the contents of the John Thomson Mason House were donated to museums throughout the country or sold at auction, the house was conveyed in 1942 to Lady Norma Bowler Lewis. (40)

1942-1961

Lady Lewis was the wife of the eminent scholar and journalist, Sir Willmott Lewis. Lord Lewis was born in Cardiff, Wales, and was educated at the University of Heidelberg in Germany and at the Sorbonne in Paris. He was widely known as a linguist, as well as a specialist on the Far East. Lewis was editor of the North China Daily News and lived through the Boxer Rebellion in China. During the Russo-Japanese War he was a foreign correspondent for the New York Herald.

It was in the Far East that Lord Lewis became friendly with General Pershing, under whose command Lewis handled American propaganda in France during the Second World War. Following the war he remained in Paris during the peace conference as a correspondent for the New York Tribune.

In 1920 Lord Northcliffe, owner of the The Times (of London), engaged Sir Willmott as a foreign correspondent for the newspaper because of his familiarity with American journalism and methods. In 1931 he was knighted for valuable service rendered in connection with the Naval Conference of 1930. (41)
In 1942 when the Lewises bought 3425 Prospect Street they began such major restoration of the structure that it was two years before they could move from their Massachusetts Avenue home into "Quality Hill." Electricity and heat and plumbing had to be installed. Further modernizing for safety's sake included structural repairs such as shoring up walls, sheathing and tiling of the roof. But wherever it was possible the original features of the house were maintained. All of the floors and cornices are original. All of the mantels except one are original; so heavily encrusted with paint were they that special tools had to be devised to gouge the paint without harming the old carving. Adaptations to twentieth-century life were made with respect for the beauty and dignity of the eighteenth-century architecture. One door, which Lady Lewis says Mr. Clemons had salvaged during alterations on the U.S. Capitol, was duplicated to form twin doors for the restored house. What was once Dr. Wortaington's "medicine room" was converted to a bathroom; what was once the Kearney stable became a pantry. The arch in the center hall came from the Francis Scott Key house. The black and white tile floor came from an old building on Capitol Hill.

These changes, and many others, were the result of Lady Lewis' steady and persistent effort to retain the best of the old features of this early structure and blend them harmoniously with the demands of contemporary life. "I was there with the workmen every day," said Lady Lewis. (42) And the results reflect this assiduous care!

In 1944 the Lewises were able to move into their new home. Lord Lewis covered the major events of the war period for the London Times. He retired in 1949 and died the next year. Lady Lewis remained in the house until 1961 when she sold it to Senator and Mrs. Claiborne Pell and moved to a smaller house nearby.
"The Pells have maintained the beauty and dignity of their eighteenth-century home." (Photographed by J. Alexander)
1961-1969

It is fitting that Senator Pell, descendant of a distinguished family with a long heritage of public service, now occupies the historic Mason house. The Pells have maintained the beauty and dignity of their eighteenth-century home. (43)

Original and Subsequent Owners

1798

John Threlkeld and wife to
John Thomson Mason

Deed August 29, 1798
Recorded August 31, 1798
Liber D-4, folio 85

Lots 41 and 42

"...now in the tenure and occupation of the said John Thomson Mason...."

Consideration $450
1807

John Thomson Mason and wife, Elizabeth to John Teackle

"...beginning at a stone no. 30 being the S.W. corner of the brick house now occupied by the said Teackle and at the intersection of Prospect and Fayette Streets...."

Consideration $5000

1810

John Teackle and wife, Elizabeth to Charles Worthington

"All the messuage and tenement in Georgetown whereon the said John Teackle now resides being the same which hath been conveyed to the aforesaid John Teackle by John Mason...."

1836

Charles Worthington dies and by his Will devises to his daughter, Catherine Pearson, and her heirs the house in which he resides fronting on Prospect and Fayette.

Will September 17, 1835
Probated September 28, 1836
Will Book 4, page 325
1856
Catherine Pearson to James Kearney
Deed June 20, 1856
Recorded September 9, 1859
Liber JAS 121, folio 129
Consideration $6000

1862
James Kearney dies and by his Will gives all his estate to his wife, Louisa Kearney.
Will September 19, 1861
Probated January 25, 1862
Will Book 9, page 25

1889
Louisa Kearney to Maria O'Reiley, unmarried
Deed July 29, 1889
Recorded July 30, 1889
Liber 1410, folio 320

1898
Maria O'Reiley, unmarried to Blanche Kearney, unmarried
Deed May 31, 1898
Recorded June 4, 1898
Liber 2331, folio 30
1910

Blanche Kearney, unmarried Will November 28, 1908
dies May 15, 1910 and de- Probated June 9, 1910
vises said property in Will Book 73, page 594
trust to her nephew
Alexander Kearney, executor for her two nieces, Louise Kearney
and Estelle Kearney, for life or until their marriage, and
upon the death or marriage of both, then to be divided among
the said two nieces, and upon the death or marriage of both,
then to be divided among the said two nieces and two nephews,
Alexander Kearney and George Kearney, and provided that in
the event that one or more of said nieces or nephews should
die leaving issue, the said issue shall receive the share
which the parent would have received if living.

1915

By Decree of the Supreme Court of D.C. passed March 5, 1915
(Equity 32401, Docket 70):

Louise Kearney

vs.

Alexander Kearney
Estelle Kearney
George Kearney

Alexander Kearney and A. Leftwich Sinclair were appointed
trustees to take charge of and administer all of the prop­
erty both real and personal formerly belonging to the estate
of Blanche Kearney.

In accordance with a certain stipulation filed in the Equity
(32401) Cause on May 7, 1915, all parties agreed to terminate
and end the trusts under the Will of Blanche Kearney and "...
Louise Kearney in the exercise of the option given her in
said stipulation has elected to take the hereinbefore described
property as a part of her share in the estate of said Blanche
Kearney...."
Alexander Kearney
A. Leftwich Sinclair, trustees
Estelle Kearney
George Kearney, unmarried
Alexander Kearney in his own right
et ux Elizabeth Crosby
to
Louise Kearney

Deed June 10, 1915
Recorded June 10, 1915
Liber 3802, folio 136

Louise Kearney, unmarried
to
A. Leftwich Sinclair

Deed July 13, 1915
Recorded July 13, 1915
Liber 3797, folio 394

"In Trust to rent, lease, manage and control said ground and premises...."

A. Leftwich Sinclair, trustee for Louise Kearney, unmarried
Louise de Yturbi de (nee Kearney) and husband, Augustin
to
Albert Adsit Clemons

Deed August 21, 1915
Recorded August 23, 1915
Liber 3829, folio 75
1938

Albert Adsit Clemons dies, March 17, 1938, directing that the proceeds and assets of his estate be transferred to Harvard University as an endowment to be received and known as the Albert Adsit Clemons endowment. At the time of his death he was residing at 3400 Prospect Street—Halcyon House. F. Urban Wolpert, George H. Paltridge, and William E. Huntington were appointed trustees.

1942

F. Urban Wolpert, George H. Paltridge, William E. Huntington, trustees

to

Norma Bowler Lewis

deed October 13, 1942

Recorded October 13, 1942

Liber 7801, folio 197

1961

Norma Bowler Lewis

to

Claiborne Pell and wife, Nuala Pell

Deed May 11, 1961

Recorded May 12, 1961

Liber 11598, folio 173
References


7. Same reference as #3. p. 118.

8. Same reference as #3.
9. Same reference as #3.


12. Same reference as #11, first part.


14. Same reference as #11, first part.


16. Same reference as #11, first part.

17. Same reference as #13, first part.
18. Same reference as #3.
    and
    **Registers of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.** Hagerstown, Maryland.


22. Quincy, Eliza S.M., **Memoir of the Life of Eliza S.M. Quincy.** Boston, Massachusetts: J. Wilson and Son, 1861.


25. Same reference as #23.
    and
    **Vestry Minutes.** St. John's Episcopal Church, Georgetown Parish.


and


28. Same reference as #23.


and


30. City Directory. 1822, p. 48; 1827, p. 45; 1834, p. 31; 1843, p. 45; 1846, p. 53.

31. Same reference as #30. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 6.

32. Same reference as #30. 1892, p. 579.

33. Same reference as #30. 1866, p. 415.

34. Same reference as #30. 1868, p. 110; 1870, p. 456; 1871, (Georgetown Section), p. xvi; 1874, p. 270; 1915, p. 278.

35. Same reference as #30. 1876, p. 316; 1915, p. 728.
36. Same reference as #30. 1892, p. 579.


42. Conversation on March 10, 1969 and interview on April 7, 1969, with Lady Norma Bowler Lewis, 3416 Prospect Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This symmetrical, well proportioned, formal free standing two-story brick house lives up to its early name, "Quality Hill." It has been carefully restored and cared for, and contains a wealth of late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century detail, unmarred by later Victorian accretions.

Condition of fabric: Very good, well maintained.

Technical Description of Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 56'-0" by 42'-0", with a 40'-6" by 18'-0" two-story brick ell at the north-east corner. Main block has five bays across Prospect Street and three bays across 35th Street, and is three stories high including the finished attic floor. Exterior painted light gray with white trim.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Brick, Flemish bond, painted; moulded stone water table at first floor line, painted.

Chimneys: Two; one at each gable end.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: The main entrance has a pair of three-panelled doors topped by a graceful fanlight and set into a panelled, arched reveal. There are fluted pilasters each side supporting a finely moulded triangular pediment. The rear center door has six flat panels, no transom, and is set in a shallow panelled reveal. It has doric pilasters with pronounced entasis and a rather heavy triangular pediment, apparently of early to mid-twentieth century date.

Windows and shutters: Windows in general are twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood sash, with painted stone sills and lintels, which have moulded key blocks. Shutters on front and sides are heavy wood louvered replacements; but those in the rear are of raised panel design, having one small panel above one long panel with moulded sticking.

Porches: Front steps are Aquia Creek sandstone, in generally good condition, and have mid-twentieth century iron rails repeating the circle motif of the other front fencing.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable with ridge running eastwest. Slate covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Modillioned wood cornice with fluted panels between modillions. Hanging metal ogee gutter.

Dormers: Three on south and three on north; wood frame with slate sides and six-over-six wood double-hung sash with triangular pediments.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: First floor has center hall with stair in ell to west rear; living room on west of entry hall; library in southeast corner; dining room in northeast corner. Second floor has stair hall in northwest corner; master bedroom in southwest corner; bath in center south; study in southeast corner; bedroom in northeast corner with bath over pantry in addition at northeast corner. Addition also has servant's suite accessible only from pantry below. Third floor was not open to the researcher at this time. Basement has two large rooms in southeast and southwest corners; kitchen and stairs in northwest corner; wine cellar under northeast addition.

Stairways: Main stair is a straight run from east to west along north wall to a rectangular landing along west wall, and from there on up to the second floor. The plan repeats to the third floor. The balusters are simple rectangular pickets and the handrail is simple moulded mahogany, ending in a volute. Occasional balusters are of painted metal of the same section as the wood balusters with angle extensions top and bottom for support. A stained chair rail echoes the handrail. Newels are square open box shapes made apparently from one piece. Landings cross windows on west wall.

Flooring: Wide, random-width pine throughout, except white marble octagons with black squares in vestibule, vinyl in upstairs baths, pantry, kitchen, and basement.

Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster throughout, generally pastel in tone except library, where walls are red.

Doorways and doors: In general doors have six flat panels and wide backbanded trim. Doors on the second floor have similar moldings but have panels raised on one side. All doors are painted except the inside front door and the library doors which are stained. The doorway from vestibule to hall has an elaborate wood-muntined fanlight and simple side lights. Parts of this glass wall appear to be mid-twentieth century but the door and fanlight are old.
Decorative features and trim: Cornices in general are painted plaster box cornices with crown and bed moulds. In the living room the crown is formed of separate acanthus leaves, the bed of egg-and-dart, and there is a frieze filled with rinceau scrolls. In the library the mouldings are straight run wood, stained. In the dining room the crown is leaf-moulded and there are egg-and-dart and lamb's tongue bed moulds. Upstairs cornices are straight-run mouldings similar to those downstairs but are smaller.

Door and window trim is generally wide with a moulded backband. The library door trim has been replaced with a similar one having a leaf carved moulding in the backband; the original window trim remains.

There are two-piece chair rails in the living room, dining room, library, upstairs halls and bedrooms; there is a wainscot with raised panels, moulded sticking, and leaf-carved cap in the main entry hall-stair hall; there is a flat-panelled wainscot with a simple bull-nose cap in the vestibule.

Mantelpieces, while varied in design from room to room, are of similar character throughout. There is one exception, a small plain white marble mantelpiece in the northeast bedroom, a later replacement as evidenced by traces of a larger hearth in the floor and patches in the chair rail. The other mantels are as follows:

Living room: Reeded pilasters and frieze, vertical elliptical rosettes above pilasters, square fan center, bowed shelf with reeded border and concave breaks over pilasters, painted. Black marble hearth and surround.

Library: Reeded half-oval pilasters, reeded frieze, flat elliptical panel in center, moulded shelf with square breaks at pilasters, stained. Black marble hearth and surround.

Dining room: Pilasters have pearl-moulded panels. reeded impost and center panel, complex carved fan motif each side of center, moulded straight shelf, painted. Black marble hearth and surround.
Master bedroom: Pilasters have pearl-moulded panels, oval rosettes at impost, reeded and fan-carved frieze, moulded straight shelf, painted. Black marble hearth and surround.

Study: Pilasters have plain panels, frieze has three panels across, dentil moulded straight shelf, stripped of paint but not refinished. Black marble hearth and surround.

Bedroom: White marble flat pilasters and entablatures, turned corner rosettes, gilt bronze mask in center, no mouldings except shelf edge. Gray marble hearth and surround.

Hardware: Many doors retain original hardware. Hinges are self-closing wrought iron except inner front door, which has plain silver butts. There are many large iron box rimlocks with silver knobs and key escutcheons on the first floor and with brass knobs and key escutcheons on the second floor. The southwest bedroom has cast brass rimlocks with brass knobs and escutcheons. Front door knobs are large silver-plated ribbed balls, somewhat worn.

Lighting: There are a variety of chandeliers in the house, none of them original furnishings. The library has a brass circular chandelier with eight crystal arms and bobeches. It is not electrified. The dining room has an all-crystal electrified chandelier. The master bedroom has a very tall French style bronze and crystal electrified chandelier, originally gas. Several types of electric lantern-style fixtures light the hallways. There are two large silver coach lanterns at the front door.

Heating: Boiler in basement, radiators throughout.
Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the northeast corner of 35th and Prospect Streets, the house faces south. The neighborhood is composed of somewhat smaller houses, with the exceptions of Halcyon House (3400 Prospect Street) and Prospect House (3508 Prospect Street). The area is a well-maintained residential neighborhood with some educational buildings to the west.

Enclosures: Wrought and cast iron ornamental fence at both sides of entrance door, fence continues down 35th Street to the rear entrance. Rear yard enclosed by brick wall topped with an iron fence.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick.

Landscaping: Residential scale foundation planting along street facades, rear yard carefully planted around grass area and brick paved terrace. There is a marble wall fountain against the west wall of the rear addition, and a marble statuary group in the northwest corner.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
November 18, 1968
GOSZLER - MANOGUE HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1307 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly this address was 36 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house occupies the south part of Lot 67 in Square 58 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 842 in Square 1228 in the City of Washington.

Date of Erection: Between 1794 and 1798

Owner in 1969: Miss Janet Saxon

Occupants in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: One of the oldest houses in Georgetown, this modest, late eighteenth-century house still remains reasonably intact and retains many interior and exterior decorative features.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1794-1808

John Goszler purchased from John Threlkeld the southern half of Lot 67 in Square 58 in Threlkeld's Addition to George Town in 1794 for 37 pounds, 10 shillings.

Four years later, in 1798, Goszler sold his property to Thomas Sanders for 300 pounds. This increase in value of the land indicates that John Goszler built the house between 1794 and 1798, in which year Thomas Sanders was taxed "for 1 House and Lott in George Town" valued at 120 pounds. (1)

Sanders held the property for eight years. In 1806 John B. French bought it and two years later sold it to Daniel Bussard, who had purchased the northern half of Lot 67 in 1805.

1808-1828

Bussard was a prominent citizen of Georgetown having several businesses there as well as being active in the Presbyterian Church and in civic affairs. (2) He was a land developer and builder and had numerous holdings in Georgetown in the early 1800's. In 1808 Lot 67 was assessed to Daniel Bussard, listed as "improved," and valued at $800. The 1813 tax records listed "2 single story frames" on Lot 67 which were valued at $850. This assessment also showed Bussard owning a brewery, a tannery, and a distillery in Georgetown. (3)
It is not known what use Bussard made of his frame house on the south part of Lot 67; but the 1834 City Directory lists four tanners on Fayette Street in close proximity to one another, so it may be that a few years earlier Bussard's tannery had been located on his Lot 67 on Fayette Street. Early deeds referring to Lot 67 mention "the branch." Since the tanning of hides required a special flow of water, the old Georgetown Sewer Line (which the residents in the area of 35th and O Streets, N.W. say starts near or in Lot 67) may have been laid in an old creek bed, formerly called "the branch," so vital to the tanner's trade.

1828-1841

In 1828 Peter Hoover bought the house at 36 Fayette Street. At the same time he purchased the house on the northern half of Lot 67 as well. In the year of his purchase Hoover gave a deed of trust to David English to secure the purchase money for his new properties. By 1840 Hoover, a butcher, was so seriously in debt that he was taken into custody and sent to Baltimore.(4) Lot 67 with its structures was sold at auction to Andrew Hoover for $1,002. That same year William Noyes bought the Lot from Andrew Hoover and resold it a year later to John Clements. Some time between 1813 and 1840 the house on the south part of Lot 67 was faced with brick and a second story added, for the deed to John Clements reads: "...in consideration of the sum of twelve hundred dollars current money...the whole of Lot number Sixty seven in Thralkeld's addition to George Town...together with all the brick dwelling house and other buildings standing thereon...." Also, a fire insurance policy in the name of Andrew Hoover, dated January 13, 1840, states: "$1200 on his two-story brick house and brick back building attached, covered with shingles, unadjoined by any other house, occupied by Peter Hoover as a dwelling, and situated
"Sometime between 1813 and 1840 the house on the south part of Lot 67 was faced with brick and a second story added,..." Fire Insurance Policy (Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington, D.C.)
on Lot No. 67 in Threlkeld's addition to George Town, fronting on the East side of Fayette Street and being between First and Second Streets in George Town aforesaid. (5)

1841-1866

Clements, a painter, sold the northern portion of Lot 67 in 1847 and continued to occupy the house at 36 Fayette on the southern portion. (6) Seven years later, in 1866, John Clements and his wife conveyed their house to Hugh Caperton in trust for Ann Jackson "...with full power for her to sell and mortgage as she may direct..." The relationship between the Clements' and Ann Jackson is unknown; perhaps she was a married daughter.

1866-1879

Ann and her husband, Richard A. Jackson, listed in the city directory as "boatman," lived at 36 Fayette Street with their family at least through 1878. (7) During this period the property passed from trustee to trustee until in 1879 Ivory G. Kimball and his wife, Ann, trustees in that year, deeded the property to Joseph F. Collins.

1879-1888

Collins held the house for eleven years but used it as rental property. In 1883 John McCauley, a cobbler, moved from 103 Second Street (now 3424 0) to 1307 35th Street and built a small cobbler's shop adjoining his brick dwelling on the north. (8)
His cousin, Mrs. Sophie Cousins, born in Georgetown in the 1880's, said that in addition to making and repairing shoes for the students at Georgetown College he also repaired their football helmets. The G.M. Hopkins Plat of 1887 shows McCauley's cobbler's shop as a small structure on the south part of Lot 67 edging on the north side of 1307 35th Street and to the south of the frame house at 1311 35th Street. (9) Also, the 1887 City Directory lists John McCauley, shoemaker, at 1309 35th Street. (10) This area, now cleared, is part of present Lot 835.

1888-1962

In 1888 James Manogue, a tailor with a business at 149 Bridge Street (now M) on the south side between High (now Wisconsin) and Potomac, bought the brick house from Joseph Collins. (11) Manogue had emigrated from Ireland during the potato famine and started a tailoring business in Fordham, New York. He was summoned to Georgetown by Georgetown College to make their priests' vestments. (12) There is no evidence that James Manogue ever lived in his house at 1307 35th Street or what use he made of it and the small structure to the north. He undoubtedly developed a successful tailoring business, for when he died in 1900, in addition to his 35th Street property, he left several pieces of property and houses in Georgetown to his wife, Catherine. (13)

Fifteen years after James' death Catherine Manogue passed away, leaving the premises at 1307 35th Street to an only daughter, Mary Josephine Manogue, "...for life, or as long as she shall remain unmarried...."

Mary J. Manogue died, unmarried, in 1939. Her property by Will was to be divided among her nieces and nephews. All three of Mary Manogue's brothers had died before her death, two of them childless. The children of her brother, William H. Manogue, survived their Aunt Mary. In 1949 the Manogue descendents made a legal agreement to divide their lands inherited from their grandfather, James Manogue, their uncle, George Manogue, and their aunt, Mary J. Manogue. By this
agreement Mae J. Manogue obtained title to the house at 1307 35th Street.

In 1962 Mae J. Manogue, unmarried, sold the property to L. Ronald Scheman and his wife, Ethel. The Manogue family had held this property for 74 years.

1962-1969

Scheman, executive secretary of the Pan American Development Foundation, and his wife lived at this address until 1966 when they sold the property to Janet Dunham Saxon. Miss Saxon has used this early house as rental property.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1794

John Threlkeld et ux  
to  
John Goszler  

Deed March 21, 1794  
Recorded May 23, 1794  
Liber B-2, folio 35

South half Lot 67--Consideration 37 pounds, 10 shillings
1798

John Goszler et ux Deed May 28, 1798
to Recorded June 15, 1798
Thomas Sanders Liber C-3, folio 468

South half Lot 67--Consideration 300 pounds

1806

Thomas Sanders et ux Deed September 23, 1806
to Recorded September 27, 1806
John B. French Liber Q-16, folio 113

South half Lot 67--Consideration $500

1808

John B. French et ux Deed November 7, 1808
to Recorded December 8, 1808
Daniel Bussard Liber V-21, folio 80

South half Lot 67--Consideration $300

(Bussard purchased the north half of Lot 67 in 1805 for $100.)
1828

Daniel Bussard et ux to Peter Hoover

Deed June 19, 1828
Recorded July 1, 1828
Liber W.B. 23, folio 38

Conveys the whole of Lot 67

Consideration--$650

Peter Hoover et ux to David English

Trust June 19, 1828
Recorded July 1, 1828
Liber W.B. 23, folio 42

Trust to secure purchase money

1840

Alexander Hunter, Marshal of D.C. to Andrew Hoover

Deed March 27, 1840
Recorded September 4, 1840
Liber W.B. 78, folio 450

Recites that Andrew Hoover bought the property at auction, 11 January 1840, for $1002 "...to make the damages and costs aforesaid out of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of the said Peter Hoover being found in his bailiwick..." Refers to Peter Hoover, "late of George Town in the District of Columbia, but now of Baltimore."
Andrew Hoover et ux Sarah to William Noyes  
Deed October 31, 1840 Recorded March 18, 1841 Liber W.B. 84, folio 445

1841  
David English, trustee to William Noyes  
Deed March 24, 1841 Recorded March 25, 1842 Liber W.B. 93, folio 226

William Noyes et ux Mary to John Clements  
Deed September 21, 1841 Recorded April 25, 1842 Liber W.B. 93, folio 230

1866  
John Clements et ux to Hugh Caperton  
Deed in Trust April 17, 1866 Recorded July 13, 1866 Liber RMH 20, folio 81
Conveys south part of Lot 67 in trust for Ann Jackson, with full power to sell and mortgage as she may direct.

John Clements had sold the north part of Lot 67 to George S. Neill in 1847 "on which stands a 2-story frame house."
1874
Hugh Caperton, trustee
Ann Jackson

Trust August 27, 1874
Recorded September 22, 1874
Liber 764, folio 23

to
R. P. Dodge & I. G. Kimball

1879
Ivory G. Kimball et ux
Anna L.

deed January 25, 1879
Recorded January 31, 1879
Liber 903, folio 495

to
Joseph F. Collins

1888
Joseph F. Collins et ux
Mary Amelia

deed July 30, 1888
Recorded August 6, 1888
Liber 1341, folio 17

to
James Manogue

1900
James Manogue died
February 21, 1900,
leaving all his property
to his wife, Catharine
Manogue, for life.

Will November 17, 1899
Probated April 1, 1901
Will Book 51, page 147
1915

Catharine Manogue died March 19, 1915, leaving all her property to Mary Josephine Manogue, her daughter, for life or as long as she remained unmarried.

1939

Mary Josephine Manogue died September 15, 1939. Her three brothers, John, William, and George predeceased her; so the property was left to be divided between her nephew and nieces, the three children of William—James J. Manogue, Blanche C. Wilson and Mae J. Manogue.

1949

Blanche C. Wilson Mae J. Manogue James J. Manogue Helen W. Manogue, wife of James

Agreement to make a partition and division of lands coming to them by Wills of their grandfather, James Manogue, their uncle, George W. Manogue, and their aunt, Mary J. Manogue. Mae J. Manogue gets 1307 35th Street, N.W. as well as other property.
1962

Mae J. Manogue, unmarried

to

L. Ronald Scheman et ux
Eethel,
tenants by the entirety

Deed August 1, 1962
Recorded August 8, 1962
Liber 11847, folio 447

1966

L. Ronald Scheman et ux
to
Janet Dunham Saxon

Deed July 7, 1966
Recorded August 5, 1966
Liber 12651, folio 13

References


   and
   Journal of the Trustees of Georgetown Presbyterian Church.
3. Records of the City of Georgetown (D.C.), 1800-79, Assessment of Real and Personal Property, Microcopy 605, National Archives Record Group 351, Roll 7 (1800-1807); Roll 8 (1808-12); Roll 9 (1813-18).


6. Same reference as #4. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 3; 1858, p. 437; 1862, p. 190; 1864, p. 296; 1865, p. 378; 1866, p. 408.


8. Same reference as #4. 1883, p. 573.


10. Same reference as #4. 1887, p. 578.


12. Conversation with Mr. James J. Manogue, 3201 P Street, N.W. He is a grandson of James Manogue, the tailor.

13. Will, James Manogue, November 17, 1899, Probated April 1, 1901. Will Book 51, page 147, Register of Wills, Washington, D.C.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This brick structure is a well preserved and distinguished example of a modest Georgetown residence of the last quarter of the eighteenth century.

Condition of Fabric: The interior and exterior are both in generally good condition. There has been remodeling of the interior, especially of the second floor, while on the exterior the 35th Street (front) elevation appears relatively intact. The northeast corner of the rear wing has recently been repaired and reinforced at the basement level.

Technical Description of Exterior

Overall Dimensions: This two-story brick house with full basement faces west on 35th Street between N and O Streets and its south wall is approximately 90' along 35th Street from the centerline of N Street. Its three bay front is 22' and its depth is 40'.

Foundations: The brick wall is continued down as a foundation. Because of the slope of the land the entrance at street level is only slightly above grade while at the rear (east) elevation the full height basement wall is exposed.
Wall Construction: The construction is brick bearing wall with red face bricks of a dense smooth finish laid in Flemish bond at the west elevation and rough texture red bricks laid in common bond for east and north elevations. The west elevation has beaded mortar joints while the east and north have flush joints. One special item of note in examining the wall construction is a stepped line of a heavy mortar joint on the north elevation about three-fifths up the wall. The line steps down from west to east and may mark the roof line of a former addition.

Porches: There is one wood frame porch at the northeast corner at the first floor level. It is covered by a wood roof pitching down from south to north. The porch is entered from the end of the stair hall and from the back room. Although the porch now extends beyond the north wall of the main block, from marks on the east wall of the main block it appears originally to have ended at the line of the north wall.

Chimneys: Two separate chimneys are present and usable; one in the middle of the east wall of the rear wing and one at the middle of the south wall of the front room. The east chimney is red brick 6' by 2' with a simple two course brick cap. The south chimney is a party chimney with the adjoining house; it is 4' 8" by 2', has two flues, and is capped with brick.

Openings:

Doorways and Doors: The main entrance is a simple wood trimmed masonry opening with a mid-twentieth century 3' 4" six-panel door. The opening has a flat arched lintel of 15 sawn brick two or three piece voussoirs. There is a four light wood trimmed transom window over the doorway and a sandstone sill.
A basement level doorway at the east wall of main block opening onto the patio has been bricked closed leaving exit to the rear yard from the north wall of the rear wing. Additional doorways on the first floor are one from the end of the main stair hall to the porch and one from the back room onto the same porch.

Windows and Shutters: Two lower floor windows of the west elevation are nine-over-six light double hung wood sash with 10" deep flat sawn-brick arched lintel of 14 two-piece voussoirs. Three upper floor windows are six-over-six light double hung wood sash with 8" deep flat sawn-brick arched lintel of 14 single piece voussoirs. Shutters are louvered two panel wood units with "H" shape metal hinges. Metal shutter stops appear to be mid-twentieth century addition. A window opening at west end of north wall of rear wing of first floor porch has been bricked closed.

Roof:

Shape, Covering: The main block of the house is covered by a simple gable roof with its ridge running north-south, while the rear block has a shed running up from north to south to party wall. Roofing material is standing seam metal.

Framing: Not visible.

Cornice, Eaves: The cornice on the front elevation is a three course brick corbelled sawtooth type painted white. North wall is brought up beyond the roof covering and this parapet has eared profile due to corbelled end blocks. It is capped by a two course brick cap. Gutters and downspouts are metal.

Dormers: None.
Technical Description of Interior

Floor Plans: The plan is a simple "L" shape with a main block on 35th Street and a rear wing along a party wall with a building at south. A porch fits into the angle of the "L." The first floor has a front and a back room with a stair hall at north end of the main block. The second floor has two levels: a higher front level with two bedrooms, and a two step lower rear area housing a bedroom and two baths. The bath at the south party wall is skylit. The present basement contains a front kitchen-laundry area plus a small bedroom and a rear room with a door to a patio on the north.

Stairways: The main stairway at the north side of the main block runs from the first floor up 11 risers from west to east with a return from a platform of four risers from east to west to second level of main block. Below the stair is enclosed; the rail is rounded wood mould, newel posts are simple turned wood; balusters are squared wood; and stringer ends have half-rounded wood angle blocks at stair tred ends.

A second stair is in the rear wing connecting the first floor with the basement. It runs along the east wall of the main block down 11 risers from north to south and from a corner platform down three risers along south wall toward the east to the basement floor. The railing and balusters are probably mid-twentieth century additions.

Flooring: Random width pine floors are used on the first and second floors. Floor construction of the first floor has been enclosed by a mid-twentieth century ceiling in the basement. The floor in the rear wing of the basement is of red bricks laid in a basketweave pattern.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Walls and ceilings are plastered throughout.
Doorways and Doors: Doors are of a simple six wood panel type with simple wood frames.

Trim: Walls have a baseboard with top moulded edge, but there is no chair rail or wainscot. Door trim is a simple mould resting on plinth blocks at the wall face.

Hardware: Brass and other metal hardware of early and mid-twentieth century of a simple case are used throughout.

Lighting: There are a variety of twentieth-century fixtures.

Heating: Several fireplaces and their enframements provide the most distinctive interior features. On the first floor the front room fireplace at the south wall appears to have mid-twentieth century trim but the rear wing has an east wall fireplace of brick hearth and fireback with an ornamental enframement which is probably original. The opening is bracketed by fluted pilasters supporting a 9 1/2" deep mantel shelf. Ornamental medallions seem to have been removed from blocks supporting the two ends of the mantel. The other fireplace of possible original type is in the basement at east wall. It has a wood enframement with two full round 2' by 6" Tuscan doric columns framing the opening and supporting a 12" wide mantel. These columns are on 6" wood block bases but do not have echinus ring capitals. Supported by the columns and supporting the mantel are blocks with a pointed arch cut out. Present heating is a central system with radiator units in each room.

Site

General setting and orientation: The house is on the east side of 35th Street between N and O Streets. It is in a mixed residential-commercial neighborhood.
Enclosures: There is a white wood picket fence 8' to 10' from the west facade. The rear yard is fenced by a wood fence 6' to 7' high.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: On the west red brick paving extends from the foundation wall to a red brick public sidewalk 8' to 10' away.

Landscaping: In the rear a brick paved patio under the porch extends several feet beyond the east elevation of the rear wing.

Prepared by: William P. Thompson
Architect
Historic American Building Survey
June 1968
TERESA FENWICK HOUSE

**Address in 1969:** 3512 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly this address was 73 Third Street.)

**Location:** This house occupies part of Lot 106 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown in old Square 77, now taxed as Lot 845 in Square 1247.

**Date of erection:** 1826

**Owners in 1969:** Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Parrott

**Occupants in 1969:** Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Parrott

**Use in 1969:** Private residence

**Significance:** A fine example of an early nineteenth-century, free-standing town house, this dwelling has been carefully restored to regain its original character. The guest house recently built in the same style and the extensive garden serve to create a setting which enhances the charm of the old house.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1823-1826

In 1823 John Threlkeld sold the land on which the Teresa Fenwick house stands to John Pickrell for $150. Two years later Pickrell and his wife deeded the property to Henry Waring, the consideration being $200. On September 1, 1826 Henry Waring and his wife, Milicent, and Joseph Brigden conveyed it to Teresa Fenwick, Brigden receiving the sum of $1700 and Waring one dollar. This increase in price in just nine months would indicate that the house was erected between December 1825 and September 1826. The house was almost certainly built for Teresa Brent Fenwick or purchased by her as a new building.

1826-1839

Teresa Brent was a daughter of Robert and Anna Maria (Parnham) Brent and was born at "Brentfield," Charles County, Maryland in 1767. She married Colonel James Fenwick of Pomonkey, Charles County, Maryland, as his second wife. They had one daughter, Sarah Anne Fenwick, who died as a young girl. Colonel James Fenwick (1763-1823) was the eldest son of Colonel Ignatius and Sarah (Taney) Fenwick of "Cherryfields," St. Mary's County, Maryland. His father had been a member of the Maryland Provincial Congress and commanded a regiment during the American Revolution. The Right Reverend Edward Dominic Fenwick, brother of Colonel James Fenwick, was the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Cincinnati. (1)

Colonel James Fenwick died at Pomonkey on September 3, 1823. By his Will, dated 3 September and probated 14 October 1823, he left his widow, Teresa Brent Fenwick, a life interest in all his lands and all of his estate not otherwise devised.
His lands in St. Mary's County he bequeathed to his grandson, William Hamersley Plowden, with the rents payable to his daughter, Henrietta Fenwick Plowden, and her husband, William Hamersley Plowden, Sr., during their lifetimes. His lands in the District of Columbia went to his grandson, Robert James Brent, and his stock in the Bank of Columbia to his granddaughter, Maria Brent. After the death of Teresa Fenwick his Charles County lands were to be divided between Edmund James Plowden, son of William and Henrietta Fenwick Plowden, and Robert James Brent, son of William Leigh and Maria Fenwick Brent. (2)

Teresa Brent Fenwick evidently moved to Georgetown after her husband's death and made her home in the new house purchased by her in 1826. The land was vacant in 1818, according to the Georgetown Tax Assessment Records in the National Archives. (3) In 1831 she acquired additional land on the southwest corner of Third (now P) and Fayette (now 35th) Streets, with a 120-foot frontage on Third and a 60-foot frontage on Fayette from James Adams and others. (4) The 1830 Directory cites "Teresa Fenwick, Widow, Third Street near Fayette" and the 1834 Directory "Mrs. Fenwick, Widow, Third Street, south side." (5)

In her Will, dated 23 July and probated 4 December 1839, Teresa Fenwick requests "...to be buried by the side of my late husband in the graveyard on the plantation where I formerly resided on Pomonkey Neck, Charles County, Maryland." She left to Edmund James Plowden, among other bequests, "...the bed, bedstead, curtains, and other furniture belonging thereunto, in the front room on the second story of my present dwelling and also all the other furniture which may be in the said room at the time of my death..." and "...one dining set of china called Liverpool-ware and the carpet and fender in my drawing room." She left to Francis Henry Digges, among other bequests, "...my side board and all the furniture in my front room or parlor..." and "one pair of silver salt cellars."
Sarah Ann Brent, daughter of William Leigh Brent, her nephew and a Congressman from Louisiana, received "one silver coffee pot, one silver tea pot and cream pot and silver sugar dish." Edmund James Plowden also inherited her carriage and horses. These bequests give some suggestion of the way Teresa Fenwick's rooms in her home in Georgetown were used and furnished. (6)

The 1830 Census lists the household of Teresa Fenwick as "one white female aged 15-20, one white female aged 50-60, two white females aged 60-70, one male slave aged 36-55, one female slave aged 36-55, and one female slave aged 10-24."(7) In her Will Teresa left a "Servant Woman Mary" to Robert James Brent and a "Servant Man Sam" to Francis H. Digges, with particular instructions that they be treated kindly. She set free another three young slave boys named Michael, Henry, and James.

Among a large number of money bequests, Teresa Fenwick left $400 to the Reverend William McSherry, President of Georgetown College; $100 to Mother Ann Agatha, Superior of the Georgetown Visitation Academy; and $100 to "poor widows with children." To make these cash bequests possible she instructed that her house and the lots attached be sold. (8)

1839-1845

Her executors, named in the Will, were Edmund James Plowden, her late husband's grandson, and her nephew, Francis Henry Digges. Plowden married Charlotte Coad of St. Mary's County on November 11, 1839. They resided on a plantation near Leonardtown and there is no indication that they ever occupied the Georgetown house. (9)

In 1845 Edmund James Plowden "of St. Mary's County" sold the Georgetown property where Teresa Fenwick had lived for thirteen years to Francis Henry Digges "of Charles County," who had refused to serve as executor. Research has not revealed who occupied the house from 1839 to 1845.
1845-1864

During Digges' ownership, 73 Third Street was used as rental property. In 1855 Johnson Jones, listed in the City Directory as a "Farmer" was living in the house and in 1858 Edward S. Wright, an "auction and commission merchant" with a business at 174 Bridge (now M) Street, was residing there with his family. Although the other four houses on this block of Third Street were occupied during the Civil War, there was no listing in directories during this period for the Teresa Fenwick house. (10)

1864-1889

Just before the War's end, Daniel Brown, a grocer residing and having a store at 54 Fayette (now 35th) Street, purchased the property from Francis Digges in 1864. Formerly, in 1855, Daniel Brown had been listed as a laborer residing nearby at 83 Third Street.(11) The 1865 tax assessment record credits Daniel Brown with a two-story brick dwelling on Lot 106 (the Teresa Fenwick House), another at Dumbarton and Montgomery (now 28th) Streets on Lot 131, and a two-story frame dwelling on Lot 105 (his home and store at 54 Fayette Street). (12)

Daniel Brown died in 1865, a year after purchasing the house at 73 Third Street. His widow and three children, however, held the Teresa Fenwick property for almost a quarter of a century, while continuing to run the grocery business and reside at 54 Fayette Street until 1879 when they moved to 84 First (now 3400 N) Street. (13)
1889-1939

David Cotter, listed in city directories as a policeman and later as having a real estate business, bought the Third Street property from the Browns in 1889. While he resided at a number of different addresses in Georgetown, Cotter rented his dwelling at 3512 P Street throughout the years to a number of persons performing neighborhood services; these included laundresses, laborers, cooks, and drivers. When David died in 1921 his widow, Ella, inherited the property and continued to rent the house. From 1933 to 1936 the tenants operated a shoe repair business on the first floor of the building and lived upstairs.

1939-1951

Ella Cotter died in 1939, bequeathing the property to her tenant, Mary W. Calohan, thus terminating fifty years of Cotter ownership. Five years later the building was bought by Margaret Weller who was in the process of restoring other houses in this area.

1951-1969

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Alexander Parrott, the present owners and occupants, bought this early nineteenth-century house in 1951 and have meticulously preserved and enhanced its charm.
**Original and Subsequent Owners**

1823

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Owner</th>
<th>Date of Deed</th>
<th>Date Recorded</th>
<th>Liber W.B.</th>
<th>Folio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Threlkeld and wife</td>
<td>December 3, 1823</td>
<td>December 15, 1823</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Pickrell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Consideration** - $150

1825

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Owner</th>
<th>Date of Deed</th>
<th>Date Recorded</th>
<th>Liber W.B.</th>
<th>Folio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Pickrell and wife</td>
<td>December 6, 1825</td>
<td>December 8, 1825</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Waring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Consideration** - $200

1826

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Owner</th>
<th>Date of Deed</th>
<th>Date Recorded</th>
<th>Liber W.B.</th>
<th>Folio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henry Waring and wife, Milicent Joseph Brigden</td>
<td>September 1, 1826</td>
<td>December 16, 1826</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teresa Fenwick</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Consideration** - $1700 to Brigden and $1 to Waring
1839

Teresa Fenwick died in 1839.
Will July 23, 1839
Probated December 4, 1839
Will Book 5, page 154

Will directed the house on Third Street, and lots attached, then occupied by her should be sold by her executors to permit certain bequests.

1845

Edward James Plowden, Executor
under Will of Teresa Fenwick

Deed July 5, 1845
Recorded July 5, 1845
Liber W.B. 118, folio 41

Consideration - $1500

1864

Francis H. Digges and wife, Mary Jane
to
Daniel Brown

Deed October 4, 1864
Recorded October 14, 1864
Liber NCT 47, folio 436

Consideration - $2500

1865

Daniel Brown died intestate, leaving his property to his widow, Johanna, and three children - Annie D. Brown, Maggie C. Brown, Mary E. Brown.
1889

Johanna Brown, widow
Annie D. Brown
Maggie C. Brown
Mary E. Brown
heirs of Daniel Brown
to
David J. Cotter

Deed November 16, 1889
Recorded November 18, 1889
Liber 1430, folio 447

Consideration - $2100

1911

David J. Cotter and
wife, Ella F.
to
Harry A. Calohan

Deed June 28, 1911
Recorded June 29, 1911
Liber 3428, folio 382

Harry A. Calohan and
wife, Mary
to
David J. Cotter
Ella F. Cotter
joint tenants

Deed June 28, 1911
Recorded June 29, 1911
Liber 3428, folio 384

1921

David J. Cotter died July 17, 1921, leaving his wife, Ella F. Cotter, surviving tenant by entirety.
1939

Ella F. Cotter died in 1939 and by her Will devised Lot 106 in Square 1247 to tenant, Mary W. Calohan, survivor of her husband, Harry A. Calohan.

1943

Mary Calohan to Ellen E. LaMotte (aka Ellen Newbold LaMotte) Deed April 26, 1943 Recorded June 2, 1943 Liber 7861, folio 103

Ellen E. LaMotte to Margaret B. Weller Deed July 7, 1943 Recorded July 13, 1943 Liber 7874, folio 152

1951

Margaret B. Weller to Thomas Alexander Parrott and Barbara B., his wife tenants by the entirety Deed May 15, 1951 Recorded May 17, 1951 Liber 9472, folio 44
REFERENCES


   and


and


and

Will of Janet Brent. Charles County Wills, Will Book 15, page 527, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

2. Will of Colonel James Fenwick. Charles County Wills, Will Book 14, page 283, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.


8. Same reference as #6.

9. Same reference as #1.


11. Same reference as #5. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 2.


Dating from the eighteenth century, many members of the Fenwick family have resided in western Georgetown and been active in the life of its institutions. Sampler worked by Maria Fenwick at the Ladies Academy, George Town, in 1802 at age 9 (Georgetown Visitation Convent)
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural character: The Teresa Fenwick House is a fine example of a large scale Federal domestic structure of the second quarter of the nineteenth century. There have been many modifications of the interior and of the side and rear wall fenestration, but the front facade and the interior (through restoration) remain largely of nineteenth-century cast.

Condition of fabric: The house is in good to excellent condition on both the interior and the exterior. The interior was restored in the 1950's by a competent restoration architect.

Description of Exterior

Overall dimensions: The Fenwick House is a distinctive two and a half story brick rectangular block facing north on P Street between 35th and 36th Streets and along P Street approximately 165 feet from the centerline of 35th Street. The three bay front (north) elevation is approximately 22 feet and the depth of the house is approximately 32 feet.

Foundations: At the north elevation the rubble stone foundation is revealed approximately six inches while due to the slope of the land it is revealed approximately eight feet at the south elevation. The foundation wall has received an exterior coat of plaster on all elevations.
Wall construction: This brick bearing wall structure has Flemish bond for the north elevation while the other elevations are in common bond with bonding course every six courses.

Framing: Not visible.

Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: There is no front porch or stoop. At the rear an exterior metal stair and stoop to the first floor level is mid-twentieth century in date.

Chimneys: There are two three-flue brick chimneys approximately five feet by one foot eight inches at the west wall of the structure. They are surmounted by simple two course brick caps.

Openings:

Doorways and doors: The front entry has a mid-twentieth century six panel wood door, a sandstone sill, and a simple wood-trimmed masonry opening surmounted by an early nineteenth-century transom window. This transom has four leaded panes and is ornamented by an oval metal framework.

(See HABS DC-83, sheet 10--measured drawing.)

Windows and shutters: The north elevation windows have 6/6 light double-hung wood sash. Masonry openings have painted stone sills and sawn brick flat arched lintels. The two-panel wood fixed louvered shutters still maintain some original lintel hardware. The second floor western window may have an early nineteenth-century shutter stop.
The south elevation retains three pairs of two-panel wood shutters for the first floor and floor to ceiling 9/9 light double-hung wood sash. Windows which are probably original to the house are present in the following locations: the second floor hall east wall; the third floor back room south wall; the third floor front room north wall; the second floor back room south wall; and the second floor front room north wall eastern window.

Roof:

Shape, covering: The medium pitch gable roof is covered by standing-seam metal.

Cornice, eaves: The north elevation is capped by a simple three course brick corbelled cornice. Gutters and downspouts at both the north and south elevation are metal.

Cupolas, dormers, towers: The two front and one rear dormer have 6/6 light double-hung wood sash. The pedimental wood cornices have a broken horizontal band.

Description of Interior

Floor plans: The simple rectangular plan has an east side stair hall with the stairway at the south-east and a front and rear room on each floor.

The first floor has both front and rear parlors linked by an opening approximately six feet wide. Second and third floors have two bedrooms each with two second floor and one third floor bath.

The basement at present contains a front kitchen and laundry room and a rear dining room.
Stairways: The stair occupies the south half of the east entry and stair hall. The stair is of the simple half-turn-with-landing type. From the first floor the stair runs up from north to south twelve risers to the landing and then back six risers to the second floor. Continuing to the third floor, the stair rises north to south eight risers and then from the landing back eight more. The stair to the basement under the main stair originally was probably enclosed completely with a stud wall on the west where now there are balusters. The stair ascends twelve risers from north to south.

The simple rounded stair rail, square newel post and rectangular balusters appear to be original. The ends of the stringers have simple curved profile angle blocks which visually support each riser.

(See HABS DC-83, sheet 10--measured drawing.)

Flooring: The pine flooring on the first, second, and third stories appears to be twentieth-century.

Doorways and doors: Wood six-panel doors all appear to be twentieth-century types. Doorway frames are of simple wood section.

(See HABS DC-83, sheet 9--measured drawing.)

Decorative features and trim: The apparently original baseboard trim appears in several locations. A five inch baseboard with moulded cap appears in the second floor hall. A simpler four and a half inch baseboard without a cap piece but with a simple groove is used in the third floor bedrooms. There is no wainscot, chair rail, or cornice mould.

Notable hardware: There is a variety of twentieth-century hardware.

Lighting: There is a variety of mid-twentieth-century fixtures.
Heating: There are several distinctive second quarter nineteenth-century fireplaces as the chief decorative features of the interior. The two first floor fireplaces both have slate hearths and slate facing surrounds. Each is trimmed by a wood pilastered enframement supporting a mantel shelf and large mirror. A special feature of the mantel is an undermantel center block with an oval cut-out. The front room mantelpiece is the same in detail as that in the rear except that it is one inch wider.

(See HABS DC-83, sheet 9—measured drawing.)

Another fireplace of the second quarter of the nineteenth century appears in the rear room of the basement. It also has a slate facing and a slate hearth but is trimmed by an unusual "eared" enframement and detached mantel shelf. Above the fireplace between the top of the opening and the trim mould is a central geometric cut-out feature block.

(See HABS DC-83, sheet 8—measured drawing.)

Modern central heating has radiator units in each room.

Site

General setting and orientation: The structure faces on a residential street near Georgetown University and across the street from the Convent of the Visitation.

Enclosures: The rear yard is completely surrounded by a wooden fence. On the east at the south elevation there is an approximately seven foot retaining wall topped by an approximately five foot wooden fence.

Outbuildings: A modern two-story guest house and garage has been built at the northwest corner of the lot, and at the center of the south end of the lot there is a one story modern storage shed.
Walks: The house abuts a concrete walk approximately four feet from the north facade. In the rear yard a flagstone patio has been built to the south and west. In addition a brick circumferential walk recently has been built around the rear yard approximately twelve feet from the wood fences.

Landscaping: The rear yard has a lawn inside the brick walk and a series of shrubs and large and small trees between the walk and the fence.

At the front a large tree stands at the curb at about the middle of the elevation.

Prepared by: William P. Thompson
Architect
Historic American Buildings Survey
BROWN HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1404 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 55 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house is located on old Lot 99, Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 847 in Square 1247 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: 1791

Owner in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. William Earle Bradley

Occupyant in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. William Earle Bradley

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: This free-standing town house is one of the earliest in the west end of Georgetown. It has been carefully restored to maintain many of the original details while unobtrusively providing modern conveniences.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1791-1815

In 1791 John Threlkeld sold Lot 99 to his first cousin, Dr. William Brown, physician of physic, of Alexandria, Virginia. (1) Mary Brown Hopkins Threlkeld, the mother of John, and Reverend Richard Brown, the father of Dr. William Brown, were brother and sister.

The Browns of Virginia came of a distinguished Scottish family. Dr. William Brown was a grandson of Dr. Gustavus Brown, also a physician, who came to Maryland at age nineteen in 1708 as a ships surgeon and remained in the Colony to practice medicine and found one of Virginia's first families.

Dr. Gustavus Brown had thirteen children. His eldest son, the Reverend Richard Brown, was educated at the University of Edinburgh and ordained in the Church of England July 9, 1750 by the Lord Bishop of London. While in Scotland he married Helen Bailey, a Scottish lady, the first of his three wives. Their second son was Dr. William Brown.

Though born in Scotland while his father was a student there, Dr. William Brown's early education was at King and Queen parish, St. Mary's County, Maryland. His parents then sent him to Scotland where his grandfather owned lands. In 1770 he received his M.D. at the University of Edinburgh with the thesis "De Viribus Atmosphuriae." (2) Returning to Virginia he settled in Alexandria and married his cousin, Catherine Scott, whose father was the Reverend James Scott, an Episcopal Rector in Virginia. (3)
"In 1791 John Threlkeld sold Lot 99 to his first cousin, Dr. William Brown, physician of physic, of Alexandria, Virginia."

Portion of Threlkeld—Brown Deed of 16 May, 1791 (Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland)
Young Dr. Brown courted Catherine at Mount Vernon. She was related to Hannah Bushrod, wife of John Augustine Washington, a brother of George. George Washington's diary records that he returned to his Virginia estate to find Dr. Brown a visitor. After William and Catherine's marriage they rented George Washington's house in Alexandria, Virginia. Washington's cash accounts record an item of sixty pounds for a year's rent paid the general by the young doctor.

Dr. Brown was one of the gallant Virginians who supported Washington in the American Revolution. He served from September to December 1776 as surgeon to the Second Virginia Regiment under Colonel Woodford. Congress then appointed him on recommendation of Dr. Hugh Mercer to succeed Dr. Benjamin Rush as Surgeon-General to the Middle Department of the Army on May 13, 1777. On February 6, 1778 he became Physician and Director-General "...to superintend the practice of physick in the Army Hospitals...." (4)

During this time Dr. Brown wrote in Latin the first American pharmacopia, now a rare book. His work was based upon the Scottish pharmacopia and intended for use in the colonial army hospitals where drugs were scarce at the time.(5) In 1780 he resigned from the Army because of ill health induced by his military exposure.

Not entitled to the military bounty lands because he had not served the required period, the Virginian and his services were held in such esteem that the grant was given in a special resolution. His share amounted to seven thousand acres of land in the western country. (6)

After retiring from military service the Virginia doctor returned to Alexandria where he lived and practiced medicine. About 1791 Dr. Brown entered into a partnership with Dr. Gustavus B. Campbell "...for carrying on the practice of Physick and the business of selling drugs...." (7) In the spring and summer of the same
year he purchased the site in Georgetown from his cousin, John Threlkeld, and built Brown House. The Virginia physician evidently intended to reside, at least part time, in the Federal city to be, but there is no documentary evidence that he ever occupied his Georgetown house. The deed for Lot 99 was recorded in May 1791. In that same year the relatively young man wrote: "In the name of God, Amen. I, William Brown, physician...afflicted by a disorder of uncertain event...declare the above written in my own hand...to be my last Will."

Dr. Brown died in Alexandria on January 11, 1792. He was buried at "Preston," the estate of his kinsman, Charles Alexander, with this inscription on his tomb:

"In Memory of
WILLIAM BROWN M.D.
(Formerly Physician General
of the Hospitals of the United States)
who died on the 11th of Jan. 1792
in the 44th Year of his Age
this TABLET is inscribed
by
his affectionate & afflicted widow.

His zeal and fidelity as a patriot,
his patience, diligence & skill as a physician,
his benevolence, courtesy & integrity as a Man
Secured him
the applause of his Country,
honor & emoluments of his Profession,
the respect of the wealthy
and
the veneration of the poor.
LET
the grateful witness of his virtues in domestic Life
Add
that as a Husband, Father & Master
he was tender, instructive & humane,
that he lived without guile
and died without reproach!"
"In the name of God, Amen. I William Brown of the Town of Alexandria in Virginia physician being of sound judgment and understanding as in my ordinary state of health, but afflicted with a disorder of uncertain event do for the more satisfactory disposition of my worldly affairs make...." Will of Dr. William Brown (Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia)

"...also to my son Gustavus my house and Lott in Threlkeld’s addition to Georgetown with all the appurtenances...." Will of Dr. William Brown (Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia)
About 1916 when the Pennsylvania Railroad desired the site to accommodate increasing traffic and Dr. Brown's grave was relocated at Pohick Church cemetery in Virginia, it was recorded that Dr. Brown's skeleton remained in perfect condition. He had been interred in his Continental uniform, the buff and the blue, the buttons still shining, his white kid gloves (though brown with time) on his hands, a ribbon decoration on his breast, with his sword by his side. (8)

Gustavus, the youngest son, was bequeathed the quarter in Fairfax County and "...also to my son Gustavus my house and Lott in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown with all the appurtenances...." (9)

Catherine Brown, although quite young when her husband died, never remarried and eventually went to live in Fairfax County, presumably on the quarter near Ravensworth where she died in 1813. The tax records for Georgetown show that Catherine Brown paid the taxes for the house on Fayette Street in 1808 although her son, Gustavus Alexander Brown, was the legal owner. (10)

Who occupied Brown House during the twenty-three years between 1792 and 1815 is still an historical mystery. Since housing was in great demand while the Federal city was being constructed, it seems not unreasonable to believe the house was a rented property.

1815-1819

Gustavus Alexander Brown of Alexandria, Virginia, sold the house in 1815 to his second cousin's husband, Dr. William Grayson, Jr., of Georgetown, who had married Mary, eldest daughter of John Threlkeld. Presumably they occupied the house until their estate was completed. In 1816 Dr. Grayson sold Lot 99 "...on which is erected a two-story brick house with attic..." and Lot 100 as well to John W. Bronaugh, formerly a Virginia planter.
In February of 1810 Bronaugh had advertised in the Alexandria Gazette "Mount Air," his seven-hundred-acre plantation located nine miles south of Alexandria on the Post Road, and his three-hundred-acre island in the "Potomack" twenty miles above Georgetown.(11) John Bronaugh also purchased Lots 101, 102, 103 and 110 from John Threlkeld, thus acquiring one half of the present Square 1247. Heavily in debt to many in Georgetown, Bronaugh sold Brown House in 1819 at public auction to Joseph Jackson, a Georgetown grocer living on Bridge Street (now M Street). (12)

1819-1854

Ownership of the property passed from Joseph Jackson, after his death in 1831, to his widow Rebecca "...with an uncontrolled power of disposing same...." Twenty years later William O'Brien, owner of a shoe store at 159 Bridge Street (now M Street), purchased the house from Rebecca Jackson.(13) Research has not revealed what use O'Brien made of 55 Fayette Street, for he never resided at this address.

1854-1881

In 1854 Mary Bibb purchased Brown House. Mary Bibb was the former Mrs. Dyer who married Judge George Motier Bibb in Washington, D.C. in 1832. George Bibb came from Kentucky, where he had spent thirteen years as Chief Justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, to serve nine years in the U.S. Senate. In 1844 he was Secretary of the Treasury under President Tyler. After his service in the Federal government George Bibb remained in the Capital to practice law. Judge Bibb was known as a fine scholar and a mathematician. He was a personage of many accomplishments both in his career and in his interests. He enjoyed gardening and developed a variety of lettuce, now popularly known as "Bibb lettuce." (14)
George and Mary Bibb had five children; George Bibb had twelve children by his first marriage. (15) If the whole family had lived in Brown House, it would have been full indeed! Perhaps the Bibb family also occupied the house they owned just to the north of Brown House at 59 Fayette Street (now 1408 35th Street).

After Judge Bibb's death in 1859 his wife, Mary, and the family continued to live at 55 Fayette Street until the Civil War. The next occupants were the Joseph Bartons who rented the house until 1868. (16) Mr. Barton was an official with the Treasury Department; it was reported that the marriage of "his beautiful and talented daughter" to the son of Baron de Bodisco was one of the social events of the year 1865, "attended by Cabinet officers and foreign diplomats." (17)

William T. Herron, a contractor who had built and lived in the mansion on the corner one block north at Third (now P Street) and Fayette (now 35th Street), moved into Brown House with his family in 1869. (18) However, he did not remain long, for the next year he was living on "2nd near Frederick." In 1871, still living on Second (now 0 Street), he opened a wholesale and retail grocery business on the southeast corner of High (now Wisconsin Avenue) and Bridge (now M Street) as a successor to William H. Tenney. (19)

When Mary Bibb died in 1875 Brown House passed to her son, George Laurence Alexander Dyer. He held the property for six years and in 1881 sold it to Rebecca Martin, a clerk in the Treasury Department.

1881-1940

Rebecca Martin died in 1885. Her Will devised the property to her parents, James and Jane Martin, for the duration of their lives, and thereafter to her sisters, Lavinnia Patterson, wife of John T. Patterson, and Sarah E. Reynolds, wife of Dr. Walter Reynolds. James and Jane Martin lived at 1404 35th Street for fourteen years, from 1882 until 1896. James Martin was a
shoemaker with a shop at various addresses on Bridge Street (now M Street) from 1876 until 1886. (20) Occupancy of Brown House between 1897 and 1917 has not been determined. However, Lavinnia Patterson, widow, is listed in the Washington City Directory as residing at 1404 35th Street from 1917 to 1940, the year she died. (21)

1941-1951

In 1941 Susan Jay (Mrs. Peter Jay) purchased Brown House as an investment. Mrs. Margaret Weller was commissioned by Mrs. Jay to restore the house during the summer of 1941. Mrs. Weller stated that at the time of the Jay purchase the house had neither plumbing nor heating other than the five wood-burning fireplaces. She further added that the present architectural details were those she found in 1941. At the time of Mrs. Weller's initial inspection two very aged ladies occupied the house, keeping warm by the open fire on the first floor (now the dining room).

The Jay restoration consisted of installing bathrooms at the ends of the third and fourth floor hallways and installing a coat closet and powder room at the end of the second floor hall in the rear by raising the brick walls above what had been the "out-house" at the first floor back, still in use in 1941! (22) During World War II Mrs. Jay's daughter (now Mrs. Joseph Alsop) lived in the house for about two years. Then it was rented to a series of tenants until 1951 when it was sold. (23)

1951-1969

At that time Mr. and Mrs. Graham Parsons bought the house and held it for four and a half years. In 1956 they sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Armand Harkless. Neither the Parsons nor the Harklesses lived in the house. Three years later, in 1959, the Harklesses deeded the property to Mrs. Harkless's daughter, Marie E. Mongan, who sold it a few months later to Mr. and Mrs. William Earle Bradley. Careful maintenance in harmony with the eighteenth-century original has been undertaken by the present owners to preserve this early structure.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1791
John Threlkeld to William Brown
Deed May 16, 1791
Recorded May 16, 1791
Montgomery County, Md.
Liber D-4, folio 598

1792
William Brown dies January 11, 1792.
Will and Codicil November 24, 1791
Probated July 19, 1792
Arlington County Records 1786-1800, Wills (Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia)

1815
Gustavus A. Brown to William Grayson
Deed October 30, 1815
Recorded December 28, 1815
Liber AK-35, folio 420
"Conveys a certain 2-story brick house and lot known as No. 99 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown...."
1816

William Grayson

to

John W. Bronaugh

Deed September 18, 1815
Recorded October 18, 1816
Liber AM-37, folio 19

1819

John W. Bronaugh

to

Thomas G. Muncure

Deed in Trust January 23, 1819
Recorded June 11, 1819
Liber AV-46, folio 58

Robert Kerby & William Clagett vs. John Bronaugh
James Melvin vs. John Bronaugh
Charles B. Robertson & Joseph Jackson vs. John Bronaugh
Leonard M. Deakins & Thomas Cramplin vs. John Bronaugh

"...to secure payment of all fees and costs due by defendant within 30 days, and if not then paid the property conveyed in trust which is to be the house and lot of defendant on Fayette Street in Georgetown, to be then sold after a week's notice by advertisement in the Messenger to the highest bidder for cash and the money to be applied as aforesaid, expenses of sale and reasonable commission to trustee to be first deducted from purchase money and the balance after paying as above to be paid to said Bronaugh."

Thomas G. Muncure, Trustee

to

Joseph Jackson

Deed June 14, 1819
Recorded July 3, 1819
Liber AV-46, folio 171
1831

Joseph Jackson dies, devises to wife Rachael all real and personal property, with an uncontrolled power of disposing of same.

Will September 22, 1826
Probated May 30, 1831
Will Book 4, page 86
Administration 8592

1851

Rachael Jackson to William O'Brien

Deed June 26, 1851
Recorded July 2, 1851
Liber JAS 26, folio 30

1853

William O'Brien to Richard P. Jackson

Trust April 7, 1853
Recorded April 15, 1853
Liber JAS 53, folio 498

Secures Thomas J. Magruder $1695.80, power to sell or default in payment.

1854

Richard P. Jackson, 1st party

Deed in Trust June 27, 1854
Recorded December 21, 1875
Liber 809, folio 7

William O'Brien et ux

Mary, 2nd party

Mary R. Bibb (wife of George M.), 3rd party
to

Lewis Carberry, 4th party
Recites that party of first part has sold property (agreeably to directions in deed of April 7, 1853) to party of third part in trust for the sole and separate use of said party of the third part and to permit her to occupy and enjoy the same and receive the rents and profits thereof free from the control or intermeddling of her present or any future husband and without being liable for his debts or engagements.

1875

Mary R. Bibb dies, devises property to her son, George Laurence Alexander Dyer, for and during his natural life and then to George Alphonsus Dyer, his present child, and any other children born to him.

1881

Richard P. Jackson, Trustee, 1st party
George A. Dyer, 2nd party
to Rebecca A. Martin, 3rd party

Recites that by Decree in Equity of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia #7679 (passed September 15, 1881) in which George A. Dyer was plaintiff and Shoemaker et al defendants—Richard P. Jackson was appointed trustee in place of Lewis Carberry, deceased—premises sold to part of third part.
1885

Rebecca A. Martin dies February 21, 1885.
Will September 30, 1884
Probated May 22, 1885
Will Book 22, page 195
Administration 1975

Devises property to her mother and father (James and Jane E. Martin) during their natural lives and upon death of both to her sisters, Lavinnia Patterson and Sarah E. Reynolds.

1941

Frank M. Young and wife, Ruth E.
James E. Young, unmarried
(devises under Will of Lavinnia Patterson)
Mary Elizabeth Reynolds
Elsie V. Reynolds
Walter Martin Reynolds & wife, Lillian
Lelia R. Metzger (formerly Lelia Rebecca Reynolds)
(sold heirs at law of Sarah E. Reynolds)
to Susan Jay

Deed May 21, 1941
Recorded June 9, 1941
Liber 7625, folio 185

1951

Susan Jay to James Graham Parsons and wife, Margaret J., tenants by the entirety

Deed May 7, 1951
Recorded June 21, 1951
Liber 9496, folio 56
1956
James Graham Parsons and wife, Margaret J. to Armand W. Harkless and wife, Lucille E., tenants by the entirety
Deed January 31, 1956 Recorded February 29, 1956 Liber 10611, folio 449

1957
Armand W. Harkless and wife, Lucille to Louise M. Redmond
Deed November 5, 1957 Recorded November 13, 1957 Liber 10952, folio 293
Louise M. Redmond to Lucille Harkless
Deed November 5, 1957 Recorded November 13, 1957 Liber 10952, folio 295

1959
Lucille Harkless and husband, Armand W. to Marie E. Mongan
Deed March 16, 1959 Recorded April 3, 1959 Liber 11215, folio 579
Marie E. Mongan and Wilbur Mongan, her husband to William Earle Bradley and Virginia Meyer Bradley, his wife
Deed August 10, 1959 Recorded August 26, 1959 Liber 11297, folio 89
References

1. Land Title Records. Montgomery County, Rockville, Maryland, Liber D-4, folio 598.


8. Same reference as #5.
   and

9. Same reference as #7.


13. Same reference as #12. 1853, p. 76.


17. Georgetown, D.C., Clippings from newspapers and magazines. Compiled by Washingtoniana Division, Public Library, Washington, D.C., 1936 to present. 5 volumes.

18. Same reference as #12. 1867, p. 313; 1868, p. 108; 1869, p. 82.


22. Conversations with Mrs. Margaret Weller, 4000 Cathedral Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

23. Conversations with Mrs. Peter Jay, 1611 29th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: A late eighteenth-century house retaining many original details despite modernizations by successive owners. The unusually high basement and the proximity to the street give the house a towering effect.

Condition of fabric: Both exterior and interior are in very good condition and are well-maintained. Mid-twentieth century kitchen and bathrooms have been unobtrusively integrated into the existing structure.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 20 by 30 feet. Three bays across 35th Street facade. Two stories high with unusually high basement and large finished attic story. Small rectangular two-story addition on rear.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Brick with later stucco covering.

Chimneys: Two on south side; no exterior projections.
Openings:

Doorways and doors: Main entry door in north bay of east front is six panelled with four-light transom, panelled reveals, smooth pilasters each side, and large entablature. Service door to basement kitchen is at east end of south wall (possibly beneath main entry originally?) One further door in small rear addition from terrace to basement dining room.

Windows and shutters: With the exception of wood casement windows in attic, windows are generally double-hung wood sash. The basement has 6 over 6 sash as do the first and second floors. The attic has two single-leaf casement windows on the south side and double-hung wood 6 over 6 sash in east and west dormers. Most windows have louvered shutters although only one original wrought-iron hold-back remains; others are cast iron.

Porches: Twelve granite steps curve up to a 6'-0" by 6'-0" landing at front door, supported by two square columns of the same material. The handrail is of wrought iron in a simple ornamental design. This entire construction appears to be of slightly later date than the original house.

Roof:

Shape, covering: Gable with ridge running north-south; standing-seam metal cover.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Simple box cornice with ogee and bed-mould returned on itself; hanging metal gutter.

Dormers: Wood, metal roof.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plans: First floor has side hall on north, double parlor on south; stair is in rear (west) of hall separated from entry area by an archway; powder room in modern addition at rear of hall. Second floor has two bedrooms on south side, bath at east end of hall, stair at west end. Attic has two bedrooms on south side, bath at east end of hall, stair at west end. Basement has kitchen at southeast corner, dining room at southwest, storage room-laundry at northeast corner, and stairs at northwest corner. Door to rear terrace behind stairs in modern addition at rear. There is no partition between stair hall and dining room.

Stairways: All runs are closed-string construction with painted square wood balusters and stained moulded wood rail. The general character is simple and direct; much appears to be original.

Flooring: Wide random-width pine flooring throughout, except basement, where kitchen has resilient floor covering and dining room has carpet.

Wall and ceiling finish: Painted smooth plaster, with some wallpaper in bedrooms and dining room.

Doorways and doors: A variety of late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century paneled wood doors exist, the earliest being on the second floor, where the trim is also of an early date. Doors and trim on the first floor are slightly later in design and are probably replacements. The attic doors are of batten construction and for the most part are mid-twentieth century additions.

Decorative features and trim: Door and window trim as noted above. Door and window trim on the second floor shows marked relationship to stair mouldings. Moulded wood cornice in the living room is Georgian in style and is probably a twentieth-century addition, as are the the archway in the hall and the built-in book cases in the living room.
Hardware: A variety of iron and brass rimlocks and mortise locks are present, but none is outstanding.

Lighting: All twentieth-century electric fixtures.

Heating: Twentieth-century boiler in screened area off kitchen, and fireplaces.

Site

General setting and orientation: East front of house faces 35th Street and is set back only slightly from the public sidewalk. The neighborhood is well-maintained and in character with the house.

Enclosures: Across the front of the property is an ornamental fence of both wrought iron and cast iron. The rear yard is enclosed by a wood fence.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick.

Landscaping: Simple foundation planting in front; rear yard brick paved.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
October 30, 1968
CARROLL DALY HOUSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address in 1969:</th>
<th>1306 36th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 36th Street was Lingan Street,)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>The house is located on part of old Lot 93, Square 56 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 815, Square 1226 in the City of Washington.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of erection:</td>
<td>Between 1883-1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner in 1969:</td>
<td>Mrs. Sylvia P. Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupant in 1969:</td>
<td>Mrs. Sylvia P. Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use in 1969:</td>
<td>Private residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance:</td>
<td>Although the interior of this dwelling has been greatly altered to suit the tastes and meet the needs of twentieth-century occupants, the exterior with its elaborate brickwork, characteristic of the late nineteenth century, has been maintained. The original builder, a contractor, possibly used his own home as a showcase for his talents.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1824-1830

John Threlkeld, who owned considerable property in Georgetown, was feeling the impact of the economic decline which affected many large landholders in the 1820's. In 1824 Threlkeld placed a trust with John Baker on some of his property, including Lot 93 (present Lot 815). Baker was a tanner who in 1830 lived on Warren Street (now 37th). (1) Four years later he was established on the east side of Lingan Street (now 36th). (2)

1830-1879

In 1828 Lot 93, among other lots of Threlkeld's, was forfeited to meet Threlkeld's indebtedness. Two years later, in 1830, Lot 93 was bought from John Baker by two brothers, Dennis and Patrick O'Donnoghue, for $300. For the next 58 years it remained in one branch or another of the large and interesting O'Donnoghue family.

In 1830 Patrick and Dennis were "tallow chandlers" at Second (now 0) Street near Warren (now 37th) Street. (3) Together and separately they gradually bought a substantial amount of property in Georgetown, including Lot 93 on Lingan, Lot 83 adjoining on the corner of Lingan and First (N), and Lot 84 adjoining on the west, fronting on N Street. Their soap factory was on Lot 83, adjacent to present 1306 36th Street. (4)
By 1847 Dennis had died without leaving a Will. His widow, Sarah, and four minor children (Peter, Mary, Patrick, and Dennis) inherited the property. Sarah was entitled during her lifetime to one-third of the estate, which consisted of half of the joint holdings of her late husband and his brother, Patrick. The four children each inherited one-fourth of the remaining two-thirds of their father's share of the property.

Gradually, as the children grew up, they sold their portion of the property to their uncle, Patrick, although Dennis' son, Patrick, exchanged his interest for some property his uncle owned at Bridge (now M) Street and Green (now 29th) Street. In 1866 Sarah, who later married Laurence Leavy and had been widowed again, sold to her brother-in-law, Patrick, for $1300 her dower rights to Lots 93, 83, and 84 on Lingan and First Streets as well as three other lots in Georgetown.

The O'Donnoghue clan occupied homes and ran businesses in much of the nearby area. Clusters of property belonging to the O'Donnoghues are found from Third (now P) Street and Lingan (now 36th) to the shores of the Potomac. Some of the property held by the O'Donnoghues extended to Beall's Addition and Holmead's Addition, both east of present Wisconsin Avenue.

The economic rise of the O'Donnoghue family is one more example of immigrants who settled in Georgetown and by their own efforts rose from simple beginnings to become prosperous citizens and substantial landholders.

In fact, the O'Donnoghues expanded their business beyond Georgetown. In 1843 Dennis and Patrick also owned a "Soap and Candle Manufactory" on the north side of G Street between 4th and 5th Streets. Various members of the O'Donnoghue family worked in the factory until 1862. Some of them lived in the same building in which the factory was housed.
Timothy O'Donnoghue, another member of the family, was in the soap and candle manufacturing business also. In 1853 Timothy's factory was on the south side of First Street and in 1858 it was listed as "Timothy O'Donnoghue & Son (James) soap and candle manufacturers" at the corner of First and Lingan Streets. (8) John, another O'Donnoghue, was listed as a soap chandler at 105 Second (now 0) Street in 1855. (9)

It is interesting to note that the O'Donnoghues generally employed their relatives, a common practice among families who emigrated to Georgetown in the early and middle nineteenth century.

After the Civil War, some of the O'Donnoghues moved on to white collar employment as teachers, while others earned a living as millers, grocers, or butchers. (10) A few continued to work as laborers, tinniers, etc. (11)

1879-1888

In June 1879 Patrick O'Donnoghue, brother of Dennis, deceased, sold the southern part of Lot 93, 30 feet fronting on Lingan Street by 120 feet deep (which is the present Lot 815) for $450 to Charles McCarthy, a shoemaker at 128 Second Street.

Patrick had been having financial difficulties and apparently the sale to McCarthy was an effort to realize a profit on some of his property while staving off possible seizure of his property by a U.S. Marshal. Or it is possible that McCarthy, a neighbor, was obliging Patrick by making a "straw" purchase that would then revert to O'Donnoghue.

In any event, the ruse was unsuccessful, for the following year a part of his property, both the site of his former soap factory and the southern half of Lot 93 (present Lot 815), earlier "purchased" by McCarthy, were sold by a U.S. Marshal to Jane E. Brooke for $360. She at once conveyed the lots back to Patrick O'Donnoghue.
Patrick then became involved in lengthy litigation in an effort to hold on to the property; but, in 1883 a court order forced him to sell the south half of Lot 93 (the present Lot 815). It was purchased by Carroll Daly (later spelled "Daly") for $27.50 per front foot, a total of $9825. However it was not until five years later, in 1888, that the final deed was conveyed to Daly.

1888-1929

During the year 1888 Carroll Daly, a contractor, was living at 3610 O Street. He and his wife, Margaret, had three sons, one of whom, Daniel, is recorded as living with them. John, another son, lived across the street at 3609 O Street. Both John and Daniel were laborers at that time. (12)

In 1879 the tax records show no indication of a structure on Lot 93 where 1306 36th Street now is located. (13) On the Hopkins map of 1887 there is a brick house and frame stable, with the same dimensions as the present structures on the site. (14) It is probable that Carroll Daly, a contractor whose sons were skilled in construction work, built the present structure on the land he had bought in 1883. He and his family moved into 1306 36th Street and lived there for many years.

There is no record in 1888 of where William, the third son, lived, although ten years later William is listed as a clerk living at 1306 36th Street. (15) William lived in the house with his parents, while his brother John is listed as living at 3610 O Street, although the word "stable" at his parents' address also appears beside his name. At the time John and his brother Daniel were firemen. (16)

By the turn of the century Carroll Daly had become a "driver." He lived in the house with his wife until his death in February 1904. (17) At the time of his death he owned, besides the house he was living in, a brick house on the southwest corner of 36th and O Streets.
Carroll died in 1904 without leaving a Will. He was survived by his wife, 70 years old, and his three sons. The real estate descended to the children. The two homes were occupied by the widow and two of the sons, John and William, who also rented out rooms in their homes. Daniel, the third son, received no income from the rentals, so brought court action against his mother and two brothers. Since the two houses were not adjoining, and therefore could not be partitioned, Daniel requested that the real estate be sold and the funds be divided among the four Dalys. (18)

In 1904 the court ordered sale of the property. Daniel Daly bought the south 30 feet of Lot 93, 1306 36th Street, for $3100 and "assigned" it to his wife, Margaret.

Daniel Daly and his family later moved into the house. (19) In 1921, Margaret died, leaving no Will. She was survived by her husband, Daniel, and four children, all heirs-at-law. Daniel continued to live at 1306 36th Street until 1926 when he and two of his sons moved to 2011 Park Road, N.W. and rented the 36th Street house. (20)

1929-1969

In 1929 Daly and his children sold the house to Charles D. Wise, an iron worker who later became a bricklayer. (21) Wise and his wife occupied the house. After her death Wise sold the house.

In 1941 it was purchased by Jean L. Rehbock, Director of Berlitz Schools of Languages, and was occupied by him and Hazel, his wife. (22) The Rehbocks remodeled the house extensively during their tenancy.

Six and a half years later they sold it to Robert P. Williams, Jr. and his wife, Sylvia Williams. Mr. Williams, who was with the Rheems Manufacturing Co., died in 1958, leaving the house to his wife, who presently occupies it.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1824

John Threlkeld to John Baker
Deed in Trust December 17, 1824
Recorded June 13, 1825
Liber W.B. 14, folio 30
Lot 93 and other property

1828

Tench Ringgold to Clement Smith
U.S. Marshal
Deed December 4, 1828
Recorded December 4, 1828
Liber W.B. 20, folio 644
Lot 93, among other property of John Threlkeld's, was seized and sold by a Marshall of the Court on the basis of a "writ of fieri facias" (a writ of execution commanding the sheriff to levy and make the amount of a judgement from the goods and chattels of the judgement debtor). Property was bought by Clement Cox as agent for Clement Smith.
1830

John Baker to Dennis O'Donnoghue
Patrick O'Donnoghue tenants in common

Lot 93 was sold for $300 under Trust from John
Threlkeld dated December 17, 1824. "John
Threlkeld and Edward Davis assent to sale."
This sale "...extinguishes above sale of
December 4, 1828."

Between 1830 and 1847

Dennis O'Donnoghue died intestate. He
was survived by his widow, Sarah (later the
wife of Lawrence Leavy), and four children:

Peter - age 13
Mary - age 9 (later married to Francis Harper)
Patrick - age 7
Dennis - age 4
The widow and children were heirs-at-law.

1852

Peter O'Donnoghue, Jr. and wife, Rebecca C.F. to Patrick O'Donnoghue

Peter, son of deceased Dennis, sold all of his interest (one-fourth of one-half of the property) to his uncle.
1856

Francis Harper and wife, Mary (formerly Mary O'Donnoghue, daughter of Dennis) to Patrick O'Donnoghue

The Harpers sold their interest in the property left by Dennis, which is one-fourth of two-thirds of one-half of the property which Dennis (father) and Patrick (uncle) owned. Since the mother was still living, she was entitled to one-third of her late husband's estate during her lifetime. This deed, therefore, sells any residuary rights that would descend to the daughter, Mary, on her mother's death.

1862

Dennis O'Donnoghue and wife, Genevieve to Patrick O'Donnoghue

Dennis (son of Dennis, deceased) sold all his interest (which was one-fourth of one-half) of the property owned by his father and uncle. He included all reversionary right in the widow's dower (which would have descended to him on his mother's death).
1866

Patrick O’Donoghue (brother of Dennis, deceased) and wife, Ann E.
to
Patrick O’Donoghue (son of Dennis, deceased)

Patrick and Ann gave to their nephew, Patrick, parts of Lots 183 and 185 in Beall's Addition to Georgetown (at corner of Bridge [M] St. and Green [29th] St.,) in exchange for which Patrick, son of Dennis, deceased, gave his uncle and aunt all of his interest (which was one-fourth of one-half) of the property he had inherited from his father (Lots 83, 84, and 93 in Threlkeld's Addition) including the rights to the property that would descend to him after his mother's death.

Sarah Leavy (widow of Lawrence Leavy and before that widow of Dennis O’Donoghue) to
Patrick O’Donoghue (brother of Dennis, deceased)

Sarah sold all dower right to several pieces of property, one of which was Lot 93, by conveying all dower right in same.
1879

Patrick O'Donnoghue to Charles McCarthy

Deed June 6, 1879
Recorded June 10, 1879
Liber 911, folio 484

Patrick sold part of Lot 93, the south thirty feet on Lingan (36th) St. by one hundred twenty feet deep (present Lot 815) for $450.

1880

Frederick Douglass (U.S. Marshall, D.C.) to Jane E. Brooke

Deed August 24, 1880
Recorded December 22, 1880
Liber 956, folio 377

All title and interest of O'Donnoghue in Lot 85 and the south half of Lot 93 (present Lot 815) in Square 56, Threlkeld's Addition, was seized under "fieri facias" writ. Ordered by Supreme Court of D.C. (Equity Cause 7178, July 30, 1880), the lots were sold by the U.S. Marshall to Jane E. Brooke for $360. She conveyed the deed to O'Donnoghue.

Jane E. Brooke to Patrick O'Donnoghue

Deed December 18, 1880
Recorded December 22, 1880
Liber 956, folio 380

Lots 83, 84, and the south half of Lot 93 in Threlkeld's Addition "...being the same conveyed to the first party by two deeds from the U.S. Marshall on July 6 and August 24, 1880."
1883

William Lord            March 21, 1883
W.W. Kirby               Equity Cause 8429,
vs.                      Docket 22
Patrick O'Donnoghue      Supreme Court of D.C.
et al

There was a law suit involving several pieces of property, including the south half of Lot 93 (present Lot 815). Part of the court decision in the lengthy equity case was an order to sell the south half of Lot 93 to Carroll Daily for $27.50 per front foot—a total of $825.

1888

L. Cabell Williamson, Tr.    Deed February 4, 1888
                           Recorded February 11, 1888
                           Liber 1296, folio 497
          to
Carroll Daily (later "Daly")

Sale of property including south half of Lot 93, order by court decree in Equity Cause 8429, Docket 22.

1904

Daniel Daly (son of Carroll, deceased)            June 28, 1904
and wife, Margaret
vs.
1. Margaret Daly, widow
2. John Daly
3. Josephine, wife of John
4. William Daly

Supreme Court of D.C.
5. Jesse H. Wilson, Tr. | Liber 2659, folio 387
6. Levin S. Frey, Tr. | folio 387
7. Edgar P. Berry, Treas., Citizens Equitable Bldg.
   Assn. of Georgetown
8. Joseph H. Bradley, Tr. | Liber 2746,
9. Charles F. Wilson, Tr. | folio 150

Carroll Daly died February 20, 1901 without leaving a Will. Survivors were his wife, 70 years old, and three children: Daniel, John and William. The real estate descended to the children. Real estate consisted of south part of Lot 93 (now Lot 815) and part of Lot 90 in same Square, at the southwest corner of 36th and O Streets. Real estate was "improved" by two brick dwellings, occupied by Margaret, widow, and John and William, sons, who were collecting rent from some of it, of which Daniel had received none. Since the real estate did not lend itself to partition, request was made to sell real estate and divide funds among interested parties and that a receiver be appointed to manage the estate.

The court decreed that the sale be made. Trustees were Michael Colbert and Hugh Taggart. Daniel Daly bought the south 30 feet of Lot 93 for $3100. The two trustees were also paid off.

Michael J. Colbert, Tr.  | Deed November 18, 1904
Hugh T. Taggart, Tr.  | Recorded November 22, 1904
Daniel Daly           | Liber 2889, folio 61
                      | to
Margaret Daly

Daniel Daly bought present Lot 815 and "assigned" it to his wife, Margaret.
1921
Margaret Daly died August 9, 1921, leaving no Will. Survivors, all heirs-at-law, were husband, Daniel, and children:
   Carroll A. Daly
   Raymond A. Donohue
   Helen M. Glock
   Mary M. Donohue

1929
Daniel Daly, widowed
Carroll A. Daly, unmarried
Raymond A. Donohue, unmarried
Helen M. Glock
Mary M. Donohue
to
Charles David Wise
   and wife, Susie S.,
tenants by entirety

1941
Charles D. Wise,
   surviving tenant
to
Jean L. Rehbock

1948
Jean L. Rehbock and wife
   to
Robert P. Williams Jr.
   and wife

174
1958


Will October 5, 1954
Probated March 7, 1958
Will Book 505, page 593

References


2. Same reference as #1. 1834 (Georgetown Section), p. 3.

3. Same reference as #1. 1830, p. 11.


5. Guardian Docket No. 2, folios 730, 750, 751, 752, 753, Administration #3, folio 768, Register of Wills, Washington, D.C.

6. Same reference as #4, Roll 12 (1865-70); Roll 13 (1871); Roll 15 (1874); Roll 16 (1875); Roll 18 (1876); Roll 26 (1879).
7. Same reference as #1. 1858, p. 233; 1860, p. 120; 1862, p. 138.

8. Same reference as #1. 1853, p. 76; 1858, p. 233.

9. Same reference as #1. 1855, p. 8.

10. Same reference as #1. 1866, p. 419.

11. Same reference as #1. 1872, p. 519; 1879, p. 586.


15. Same reference as #1. 1898, p. 347.

16. Same reference as #15.

17. Same reference as #1. 1904, p. 354.

18. Equity Cause 25490, Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, June, 1904.


21. Same reference as #1. 1941, p. 1546.

22. Same reference as #1. 1942, p. 1342.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: One of several late nineteenth-century houses on the street, this building demonstrates the fondness for decorative brickwork typical of the period. Though not identical, it shows a marked similarity to the buildings on both sides of it.

Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 30'-0" with a 12'-0" by 16'-0" ell at rear. Two stories high. Three bays wide across the 36th Street facade.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Pressed brick facade, common brick side walls; painted.

Chimneys: Two on south side.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: The original front door and stoop have been replaced, but see 1304 36th Street for the design of the cast iron stoop and railing. There is an arched moulded brick lintel above the door opening.
Windows and shutters: Windows in general have two over two double hung wood sash. There is a small wood segment with machine carving in the space between the flat window head and the shaped brick arch. The shutters are louvered wood. Several metal casement windows have been introduced fairly recently into the side and rear walls.

Porches: Brick stoop at front door, but see 1304 36th Street for probable appearance of the original cast iron stoop and rail.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Flat, pitched toward rear (west). Metal covering.

Framing: Wood (assumed).

Cornice: Shaped and corbelled brick machicolations.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The interior of this house has been greatly remodeled in the past twenty-five years, leaving practically no trace of the original disposition of the rooms. At present the first floor has a living room across the east end, a dining room behind that, leading into a kitchen at the rear. The kitchen was originally in a wood lean-to at the rear, the roof line of which may be seen in the party wall to the north. The second floor has a bedroom across the east end, a small room and bath along the south side, and a bedroom across the rear. The basement is one large space, undivided except by several small closets.
Stairways: Ascending from west to east along the north wall of the dining room is a modern closed-string stair with Victorian newels, balusters, and rails. Visible framing in the basement and a skylight on the second floor indicate that the probable location of the original stair was in the center of the south side.

Flooring: Modern oak strip flooring.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted; some walls papered.

Doors and doorways: A variety of late Victorian four panel doors are combined with mid-twentieth century batten doors and flush doors.

Decorative features and trim: No trace of the original mantel exists, and all the rooms have been re-trimmed with twentieth century stock mouldings. There are wainscots with panels of applied mouldings throughout the first floor and stairwell.

Hardware: No notable hardware.

Lighting: No notable fixtures.

Heating: Radiators throughout.

Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the west side of 36th Street, this is one of an irregular row of similar houses facing the Holy Trinity Church and School complex.
Enclosures: Wrought-iron carriage gates across drive. Believed to have come from Georgetown Medical School. Wood plank fences at sides of rear yard.

Outbuildings: One-story garage across west end of lot, upper floor removed about 1940.

Walks: Brick, concrete, and flagstone.

Landscaping: Semi-formal residential planting in the rear yard; large statue in pool originally from a fountain group at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans. There is no front yard.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 5, 1969
WILLIAM MANKINS HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1411 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. (Formerly this address was 64 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of old Lot 95, Square 76, in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 852, Square 1246 in Washington, D. C.

Date of Erection: Between 1834-1843, with later addition.

Owner in 1969: Anne Heard Flythe

Occupant in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. William Perry Flythe

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: A much remodeled nineteenth-century house, this was the home of both a noted worker for women's rights and a well-known newspaper columnist. The lowering of 35th Street in the late nineteenth century accounts for the reorientation of the floor plan, a problem encountered in many of the older houses within this particular area. This early simple frame house has been stuccoed, unifying the facade and giving it a more imposing aspect.
1824-1843

Lot 95 (the northern portion of which is now 1411 35th Street) was part of the large parcel of land which John Threlkeld conveyed in trust to John Baker in December of 1824 as collateral for a debt of $722. The city directory of 1830 lists Baker as a tanner living on Warren Street (now 37th Street). (1)

Baker came into possession of a share of the property when Threlkeld died intestate, his debt to Baker unpaid. Under the insolvent act Jeremiah Bronough was appointed trustee of Threlkeld's estate. Jane Cox and Mary Grayson, Threlkeld's heirs at law, together with Bronaugh and Baker sold the property to Joshua Bateman for $200 in March 1834.

In the 1830 city directory Bateman is listed as a carpenter living on Fayette Street. (2) However, it is unlikely that he ever lived at 64 Fayette Street (now 1411 35th Street), for city directories list him in 1853 as a grocer at the corner of First (now N Street) and Fayette (now 35th Street), in 1855 as a grocer at 31 Fayette Street, and in 1858 as a grocer whose store and home are both at 31 Fayette Street. (3)

By the 1830's Georgetown was suffering from a business decline which also affected real estate transactions. John Cox, then Mayor of Georgetown, in describing the economic depression in Georgetown for the period 1820-1830, said, "Our merchants and mechanics were industrious and willing to work; but business was slack." (4)
The tobacco business had "...continued prosperous until the death of John Laird, on the 11th of July, 1833, when the firm of Laird & Son was dissolved, and the trade died with them, as there appeared to be no other tobacco merchants in the market."(5) About 1805 river shipping was forced to use the eastern channel of the Potomac because the western channel was closed by the building of a stone causeway to Analostan (now Roosevelt Island). A few years after this an active trade developed in the transport of wholesale groceries from New York to Georgetown.(6) But in 1835, when the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad built a railroad line between Baltimore and Washington, this business died. (7) (8)

Bateman was fortunate to be able to hold on to his property until the more prosperous 1840's. In June 1843 he sold the northern part of Lot 95 (on which 1411 35th Street now stands) to William Mankins for $450. This high price (for only part of a lot for which he had paid $200 eleven years earlier), leads to the inference that Bateman probably had constructed a house on the site.

1843-1885

William Mankins lived in the house for over forty years. Mankins was a fisherman who later operated an "oyster saloon" on Bridge Street for a time and then moved the establishment to Potomac Street.(9) It seems a natural step from prosperous fisherman to proprietor of an oyster saloon. Apparently, for one year, 1866, his restaurant was in his home, for the city directory of that year lists beside his name, "restaurant 64 Fayette Street." (10)

The house itself is described as "two-story frame brick" in the tax assessment records of 1865-70. In fact, two such houses are noted as belonging to Mankins. One was valued at $600 and the other at $1200, but in the following year they increased in value to $700 and $1500.(11) Tax records beginning in 1872 indicate one sum of $2200 for the value of the improvements without describing the houses. (12)
In August 1880 Mankins used as collateral "...the northern portion of Lot 95 in Threlkeld's Addition together with improvements and easements..." to borrow $600 from Elizabeth Shekell. Mankins may have borrowed the money to expand his business enterprise for the date coincides with that of the opening of his oyster saloon on Bridge Street.

1885-1908

Five years later, 1885, Mankins and his wife, Bridget, gave a deed of trust for $1400 on his property to Lewis C. Kengla, for the "...sole use and benefit of Mary A. Johnson, her heirs, free from all obligations of her present or any future husband." Mankins moved next door to 1409 35th Street at this time. This house may have been one of the two houses described earlier in the 1865-70 tax records as belonging to Mankins.

Mary Johnson and her husband, James, who is described in the 1887 directory as a "driver" held the property only one year, selling it to Mary H. Forrest for $1800. (13) Mary Forrest was the widow of Bladen Forrest who lived at 3339 N Street, the Forrest family home.

Bladen Forrest was a prominent Georgetown citizen. It was he who was responsible for building Forrest Hall at the southwest corner of First (N) Street and High Street (Wisconsin Avenue), where one corner of the property rests on Boundary Stone No. 46, one of the original markers when Georgetown was surveyed. At various times during the Civil War the building was used as quarters for enlisted men of the Second U.S. Infantry, as a hospital for Union soldiers, and as a military prison. (14)

Bladen Forrest and his family are described in the 1853 City Directory as living at 78 First Street (now 3339 N Street); and this listing continues through 1871, after which his widow and members of the family occupied the house for fifty years or more. (15) Captain French Forrest, the distinguished naval officer who served in both the Mexican and Civil Wars, died in this same house—his brother's home. (16) The house was the first one to be built in "Cox's Row." John Cox, once mayor of Georgetown, had built it and used it as his residence.
It is clear that Mary H. Forrest continued to live in the family home; she never lived at 1411 35th Street, but apparently bought it as a rental investment. Mary died intestate October 9, 1898, leaving as her sole heirs-at-law nine children, two of whom died within ten years of their mother.

1908-1940

By court order, the Forrest property was partitioned; and two trustees were appointed in 1908 to sell the property. (17) One of the children, Thomas R. Keith Forrest, bought the land "...improved by frame dwelling No. 1411 35th Street..." for $1800. Thomas Randolph Keith was a lawyer with the U.S. Pension Office. (18)

It was not until 1927, however, that Forrest and his wife, Marie M., moved from the family home on N Street to the house at 1411 35th Street. (19) After Forrest's death, in August 1930, the property was inherited by his wife, Mary H. M. Forrest (Marie Moore Forrest) who continued to live there until 1940. (20)

Marie Moore Forrest was a well-known figure in Washington. She was vociferous in her espousing of women's rights and a founder of the National Woman's Party. She was active in many civic organizations. In addition she was an instigator in the community drama movement in Washington, directing drama and pageants for the city for almost 25 years. During the first World War she was called to other parts of the country to stage commemorative pageants. In Mrs. Forrest's obituary in The Evening Star her contributions to local drama are vividly described:
"Mrs. Forrest's pageants were spectacles. They sometimes included up to 1,000 players. If she planned a battle scene the United States cavalry was pressed into service. Her favorite setting was the steps of the Capitol.

"A large dynamic woman, she never needed a megaphone to direct her productions. She could sit at the bottom of the Capitol steps and be heard at the top.

"People flocked to see her productions, which numbered in the hundreds. When Federal and District officials wanted to commemorate an event, they called on Mrs. Forrest and she did not disappoint them." (21)

1940-1950

On September 24, 1940 the house was bought by Mrs. Margaret B. Weller who states that the house was in a badly run down condition. (22) After extensive renovations Mrs. Weller sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. George Burgess in July 1943. (23) The Burgesses further improved the house by making plumbing alterations. (24) Real estate records of 1948 describe the exterior of the structure as "Frame-Pebble Dash." (25)

It is interesting that in 1948 the assessed value of the house is exactly triple that of 1935 when Mary H.M. Forrest bought it. The increased value may be due not only to the improvements in the house, but to the renewed vitality of the housing market in Georgetown.

1950-1969

In December 1950 the Burgesses sold the property to Rowland Evans, Jr. and his wife who lived in it for the next six years.
Evans is an eminent writer, who at the time of his residence at 1411 35th Street was a correspondent for the Associated Press and later a staff member of the New York Herald Tribune. He is included in the 1966-67 edition of Who's Who in America, where he is listed as a "syndicated columnist." (26) The column, of which he is co-author, is concerned with reporting, analyzing and interpreting political events. The "striking success" of the column, according to Time, is due to the "emphasis on reporting facts," or sometimes unearthing facts that have not yet been published. (27)

In June 1956 the Evanses sold the property to Far Hills Company, a firm which was incorporated in Delaware. According to Mrs. E. Harrison Clark (then Mrs. Agnes M. Mercer) who bought the house two years later, she purchased the house from Mrs. Armonel Moorhead, through the Far Hills Company. Between 1956 and 1958 the house was rented to two girls. (28)

Agnes Mercer Clark and her husband sold the house in 1961 to Anne Heard Flythe. She and her husband, William Perry Flythe, still reside there.

Original and Subsequent Owners

At the time of the cession of the District of Columbia the land was owned by John Threlkeld.
1824

John Threlkeld  

to  

John Baker  

Deed of Trust December 17, 1824

Recorded June 13, 1825

Liber W.B. 14, folio 30

"Lots 93 and 95 and those parts of Lots 80-81 not sold lying between said Baker and Lawrence's Factory and a lot sold to Mrs. Mallen extending about 85 feet on Fayette Street (now 35th)," Property was conveyed to John Baker to secure certain debt.

John Threlkeld died intestate, with the debt to Baker unpaid. Threlkeld's co-heiresses at law were Jane Cox and Mary Grayson. Jeremiah Bronaugh was trustee under the insolvent act.

1834

John Baker, Tr.  

John Cox and wife, Jane  

Mary Grayson  

Jeremiah W. Bronaugh, Tr.  

to  

Joshua Bateman  

Deed March 12, 1834

Recorded July 7, 1834

Liber W.B. 51, folio 29

1843

Joshua Bateman and wife, Jane  

to  

William Mankins  

Deed June 13, 1843

Recorded June 27, 1843

Liber W.B. 101, folio 362

"Conveys northern part of Lot 95 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown...."
1880
William Mankins and wife, Bridget
to
Eugene A. Shekell
Deed of Trust August 10, 1880
Recorded August 20, 1880
Liber 950, folio 61

1885
Release of above trust
Recorded June 28, 1885
Liber 1120, folio 8

William Mankins and wife, Bridget
to
Lewis C. Kengla
Deed in Trust, March 26, 1885
Recorded March 28, 1885
Liber 1120, folio 8
"In trust for sole use and benefit of Mary A. Johnson, her heirs, free from all obligations of her present or any future husband."

1886
Lewis C. Kengla, Tr.
Mary A. Johnson and husband, James
to
Mary H. Forrest
Deed November 1, 1886
Recorded November 11, 1886
Liber 1216, folio 363
1898

Mary H. Forrest died intestate October 9, 1898, leaving as her sole heirs-at-law, her nine children:

- Joseph Forrest - died 1903 intestate
- James K. Forrest - died 1908 intestate
- Mary H. Forrest
- Rosalie A. Forrest
- Irene E. D. Forrest
- Edwin Forrest
- Thomas R. Keith Forrest
- Bladen Forrest
- Albert Dulaney Forrest

1908

By court order property was partitioned and trustees, Justin Morrill Chamberlin and Oscar Luckett, were appointed to sell property.

Equity 26248
Supreme Court of the District of Columbia
January 27, 1908

1909

Justin Morrill Chamberlin, Tr.
Oscar Luckett, Tr.
to
Thomas R. Keith Forrest

Deed July 21, 1909
Recorded July 21, 1909
Liber 3259, folio 117

"...improved by frame dwelling No. 1411 35th Street...."
1930

Thomas R. Keith Forrest

died August 3, 1930,
leaving the property
to his wife, Mary H. M. Forrest.

Will February 14, 1930
Probated December 3, 1930
Will Book 166, page 57

1940

Marie Moore Forrest
(aka Mary H. M. Forrest and Mary Henderson Moore Forrest)
to
Margaret B. Weller

Deed September 24, 1940
Recorded September 30, 1940
Liber 7526, folio 304

1943

Margaret B. Weller
to
George W. Burgess and wife, Helen L.
tenants by entirety

Deed July 30, 1943
Recorded July 30, 1943
Liber 7881, folio 415

1950

George W. Burgess and wife, Helen L.
tenants by entirety
to
Rowland Evans, Jr. and wife, Katherine W.
tenants by entirety

Deed December 1, 1950
Recorded December 19, 1950
Liber 9369, folio 263
1956
Rowland Evans, Jr. and wife, Katherine W. tenants by entirety to FAR HILLS COMPANY, a body corporate, duly incorporated under laws of the State of Delaware

Deed June 15, 1956
Recorded June 20, 1956
Liber 10679, folio 97

1958
FAR HILLS COMPANY to Agnes M. Mercer

Deed December 15, 1958
Recorded December 23, 1958
Liber 11165, folio 541

1961
Agnes M. Clark (formerly Agnes M. Mercer) and husband, E. Harrison Clark to Anne Heard Flythe

Deed January 23, 1961
Recorded January 27, 1961
Liber 11547, folio 526

References

1. City Directory. 1830, p. 3.
2. Same reference as #1. 1830, p. 3.

3. Same reference as #1. 1853, p. 6; 1855, p. 1; 1858, p. 431.


5. Same reference as #4. p. 119.


7. Same reference as #4. p. 124.


10. Same reference as #1. 1866, p. 417.


13. Same reference as #1. 1887, p. 505.

15. Same reference as #1. 1853, p. 37; 1871 (Georgetown Section) p. x; 1898, p. 427; 1921, p. 670.


17. Equity Cause 26248, Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, January 27, 1908.


19. Same reference as #1. 1890-1926; 1927, p. 618.

20. Same reference as #1. 1940, p. 2148.


22. Interview with Mrs. Margaret B. Weller, 4000 Cathedral Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

23. D. C. Department of Licenses and Inspection, Building Permit Division, Building Permit 232789, November 3, 1940.


28. Interviews with:

   Mrs. Rowland Evans, Jr., 3125 O Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
   Mrs. E. Harrison Clark (Agnes Mercer), 1555 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: Originally a two-story frame house with a brick basement, the house became three stories high with the lowering of 35th Street. Because of the change in materials beneath the stucco covering, the upper floors overhang the first floor by several inches. It looks very much the early nineteenth-century house that it is, despite the change in height, in covering, and in entrance.

Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 21' - 0" by 36' - 0". Three bays across 35th Street facade. Three stories high.

Foundations: Brick and stone.

Wall construction: Brick first floor, frame above, stucco over all.

Chimneys: One large brick chimney in the approximate center of the house, and one smaller brick flue in the northeast corner of the main block of the house.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: The front door has six raised panels and is simply trimmed. There are sliding aluminum and glass doors from the sitting room to
the rear deck, and several glazed wood doors from various service areas to the exterior.

Windows and shutters: Six over six double-hung wood sash on the 35th Street facade; a variety of double-hung wood sash on the south and east facades. Windows on the west front have louvered wood shutters.

Porches: The front porch has a gabled roof supported by square chamfered wood columns, two horizontal flat rails at each side, and a brick floor. It is all obviously of mid-twentieth century construction. There is a large recent redwood deck at the rear forming the roof of the basement laundry room and covering a large areaway as well.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable with ridge running north-south, shed pitched to east across rear. Painted metal covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: There is no cornice, simply a hung metal gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The first floor, originally the basement, has an entry-stair hall in the southwest corner, a library in the northwest corner, a dining room in the southeast corner, and a series of small kitchen and service rooms extending to the northwest. The second floor has a stairhall in the southwest corner, and a sitting room in the northeast corner, with an eating area and bar across the east end. The third floor has a bath and stairhall in the southwest corner, and a bedroom in the northwest corner, a bedroom in the southeast corner, and a bath in the northeast corner.
Stairways: Both stairs are straight run with winders at the top. There are plain round handrails and simple square pickets.

Flooring: Random width pine on the third floor, twentieth-century oak strip and carpet on the second floor, and resilient flooring and carpet on the first floor.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted. The dining room is panelled with vertical boards.

Doors and doorways: There are several early doors with six panels and no sticking, some early doors with six raised panels and ovolo sticking, some batten doors, and some twentieth-century six-raised-panel doors.

Decorative features and trim: There are several notable mantelpieces in the house, more than likely replacements rather than original to the house. The one in the first floor library has plain pilasters supporting an entablature which has two swags in gouge work leading to a composition bouquet in the center; there are two composition figures of "Graces" in the impost blocks, and both the bed moulding and shelf edge are formed of coves and beads. The hearth and surround are of black stucco. The one in the second floor bedroom has a simple moulded architrave supporting a reeded panel with flat brackets on each side, a punch-and-gouge dentil bed mould, and a cove-moulded shelf. The hearth and surround are of black slate, and there is a cast-iron fireback. The one in the third floor front bedroom has a simple moulded surround, a quirked cyma reversa bed mould, and a plain shelf. The hearth is brick and the surround is stucco. Some of the trim in the front rooms is of an early-to-mid-nineteenth century design, although there is much mid-twentieth century trim work throughout.
Hardware: There are a few cast iron box rimlocks with their original brass knobs and trademark plates. Some doors have early wrought-iron hinges, and the closet doors in the second floor bedroom have hinges with elaborate surface-mounted leaves.

Lighting: No notable fixtures; mid-twentieth century incandescent.

Heating: Radiators, boiler on first floor.

Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the east side of 35th Street, the house is set back from the sidewalk by a small front yard, slightly deeper than most of its neighbors. The neighborhood is composed of well-maintained houses of similar scale and quality.

Enclosures: Low iron fence encloses the front yard, high board fence encloses the rear.

Outbuildings: None,

Walks: Brick, concrete, flagstone.

Landscaping: The small front yard has simple foundation planting around a brick paved area; the rear yard has somewhat over-scaled planting beyond the redwood deck which opens off the second floor sitting room.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
December 17, 1968

201
MAHORNEY-O'BRIEN HOUSE

**Address in 1969:** 3522 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(Formerly this address was 79 Third Street.)

**Location:** The house is located on part of Lot 105 in Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 817 in Square 1247 in the City of Washington.

**Date of erection:** Between 1821 and 1832, with additions made in the 1860's.

**Owner in 1969:** Stanhope Chase

**Occupants in 1969:** Rental tenants

**Use in 1969:** Residence

**Significance:** For over a hundred years the home of persons performing manual and domestic services, this early nineteenth-century house demonstrates effectively twentieth-century adaptation without loss of character of the structure.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1821-1834

In June 1821 John Threlkeld advertised in the Georgetown Metropolitan offering for sale at a cheap price eight or ten lots in northwest Georgetown. Three months later he sold Lots 104 and 105 to George Mahorney, a bricklayer, for $500. In 1818, three years earlier, Lot 105 had been assessed to Threlkeld at $400 and listed as vacant. The very low purchase price in 1821 would indicate that the land was still vacant at that time.

In the first Washington City Directory listing Georgetown residents as such, in 1830, Mahorney is noted as living at the corner of Third (now P) and Lingan (now 36th) Streets. Since there were no numerical addresses in those early years in Georgetown, it is not definite which house George Mahorney and his family occupied. However, it is probable that being a bricklayer he built the four houses—85, 83, 81 and 79 Third Street—on Lot 105 soon after purchasing the property and used the western-most house, number 85 Third Street on the corner, as his residence and the other three, including 79 Third Street, as rental property.

In the decade between 1820 and 1830 Mahorney made numerous real estate purchases in Georgetown and Washington. At the same time, with Joseph Brigden as business partner, he operated a storehouse and grocery business in Washington. Another of his ventures was operating a tavern at the corner of Third and High Streets (now P and Wisconsin Avenue) in Georgetown.
By the end of the decade he was in financial difficulties and had to place properties in trust for his wife, Eleanor, having used all the money brought by her to the marriage. At that time George dwelled at his tavern location while his wife, Eleanor, lived at the Third and Lingan corner. But two years later he was living at his Third Street house. (4)

In 1832 Mahorney, still in financial straits, lost his property on Third Street in a foreclosure suit. On Saturday, January 26, 1833 the Georgetown Metropolitan advertised for sale at public auction by the U.S. Marshal: "Lots 105 and 134 and the north part of Lot 104 with the improvements and appurtenances consisting of several (four) excellent two-story dwelling houses (one brick, the others frame) well calculated for the accommodation of families." (5) There are at the present time on old Lot 105 and part of old Lot 104 four two-story dwelling houses—the corner frame building is 1431 36th Street (formerly 3528 P Street), the next brick one is 3526 P, and the next two frame ones are 3524 and 3522 P Street. (6)

Although losing this property, Mahorney continued to reside in Georgetown and deal in real estate until 1858 when he went to Washington to live with a daughter. At his death a year later his children inherited various Georgetown and Washington properties. Active in community affairs, Mahorney had held the office of "Messenger and Scavenger" for the Board of Aldermen in Georgetown and also owned stock in the Georgetown Corporation. (7)

1834-1843

Alfred Boucher, who owned other property in the neighborhood and who had a grocery business at the corner of Potomac and Bridge (now M) Streets, bought Mahorney's Third Street property in 1834 for $800. The Bouchers held Lot 105 and part of Lot 104 for nine years, using it as rental property. (8) In 1843 the eastern portion
on which 79 Third Street stood was sold to William Herron, while the western part was conveyed to John O'Donoghue (sometimes spelled O'Donnoghue or O'Donohue).

1843-1851

Herron, a contractor, who later in the mid-1850's built his mansion on the nearby northwest corner of Third (now P) and Fayette (now 35th), owned and rented this part of Lot 105 (now Lot 817) until 1851 when John O'Donoghue, living at "Third Street, corner Lingan," added it to his western portion.

1851-1859

John O'Donoghue, owner of the property for the next eight years, was part of a large clan who operated candle and soap factories both in western Georgetown and in Washington City. The early O'Donoghues (or O'Donnoghues) were Irish immigrants who came over to work on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. The first ones built houses, and as friends and relatives came over to join them, took them in as roomers until they could manage to build their own houses.

In 1834 John, together with Peter O'Donoghue, was operating a "Soap and Candle Factory, near Lingan & First Streets, south side." The 1855 City Directory lists him as "soap chandler, 105 second" (now O). Three years later in 1858 he is still listed as a chandler and now living near his earlier business on First (now N Street) near Lingan (now 36th Street). Many other O'Donoghues were also living and doing business at these same addresses.
In 1860, the year after selling his 79 Third Street property to John O'Brien, the Georgetown Directory shows John O'Donoghue living at 19 Lingan Street, near the Georgetown factory. However, that same year the Washington City Directory lists a John O'Donoghue as "clerk, house 498 G north"—the location of the O'Donoghue factory in Washington. It is probable that this listing in the Washington Directory refers to a son or nephew. (9)

1859-1943

Although he bought the property in 1859, John O'Brien, laborer, is not listed as living at 79 Third Street until 1865. In 1860 he was boarding at 59 Bridge (now M) Street, and in 1863 and 1864 he was living at 180 High (now Wisconsin Avenue).(10) However, for twenty-three years, until his death in 1888, John O'Brien did work as a laborer and raise his family at 79 Third (now 3522 P) Street. Surviving him, when he died (intestate), were his widow, Johanna O'Brien and four children—James and John O'Brien, Ellen O'Brien Sullivan and Mary O'Brien Sullivan. (The last O'Briens to be listed in city directories at this address were noted in 1888 when both John O'Brien and John O'Brien, Jr., stonemason, are listed at 3522 P.) (11)

Johanna outlived her husband by twenty years. She continued to live in their P Street house across from the Convent for eight years after John's death. Living with her were her daughter and son-in-law, Mary and John Sullivan; he was listed in city directories as a clerk and later as a bartender.(12) In 1897 Johanna moved in with Ellen O'Brien Sullivan, her other married daughter, nearby on O Street, and rented the P Street house. (13)

P Street had been regraded in 1895 to provide tracks for a trolley line. This change placed the first floor of this small frame house below street level. (14)
For over fifty years, until the O'Brien heirs sold the little house in 1913, it was rented to persons such as "George Coates, helper" and "Louise Williams, porter," who performed manual and domestic services in the neighborhood. (15) Mary O'Brien Sullivan, John O'Brien's last surviving child, stated: "I collected the rents from it, sometimes they paid me and sometimes they didn't." (16) During hard times, the good Sisters of the Convent for the Visitation fed these families and their children. There was a small service door with a turntable in the Convent wall on P Street just across from this house where workers and tenants on the block lined up at meal time and were always fed by the cloistered Sisters. This door was sealed up a few years ago after several burglaries occurred. (17)

1943-1969

When the house was sold to Roxanna Doran in 1943 for $3500, it was occupied by Florence Vinston, "(wid Daniel), maid." who paid a monthly rental of $20.50. (18) After major repairs it was sold in 1948 to Stanhope Chase, who for twenty years has been using it as rental property. One of the tenants for a time was the celebrated actress Myrna Loy (Mrs. Howland Sargeant). She had been serving as a member of the National Commission of UNESCO, United Nations. (19) The house has been vacant at intervals, but in recent years has been occupied, chiefly by tenants who work in government and industry. (20).
Original and Subsequent Owners

1821
John Threlkeld to George Mahorney
Deed September 27, 1821
Recorded October 9, 1821
Liber W.B. 2, folio 255

1834
Clement Cox trustee of George Mahorney to Alfred Boucher
Deed July 2, 1834
Recorded July 2, 1834
Liber W.B. 51, folio 16

1843
Alfred H. Boutcher et ux Sarah to William T. Herron
Deed May 26, 1843
Recorded August 15, 1843
Liber W.B. 103, folio 151

1851
William T. Herron et ux Henrietta V. to John O'Donoghue
Deed October 13, 1851
Recorded October 15, 1851
Liber JAS 31, folio 331
1859

John O'Donnoghue et ux Jane

to

John Brien
(also known as O'Brien)

Deed October 7, 1859
Recorded September 7, 1860
Liber JAS 196, folio 429

1888


Johanna O'Brien died July 30, 1908, intestate.

1943

Phillip F. Biggins
William R. Simpson, Jr.
trustees under Decree in Civil Action #10584
(Mary Sullivan vs. other heirs of John and Johanna O'Brien)
to

Roxanna B. Doran

Deed February 18, 1943
Recorded March 22, 1943
Liber 7842, folio 175

1948

Roxanna B. Doran

to

Stanhope Chase

Deed November 5, 1948
Recorded November 5, 1948
Liber 8862, folio 429
References


4. Same reference as #3.

5. Same reference as #1. January 26, 1833.


8. Same reference as #3. 1834 (Georgetown), p. 2.

9. Same reference as #3. 1834, p. 6; 1855, p. 458; (Georgetown Section), p. 8; 1860, p. 171 and p. 120.


12. Same reference as #3. 1890, p. 833; 1896, p. 872.


14. Georgetown, D.C., clippings from newspapers and magazines, compiled by Washingtoniana Division, Public Library, Washington, D.C., 1936 to present, 5 volumes.

15. Same reference as #3. 1914, p. 1665; 1928, p. 2132.


17. Same reference as #14.

18. Same reference as #14.

19. Unemployment Insurance Certificate (for employees). Policy No. OB 2034688, Date of expiration, August 8, 1952. Affixed to wall, 3522 P Street, N.W.

21. Interviews with:

Mrs. Agnes Southey Sullivan, 3701 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. (Mrs. Sullivan's husband was the grandson of John O'Brien.)

Mr. James Sullivan, 1331 P Street, N.W. (Mr. Sullivan was born in Georgetown in the 1880's and as a boy delivered groceries in the area. He died in February, 1969.)

Mrs. Lillian Kengla Harper, 1248 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. (Mrs. Harper is a granddaughter of Margaret O'Donoghue.)

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ahearn, 3242 Q Street, N.W. (Mr. Ahearn was born in Georgetown in the 1880's, carried papers in the area as a boy, and for the rest of his life operated a newsstand on M Street in Georgetown.)
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This small clapboard house, though planned like a row house, is actually free-standing by virtue of the narrow paths to rear yards on each side of it. Although it is two stories high (three at the rear), it appears smaller because the street and sidewalk have been raised about three feet. The front appears to have been resurfaced at some time, and the cornice is a mid-nineteenth century replacement.

Condition of fabric: Fair; needs painting badly.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 20'-0" with 16'-0" by 16'-0" ell at rear. Two bays across P Street facade, Two stories high.

Foundations: Rubble stone basement walls with some later brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame; front has 8" drop siding; sides and rear have plain 6" weatherboarding; there are plain, un-beaded corner boards.

Chimneys: One about 30" square of brick, located at rear of main block of house.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: Front door has six raised panels, a three-light transom, and a flat, backbanded, dog-eared surround.

Windows and shutters: There is one window on the first floor, two on the second. All are six-over-six double hung wood sash. There is a quirked cyma reversa cap moulding on otherwise flat trim. Shutters are louvered wood. Windows in the rear addition are modern.

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable, ridge running east-west on main block, north-south on rear ell; composition shingles.

Framing: Wood, with very wide sheathing boards (14" - 16").

Cornice: Later wood cornice has four scrolled brackets and fifteen smaller modillions. Gutter is built in behind.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The first floor has one room across the width of the house with a stair along the west wall, to the south of which was added at an early date another room with a stair to the basement along the west wall. The second floor has a bedroom above the front living room with a modern bathroom in the southwest corner. The basement has a kitchen under the north living room and a dining room under the south living room, with a small powder room and heating equipment area between.
Stairways: The stair to the second floor ascends from a one-riser landing in the southwest corner of the original house along the west wall to the second floor. The stair to the basement descends from the northwest corner of the rear addition along the west wall to the dining room. Both stairs are of closed-string construction with modern newels, balusters, and handrails.

Flooring: Flooring in general is random width pine; that in the dining room is 12" pine boards; that in the kitchen is resilient tile.

Walls and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted or papered. South living room has exposed rafters, stained dark; kitchen has exposed adzed joists above, dining room has exposed sawn heavy joists above. Fireplace wall in north living room is panelled with striated plywood.

Doors and doorways: There are batten doors, six raised-panel doors, and louvered doors, all of mid-twentieth century manufacture.

Decorative features and trim: One doorway left of the fireplace in the north living room has an early to mid-nineteenth century casing. The south living room fireplace has a very simple mantel shelf with beaded edges supported by two narrow cyma reversa brackets; the dining room mantel is similar. All three fireplaces have been rebuilt with brick surrounds but still have early hearths. The north living room fireplace has a simple architrave (modern) around the new brickwork, although there is a very elaborate cast-iron and brass Empire style grate. Door and window trim throughout is mid-twentieth century.

Hardware: No notable hardware.
Lighting: No notable fixtures.

Heating: Forced hot air.

Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the south side of P Street, this small free-standing house appears smaller due to the raising of the street level in the past century which created a 3'-0" deep area-way across the front. The block is composed of similar sized houses of varying ages and faces the grounds of the Convent of the Visitation.

Enclosures: Cross-buck fence of 2 x 4's around area-way at front, various wood fences enclose the rear yard.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick and concrete.

Landscaping: Small-scale residential planting in the fenced rear yard; none in the paved area-way in the front.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 3, 1969
BUEHLER-SULLIVAN HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3617 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (O Street was formerly called Second Street. The early number of this structure is not clear; however, according to the table of highest and lowest street numbers on Second Street on page 87 of Boyd's 1865 City Directory, the house at 3617 was probably 118 or 120 Second Street.)

Location: The house is on part of Lot 112, Square 78 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 805, in Square 1248 in Washington, D. C.

Date of Erection: 1842-1850, with remodeling in the 1860's.

Owners in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown College

Occupants in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. James T. Williams

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: This simple frame dwelling dating from the middle of the nineteenth century is one of the few such houses in Georgetown which remains almost completely intact. The wideboard siding of the west elevation is particularly noteworthy.
1797-1815

In August 1797, John Threlkeld sold to Edward Boone for sixty pounds all of Lot 112, fronting on Second Street for 60 feet and extending back 150 feet. Two years later, when Boone sold this same property to Ignatius Middleton, he received 375 pounds for it, almost a 600% increase. Middleton's "improved lot" on Second Street was assessed at $1300 at some period between 1800 and 1807; and later, between 1808 and 1812, Lot 112 is described as improved. (1) It is not until the period between 1813 and 1818 that the record shows a house - "one-story frame" - on Lot 112. (2) There is no way of knowing on which of the three present subdivisions of old Lot 112 the one-story frame house stood. It may have been part of the ground floor of the present house. Middleton, his wife, daughter and two slaves lived in Charles County, Maryland, so the Second Street structure was probably rented as an investment.

1815-1842

In July of 1815 Edward Dawes bought from Middleton all of Lot 112 as well as some adjoining property. This was a period of prosperity in Georgetown. Shipping of tobacco and foodstuffs was extensive; warehouses lined the Georgetown waterfront; employment was high and consequently the purchase of land and the construction of buildings flourished. (3) So Dawes' investment in land at this time seems a natural financial expansion. However, Dawes ran into monetary difficulties. He may have over-extended himself, or may have been caught up in the business slump which Georgetown suffered in the 1820's and 1830's.
John Cox, then Mayor of Georgetown, commented on the languishing business of Georgetown at that time, observing that "...houses ceased to be built; and many of those that had been erected were without tenants."(4) In any event, by 1831 Dawes owed $7200 to the Bank of United States and $1740 to the Farmers and Mechanics Bank. His Second Street lots were used as Security to the Bank of United States to meet his indebtedness.

Dawes was able to salvage some of his property, but on July 16, 1842 Dawes and the Bank of United States sold all of Lot 112 and part of the adjoining lots for $550 to John Biechler. (Variations of the surname appear in documents as: 'Buehler,' 'Bietchler,' 'Beihler,' and 'Boehler.')

1842-1854

Eight years later, in the 1850 Census, Beihler's real estate was valued at $1000, which would indicate that he improved his lot on Second Street soon after purchasing the property. John Beihler was a carpenter who had been born in Germany at the turn of the century, so it is likely that he immigrated to America during hard times in his native country, bought up land cheaply, and built the present structure for his family himself.(5) In 1853 the city directory lists a "Mr. Boehler, carpenter, north side of 2nd and Fayette near the College." (6) Perhaps as his business prospered he added to his property and moved his family of five children to a more commodious house nearby in the next block.

1854-1860

In June of 1854 Joseph Weaver bought from Buehler all of Lot 112 and parts of two other lots fronting on Second Street, "...together with buildings, improvements..." for $1305. Weaver was at this time 27 years old. He was part of a large family, in the butcher business, living on High Street (now Wisconsin Avenue) beyond the northern limits of Georgetown. Research has not revealed what use Joseph Weaver made of his property on Second Street. Certainly he never lived there.
It is interesting to note that by 1870, ten years after he disposed of the property, Joseph Weaver had in his household, besides his wife and children, a 19 year old apprentice butcher and an 18 year old "domestic servant, born Ireland," and that his real property was valued at $25,000 and his personal property at $5000. This is the Joseph Weaver whose son, Robert, became a leading citizen of Georgetown. Robert was president of Georgetown Gas Light Co., vice-president of Corcoran Life Insurance Co., a director of Riggs National Bank, and a director of the D.C. Paper manufacturing Co. Among his many civic activities was his position on the Board of Trustees of the Edes Home in Georgetown. (8) (9)

1860-1895

Joseph Weaver sold the Second Street property in 1860 for less than he had paid for it. Timothy Sullivan bought it for $1150. The 1861 tax assessment records state: "Improvements: Brick and frame tenements" on Timothy Sullivan's property, Lot 112. (10)

In August of 1863 Timothy and his wife, Bridget, sold the west part of Lot 112, having a 40 foot front on Second Street, to John Sullivan for $100. Listed as improvements in the tax records 1865-1870 are "two new two-story frame houses," with a value of $600 for the land and $2000 for the buildings. (11) These houses are on present Lots 805 (3617 O Street) and 804 (3615 O Street). From the terms of the deeds it is clear that the two houses were built at the same time. (It should be recalled that in early records, the term "new" is sometimes used to describe remodeled property.)
In 1870 John Sullivan and his wife, Ellen, sold the western 20 feet of Lot 112, fronting on Second Street to Jeremiah Sullivan for $1300. In 1872 Jeremiah was a "cartman," but from 1874 until 1893 he is listed in city directories as a grocer. (12) His shop is cited at different addresses on Second Street, one of which in 1881 is noted as 3617 O Street; so perhaps his shop was in his home at one time. (In 1893 he is listed as a grocer at 3428 O Street, where there is a grocery to this day.) (13)

The Sullivan clan was a large one, the early members having emigrated from Ireland, possibly as part of the wave of immigrants who came to work on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Many of the Sullivan men are listed as laborers in city directories and may have been among the large group of bricklayers, stonemasons, and carpenters who participated in the vast amount of building that was occurring in the Federal City as well as in Georgetown. The women stayed home and cared for their families, "keeping house" as census records state. (14) The families lived near each other on Second Street. Even today, in this neighborhood, Sullivan descendants own a number of buildings, some of which they occupy and others which they use for rental purposes.

1895-1944

On December 13, 1895 Jeremiah Sullivan, at the age of 52, died of pneumonia. At that time he lived at the corner of 35th and O Streets. (15) His Will was dated on the same day of his death so apparently was made on his deathbed. He bequeathed to his beloved wife, Ellen, all his estate during her natural life or widowhood "...but should my wife Ellen Sullivan remarry, then I give, devise and bequeath all my estate to my children, share and share alike...." (16)
The Sullivan Clan was a large one, the early members having emigrated from Ireland, possibly as part of the wave of immigrants who came to work on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. 1870 Marriage license for Rites at Holy Trinity Church, Georgetown (D.C. Marriage License Bureau)
Ellen Sullivan did not remarry. She held on to the house at 3617 O Street, although she did not live there. The house continued to serve as rental property with occasional periods of vacancy. The tenants during the first four decades of the twentieth century were chiefly laborers. (17) Ellen died in December 1937. In her obituary her residence is listed at 3422 O Street. (18)

1944-1969

Four of Ellen Sullivan's seven children were living at the time of her death. They and three children of a daughter who had died were heirs to the estate. In 1944 the property was conveyed to Josephine Elko Williams. She and her husband, James T. Williams, who was employed by the U.S. Department of Navy, still live there, although in 1965 they sold it to Georgetown University. (19)

Original and Subsequent Owners

1797

John Threlkeld to Edward Boone

Deed August 29, 1797
Recorded September 9, 1797
Liber C-3, folio 175

1799

Edward Boone to Ignatius Middleton

Deed January 3, 1799
Recorded February 15, 1799
Liber D-4, folio 195
1815
Ignatius Middleton to Edward Dawes
Deed July 20, 1815
Recorded December 12, 1815
Liber K-10, folio 394

1831
Charles Edward Dawes to Richard Smith, Cashier of the Office of Discount and Deposits, Bank of the United States
Deed of Trust February 28, 1831
Recorded March 10, 1831
Liber W.B. 35, folio 240

1842
Edward Dawes and wife, Ann to Richard Smith, Cashier of the Office of Discount and Deposits, Bank of the United States
Deed July 16, 1842
Recorded August 5, 1842
Liber W.B. 92, folio 432

(Note: In later documents, name is spelled variously as "Buehler," "Bietchler," "Butchler," and "Buchler."

Consideration $550

1854
John Buechler and wife, Ann to Joseph Weaver
Deed June 20, 1854
Recorded October 9, 1854
Liber JAS 86, folio 163

Consideration $1305
1860
Joseph Weaver and wife, Catherine
       to
Timothy Sullivan

Consideration $1150

1863
Timothy Sullivan and wife, Bridget
       to
John Sullivan

1870
John Sullivan and wife, Ellen
       to
Jeremiah Sullivan

1895
Jeremiah Sullivan died on Dec. 13, 1895, bequeathed his entire estate to his wife, Ellen.

1937
Ellen Sullivan died (intestate) December 17, 1937, leaving her estate to her four children and to three grandchildren.
1944

Josephine Sullivan
James J. and wife, Harriet S. Sullivan
Jeremiah and wife, Ellen A. Sullivan
Lillian E. Sullivan
Robert A. Cox, unmarried
Ann Marie Briggs
Regina Cox Katalinas
to
Josephine Elko Williams

Deed January 24, 1944
Recorded February 9, 1944
Liber 7938, folio 375

1965

Josephine Elko Williams and husband, James T. Williams
to
The President and Directors of Georgetown College

Deed November 30, 1965
Recorded May 23, 1966
Liber 12614, folio 387

References

2. Same reference as #1. Roll 9 (1813-1818).


10. Same reference as #1. Roll 36 (1862-64).


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: At one time a twin to 3615 0 Street, this house retains for the most part its earlier plan. Although its facade has been resurfaced, the west side still has the original extremely wide weather boarding. It is a simple, unassuming, two-story clapboard house.

Condition of fabric: Fairly good; some areas in need of paint, some wide weatherboard split and loose. West wall completely unpainted.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 35'-0". Two bays across 0 Street facade. Two stories high.

Foundation: Brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame.

Chimneys: One large central chimney, one small one at rear off kitchen ell.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Door has two small horizontal panels at bottom and one large top panel which is actually painted glass. There is a small-light transom, and the whole has a wide flat board trim.
Windows and shutters: Six over six double-hung wood sash. Shutters on front are louvered wood.

Porches: Small wood shed roof over back door, brick paving of terrace continues under to form floor (not raised). Front stoop is semicircular brick, two risers high.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable, ridge running east-west; metal covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Wide wood box cornice with bed mould; hanging metal gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: First floor has one room across front, one room across rear, and kitchen in small addition off northeast corner. Second floor has one bedroom across front, one in rear, and a bathroom. There is a full attic storage room and partial basement under dining room, both with access stairs.

Stairways: Ascends from north to south along east wall of rear rooms. Originally enclosed with wide boarding, the first to second floor run has been opened up and had an old rail from elsewhere inserted.

Flooring: Wide, random width pine.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted.
Doors and doorways: Simple mid-nineteenth four-panel doors with flat trim.

Decorative features and trim: Very heavy early-to-mid-nineteenth century mantel pieces of a simple design; flat wood trim; no cornices.

Hardware: No notable hardware.

Lighting: No notable fixtures.

Heating: Furnace in modern basement.

Site

General setting and orientation: One of several houses of similar scale forming the north side of O Street. No front yard; ample rear yard.

Enclosures: Rear yard enclosed with wood fence. Board gate access to rear yard from street.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick paved terrace in rear, brick walk on west side of house.

Landscaping: Simple residential planting.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
October 30, 1968
HOLY TRINITY PARISH

Address in 1969:

Original Church - 3513 N Street, N.W.,
(now Convent of Mercy)
Washington, D.C.
(N Street was formerly First Street.)

Present Church - 36th Street between N and
0 Streets, N.W., Washington,
D.C. (formerly Lingan Street between First and
Second Streets).

Rectory - 3514 O Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. (O Street
was formerly Second Street.)

Location:
The Original Church occupies old Lot 72
in old Square 57 in Threlkeld's Addition
to Georgetown, now known as part of Lot 803 in Square 1227 in the City of Washington.

The Present Church stands on old Lot 75
and part of old Lots 74 and 72 in old
Square 57 in Threlkeld's Addition to
Georgetown, now known as part of Lot 803 in Square 1227 in the City of Washington.

The Rectory occupies old Lots 78 and 83
in old Square 57 in Threlkeld's Addition
to Georgetown, now known as Lots 78 and 808 in Square 1227 in the City of Washington.
### Date of Erection:
- Original Church - 1794
- Present Church - 1851
- Rectory - 1869

### Owners in 1969:
- Roman Catholic Church

### Occupants in 1969:
- Roman Catholic Church

### Use in 1969:
- Original Church - Living quarters for Nuns teaching at nearby Holy Trinity Schools
- Present Church - Holy Trinity Parish Church
- Rectory - Holy Trinity Church Rectory

### Significance:
The original church was the first place for public Catholic worship in the District; the present church is an ante-bellum edifice, and even the rectory is a century old.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1787-1851

Although Maryland was colonized largely by Catholics seeking freedom of religion, they found themselves in difficult straits when Protestants gained political power, for Catholicism was rigidly repressed. For almost 130 years Catholics were prohibited from having churches, so that Mass had to be held in private chapels of the homes of the well-to-do. These were called "Mass-houses." (1)

After the American Revolution Catholicism was established in the new country on a different basis:

"...it would have been unpopular for Catholics in the States to remain under the spiritual jurisdiction of English prelates. Consequently on June 9, 1784, the Holy See appointed Father John Carroll, a cousin of the celebrated Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, as Prefect Apostolic, with faculties to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation." (2)

The appointment of Father Francis Xavier Neale to establish a Catholic Parish in Georgetown was one of Archbishop Carroll's first deeds. In 1787 the Most Reverend John Carroll bought from John Threlkeld for five shillings--a virtual gift--a plot of land, sixty by one hundred and twenty feet on the north side of First (N) Street between Fayette (35th) and Ligan (36th) Streets for the site of a Roman Catholic Church. (3)
Although Father Neale began planning and soliciting for the church in 1791, his progress was delayed. It was not customary during that era for people to donate money for churches, and since many of the residents of the community were poor, the collection of funds proved to be a slow process. Consequently, Mr. James Doyle, the builder, was unable to complete the construction until 1794. In fact, the church could not afford to pay him in cash, but instead provided rental pews as recompense. Mr. Doyle later willed his rental pews to Georgetown College in exchange for twelve years of tuition and board for his sons.

The little church on First Street was opened for services in 1794, but "There were no pews in the center of the church until 1832. The open space was occupied by those who did not rent pews and by colored people. They sat on stools or benches or chairs which they brought from home." (4)

From the beginning, as the Church Register indicates, Holy Trinity Church was an active force in the Parish. On January 1, 1795 the record shows that pews rented for seven shillings and sixpence a year and that Mrs. Simms, William Fenwick, Margaret Queen, and "Old" Mrs. Fenwick had paid their rentals in full, while Mr. Johnson paid only half of his and Thomas Bowling owed fifteen shillings and eleven pence.

The first marriage record occurs on January 1, 1794 for "David Thomas to Phyllis, a Negro Slave, property of Elizabeth Coyle of Georgetown." A month later the first baptism is recorded, "William James, son of James and Ann James, living in Georgetown." (5)

Holy Trinity Church also served the community in secular ways. Reverend Kelly in a history of the Parish describes one way in which the church served its neighbor, Georgetown College:
"For forty years graduation and literary exercises were held in the church, converted temporarily into a hall.... In 1799 on the death of General Washington...a large concourse assembled in the church to pay a tribute to the memory of the Father of his Country.

"...the last commencement [of Georgetown College] to be held in the church took place in the month of July, 1832. Odes were read in Latin, Greek, French and Spanish...." (6)

Devitt verifies the use of Holy Trinity Church by Georgetown College:

"The solemn academic exercises were held in Trinity Church until the large study-hall in the Mulledy building was opened in 1834. A procession was formed on the college grounds, and the officials, students and invited magnates marched to the church." (7)

The church soon became too small as Georgetown began to grow. Many families, such as the Fenwicks, Digges, Youngs, Neales, and Brents, moved into town from the counties.

Funds were raised to enlarge the church and vigorous efforts ensued to provide space for the religious needs of a rapidly growing congregation:

"Attempts were made first to widen it [the church], then to add to the length, but the results were unsatisfactory. Two confessional were build alongside the church which were to be used also as vestries and sacristies. Arches were cut in the side walls and sheds erected. Finally an addition was built in the rear, greater than the original in depth...." (8)
However, it soon became clear that the alterations would not take care of the overcrowding and that a new solution was required.

Plans were made to build a new church on land which Father Neale and Georgetown College had acquired on the east side of Lingan (36th) Street from First (N) Street to Second (O) Street. Father Peter O'Flanagan, whom Kelly calls the church's "Second Founder," was instrumental in organizing the drive for the new structure. Ground was broken in 1846 and the cornerstone laid in place by Archbishop Eccleston on July 8, 1849, so that "...this second church antedates all others now standing in Washington as they were erected after 1850." (9)

1851-1869

Construction of the second Holy Trinity Church took more than two years. So it was not dedicated until June 15, 1851. (The old church on N Street became a parochial school. Much later, in 1918, it became the Convent of Mercy and was converted to its present use as living quarters for the nuns who teach at the Trinity Grade School on the corner of 36th and N Streets and Trinity High School at 1325 36th Street on the corner of O Street.) The first marriage in the new church occurred on May 13, 1852 between Dennis O'Donnoghue and Theresa Jamieson. (10)

Holy Trinity Church was one of the seven buildings in Georgetown that were converted into hospitals during the Civil War. (11) Military guards, under the command of Captain Strong of Pennsylvania (a brother of Father George I. Strong, S.J.) were put in charge of the entire church property. Temporary flooring was built over the pews and sanctuary. (During the Army occupation the old church on First (N) Street was used for worshipers.)
After Holy Trinity had been restored as a place of worship, General Whipple's funeral service was held there. Kelly describes President Lincoln's attendance:

"The sexton was told to keep the main aisle clear for the President. But not recognizing him the sexton under orders tried to stop his passage up the aisle. The President humorously remarked: 'Would that my officials were as exact in the performance of their duty as your good sexton.'" (12)

After the war Holy Trinity received compensation from the U.S. government for the use of the church and for repairs.

1869-1969

At the end of the decade and twenty years after the cornerstone was laid for the "new" Holy Trinity Church, a permanent residence was erected for its pastors and their assistants. Prior to that Father Neale and his staff had roomed and boarded at the College. During this period a small house on the south side of First (N) Street, which the College owned and used as a boys' school, was also the pastors' center for tending their parochial duties. In 1823 this house was converted into a residence for the priests when the boys vacated the building upon completion of Trinity School. Ten years later the "Residence of the Pastor and Assistants of Holy Trinity Church" was set up in the O'Donnoghue house nearby on First (N) Street near the center of the block. This building, often dubbed "The White House" by the Fathers because of its color, remained the official pastoral residence until 1869, when the present structure was erected on the southeast corner of Lingan (36th) and Second (O) Streets. Designed by architect Francis Stanton, this imposing brick building with its mansard roof stood next to Holy Trinity Church for some fifty years. In 1917 the
rectory was propped on supports and hauled around the corner to its present location on O Street. This was done to make way for the new Trinity Schools to be built on both sides of the church. (13)

Holy Trinity continued to prosper and to serve an increasing parish. During the influenza epidemic of 1918 the church was closed when the U.S. government prohibited public gatherings. At that time services were held outdoors on the athletic field of Georgetown University. (14)

The church, a local landmark, still carries on its functions, as it has done almost from the beginning of Georgetown. It has been attended through the years by notables such as President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy, as well as by less famous parishioners, the working people who comprised the core of western Georgetown.

References


2. Same reference as #1. p. 9.

3. Same reference as #1. p. 15.
4. Same reference as #1. p. 18.


6. Same reference as #1. pp. 77-78.


12. Same reference as #1. p. 27.

13. Same reference as #1. pp. 75-76.

14. Same reference as #1. p. 27.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Convent of Mercy

General Statement

Architectural character: Originally Holy Trinity Church, this late eighteenth-century building, now used by the Convent of Mercy, has been altered considerably. The regular spacing of windows on the sides has been interrupted by the introduction of similar additional windows and the removal of several others, yet the general appearance of the architecture is orderly and unified due to the overall painting and the regular rhythms of the cornice.

Condition of fabric: Good; reasonably well-maintained, although the paint on brickwork has weathered badly.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 36'-0" by 110'-0", with a 12'-0" tower at the center of the south front. Two stories high. Three bays wide by eight bays long.

Foundations: Brick to grade.

Wall construction: Brick, painted; shaped brick water table and corbelled brick caps on the stepped roof parapets.

Chimneys: None visible.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: The front entrance has a pair of three-panelled doors with a semicircular transom light above, made up of two circular panes and various irregular wedge-shaped panes. Panelled pilasters on each side support an arched cornice and a sign bearing the name of the convent, surmounted by a cross. A rear entrance at the northwest corner has a pair of doors with six vertical panels and a two-light transom. Chamfered pilasters and scrolled console brackets support a flat modillioned entablature.

Windows and shutters: Windows in general have six-over-six double hung wood sash, stone sills, and brick jack arches. One window above the main entrance has a semicircular head. At the attic level in the tower are boarded-up circular openings on the east, south, and west sides.

Porches: On the north end of the east side is a two-story modern wood utility porch and stair, partially roofed over, serving as an auxiliary means of egress from the second floor.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Low gable with stepped parapet ends; ridge running north to south; painted standing seam metal covering.

Framing: Wood (assumed).

Cornice: The wood cornice is made up of a large cyma recta above a broad soffit support on regularly spaced carved scrolled brackets with smaller carved modillions between, all mounted on a broad wood entablature.
Tower: The twelve-foot-square masonry tower extends just above the ridge line, at which point there is a bracketed and modillioned cornice similar to that on the main building. A very low pitched metal roof provides a transition to an octagonal wood clapboard belfry divided into two sections by a belt moulding; the lower section has horizontal rectangular louvers in each of the eight sides and the upper section has vertical rectangular louvers with gabled pediments in each of the eight sides. There is a smaller modillioned cornice above this and a low pitched metal roof with a large metal ball at the peak, surmounted by a cross.

Technical Description of the Interior

The interior of this building was not accessible to this researcher.

Site

General setting and orientation: Situated high above N Street, this former church building occupies the southwest corner of the Holy Trinity-Convent of Mercy educational complex. Its entrance front faces south toward N Street; and although it is located in a prominent position, it is overshadowed by the large red brick educational buildings across the street and adjacent on the west.

Enclosures: There is a wrought and cast iron fence along top of the massive stone retaining wall along N Street; on the east is a high, plain board fence; on the west is a brick wall enclosing the paved area between the school and the convent.

Outbuildings: None.
Walks: Herringbone brick paving in front of the building, concrete and asphalt paving on west and rear. Steps up from the sidewalk are red sandstone.

Landscaping: Irregular low shrubbery is planted on the steep embankment from the top of the retaining wall to the lighter level of the brick-paved terrace, which has a few planting pockets in it.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 10, 1969
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Holy Trinity Church

General Statement

Architectural Character: This straightforward, symmetrical building is a good example of the adaptation of the Greco-Roman temple form for use as a place of Christian worship. The simplicity of the exterior gives little indication of the elaborate decoration of the interior, yet is in harmony with it. Its light color and graceful proportions set it off from the darker utilitarian school buildings that flank it.

Condition of fabric: Very good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 64'-0" by 109'-0", two stories high. The 36th Street facade is divided into five bays by rectangular pilasters; the outer two bays are blank, the next two have circular stained-glass windows at the second floor level, and the center one has the main entrance doorway. The center three bays form the back of a full height Ionic portico with a gabled pediment. The south side is divided into seven bays; the outer bays project 10" from the others to form small pavilions, the west bay has a doorway, the remaining bays have tall, semi-circular headed stained-glass windows. The north side is similar to the south, but reversed. The east end is divided into three bays with blind arches in them. There is a door low in the center.
Foundations: Stucco covers the masonry foundation walls to grade.

Wall construction: Ashlar-coursed stucco over masonry bearing walls.

Chimneys: One, on the southeast corner.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Main entry has double three panel doors surmounted by a pediment supported on carved consoles, all in wood. There is a semi-circular stained glass transom light. The north and south entries have double three-panel doors with five-light transoms over wood architraves, and wood console-supported entablatures. Door sills are granite.

Windows and shutters: Windows are generally tall, semi-circular leaded stained glass windows with wood and metal frames. There are two circular stained glass windows in the west facade. There are no shutters. All flat-bottomed windows have granite sills.

Porches: The front portico has four Ionic columns of stucco over masonry with limestone bases and capitals supporting a triangular pediment with a modillioned cornice, and large carved and gold-leafed "IHS" in the tympanum. The floor of the porch, which is concrete, is nine granite steps above the sidewalk.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable; metal standing seam roof; ridge running east-west.
Framing: Wood trusses (assumed).

Cornice: Classical wood cornice with modillions on both main building and pedimental portico. Concealed gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: Although the church is basically one large space, there are confessionals across the west wall on both sides of the entrance door, and there are small stair halls just inside both side doors. There are sacristies on each side of the altar area at the east end.

At the west end is a large balcony two bays deep, supported on two rows of ornamented cast iron columns. There is seating on both sides of the balcony, while the center is occupied by the organ, its console, and the choir area.

The basement was not accessible at the time of this writing.

Stairways: The two stairways giving access to the balcony in the northwest and southwest corners of the building. They begin with a series of winders at the outer corners, ascend along the west wall, and then turn again with a series of winders toward the east.

Flooring: Resilient tile under pews, carpet in aisles, white marble in the chancel area.

Wall and ceiling finish: The general color of the interior is a warm gray, picked out in gold leaf. In the balcony the wainscot area is sponge-stippled with a slightly darker gray. The ceiling is coved, and the field area is coffered.
Doors and doorways: The interior vestibule doors are similar to those on the exterior except that they have obscure glass in the upper panels.

Decorative features and trim: The center and side altars, pulpit, chancel rail, and floor are of white marble. Above the side altars are large niches, painted blue inside, containing statues. However, the dominating decorative element is the full-height Ionic order with full entablature complete with rinceau moulding in the frieze. Many of the mouldings are picked out in gilt, as are the fluting and capitals of the pilasters and the rinceau in the frieze.

Hardware: Modern brushed aluminum and bronze; panic hardware on exit doors.

Lighting: Modern electric hanging fixtures and recessed lights.

Site

General setting and orientation: Situated in the middle of the block somewhat above the street, though not set back very far from it, the church dominates the east side of its block of 36th Street. It is surrounded by a variety of affiliated educational buildings.

Enclosures: There is a wrought-iron fence atop a stone retaining wall at each side of the main steps along the 36th Street facade. This fence continues to the corner of 0 Street, enclosing the adjacent school building.

Outbuildings: None.
Walks: Concrete paving surrounds the building.

Landscaping: Low shrubbery in front, paving on sides and rear; well-kept.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 7, 1969
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Holy Trinity Rectory

General Statement

Architectural Character: A large, square, free-standing building, this house forms an ideal transition from the residential-scale buildings along 0 Street to the school and church buildings adjoining it. The bold cornice, entryway, and roof structures are an effective counterpoint to the stolid massiveness of the brick body of the building.

Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of Exterior

Overall dimensions: Main block is approximately 40'-0" by 38'-0", two-stories high with a mansard story. There is a 12'-0", two-story high brick addition across the rear of the main block, and a 10'-0" by 30'-0" enclosed sleeping porch across the rear of the addition at the second floor level. Main block has three bays across 0 Street facade and is four bays deep.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall Construction: Brick, except sleeping porch, which is stucco on frame.
Chimneys: Two on each side of main block.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Front doors are a pair of heavy, two-panel leaves with deep mouldings opening into a vestibule, from which a pair of similar doors with obscure glass in the arched top panels opens into the stair hall. There is an elaborate canopy above the segmental arched transom, supported by overscaled wood scrolls on each side. The woodwork in the vestibule has painted graining in some parts.

Windows and shutters: Windows in general are two over two double-hung wood sash with plain painted stone or wood sills and straight, painted stone or wood lintels with a leaf-carved crown moulding across the top. There are no shutters, but traces of them remain. Dormer windows are two over two, double-hung wood sash.

Porches: Painted stone steps lead up to entry door.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Steep mansard with hexagonal slates; top deck is probably painted metal, but was inaccessible for verification.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Elaborate Victorian wood cornice with both brackets and modillions.

Dormers: Three across the front, one double one between the chimneys on each side; wood with metal roofing.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plan: There is a center stair hall originally having two large rooms on each side. The northwest and southeast rooms remain as separate rooms; the northeast has been divided by a wood and glass partition to form two smaller rooms, while the southwest has been completely partitioned to form a bath and a chapel. The brick addition across the rear contains a kitchen on the east and a dining room on the west. The basement echoes the center hall plan, with various storage rooms opening off each side. The upper floors were inaccessible to the researcher at the time of his visit.

Stairways: The stair has a straight run from north to south along the west wall to a landing the width of the hall, thence a shorter run from south to north to the second floor. This plan continues for the full height of the building. The newel and balusters are heavy turned wood, the handrail is heavy moulded wood, and each tread has an ornamental jigsawed scrolled bracket on the stringer. The basement stair is enclosed with narrow beaded boards, and is a simple wood open riser stair.

Flooring: Oak parquet for the most part; center hall and dining room carpeted; southeast office has linoleum covering.

Wall and ceiling finish: Walls are painted plaster; ceilings in rooms are painted pressed metal, ceiling in stair hall, dining room, and kitchen are painted plaster.

Doors and doorways: Doors in general have four panels, with obscure glass replacing the upper two vertical panels. There are also several other nineteenth-century panelled doors in smaller openings.

Decorative features and trim: All mantelpieces have been removed and the fireplaces closed. Door and window trim is elaborately moulded and is about seven inches wide. The outer edge is undercut, giving a strong shadow line around the openings. Cornices, where they exist, are of pressed metal.
Hardware: Some modern mortise locks, a few old cast iron rimlocks, white china knobs.

Lighting: All mid-twentieth century electric fixtures.

Heating: Boiler in center front of basement; radiators throughout.

Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the south side of 0 Street, the house is set off by driveways on each side. While the neighborhood is essentially residential, this building is part of a large school, church, and convent complex otherwise oriented toward 36th Street.

Enclosures: Chain-link and board fences around rear yard; wrought iron gates on the west between this building and the school building; wrought iron fences around planting areas at each side of front door.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Concrete.

Landscaping: Large foundation planting in areas each side of the front door, paving around remainder of house.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
November 20, 1968
SIMMS-LIHault-DALY HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3610 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 107 Second Street.)

Location: This double house (the western portion being 3612 O Street) occupies part of Lot 90 in Square 56 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 804 in Square 1226 in the City of Washington.

Date of erection: Early nineteenth-century with a series of later additions.

Owners in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown College

Occupants in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Two private residences (one on the first floor and one on the second floor).

Significance: This is a very early example of the double house found in varying architectural styles throughout Georgetown in all its periods of development. The use of the house today maintains its original dual nature.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1794-1818

On March 21, 1794 John Threlkeld and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed this property to Joseph Milbourn Simms. The land was then vacant.

Joseph Milbourn Simms was a son of Joseph and Catherine (Culver) Simms, who were married on May 28, 1753; she was a descendant of Marmaduke Semmes, one of the early settlers of Maryland. Joseph Simms, Sr. inherited "Culver's Choice" in Frederick (later Montgomery) County from his wife's father. The "Culver's Choice" property was evidently the dwelling-plantation of Joseph Milbourn Simms before he acquired the property in Georgetown.

He was enrolled as a very young man in the Montgomery County militia during the American Revolution, belonging to the lower battalion of the County—an indication that "Culver's Choice" was located not too far from Georgetown. He married Elizabeth Mudd on February 2, 1790; the Simms family appear on the census record for Montgomery County that same year. If "Culver's Choice" were not too remote from Georgetown, Catherine Culver Simms may be the "Mrs. Sims" who owned a pew in Holy Trinity Church in 1795, or it may have been her daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Mudd Simms.

Joseph Milbourn Simms died intestate sometime before 1804; in his father's Will, probated that year, there is a reference to Joseph Milbourn as deceased. He was survived by his wife Elizabeth and two sons, Joseph and Francis.
Elizabeth Simms married a second time. The date, place, and even the Christian name of her second husband, a Mr. Thompson, are uncertain. On May 19, 1807 Charles Thompson was assessed for a house and lot "near the Roman Church" in Georgetown, valued at $400; two Negro men, one Negro boy, and furniture were valued at $900. (2) It is quite probable that Elizabeth (Mudd) Simms married Charles Thompson and that they, together with her two sons, were living on the former Joseph Milbourn Simms property.

Without straining the evidence, one might reasonably assume that Joseph Milbourn Simms built a frame house on the property now known as 3610-3612 O Street about the year 1795, that he may have died shortly thereafter, and that his young widow subsequently married Charles Thompson and made her home with her second husband and children at the same address. (3) Charles Thompson died between 1807 and 1809, leaving Elizabeth Thompson again a widow.

On May 10, 1809 Elizabeth Thompson was assessed for Lot 90 with improvements, valued at $800, and other property totaling $1475. Three years later, on July 1, 1812, she was assessed for a one-story frame house, located at Second (now O) and Gay (now 36th) Streets, on Lot 90 of Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition, again valued at $800. (4) On July 29, 1813 Joseph M. Simms, Francis Simms, and Elizabeth Thompson were assessed for one-third each of a one-story frame house located on Lot 90 at Second (O) and Gay (36th) Streets. (5) Two years later, in 1815, Elizabeth Thompson was assessed for one-third of a one-story frame house at Second and Gay Streets on Lot 90, valued at $534. (6) The assessment roll for 1818 listed Elizabeth Thompson as owner of a one-story frame house on Lot 90, located on Second near Gay Street, valued at $1400. (7)
In 1813 one of Elizabeth Simms Thompson's sons, Francis, exchanged properties with his brother, Joseph, relinquishing Lot 90 to Joseph in return for one hundred acres at "Culver's Choice" in Maryland. That same year Joseph married Tabitha Richards at Holy Trinity Church. The following year, 1814, Francis married Verlinda Hagan, descendant of one of the earliest families to settle in Maryland.(8) It is possible that Joseph and Tabitha lived in one dwelling of the double house on Second (0) Street while Elizabeth Thompson lived in the other.

In 1818 Joseph, his wife and his mother (who had dower rights) sold the property to Louis (or Lewis) Joseph Lihault and his two sisters, Marie Francoise and Marie Magdelaine for $1000. In this deed all three of the grantors are described as of Scott County, Kentucky, which would indicate that they had changed their residence from Georgetown to Kentucky.

1818-1833

The high sale price of $1000 (far above the cost of a one-story frame house) and the increased assessment from $534 in 1815 to $1400 in 1818 suggest that the original house had been considerably altered or even replaced on the same foundation before the family sold the property in 1818.(9) The structure with its double living quarters lent itself to separate occupancy by Louis Lihault and his children and by his two unmarried sisters.

In a deed dated November 10, 1819 Louis Lihault conveyed the property in Lot 90 that began "...at the Northwest corner of a two-story brick house supposed to stand at the Western extremity of said Lot 90...." This was given to his sisters in exchange for part of a tract of land called "Fox," being part of Lot 8 and Lot 201 in Hawkins and Beatty's Addition to Georgetown.
The Will of Lewis J. Lihault, dated February 1, 1823, mentioned his sister, Mary (Marie) F. Lihault, a certain Elizabeth Lihault, widow, and her children, Louisa M. Lihault and Augustus Joseph Lihault. It is probable that Elizabeth was the widow of Joseph A. Lihault, who was very likely Lewis's brother. Marie Magdelaine Lihault died in 1821. Her Will, dated January 28, 1820, left all of her property to her sister, Marie Francoise. (10) Unfortunately, neither of these Wills gives any clue to the kind of life lived by the Lihaults. The witnesses to Lewis Lihault's Will included A. H. Boutcher, a later owner of the house.

1833-1842

By her brother's deed of sale in 1819 and her sister's Will, Mary Frances (or Marie Francoise) Lihault became sole owner of the property. On November 21, 1833 she conveyed the property to Alfred H. Boutcher for $670. This 1833 deed noted a frontage of 46 feet on Second Street comprised of 42 feet at the westerly end of Lot 90 and 4 feet at the easterly end of Lot 89.

Alfred H. Boucher (or Boutcher) and his family lived in the house on Second Street according to the extant Georgetown directories and kept a grocery store on Bridge (now M) Street. (11) Boucher appeared in the 1830 census as a resident of Georgetown with a household composed of "... two male children under five and one aged between five and ten years, one white male aged between 30 and 40 years, one aged between 80 and 90, one female child aged between five and ten, one white female aged between 30 and 40 years, one free colored male and one free colored female adult and one free colored child under five years." (12)

Boucher divided the property in 1842 when he sold it. The more easterly portion, with a 24 foot frontage on Second Street, was conveyed to Mary Manyett in a deed dated October 13, 1842. The Manyetts owned an iron
foundry on Maine Avenue in 1846 and are listed as residing at that time in downtown Washington. (13)

1842-1862

For most of the twenty years that the Manyetts owned the property, it was occupied by members of the family. One of the Manyett daughters, Mary Magdalina, lived with her husband, John P. Freeman, in the house for many years. Freeman was a tailor, whose shop was on High Street (Wisconsin Avenue) between Prospect Street and First (N) Street. (14)(15) Then the property was rented in 1858 to Thomas Duvall, a machinist, and later in 1860 to Leonard Hohstein, a tanner. (16)

1862-1904

Carroll Daly, a laborer and later a contractor, bought the house in 1862; he and his family lived there until 1888 when they moved to 1306 36th Street. Daly retained ownership of the O Street house. One of his sons, John, who was a fireman, continued to live in the house for about ten years and then moved across the street.

In the 1865 tax assessment of Georgetown, Carroll Dailey (Daly) is recorded as the owner of a small brick tenement on Lot 90, with a frontage of 19 1/2 feet on Second Street and a 60 foot depth to his property. The total assessed value was $500. (18) The same description and valuation are listed in the 1872, 1874 and 1875 assessments. (19) This would seem to indicate that no substantial changes had been made to the building between 1819 and 1875. It was still only a two-room, two-story brick house. Between 1875 and 1887 certain wooden additions would appear to have been made to the house, most probably by Daly, a contractor whose son was also skilled in construction work.
The house was extended in the rear, with the addition of another small room. These changes are shown on the Hopkins map of 1887. (20)

Carroll Daly died February 20, 1904 without leaving a Will. Survivors were his wife, Margaret, age 70, and three sons, John, William and Daniel. The real estate, consisting of two properties—one on 36th Street and one on O Street—descended to the children. Margaret, Carroll's widow, and two of her sons, John and William, occupied the dwellings, renting some of the rooms in their homes. Daniel, the third son, receiving no proceeds of the rentals, sued to have the properties sold and the funds divided. The court decreed that the sale be made and appointed Michael Colbert and Hugh T. Taggart as trustees. (21)

1904-1942

In September of 1904 the O Street property was sold to Nathan Sickle who was a tobacconist and lived on Eye Street, N.W. (22) Sickle held the property for two years and in 1906 sold it to Aloysius J. Correll, a coach painter, who used it as his residence for the next six years. (23)

In 1913 the property was purchased by John T. Scrivener, a grocer, whose business and home were on Prospect Street. (24) He used the O Street property for rental purposes. In 1919, after Scrivener's death, it was conveyed through a lawyer, LeRoy Humphrey, who served as a "straw," to James E. Scrivener, presumably a son of John. James was an inspector for a meat packing company. He and his wife lived in "Foggy Bottom" on G Street, N.W. (25)

From 1920 to 1929 John F. Carmody, an engineer, rented the house on O Street. (26) In 1923 William H. Lewis had bought the house, but Carmody continued to rent it until 1929 when it was sold through Joseph Dillon, a lawyer, to James J. Sullivan.
James held the property for only two weeks before selling it to Mrs. Nellie W. Brenizer, whose husband, Gilmer, was employed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Department. (27)

These transactions occurred only a month before the Wall Street crash, when economic values dipped sharply. It is interesting to note that 3610 O Street was continuously rented during the thirteen years of ownership by the Brenizers. The tenants were largely professional people—editors, journalists, writers, and high-level government employees. (28)

1842-1969

In 1942 the property was purchased by Dr. Thomas A. Poole, a physician, and his wife. They moved from their home in McLean, Virginia, into their Georgetown dwelling. After Dr. Poole's death his widow remained in the house until 1948 when she sold the house to Durham G. Rodgers. (29)

Rodgers kept the property a little more than two years, although he did not live there. In 1950 Eugene Carland and his wife bought it, but two years later, in 1952, sold it to Georgetown University, the present owners. The house has been rented since then. City Directories of recent years list the tenants as economists, instructors, and research workers—people engaged in a variety of professional careers. (30)
Original and Subsequent Owners

1794
John Threlkeld et ux
   Elizabeth
   to
Joseph Milbourn Simms
Deed March 21, 1794
Recorded April 2, 1794
Liber B-2, folio 3

1813
Francis Xavarius Simms
   to
Joseph Milbourn Simms, Jr.
Deed December 1, 1813
Recorded March 16, 1814
Liber AG-32, folio 221

1818
Joseph M. Simms, Jr. and
   Elizabeth Thompson
   (Simms)
   to
Louis Joseph Lihault
   Marie Magdalene Lihault
   Marie Francoise Lihault, tenants in common
Deed July 31, 1818
Recorded September 22, 1818
Liber AS-43, folio 253
1819
Louis (or Lewis) Joseph Lihault
to
Marie Magdelene (or Magdelaine) Lihault
Marie Francoise Lihault
Deed November 10, 1819
Recorded December 6, 1819
Liber AW-47, folio 377

1821
Mary Magdelene (or Magdelaine)
to
Mary Francoise Lihault
Will January 8, 1820
Proved November 20, 1821
Will Book 3, page 163

1833
Mary Frances (or Marie Francoise) Lihault
to
Alfred H. Boutcher
Deed November 21, 1833
Recorded November 28, 1833
Liber W.B. 48, folio 159

1842
Alfred H. Boutcher
to
Mary Manyett
Deed October 13, 1842
Recorded October 25, 1842
Liber W.B. 93, folio 493
1862
Joseph Manyett and wife, Catherine
John Casper and wife, Mary Madgalina (Manyett)
to
Carroll Dayley (or Daly)

Deed July 10, 1862
Recorded October 25, 1862
Liber JAS 223, folios 371-5

1904
Michael J. Colbert
Hugh T. Taggart
trustees for estate of Carroll Daly, deceased
to
Nathan Sickle

Deed September 20, 1904
Recorded September 21, 1904
Liber 2805, folio 423

1906
Nathan Sickle, unmarried
to
Aloysius J. Correll

Deed September 12, 1906
Recorded September 12, 1906
Liber 3020, folio 422

1913
Aloysius J. Correll
to
John T. Scrivener

Deed April 18, 1913
Recorded April 22, 1913
Liber 3626, folio 34
1919
Margaret H. Blackman and husband, Andrew A. Blackman
James E. Scrivener and wife, Mary B. Scrivener
Mary C. Simpson and husband, Ellsworth T. Simpson
as heirs of John T. Scrivener, deceased
to
LeRoy Pumphrey

LeRoy Pumphrey

to
James E. Scrivener

1923
James E. Scrivener et ux

to
William H. Lewis

1929
William H. Lewis
to
Joseph Dillon

Joseph Dillon
to
James J. Sullivan
James J. Sullivan to Nellie W. Brenizer
Deed September 26, 1929
Recorded September 30, 1929
Liber 6377, folio 267

1942
Nellie W. Brenizer to Thomas A. Poole and wife, Margaret E. Poole, joint tenants
Deed October 16, 1942
Recorded October 20, 1942
Liber 7803, folio 331

1948
Margaret E. Poole, surviving tenant to Durham G. Rodgers
Deed May 14, 1948
Recorded May 18, 1948
Liber 8747, folio 101

1950
Durham G. Rodgers to Eugene Carland and wife
Deed August 22, 1950
Recorded August 25, 1950
Liber 9282, folio 61

1952
Eugene Carland and wife to President & Directors of Georgetown College
Deed May 19, 1952
Recorded May 20, 1952
References


4. Same reference as #2. Roll 8 (1808-1812).

5. Same reference as #2. Roll 9 (1813-18).

6. Same reference as #2. Roll 10 (1815).

7. Same reference as #2. Roll 11 (1818-19).


11. **City Directory.** 1830, p. 4.

12. **Population Census Georgetown, D.C.,** 1830.

13. Same reference as #11. 1846, p. 60.


15. Same reference as #11. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 4.


19. Same reference as #2. Roll 14 (1872-73); Roll 15 (1874); Roll 17 (1875).


23. Same reference as #11. 1907, p. 413; 1913, p. 475.

24. Same reference as #11. 1913, p. 1320.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This two-story brick double house, although it has been much altered, retains the appearance of an early nineteenth-century building in its brickwork, chimneys, and parapeted gable ends. The eastern half, 3610, has been divided into two apartments, while 3612 remains a single dwelling. There is no indication that the two were ever joined into a single dwelling.

Condition of fabric: Good, fairly well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 32'-3" by 26'-3", with four bays across 0 Street facade. The original two-story portion was 17'-0" deep, however. There has been an addition about 24 feet long to the rear of 3610 and one about 20 feet long to the rear of 3612. The front 33 feet of 3610 is two stories high, the rear only one story, while all of 3612 is two stories high.

Foundations: Brick. There is a small, fairly recent cellar under 3610, reached by a trapdoor in the living room floor.

Wall construction: Brick; some areas covered with stucco, particularly on 3612. Rear addition to 3612 is of concrete block.
Chimneys: One at each gable end of original building, one at party wall in first addition to 3610, and one at rear center of 3612.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Traces of the locations of original doors remain at the center two windows of the first floor. Entrance to 3610 is now a pair of glazed French doors in the center of the east side, entrance to 3612 is a single six panel door in the center of the west side.

Windows and shutters: Windows on front have 9 over 6 wood sash; side windows on 3610 are a variety of casements, fixed sash, and double-hung units, all mid-twentieth century; side windows on 3612 have 6 over 6 double-hung wood sash; rear windows on 3610 and 3612 have 6 over 6 wood sash. Front windows have modern replacement wood louvered shutters; the westernmost first floor window has early wrought iron shutter dogs.

Porches: The roof of the one-story addition to 3610 is used as a deck and entrance porch for the second floor apartment. It has a painted metal deck a simple rail built of 2 x 4's, and simple wood utility stairs from the ground.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable on original house with a ridge running east-west, sheds pitched to the south on rear additions to 3610, shed pitched to the west on 3612; all standing-seam metal covered except front of 3612 which has corrugated metal.

Framing: Wood,
Cornice: Three projected brick courses with a metal hanging gutter across the front; no cornices elsewhere, just the gutter alone.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: Apparently each half of this building originally consisted of two rooms, one above the other, with probably a one-story room across the back, as indicated by the continuity and discontinuity of the brick coursing on the east side and similarity of plan on both sides up to this point. The current disposition of rooms is as follows:

3610: Across the north is a bedroom; just south of that a living room with stairs on the east wall; then the entry area, which is only partly screened off from the living room; then the dining area (east) and the bathroom (west); and across the south end is the kitchen. The second floor has a bed-sitting room across the north end; a kitchen-dining room in the center; a bath on the south east; entry hall in south center; and a closet area in the south west.

3612: The first floor has a dining room across the north; a kitchen at the party wall and entry hall with stairs on the west center; a living room across the south end with a powder room in its northwest corner. The second floor has a study across the north; a bedroom across the south; and a bath, closets and stair well in between.

Stairways: Both are straight run; 3610 has an open rail with plain balusters and a turned newel, and is closed up at the ceiling; 3612 has a closed stair with remnants of a beaded-board enclosure at the second floor level.
Flooring: The front rooms in both houses have wide pine floorboards, while the other rooms have narrower pine flooring. Kitchens and baths have resilient tile flooring.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted. The living room in 3610 has partially exposed ceiling joists stained dark.

Doors and doorways: Doors in general are modern six-panel replacements; however, the openings from front rooms to the remainders of the houses appear to be in their original locations.

Decorative features and trim: All mantels have been removed; none of the replacements are of note. They are all mid-twentieth century with the exception of the second floor front of 3610, which has a heavy simple, late nineteenth-century mantel. All trim is of mid-twentieth century manufacture with the exception of the south side of the doorway from bedroom to living room in 3610, which has an early nineteenth-century casing, much damaged and heavily painted.

Hardware: Nothing of note; all mid-twentieth century.

Lighting: No notable fixtures; all mid-twentieth century electric.

Heating: Boiler in small cellar under 3610; boiler in small masonry addition to the southeast corner of 3612; several woodburning fireplaces.

Site

General setting and orientation: The house is situated on the south side of 0 Street between 36th and 37th Streets, in a neighborhood of small scale residential buildings bordering the main gate of Georgetown University. There is open space on both sides, however, giving it the appearance of a larger free-standing house in contrast to the smaller row houses across the street.
Enclosures: Wood paling fences enclose both rear yards and the east side of 3610; there is a brick wall along the west side of 3612. Both have wood gates to the sidewalk.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Both houses have brick walks along their sides to the entrance doors and brick terraces at the rear; however, 3610 has mixed in with the brick many parts of broken white marble nineteenth-century tombstones in the rear terrace.

Landscaping: Simple residential planting; 3610 has an arbor frame of pipe at the entry area for vines, not much else because the entire area is paved; 3612 has a bit more planting and a slightly larger rear yard with some grass. There is no front yard.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
November 20, 1968
HERRON-MOXLEY HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1503 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
(Formerly this address was 76 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house occupies parts of Lots 132 and 133 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown in Square 1253, now taxed as Lot 146 out of Lots 825 and 826.

Date of Erection: 1853-1854

Owners in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Fenwick

Occupants in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Fenwick

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: Built in the mid-nineteenth century by a well-to-do contractor, this free-standing brick mansion retains many outstanding Victorian and Greek Revival interior details. The elaborate trim, elegant mantels and ornate lighting fixtures which characterize a period of splendor, have been maintained and used throughout the years.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1785-1852

When Georgetown was ceded to the District of Columbia Lots 132 and 133 were owned by John Threlkeld who, by an Agreement made September 7, 1785, agreed to sell them to Charles Beatty who died before the deed was executed. In 1810 his son, John Beatty, sold them to Mrs. Mary Mitchell, widow of John Mitchell.

Mrs. Mitchell held these lots for ten years, and at her death the trustee of her estate, Charles Glover, sold them to Jeremiah W. Bronaugh. Bronaugh sold them to John Cox who was Mayor of Georgetown for many years. Cox's second wife was Jane Threlkeld, daughter of the original owner of the land.

For more than half a century Lots 132 and 133 were held as investments and sometimes put in trust as security for loans. This practice was typical during this period as many chains of title show. Among the owners after the Coxes were William and Jeremiah Hoffman, William Jewell, and Eliza M. Mosher.

1852-1868

In 1852 William T. Herron, a contractor, purchased the lots and built there a large brick house well set upon the site for his own family use. This construction took place between 1852, when he purchased the property for $775, and 1855, when this address, 76 Fayette Street, first appeared in a city directory. (1)
The other structures which Herron built on the lot—an ice house, a carriage house and stables—reflect his mode of living. (2) The Herron family enjoyed their mansion for about fifteen years. William T. Herron had his construction business (Rittenhouse, Fowler & Co.) just across the street at 77 Fayette. A son, William A., also worked as a clerk in the office and boarded at 76 Fayette. (3) In 1868 the Herrons sold their large house to Erastus B. Barrett and his wife, Mary Julia, for $20,000, and moved south on Fayette Street to number 55 (now 1404 35th Street). The Herrons lived there only a year before moving their residence to Second (now O) Street near Frederick (now 34th) Street. At this time Herron opened a grocery business on the southeast corner of High (now Wisconsin Avenue) and Bridge (now M) Streets. (4)

1868-1870

In 1867 Barrett was listed as a ship chandler and Justice of the Peace, boarding at 17 Congress (now 31st Street) and owning a business nearby at 23 Congress. (5) By 1869 he and his son, H. W. Barrett, had formed a partnership with Joseph F. Collins known as "Barrett, Collins & Co., brick manufacturers." Although they maintained their factory at 23 Congress, the Barretts transferred their domicile to the mansion at the corner of Third (now P Street) and Fayette (now 35th Street). (6) Erastus, however, died within a year after moving to the large house, and his wife rented the mansion to Senator John Scott of Pennsylvania before selling it in 1870 to Colonel Benjamin Moxley. (7)

1870-1933

Colonel Moxley owned a tobacco and cigar store on the northwest corner of Bridge (M) and Washington (30th) Streets.
He moved from his home at 57 Bridge (M) Street to the spacious dwelling on Fayette (35th) Street. However, he enjoyed its comforts only briefly as he died within the year. His widow, Emily, remained in the house for the next sixty years, until 1916. Part of the time she shared her home with members of her family. Among them were James A. Moxley and George C. Moxley, partners in a feed business called Moxley and Brothers. (9)

Although ownership passed from the family in 1897 when it was sold for unpaid taxes to Malcolm Hufty, Moxleys continued to reside there as tenants. Prominent in Washington society, Mrs. Emily Moxley and Mr. Eugene Moxley were noted in The Washington Elite List in 1893. (10) Eugene, once secretary to Alexander Graham Bell, died in the house in 1933. Once members of Washington's most exclusive clubs, this old family was said to have suffered financial reverses in the "coffee panic." (11)

1933-1943

For about twenty-five years the aging mansion was the subject of various trusts and liens until Fred L. Wagar purchased it in 1918, again for unpaid taxes. Four years later Mrs. Nellie Waddell Brenizer bought it. Mr. Brenizer and her husband, Dr. Gilmer Brenizer, came to Washington from North Carolina in 1899. She was an artist who had at one time worked for the United States Department of Agriculture. For many years she played an active role in societies which were concerned with genealogical and historic work. She died in the mansion in 1943. (12)
1944-1964

Commander and Mrs. Edward Alsted Bacon purchased the big house in 1944 and resided there twenty years. Commander Bacon was a banker and later a government official. His career included service as Assistant to the Secretary of the Army for Canal Zone Affairs; Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army; Chairman of the Executive Council Air Coordinating Committee, Army and Navy Munitions Board; and U.S. Chairman of the Internation Joint Commission, U.S. and Canada. (13)

1964-1969

When the Bacons moved to Florida they sold their house to Wesley Irving Steele and Paul Judson Rohrich who lived next door in the converted carriage house of the mansion, which had been sold by the Bacons to Bernice T. Morris in 1945 and in turn to Steele and Rohrich in 1951. Steele and Rohrich kept the land they wanted for their elaborate garden and sold the big house in 1966 to Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Graham, who, with their five children, lived in the house for the next three years. In May 1969 the house was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Fenwick who presently reside there. It is interesting that the new owners have moved to the area where so many members of the Fenwick family lived in the early days of Georgetown, along 35th Street and P Street.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1785
John Threlkeld to Charles Beatty
Agreement September 7, 1785
Liber N-13, folio 302

1810
John M. Beatty (son of Charles) to Mrs. Mary Mitchell, widow of John Mitchell
Deed January 20, 1810
Recorded March 3, 1810
Liber Y-24, folio 54

1818
Charles Glover, Trustee to Jeremiah W. Bronaugh
Deed February 13, 1818
Recorded May 6, 1818
Liber AR-42, folio 48

1820
Jeremiah W. Bronaugh to John Cox
Deed January 7, 1820
Recorded February 16, 1820
Liber AX-48, folio 230
1822
John Cox to Walter Smith
Trust June 8, 1822
Recorded June 28, 1822
Liber W.B. 6, folio 129
(Being payment of debt due William and Jeremiah Hoffman.)

1824
Walter Smith to William Hoffman and Jeremiah Hoffman (tenants in common)
Deed July 12, 1824
Recorded February 3, 1829
Liber W.B. 11, folio 112

1828
Jeremiah Hoffman to William Jewell
Deed December 19, 1828
Recorded February 3, 1829
Liber W.B. 24, folio 301

1834
William Jewell to Eliza M. Mosher
Deed April 18, 1834
Recorded April 22, 1834
Liber W.B. 49, folio 367

1852
Eliza M. Mosher to William T. Herron
Deed September 3, 1852
Recorded September 20, 1852
Liber JAS 39, folio 495
(Consideration $775)
1868

William T. Herron and wife, Henrietta V. to Erastus B. Barrett

Deed November 5, 1868
Recorded November 7, 1868
Liber D-2, folio 414

"Lots 132 and 133 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown fronting about 120 feet on Fayette Street and same distance on Third (now P) Street."

"...Being ground and premise now and for a long time occupied by the said William T. Herron as a place of residence together with the brick mansion and all other buildings...."

(Consideration $20,000)

1870

Mary Julia Barrett, widow of Erastus B. Barrett to Benjamin F. Moxley

Deed April 21, 1870
Recorded May 21, 1870
Liber 617, folio 285

Benjamin F. Moxley died November 26, 1870, leaving his wife, Emily, and eight children - Mary T. Dent, George C. Moxley, James A. Moxley, Emily A. Turner, John R. Moxley, Florence R. Patterson, Eugene C. Moxley, Wilfred L. Moxley

Will November 16, 1870
Probated December 20, 1870
Will Book 11, page 402
1899
Commissioners of D.C. to Malcolm Hufty
Deed May 22, 1899
Recorded August 15, 1899
Liber 2423, folio 272
(Sold April 7, 1897 for unpaid taxes)

1905
Commissioners of D.C. to Emily W. Wiltsie
Deed July 17, 1903
Recorded May 26, 1905
Liber 2919, folio 172
(Sold for unpaid taxes)

1918
Charles H. Wiltsie et ux et al to Hamilton, Monogue, and Gertman, trustees under equity case
Quit Claim Deed March 6, 1918
Recorded March 6, 1918
Liber 4041, folio 241

Hamilton, Monogue and Gertman, trustees to Fred L. Wagar
Deed May 8, 1918
Recorded July 20, 1918
Liber 4108, folio 82
1922
Fred L. Wagar and wife, Elizabeth H. to Nellie W. Brenizer
Deed June 3, 1922
Recorded June 21, 1922
Liber 4720, folio 498

1944
Albert M. Noble, sole acting Executor under Will of Nellie W. Brenizer to Lorraine Graham Bacon, Sr.
Deed May 24, 1944
Recorded May 24, 1944
Liber 7981, folio 449
(Sale of stable and carriage house.)

1945
Lorraine Graham Bacon, Sr. to Bernice T. Morris
Deed February 5, 1945
Recorded February 5, 1945
Liber 8066, folio 311

1951
Bernice T. Morris to Wesley I. Steele
Deed July 27, 1951
Recorded July 27, 1951
Liber 9521, folio 401
(Stable and carriage house property.)
1964
Lorraine Graham Bacon, Sr. et vir to Wesley Irving Steele, et al, joint tenants
Deed June 30, 1964 Recorded June 30, 1964 Liber 12234, folio 434

1966
Wesley Irving Steele et al joint tenants to Richard A. Graham et ux tenants in common
Deed May 5, 1966 Recorded May 5, 1966 Liber 12606, folio 85

1969
Richard A. Graham and wife, Nancy A. Graham to Charles G. Fenwick and wife, Marie Jose Fenwick
Deed May 5, 1969 Recorded May 8, 1969 Liber 12991, folio 518

References

1. City Directory. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 5.

3. Same reference as #1. 1867, p. 313; 1868, p. 108.

4. Same reference as #1. 1869, p. 82; 1870, p. 454; 1872, p. 510.

5. Same reference as #1. 1867, p. 103.

6. Same reference as #1. 1869, p. 72.

7. Same reference as #1. 1870, p. 339.

8. Same reference as #1. 1853, p. 73; 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 7; 1860, p. 171; 1870, p. 460; 1871, p. xxi.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: A large, imposing, formal, symmetrical, free-standing square brick mansion built in the mid-nineteenth century. The house has typical, but large scale Victorian and Greek Revival details.

Condition of Fabric: Exterior and interior are intact and well maintained. Mid-twentieth century kitchen, bathroom and heating features are a minimum intrusion. The basement of the house is made into a large apartment and the upper floors are used as a family residence.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Approximately 45' square. Three bays across the 35th Street facade. Two stories in height with a partially exposed basement. No additions or wings.

Foundations: Brick. Continuous stone areaway on sides and rear.

Wall Construction: Brick. The west or front of the house has a smooth red face brick and the sides and rear have a rough face brick. The walls appear to be in original condition with no alterations to the openings.

Chimneys: Four brick chimneys. Symmetrical arrangement with two chimneys on each side of the house.
Openings:

Doorways and Doors: Main entry door is in the center bay of front or west facade and has wood pilasters on each side and a pediment above. Louvered shutters in this opening form a vestibule behind which is a pair of glazed doors with sidelights and transom which have ornamental etched glass. Doors have some Greek Revival and some Victorian characteristics. Lesser doorways are placed symmetrically on all sides of the house. French doors go from bedrooms to rear second floor porch.

Windows and Shutters: Variety of window sizes from face to face of the building. All windows are double hung wood. The basement has eight-over-eight light sash front and rear and six-over-six light on the sides. Above most main sash have six-over-nine lights. To the rear of the first floor are eight-over-twelve light sash of which the bottom section slides into a ceiling slot to permit entrance to the porch. Windows have simple stone lintels and sills. Most windows are equipped with shutters that have louvers on the top half and panels on the bottom half.

Porches: The house has porches on all four sides. The front porch is the only one not covered. This has a series of 14 stone steps up from the sidewalk and a graceful ornamental iron railing. Similar ornamental iron is used for the fence around the yard, around the side and rear areaway and over lower portions of first floor windows. Two similar side porches have round Doric columns, bracketed cornice trim, and flat roof decks. Railings with open ornamental woodwork of diminishing squares are on the upper and lower levels. These porches are one floor high. The rear porch runs the entire length of the house and has two covered floors. This porch is wooden, has square columns and bracketed cornicework. The railings for the porch have a panel motif on the lower half and square balusters on the upper half. The center stair at the rear of the rear porch is of ornamental iron.
Roof:

Shape, Covering: Standing seam, metal, flat-hip roof with a center stub that may be a cupola stub. Porch roofs are flat.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice, Eaves: Wood bracketed.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of Interiors

Floor Plans: First floor has a center entry hall which is flanked on the right (north) by a kitchen and to the left (south) by the library. There is a center hall and stair hall from the right or south center of the house connecting the side porch. These two halls meet each other and form an L-shaped circulation pattern. Across the rear of the house are to the left (north) the dining room and to the right (south) the living room. All rooms are large.

Second floor has an L-shaped hall. Two bedrooms are on the front and two on the rear of the house. Bathrooms are located between the rooms on the front and on the rear centers.

Basement is presently divided as an independent apartment, but most partitions are original to the house. Entry is from the center of the south side of the house under the porch. There is a hall running from there to the center of the basement which is also a stair hall to the first floor.
Across the front of the house are two bedrooms in the corners with a pair of bathrooms between. On the right (south) rear of the basement is the living room and to the rear left (north) are a kitchen and dining area. There are other small storage areas and access to the outside through the kitchen and a furnace room located on the center of the north side of the house.

The plan of the house and arrangement of all rooms is formal. Location of the kitchen on the first floor is probably not original. Baths and storage areas have been added for the convenience of family living.

Stairs: Main stairway is open on one side and runs from the first to the second floor in a U-shaped pattern. It is wood with a heavy newel post and a curving wooden rail with simple balusters. There is scrollwork on the stair ends, and a heavy chair rail running up the stair. The landing of the stair is lighted by a window in the center of the south side of the house. The stair from the basement to the first floor is simple, wood and utilitarian.

Floors: Random width pine painted a dark brown, throughout first and second floors. Front of basement has wood random width boards in south (right) room and narrow hardwood in north (left) room.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Smooth plaster.

Doorways and Doors: Large and wood throughout the house. Main doorways on the first floor are very high and have large scale Greek Revival pilasters and pediments and are similar to trim on windows. Doors are heavy four panels and have simple molded trim. Second floor doors are similar but smaller in scale. Basement has some four and some five panel Doors.
Trim: Base mouldings are very deep, especially on the first floor, there are also heavy chair rails and moulded cornice trim, on the first and second floors. The basement has only simple and utilitarian trim. Door and window trim as noted above. There are nine fireplaces open. These have a variety of mantels. The library has a white, Victorian, rectangular, carved marble mantel. The kitchen has a brick faced fireplace with simple wood trim. The dining room has a white marble, Victorian, arched carved mantel. The living room has a black, Victorian, arched and carved marble fireplace with a coal grate intact. The right (south) rear second-floor bedroom has a white arched Victorian carved marble mantel. Both front bedrooms on the second floor have simple wood Greek Revival mantels. The front right (south) bedroom of the basement has a wooden mantel with free-standing Corinthian columns and a shelf. The rear right (south) room or living roof of the basement has a simple wooden Greek Revival mantel.

Hardware: A variety of brass hardware - nothing outstanding noted.

Lighting: A variety of electric fixtures in most rooms. The dining room and library equipped with ornamental brass and bronze gas chandeliers. These are mounted from ornamental plaster ceiling medallions.

Heating: Radiators and nine fireplaces.

Site

General Setting and Orientation: The house is on a raised mound several feet above the grade of the street and public walks that are on the west and the south of the property.
The house is in a residential section of Georgetown that is in character with this house. The main front of the house faces 35th Street or west, the right side (south) P Street.

Enclosures: The house is surrounded by a decorative iron fence that is on top of a brick coping and has brick corner posts.

Outbuildings: At present a building to the east of the house and facing on P Street is reputed to have been the stable or carriage house. It has been much altered and is a separate residence now.

Walks: Simple brick walks surround the house. A center walk connects the main entry porch to the sidewalk with a series of stone steps.

Landscaping: A variety of residential landscaping surrounds the base of the building. The planting is not highly formal, nor the site elaborately developed. The rear yard is grass. The house has a number of large trees around it.

Prepared by: Donald B. Myer
Commission of Fine Arts
July 20, 1967
**McCarthy-Sullivan House**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Address in 1969:</strong></th>
<th>3623 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>The house is on part of old Lot 113, Square 78 in Thréfkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as lot 830 in Square 1248 in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of Erection:</strong></td>
<td>Early 1860's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Owners in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>President and Directors of Georgetown College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupants in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>Rental tenants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use in 1969:</strong></td>
<td>Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Significance:</strong></td>
<td>This hundred-year-old simple frame house forms part of the picturesque streetscape of the north side of O Street. Although altered for twentieth-century living, its early exterior character has been maintained.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1823-1865

The early history of this property is identical with that described in the record of 3619 0 Street, N.W., for Lot 113 was not divided until Patrick McCarthy did so in 1864, when he sold the eastern 20 feet of the lot (now 3619 0 St., N.W.) to John Hurley.

1865-1883

The following year, 1865, McCarthy sold the rest of lot 113, consisting of a 40 foot frontage on Second Street and extending back 150 feet, to Timothy Sullivan. The 1865-70 tax assessment records value McCarthy's property at $600 and value the "Improvements: Frame Tenement back, at $400." (1) Sullivan already owned adjoining lot 112 and part of lots 111 and 121.

In 1866, Timothy and his wife, Bridget, sold one half of the western 40 feet of lot 113, with a 20 foot frontage on Second Street, to John Sullivan. (Timothy had already sold to John some adjoining lots. So together they owned a considerable portion of the north side of Second Street.)

In 1867 John and his wife, Ellen, sold this same property to Timothy Sullivan, presumably their father. (2)
1883-1969

After Timothy's death the property was inherited by his children—John Sullivan, Mary Sullivan McCarthy, and Elizabeth Sullivan. They, in 1883, sold it to Jeremiah Sullivan, increasing his holdings since he owned adjacent property.

Jeremiah died in 1895, leaving his estate to his wife, Ellen, for her lifetime, and then to his children. The house was rented during Ellen's ownership to a series of tenants, chiefly carpenters and other manual laborers. Ellen Sullivan died in 1937 and four years later, in 1944, the property was sold by her children to Abraham Aljan and his wife. They held it for three years and then sold it to Lorine M. Delsnider. In 1951 Georgetown University bought it and has since used the house for rental purposes. Occupants in recent years have consisted mostly of government executives.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1823

Rebecca McCann
Joseph Clarke of Robert
Robert Clarke to
Edward Dawes

Deed August 25, 1823
Recorded March 3, 1824
Liber W.B. 9, folio 478
1830

John Threlkeld

to

Rebecca McCann

Joseph Clarke of Robert

Robert Clarke

tenants in common

Heirs of Elisha Fowler, Jr. purchased the lot from Threlkeld but deed was not recorded in the time prescribed by law. A decree of the Chancery Court of D.C. ordered the conveyance above to clear the title for the 1823 sale.

1843

Richard Smith, Tr.

Bank of the United States

Edward Dawes and wife, Ann

to

James R. Gates

1857

James R. Gates and wife, Mary Jane

to

Patrick McCarthy
1865

Patrick McCarthy and wife, Julia to Timothy Sullivan

(Western 40 feet of Lot 113)

Deed June 7, 1865
Recorded April 21, 1866
Liber RMH 14, folio 322

1866

Timothy Sullivan and wife, Bridget to John Sullivan

(20 feet of Lot 113)

Deed April 19, 1866
Recorded April 21, 1866
Liber RMH 14, folio 320

1867

John Sullivan and wife, Ellen to Timothy Sullivan

(20 feet of Lot 113)

Deed May 6, 1867
Recorded September 14, 1867
Liber ECE 15, folio 279
1883
Richard R. Crawford, Ex. of Will of Timothy Sullivan
John Sullivan
Mary McCarthy (formerly Sullivan)
Elizabeth Sullivan
to
Jeremiah Sullivan

1944
Josephine Sullivan
James J. Sullivan and wife, Mary
Jeremiah Sullivan and wife, Ellen A.

Lillian E. Sullivan
Robert A. Cox, unmarried
Ann Marie Briggs
Regina Cox Katalinas
to
Abraham Aljan and wife, Sarah E., tenants by entirety

1947
Abraham Aljan and wife, Sarah E., tenants by entirety
to
Lorine M. Delsnider
1951

Lorine M. Delsnider to President and Directors of Georgetown College

Deed June 8, 1951
Recorded June 11, 1951
Liber 9487, folio 830

REFERENCES


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: A simple, regular, informal house, last of its row. This house has been remodeled and added to many times, giving the side and rear elevations a haphazard quality out of keeping with the regularity of its facade.

Condition of fabric: Good, well maintained.

Technical Description of Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 17'-6" by 17'-6". Two bays across 0 Street facade. Two stories high. Two-story concrete addition across entire rear and one-story concrete block ell at northeast corner.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame, concrete block ell at rear.

Chimneys: One small chimney off ell at rear.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Mid-twentieth century six panel door with glass in top two panels; simple flat trim.
Windows and shutters: Eight over eight double-hung wood sash on first floor, six over six double-hung wood sash on second floor.

Porches: Four foot by eight foot wood porch at rear of second floor. Brick stoop with iron rail at front door.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable, ridge running east-west; asphalt shingle covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Simple wood box cornice with hanging metal gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Because of many additions and renovations, nothing notable remains of the original plan nor of the original decorative features.

Site

General setting and orientation: Westernmost of several houses of similar scale forming the north side of 0 Street. No front yard; ample yard in rear.

Enclosures: Rear yard enclosed with wood fence.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick, concrete.
Landscaping: Rear yard terraced with stone retaining walls, although planting is at a minimum.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
December 4, 1968
LONGDEN HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1555 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (In past years this house has had the following addresses: 100 Fayette Street to 1895 1623 35th Street 1896-1898 1621 35th Street 1899-1931.)

Location: The house occupies Lot 179 and part of Lot 181 in Square 104 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 802 in Square 1274 in the city of Washington.

Date of erection: 1853

Owner in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. E. Harrison Clark

Occupants in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. E. Harrison Clark

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: Although originally a modest dwelling, this free-standing, frame ante-bellum house has been embellished throughout the years by various owners so that today, with its carefully landscaped setting, it presents a much more elegant appearance than its modest beginning.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1826-1850

In 1826 much of John Threlkeld's property was sold for taxes by court order. This Lot 179 and part of 181 were included in the lands put up for sale. Clement Smith, President of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown, paid twelve dollars for the ground at the auction sale on January 19, 1827. In his Will Smith left this ground together with other property to his widow and brother, Margaret and Walter Smith, respectively. The widow sold her dower interest in the lot for cash to her brother-in-law, Walter Smith. This occurred in 1840. Because of debts owed by Walter Smith and his deceased brother, the lot was placed in a deed of trust to creditors in April 1843. Four years later in settlement of a small claim, Sophia W. Smith, the sister of Walter Smith and the deceased Clement Smith, accepted the lot by deed, but immediately gave a bond of conveyance to George W. Longden, which was finalized by a deed the next year.

1850-1865

George W. Longden, a Georgetown carpenter and later a builder, constructed the house for his own use as a residence in 1853. The Washington Star of that year reported in its "Georgetown Affairs" column of May 23: "George Longden erecting fine dwelling opposite Convent." This would indicate that plans were already under way. (1) Further verification of the date of construction is a deed of trust three weeks later on June 16, 1853, from Longden to William Redin, an attorney, in which construction money is advanced to Richard Pettit, a builder, who is "about to build" the house. The same deed also provides for fire insurance.
Redin, Pettit and Longden were all listed in the Georgetown City Directory of 1830 as residents. By 1855 Longden had paid Redin the loan money and was released from his deed of trust. Pettit was also the builder who constructed part of the Convent of the Visitation across the street from Longden House; in 1857 he erected the south wing and added a floor to the wing which was originally built in 1832.

George Longden lived in his house for about ten years according to listings in the Washington city directories. During the Civil War Longden and his business partner, Fayette Darne, are listed at this address as builders and contractors. Longden's sister, Mary A. Longden, purchased the house in 1863. Presumably she rented the house, for she is listed in subsequent directories as living on Frederick (now 34th) Street.

1865-1891

George Longden died August 8, 1865 at the age of 65 and was buried at Holy Rood Cemetery north of Georgetown. His sister lived until 1891 and was also buried at Holy Rood. Her Will left Longden House to Mrs. Susannah Darne, widow of Fayette Darne, her brother's business partner. The Darne family had a livery stable on Bridge (now M) Street from before 1854 until 1897. Mary Longden's Will states that she had reared Mrs. Darne.

The 1887 Hopkins plat of Georgetown shows Longden House with measurements equal to the present structure without the garage wing. The plat also shows a structure at the southwest corner of the property which might have been a stable.
1891-1897

Mrs. Darne lived in Longden House from 1891 to 1897 when she sold the dwelling to John D. Sullivan, who in turn sold it the following day to another Georgetown citizen, J. Barton Miller.

1897-1911

J. Barton Miller was a justice of the peace and notary public, as well as Secretary of the First Cooperative Building Association of Georgetown. Miller lived in this house from 1898 to 1910. (10) During this time Miller subdivided the south twenty feet of neighboring Lot 181 with Edward Schneider. (11) This twenty feet had been part of the original plot and of it Miller reacquired four feet by a release deed. (It is possible this was done in order to construct the north wing of Longden House.) Title to the property was given to Miller's wife, Mary K. Miller, in December 1910. A month later she assigned it to Martin I. Wilbert.

1911-1928

Wilbert, a chemist, was employed by the Treasury Department and occupied the house for five years until his death in 1916. (12) Again the house passed to the widow, Elizabeth Wilbert, who resided in it another twelve years and in 1928 sold it to Harriet P. Winslow.

1928-1941

During Miss Winslow's ownership the house was held as a rental property. L. Corrin Strong, later U.S. Ambassador to Norway, rented the property as did Thomas Stone, Secretary of the Canadian Legation, and Nelson Poynter, later publisher of the Congressional Quarterly. In the depression year of 1935 the house was vacant. From 1936 to 1941 it was used as a fraternity house of Georgetown University. (13)
1941-1969

G. Howland Chase, an attorney, purchased the house in 1941 and resided there for twelve years.(14) In 1953 the Chases sold it to Mrs. Marylinn Riviere. She and her husband, Joseph, who was President of an investment corporation, occupied the dwelling.(15) Agnes M. Clark (Mrs. E. Harrison Clark) purchased Longden House in 1960. The Clarks, who still occupy the house, have carefully preserved the ante-bellum character of the dwelling.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1828

Tench Ringgold, Marshall to Clement Smith
Pres. of Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown

Deed December 4, 1828
Recorded December 4, 1828
Liber W.B. 20, folio 644

Recites that Lot 179 and the south 20 feet front by full depth of Lot 181 were sold for taxes at public auction for $12, January 19, 1827, under an 1826 court order.
1839
Clement Smith died, leaving Lot 179 to his widow, Margaret, and to his brother, Walter Smith Will May 30, 1823 Probated March 29, 1839 Will Book 5, page 106

1840
Margaret Smith to Walter Smith Deed February 12, 1840 Recorded February 14, 1840 Liber W.B. 77, folio 29

Mrs. Smith sells her dower interest in Lot 179

1843
Walter Smith to John A. Smith and William Hunter, Jr. Deed of Trust April 8, 1843 Recorded April 22, 1843 Liber W.B. 100, folio 323

Recites that Walter Smith gave a guarantee to creditors for debts owned by him and his deceased brother, Clement Smith.

1847
Walter Smith to Sophia W. Smith (Sister of Walter) Deed August 28, 1847 Recorded September 7, 1847 Liber W.B. 133, folio 402
Sophia Smith  
  to  
George W. Longden

Bond of Conveyance  
October 12, 1847  
Recorded April 3, 1848  
Liber W.B. 142, folio 67

1849

Sophia Smith  
  to  
George W. Longden

Deed October 9, 1849  
Recorded April 1, 1850  
Liber JAS 12, folio 14

1853

George W. Longden  
  to  
William Redin, attorney

Deed of Trust June 16, 1853  
Recorded June 16, 1853  
Liber JAS 57, folio 446

Redin agreed to advance construction money to Richard Pettit, a builder, who was "about to build" the house. Deed also provided for fire insurance.

1863

George W. Longden  
  to  
Mary A. Longden  
  (sister of George)

Deed November 5, 1863  
Recorded November 5, 1863  
Liber NCT 17, folio 306
1891
Mary A. Longden died May 3, 1891, leaving Lot 179 and house to Mrs. Susannah Darne, widow of Fayette Darne
Will September 19, 1889
Probated June 13, 1893
Will Book 34, page 28

1897
Susannah Darne to John D. Sullivan
Deed August 16, 1897
Recorded August 17, 1897
Liber 2249, folio 150

John D. Sullivan to J. Barton Miller
Deed August 17, 1897
Recorded October 23, 1897
Liber 2273, folio 46

1910
J. Barton Miller to William R. Rodgers
Deed December 1, 1910
Recorded December 7, 1910
Liber 3376, folio 289

William R. Rodgers to Mary K. Miller
Deed December 1, 1910
Recorded December 7, 1910
Liber 3376, folio 314

1911
Mary K. Miller to Martin I. Wilbert
Deed January 31, 1911
Recorded February 23, 1911
Liber 3397, folio 314
1916
Martin Wilbert died November 25, 1916, leaving house to his widow, Elizabeth
Will April 3, 1916
Probated February 19, 1917
Will Book 92, page 176

1928
Elizabeth Wilbert to Harriet P. Winslow
Deed July 10, 1928
Recorded July 10, 1928
Liber 6178, folio 316

1941
Harriet P. Winslow to G. Howland Chase
Deed February 14, 1941
Recorded February 17, 1941
Liber 7580, folio 242

1953
G. Howland Chase to Marylinn Himes Riviere
Deed October 5, 1953
Recorded October 6, 1953
Liber 10063, folio 426

1960
Marylinn Himes Riviere to Agnes M. Clark
Deed November 29, 1960
Recorded December 6, 1960
Liber 115, folio 56
REFERENCES


2. City Directory. 1853, p. 79.

3. Same reference as #2. 1855, (Georgetown Section), p. 7; 1864, p. 279.

4. Same reference as #2. 1864, p. 279; 1866, p. 409.

5. Same reference as #2. 1890, p. 590.


7. Same reference as #6. 1891.

8. Same reference as #2. 1853, p. 26; 1897, p. 149.

10. Same reference as #2. 1898, p. 699; 1899, p. 728; 1910, p. 954.


15. Same reference as #2. 1960, p. 1462.
GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural Character: A medium free-standing mid-nineteenth century residence with brick additions to the sides and the rear. A type of structure that would be more usual in New England than in Georgetown. Built in 1853 in a direct and simple clapboard style by George W. Longden, a carpenter and builder, as his own house.

Condition of Fabric: Well maintained, furnished, and landscaped. Remodeled continuously from the 1940's, but main house is in its original basic form. Used as a single family residence.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF EXTERIOR

Overall Dimensions: 35' three bays across the street front. Original house 20.5' deep. Rear wing approximately 38' deep and 20' wide. North wing 20' deep and 10' wide. Two stories high plus full exposed basement in front.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall Construction: Original clapboard house is frame and later additions brick. Rear or east addition walls have been altered in changing of door and window openings. All walls in good and plumb condition.
Chimneys: Four brick chimneys. Two flanking center hall of house, one on the rear wing and one on the north wing. Photographic evidence indicates that the north wing chimney was added after 1941.

Openings:

Doorways and Doors: Main front entry is a six panel wood door flanked by partial sidelights and topped with a fan light and surrounded by moulded wooden arch trim with a simple keystone. The rear wall of the rear wing has two pairs of enlarged glass doors opening to the garden and dating from the early 1960's.

Windows and Shutters: Before the 1940 remodeling the house had one-over-one double-hung wooden sash. These were replaced throughout most of the house with a six-over-six light sash. All window trim is very simple with plain flat heads. Most windows are equipped with wooden exterior blinds.

Roof:

Shape and Covering: Standing seam metal hip roof on the main house and the rear addition.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice, Eaves: Simple all wood bracketed cornice.

Dormers: None.
Technical Description of Interior

Floor Plans: Main house has a center hall, which formerly had a center stair. Hall is flanked on the right by the library and on the left by the dining room. This section of the house is only one main room deep. The rear wing connects directly to the center hall and consists of one large living room. The kitchen is in a small north side addition. A basement is under the main house only. A garage under the kitchen was originally a room and was converted and lengthened to fit a standard size automobile. There is a small center entry hall on grade at the front of the basement. To the right is a bedroom with bath and to the left is a den. Part of the center section is partitioned off for storage. There are also several other small storage areas, a laundry room, a furnace room and a stair hall. There is a crawl space under the rear wing. The original kitchen and dining room were probably located in the basement. The second floor has a center hall with one bedroom and a bath on each side. The rear wing has the master bedroom and bath. Directly over the kitchen is a study. There is limited attic space over the master bedroom in the rear wing. This is reached by a pull-down folding ladder.

Stairs: The present main stairway runs from the first floor to the second floor. The original main stair which, as documented by photographs, was along the right side of the center hall, was removed in the 1950's. Photographic evidence also shows steps in the location of the present stair, which runs sideways across the house behind the dining room. The U-shaped stair is wood with simple trim and a delicate curved wooden railing. At one time a stair from the pantry went up to the landing. There is scroll work on the exposed ends of the treads down to the basement.
Flooring: Random width pine boards ranging from four to seven inches.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Plastered walls and ceilings.

Doorways and Doors: Most interior doors are five panel wood and show in the photographs taken in the early 1940's. There are two vertical panels on the top and the bottom of the doors and a horizontal panel in the center.

Trim: Most door and window trim is simple wood with bulls eyes in the upper corners. The main first floor rooms have enlarged openings from the main hall. The elegant living room has a carved wooden doorway, from the hall, which came from an old Virginia house in the 1960's. This has a tongue and dart surround and a broken pediment. The double doors going from the living room to the garden have imitation trim to match. The dining room, library, and garden have simple cornice mouldings, deep base mouldings and chair rails. The chair rail extends up the stairway. The living room has cornice mouldings with dentil work that was installed in the 1960's. The house has five fireplaces intact with mantels. The mantels on the first floor are of particular note, but are not original. The dining room has a wooden Adam type mantel, with a pink marble inner facing. The library has a late nineteenth-century small scale wood mantel with a shelf and a vertical rectangular opening. The living room has a carved wooden mantel which is sixteenth-century French. The library has built-in shelving with grooved ornamental miniature pilasters between each book bay. The pilasters are copies of antique pilasters which were in the house from another old building from 1941 through the 1960's.

Hardware: Most doors have small brass knobs. The study has ornate lever knobs. There is some original hardware.
Lighting: All rooms have electric lighting from various periods.


Plumbing: One bathroom in basement with mid-twentieth century fixtures. A powder room on the first floor. Kitchen and pantry have built-in cabinets and fixtures from the 1960's. Second floor has three bathrooms with mid-twentieth century fixtures.

Site

General Setting and Orientation: House faces west on 35th Street, N.W., in a residential neighborhood in Georgetown, D.C. Across the street are some residential scale buildings belonging to the Convent of the Visitation. There is no rear or alley access to the property.

Enclosures: The front yard was enclosed in 1941 by an iron fence of the typical Washington hoop and picket variety, but it was later replaced by a brick retaining wall at the front of the property. The rear and side yards are surrounded by masonry and board fences.

Porch: The front porch is actually on the second level. This is a small covered porch with roof supported on wooden columns and a double curving stairway connecting it to a center walk below. The stair has simple ornamental trim, and is similar to the garden entrance at the Gibbs House in Charleston. This porch was built in the early 1940's to replace a wooden structure that extended the entire length of the house and had brick corner piers with a simple iron railing. Its form was unusual and may have been altered in the early twentieth century.
Outbuildings: To the south of the house are a greenhouse and a small tool shed. The greenhouse existed in the 1940's. There is no evidence of other outbuildings on the site.

Walks: A brick city sidewalk crosses the front of the property in the normal Georgetown fashion. A brick center walk goes up several risers to the main entry and a brick driveway connects the garage in the north addition to the street. Walks connect the front and rear yards on both sides of the house. The rear yard has brick paved sitting areas.

Landscaping: The landscaping was done by Cary Millholland Parker in two stages— one in 1941 and the other in the 1960's. This consists of attractive residential planting and paved areas and a small corner swimming pool. The front yard which slopes down from the house to the street has a variety of evergreen plantings.

Prepared by: Donald B. Myer
Commission of Fine Arts
13 July, 1967
GOSZLER-MEEM-BROWN HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3412 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly O Street was Second Street.)

Location: The house is located on parts of Lots 65 and 66, Square 58 in Beatty and Hawkins Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 815, Square 1228 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: Between 1820 and 1830

Owners in 1969: Dr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Fair

Occupants in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: This is an early example of the small brick houses built for investment purposes in western Georgetown. It demonstrates the adaptability of these structures to twentieth-century patterns of living.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1798-1809

In 1798 Lot 66 in Beatty and Hawkins Addition to Georgetown was sold to Thomas Beatty by John G. Middagh, Charles King and Mary King. This property was part of a tract of land called "Knaves Disappointment." Eleven years later, in 1809, Thomas Beatty sold the lot to John Goszler who already owned part of the adjacent Lot 65.

1809-1831

Tax records in 1815 and 1818 assess Goszler's property for ten feet of Lot 65 and all of Lot 66 with a two-story brick house at $3,000.(1) This high figure would seem to indicate a rather large house, most likely present 1328 34th Street on the southeast corner of 34th and O Streets (formerly Frederick and Second Streets).

John Goszler came of an illustrious family who left Germany in the mid-eighteenth century, possibly because of conditions that James Truslow Adams, the historian, describes as "... distress of the most appalling sort in... Germany...."(2) Turbulent political conditions and religious persecution drove many of these unfortunate Germans to seek other lands. Some of these refugees settled in Pennsylvania and Maryland.(3) Others moved to Georgetown, attracted by the opportunities for work on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and on construction projects in the nearby capital city. Constance Green notes the presence of German laborers in Georgetown in 1832 when rampant disease struck the community:
"In the summer of 1832 an epidemic of Asiatic cholera took heavy toll, first among the workmen on the C & O Canal and the laborers engaged in laying the water mains for government buildings.... Most of them were from Germany and Ireland...." (4)

Many of John Goszler's family settled in Pennsylvania.(5) Others settled in the western part of Georgetown, acquired considerable property there and participated in community affairs. Georgetown Tax Records for the period 1800-1808 show four Goszlers—Anthony, Henry, John and George. John was assessed for:

"1 improved lot on Fayette $800
1 mare 60
1 cow and calf 20
furniture 60"

and also

"1 house and lot in Threlkeld's Addition $800
1 house and lot in Threlkeld's Addition 600
1 house and lot belonging to Daniel Easterday 800
2 horses 100
1 cow 12
furniture 100" (6)

In 1818 John Goszler used some of his property as security to borrow money from the Farmers and Mechanics Bank. By 1823 John, caught in the financial pinch that had struck Georgetown, was forced to mortgage part of his property, Lot 65, to meet his financial obligations. Times were hard. John got a position as a Liquor Gauger with responsibility for measuring the contents of liquor casks for taxation purposes. (7)
1831-1843

However, Goszler could not meet his obligations, so in 1831 a public sale was held to dispose of some of his property, among which were parts of Lots 65 and 66, "...with a two story brick dwelling..." (now 1328 34th Street) "...and other tenements" (now 3412 and 3414 O Street).

The Farmers and Mechanics Bank was the highest bidder at the public sale and so retained the property. It is probable that, because of the economic slump, no buyer offered enough for the property, and that rather than take such a loss, the bank preferred to meet competing bids by paying $1435 and holding on to the property until the financial picture improved.

Although the property was owned by the bank, John Goszler continued to live in the two-story brick dwelling on the corner of Frederick and Second Streets on the south side. Several other Goszlers lived and ran businesses nearby; and it is probable that Catherine Goszler, who is listed in the 1830 Georgetown Directory as "spinster, Second street near Frederick" lived in one of the tenement houses, as well as Mrs. Polly Goszler, who is shown in the 1834 Directory as "widow, Second street." (8)

1843-1865

In 1843, twelve years after the public sale, the Farmers and Mechanics Bank sold to George A. Meem, for $3300, all of Lot 66 and part of Lot 65, including all of the buildings.

George A. Meem was a prosperous carpenter, who moved into the large brick house on the corner. He sold the adjoining house, fronting on Second Street (now O) to Isaac Barrett, whose son was married to George's daughter, Ann. The two families remained close, even after Ann was widowed and had remarried, for in 1858 "Barrett and Meem" was a carpentry firm at 18 Prospect Street. (9)
It is not known who occupied the other houses (described earlier as "tenements") which Meem bought in the 1843 transaction. One of these houses is the present 3412 O Street. Its exact dimensions are defined in the 1865 deed when George and Martha Meem sold it to Daniel Brown for $1800.

1865-1930

Daniel Brown ten years earlier in 1855 was a laborer living at 83 Third (P) Street.(10) In 1858 Brown is listed in the city directory as a grocer whose business and home were both at 54 Fayette (35th) Street.(11) In 1865, the year of his death, he was similarly listed; and the following year his widow Johanna remained in the Fayette Street home and ran the grocery store. (12)

Before his death Daniel Brown had amassed considerable property in Georgetown. His widow and three children continued to live at 54 Fayette Street until 1879, when they moved to 84 First Street (now 3400 N).(13) Although they did not live in the house now known as 3412 O Street, it remained in the Brown family for almost a hundred years.

1930-1969

In October 1930 Mary Ellen Brown, sole surviving heir-at-law—all other children and heirs having died intestate and childless—sold the property to George M. Hostetler and his wife, Alice W. Mr. Hostetler, being an architect and builder, remodeled the run-down house and installed plumbing for the first time.(14) (15)

The Hostetlers lived in the house only a few years. After Mr. Hostetler's death, his widow moved and used the house for rental purposes. During the war years the British Embassy rented the house and used it for transients.
In November 1959 the house was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Fair, the present owners, who occupied it through 1968. While undertaking comprehensive repairs on the house, the Fairs restored many of the original features of this early dwelling. At present the house is once more being rented.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1798

John G. Middagh
Charles King
Mary King
to
Thomas Beatty

Deed April 2, 1798
 Recorded May 1, 1798
 Liber C-3, folio 416

Lot 66

Describes a compromise with General Davidson about property due the widow of John Middagh, father of John G. Middagh.
1800
John Davidson and wife, Marcia to Thomas Beatty
Deed October 16, 1800 Recorded November 22, 1800 Liber F-6, folio 45
Lot 66
Davidson releases to Beatty for sum of 91 pounds, five shillings, all rights to five lots in Georgetown, among them Lot 66.

1809
Samuel Moffett (U.S. Marshal) to Daniel Renner Daniel Bussard
Deed June 3, 1809 Recorded December 2, 1809 Liber X-23, folio 256
Lot 65 sold to Andrew Scott's heirs for taxes.

1810
Thomas Beatty to John Goszler
Deed July 6, 1810 Recorded July 21, 1810 Liber X-23, folio 382
Lot 66

1823
John Goszler to William King, Jr. James Calder & Son Samuel Smoot
Deed of Trust November 29, 1823 Recorded April 27, 1824 Liber W.B. 8, folio 462
Part of Lot 65
339
1831

John Goszler and wife, Elizabeth to Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown

Deed September 21, 1831
Recorded March 19, 1832
Liber W.B. 40, folio 117

Parts of Lots 65 and 66 "...with a two story brick dwelling" (now 1328 34th Street) "and other tenements..." (now 3412 and 3414 0 Street). Goszler owed the bank a large sum of money on a judgement rendered in 1818. Judgement was levied on parts of Lots 65 and 66, and at public sale, the property was purchased by the bank.

1843

Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown to George A. Meem

Deed October 7, 1843
Recorded May 4, 1847
Liber W.B. 134, folio 50

Lots 65 and 66 for $3300

1865

George A. Meem and wife, Martha to Daniel Brown

Deed August 29, 1865
Recorded August 30, 1865
Liber NCT 62, folio 289

Part of Lots 65 and 66 (present Lot 815) for $1800
1930
Mary Ellen Brown, sole surviving heir-at-law of Daniel Brown and wife, Johanna to George M. Hostetler and wife, Alice W.

Deed October 13, 1930
Recorded October 25, 1930
Liber 6496, folio 257

1959
Alice W. Hostetler, surviving widow, tenant by entirety of her husband, George M. to Marvin L. Fair and wife, Rachel, tenants by entirety

Deed November 13, 1959
Recorded December 8, 1959
Liber 11351, folio 403

REFERENCES

1. Records of the City of Georgetown, D.C. 1800-79, Assessment of Real and Personal Property, Microcopy 605, National Archives Record Group 351, Roll 10 (1815); Roll 11 (1818-19).


8. Same reference as #7. 1830, p. 7; 1834, p. 8.


10. Same reference as #7. 1855, p. 2.

11. Same reference as #7. 1858, p. 433.


15. Interview with Mrs. George Hostetler, September, 1968.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural character: A typical small two-story house, this one appears smaller because of its lower-than-average ceilings, its low sidewalk-to-first floor relationship, and its lack of a front yard. Extensive renovation in 1930 reoriented the interior to accommodate twentieth-century living.

Condition of fabric: Good; fairly well-maintained, except rear weatherboarding which is badly in need of painting. Interior condition very good.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 18'-0" by 29'-6". Three bays across 0 Street facade. Two stories high. Second floor rear bedroom appears to be an addition: there is a one-story high cold joint in the masonry on the east side. As the site drops sharply from north to south, rear elevation is three stories high.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Brick, painted; rear wall weatherboarded.

Chimneys: Two on west side (one relined).

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Front door is twentieth-century "Colonial" raised-panel door with glazed round-headed
panels in the top; door casing is composition moulding over wood, badly in need of paint.

Windows and shutters: First floor front sash are nine over six double-hung wood; second floor front and all rear sash are six over six double-hung wood. Small casements of wood and metal in the east wall of the basement are mid-twentieth century additions. Raised panel shutters on front windows are also recent replacements, although sash and glass appear to be old.

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable roof with ridge running northsouth; metal covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: One projected brick course with hanging metal gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: Entry hall in northeast corner of first floor; living room across remainder of front; large sitting room across rear with stairway at east end, fireplace at west end, and large opening to living room on north. Bathroom (1930 addition) in northeast corner of second floor; two bedrooms with closets between on west side. Rear bedroom is one step lower than remainder of house and has partially sloping ceiling. Basement has sitting room across rear, kitchen in northeast corner and heating/utility room in northwest corner.
Stairways: Straight run with winders at foot, both basement
to first to second floors. Lower run has old rail and newel,
probably from another house; upper run has no rail, but does
have ornamental scrolled brackets of wood or composition
probably from elsewhere.

Flooring: Random width pine on first and second floors,
resilient tile in basement sitting room, carpet in kitchen.

Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster, moulded T & G
vertical boarding, same boarding in basement stained.

Doors and doorways: Front entry and hall closet have twentieth-
century mahogany raised panel doors, door to basement stair is
batten type made of same moulded T & G boarding; upstairs are
simple early nineteenth-century four-panel doors, some relocated.

Decorative features and trim: Mantels have been removed and
replaced with simple surround moulding in board-panelled
chimney breasts on first floor, second floor front has early
mantel with moulded surround and shelf support. Shelf itself
is replacement. Door and window trim throughout is simple 1 1/2"
quarter-round with small square fillet. Base in some rooms is
simple beaded board, in others plain board with cap mouldings.

Hardware: Dates from 1930 renovation; plain brass knobs and
escutcheons. Traces of rimlocks on second-floor doors.

Lighting: No notable fixtures.

Heating: Radiators. Two working fireplaces, two not properly
relined.
Site

General setting and orientation: One of several smaller houses on the south side of O Street, this house has no front yard, but an ample rear yard reached by a three-foot wide alley on the east side. An informal, unassuming house in a neighborhood of similar residences.

Enclosures: Brick wall across rear of lot; wood paling fence on sides of rear yard; board gate at O Street entrance to alley.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick, concrete.

Landscaping: Rear yard has perimeter planting around grassed center.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
October 30, 1968
JEREMIAH SULLIVAN BUILDING

Address in 1969: 1331 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 35th Street was Fayette Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of old Lot 70, Square 58 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 75 in Square 1228 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: 1891

Owners in 1969: Lillian E. Sullivan, Anne Marie Briggs, and Regina Catalez (or Katalinas)

Occupant in 1969: Vacant temporarily while estate is in process of being settled.

Use in 1969: Not in use at present.

Significance: This highly ornamented, late nineteenth-century, multi-purpose, commercial structure is unusual in that its facade has remained unaltered since its construction.
1808-1838

In 1808 Anthony Goszler owner Lot 70 according to tax assessment records. (1) The property is described as "Improved" and valued at $1200. This, however, referred to another structure on the lot, at the corner of Second (0) and Fayette (35th) Streets, for 1331 35th Street had not yet been constructed. After Anthony's death, William Goszler, serving as trustee of the estate, sold Lot 70 to John Goszler.

John Goszler was a "Liquor Gauger" whose function was to measure casks of liquor for taxation purposes. (2) He lived at the corner of Frederick (34th) and Second (0) Streets, but he owned additional property in Georgetown. (3)

By 1823 he had begun to have financial difficulties. Some of his Georgetown property was placed in trust to William King in 1824. (4) Seven years later, in 1831, he forfeited other Georgetown lots by failing to pay his debts to the Farmers and Mechanics Bank. (5)

1838-1885

After John's death his heirs sold Lot 70 to Ann E. Barrett in 1838. Ann Barrett, born in 1803, was the daughter of George A. Meem. She was widowed when she was quite young. In 1830 at the age of 27, she was a dressmaker, living on Gay (N) Street near Congress (31st) Street. (6) She was very active in church work and is mentioned by Joseph W. Kirkley in Methodism in Georgetown. Her experiences in the formation of the Sunday School contributed to his book, "...especially that portion pertaining to the origin and growth of the female department." (7)
By 1834 Ann Barrett had apparently given up dressmaking, for she is described in the City Directory merely as a widow. She was at that time living on the south side of First (N) Street. (8)

In 1848, ten years after Ann Barrett's purchase of Lot 70, she and Jenkin Thomas, her future husband, put the property in trust with her father, George A. Meem. Jenkin Thomas was a well known Georgetown citizen. He was a saddler and harness maker, dealing in leather goods at 64 High Street (Wisconsin Avenue) between Gay (N) and Bridge (M) Streets. His home was nearby at 81 Gay Street, between Congress (31st) and Washington (30th) Streets. (9) After their marriage Ann and Jenkin Thomas continued to live in this home just west of the Laird-Dunlap house at 3014 N Street.

The Barrett family (Ann Thomas' former in-laws) and the Meem family maintained a close relationship. They were joined in business association according to the 1858 City Directory which lists Barrett and Meem as carpenters at 18 Prospect Street. (11)

The property on Fayette (35th) Street remained in the family for thirty-seven years. Ann Barrett Thomas died in 1884, at the age of 81. The entry in Methodism in Georgetown referring to Mrs. Thomas' death is revealing:

"ANN E. MEEM (afterward Barrett and Thomas). The oldest living Methodist in Georgetown, wife of Jenkin Thomas, Esq. She joined the church in 1832."

(12)

1885-1937

In 1885, a year after the death of Ann Barrett Thomas, her heirs sold the Fayette Street property to Jeremiah Sullivan. Records for the period show Jeremiah's landholdings in this neighborhood to be extensive. (13)
Jeremiah was one of a large clan of Sullivans who emigrated from Ireland in the mid-nineteenth century. The Sullivans are a prime example of the numbers of immigrants who, from modest beginnings, achieved prosperity in western Georgetown. Through their industry and diligence they rose from simple artisans to large landholders.

Jeremiah exemplifies this process of upgrading one's standard of living. He started out as a "cartman but in 1885 he bought the property on the corner of Fayette (35th) and Second (0) Streets and opened a grocery store there. (14) Six years later, in 1891, he built the adjoining structure, the present 1331 35th Street, and expanded his grocery to include a saloon.

Jeremiah's enterprise was cut short by his untimely death in 1895, at the age of fifty-two. At that time he was living in one of his properties at the corner of 35th and 0 Streets. (15) In his Will, written on his death bed, he left all of his property (which included present Lots 75, 80, and 81 in Square 1228) to his wife, Ellen, unless she remarried, in which case he willed his property to his children. (16)

After Jeremiah's death his family continued to operate a saloon and restaurant at 1331 35th Street. (17) Ellen held on to the building on Lot 75, while living around the corner from it at 3422 0 Street. (18) At her death in 1937 Ellen was survived by four of her seven children and three grandchildren, all of whom became her heirs.

1937-1969

Each of the children received one-fifth of Ellen's real estate holdings. The grandchildren received the remainder of the property. Josephine, a daughter, inherited 1331 35th Street and occupied the second floor for many years. An elevated walkway connected the building with the residence at 3422 0 Street where other Sullivans lived. Josephine's brother, James, who lived on Cathedral Avenue, operated a real estate business on the ground floor of 1331 35th Street.
In 1962 Josephine died and James received 1331 35th Street as part of his inheritance from her. He continued the operation of his business on the premises and maintained the second floor as living quarters.

James died in February 1969, leaving the property to his sister, Lillian E. Sullivan, and his two nieces, Anne Marie Briggs and Regina Catalatz (Regina Cox Katalinas), "...all to share equally...."

Original and Subsequent Owners

1808
According to Tax Assessment Records, Georgetown, D.C., 1808, Anthony Goszler owned Lot 70. At his death, William Goszler, Tr., sold it to John Goszler.

1838
William J. Goszler, Tr. Deed December 10, 1838
William J. Goszler Recorded February 11, 1839
Elizabeth Goszler Liber W.B. 73, folio 78
James Goszler
Heirs of John Goszler, deceased

Ann E. Barrett
1848
Ann E. Barrett
Jenkin Thomas
to
George A. Meem

Deed in Trust June 17, 1848
Recorded July 3, 1848
Liber W.B. 144, folio 34

Ann E. Barrett married Jenkin Thomas.

1885
William D. Barrett and
wife, Janet Mary
William C. Barrett and
wife, Mabel A.
Ella A. Barrett
Sole heirs to estate of
Ann E. Thomas (Barrett)
to
Jeremiah Sullivan

Deed January 23, 1885
Recorded February 2, 1885
Liber 1113, folio 213

1895
Jeremiah Sullivan died,
leaving all of his real
estate to his wife,
Ellen Sullivan

Will December 13, 1895
Probated December 23, 1895
Will Book 39, page 289
1937

Ellen Sullivan died intestate; she had seven children:
  Josephine
  Ellen (died before 1900)
  John (died before 1900)
  James J.
  Jeremiah
  Ann Sullivan Cox (died 1915; survived by her husband and four children: Robert, Josephine, Marie and Regina)
  Lillian

Ellen Sullivan's property included present Lots 75, 80 and 81 in Square 1228. Each of the surviving children (Josephine, James, Jeremiah and Lillian) received one-fifth of the holdings. Each of the Cox grandchildren (Robert, Josephine, Marie and Regina) received one-twentieth of the property.

Lot 75 was inherited by Josephine Sullivan.

1962

Josephine Sullivan died January 9, 1962. Her property was divided among her two brothers, James and Jeremiah; her sister, Lillian; and two nieces, Anne Marie C. Briggs and Regina Cox Katalinas. James J. received 1331-35th Street.
1969


Will January 31, 1968
Filed February 28, 1969.
No administration number has been assigned yet as the estate is being settled and probate has not occurred.

REFERENCES

1. Records of the City of Georgetown (D.C.) 1800-79, Assessment of Real and Personal Property, Microcopy 605, National Archives Record Group 351, Roll 1 (1808).


3. Same reference as #1.


5. Same reference as #4. Liber W.B. 40, folio 117, March 19, 1832.


8. Same reference as #2. 1834, p. 3.


10. Same reference as #2. 1865, p. 395.

11. Same reference as #2. 1858, p. 431.

12. Same reference as #7.

13. Same reference as #2. 1885, p. 787; 1892, p. 902.

and


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This is a small highly ornamented commercial structure of the late nineteenth century. In addition to the corbelling and moulded shapes of the pressed brick there is a little carved stone and much stamped metal ornamentation. The first floor, now vacant, was last used as a real estate office, while the second floor contained living space.

Condition of Fabric: Good.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Approximately 18'-0" by 40'-0". Assymmetrical opening arrangement on the first floor; one three-window oriel in the center of the second. Two stories high.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall Construction: Pressed brick facade, common brick side and rear walls.

Chimneys: One brick chimney at rear of building.
Openings:

Doors and Doorways: The door into the first floor office area, which is at the center of the west facade, has one large pane of glass above two horizontal panels. The door to the stairway, which is south of the center door, has three panels and a semi-circular single-light transom.

Windows and Shutters: There is a large plate glass window north of the center door in the office area; on the second floor there is a bay or oriel composed of three one-over-one double-hung windows in a pressed metal ornamental construction which has a proliferation of egg and dart mouldings, swags, garlands, fluting, etc.

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and Covering: Low pitch down from west to east. Built-up covering.

Framing: Wood (assumed).

Cornice: There is much corbelled and moulded brick in addition to the painted pressed metal ornamentation on the cornice and shaped parapet.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plan: The interior of this building was not accessible at the time of this writing. The first floor is basically one space divided with temporary partitions; the second floor arrangement is not discernible from the street.
Site

General Setting and Orientation: This building is one of several commercial structures clustered around the intersection of O Street and 35th Street, although the area is basically residential. It faces west and abuts the public sidewalk.

Enclosures: None.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Fronts on the brick public sidewalk.

Landscaping: None.

Prepared by: The Office of Walter G. Peter, Jr.
AIA
Architect
February 7, 1969
KELLY HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1239 37th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(Formerly 37th Street was Warren Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of old Lot  
64, Square 53 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld  
and Deakins Addition to Georgetown,  
now taxed as Lot 806, Square 1223 in  
Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: 1879

Owner in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown  
College

Occupant in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: This small, late nineteenth-century  
frame house has been successfully up- 
graded through extensive renovation to  
present a much more elegant exterior  
and interior appearance than when origi- 
nally constructed.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1805-1859

The property, including adjoining lots to the present site of 1239 37th Street, originally belonged to William Deakins, Jr., who willed it to Francis Deakins. He in turn willed it to Paul Hoye and Leonard Deakins. In 1805 Paul Hoye conveyed the property to John Hoye, under the terms of Francis Deakins' Will.

It was not until 1850 that Hoye's executors sold the property to Patrick A. Byrne. The City Directory of 1853 lists only one "Byrne"--a P.A. Byrne, a blacksmith who lived in Washington City on First Street west. (1) It is not known whether this is the same person who owned the property.

1859-1879

In 1859 Byrne sold the property to Patrick O'Donnoghue. Tax assessment records of 1865-70 list Patrick as the owner of the 60 foot by 120 foot lot on the east side of Warren (37th) Street, valued at $300. (2) In 1873 Ann V. Gross and Sarah C. Gross bought the property, now valued at $576. (3)

Shortly after this the land was subdivided. Present lot 806 is the southern 25 feet of lot 64, fronting on Warren Street and extending 120 feet deep.
1879-1908

A month after the Grosses purchased the property, they sold the site of the present 1239 37th Street to Mary Kelly. Five years later, in 1878, the land was still vacant. The following year tax records describe the property as having "Improvements of $300," which indicates that the present house was built by the Kellys in 1879. (4) The Hopkins Map of 1887 shows a structure on this lot with the exact measurements as the present house. (5)

The house remained in the Kelly family for more than thirty years, for Mary Kelly had willed it to her two sons, Patrick and John A. John was a tinner who lived in the house, according to the City Directory of 1906. (6) Patrick, who had not married, had conveyed in 1905 his half to his brother and sister-in-law. At once the property was given in trust with "...discretionary powers to sell at public auction and convey in fee simple...."

Despite efforts by Kelly and his family to save the property, in 1908 it was sold for default of trust to Frederick A. Linger who paid $575 for it.

1908-1936

Linger, who lived at 3230 N Street, presumably bought the property for investment purposes, for a few days later he sold one-half interest in it to Joseph C. Linkins and six months later sold the other half interest to him.

Linkins, who ran a feed store, apparently never lived in the house, but held on to it until 1923 when he sold it to Patrick O'Toole. (7) O'Toole, a plasterer, lived on New York Avenue and used the house on 37th Street for rental purposes. (8)
Western Georgetown in the 1890's. Bottom of photograph shows laborers' cottages along 37th Street, today "...upgraded through extensive renovation to present a much more elegant exterior and interior appearance than when originally constructed." (Library of Congress)
1936-69

Thirteen years later, in 1936, O'Toole, now a widower, sold the house to M.A. Steele who conveyed it at once to Richard J. Hewitt. Six months later, in December of the same year, Hewitt sold the property to Sallie Jeffries, who kept it for five years before selling it to Doris Brown Shortle, who in turn sold it a few months later to Martha Dalyrymple and Joseph B. Phillips.

In 1946 Joseph Phillips, now divorced from Martha Dalyrymple, conveyed the property to her. In the next five years the property changed hands five times.

Two sociological factors are interesting to note in regard to the rapid series of transactions of this property. First, a number of the owners were of Irish origin, which is in line with the history of ownership of much of the property of western Georgetown. A second consideration is that the swift and frequent transfer of property during the thirties and forties should be related to the economic depression that was gripping the country.

It was at this time, too, that the influx of people during the New Deal began to affect Georgetown housing. Many of the personnel in the early days of the Roosevelt administration sought housing near the White House and found Georgetown a convenient and pleasant place to live. This movement for ownership of Georgetown houses, which gained momentum after World War II, affected 1239 37th Street, for after years of serving as a rental property, in 1951 it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Smith, who lived in the house for three years. (9)

In 1954 it was purchased by William and Sylvia Levi, who sold it in 1963 to Georgetown University. The house is once more being rented.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1798

William Deakins, Jr. to Francis Deakins

Will March 2, 1798
Probated December 24, 1804
Will Book 1, page 61

All of Lots 64 and 65

1804

Francis Deakins to Paul Hoye and Leonard M. Deakins

Will September 24, 1804
Probated November 27, 1804
Will Book 1, page 60

1805

Paul Hoye to John Hoye
(under terms of Will of Francis Deakins)

Deed June 5, 1805
Recorded July 2, 1805
Liber N-13, folio 15

All of Lots 64 and 65
1850

George Smith, Ex. of Will of John Hoye, deceased to
Patrick A. Byrne

All of Lots 64 and 65

Deed August 2, 1850
Recorded November 2, 1853
Liber JAS 66, folio 60

1859

Patrick A. Byrne et ux Mary I. to
Patrick O'Donnoghue

All of Lots 64 and 65

Deed May 4, 1859
Recorded July 19, 1859
Liber JAS 179, folio 63

1873

Patrick O'Donnoghue to
Ann V. Gross
Sarah C. Gross

All of Lots 64 and 65

Subdivision of land was made. The present Lot 806 is the southern 25 feet of Lot 64, with the following measurements:
"Beginning at the end of 120 ft. on a line drawn North from the Northeast corner of Prospect and Warren Streets, running East 120 ft., North 25 ft., West 120 ft. and South to place of beginning."
Ann Virginia Gross          Deed October 1, 1873
Sarah Catherine Gross       Recorded August 8, 1874
to                           Liber 757, folio 281
Mary Kelly                   

Mary Kelly died intestate, leaving as only heirs-at-law her children:
   Patrick Kelly
   John A. Kelly

1905

Patrick Kelly, unmarried     Deed July 12, 1905
 to                          Recorded July 18, 1905
John A. Kelly                Liber 2917, folio 309

Conveyed undivided one-half interest in property to his brother.

John A. Kelly and wife, Nora A.  Deed in Trust July 17, 1905
 to                           Recorded July 18, 1905
Jesse H. Wilson
Levin S. Frey

Discretionary powers to sell at public auction and convey in fee simple.
1908

Jesse H. Wilson
Levin S. Frey
to
Frederick A. Linger

Deed July 1, 1908
Recorded July 1, 1908
Liber 3162, folio 194

Property sold for default under trust
from John A. Kelly and wife, Nora A.,
at public auction to highest bidder
for $575.

Frederick A. Linger and
wife, Elizabeth M.
to
Joseph C. Linkins

Deed July 6, 1908
Recorded July 15, 1908
Liber 3167, folio 176

One-half interest in property

Frederick A. Linger and
wife, Elizabeth M.
to
Joseph C. Linkins

Deed December 15, 1908
Recorded December 17, 1908
Liber 3200, folio 244

One-half interest in property

1923

Joseph C. Linkins, unmarried
to
Patrick O'Toole

Deed February 13, 1923
Recorded February 15, 1923
Liber 4903, folio 112
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Transaction Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Patrick O'Toole, widower to M.A. Steele (woman) Deed July 24, 1936 Recorded July 30, 1936 Liber 7016, folio 585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M.A. Steele to Richard J. Hewitt Deed July 29, 1936 Recorded July 30, 1936 Liber 7016, folio 586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard J. Hewitt, unmarried to Sallie Jeffries Deed December 29, 1936 Recorded January 9, 1937 Liber 7067, folio 462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Sallie Jeffries to Doris Brown Shortle Deed March 15, 1941 Recorded March 19, 1941 Liber 7591, folio 167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doris Brown Shortle to Martha Dalrymple, Joseph B. Phillips, joint tenants Deed September 30, 1941 Recorded October 11, 1941 Liber 7677, folio 74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1946

Joseph B. Phillips and
wife, Frances Tracey
to
Martha Dalrymple
(divorced from
Joseph B. Phillips)

Deed May 21, 1946
Recorded June 5, 1946
Liber 8279, folio 256

1947

Martha Dalrymple
to
Elizabeth B. Allen

Deed October 31, 1947
Recorded November 3, 1947
Liber 8614, folio 462

1949

Elizabeth B. Allen
to
Wilby J. Pritchett, Jr.
and wife, Dorothy W.,
tenants by entirety

Deed October 17, 1949
Recorded October 20, 1949
Liber 9060, folio 584

1950

Wilby J. Pritchett, Jr.
and wife, Dorothy W.,
tenants by entirety
to
Arthur Twining Hadley

Deed July 7, 1950
Recorded July 12, 1950
Liber 9247, folio 249
1951

Arthur Twining Hadley and wife, Mary Hill to James A. Smith and wife, Margaret M., tenants by entirety

Deed April 16, 1951
Recorded April 25, 1951
Liber 9456, folio 39

1954

James A. Smith and wife, Margaret M., tenants by entirety to William Levi and wife, Sylvia, tenants by entirety

Deed May 28, 1954
Recorded June 1, 1954
Liber 10202, folio 583

1963

William Levi and wife, Sylvia, tenants by entirety to The President and Directors of Georgetown College

Deed April 3, 1963
Recorded April 3, 1963
Liber 11974, folio 215

374
References


4. Same reference as #2. Roll 26 (1879).


6. Same reference as #1. 1906, p. 690.

7. Same reference as #1. 1909, p. 828.


9. Same reference as #1. 1954, p. 84.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: Typical of many smaller Georgetown houses, this late nineteenth-century example has been renovated and enlarged to give the appearance of an earlier and more elegant building, yet it retains a pleasant, regular, informal character.

Condition of fabric: Good, well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Approximately 20'-6" by 32'-4", including rear addition. Three bays across 37th Street facade. Two stories high.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame and clapboards with later stucco covering over all.

Chimneys: One at north end of front portion; smaller brick flue at south end of rear portion, closed up and cut down below roof line inside attic.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: The front door has six raised panels and ovolo sticking, and is surrounded by a narrow architrave. There are fluted Doric pilasters at each side supporting an entablature complete with triglyphs and flat metopes. All of this is wood and is of mid-twentieth century manufacture.

Windows and shutters: Six over six double hung wood sash on first and second floors; wood louvered shutters. Flat wood heads with cyma crown moulding across the top. Three mid-twentieth French windows open off the rear sitting room onto a small iron balcony.

Porches: Very small wrought and cast iron balcony across the three French windows on the east facade with curving metal stairs down to rear yard.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable with ridge running north-south over original west portion, shed pitched to east over remainder. Metal covering.

Framing: Wood; original roof line is discernable in the side walls of the attic.

Cornice: Wood, with regularly spaced modillions across the width and larger scrolled brackets at the ends.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The first floor has a living room across the west end with a stair on the south; a large sitting room across the east end; and a bath in the south east corner. The second floor has a bedroom across the west end; stair and hall on the
south; a bedroom in the northeast corner; and a bath in the southeast corner. The basement has the stair hall on the south; an equipment room in the northwest corner; a kitchen in the north center; and a large family room across the east end.

Stairways: The first-to-second floor and basement-to-first floor stairs are semi-enclosed straight-run with a closed stringer where not enclosed. The stringers appear to be original, as do some of the plain square balusters and some of the beaded-board enclosure in the basement.

Flooring: Wall-to-wall carpeting over wood on the first floor, resilient tile in the basement, and pine on the second floor.

Wall and ceiling finish: Generally painted plaster, but there is some vertical vee-joint panelling of recent manufacture in the living room.

Doors and doorways: Generally there are mid-twentieth century six-panel doors throughout, except for one closet in the southwest corner of the second floor which has an old batten door. There are also some twentieth-century five-panel doors.

Decorative features and trim: The interior has been completely re-trimmed with mid-twentieth century mouldings. There are papier-mâché rosettes at the chandeliers in both living room and sitting room. The living room mantel, however, is old. It has Doric columns with impost blocks, and the bed mould is a deeply quirked cyma reversa, typical of early nineteenth-century work. The shelf has a simply moulded edge. As this mantel piece is of an elegance beyond the pretensions of the original house, it is reasonable to assume that it came from another building.
Hardware: The front door has an old cast-iron and brass rimlock, and the previously-mentioned batten door on the upstairs closet has wrought iron hinges; otherwise, hardware is mid-twentieth century brass.

Lighting: No notable fixtures; all twentieth-century incandescent.

Heating: Radiators, boiler in basement.

Site

General setting and orientation: Situated between Prospect Street and N Street, this is one of very few residential buildings left on the east side of 37th Street, facing the new library of Georgetown University.

Enclosures: There is a high board fence around the rear yard with gates at the north side of the house at the rear alleyway.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick and concrete.

Landscaping: Much of the rear yard is brick paved, surrounded with ornamental shrubbery, and there is an Halianate tiered fountain in the center toward the rear of the terrace. There are also several magnolia trees in this area. The small front yard has simple residential foundation planting.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
December 13, 1968

379
GEORGETOWN VISITATION CONVENT

Address in 1969: 1500 35th Street, N. W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly this address was 89 Fayette Street.)

Location: The Convent occupies old Lots 149-160 in old Square 81 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now known as Lot 800 in Square 1251 in the City of Washington; old Lots 137-147 in old Square 82 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now known as Lot 800 in Square 1252 in Washington, D. C.; old Lots 1-5, 172, 174, 176, 178, and 180 in old Square 105 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now known as Lots 800-805 in Square 1275 in the City of Washington; old Lots 1-5, 182, 184, 186, 188, and 190 in old Square 106 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now known as Lots 800, 802, and 803 in Square 1276 in Washington, D. C.

Date of Erection: Chapel of the Sacred Heart (earliest extant building erected by the Convent of the Visitation on the grounds) - 1821.

Owners in 1969: Sisters of the Visitation

Occupants in 1969: Sisters of the Visitation

Use in 1969: Visitation Convent and Catholic School for girls
**Significance:**

This was the first Visitation Convent and the first Catholic school for girls in the United States. Each building of this educational complex reflects the prevailing style of its period of construction. Represented are the Federal, Classic Revival, Italianate Victorian and twentieth-century contemporary styles. Although no effect has been made to stylistically unite the buildings, a consistency of taste prevails.

"There was a stream, referred to in early deeds as 'the branch,' coursing through the yard." Sampler showing the academy in 1799 (Georgetown Visitation Convent)
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

As is the case with many other structures covered in this survey, the property on which the Visitation Convent and School stand, covering 35 acres, originally belonged to Henry Threlkeld and then his son John.

1793-1816

In 1793 three Sisters of the Order of St. Clare, having fled from France because of the Revolution, arrived in this country and settled in Georgetown.(1) They were Marie de la Marche (Abbess of the Order of St. Clare), Celeste la Blonde de Rochefaucault, and Marie de St. Luc. (2)

The Poor Clares, as they were known, rented two houses on the corner of Third (P) Street and Fayette (35th) Street from John Threlkeld in 1798. There was a stream, referred to in early deeds as "the branch," coursing through the yard. Then, with a $300 loan from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, they bought the property in which they were living and running a school with great difficulty.(3) "The Poor Clares attempted to keep a school as a means of support; but their poverty was so extreme, and their life so rigorous, that the scholars were mostly frightened away." (4)

About the same time that the Poor Clares were beginning their exile from France, Alice Lalor, who later became the foundress of the Georgetown Visitation Convent, was sailing from Ireland to this country. Miss Lalor was not a fugitive, however. She was accompanying her sister and brother-in-law, an American merchant named Doran, and planned to return to Ireland after her sister was settled.
Miss Lalor had strong ties with her native land. She had early devoted her life toward service to God and to her fellow man and felt an emotional commitment to return home to Ireland and continue her work. (5)

However, on the sea journey to America Alice's acquaintance with two widows (Mrs. McDermott and Mrs. Sharpe) altered her destiny. The three ladies discovered that they all wanted to join a cloistered life. Shortly after they landed in Philadelphia they met Father Leonard Neale, S. J., who became their spiritual counsellor and their friend.

The three ladies rented a house in Philadelphia, where they taught school and lived a religious life. During the yellow fever epidemic they nursed the victims. Father Neale barely escaped death from the illness. (6)

In 1799, shortly after Father Neale became President of Georgetown College, he sent for the three ladies "...and domiciled them for a time with the three Poor Clares...who had set up a little convent near the College...." (7) The three women boarded there and taught at the Convent for several months before moving to a nearby house which Father Neale bought for them. There the "Pious Ladies," as they were called, opened their own school "...which was hailed with delight by the Catholics of the neighborhood and received solid encouragement from them." (8)

By 1805 the school of the "St. Clares" was no longer operating, for the Abbess had died and Celeste la Blonde de Rochefaucualt, who had inherited the property, decided to return to France. She sold the property to Father Neale for $4000 to be paid in five installments. Records show that the last installment was made through an agent in Baltimore in 1808. (9)

In 1805 the "Pious Ladies" moved into the house the Poor Clares had owned and continued their school. Mrs. Sharpe (Sister Ignatia) had died three years earlier, during the summer of 1802. In 1808 the property was deeded to Miss Alice Lalor and "two Irish co-workers" by Father Neale. (10)

The property which was conveyed to "Alice Lalor, Maria McDermott and Mary Neale" consisted of "...the entire Square of ground laid off by George Fenwick in a plat called Jn. Threlkeld's Addition to George Town...all that square or parcel of land... bounded on the north by Fourth Street (now Volta Place) on the east by Fayette Street (now 35th) on the south by Third Street (now P) and on the west by Gay Street (now 36th) together with ...buildings...." (11)
The deed describes Bishop Neale's provision for the use of the property:

"...whereas the said Neale has established on the said premises a community of Ladies whom he stiles Sisters of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, devoted by voluntary engagements to perpetuate a regular education of their sex particularly of thoses of the poorer classes...the said Leonard Neale for many reasons, him thereunto moving and particularly with a view of securing to the aforesaid Community a suitable and sufficiently extensive plot of ground to perfect its establishment and to carry into effect the aforesaid system and plan of education...." (12)

The efforts to sustain the school were hampered by lack of funds, but the "Pious Ladies," employing stringent economy and diligence, persevered. When Bishop Neale's term as President of Georgetown College expired in 1808, he moved next door to the Convent and continued to supervise and guide its growth.(13) His support and friendship remained a continual inspiration to the good Sisters which lightened their labors.

1816-1861

The Convent was recognized in 1816 by Pope Pius VII as an Order of the Visitation. Miss Lalor, as Sister Teresa, became Mother Superior.(14) A year later Father Neale died and was buried in the crypt beneath the chapel of the Convent. Father Joseph Pierre Picot de Cloriviere assumed the spiritual guidance for the Convent.

Father Cloriviere (formerly Josef Pierre Picot de Limoeulan) had trod a colorful path before reaching the United States. He had been an officer in the Army of Louis XVI and when Napoleon came to power, was a fervent royalist enmeshed in a plot to assassinate the "Man of Destiny." The plot failed and Limoeulan was forced to flee for his life.
"The small brick building still standing today on the north-western part of the Convent grounds dates from the eighteenth century when it was part of 'Burleith,' the Threlkeld estate; it is now used for recreational purposes."

(Photographed by David Blume)
I thank you for the kind offer of the trees mentioned in your letter of yesterday. The Peach Apricot which you saw at Hopewell’s was lost on the road; but I received with it from Mr. Blume the same time a supply of the stones of the same fruit, which are planted at Monticello, and from which I hope to receive some trees, this as yet I do not know their success. Should these fail, I will avail myself of your kind offer the next fall, either in the autumn or spring, the two peach trees you propose are very acceptable to me.

I am endeavoring to make a collection of the choicest kinds of peaches for Monticello, presuming you are attached to the culture of trees, I take the liberty of sending you some Pecan nuts, which being of the last years growth received from New Orleans, will probably grow, they are a very fine nut, and succeed well in this climate. They require rich land, between the two lines of the black kernel there is a thin pedicle, connect the seed, and a little crust, which it is necessary to take out before eating the nut. Accept my salutations and assurances of respect.

Mr. Threlkeld

THOMAS JEFFERSON

"On the grounds there are yet some of the pecan trees which grew from kernels sent by Thomas Jefferson to his friend John Threlkeld." (Photographed by David Blume)
When he first arrived in the United States, in 1801, he settled in Savannah, George, where his brother-in-law owned land. There the young expatriate painted miniatures as a pastime. It is possible that he felt guilty because of the part he played in the attempt to kill Napoleon, which developed into a fiasco resulting in the loss of many innocent lives. In any case he became an ordained priest in 1812 in Baltimore, serving as a missionary in South Carolina before coming to Georgetown. (15) Father Cloriviere, as he was now known, was largely responsible for the expansion of the Convent and the school. He not only raised standards of the school, but contributed financially to it from funds received from the sale of his property in France. (16) This support was a particular boon during the economic slump in Georgetown during the 1820's.

Gradually the Convent acquired more land from the Threlkeld estate to provide for its expanding facilities. The small brick building still standing today on the northwestern part of the Convent grounds dates from the late 1700's when it was part of "Burleith," the Threlkeld estate; it is now used for recreational purposes. (17) On the grounds there are yet some of the pecan trees which grew from kernels sent by Thomas Jefferson to his friend John Threlkeld. Jefferson wrote on March 26, 1807:

"Presuming you are attached to the culture of trees, I take the liberty of sending you some Paccan nuts, which being of the last year's growth received from New Orleans, will probably grow. They are a very fine nut, and succeed well in this climate. They require rich land. Between the lower lobes of the kernal there is a thin pellicel, excessively austere & bitter, which it is necessary to take out before eating the nut." (18)

Under Father Cloriviere's direction considerable construction was undertaken and the educational activities broadened. Beyond the existing elementary and high school program, which was based on tuition, in 1819 the Sisters organized a free school known as "The Benevolent School" (or St. Joseph's School) for needy young children in the neighborhood.
That same year a wing was added to the infirmary; in 1821 the Chapel of the Sacred Heart was dedicated; two years later, in 1823, a building for the boarding school was constructed. (19)

By 1824, however, the Convent was in such financial straits that it narrowly escaped being forced to close. Relief came in the form of advance payments for two pupils by their father, John B. Lasaler, a wealthy merchant from New York. (20)

The school, known as "The Young Ladies Academy of the Visitation of Georgetown," continued to grow despite financial hardships. In 1828 Congress granted it a charter, approved by President John Quincy Adams and certified by the Secretary of State, Henry Clay. President Adams gave the graduation address that year and recorded in his diary that at the ceremony he had seen Wilhelmina (Sister Stanislaus) Jones, daughter of Commodore John Jacob Jones, hero of the War of 1812. President Adams also distributed prizes that day to the three daughters of Empress Ana Maria Huarte de Iturbide, widow of Emperor Agustin de Iturbide of Mexico. (21)

The 1830 City Directory of Georgetown furnishes a lively description of the school and its operation:

"He [Rev. Mr. Cloriviere] also reared a building for the education of young ladies, better adapted for the purpose that the one in which the Academy was first undertaken. Soon after, the Rev. Mr. Wheeler erected an odeum, or Hall of Exercises, neatly executed in the Ionic style. The sphere of tuition was enlarged by him, and an extensive philosophical apparatus was imported and placed in the odeum. The reputation of the Ladies' Academy having brought to it more inmates than could be conveniently accommodated, Mr. Wheeler also enlarged the Institution, by adding a compact building to the one erected by Mr. Cloriviere. By this means the Academy is now provided with all the conveniences and arrangements to be met with in the best regulated establishments of this kind, at home or abroad; and may lodge with ease 150 pupils."
With the apparatus, the Sisters are enabled to demonstrate the theories of many of the useful branches of Natural Philosophy—such as Astronomy, Pneumatics, Electricity, Galvanism, Chemistry, Chladni's Acoustic Figures, etc. They have an increasing collection of minerals and Hauy's Primitive Forms to assist in the study of Crystallography. In the course of studies pursued at the Ladies' Academy, domestic economy is embraced, and made the object of attention at the close of the literary career. At the date of this notice, there are in it upwards of ninety young ladies, from various states of the Union. The Sisters never interfere with the creeds of the young ladies who dissent from them in religious belief. A benevolent school is attended by the Sisters, where they educate gratuitously three or four hundred females annually, clothe sixty or seventy, and afford a subsistence to thirty or forty daily.

Parents or Guardians, designing to place their daughters or wards at the Academy, may obtain permission to see its accommodations once. On such occasions they are not to be accompanied by young gentlemen. Other persons are not to expect this privilege, except they be personal acquaintances of the Director, or known friends of the institution. All visitors are to give their names. Such visitors are accompanied by the Director. In his absence, only ladies are permitted to view the Academy, in the company of two Sisters.

Mondays and Wednesday, between the hours of 10 and 12 A.M. and in summer between 4 and 6 P.M. also, are the only days allotted to visits. At the annual examination and exhibition only parents and guardians who may wish to witness the proficiency of their daughters or wards, and personal acquaintances of the Director, are admitted by personal tickets.
"In 1843 'Lalor House' fronting on Fayette (35th) Street was purchased for St. Joseph's Benevolent School; it is now a residence hall and guest house." (Photographed by J. Alexander)
The rules do not admit young gentlemen, even should they be acquaintances of the Director." (22)

Further expansion occurred in 1832 when the east wing of the monastery was added.

Richard Jackson, author and resident of Georgetown, wrote in 1878 of how the Convent grounds appeared to him when he was a young man. He described the extensive buildings on an area covering almost the whole square from Fayette (35th) Street to Lingan (36th) Street and from Third (P) Street to Fourth (Volta Place) Street. He told of the gardens and orchards "...where are cultivated all the vegetables and fruits used in the institution." He described graphically the lovely grounds "...laid out in serpentine walks, around which the ladies promenade for exercise." (23)

In 1843 "Lalor House" fronting on Fayette (35th) Street was purchased for St. Joseph's Benevolent School; it is now a residence hall and guest house. In 1857 a south wing was added to the Monastery. (24)

1861-1899

During the Civil War the Convent of the Visitation, by practicing rigid economy, survived those difficult days. In Divided Town Mary Mitchell, historian and author, describes vividly the status of the Convent during the war:

"There was one institution, however, which escaped federal confiscation, the Visitation Convent on 35th and P Streets. General Winfield Scott, retired Lieutenant General of the Union Army, had a daughter Virginia who had been educated there and afterwards became a nun of the order. On her death she was buried in a little cemetery within the P Street brick wall west of the monastery wing."
When Edwin Staunton, Secretary of War, proposed confiscating the Convent, Scott intervened, calling it 'a place made sacred by the grave of my child'. The Secretary withdrew his proposal.

"...In addition to the day pupils, there were eighty-three Sisters living in the monastery, approximately thirty boarding students...whose ages ranged from eleven to seventeen, and eighteen Irish laborers and slaves.

...the Sisters had been used to struggling and scrounging for their support and existence. This stern tradition now stood them well. They had learned to smoke their own meat in a brick house at the end of the P Street wall. They set their laborers to farming open pasture. The Convent property included wooded sections reaching west of a flourishing orchard where the Home for Nurses and the Georgetown Hospital are today. From the woods they gathered fuel, from the orchard, fruit.

"Roughly half of the Sisters were born in Ireland and may not have taken sides. The residue were evenly divided between the North and the South. All agreed that whenever a weary, footsore soldier came to the door for refreshment or water, he should be cared for. So, according to Convent lore, they worked out this solution. Southern nuns would feed Johnny Reb, and northern nuns would take care of Billy Yank. Whenever all were together, it was understood they would never discuss the war.

"Despite their problems and poverty, the Sisters showed themselves to be tight planners and wise administrators. They husbanded their funds derived from tuitions and the slave-compensations paid out in March of '63, and pulled themselves out of debt. Mrs. Mary Boyce, a wealthy widow living at Montrose on
the Heights, had held a mortgage on the Convent for $5,000 since 1857. Early in the Spring the Sisters paid it off and secured a release from her...." (25)

After the war the Convent prospered and expanded. In 1873 the original school building was replaced by a large building to be devoted to classrooms and administrative offices.

In 1891 the building presently known as the "Lodge" was erected as a laundry; it has since been converted into a faculty-student lounge. A barn was built in 1895 and has recently been remodeled to serve as a library.

1899-1969

In 1899 a fire caused considerable damage, necessitating some major reconstruction. Additional floors were added to the academy and monastery buildings at this time.

During the twentieth century further expansion and construction occurred to meet the increasing demands of the school. A junior college, which was to exist for 25 years, was established in 1919. In 1921 Fennessy Hall was built as a combination residence and classroom structure. The gymnasium was built in 1934. (26) When a tennis court was built five years later, some clues to the early history of the property were disclosed:

"While excavating for a tennis court foundation in 1939, workmen unearthed what are believed to be the ruins of Burleith, home of Henry Threlkeld, built in 1716.... The original Burleith was burned shortly after the Revolution and another house was built." (27)

During the Second World War the property of the Visitation Convent became a very real part of the war effort. A housing development was established on the grounds. Anti-aircraft batteries were installed at the top of "The Farm"; a recreational lounge was set up and equipped by the alumnae for soldiers who were on duty on the Convent premises.
After the war the U.S. Government returned the property to the Convent. In 1959 another classroom building, St. Joseph Hall, was constructed to meet the increased enrollment of students. (28)

Many historic figures have been connected with the Convent and its academy. Among its students have been such well-known pupils as: Mary Emily, daughter of Andrew Jackson's adopted daughter; Pearl, President Tyler's daughter; Mary Abigail, daughter of President Fillmore; Harriet Lane, President Buchanan's niece; Mary Saunders, daughter-in-law of President Harrison. Virginia, daughter of General Winfield Scott, died as a nun at Visitation. (29) More recently, Caroline Kennedy, daughter of President John Kennedy, took her catechism at the Convent.

Prominent residents of Georgetown, such as Britannia Peter (Mrs. Becerley Kennon), granddaughter of Martha Custis Washington, attended school at the Convent of the Visitation, as did many children of the diplomatic corps. As early as 1840 Albina, daughter of the French Minister, Count de Montholon, was a student; and in 1852 the daughter of Count Bodisco, Russian Imperial Minister, was a pupil at the Convent. (30) The list is endless.

Commencement addresses have been delivered by speakers of national stature, among them Presidents Adams and Grant and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. (31)

The Convent, "...oldest of the Order of the Visitation in this country and...considered the mother convent of twenty-one others..." has staunch roots in Georgetown. From the time of its founding, the Sisters have distributed largesse to the needy. The Convent consistently has been a source of help to the impoverished of western Georgetown.

At present, in the school's 170th academic year, there is an enrollment of 321 students from twenty states, the District of Columbia, and ten foreign countries. (32)
The Convent of the Visitation has played a prominent role in the history of Georgetown for a hundred and seventy years. It continues to flourish as an integral part of Georgetown as well as the larger community.

References


4. Same reference as #1. p. 150.

5. Same reference as #1. p. 146.


   and

   Same reference as #1. p. 149.
7. Same reference as #1. p. 150.
   and
   Same reference as #3. p. 68.

8. Same reference as #1. p. 151.


    New York, New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc.,

    Liber U-20, folio 151.

12. Same reference as #11.


    the Nation's Capital. New revised edition. New York,

15. Rutledge, Anna Wells, "A French Priest, Painter and
    Architect in the United States," Gazette des Beaux-
    Arts, 1948, Vol. XXXIII.


17. Same reference as #6. p. 3.


23. Same reference as #2. p. 228.

24. Same reference as #6. p. 3.


28. Same reference as #6. p. 3.

and


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Chapel

General Statement
Architectural Character: This cream colored stucco building is an unusual but not unpleasant combination of Ionic and Tudor styles. It has a definite vertical feeling, both inside and out, which contrasts nicely with the solidity of the monastery on the south and the academy building on the north.

Condition of fabric: Good, well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior
Overall dimensions: Approximately 36'-0" by 46'-0". Three bays across 35th Street facade. The building is three stories high. There are four Ionic pilasters equally dividing the facade and supporting the full-width triangular pediment.

Foundations: Brick foundation walls and massive arches in the crypt.

Wall construction: Brick with white stucco covering.

Chimneys: None.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: The front entrance has a pair of doors with four pyramidal raised panels and a Tudor-arched stained glass transom light, surrounded with a wide roll moulding with a keystone in the form of a Sacred Heart, all in stucco. This door has been closed and is not used as an entrance.

Windows and shutters: Windows in general are fixed stained-glass except the top windows on the east facade, which are imitation stained-glass. The windows have flattened Tudor arches and heavy roll mouldings of stucco. The lower windows also have keystones in the form of the Sacred Heart. There are large pictoral stained glass windows on each side of the altar bay.

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable; ridge running east-west.

Framing: Wood (assumed).

Cornice: Wood; full Ionic entablature with bed-mould, dentils, and cyma recta moulding.

Towers: There is on the south side a belfry, outside the original rectangle of the chapel building but now enclosed within the monastery building. The square tower extends slightly above the roof of the monastery building and its upper portions, originally wood, have been covered with brick patterned stamped metal. There is a very low plain wood railing and steep, slate-covered, four sided spire.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The first floor has the chancel area in the west end with the altar in a three-sided bay. On the south is the nun's seating area behind a screen of gothic arches, and on the north, behind a wall painted to match the arches of the screen opposite, is a small spiral stair to the gallery above. This gallery around the north, east, and south sides of the chapel is supported on four smooth Tuscan columns. The crypt below has a single central tomb, brick-arched burial vaults along the north and east walls, and several graves in the floor.

Stairways: There is one very small curved stair just north of the chancel area leading up to the gallery. It ascends in a clockwise direction (east to west) along the curved south wall of the stairhall to a pair of winders in the northwest corner, and from there ascends in a straight run to the gallery.

Flooring: Oak parquet, with white marble in the chancel area.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster. The general color is a warm gray with white columns and trim, and gold decorations and highlights.

Doors and doorways: Doors in general have four raised vertical panels and simple moulded trim.

Decorative features and trim: The white and beige marble altar is the dominant decorative feature of the chapel. It is an elaborate Victorian gothic construction with reredos situated in the center of a three-sided bay in the west end. There are pictorial stained glass windows on each side, while over the altar hangs a large painting, "Jesus of Bethany," an 1825 gift
to the monastery from Charles X of France. A group of four slender gothic arches forms a screen for the nun's area on the south of the sanctuary and is repeated at the gallery level above. The upper group of arches is repeated on the north, while the lower level is repeated in blind arches with geometrically painted infilling. The gallery railing is made of solid panels. The ceiling is a shallow vault and is also painted with geometric designs in grays and gold. The plaster Stations of the Cross are early twentieth-century.

Hardware: Simple late nineteenth-century and twentieth-century brass.

Lighting: Modern incandescent spot lights shine on the altar area and provide general illumination; the hook for an earlier sanctuary lamp is visible in the ceiling above the altar.

Heating: Radiators.

Site

General setting and orientation: This building forms the link between the monastery and the main academy building along the west side of 35th Street. Its original entrance, now closed, was in the center of the east side, and its west end faces on the courtyard of the complex.

Enclosures: A continuation of the ornamental cast-iron fence of the academy building runs along the sidewalk in front of the chapel as well. There is no gate at the chapel entrance.

Outbuildings: None.
Walks: None.

Landscaping: Low shrubbery in planting area along the sidewalk.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 19, 1969
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Academy Building

General Statement

Architectural Character: Built in the flamboyant Franco-Italian style of the 1870's, this building unquestionably dominates this block of 35th Street. It is a well-planned rectangular building in which careful attention has been given to symmetry and consistency of detail. Its even red brick color and slate roofs contrast with the white trim of windows, canopy, cornices, and dormers.

Condition of fabric: Very good, well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 110'0" by 85'-0". Four stories high including top floor within mansard, plus full basement. There are shallow projecting pavilions in the centers of the east and north facades. The east elevation has a great deal of shaped brick ornamentation in the form of belt courses, water tables, quoins, and label mouldings.

Foundations: Stone under exterior walls, massive brick arches throughout basement area.

Wall construction: Brick bearing walls, with much shaped brick ornamentation.
Chimneys: One, approximately 6'-0" by 6'-0", recently enlarged.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: The main front doors, set within a deep panelled vestibule, have two glazed panels above two raised panels, with matching sidelights. Brick moulds in general are heavy rolled mouldings. There is an elaborate wood-and-stamped-metal arched canopy supported on scrolled brackets at the front entrance.

Windows and shutters: First floor windows have two-over-two double hung wood sash with segmental heads, except those on each side of the entrance, which have semi-circular heads. The central and south windows on the east facade light the Odeon and are two stories high. They have for the most part one-over-one sash with diamond-pane leaded imitation stained glass and semicircular heads. The windows to the north on the east facade are connected with spandrel panels to give the effect of two-story high windows. These tall windows across the front are grouped three-one-three and have ornate label mouldings and cresting. The windows on the remaining sides have two-over-two double hung sash with segmental heads.

There are no exterior shutters, but several windows on the top floor retain the inside louvered shutters original to the entire building.

Porches: Across the west front of the academy building at first floor level is a covered porch connecting the monastery, the academy, the dormitories, and the infirmary. This is a wooden, shed-roofed porch supported on thin 12" diameter brick columns.
Roof:

Shape and covering: Mansard roof over entire building; bowed mansard at the central pavilion, slightly higher. Steep pitch as hexagonal slates, low pitch has rectangular slates. Sheet metal hips and ridges with cast iron ornamental cresting.

Framing: Wood trusses and heavy timbers.

Cornice: Wood and stamped metal; a heavy crown mould with a broad, smooth soffit, supported by four different kinds of brackets apparently made of stamped metal.

Dormers: Most of the dormers are composed of paired four-over-four double hung semi-circular headed sash with wood and stamped metal ornamental surrounds and cornices, and painted metal roofs. The central dormer on the east facade has four double hung sash - two short ones flanking two tall ones - topped with a central circular sash. The whole framed in elaborate wood and stamped metal ornamentation.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: The first floor has an entrance vestibule in the center of the east side, leading into a very broad transverse corridor. Adjoining the vestibule on the north is a small office, beyond which are two parlors, each of which is divided north to south by the remains of enclosure screens, only recently removed. Adjoining the vestibule on the south is a similarly divided larger parlor, beyond which is a room currently used as a vestry for the chapel and as a display area for various articles associated with the early days of the Convent. Across the west side of the corridor are large classrooms, now converted to offices. At the north end of the corridor is the very broad staircase. The south two-thirds of the second floor are given over to the "Odeon," a large two-story assembly room; the north end contains the stairs, lavatories, and circulation space.
The north end of the third floor contains the stairs, circulation space, and two classrooms; the remainder of this floor is the upper part of the "Odeon." The fourth floor has, in addition to the broad central corridor, two narrower parallel corridors. There are classrooms in the northeast and northwest corners, many music practice rooms along the outside walls of both small corridors, and a block of storage rooms between the corridors. The basement has an equipment room in the northeast corner, a snack bar and storage rooms across the east side, and wardrobe storage rooms across the west side.

Stairways: There is one stairway at the north end of the building. It is very broad and ascends along the west wall to a landing, then along the north wall to a landing, then along the east wall to the floor above. The turned balusters and heavy handrail continue to the top floor. In recent years the stairs have been reinforced with steel beams and the soffits replastered, but the later additions are unobtrusive. There are plaster niches at the landings containing statuary.

Flooring: The corridors in general have oak parquet in a basket wave pattern; that on the first floor also has a new oak strip floor, but the original strip flooring remains in most other rooms. The parlors on the first floor have every third board stained dark, a pattern which is repeated in the wainscot. Floors in the basement are modern resilient tile.

Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster walls throughout; a few pressed metal ceilings in the basement and upper classrooms, acoustical tile in the Odeon, painted plaster ceilings in the remaining areas.

Doors and doorways: Doors in general have four panels, the upper two frequently filled with obscure glass. There are large sliding pocket doors dividing the offices on the first floor; there are similar doors with imitation stained-glass inserts leading into the Odeon.
Decorative features and trim: Trim throughout the lower three floors is wide, somewhat flat, with a deeply undercut backband. The top floor has a one-piece beaded flattened ogee trim. First floor wainscots have a moulded cap on 3" beaded boards with every third board stained dark. All trim in the office area has been painted, but the varnished natural wood remains throughout most of the building.

In the Odeon there is a very large mural on canvas, the central figure of which is St. Cecilia. Painted by a Miss Shay in 1916, this mural is hidden by the curtains of the stage platform area.

Hardware: There is much original brass hardware, distinguished primarily by its simplicity.

Lighting: The main corridor on the first floor has several gas chandeliers, probably original, which have been converted to electricity. The Odeon has a very large (8 to 10 feet in diameter) chandelier made up of both gas-burning candles in groups of three on the upper branches and electric light bulbs pointing downward on the lower branches. Electric lighting has replaced all other original fixtures.

Heating: There are cast iron radiators throughout.

Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the west side of 35th Street between P Street and Volta Place, the academy building is the principal entrance to the Convent. Except for the Convent and the Volta Bureau across the street, the neighborhood is one of private residences, both free standing and row-type, of varying ages.
Enclosures: There is a cast-iron fence around the planting area in front of the building and a high brick wall, which continues around the entire complex, begins at the northeast corner of the academy building.

Outbuildings: As there are approximately twenty other buildings in the complex, it would be difficult to classify any outbuilding as an adjunct of this particular building; however, some of the earlier buildings on the site are the monastery (1832), the chapel (1820), the infirmary west building (1819), the dormitories (1829 and 1838), and a small building, sometimes called the "Slave Cabin," which was on the site when the Order purchased it.

Walks: Concrete and brick.

Landscaping: There are simple low shrubs in the planting area enclosed within the iron fence along the 35th Street facade. Trees and lawns throughout the complex are very well maintained.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 18, 1969
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Slave Cabin

General Statement

Architectural character: This small, late eighteenth-century brick building has been much restored in the present century. Although it is commonly called "The Slave Cabin," it was more probably the overseer's office for "Burleith," the Threlkeld estate which stood nearby. It is now used for recreation purposes by the students at the Convent.

Condition of fabric: Good, fairly well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 13'-6" by 23'-0". One story high.

Foundations: None visible; brick assumed.

Wall construction: Simple brick bearing walls with irregular bond courses, much repaired.

Chimneys: One recent brick replacement 7'-0" by 3'-0" on the east end; contains an exterior fireplace as well as an interior one.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: There are two exterior doors, one in the center of the south elevation, the other in the center of the north. Both are made with two thicknesses of vertical boards sandwiching a layer of building felt, all held together with wrought iron ornamental straps. Both doors have wrought iron thumblatches and wood bolts. The north is a single leaf door, while the south is a Dutch door; both are in a state of dilapidation.

Windows and shutters: There are two windows in the south wall and one in the west. All have six over six double-hung wood sash and flat brick sills. They are all twentieth-century replacements.

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable; ridge running east-west. Modern concrete shingles made to simulate wood shingles.

Framing: New 4" by 4" rafters at 24" on center, with very wide sheathing boards. The original 7" by 7" attic joists are in place, possibly rearranged in the rehabilitation of the building.

Cornice: There is no cornice other than a plain 6" board; the same is also used at the rakes of the gables.

Dormers: None.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: There is one plain rectangular room with a fireplace at the east end. The rood framing is visible through the open beams of the attic level, which is not floored. There is one door in the center of the south front flanked by windows, one door in the center of the north wall, and one window in the center of the west end.

Stairways: None.

Flooring: Brick laid flat in a basket-weave pattern, not original.

Wall and ceiling finish: Walls are white washed brick; the roof framing is exposed.

Doors and doorways: None.

Decorative features and trim: None.

Hardware: Both doors have wrought-iron thumblatches, wrought-iron straps with heart-shaped ends, and wrought-iron HL hinges.

Lighting: None.

Heating: The rebuilt fireplace provides the only heat in the building. It is a simple brick construction with a plain board mantel shelf.

Site

General setting and orientation: The building faces south across the tennis courts at the northwest corner of the Convent property.
Enclosures: None.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: There is a brick walk around the building, but no access walks across the lawn.

Landscaping: Well-tended lawns surround the small house.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 28, 1969
**SIMMS-DAWES-HURLEY HOUSE**

**Address in 1969:** 3919 O Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(O Street was formerly called Second Street. The early number of this structure is undetermined.)

**Location:** The house is on part of old Lot 113, Square 78, in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 806 in Square 1248 in Washington, D.C.

**Date of Erection:** 1860's

**Owners in 1969:** President and Directors of Georgetown College

**Occupants in 1969:** President and Directors of Georgetown College

**Use in 1969:** Georgetown University Office for Student Development

**Significance:** The interior of this building has been remodeled for office use without destroying the residential character of its exterior and at the same time maintaining its place in the street facade of this block of O Street.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1801-1850

In August, 1801 William Rhodes and his wife, Anne (sometimes spelled "Ann" in the documents), sold Lot 113 to Edward Sims.

"...being the same lot which Elijah Fowler purchased of John Threlkeld... and that said lot at the death of Elijah became legally vested in said Ann, his widow, during her natural life and that said Ann hath since intermarried with said William Rhodes."

In the 1800-1807 Tax Assessment records, Simms is described as owning "one lot improved on Second Street," and his real property was valued at $400. His personal property, valued at $495, was described as consisting of "One Negro Woman, $150, One Negro Man $270, Furniture $75." (1)

Dispute arose about the ownership of the property, because some time before 1801 John Threlkeld had sold all of Lot 113 to Elisha Fowler, Jr., but the deed had not been recorded within the time prescribed by law. It was not until 1830, over twenty-five years later, that Fowler's ownership was established by decree of the Chancery Court of D.C.

By that time Fowler had died, leaving his estate to his wife, Ann, during her lifetime and designating that after her death his estate be equally divided among Rebecca Dogherty (who married Arthur McCann), Joseph Clarke of Robert, and Francis Xaverios Simms, son of Joseph Milburn Simms. Francis Simms sold his third of Lot 113 to Robert Clarke, but this deed was not recorded within the time prescribed by law, so the 1830 deed concerning Fowler's purchase from Threlkeld cleared the title completely. This was done by citing John Threlkeld as selling the property to Rebecca McCann, Joseph Clarke (of Robert) and Robert Clarke as tenants in common.
The 1830 deed was ordered by the court in order to clear the title of the property which Edward Dawes had bought from Fowler's heirs after Ann Fowler Rhodes died. According to the Tax Assessment records of 1818-1819, Edward Dawes, who owned adjoining property, owned a one-story frame house on Lot 113, valued at $800. However, it is not until 1824 that Dawes's purchase of Lot 113 from Rebecca McCann and the Clarkes is recorded in a deed. Dawes, along with many Georgetown citizens, suffered financial reverses during the business slump of the 1830's. His Second Street property was placed in the hands of the Bank of the United States to serve as security against his debts. In 1843 the bank and Dawes sold all of Lot 113 to James R. Gates for $200.

1850-1905

In June of 1857 James Gates and his wife, Mary Ann, sold all of Lot 113 to Patrick McCarthy for $700. Seven years later, in 1864, McCarthy and his wife, Julia, sold the easterly 20 feet of the lot to John Hurley for $300. This is the part of the lot on which the structure (3619 0 Street) now stands. A few months later John Hurley and his wife, Catherine, took a deed of trust on the property, probably to borrow money for construction.

John Hurley died intestate leaving as his only heirs Bridget Reed and three unmarried children, John, Annie, and James. John and Annie, both unmarried, died intestate. Bridget Reed also died intestate, leaving a husband, David, and three children, Frank, Raymond, and Gertrude. James sold his interest in Lot 113 in March 1905 to his brother-in-law, David S. Reed.

1905-1969

In 1923 after David Reed's death, his children conveyed the property to Dorcas Reed, their stepmother. During the next year the house changed hands twice and was sold in 1926.
Three years later, in 1929, the property was bought by Albert Hamil who held it briefly before selling it to George Miller and J. Fendall Coughlan. Georgetown University, acquired the house in 1944, remodeled it, and has since used it as an office.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1801
William Rhodes and wife, Ann to Edward Simms
Deed August 27, 1801
Recorded August 27, 1801
Liber G-7, folio 256

1830
John Threlkeld to Rebecca McCann
Joseph Clarke of Robert Robert Clarke tenants in common
Deed March 18, 1830
Recorded August 31, 1830
Liber W.B. 32, folio 81

John Threlkeld made and executed a deed for Lot 113 to Elisha Fowler, Jr., but it was not recorded in the time prescribed by law. At Fowler's death, his wife (later married to William Rhodes) inherited the property for her lifetime.
At her death, the property would be divided among Rebecca Dogherty (who married Arthur McCann), Joseph Clarke of Robert and Francis Xaverios Simms, son of Joseph Milburn Simms. Francis Simms sold his third of the lot to Robert Clarke, but this deed was not recorded within the time prescribed by law. The above deed was executed so the title would be made good at law in the names of the tenants in common.

1824

Rebecca McCann
Joseph Clarke of Robert
Robert Clarke
to
Edward Dawes

Deed January 25, 1824
Recorded March 3, 1824
Liber W.B. 9, folio 478

1830

Refer to Deed, March 18, 1830 - Liber W.B. 32, folio 81

1831

Edward Dawes
to
Richard Smith, cashier Bank of the United States

Deed of Trust February 25, 1831
Recorded March 10, 1831
Liber W.B. 35, folio 141
1843
Richard Smith, Jr. Bank of the United States
Edward Dawes et ux Ann
James R. Gates
Deed September 22, 1843
Recorded September 27, 1843
Liber W.B. 102, folio 425

1857
James R. Gates and wife, Mary Jane
Patrick McCarthy
Deed June 27, 1857
Recorded June 29, 1857
Liber JAS 136, folio 437

1864
Patrick McCarthy and wife, Julia
John Hurley
Deed May 11, 1864
Recorded June 10, 1864
Liber NCT 38, folio 53
Easterly 20 feet on Lot 113

1867
John Hurley and wife, Catherine
William D. Cassein
F. W. Jones
Deed of Trust September 7, 1867
Recorded September 9, 1867
Liber ECE 16, folio 32
John Hurley died intestate leaving as his only heirs Bridget Reed, John Hurley, James Hurley and Annie Hurley.
1897

Bridget Reed and husband, David S. John Hurley Annie Hurley James Hurley all unmarried to Jesse H. Wilson Levin S. Frey

Deed of Trust February 13, 1897 Recorded February 16, 1897 Liber 2200, folio 161

1905

James Hurley unmarried to David S. Reed

Deed March 27, 1905 Recorded March 27, 1905 Liber 2907, folio 53

Bridget Reed died intestate, leaving three children, Frank, Raymond, and Gertrude. John and Annie Hurley died intestate and unmarried.

1923

Frank Reed and wife, Bessie Raymond Reed and wife, Marie C. Gertrude Reed unmarried to Dorcas M. Reed (widow of David S.)

Deed January 23, 1923 Recorded January 24, 1923 Liber 4886, folio 104
1924

Dorcas M. Reed, widow
to
May J. Johnston, widow

Deed February 8, 1924
Recorded February 8, 1924
Liber 5148, folio 381

May J. Johnston, widow
to
Rebecca C. Drysdale

Deed March 25, 1924
Recorded March 25, 1924
Liber 5195, folio 58

1926

Rebecca C. Drysdale
to
John B. Breneman and wife

Deed February 15, 1926
Recorded February 19, 1926
Liber 5711, folio 115

1929

John B. Breneman and wife
to
Albert W. Hamill

Deed July 15, 1929
Recorded July 18, 1929
Liber 6349, folio 347

Albert W. Hamill
to
George Miller
J. Fendall Coughlan

Deed July 24, 1929
Recorded September 6, 1929
Liber 6368, folio 223
1944

George Miller
J. Fendall Coughlan

to

The President and Directors
of Georgetown College

Deed August 1, 1929
Recorded May 24, 1944
Liber 7972, folio 98

References


2. Same reference as #1. Roll 11 (1818-1819).
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: Originally a private rowhouse, this building has been converted to office use in recent years, completely destroying the interior, yet retaining the exterior character of the two-story row of which it is a part.

Condition of fabric: Good, well maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 35'-0". Originally two bays wide across O Street facade, second floor still has two windows, but first floor has door and a double window.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame with stucco front, clapboard side; ell at rear of brick.

Chimneys: One on west wall.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: Door is mid-twentieth century six panel "colonial;" casing is simple with a pediment above, also mid-twentieth century.

Windows and shutters: One over one double-hung wood sash; wood louvered shutters. All mid-twentieth century.
Porches: Brick steps with a simple iron rail at front; two-story wood porch along east side of ell at rear for its full length.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable; ridge running eastwest; metal covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Bracketed Victorian wood; hanging metal gutter.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Because the building has been completely renovated several times, nothing remains of the original plan nor of the original decorative features.

Site

General setting and orientation: One of several houses of similar scale forming the north side of O Street. No front yard; ample rear yard.

Enclosures: Rear yard enclosed with wood fence; board gate access to rear yard from street.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick and concrete.

Landscaping: Simple residential planting.

Prepared by The Office of Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
December 6, 1968
BUSSARD-NEWMAN HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1311 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly this address was 38 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house occupies the north part of Lot 67 in Square 58 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 841 in Square 1228 in the City of Washington.

Date of Erection: Between 1805 and 1808.

Owners in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy T. Morgan

Occupants in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy T. Morgan

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: One of the earliest of the small frame free-standing houses in the western part of Georgetown, this dwelling maintains much of its original character despite alterations to the rear part of the building and within the house. The two-story building illustrates the type of dwelling frequently occupied by artisans and proprietors of small business enterprises, structures that were larger than laborers' cottages, but less grand than the homes of the Georgetown gentry.
1805-1828

John Threlkeld sold the north half of Lot 67 in Square 58 to Daniel Bussard in 1805. Bussard was a leading citizen of Georgetown and an entrepreneur in various fields. He owned considerable property and was active as a land developer and builder. He also owned and operated a brewery, a tannery, and a distillery. (1) In the early 1800's with Mr. Renner he advertised in a Georgetown newspaper, The Olio, "...have for sale at their store, High Street, George Town: Loaf lump & brown sugar - molasses; Rum of different kinds; Holland & country gin; Cherry bounce; Wines - Madeira, Lisbon & Malgo, Port; Brandies - Cogniac, Peach & Apple, Spanish; Almonds, raisins; Teas - Imperial, Young Hyson, Hysonikin & Souchong; Coffee, chocolate; Mould & dipt candles; Madder, soap, sig blue; Scotch smuff in bottles; Chewing tobacco, Coarse & fine salt; Shad & Herrings; Superfine Flour; Whiskey & tar by the barrel; Firkin butter, Bacon." (2)

As a trustee of the Georgetown Presbyterian Church while the revered Reverend Stephen Bloomer Balch was minister, Bussard was responsible for collecting the monies for the pews. (3) Active also in civic affairs, in 1826 he was named to the committee applying to Congress for a charter to build a Poor House with funds given by John Barnes. Later he was appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Poor Farm which was located at the corner of what is now Calvert Street and Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., where the Guy Mason home now stands. (4)

Tax records for this period show Bussard assessed for:
"7 horses - $500; 1 old woman negroe - $60; 1 cow - $15; 1 carriage - $200; furniture - $200." (5)
Bussard built the frame house on Fayette Street (now 35th Street) between 1805 and 1808. In 1805 he had paid $100 for the north half of Lot 67, a price indicating there was not a structure on the land at that time. In 1808 Bussard bought the south half of Lot 67 for $300, a bargain since John French had paid $500 for the same piece of property only two years earlier in 1806. The tax assessment records for the year 1808 assess Daniel Bussard for Lot 67, valuing the property at $800 and listing it as "improved" (which indicates that the land was no longer vacant). In 1813 the tax records were more specific, giving Bussard's Lot 67 a value of $850 and listing "2 single story frames." (6)

1828-1841

In 1828 the frame houses were sold by the Bussard family to Peter Hoover. Hoover was a butcher, who probably lived in one of the houses and used the other as his shop. (7)

In 1840 the houses were sold at public auction by the Marshal of D. C., as Peter Hoover had gone into debt and been taken into custody and removed to Baltimore. Andrew Hoover purchased the property for $1002 but sold it a few months later to William Noyes, who in turn sold it the next year to John Clements.

1841-1847

John Clements is listed in city directories as a painter. (8) In 1847 Clement sold his house on the north part of Lot 67 (now 1311 35th Street) to George Neill and continued to occupy the house to the south. A second story had been added to the north house by either Hoover or Clements for the 1847 deed reads "...upon which stands a two story frame house... including the free use of the well and pump in said Clements adjoining yard, provided the owner or occupier of the above granted premises shall contribute one half the expense toward keeping same in repair."
1847-1852

George and Sarah Ann Neill held the north house on Lot 67 for three years and then sold it to William Jones. Thomas Newman bought it from Jones and his wife, Martha, a year later in 1852.

1852-1910

Thomas A. Newman was a shoemaker who lived at 7 Bank Street and had a boot and shoe shop at 113 and 115 Bridge Street (now 3136 and 3138 M Street). City and business directories list Newman as having a shoe business on Bridge (M) Street from the early 1850's through 1907. (9) George Battersby, a confectioner, rented the small frame house at 38 Fayette Street from Thomas Newman and ran his confectionery there. (10) When George died, his widow, Ann C. Battersby, continued the family business at this address. City directories list Ann at 38 Fayette Street through 1863. (11) Again, in 1866, a confectioner, Mrs. Susanna Darnes, is listed at this location. (12) Research has not revealed whether the house was rented and used for running a confectionery business during the remaining years of Newman ownership. However, for over half a century it was held by the Newman family.

1910-1944

Celena V. Jessup Newman, wife of Thomas Newman, survived her husband. Thomas A. Murray, executor of Celena Newman's Will, sold the frame house to Samuel Artz in 1910. Artz was a plumber who had a business at 3028 M Street and lived on N Street. (13) He rented his house at 1311 35th Street to Ernest A. Allen, who was living in the house two years prior to Artz's purchase. (14) Allen operated the Aqueduct Photo Shop at 3507 M Street and later worked for the Washington Gas Company. After renting the little frame house for
twelve years, Ernest and his wife, Catherine, purchased it
and continued to own it until his death in 1940. (15) His
heirs then sold the house to Lucien and Nayan Warner, who
kept it only two years during the World War II period. (16)

1944-1969

Charles Jesse Child and his wife, Fredericka Boyles Child,
obtained the premises in 1944. Fourteen years later the
present owners, LeRoy T. Morgan and his wife, Carolyn D.
Morgan, bought this early house. In the course of gardening
the Morgans have unearthed a great number of old artifacts.

At one time there was a small structure between the brick	house to the south, 1307 35th Street, and the Bussard-
Newman house. This was built by John McCauley, a cobbler,
soon after he moved in to the brick house in 1883. It
was used as a cobbler's shop and listed in city directories
as 1309 35th Street. (17) Now cleared, this area is part
of present Lot 835.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1805

John Threlkeld et ux
Elizabeth
   to
Daniel Bussard

Deed October 9, 1805
Recorded November 25, 1805
Liber 0-14, folio 27

North half Lot 67--Consideration $100
1828

Daniel Bussard et ux
Catherine
David English, trustee
William Bussard et ux
Catharine
to
Peter Hoover

Deed June 19, 1828
Recorded July 1, 1828
Liber W.B. 23, folio 38

Conveys whole of Lot 67--Consideration $650
(Bussard purchased the south half of Lot 67 in 1808 for $300.)

1840

Peter Hoover et ux

to
David English

Trust June 19, 1828
Recorded July 1, 1828
Liber W.B. 23, folio 42

Trust to secure purchase money

1840

Alexander Hunter,
Marshall of D.C.
Peter Hoover
to
Andrew Hoover

Deed March 27, 1840
Recorded September 4, 1840
Liber W.B. 78, folio 450

Recites that Andrew Hoover bought the property at auction, 11 January 1840, for $1,002
"...to make damages and costs aforesaid out of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of the said Peter Hoover being found in his bailiwick...." Refers to Peter Hoover, "late of George Town in the District of Columbia, but now of Baltimore."
Andrew Hoover et ux
Sarah
   to
William Noyes

Deed October 31, 1840
Recorded March 18, 1841
Liber W.B. 84, folio 445

1841

David English,
trustee
   to
William Noyes

Deed March 24, 1841
Recorded March 25, 1841
Liber W.B. 93, folio 187

William Noyes et ux
Mary
   to
John Clements

Deed September 21, 1841
Recorded April 25, 1842
Liber W.B. 93, folio 230

1847

John Clements
Edward M. Linthicum
   to
Otho M. Linthicum
George S. Neill

Deed April 21, 1847
Recorded August 30, 1847
Liber W.B. 136, folio 262

This and succeeding deeds concern only the northern part of Lot 67, "...upon which stands a two story frame house...including the free use of the well and pump in said Clements adjoining yard, provided the owner or occupier of the above granted premises shall contribute one half the expense toward keeping same in repair."
1851
George S. Neill et ux Sarah Ann to William S. Jones Deed April 8, 1851 Recorded April 10, 1851 Liber JAS 23, folio 218

1852
William S. Jones et ux Martha to Thomas A. Newman Deed October 4, 1852 Recorded October 8, 1852 Liber JAS 46, folio 163

1910
Thomas A. Murray, executor of Will of Celeno V. Newman to Samuel Artz Deed June 18, 1910 Recorded June 18, 1910 Liber 3337, folio 235

Celeno V. Jessup Newman was the widow of Thomas A. Newman.

1920
Samuel Artz & wife, Emma J. to Ernest Allen Catharine T. Allen joint tenants Deed July 1, 1920 Recorded August 10, 1920 Liber 4417, folio 151
1940

Ernest Allen died December 20, 1940.

1942

Grafton L. Allen, unmarried
Ernest W. Allen & wife, Susie
Edwin P. Allen & wife, Dorothy
Eleanor R. Allen
Helen C. Allen Zimmerman
Catherine L. Allen Mann
Delores M. Allen McMahon
heirs of Ernest Allen
to
Lucien Warner & wife, Nayan
tenants by the entirety

1944

Lucien Warner & wife, Nayan
tenants by the entirety
to
Charles Jesse Child & wife, Fredericka Boyles
tenants by the entirety
1958

Charles Jesse Child &
wife, Fredericka
Boyles

to
LeRoy T. Morgan & wife,
Carolyn D. M.
tenants by the entirety

Deed January 23, 1958
Recorded February 7, 1958
Liber 10993, folio 499

References


2. The Olio. (Georgetown), 1802-1803, Newspaper Reading Room, Serial Division, Library of Congress.

3. Journal of the Trustees of Georgetown Presbyterian Church, 1809-1830.


5. Same reference as #1. Roll 9 (1813-18).
6. Same reference as #1. Roll 8 (1808-12); Roll 9 (1813-18).


8. Same reference as #7. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 3.


10. Same reference as #7. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 11.

11. Same reference as #7. 1860, p. 162; 1862, p. 188; 1863, p. 220.


16. Conversation in 1968 with Mrs. Sophie Warner Cousins. She was born in Georgetown in the 1880's and was a cousin of John McCauley.

17. Same reference as #7. 1883, p. 573; 1887, p. 578.
ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural character: This modest wooden frame house with a three bay flat wood sided front is one of several remaining units of combination residence - shop on 35th Street.

Condition: The house is in good general condition. It has been extensively remodeled on the interior and on the east (rear), but the 35th Street (front) elevation maintains much of its original character.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: This 2 1/2 story frame with full basement faces west onto 35th Street between N and O Streets and the South wall of the structure is approximately 125' along 35th Street from the center line of N Street. The three bay front of approximately 21' is set back approximately 14' from the curb and the house is approximately 35' in depth.

Foundations: There is a very slight foundation exposure at the front, and as the land slopes off there is full basement exposure at the rear yard (east) elevation. Foundation materials visible include both brick and stone. A special feature of note is a hatchway at the west elevation that has been filled in.

Wall construction: Wall construction is of heavy rough-hewn wood frame with a stud framing infull. Joints are said, by the former owner, to have been pegged. Siding is wood ship-lap with vertical corner boards. This occurs only at the west elevation while the north and south elevations have new aluminum horizontal siding full height.
Porches: Roofed wooden porches at the southeast corner of the house at the first and second levels are now enclosed. There is no stoop or front porch but there is a plastic roofed aluminum framed sun porch at the basement level at the rear of the house.

Chimneys: There is one brick chimney in the middle of the north wall with fireplaces in the basement (original the kitchen), first, and second floors.

Openings:

Doorways and doors: The west elevation doorway has both a wood panelled door and wood Georgian-styled door frame which appear to be mid-twentieth century additions.

Windows and shutters: Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash with plain wood trim. Shutters are of two panelled louvered type but are obviously not original. The marks of the original pintel hardware are not visible and the shutter stops for the lower floor appear to be original.

Roof:

Shape, covering: It is a medium pitched simple gable with ridge running parallel to the street (north-south). The roof covering is asphalt shingles.

Framing: It is said by the former owner to be rough hewn wood rafters.

Cornice, eaves: The cornice is a simple wood projection with attached metal gutter and downspout.

Cupolas, dormers, and towers: There is one dormer over the center bay of the west elevation with one 6/6 double-hung wood sash window. The window has a low arched head and a pedimental cornice with a broken horizontal cornice band crowning the dormer. There is a large dormer with access to a rear roof deck as a mid-twentieth century addition to the east roof slope.
Description of Interior

Floor plans: The house has a front and rear room with side hall. The basement is entered from a stair at the southwest corner of the house and from the rear yard and was originally used as a kitchen. The first floor originally had a front parlor and rear dining room. The second floor has a front and two rear bedrooms with two baths added. The remodeled attic floor has a front bedroom with dormer, a back bedroom with large modern dormer and access to the rear roof deck, and a bath at the southeast corner.

The entire interior has been remodeled extensively by successive owners.

Stairways: There is one wooden stairway at the southwest corner of the house cantilevered from the south wall. Corner winder stairs occur at the southwest corner of the second floor and basement runs, while the first floor stair is a straight run. All the stairs run up from west to east.

The stairway has been remodeled several times as evidenced by damaged newel posts. Both the newel posts and the balusters are turned wood, and three different styles of newel post are present. Additional simple decoration is provided by quarter-circle-cut stringer angle blocks supporting each tread.

Flooring: The two upper floors have random width wide wood flooring, while the first floor has narrow width wood flooring running in the opposite (east-west) direction. Floor construction visible for the second floor is single plank floor boards on 8" joists.

Wall and ceiling finish: Walls and ceilings are plastered.

Doorways and doors: Doors are of the simple wood panel type with simple wood trim.
Decorative features and trim: A window that might be original is at the first floor at the south wall between the back room and the enclosed porch at the southeast.

Walls have a flat wood baseboard but no cornice or chair rail.

The other trim is not noteworthy.

Notable Hardware: There are a variety of early and mid-twentieth century items.

Lighting: There are a variety of twentieth-century fixtures.

Heating: Central heating with individual room radiator units was completed about 1920. Fireplace treatment is of mid-twentieth century date.

Site

General siting and orientation: The house is on the east side of 35th Street between N and O Streets. The south wall of the structure is approximately 125' along 35th Street from the centerline of N Street. It is in a mixed residential-commercial zone with both small houses and shops nearby.

Enclosures: There is a wooden picket fence painted white approximately 8' from the west facade. The rear yard is fenced by a wooden enclosure 6' high.

There is an old stable at the east end of the lot which has been remodeled with additions to be a guest house.
Walks: The house faces on a red brick public sidewalk on the west which is approximately 8' from the facade. A red brick walk runs from the sidewalk to the front door.

Landscaping: There is a stone and brick paved yard at the rear between the main house and the remodeled stable.

Prepared by: William P. Thompson
Architect
Historic American Buildings Survey
June 1968
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  HABS No. DC-209

BRONAUGH-BIBB-LIBBEY HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1408 35th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly known as 59 Fayette Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of old Lot 110, Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 830, Square 1247 in Washington, D.C.

Date of Erection: Rear two-story portion in 1817; front three-story portion third quarter of the nineteenth century.

Owner in 1969: Nan Tucker McEvoy

Occupant in 1969: Nan Tucker McEvoy

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: The home of a colorful nineteenth-century political figure, this house demonstrates the successful integration of an earlier structure with a later, more imposing addition. The facade is a good example of frame construction of its period.
1816-1836

The land on which this house stands was part of John Thrilkeld's extensive holdings. He sold it in 1816 to John Bronaugh, another large landowner.

There was a two-story frame house, valued at $500, on the lot during 1818-1819.(1) It seems feasible, therefore, that Bronaugh constructed a portion of the present dwelling shortly after purchasing the property.

In 1819 Bronaugh, because of financial difficulties, had to dispose of much of his property. Lot 110 was assigned to the Clerk of the Georgetown Corporation. For the next few years Bronaugh and his family tried, through a number of trusts and loans, to hold on to their property. In one of these transactions, in 1825, Lot 110 was used as collateral for a loan of $720 from the Bank of the United States.

Bronaugh's efforts, however, were unsuccessful. By the 1830's Georgetown's trade had declined and many property owners were feeling the economic pinch. In August of 1833 Lot 110, along with some adjoining property of Bronaugh's, was conveyed at public sale to the Bank of the United States. Three years later, in 1836, Rebecca Ford bought from the Bank of the United States all of Lot 110 as well as some adjoining property.

1836-1869

Rebecca Ford is reputed to have been a schoolmistress. It is not clear whether or not she occupied the house. In 1854
she deeded the property to her daughter, Mary Rebecca Bibb, wife of Judge George M. Bibb. In the following year's City Directory Bibb is listed at 55 Fayette Street, a house just south of 59 Fayette Street which the Bibbs also owned. Presumably the two neighboring houses were required to take care of the Bibbs' seventeen children.

Judge Bibb was a well-known, colorful figure. He twice represented Kentucky in the United States Senate. There he strongly advocated the necessity for the War of 1812 and upheld President Madison's position in carrying it on. Bibb also served in the legislature of Kentucky. He became Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals in Kentucky and later was Chancellor of the Court of Chancery in Louisville. Bibb and Henry Clay were appointed in 1822 to plead before the Virginia Legislature for an agreement to settle land claims. When their efforts failed, they appeared the following year, 1823, before the U.S. Supreme Court during a rehearing of the case. However, despite the close alliance of the two men, Bibb did not support Henry Clay in his bid for the Presidency, feeling that Clay had no chance of being elected.

In 1844 President Tyler appointed Bibb Secretary of the Treasury. Although he went out of office with Tyler on March 4, 1845, Bibb remained in Washington for the rest of his life, practicing before District courts and serving as chief clerk in the Attorney General's Office. He died at the age of 81.

Judge Bibb is vividly described in The Dictionary of American Biography: "He was a typical 'gentleman of the old school', ever refusing to discard knee-breeches for pantaloons." (3)
Between 1865 and 1870 Mrs. Bibb owned considerable property on Fayette (35th) Street and on Second (0) Street. Lot 110, one of her properties is described as having a 60-foot front-age on the west side of Fayette and extending back 120 feet with "Improvements—3-story brick and frame dwelling - $1000." (4) The third story refers to the front portion of the dwell-ing added to the two-story structure by the Bibbs, presumably to house their large family.

1869-1923

In 1869 two brothers, Joseph Libbey and John E. Libbey, bought the property from Mrs. Bibb. Slightly over two years later, in 1873, they sold it to Mary Jane McGill and her husband, John D. He was the proprietor of The Georgetown Courier. (5) The McGills used the property as security for a trust of $3600. Trustees were Frederick W. Jones and Frank Libbey, who was a brother of Joseph and John. On May 14, 1877 the property was sold for $3350 for default of trust. It was purchased by Joseph and John Edward Libbey as tenants in common. The Libbey family maintained ownership of the property until 1923.

The Libbeys were a prominent Georgetown family. Joseph Libbey, father of Joseph, John E. and Frank (and ten others too!), started his career as a carpenter. In 1829 he established his own lumber firm, Joseph Libbey and Son, on Water (K) Street near Congress (31st) Street, "...and thus became a lumber mer-chant and built up a very large and profitable business." (6)

The Libbey family owned a great deal of property in Georgetown. The two houses Joseph built on the northeast corner of West (P) Street and Congress (31st) Street continued to be in his family for a long time. He also built two houses on Congress Street for two of his daughters. (7)
"The Libbey family owned a great deal of property in Georgetown." Mrs. John Edward Libbey (Emily Frances Orme) (Eleanor Copley family photograph collection)
Libbey's sons took over the management of the family lumber yard. John E. Libbey started the Congress Street Methodist Church in Georgetown. He built many homes, including three for his children. He also constructed the house at 3053 P Street which President Kennedy's parents rented at the time of their son's Inauguration. (8)

1923-1969

In 1923 Mary R. Libbey Chapin, Joseph's daughter, sold 1408 35th Street to Francesco Lo Bianco, a contractor, who lived at 3034 O Street. He rented the house for a few years, first to a painter and then to a laborer. (9) In 1930 the house was vacant, but the following year, Lo Bianco and his wife moved into the house and operated a real estate business at the same address. They shared the house for some time with George F. Hanowell, a decorator, who lived there and operated his business in the building. (10) By 1948 the Lo Bianco's were the sole inhabitants of the house, continuing to maintain their real estate business in their home until 1954. (11) At that time the building was purchased by Nan Tucker McEvoy who continues to reside there.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1816

John Threlkeld to John W. Bronaugh

Deed September 19, 1816
Recorded October 18, 1816
Liber AM-37, folio 20

All of Lot 110 (60 ft. by 120 ft. deep)
1819

John W. Bronaugh  
Deed of Trust April 3, 1819  
Recorded September 25, 1819
John Mountz  
Liber AW-47, folio 82

"To indemnify Jeremiah Bronaugh against all loss 
because of his becoming surety on bond of John 
Bronaugh...."

1820

Tench Ringgold  
Deed July 18, 1820  
Recorded August 17, 1820
(Marshal)  
Liber AZ-50, folio 77
to
Jeremiah Bronaugh

Sale of all of Lot 110 under writ of "fiere facias," 
which requires that a sheriff levy and make the 
amount of a judgment from the goods and chattels of 
the judgment debtor.

1825.

Jeremiah Bronaugh  
Deed of Trust December 24, 1825  
Recorded May 13, 1826
Richard Smith  
Liber W.B. 17, folio 46

All of Lot 110 used as collateral to secure loan of 
$720 from Bank of U.S.
1833
Jeremiah Bronaugh
Richard Smith, Tr.
Tench Ringgold
(Marshal)
William W. Corcoran
to
Bank of the United States

(Deed August 17, 1833
Recorded September 20, 1833
Liber W.B. 43, folio 487)

(Corcoran bond bought when he was agent of Bank of the United States, at public sale. Involved was Lot 110 and adjoining Lot 100.)

1836
Bank of the United States
to
Rebecca Ford

(Deed September 10, 1836
Recorded October 13, 1836
Liber W.B. 60, folio 183)

1854
Rebecca Ford
to
Rebecca Bibb

(Deed December 28, 1854
Recorded July 24, 1855
Liber JAS 101, folio 156)

(Later known as Mary R. Bibb and Mary Rebecca Bibb)

All of Lot 110 and adjoining Lot 109, also part of adjoining Lot 100

Note: Later, Rebecca Bibb's title to property was proved defective and new deed had to be procured from Rebecca Ford's heirs-at-law to clear title. (See Liber 705, folio 216, Deed Jan. 3, 1873, Recorded Feb. 1, 1873.)
1869

Mary Rebecca Bibb to Joseph Libbey and John E. Libbey

North part of Lot 110. Includes sewer privileges. Arrangements include prohibition of any building fronting on 35th St. from 22 ft. west of the building line; also prohibits obstruction of lights.

1871

John G. Ford Sarah E. Ford Susan E. Ford Anna M. Ford Mary R. Moser Philip S. Moser Elinor Ford and husband, Athanasius (All heirs of Mary Ann Ford under the Will of Rebecca Ford) to Mary R. Bibb (alias Rebecca)

1873

Mary Rebecca Bibb

to

Joseph Libbey

John Edward Libbey
tenants in common

North 30 feet of Lot 110. Conveys all interest in
same terms as in Liber 601, folio 307. Corrects
error.

Joseph Libbey and

wife, Mary R.

John E. Libbey and

wife, Emily F.

to

Mary Jane McGill,

wife of John D.

North 30 feet of Lot 110 and part of adjoining Lot 100.
Consideration - $4500. With the right of water course
or sewer in and through north part of Lot 100 into the
arch near said lot. McGill to build sewer, keep in
good order and permit the owner of the other part of
Lot 110 to connect with sewer, paying reasonable
share for repairs, provided: No house or building
shall be erected nearer than 22 feet from Fayette St.
until after November 12, 1889, and that "No obstruction,
stoppage or darkening of the lights of the house on the
premises next north of the above premises within that
distance of 22 feet from Fayette St."
Mary Jane McGill and husband, John D. to Frederick W. Jones, Tr.
Frank Libbey, Tr.

North 30 ft. of Lot 110. Trust of $3600, with four notes of $900 each for one to four years. To Joseph Libbey and John E. Libbey.

1877

Frederick W. Jones, Tr.
Frank Libbey, Tr.

to
Joseph Libbey
John Edward Libbey

tenants in common

North 30 ft. of Lot 110. Sale for default under trust. Sale held May 14, 1877 for $3350.

1886

Joseph Libbey died July 20, 1886, without leaving a Will. His heirs-at-law were his children:

Robert Libbey adults
Mary Libbey
Eleanor Libbey
Marcia Libbey minors
Louisa Libbey
Request for distribution of all of Joseph Libbey's property (including the north 30 feet of Lot 110) to be divided among the children.

November 13, 1886
Equity Cause 10282

1887

Partition of Joseph Libbey estate occurred. January 14, 1887
Equity Cause 10368
Docket 26

Vested as tenants in common with free title to several pieces of property, including north 30 ft. of Lot 110, were:

Robert Libbey
Eleanor Libbey
Mary Libbey

Division of property by the Commissioners gave the north 30 ft. of Lot 110 to Mary R. Libbey Chapin. (The share of the property that Robert M. Libbey received was worth $1100 more than that of any other of the children, so he was ordered to pay $220 to each of his four sisters.)

Robert M. Libbey to John Edward Libbey
Deed of Trust October 28, 1887
Recorded October 28, 1887
Liber 1280, folio 351

Assigns power to his uncle for two years to care for his estate--personal, real and mixed--to sell, rent, invest, etc.
1888

John Edward Libbey

Deed February 15, 1888
to
Recorded February 21, 1888
Robert M. Libbey
Liber 1306, folio 206

Uncle releases and conveys all of Robert's estate
--real and mixed--back to him.

1892

The petition for partial
"vacation" of decree dated
August 21, 1887 shows that
trustees have not yet sold
property and that Louisa
Libbey (daughter of Josiah
and one of his heirs-at-law)
died without leaving a Will.

Louisa's heirs-at-law were:

Mary R. L. Chapin
Eleanor H. Griffin, nee Libbey
Robert N. Libbey
Marcia M. Libbey

Heirs requested that real estate be released
from decree.

1895

Order to dismiss cause
July 15, 1895
of 1892 petition was
issued.
1923
Mary R. L. Chapin to Francesco Lo Bianco and wife, Pauline Adams joint tenants

Deed March 10, 1923
Recorded March 12, 1923
Liber 4915, folio 194

North 30 ft. of Lot 110, now Lot 830. Pauline Adams Lo Bianco died. Francesco married again. His second wife's name was Ruth K. They became tenants by entirety.

1954
Francesco Lo Bianco and wife, Ruth K. to Nan Tucker McEvoy

Deed November 30, 1954
Recorded December 6, 1954
Liber 10325, folio 265

Lot 830, with water and sewer rights, which were granted on March 26, 1873, still in force.

References

2. City Directory. 1855 (Georgetown Section), p. 2.


5. Same reference as #2. 1873, p. 605.


8. Interview with Miss Eleanor Cropley (whose mother was a Libbey).


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: Set back from the street more than the other houses on this side of the street, this is a pleasant two-story-plus-mansard frame house of the mid-nineteenth century. Apparently the rear ell was added to the front block at an early date. Subsequent remodelings have kept the house livable while retaining its mid-Victorian appearance.

Condition of fabric: Good, exterior in need of paint.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 24'-0" by 26'-0" with a 30'-0" by 23'-0" addition on the rear. The front portion has two stories plus a finished mansard story; the rear portion has two stories; there is a full basement. The facade is three bays wide.

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Frame and clapboard construction. The 35th Street facade has chamfered drop siding, while the south side and rear have plain square edge clapboards.

Chimneys: One on south wall of front portion, one centered in rear addition.
Openings:

Doors and doorways: Main entry is heavily moulded. It has chamfered pilasters, carved scroll consoles, heavy ogee cornice with carved modillions, very heavy bead around door and transom. There is a two-light transom over double doors which have two flat panels each, simple cyma sticking inside, and heavy projected moulded sticking outside.

Windows and shutters: Windows in general have two-over-two double hung wood sash except in rear addition, where they are six-over-six; however, these are twentieth-century replacements. First floor front shutters have three flat unmoulded panels; second floor front shutters have wood louvers. All front windows have flat board surrounds with shaped heads and a flat backband; flat wood sills have shallow moulded brackets at each side.

Porches: Front entrance has six brick risers with limestone treads leading up to a limestone landing, all of recent construction. There are two wood screened porches, one above the other, in the center of the south side.

Roof:

Shape and covering: The front portion has a mansard roof with hexagonal slates on the steep pitch and metal on the low pitch; the rear portion has a metal shed rood pitched toward the south.

Framing: Wood, with ridge running north-south.

Cornices: Very deep wood with heavy brackets and modillions, and a very broad overhang.

Dormers: Two over two arched-top wood sash have flat wood trim with dog-ears, segmental-arched metal roof, and wood sides. There are three across the front (east) side and three across the rear of the main block of the house.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plans: First floor has entry hall at northeast corner, living room at southeast, dining room west of both, small porch to south of dining room, kitchen across west end. Second floor has bath at northeast corner, bedroom at southeast, bedroom west of first bedroom with small porch to the south, another bedroom at west end with a bath at the southwest corner. The stair hall runs along the north wall from the front bath to the rear of the house. Third floor has two bedrooms across the south, bath at the northeast corner, stair at northwest. Basement is two large areas separated by 8" brick wall.

Stairways: Main stair ascends east to west along north wall to landing off which rear addition opens, then from west to east to second floor of main block. Stair to third floor repeats this pattern. Rear stair ascends from kitchen to second floor in west to east direction with winders at bottom. Basement stair is open wood utility stair under rear stair.

Flooring: Random width pine, wider in dining room; same painted black in middle upstairs bedroom; tile in baths; vinyl in basement rear; concrete in front basement.

Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster, pastel generally except middle bedroom which is dark blue.

Doors and doorways: Doors in general have four flat panels with quirked cyma sticking, except on third floor where they have shallow raised panels. There are very few modern six-panel doors and glazed doors to porches.

Decorative features and trim: Living and dining room mantels have been replaced with simple wood bull nose mouldings, black slate hearth and surround. Second floor front bedroom has an old mantel, possibly original, of simple design, unmoulded except for a cyma reversa bed mould under the shelf.
It has a hearth, surround, lining and unshaped jack arch of old moulded brick. Doors and windows generally have a heavy moulded mid-nineteenth century casing, a slightly narrower one of the same period occurs on the third floor, and some newer doors and windows have twentieth-century trim. There are no cornices or chair rails.

Hardware: Twentieth-century brass, some lever handles of French design in principal rooms.

Lighting: Electrified crystal chandeliers in living room and dining room, not original to house, no notable other fixtures.

Heating: Radiators; boiler in basement.

Site

General setting and orientation: Situated on the west side of 35th Street, just north of O Street, this house has a very deep front yard which sets it apart from most of the other houses on the street.

Enclosures: A variety of wood fences enclose the rear yard, while the front yard is enclosed by shrubbery and other planting.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Front walk is random flagstone; side covered terrace has basket-weave brick paving.
Landscaping: The front yard is treated as a gravelled parking court with shrubbery enclosure, while the entire rear yard is covered with tanbark except for brick-edged planting areas. A variety of flowering shrubs and fruit trees surround this informal terrace area.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
November 20, 1968
"PROSPECT HOUSE"

LINGAN-TEMPLEMAN-STEEL-MORRIS HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3508 Prospect Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 115 Prospect Street.)

Location: The house is located on old Lots 30 and 31 and parts of old Lots 20 and 21, Square 33 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lots 802, 803 and 805, Square 1203 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: Between 1788 and 1793,

Owner in 1969: Mrs. Patricia Firestone Chatham

Occupant in 1969: Mrs. Patricia Firestone Chatham

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: One of the few free-standing, late eighteenth-century mansions remaining in the western part of Georgetown, this Georgian structure has been meticulously restored. Pre-dating the establishment of the nearby Federal City, it has been continuously occupied from the time of its erection by families prominent in the service of their nation.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1788-1793

In November of 1788 the Revolutionary War hero, General James Maccubbin Lingan, bought the original site of Prospect House (Lots 30 and 31 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown) from William Deakins, Jr. for the sum of 250 pounds "current money." In 1793 the General sold the property "...together with all the Houses, improvements, privileges and advantages thereto and thereon..." to John Templeman of Boston for 1450 pounds "current money." It would seem safe to assume, considering the sizable difference in price (1200 pounds) over a period of only five years, that it was General Lingan who built Prospect House sometime between 1788 and 1793. It is also interesting to note that nearby 36th Street was once called Lingan Street.

James Maccubbin Lingan was born May 31, 1751 in Frederick County, Maryland, the second son of Dr. Lingan, and through his mother, he was related to the famous Carroll family of Maryland. He arrived in Georgetown as quite a young man and immediately entered a tobacco warehouse business owned by a relative.

In 1776 he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Continental Army. He was wounded by a Hessian bayonet in the Battle of Long Island, captured by the British at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, and taken aboard the Jersey, an infamous prison ship, commonly called the "Hell." Although friends and relatives close to the English court urged Lingan, while he was a prisoner, to give his allegiance to the King, he retained his intense devotion to the Revolutionary cause. (1)
"In November of 1788 the Revolutionary War hero, General James Maccubbin Lingan bought the original site of Prospect House...." General James Maccubbin Lingan (Smithsonian Institution)

1788 Deed between William Deakins, Jr. and James Maccubbin Lingan (Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland)
At the conclusion of the war Lingan, now a general, returned to Georgetown where he became a prominent merchant and a most distinguished member of local society. He heavily invested in land in various parts of Georgetown and in what later became known as the city of Washington. In an offer to President Washington, dated October 13, 1790, a number of Georgetown's leading citizens, Lingan among them, agreed "...to sell on such terms as the President may determine to be reasonable, any of the lands owned by them in the vicinity of Georgetown."(2) On October 1, 1790 President Washington appointed Lingan Collector of the Port of Georgetown. He was also one of Georgetown's aldermen; one of the first incorporators of the Bank of Columbia; an incorporator of the Georgetown Mutual Insurance Company; and a member of the committee delegated to prepare and present an address of welcome to President John Adams in 1800.(3) In 1801 President Adams appointed Lingan a U.S. Marshal. (4)

In later years he moved from Georgetown to the "Federal City," building a house on what is now 19th Street, N.W., between M and N Streets. He had a handsome wife and children. (Mrs. Lingan was formerly Janet Henderson, daughter of Richard and Sarah Henderson of Spring Mill, Montgomery County, Maryland.) He also had many friends and was prospering in business.(5) All appeared to be going well for the illustrious veteran until the election year of 1812. The General was a staunch Federalist; he held a part interest in The Federal Republican, a newspaper in which strong opposition to President Madison's war policy was expressed. It was in defense of the newspaper and "...the rights of person and property and the liberty of the press..." that he met his violent, brutal death. When the paper carried an anti-war editorial, the day after war with England was declared (June 19, 1812), an angry mob destroyed the building in Baltimore where the paper was printed. The newspaper staff fled to Georgetown where they continued publication. The next month General Lingan and others, including John Howard Payne and General Henry ("Light-Horse Harry") Lee, returned to Baltimore where publication was resumed. They were attacked by angry mobs. The embattled group of old patriots found refuge with civil authorities who offered them the protection of the jail overnight.
The building was invaded and General Lingan was stoned to death in the bloody fracas. The frenzied mob chanted "Tory! Tory!" as the General defiantly ripped open his shirt displaying "the scar of the Hessian bayonet" and shouted, "Does this look as if I was a traitor?" (6)

The General's body was buried secretly, a condition exacted by the ringleaders before surrendering it. Nevertheless, on September 1, 1812, a little more than a month after his death (July 28, 1812), he was honored by a stately funeral, which was considered something of an historical event in Georgetown. Despite an order that no Army officers were to attend, the funeral cortege was escorted by Major George Peter's troop of horses and Captain William Beverley Randolph marched at the head of his company in procession to Parrott's Woods, now known as Oak Hill Cemetery. (7) General George Washington's tent was erected for the benefit of the four clergymen and other dignitaries, and George Washington Parke Custis of Arlington delivered the oration. "Light-Horse Harry" Lee, whose skull had been fractured at the time General Lingan was killed, was too ill to be present at the funeral and never fully recovered from his wounds. (8) From the harbor could be heard the "booming of the guns from a new ship, owned by Washington Bowie, a Georgetown merchant [and an occupant of Prospect House], and named the 'General Lingan.'"

The General's body was finally interred on the grounds of his farm, "Harlem," near Foxhall Road. Almost a century later, on November 5, 1908, his remains were removed to Arlington National Cemetery where the grave was given a D.A.R. marker. (9)

1793-1858

The second owner of Prospect House, John Templeman, was perhaps not quite so colorful a patriot as General Lingan;
nevertheless, he was indeed an industrious and eminent member of the Georgetown community. He was at one time president of the Bank of Columbia and played an important role in numerous civic projects, among them the completion of the George Town bridge over the Potomac. On July 7, 1797 the Georgetown Centinel of Liberty gives credit for its rapid completion "...to the enterprise and perseverance of that most useful and public-spirited citizen, John Templeman, who gratuitously engaged in the superintendence of the work at its commencement...." (10)

When the new city of Washington was about to welcome President John Adams, who would arrive to inspect the Federal City in June 1800, the first Secretary of the Navy, Benjamin Stoddert, called on his friend John Templeman to help pave the way. In a letter written in Philadelphia, May 29, 1800, Stoddert sent Templeman the following suggestions on how to entertain a President:

"The Pres. will be in Washington by the time you receive this or a day or two after. He proposes to stay but a little while. I wish he would remain longer. This and other good things will depend on the manner of employing his time. I request, therefore, that setting Bashfulness at defiance, you will urge the Pres. to go to the balls, to ride with you in your coach, and to get Mr. Scott at least to go with you. Let the Pres. be pleased with the attention and with the country.

I am resp. yrs.,
Ben Stoddert

Barring accidents, I expect to be in Geo. Town the 14th of June." (11)

It would seem probable that in the course of President Adams' tour, Templeman encouraged him to visit Prospect House.
Tax assessment records at this time assess John Templeman for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lot with dwelling House where he lives to the river including the brick warehouse</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot by the market</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nigroe men</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nigroe men</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nigroe women</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nigroe boy</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nigroe girl</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Horses</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Coache and chair</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Cow</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So the Templemans were well equipped to make the President's Georgetown reception a memorable one.

Along with his other business enterprises, Templeman even found time to run a store which advertised "Whiskey, Firkin Butter, Linseed Oil and Flour." (12) Early land records show that he often used Prospect House as collateral to secure his various debts. In 1801 his "...real property... in George Town" was used "...to secure performance of a certain contract...to deliver at the Navy Yard a certain quantity of Ship Timber...." In 1807 a mortgage "...to secure a debt to the Bank of Columbia..." mentions that Prospect House was then "...in the occupation of Washington Bowie...," who was described by the Annapolis Gazette in 1810 as "...one of the wealthiest and most public-spirited citizens of George Town...." Bowie was considered a "merchant prince" among shipping merchants, and his firm of Bowie and Kurtz was well-known abroad. He was vestryman of St. John's Church in Georgetown and a director of the Bank of Columbia. (13)
Prospect House with its raised flat roof before restoration
(Library of Congress)
1858-1868

Nevertheless, John Templeman's wife and descendants continued to own Prospect House until 1858 when it was sold for a little less than $5000 to Thomas T. Mann, who is listed in the City Directory of that year as a medical doctor living at 115 Prospect Street. This is the first indication of the use of house numbers for this property. In the 1853 issue of the Washington and Georgetown Directory, Mrs. Templeman is listed as living on the "south side Prospect, extreme west, Georgetown." (14)

Dr. Mann held the property for only two years before selling it to William Templeton. A year later, in December of 1861, William H. Whiton, an employee in the War Department's Office of Military Railways, bought Prospect House from Templeton. Three months earlier, in mid-August, Washington's Evening Star had reported the completion of "...the elaborate addition and 'octagonal protuberance', in other words, a gazebo..." to the mansion. Other alterations may have been made previous to this, for Mary Mitchell in Divided Town notes: "In the Fifties (1850), it was quite the thing to raise rooflines. That of 3508 Prospect must have been raised about then to the squarish shape.... (Today its roof is again pitched, so that sometime between the Civil War and today it has been restored to the lines it had...when built.)"

During the Civil War General Whiton shared the house with General D. C. McCallum, who, like Whiton, was a railway and bridge engineer in the Union Army. They were also together in the final year of the war "...with Sherman on his march through Atlanta to the sea...."(15) The property was sold in 1868 to the Steele family, whose members and descendants remained in possession of the house until 1942.

1868-1930

Franklin Steele, a local merchant, and his wife, Annie, had eight children. She was a granddaughter of Commodore Joshua Barney, an outstanding naval officer in both the American
revolution and the War of 1812. Their daughter, Mary Chase Steele, married George Upham Morris, another noted naval officer who, when only a lieutenant, was left in charge of the ill-fated Cumberland during its bloody battle with the Confederate iron-clad Merrimac. "The Merrimac fired on the Cumberland, doing great damage, while the Cumberland's guns were ineffective against her steel-plated adversary. Merrimac rammed the Cumberland, opening a large hole, and then backed out to fire some more. In response to a demand for surrender, Lt. Morris defiantly answered 'Never! I'll sink alongside.'" Although the Cumberland had to be abandoned and there were nearly five hundred casualties, Lt. Morris survived the conflict, returned to Prospect House and later became a commodore.(16) He died at Jordan Alum Springs, Virginia on August 15, 1875. His funeral was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in Georgetown and he was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. (17)

After her husband's death Mary Steele Morris continued to live at Prospect House, having acquired a seven-eighths interest in it from her brothers and sisters after her mother died intestate in 1881. Mrs. Morris was well-known in the neighborhood as an ardent spiritualist and legend has it that "...she invoked the shades of many departed relatives and friends during her lifetime..." Obviously Mrs. Morris' thoughts were centered more on another world rather than her surroundings; Rider's Washington: A Guide Book for Travelers, dated 1924, comments that the "...stately Steele-Morris House was fast going to decay...." Mrs. Morris attributed this in part to the construction activities for the Capital Traction Company's new building, which were weakening the foundation of her house and causing it to collapse. (18)

1930-1942

Fortunately, the house was still standing when Mrs. Morris died in 1930. She had willed her share of the property to the First Spiritualist Church of Washington, D.C. However, through Mrs. Morris' nephew, Capt. Edward B. McCauley (the son of Frances Steele McCauley), Prospect House was soon restored to the Steele-Morris family.
Capt. McCauley and his wife gained full ownership in 1934 and immediately started extensive renovation of the house with the help of architect James W. Adams. It was considered one of the most historic and most handsome houses to be shown on the annual Georgetown House Tour of 1935. (19)

Capt. McCauley, who served with the Maritime Commission, was a prominent figure in Washington society, and he and his wife "...entertained often and brilliantly at Prospect House...." They are reported to have regaled their guests "...with the latest stories of the ghost who walked in their house. 'The ghost, if there is one, is my aunt,'" Capt. McCauley once observed. 'This was her home for many years. She has my permission to make a return visit any time she pleases.'" (20)

1942-1945

In 1942 the McCauley's moved from Washington and sold the house to Sidney A. Mitchell, a millionaire New York investment banker, one of many "dollar-a-year" men who came to serve with the Federal government during World War II.

1945-1951

In 1945 Mr. Mitchell returned to New York and the house was purchased by Mrs. Josephine Ogden Forrestal, wife of the Honorable James E. Forrestal, then Secretary of the Navy and later the first Secretary of Defense. After his tragic death on May 12, 1949, the house was leased from Mrs. Forrestal by the U.S. Government for use by the Department of State as a "guest house" for foreign dignitaries, while President and Mrs. Truman occupied Blair House.

From 1949 to 1951 this great house once again welcomed distinguished and eminent men, among them the Shah of Iran, the President of France, M. Vincent Auriol, and several presidents of South American countries. (21) (22)
And according to a most unflattering newspaper account, dated June 11, 1950, the Washington Times-Herald, an incessant foe of the Department of State and its Secretary, Dean Acheson, accused the State Department of staging "propaganda parties" at Prospect House "at the taxpayers expense" "to 'soften up' Congress." "For many weeks," the reporter, Willard Edwards, stated:

"Secretary Acheson and a corps of assistant secretaries have been ... inviting groups of senators and representatives to drink and make merry in one of the capital's show places. The public pays the bill for these entertainments.... Despite the fact that scores of congressmen and their secretaries have attended the weekly parties, they remained a dark secret. The gatherings had a faint resemblance to stag entertainments 'for men only', featuring liquor and feminine companionship as well as honeyed words from back-slapping diplomats. Most Congressmen, it seemed, were shame-faced about their attendance."

The reporter continued on harshly that some of the congressional guests would demand an inquiry into "... this use of government money to propagandize Congress...." Nevertheless, Prospect House itself received enormous praise:

"...[it] occupies one of the most picturesque sites in Washington. A huge, three-story structure, it sits on the Georgetown bluffs overlooking the Potomac. It has great lawns and gardens, is famous for its flower beds, has a butler and staff, and is famous for what the society editors call 'elegant entertainment.'"
In 1951 Mrs. Forrestal sold Prospect House to the Honorable Thurmond Chatham, a member of Congress from North Carolina. He and Mrs. Chatham, the former Patricia Firestone of York County, Pennsylvania, handsomely and carefully restored the house and grounds. After Mr. Chatham's death in February 1957 Mrs. Chatham remained at Prospect House. She is its present owner and occupant.

Discussions are presently underway for the sale of this 22-room mansion to the U.S. Government for use as a 'think center' --a place "...where top minds in the government...retreat for brainstorming sessions." (23)

Original and Subsequent Owners

1788

William Deakins, Jr. of Montgomery County and State of Maryland

to

James Maccubbin Lingan, of the same County and State of the other part

Lots 30 and 31
Consideration - 250 pounds
1793

James Maccubbin Lingan, of George Towne to
John Templeman, Esquire, of Boston

Lots 30 and 31 "...together with all the Houses, improvements, privileges and advantages thereto or thereon."

Consideration - 1450 pounds

1794

William Deakins, Jr. and wife, Jane to
John Templeman

Lots 20 and 21
Consideration - 372 pounds

1801

John Templeman to
William Marbury, Naval Agent of U.S.

"...to secure performance of a certain contract made by said Templeman and Edward McCarthy."
1805
William Marbury
Naval Agent of U.S.
to
John Templeman
Release of Trust January 1, 1801
Recorded April 22, 1805
Liber M-12, folio 275
"...to deliver at the Navy Yard a certain quantity of Ship Timber...that the said John Templeman for the better securing the performance of every part of said Contract and for the sum of fifteen thousand dollars to them advanced and paid on account of the said Contract shall execute a Deed of Conveyance of the Real Property of the said John Templeman in George Town...."

1807
John Templeman and wife, Mahitable
to
Walter Smith, Tr., Cashier, Bank of The United States
Deed in Trust March 5, 1807
Recorded November 28, 1807
Liber S-18, folio 349
Lots 20, 21, 30 and 31. "...to secure debt to Bank of Columbia...Upon which said lots is the dwelling of the said Templeman and now in the occupation of Washington Bowie."
1809

John Templeman and wife, Mahitable to Walter Smith, Tr., Cashier, Bank of The United States

Lots 20, 21, 30 and 31. "...to hold in trust and in default to sell and pay debts."

1825

Walter Smith, Tr. John Threlkeld Nathaniel Frye, Jr., President, Bank of Columbia to Richard Smith, Tr. Cashier of Bank of the United States

Lots 20, 21, 30 and 31. "...fronting 120 feet on Bridge Street, 244 feet on Fayette Street, and 120 feet on Prospect Street, with brick dwelling houses and stable."

1838

Bank of The United States to Richard Smith, Tr. Cashier of Bank of the United States

"In trust...to sell and convey."
1845

Richard Smith, Tr. Cashier of Bank of the United States
William L. Nicholls

to
John Miller, Tr. under deed from John Templeman, September 22, 1839

"Together with the two story brick house and other buildings."

1858

Charles S. Wallach, Tr. to Thomas T. Mann

Charles S. Wallach was appointed trustee under Decree in Equity (May 26, 1856), Richard W. Templeman and Annie W. Templeman vs. John Miller and Mary Templeman et al, widow and heirs-at-law of George Templeman, deceased.

Property sold October 9, 1856 for $4925.

1860

Thomas T. Mann and wife, Henrietta to William C. Templeton

Deed September 11, 1860 Recorded September 12, 1860
Liber JAS 193, folio 450
1861
William C. Templeton and wife, Eliza to William H. Whiton
Deed December 24, 1861
Recorded February 15, 1862
Liber JAS 217, folio 6

1864
William C. Templeton and wife, Eliza to William H. Whiton
Deed July 26, 1864
Recorded October 10, 1864
Liber NCT 47, folio 277

1868
William H. Whiton and wife, Sarah to Annie E. Steele (wife of Franklin Steele)
Deed June 10, 1868
Recorded July 14, 1868
Liber D-11, folio 320

1881
Annie E. Steele died intestate January 21, 1881, leaving eight surviving children:
Mary C. Morris, widow of George U.
Katherine B. Steele
Rosa P. Vincent, wife of Charles
Frances McCauley, wife of Edward
Sarah S. Wiltse, wife of Gilbert C.
Caroline H. Addison, wife of Arthur
Franklin Steele
William E. Steele
1882
Sarah S. Wiltse et vir Gilbert C. to Mary C. Morris
Deed August 16, 1882 Recorded April 5, 1883 Liber 1033, folio 333
"1/8 interest in the property"

Frances McCauley et vir Edward to Mary C. Morris
Deed December 6, 1882 Recorded April 5, 1883 Liber 1033, folio 334
"1/8 interest in the property"

Franklin Steele et ux Kathleen E. to Mary C. Morris
Deed February 19, 1882 Recorded April 5, 1883 Liber 1033, folio 336
"1/8 interest in the property"

1885
William E. Steele et ux Jessie T. to Mary C. Morris
Deed March 13, 1885 Recorded April 2, 1886 Liber 1178, folio 24
"1/8 interest in the property"
Rosa P. Vincent Deed June 3, 1885
to Mary C. Morris Recorded April 2, 1886
"1/8 interest in the property"
Liber 1178, folio 26

1886

Katherine B. Steele Appleby Deed October 7, 1886
et vir George F. Recorded October 16, 1886
to Mary C. Morris Liber 1345, folio 150
"1/8 interest in the property"

Mary C. Morris now has 7/8 interest in the property
and Caroline H. Addison, wife of Arthur D. Addison,
has 1/8 interest.

1930

Mary C. Morris died June 25, 1930, leaving her
Will July 20, 1926, share (7/8) of the prop-
Probated May 21, 1931erty to the First Spirit-
Will Book 171, page 98ualist Church of Washington,
D.C.

1931

Trustees of the First Deed June 10, 1931
Spiritualist Recorded June 13, 1931
Church of Washington, D.C. Liber 6566, folio 433
to Caroline H. Addison
1934
American Security and Trust Co., Administrator of Estate of Mary C. Morris and Caroline H. Addison to Edward McCauley, Jr. et ux Jean Oliver, joint tenants

Consideration - $27,000

1942
Edward McCauley and wife, Jean Oliver, tenants by entirety to Sidney A. Mitchell

1945
Sidney A. Mitchell and wife, Mary Addison to Josephine Ogden Forrestal

1951
Josephine Ogden Forrestal to Bladen J. Darneille, Vice Pres. of Maryland Trust Co. of Baltimore

Deed May 16, 1934
Recorded May 18, 1934
Liber 6797, folio 264

Deed October 30, 1942
Recorded November 4, 1942
Liber 7808, folio 17

Deed February 15, 1945
Recorded February 23, 1945
Liber 8073, folio 451

Deed July 3, 1951
Recorded July 11, 1951
Liber 9509, folio 331
Bladen J. Darneille
to
Thurmond Chatham and
wife, Patricia Firestone,
tenants by entirety

Deed July 10, 1951
Recorded July 11, 1951
Liber 9509, folio 334

1957
Mr. Chatham died in
February 1957, leaving
property to his wife.
Will July 9, 1952
Probated April 5, 1957
Will Book 493, page 310

References


7. Records of the Society of the Cincinnati of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland.


20. Same reference as #16.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Prospect House is a late eighteenth-century Georgian mansion that is both significant for its role in history and its pure architectural form. It is a brick free-standing town house with gable roof, shutters, dormers, and excellent details. The name comes from its location on a hill above the Potomac River.

Condition of Fabric: The house is in its original form from the exterior with the addition of a bay window on the first floor east side and a veranda on the rear east side. The interior is in its basic original form except for the mechanical conveniences required for mid-twentieth century living which have been unobtrusively installed. The house, furnishings and gardens are meticulously maintained and kept in the spirit of the late eighteenth century. The house was slightly remodeled in the 1930's and again in the 1950's.

Technical Description of Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Main house is approximately 35' and three bays wide and 40' deep. The rear wing is approximately 25' wide and 50' deep. The west service wing is about 30' wide and 25' deep. Main house is two and a half stories high with a partially exposed basement. The rear wing is two stories high with an exposed basement. The west service wing has three low stories exposed.
Foundations: The main house has random rubble stone foundations which are exposed to about 4' above grade. Remaining foundations are brick.

Wall Construction: All walls are red brick with the rear wing stuccoed over and the very top few feet of the west service wing covered in wood. The brickwork on the main house is of a very fine quality with a belt course between the first and second floors and a molded brick drip table at the first floor level. Lintels are shaped brick with flat arches in the best Georgian tradition. Walls appear to be in original condition except for the addition of a bay window in the east side of the first floor.

Chimneys: The main house has a pair of twin chimneys on each end with brick connector walls. Those at the east end of the house appear to be original and function with the fireplaces in the main rooms. These are flush with the exterior wall. Those on the west end protrude beyond the wall and function with internal mechanical and service circulation and may have been added later. There is a chimney on the west wall of the rear wing, serving the fireplaces in the rooms there.

Openings: The house has a variety of openings, but all are trimmed in wood with brick lintels, stone sills and wood sash and doors.

Doorways and Doors: The main entrance door is on the right hand bay of the front of the main house. This has a large six panel wooden door set in a paneled recess with a round arched top and a semi-circular leaded glass fanlight. The opening is trimmed with reeded pilasters and a wooden pediment. The sides and rear of the house have a variety of glazed single and French doors leading to the garden and veranda. Few of these are original. The service wing to the west appears to have been built in the 1930's or 1940's, and has a row of openings in the masonry across the front, two of which are garage doors and the third matching opening is similar but blocked. The garage has paneled overhead wood doors.
Windows and Shutters: Most windows have six-over-six light double-hung wooden sash and louvered shutters. On the east side of the main house is a large circular bay window which was added in the 1930's. This has a curved and painted standing seam metal roof. The first floor level of the south wall of the rear wing has semi-circular topped window. This form is repeated in the front dormers and on the west side of the main house.

Roof:

Shape, Covering: Gable roof slate shingles.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice, Eaves: Wood cornice molding about 14" deep with dentil work.

Dormers: Three gable ended dormers on the front of the main house with arch topped windows and side pilasters. Windows have delicate wooden tracery. Sides of front dormers are slate shingled the same as roof. Front of west service wing has three partial dormers with very plain pseudo-colonial details. The rear of the main house has three dormers of a much simpler type but similar size to those in the front.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plans: The first floor has a main entry-stair hall on its right (west) side which continues to the rear wing of the house. The entire remainder of the main house first floor is a large drawing room. This was once two rooms, but was made into one probably in the 1930's when the bay window was added. To the rear of the main house and connecting onto the main hall is a square hall with a stair to the basement and entrance to the large dining room which occupies most of the rear wing.
The second level of the west service wing connects from the dining room and the square rear hall. This area contains the kitchen and other services. The second floor of the main house contains a master bedroom in the front and a sitting room to the rear, both along the side stair hall. These have auxiliary bath, dressing and storage area. The rear wing contains a master guest suite with a large bedroom, bath, and storage facilities. The top floor of the service unit is below the main second floor. This contains five rooms and a bath. The third floor of the main house has a side stair hall with front and rear bedrooms and a bath at the head or front of the hall.

The basement of the house contains several formal rooms and is on grade at the rear and sides of the house. The main circulation here is from a duplicate of the square hall above which connects a large library to the rear, an office to the front, and services to the side. The west service wing has garages on the basement level.

The library is reputed to have been the original kitchen and is linked to the dining room above with a dumb-waiter. The present kitchen is in the west wing which dates from the 1930's.

Stairways: Main stairway runs from the first floor to the third floor in a U-shape with half way landings. The stair is wood with a curving wood banister and ornamental turned balusters. There is scrollwork on the ends of the steps. A stair goes from the rear square hall on the first floor to its twin below and thence to the formal rooms on that level. This stair is a simplified version of the main stair. There is a narrow service stair running up between the main house and the west service wing.

Floors: The floors are all pine random width ranging from three to five inches in width and stained dark.
Wall and Ceiling Finish: Smooth plaster.

Doorways and Doors: Simple elegantly proportioned wood doors and frames. There is a variety of doors, but most are six panel and have small brass knobs.

Trim: The house has simple yet strong elegant Georgian trim throughout. The entry-stair hall has simple small moldings that are emphasized by the handsome proportions of the space. The cornice molding is plaster.

The drawing room has elegant trim that is the most ornate in the house, but still has a simple Georgian dignity. There is a deep cornice with dentils and a simple base mold. Door and window moldings are similar to those throughout the house. The drawing room has a pair of large wood Georgian mantels with a little applied ornament and reeded pilasters. The facings and hearths are polished black slate.

The dining room has a large scale wood mantel in a similar style to those of the drawing room. The dining room has a simple cornice, base, and chair rail.

The second floor main house bedroom and sitting room have white carved marble arched Victorian mantels. The second floor master guest room over the dining room has a wooden Georgian mantel with side pilasters.

The third floor front bedroom has a white carved marble arched Victorian mantel. The interiors of the front dormers are barrel vaulted. The rear bedroom has a wood mantel with reeded pilasters on the sides and a shelf.
The library in the basement has simple base and cornice moldings. Most walls are covered with unornamental book shelves. The library has a wooden mantel with side pilasters and a shelf.

Hardware: Most doors equipped with small brass knobs. Front door equipped with a heavy knocker.

Lighting: A variety of mid-twentieth century electric fixtures throughout the house. The chandelier in the drawing room is a nineteenth-century crystal work of art that is sufficiently large for this room. The chandelier holds candles and is not electrified.

Heating and Plumbing: A mixture of mid-twentieth century conveniences.

Site

General Setting and Orientation: The house faces north toward Prospect Street, and is free-standing. The site slopes down to the rear toward the Potomac River. The house has primarily residential neighborhood to its east and the top of the D.C. Transit Building to the west. Portions of the old Georgetown University Hospital are across the street.

Enclosures: The house has a variety of wooden fences and brick walls and retaining walls around it. The main garden is to the east and south (rear) of the house. These are all enclosed.

Porches: The front entry porch is of delicate ornamental iron with nine risers and a wooden floor. The ironwork is delicate and very graceful.
To the side of the rear wing and running its length is a veranda off of the first floor but serving the basement porch. This veranda was added to the original house, and ornamental cast iron from New Orleans was used.

Outbuildings: Not too many feet to the rear of the house is a small two floor octagonal tower. The building is Georgian with features and trim much similar to the main house. Well down the hill and at the extreme rear of the property, on M Street, is a small house that may have been an outbuilding for the house originally.

Walks: The front entrance to the house is connected directly to the public sidewalk. The gardens have a series of brick paved sitting areas and formal walks with retaining walls and stairs. Much of this was done in the early 1950's. The west service wing has garages and between these and the street is a small parking court and drive.

Landscape: The side and rear gardens are for the most part formal with walks, boxwood, and shade trees. Along the retaining walls are a variety of fruit trees espalier. There are large street trees at the front and at the side of the house.

Prepared by: Donald B. Myer
Commission of Fine Arts
July 21, 1967
FINDLEY HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3606 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (In past years this house was designated as 113 First Street.)

Location: The building is located in Square 1223 (old 53), on part of Lot 62 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins' Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 815.

Date of erection: 1866

Owners in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown College

Occupants in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: Built originally as a rental structure to house people performing neighborhood services, this post-bellum dwelling has been renovated but its scale and proportions have been maintained, unifying and preserving the harmonious row of simple, modest houses so characteristic of the western part of Georgetown.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1802-1861

Lot 62 in Square 1223 first appears in the Land Title Records of Washington when Francis Deakins, as executor and devisee under the Will of William Deakins, Jr., sold the land to Thomas Corcoran. Corcoran, born in Ireland in 1754, emigrated to this country at the age of twenty-nine. He married Hannah Lemmon of Baltimore and settled in Georgetown in 1788. Thomas Corcoran prospered and became a prominent citizen of the town. At various times he served as a magistrate, as a member of the Levy Court, and as Postmaster. Corcoran leased the land to Joseph Brookes in 1817 for a yearly rent of sixty dollars. What use Joseph Brookes made of the land is not known.

In 1827 owner Thomas Corcoran and lessee Joseph Brookes sold Lot 62 to John Pickrell, and four years later in 1831 Pickrell and his wife, Ann, sold the land to Joseph Libbey and Nathaniel Marden. Libbey and Marden sold the property three years later to Richard Jones for $500; twenty-two years later Jones sold it to Charles C. Gates. The next year, in 1857, ownership passed from Gates to Augustus Brown, Robert L. Martin, and John Collins; and the following year Brown and Collins sold their shares to Martin. Three years later Thomas E. Duvall, a millwright working in Georgetown, bought the property from Robert and Mary Martin. (2)

1862-1907

Thomas Duvall died (or perhaps was killed in the Civil War) soon after purchasing the property, and the land was inherited by his wife, Mary E. Fernald Duvall.
For several years Mary Duvall (later Findley) operated a variety store on the corner of Lingan (36th) and First (N) Streets from the house she inherited from Thomas Duvall. (3)

In 1865 Mary Duvall married John T. Findley, a metropolitan policeman. A year later she subdivided Lot 62 and built the frame house, 113 First Street (now 3606 N Street) as an investment. Tax records for the year 1867 show an improvement of a two-story frame house on the land valued at $1000. (4)

The first occupant of the house was John J. Dolan, a clerk, who rented it for three years. (5) The Findleys during this time lived at 53 Lingan (36th) Street; but from 1872 to 1876 they occupied the little frame house at 113 First themselves. (6) In 1877 they rented the house to Henry Mills, an engineer, and moved to 94 West Street (now 3013 P). Mills was still listed at this address in 1881. (7) John McDaniel, shown variously as cook, driver, and porter, occupied the 3606 N Street house from 1896 to 1917. (8)

The house has been rental property for most of its existence, being home for a succession of working people such as porters, domestics, cement finishers, and manual laborers. (9)

This group was part of a steady stream of workers who were drawn to this area by the number of service jobs required to maintain a university and to meet student-gentlemen demands for services comparable to the amenities of life to which they were accustomed.

In 1871 the Findleys had placed their property in trust for Mary. Mary died in December 1899; and John Findley passed away in December 1907. Mary Findley's Will directed that "...after the death of my beloved husband, John T. Findley, to Mrs. E. A. Leonard I give and devise during her life house and premises 3606 N Street, and after her death to Bridget A. Coleman, and after her death to Georgetown College...." City directories do not list either of these women as having lived in the house.
1908-1969

When Mary's husband died, her heirs-at-law and next of kin (Edward, Golibart, George, and Grace Fernald) deeded the property, according to her wishes, to Georgetown College. Georgetown held the property until 1953 when it sold the house to Emil Audette.

Four years later, Maurine Mulliner, a planning advisor with the Social Security Board, bought the small frame house from Audette and lived there until Georgetown University bought it back in 1961. Since then the house has been used as an overflow for the University or rented to individuals.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1802

Francis Deakins, executor & devisee
under Will of
William Deakins, Jr.
to
Thomas Corcoran

Deed February 13, 1802
Recorded February 20, 1802
Liber H-8, folio 2

504
1817

Thomas Corcoran to Joseph Brookes
Lease March 31, 1817
Recorded April 30, 1817
Liber AN-38, folio 458

"Lot 62 in Peter, Threlkeld, Beatty & Deakins Addition to Georgetown, Term 99 years, Renewable forever - yearly rent of $60.00."

1827

Thomas Corcoran to Joseph Brookes to John Pickrell
Deed May 7, 1827
Recorded May 12, 1827
Liber W.B. 19, folio 372

Joseph Brookes to John Pickrell
Assignment of Lease May 12, 1827
Recorded May 12, 1827
Liber W.B. 19, folio 373

1831

John Pickrell & wife, Ann to Joseph Libbey
Deed December 30, 1831
Recorded February 1, 1832
Liber W.B. 39, folio 405

Nathaniel Marden
1834

Joseph Libbey & wife, Louisa
Nathaniel Marden & wife, Mary Ann

To
Richard Jones

Deed November 19, 1834
Recorded November 29, 1834
Liber W.B. 51, folio 429

Consideration $500

1856

Richard Jones & wife, Mary E.

To
Charles L. Gates

Deed September 8, 1856
Recorded September 8, 1856
Liber JAS 121, folio 153

1857

Charles L. Gates & wife, Mary E.

To
Augustus Brown
Robert L. Martin
John Collins

Deed May 16, 1857
Recorded January 18, 1858
Liber JAS 148, folio 67

Consideration $400
1858

Augustus Brown et ux Elizabeth
John Collins
to
Robert Martin

Deed January 16, 1858
Recorded January 18, 1858
Liber JAS 148, folio 72

1861

Robert L. Martin et ux Mary E.
to
Thomas E. Duvall

Thomas E. Duvall died; his widow, Mary E. Fernald Duvall, married John T. Findley.

1871

John T. Findley et ux Mary E.
to
Hugh Caperton, trustee

"...to hold in trust for Mary E. Findley during her life...with power to said Mary E. Findley to direct the sale of said premises...in event of John T. Findley surviving said Mary E. Findley, then in trust to convey to said John T. Findley...."
Mary E. Findley died December 7, 1899. Her Will, dated May 19, 1897, states:

"After the death of my beloved husband, John T. Findley, to Mrs. E. A. Leonard I give and devise during her life—house and premises 3606 N Street, N.W., and after her death to Bridget A. Coleman, and after her death to Georgetown University...."

John T. Findley died December 31, 1907. Estate petition July 31, 1909 Probated August 31, 1909 Administration Docket Book 40, page 16215 Administration 16215

Edward C. Fernald, widower
Golibart D. Fernald & wife
George W. Fernald, widower
Grace Fernald (heirs-at-law and next of kin of Mary E. Findley)

Deed in Trust January 7, 1908 Recorded March 23, 1908 Liber 3141, folio 244
George E. Fleming to George W. Fernald

Deed in Trust March 7, 1908
Recorded March 23, 1908
Liber 3141, folio 247

George W. Fernald trustee under Deed in Trust from George E. Fleming to President and Directors of Georgetown College

"...subject however to suffer and permit Elizabeth A. Leonard to use and occupy and enjoy said premise for sole use and benefit for and during the term of her natural life, and further that after the death of said Elizabeth A. Leonard to permit Bridget A. Coleman to use and occupy premises, and after termination of said life estates, premises shall become absolute property of second party."

1915
Bridget A. Coleman died, July 17, 1915
Will May 18, 1892
Probated August 10, 1915
Will Book 87, p. 499

1916
Elizabeth A. Leonard died October 16, 1916
Will March 16, 1916
Probated November 8, 1916
Will Book 91, p. 237
1953
President and Directors of Georgetown College to Emil A. Audette
Deed January 9, 1953
Recorded February 17, 1953
Liber 9900, folio 123

1957
Emil A. Audette, unmarried to Maurine Mulliner
Deed August 29, 1957
Recorded September 4, 1957
Liber 10913, folio 322

1961
Maurine Mulliner, unmarried to President and Directors of Georgetown College
Deed March 1, 1961
Recorded March 6, 1961
Liber 11564, folio 86

References

2. **City Directory.** 1862, p. 192.

3. Same reference as #1. 1864, p. 298.


5. Same reference as #1. 1867, p. 233; 1868, p. 225; 1870, p. 450; 1871, p. ix (Georgetown Section).


7. Same reference as #1. 1877, p. 481; 1880, p. 481; 1881, p. 546.

8. Same reference as #1. 1896, p. 629; 1917, p. 790.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: A post Civil War wood frame row house, the structure forms part of a group that gives a glimpse of mid-nineteenth century street character and scale.

Condition of fabric: The exterior is in generally good condition. The interior is in good condition but has been greatly remodeled.

Description of Exterior

Overall dimensions: This two-story house with a full basement faces north and has a simple rectangular form with a three bay front of approximately 10' with a depth of approximately 35'.

Foundation: Brick foundation walls are exposed at both the north (front) and south elevation. The north elevation exposure is approximately 3' from grade while at the south the exposure is 3' 6". At both the north and south there are retaining walls allowing for stairs to the basement level.

Wall Construction: The framing of the house is not visible, but the siding is wood clapboard with 4" corner boards. Slight projection of wood window frames and the use of a metal flashing over the windows suggests the clapboard covers earlier siding.

Framing: Stud walls.
Porches: At both the north and south elevations brick entry stoops are used. The north front stoop is 5' 2" wide, extends 6' 2" from house, has four risers from grade and a pair of metal railings. Both of the stoops appear to be mid-twentieth century construction.

Chimneys: There is one central three flue brick chimney 3' 5" x 1' 10" at attic level. It appears to have been rebuilt in the mid-twentieth century.

Openings:

Doorways and doors: North (front) wood entry doorway enframement consists of a pair of fluted pilasters supporting a Tuscan architrave. The door is two light six panel. Both appear to be mid-twentieth century additions.

Windows and shutters: Windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash with simple flat trim. The lower windows have metal flashing at the head, and the upper story windows have the head covered by a cornice board. The metal hinged moveable shutters have metal stops. The south elevation has aluminum storm sash on all windows.

Roof:

Shape and Covering: The roof is a simple low pitched gable with ridge running east-west. Present covering is standing seam metal which has been over earlier wooden shingles.

Framing: As visible in the attic the framing consists of 3" x 4" wood rafters. The only tie is by second floor ceiling joists as there is no ridge pole.
Cornice, eaves: North elevation has a simple flat cornice board with four brackets and drip details attached. Gutter and downspouts are metal.

Dormers: None.

Description of Interior

Floor plans: The plan is a simple rectangle with central chimney and major stairway at the southwest corner. The first floor has a front and a back room; the second floor has a front and a back bedroom with a bath at the northwest corner. The basement contains the kitchen, dining room, a small bedroom and bath.

Stairways: The main stairway begins with corner winder steps and extends 14 risers from the southwest corner of the house up to the north to the second level. The stair is supported both by the north party wall and an east partition below the stringers of the main stair. A straight run to the basement of twelve 8 1/2" risers running down from north to south extends under the main stair. Access to the attic is by means of a retractable ladder-stair.

Brick exterior stairways to the basement occur at both north and south elevations. The north stairway is an "L" with two risers down next to the entry stoop and platform and then 6 risers down from east to west to the basement doorway at the northwest corner of the house. The south (rear) basement access is also by an "L" stair down five risers from south to north to a platform, then three risers down from west to east.

Flooring: It is random width pine for the first and second floors. Basement has vinyl tile.

Wall and Ceiling finish: Walls and ceiling are plaster throughout.
Doorways and doors: Doors are simple four panel wood with simple wood moulding trim. Both appear to be twentieth-century additions.

Decorative features: There is a simple wood baseboard, a 2" wood cornice moulding but no chair rail or wainscot. All the trim appears to be mid-twentieth century.

Hardware: There is a variety of early and mid-twentieth century metal hardware.

Lighting: There is a variety of mid-twentieth century fixtures.

Heating: Fireplaces in the basement and the first floor have brick firebacks and 1' 6" slate hearths. The chimney appears to be reconstructed or refaced within the last several years. Present heating system is central hot air with metal ductwork to each room.

Site

General setting and orientation: The house is on the south side of N Street between 36th and 37th Streets and with its east wall approximately 85' along N Street from the center line of 36th Street and set back approximately 12' from the center line of 36th Street. It is one of a group of frame row houses on this residential street near Georgetown University.

Enclosures: On N Street there is a wooden picket fence around a small garden fronting on the west half of the elevation. Wooden fences surround the tree shaded rear yard.

Outbuildings: None.
Walks: On the north red brick paving extends from the stair and stoop to the brick public sidewalks.

Landscaping: The tree shaded rear yard has a brick paved patio extending out from stoop and retaining wall of the stairwell to the basement.

Prepared by: William P. Thompson
Architect
Historic American Buildings Survey
DANIEL KANE HOUSE

Address in 1969: 1419 36th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. (Formerly this address was 58 Lingan Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of Lot 103 in Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 811 in Square 1247 in the City of Washington.

Date of Erection: 1866

Owner in 1969: Dr. Marie Wanek

Occupant in 1969: Dr. Marie Wanek

Use in 1969: Private residence

Significance: Built just after the Civil War, this modest brick house was the home of its first owner for almost a half century. Like other houses in this row the floor levels were altered by the raising of the street level in the mid 1890's. The entrance, descending from the street, today presents a charming approach to the century-old dwelling.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1816-1853
John Threlkeld first sold the land to John W. Bronaugh, a Virginia planter who had had a six hundred acre estate on Post Road about nine miles below Alexandria, Virginia, which he had advertised for sale in 1810. (1)

In 1816 Bronaugh moved to Georgetown purchasing the south half of Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition, a large purchase for the time in Georgetown land history. (2) Evidently he invested heavily and partly upon borrowed funds for Lots 101, 102, and 103, as well as his large brick house on Fayette (now 35th) Street, were sold in 1820 by the United States Marshal to pay Bronaugh's many creditors.

Joseph Brookes purchased these three lots as an investment. Seventeen years later, in 1837, Clement Smith bought the property from Brookes. Clement Smith died soon after the purchase, and his brother and trustee under his Will, Walter Smith, settled his debts by selling these lots to the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Georgetown of which Clement had been president.

1853-1866
This bank held the ground for ten years. Then Lewis Carberry, a civil engineer who was surveyor of the County of Washington and president of the Levy Court of the District of Columbia, purchased it in 1853. (3) When he died in the late 1850's, these three lots were divided among his four children—James L. Carberry, Joseph F. Carberry, Mary S. Ritchie (Mrs. Joshua A.), and Martha R. Shoemaker (Mrs. Pierce). Joshua Ritchie bought James' 1/4 share in 1861 and the Shoemakers' 1/4 share in 1864; and in 1866 he and his wife, Mary, sold Lot 103 to Catherine Kane.
1866-1914

Soon after purchasing the property the Kanes built a modest brick house, for Daniel, Catherine's husband, is listed at this address in the 1866 City Directory. (4) In 1865 Lot 103 was assessed to Joshua Ritchie for $500, and listed as vacant. Successive tax records disclose assessment to Daniel Kane for the land valued at $300 and improvements valued at $400. (5)

Daniel lived in this brick house with members of his family for forty-two years. A laborer, he was also occasionally a carter or driver. (6) When his wife, Catherine, died in 1898, Daniel was deeded the inherited shares of this property by his son, Dennis, and his daughter, Mary E. Thorn.

Dennis and his family of nine children lived with his father at 1419 36th Street until 1909 when they all moved to 3308 O Street. (7) Dennis must have died soon after moving to the new address, for the next year Daniel is living with his widowed daughter-in-law at 3535 O Street. (8)

By January 1911 when Daniel made out his last Will he had acquired a considerable amount of property—six houses in western Georgetown, three houses in the thirty-two-hundred block of Q Street in Georgetown, and two houses on Myrtle Street, N.W. He died a year and a half later, outliving both his children. By his Will, however, he carefully directed that the income from his real estate be used for the support, maintenance, and education of his fifteen grandchildren with the exception of one: "I direct my executors hereinafter named to pay to my granddaughter ...the sum of Five Dollars and expressly prohibit them or either of them from giving her under any pretence any other or further sum, her conduct entitling her to no further consideration." (9)
Daniel, having advanced from a laborer to an owner of extensive real estate, died in May 1912. Two years later his house on 36th Street was sold to James Woodward, who kept it only a year before selling it to John O’Kane.

1915-1946

John O’Kane held the property for twenty-one years, using it for rental purposes. During his ownership the house was occupied by the Cumberland family, who were laborers and clerks, followed by Harrison Mason, and then Lillian Baker, a charwoman. (10)

Ethel S. Russell bought the Daniel Kane house in 1936. The next year it was vacant, so presumably alterations were made before it was rented to George E. Chamberlain, an engineer, and his family. (11) Before the house was sold in 1945, it was rented to the family of Jacques J. Reinstein, an assistant division chief at the Department of State. (12)

1946-1961

Having purchased 1419 36th Street in 1946 from William and Jacqueline Morrison who kept it less than a year, William Koren, Jr., a State Department researcher, and his wife, Isabelle, were the first owners since Daniel Kane to live in the brick house. (13) Fifteen years later Mrs. Koren, who had outlived her husband but had continued to live in the house, sold it to Janet Felton. (14) Janet married Richard Cooper soon after acquiring the house; they sold it a year and four months later.
1962-1969

Dr. Marie G. Wanek, Professor of History at Hood College, purchased the century-old house in 1962 and is the present owner.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1816

John Threlkeld et ux Elizabeth to John W. Bronaugh

Deed September 19, 1816
Recorded October 18, 1816
Liber AG-32, folio 20

1819

Property seized for non-payment of debts.

1820

Tench Ringold, Marshal of the D.C. to Joseph Brookes

Deed July 29, 1820
Recorded August 16, 1820
Liber AZ-50, folio 65
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1837 | Joseph Brookes to Clement Smith                                      | Deed November 15, 1837  
                               | recorded November 20, 1837   
                               | Liber W.B. 64, folio 409     |
| 1839 | Clement Smith died in 1839                                           | Will May 30, 1823  
                               | Probated March 29, 1839      
                               | Will Book 5, page 108        |
| 1843 | Walter Smith trustee under the Will of Clement Smith to Farmers and Mechanics Bank, Georgetown | Deed July 27, 1843  
                               | Recorded August 10, 1843     
                               | Liber W.B. 103, folio 90     |
| 1853 | Farmers and Mechanics Bank, Georgetown to Lewis Carberry             | Deed January 20, 1853  
                               | Recorded January 21, 1853    
                               | Liber JAS 50, folio 396      |
1860
Lewis Carberry died intestate. Estate is divided among his four heirs: James L., Joseph F., Mary S. Ritchie (Mrs. Joshua A.), and Martha R. Shoemaker (Mrs. Pierce).

1861
James L. Carberry to Joshua A. Ritchie
Deed April 22, 1861
Recorded December 28, 1861
Liber JAS 214, folio 21
Deeds his 1/4 share

1864
Pierce Shoemaker et ux Martha R. to Joshua A. Ritchie
Deed June 30, 1864
Recorded October 31, 1864
Liber NCT 48, folio 296
Deed their 1/4 share of Lots 101, 102, 103

1865
Joshua A. Ritchie et ux Mary S. to Nicholas Crowley
Deed November 28, 1865
Recorded January 22, 1866
Liber RMH 4, folio 346
1866

Nicholas Crowley
et ux Joanna
to
Joshua A. Ritchie

Deed July 6, 1866
Recorded November 6, 1866
Liber RMH 24, folio 100

Joshua A. Ritchie
et ux Mary S.
to
Catherine Kane

Deed August 17, 1866
Recorded December 28, 1866
Liber RMH 26, folio 171

1898

Catherine Kane died
July 14, 1898, intestate.

Administration 8519

Dennis Kane
Mary E. Thorn
children & heirs of
Catherine Kane

to
Daniel Kane

Deed August 20, 1898
Recorded August 22, 1898
Liber 2312, folio 494

1912

Daniel Kane died May 3, 1912.

Will January 20, 1911
Probated June 17, 1912
Will Book 79, page 218
1914
Harry A. Hegarty
Thomas Splaun
trustees under Will
of Daniel Kane
to
James M. Woodward
Deed July 21, 1914
Recorded July 21, 1914
Liber 3716, folio 495

1915
James M. Woodward
& wife, Lillie A.
to
John O'Kane
Deed October 7, 1915
Recorded October 8, 1915
Liber 3829, folio 278

1936
John O'Kane
to
Ethel S. Russell
Deed September 14, 1936
Recorded September 15, 1936
Liber 7030, folio 376

1945
Ethel S. Russell
to
William D. F. Morrison
Jacqueline B. Morrison, his wife
Deed September 6, 1945
Recorded October 6, 1945
Liber 8165, folio 381
1946

William D. F. Morrison & Jacqueline Morrison to William Koren, Jr. Isabelle J., his wife

Deed August 26, 1946
Recorded August 26, 1946
Librr 8331, folio 304

1961

Isabelle J. Koren, surviving co-tenant of deceased husband, William Koren, Jr. to Janet G. Felton

Deed June 14, 1961
Recorded June 29, 1961
Liber 11625, folio 130

1962

Janet G. Felton Cooper & Richard J. Cooper, her husband to Marie G. Wanek

Deed October 12, 1962
Recorded November 27, 1962
Liber 11908, folio 1149

References


5. Records of the City of Georgetown (D.C.), 1800-79, Assessment of Real and Personal Property, Microcopy 605, National Archives Record Group 351, Roll 12, (1865-70); Roll 13 (1871).


7. Same reference as #4. 1908, p. 730; 1909, p. 760.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: The Kane House is a good example of a brick row house of the post-Civil War era.

Condition of Fabric: The house is in good general condition on both the interior and the exterior, having been well maintained.

Description of Exterior

Overall Dimensions: The house faces west on 36th Street between 0 and P Streets and the south wall is approximately 195' along 36th Street from the centerline of 0 Street. The two-story structure completely fills a row house lot approximately 18' wide and is approximately 32' deep.

Foundations: The basic foundation is rough laid stone. At approximately 4' to 5' above the basement floor the brick wall begins.

Wall Construction: The brick bearing wall of the house which is now painted white is of common bond with bond courses every eight courses. The flush mortar joints are rather roughly made. The house connects to party walls on both the north and south.
Framing: Not visible.

Porches, Stoops, Bulkheads, etc: In part due to the raising of the grade of 36th Street, the house is entered by a stairwell. There is a 4'3" drop from the public sidewalk to the first floor level and a 6'8" drop from the first floor to the basement floor. The stairway construction itself is concrete with brick faced treads. The opening is surrounded by a black painted iron railing.

Chimneys: There are two brick chimneys 5' by 2' with simple brick caps at the third points of the south party wall.

Openings:

Doorways and Doors: The wood six panel 2'8" entry door at the north end of the west elevation is in a simply trimmed masonry opening with a four light wood trimmed transom. An aluminum storm door has been added and the whole ensemble is mid-twentieth century in date. The other two doorways to the house are at the basement level at the north end of the west elevation and at the east elevation from the dining room to the rear yard.

Windows and Shutters: Windows at the 36th Street (west) elevation all appear to be mid-twentieth century additions and are six-over-six double-hung wood sash in 3' 10" by 5' 4" masonry openings. Lintels are flat arched with single sawn-brick voussoirs and sills are wood.

Two panel fixed louver shutters at each window have been nailed to the 36th Street elevation.

The rear (east) elevation has six-over-six double-hung wood sash of mid-twentieth century. The two second floor windows have steel lintels rather than flat brick arches.
Roof:

Shape, Covering: The simple low pitched shed roof runs down from west to east and is covered by standing seam metal.

Cornice, Eaves: At the west elevation a simple wood eave is supported visually by a wide horizontal board, a large bracket at each end of the elevation, and a series of much smaller scrolling brackets between. There are no gutters or downspouts visible.

The east elevation has a simple three course corbelled brick cornice and an aluminum gutter and downspout.

Cupolas, Dormers, Towers: None.

Description of Interior

Floor Plans: At present the house is entered at the first floor which contains both a front and a rear living room. Descent to the basement is via a central stair leading out to a front kitchen and a rear dining room. A special feature (certainly not original) is a three foot corridor at the north party wall and running the full depth and ending in a water closet.

Ascent to the second floor is by a stair opposite the front entry against the north wall. This floor contains a front and a rear bedroom plus a rear bath. Reflecting the shed roof system, each floor has two levels. The rear (east) half of the house is one riser lower than the west half on all three floors. In addition, the corridor in the basement is one riser higher than the west floor level.
Stairways: At present the main stair is at the center of the north party wall and is a straight run of 12 risers up from west to east. A second stairway between the two living rooms descends in a straight run ten risers from south to north to the level of the basement corridor.

There is a strong probability that this was not always the stair arrangement. Marks in the plaster of the living room (rear) and the floor board replacement at the second floor suggest that at one time the main stair may have been over the existing stair to the basement.

Present stair trim includes a twentieth-century railing around the opening for the stair to the basement. The stair to the second floor is supported by full height wall at its south side as well as by the north party wall. The railing for this stair is simple wood profile and has simple wood balusters.

Flooring: The first and second floor have random width approximately 5" to 8" wood flooring while the basement has vinyl tile flooring.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Both walls and ceilings are of plaster.

Doorways and Doors: Simple twentieth-century four panel wood doors are used throughout the house. Doorway trim is of simple wood profile.

Decorative Features and Trim: The walls are without trim with the exception of a simple wood baseboard. There is no chair rail or wainscot.
Hardware: There is a variety of twentieth-century hardware.

Lighting: There are a variety of mid-twentieth century fixtures.

Heating: There are two fireplaces still open; one in the kitchen on the front chimney and one in the living room at the rear chimney. The one in the living room has a marble surround and a brick hearth added in the twentieth century.

The present central heating system has radiator units in each room.

Site

General Setting and Orientation: It is one of the many brick row houses on this quiet tree-shaded residential street near Georgetown University.

Enclosures: A wooden stockade fence approximately 5' high surrounds the rear yard.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: The stairwell at the west elevation abuts a concrete public sidewalk.
Landscaping: The rear yard has a brick patio extending approximately 15' from the east facade. The remainder of the yard is lawn and rises approximately 2' to 3' to the east. There are remains of a large tree at the northeast corner of the property.

Prepared by: William P. Thompson
Architect
Historic American Building Survey
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  HABS No. DC-208

ZEPP ROW HOUSE
OF
"THE NINE FRIDAYS"

Address in 1969: 1407 37th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Formerly 37th Street was Warren Street.)

Location: The house is located on part of old Lot 114, Square 78, Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 153, Square 1248 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: 1916

Owner in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown College

Occupant in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residence

Significance: This rhythmic row of nine brick houses forms an effective transition from the campus atmosphere of Georgetown University to the residential area surrounding it. Renovation and careful maintenance by the owners has added considerably to the improvement of the west end neighborhood while providing for the continuation of the tradition of Georgetown row-house living.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1798-1840

The land on which 1407 37th Street stands has had a succession of illustrious owners, names prominent in the early history of Maryland and Georgetown. John Threlkeld and his wife sold it to Patrick Carroll in 1798. Sixteen years later the Carrolls sold it to Francis Fenwick who held it only a year before selling it to Rebecca Clements who later married John Ford.

In 1823 the Fords sold it to Elizabeth Threlkeld, daughter of John. When she died, her two daughters, Mary Grayson and John Cox, divided Lot 114 in half, each retaining one half. After Mary's death in 1837, her son Henry inherited the east half of the lot. Jane, who was married to John Cox, onetime mayor of Georgetown, directed that the west half of the lot be sold in 1840 to George Mahorney.

1840-1875

Each half of Lot 114 went through a number of transactions separately. In 1841, Thomas O. N. May bought the west half, and two years later bought the east half of the lot. He sold the east half shortly, but it was not until twenty years after his death, in 1865, that his wife sold the west half to Richard Crawford. Ten years later Crawford bought the east half. So Lot 114 was once more a single unit.
Between 1843 and 1851 the price for the east half of Lot 114 jumped from $200 to $700, leading to the conjecture that a structure was built during those years. The 1887 map of Hopkins indicates a frame structure on the site.(1) In 1855 the east half had climbed to $800 and twenty years later, when Richard Crawford bought it, the price was $900.

1875-1917

After Crawford's death in 1888 his two children, Laura and William, held on to all of Lot 114, although in 1915 they temporarily lost the property for failure to pay taxes. On the same day that they redeemed the property in 1916 they sold it to Robert Morrison. Two days later, Morrison sold it to J. Walter Moulden, who a week later sold it to Guy S. Zepp. In that same year, 1916, Zepp, a contractor, subdivided Lot 114 into nine lots and built the present row of houses on the land. (2)

1917-1948

In 1917 Zepp sold 1407 37th Street to Charles Selden, Jr., a lawyer, who was president of the Washington and Maryland Railway Company. (3) He obviously bought the property as an investment, for he sold it six months later to Patrick Moran, second vice-president of Lincoln National Bank. (4)

The addresses for the nine row houses first appeared in the 1917 City Directory; however, that year only one of the nine was occupied. Ethel B. Lewis, the first to live in the row was living at 1403 and was also running a tea room there. (5) (6) The next year, in 1918, all but three of the nine houses were occupied. (7) By 1919
each house in the row was rented. Tailors, painters, police, carpenters, and railway conductors were among the tenants of these new brick houses facing Georgetown University. (8)

When Patrick Moran died in 1923, 1407 37th Street was left to his wife, Annie, who continued to use it as rental property. The occupants of the row in 1943, a year before Annie's death, were all different in name from those twenty-five years earlier; they were white collar workers instead of the blue collar workers of former years. (9) Margaret M. Shugrue inherited the property from her mother in 1944 and rented it until 1948 when she sold it to Fanny Eaton.

1948-1969

The new owner continued to use the house for investment purposes. After World War II, however, according to city directories, there was a shift in the occupations of tenants toward professional levels. Economists, foreign service officers, lawyers, and medical interns lived along this 37th Street block. (10) The many independent government agencies that had been created to take care of the various needs of the peacetime economy drew numerous young university graduates to Washington. Georgetown was convenient to their Federal jobs and also economical with multiple occupancy leases.

After holding the property for seven years Fanny Eaton sold it to Elise Ellis, a saleswoman who lived nearby on O Street. (11) She kept it only a year and then sold it to Arthur J. Smith, who on the same day conveyed it at the same price to Georgetown University.
"Is it possible that Georgetown University students, plodding to church on their monthly Fridays, looked at the row of nine identical houses and called them 'The Nine Fridays'?"

(Photographed by J. Alexander)
The University continues to use this house for rental purposes as well as the other "Nine Fridays," as the row of nine houses has been dubbed. The source of this appellation is unproved, but the tale is told that the name is connected with a tradition of the Catholic Church. Part of the private devotion in the Church includes attendance at confession and communion on the first Friday of the month for nine months, thereby receiving special indulgences. Is it possible that Georgetown University students, plodding to church on their monthly Fridays, looked at the row of nine identical houses and called them "The Nine Fridays"?

Original and Subsequent Owners

1798

John Threlkeld and wife, Elizabeth to Patrick Carroll

Deed June 1, 1798
Recorded June 13, 1798
Liber C-3, folio 463
All of Lot 114 for $400
1809

Patrick Carroll and Susanna Corcoran

Marriage Contract October 23, 1809
Recorded January 10, 1810
Liber X-23, folio 343

Agreement that all property acquired during lifetime of either shall go to survivor to dispose of as he likes. Includes all of Lot 114.

1814

Patrick Carroll and wife, Susanna to Francis Fenwick

Deed November 19, 1814
Recorded December 16, 1814
Liber AH-33, folio 345

All of Lot 114 for $300

1815

Francis Fenwick to Rebecca Clements

Deed September 18, 1815
Recorded December 22, 1815
Liber AK-35, folio 392

All of Lot 114 for $450

545
1823

Rebecca Clements Ford and husband, John G. to Elizabeth Threlkeld (daughter of John Threlkeld)  
Deed April 4, 1823  
Recorded June 20, 1823  
Liber W.B. 10, folio 126

Elizabeth Threlkeld died intestate, leaving as her only heirs her daughters:  
Elizabeth - unmarried. Died intestate.  
Jane - married John Cox  
Mary - married William Grayson

1831

Lot 114 is divided into two parts, by a straight line drawn from center of northern line to center of southern line, 150 feet on Warren (37th) Street from corner and 30 feet on 2nd (O) Street from corner. The east half of Lot 114 went to Mary Grayson and the west part to Jane Cox.  
Chain of title is described below in two parts, first the east half of Lot 114, then the west part of the lot.  
In 1865 Richard Crawford bought the west half and in 1875 he bought the east part. After 1875, therefore, the description of ownership is for all of Lot 114.

East half of Lot 114 follows:

William Grayson and wife, Mary to James S. Morsell  
Deed in trust August 24, 1831  
Recorded October 12, 1831  
Liber W.B. 38, folio 77

If property is not disposed of in their lifetime, it is to be held for Henry Grayson, their son. East half of Lot 114.
1835

John Cox and wife, Jane
Mary Grayson

to
David English

Deed in Trust November 10, 1835
Recorded November 12, 1835
Liber W.B. 58, folio 63

East half of Lot 114.

Trustee holds for Mary in her
lifetime, subject to her right
to dispose, but if she dies be­
fore disposing of property, it
is to be "...for the only and
behoof of her son Henry T. Gray­
son, his heirs and assignees for­
ever...."

1837

James S. Morsell, Tr.
Mary Grayson, Jane Cox

to
John Cox

Deed in Trust November 29, 1837
Recorded November 30, 1837
Liber W.B. 64, folio 475

John Cox to hold east half
of Lot 114 for Henry Grayson.

James S. Morsell, Tr.
Mary Grayson ("...who
directs this deed...")
to
David English, Tr.

Deed in Trust November 29, 1837
Recorded December 28, 1837
Liber W.B. 66, folio 283

In trust for purposes of deed
of August 24, 1831, Liber W.B.
38, folio 77. East half of Lot
114.

Mary Grayson died and the east half of Lot 114 went to Henry Grayson.
1843

David English
Henry T. Grayson
to
Thomas O.N. May

Deed April 28, 1843
Recorded May 15, 1843
Liber W.B. 97, folio 487

East half of Lot 114

1851

Sarah L. Boarman
to
Sarah Leavy

Deed October 1, 1851
Recorded October 11, 1851
JAS 31, folio 239

East half of Lot 114 for
$700

1853

Sarah A. Leavy and
husband, Lawrence
to
Peter O'Donoghue, Jr.
and wife, Rebecca C.F.
joint tenants

Deed February 26, 1853
Recorded February 28, 1853
Liber JAS 42, folio 513

East half of Lot 114
1855

Peter O'Donoghue, Jr. and Rebecca C.F. to M. Joanna Rice

Deed June 27, 1855
Recorded July 5, 1855
Liber JAS 99, folio 34

East half of Lot 114 for $800

1875

Mary Joanna Rice to Richard R. Crawford

Deed July 24, 1875
Recorded December 3, 1875
Liber 804, folio 217

East half of Lot 114 for $900

Chain of title now returns to 1835 when division of Lot 114 was made. The west half is described below.

1835

David English and Rebecca Grayson to John Cox

("...who directs this deed and signs and seals...")

Jane Cox to John Cox

Deed in Trust November 10, 1835
Recorded November 24, 1835
Liber W.B. 58, folio 96

John holds in trust for wife, Jane, to sell as she directs in her lifetime. After her death to sell at her discretion. West half of Lot 114.
1840

John Cox
Jane Cox (wife of John who "...directs this deed...")
to
George Mahoney

Jane directs John to sell property to Mahoney "in fee in evidence." West half of Lot 114.

1841

George Mahoney and wife, Eleanor
to
Thomas O.N. May

West half of Lot 114 was exchanged for Lot 134 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown

1845

Thomas O.N. May died, leaving wife, Ann, with power and discretion to sell property, whenever she deemed it best for herself and children. Will April 28, 1845 Recorded January 13, 1845 Will, Admin. 3-2554, Will Book 5, page 437
1865

Ann May to R.R. Crawford

Deed April 26, 1865
Recorded March 5, 1867
Liber R.M.H. 28, folio 327

West half of Lot 11½

Description of ownership now resumes for all of Lot 11½, since Richard Crawford owned both the east and west halves.

1888

Richard Crawford died July 29, 1888, intestate.
His two children were heirs at law:
Laura J. Crawford
William L. Crawford

Administration 3273

1910

Laura J. Crawford to Washington Loan and Trust Co.

Deed of Trust June 16, 1910
Recorded July 2, 1910
Liber 3342, folio 187
1915

Laura J. Crawford and William Crawford temporarily lost property for failure to pay taxes, twice during this year, on February 12 to Charles H. Wiltsie and on October 13, 1915, to M.A. Wadhams, both representatives of the D.C. Government.

1916


William L. Crawford, single
Laura J. Crawford
to
Robert M. Morrison

Deed January 22, 1916
Recorded February 10, 1916
Liber 3865, folio 146

Robert M. Morrison, widower
to
J. Walter Moulden

Deed January 24, 1916
Recorded February 10, 1916
Liber 3865, folio 147

Grants property in fee simple, unencumbered.
J. Walter Moulden, unmarried

Deed January 29, 1916
Recorded February 10, 1916
Liber 3865, folio 151

Guy S. Zepp

(Load subject to trust of $2,500)

Subdivision of original Lot 114 into Lots 150-158. Trustees assented.

February 25, 1916
Subdivision Book 55, p. 76
Surveyor's Office, D.C.

1917

Guy S. Zepp and wife,
Pauline

Deed April 27, 1917
Recorded May 5, 1917
Liber 3968, folio 486

Charles Selden, Jr.

Deed subject to seven trusts, one on each lot (151-155; 157 and 158) at $2,000.
Released November 23, 1917.

Liber 4002, folio 398

Charles Selden, Jr.
and wife, Mary Agnes

to

Patrick T. Moran

Lots 151-155; 157 and 158
1923

Patrick T. Moran died
February 22, 1923 and
left property to wife,
Annie T. Moran.

Will December 17, 1919
Probated March 19, 1923
Will Book 112, page 533
Administration 30367

1944

Annie T. Moran died
January 31, 1944,
leaving property to
daughter, Margaret M.
Shugrue.

Will February 16, 1943
Probated March 14, 1944
Will Book 322, page 330
Administration 63207

1948

Margaret M. Shugrue
to
Fannie Eaton (later
corrected to "Fanny")

Deed July 2, 1948
Recorded July 9, 1948
Liber 8784, folio 402

1955

Fanny Eaton
to
Elise D. Ellis

Deed February 14, 1955
Recorded February 15, 1955
Liber 10368, folio 323

1956

Elise D. Ellis
to
Arthur Joseph Smith

Deed March 21, 1956
Recorded March 23, 1956
Liber 10630, folio 495
Arthur Joseph Smith, unmarried

Deed March 21, 1956

The President and Directors of Georgetown College

Recorded April 3, 1956

Liber 10631, folio 539

References


2. City Directory. 1918, p. 1474.

3. Same reference as #2. 1918, p. 1192.

4. Same reference as #2. 1918, p. 960.

5. Same reference as #2. 1917, p. 1655.

6. Same reference as #2. 1917, p. 754.

7. Same reference as #2. 1918, p. 1815.

8. Same reference as #2. 1919, p. 1896.
ZEPP ROW HOUSE

HABS No. DC-208 (Page 17)


10. Same reference as #2. 1954, p. 84.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: Plain, flat-fronted brick row houses typical of the early twentieth century. Broad overhanging eaves give some variety at the roof lines but do nothing to alleviate the flatness of the row. This particular house has been renovated to a great extent, others in the row to a lesser.

Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 30'-0". Three bays across 37th Street facade. Two stories high.

Foundations: Brick and concrete.

Wall construction: Brick, painted.

Chimneys: One small square utility chimney in center of rear (east) elevation, one from fireplace in living room on south party wall.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: The entrance doorway has a broad fluted casing with turned corner blocks, a mid-twentieth century addition as is the six panel door itself.
Windows and shutters: Windows are six-over-six double-hung wood sash, although others in the row are six-over-six double-hung sash. No shutters.

Porches: Brick and concrete stoop in front, wood landing and steps in rear.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Flat metal, pitched to rear. Shingled covered, bracketed, broad eave across front.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Broad overhanging bracketed-type "eyebrow" eave across front.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: Entry and stair hall in northwest corner; kitchen in northeast; dining room in southeast; living room in southwest. Partitions between hall and living room and between living room and dining room have been removed, making one irregular L-shaped room. Second floor has one bedroom across front; one in southeast corner; bath in northeast corner; stair hall in center of north side. Basement is one large unfinished space.

Stairways: First to second floor is a straight run with winders at the top. Closed stringer. Original heavy moulded rail with simple square balusters, small newel. (1401 37th still has original square moulded heavy oak newel.) Stair to basement is simple wood utility stair from kitchen.
Flooring: Modern oak strip.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted.

Doorways and doors: Original doors on second floor have five horizontal panels. Nearly all doors on first floor removed.

Decorative features and trim: Nothing of notable value. Flat wood trim. Simple surround at fireplace; no trace of original mantel.

Hardware: Nothing of notable value.

Lighting: Nothing of notable value.

Heating: Radiators; fireplace in living room.

Site

General Setting and Orientation: Set slightly above and back from 37th Street, this row faces west toward Georgetown University. This particular house is approximately in the center of the row.

Enclosures: Wood fence around rear yard, none in front.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Concrete and brick.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
October 30, 1968
MAHORNEY-HARRINGTON HOUSE

**Address in 1969:** 1423 36th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(Formerly this was approximately 64 Lingan Street.)

**Location:** The house is located on part of old Lot 104, Square 77 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 813, Square 1247 in Washington, D.C.

**Date of erection:** Probably between 1821 and 1834.

**Owner in 1969:** John A. Harrington

**Occupant in 1969:** John A. Harrington

**Use in 1969:** Private residence

**Significance:** Although completely renovated in the 1920's, the basic form of this two-story laborer's cottage which dates from the first quarter of the nineteenth century was preserved, keeping it in scale with the other buildings of similar character in the neighborhood.
1821-1834

In 1821 John Threlkeld conveyed to George Mahorney, along with adjoining property, the west half of Lot 104 on which the present house, 1423 36th Street, stands. Eight years later, a year before his death, John Threlkeld and Jeremiah Bronaugh, who served as a trustee, conveyed the east half of the lot to George Mahorney.

George Mahorney was a bricklayer by profession, but his activities extended far beyond his trade. He was an entrepreneur who dealt in real estate and from time to time operated small businesses. In the late 1820's, in partnership with Joseph Brigden, he operated a storehouse and grocery. At one point he operated a tavern at the corner of Third (P Street) and High (Wisconsin Avenue). It is likely that among Mahorney's real estate ventures was the construction of the dwelling now known as 1423 36th Street.

In the 1820-30 period Mahorney made numerous land purchases, but by 1832 he was, as were many other land investors, in financial difficulties. It was a decade of hard times. He lost much of his property in foreclosure suits.

By the end of the twenties Mahorney had used all of the money brought to his marriage by his wife, Eleanor, and therefore put certain properties in trust for her to secure her dowry rights.
For a while Eleanor lived at a house which Mahorney owned on the corner of Third (P Street) and Lingan (36th Street), a short distance from the present Lot 813, while Mahorney resided at Third and High Streets where he was running a tavern. However, in 1830 he was back at the dwelling on Third and Lingan. (2)

1834-1852

By 1834 Clement Cox held a trust on Lot 104 as well as on other lots owned by Mahorney. On January 26, 1833 Lot 104 along with other property of Mahorney's was advertised in the Georgetown Metropolitan as being for sale at public auction. (3)

Despite his losses, Mahorney continued to live in Georgetown, to deal in real estate, and to borrow money from many of the same people. He was also active in civic affairs. At one time he was a "Messenger and Scavenger" for the Board of Aldermen of Georgetown, with responsibility for collecting bad debts and recovering stolen property.

In 1858 he left Georgetown and went to live with his daughter, Henrietta Herrell, in Washington. Mahorney's Will, written the following year, contains several interesting features. The first item provides for his servant man's purchase of his freedom, so that he will be "...thence and forever free from the service to anyone as a slave...." Mahorney willed one of his properties in Georgetown to a daughter, Emma Offutt. He provided for four of his other children by ordering equal division of the remainder of his estate. He left five dollars to his daughter, Matilda, a "Sister of Charity." He also willed five dollars each to his sons, John and George, "...to be paid if they shall ever come back, as both have been gone for many years since I have heard from them." (4)
It was Alfred Boutcher (or Boucher), a grocer, who bought Lot 104, part of it in 1834 and another portion in 1837. Boucher owned other property in the neighborhood. His business establishment was on the corner of Potomac Street and Bridge Street (M Street). (5)

1852-1866

In 1852 Alfred Boucher and his wife sold the property to Thomas Hunter, who held it only two years before selling it to William W. Corcoran. Tax assessment records for 1865-70 show that Corcoran’s property, Lot 104, 30 feet fronting on Lingan Street, extending 120 feet deep, included "Improvements: Two Story Frame Tenement" valued at $300, while the land was valued at $250. (6)

William W. Corcoran had been active in Georgetown affairs for many years. He was an officer of the Potomac Fire Insurance Company in 1831. He was one of the founders in 1840 of the banking firm, Corcoran and Riggs, from which the present Riggs National Bank developed. In 1859 he began the construction of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, his private collection forming the nucleus of what is now one of the major cultural institutions in Washington. (7)

1866-1901

Just after the Civil War, in 1866, Corcoran sold the property to Dennis Harrington, a laborer, who owned and lived in the former Mahorney house on the nearby corner of Third (P) and Lingan (36th) Streets. (8) Dennis and his wife, Mary, resided in part of the house and rented some of their rooms to fellow laborers—the bricklayers, stone-cutters, and carpenters who were arriving in great numbers.
In western Georgetown during the period when many Irish immigrants were coming to work on construction in Georgetown and the nearby Federal City, it was common practice for the first ones to acquire a home and take in friends and relatives who came over to join them, until they were able to establish their own homes. It is likely that the Harringtons bought the house on Lingan (36th) Street as an investment and rented it to friends and relatives.

After Dennis Harrington's death in 1867, his widow, Mary, held on to the property on Lingan Street, as well as the nearby property where she and her children lived. When Mary died, in 1876, her heirs continued to possess all of this property until 1901.

1901-1969

On June 24, 1901 Julia Sullivan, a relative, bought the property; but according to Dennis's descendant John Harrington, also a cousin of the Sullivans, Julia never lived in the house at 1423 36th Street. Mrs. Sullivan died in 1928 and Katherine, her only child, inherited the property.

The house was rented to a series of people for many years. In 1933-34, the house was in such disrepair that it either had to be demolished or repaired. It was at this time that extensive remodeling was carried out. (9)

Katherine Sullivan lived in the house and in her later years, until her death in January 1969, shared her home with her cousin, John A. Harrington, who still occupies the premises.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1821
John Threlkeld
  to
George Mahorney

Deed September 21, 1821
Recorded October 9, 1821
Liber W.B. 2, folio 354

West one-half of Lots 104 and 105

1829
John Threlkeld and
Jeremiah W. Bronaugh, Tr.
  to
George Mahorney

Deed August 19, 1829
Recorded August 31, 1829
Liber W.B. 26, folio 468

East one-half of Lots 104 and 105

1834
Clement Cox, Tr.
  under trust from
George Mahorney
  to
Alfred H. Boutcher
(or Boucher)

Deed July 2, 1834
Recorded July 2, 1834
Liber W.B. 51, folio 16
1837
John Pickrell, Tr.
George Mahorney and wife, Eleanor to
Alfred H. Boutcher

Remaining portion of northern half of Lot 104 required to complete present Lot 813.

1852
Alfred H. Boucher and wife, Sarah to
Thomas Hunter

1854
Thomas Hunter and wife, Jane to
William W. Corcoran

1866
William W. Corcoran to
Dennis Harrington

MAHORNEY-HARRINGTON HOUSE
HABS No. DC-188 (Page 7)
1901

John J. Harrington and wife, Annie E.
Mary E.V. Dugan and husband, Michael A.
Catherine A. Woody, widow
(all heirs of Dennis Harrington)

to
Julia Sullivan

Deed June 24, 1901
Recorded August 7, 1901
Liber 2558, folio 409

1928

Julia Sullivan died intestate, March 26, 1928. Her only heir, Katherine Sullivan, inherited the property.

1969

Katherine Sullivan died in January, 1969, bequeathing Lot 813 in Square 1247 (1423 36th St. N.W.) to John A. Harrington, her cousin.

Will June 22, 1961
Filed February 28, 1969
Administrative number not yet assigned as estate is in process of being settled and probate has not yet taken place.
References

1. **City Directory.** 1830, p. 10; 1834, p. 14; 1853, p. 65.

2. Same reference as #1. 1830, p. 10.

3. **Georgetown Metropolitan.** January 26, 1833. (Newspaper Reading Room Serial Division, Library of Congress.)


5. Same reference as #1. 1834, p. 2.


8. Same reference as #1. 1865, p. 383.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This is a simple frame free-standing house of the early to mid-nineteenth century. The front entrance has been inexpertly redesigned, but the cornice with its unusual modillion placement and the window sills with guttae appear to be early, if not original.

Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall dimensions: Approximately 20'-0" by 16'-0". Three unequal bays across 36th Street facade. Brick addition at rear approximately 16'-0" by 20'-0".

Foundations: Brick.

Wall construction: Wood frame main block, brick rear addition.

Chimneys: One at rear of main block of house.

Openings:

Doors and doorways: The front door has six raised panels and is flanked by a pair of fluted column shafts without caps supporting an entablature made of currently available stock mouldings.
Windows and shutters: Windows in general have six-over-six double-hung wood sash and louvered wood shutters. The sills are unusual in that they each have three triangular guttae, one at each side and one in the center. Shutter-dogs are of wrought iron design and appear to be early.

Porch: Recent semi-circular brick stoop has what appears to be an early wrought-iron boot scraper.

Roof:

Shape and covering: Gable; ridge running north-south; standing seam metal covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Wood cornice has four scrolled brackets and eighteen smaller scrolled modillions. The cornice is unusual in that the modillions are mounted vertically like small brackets.

Dormers: None.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor plan: Much remodeled in the 1920's, this house has little of its original interior detail. Basically, the original house had one room above another with fireplaces in the rear (east) wall and stairs along the north wall. In 1928 the basement was excavated and stairs built to it, a dining room and kitchen were added to the first floor, and a bedroom and bath added to the second floor. The living room fireplace was rebuilt in brick and the second floor fireplace closed up.
Stairways: The landing just inside the front door is two steps above the living room floor. From there the closed-string stair ascends along the north wall to the second floor. The enclosed attic stair is above this and is reached from the east bedroom.

Flooring: All flooring is modern oak strip flooring except the attic floor, which is very wide random pine boards.

Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted or wallpapered; basement ceilings are pressed metal.

Door and doorways: Doors in general have four panels (late nineteenth-century) or two panels (early twentieth-century), but the door to the attic stair is an early batten door complete with original cast iron thumblatch.

Decorative features and trim: The living room mantel has been replaced with a brick surround and corbelled mantelpiece. The door and window trim, according to the present resident, Mr. John Harrington, was replaced in 1928, but was an earlier moulding from another source, re-used. It is a wide fluted casing and occurs throughout.

Hardware: No notable hardware other than cast iron thumblatch on the attic door and the scrolled wrought-iron shutter dogs.

Lighting: No notable fixtures.

Heating: Radiators throughout.
Site

General setting and orientation: Located on the east side of 36th Street, this house is one of a neighborhood of houses of varying ages and styles which, however, have a uniformity of scale and size. The rear yard is a full story lower than the front yard.

Enclosures: Rear yard is enclosed with a wood paling fence, the small front planting area is surrounded with stock wire fencing.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: Brick.

Landscaping: Informal residential scale planting.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
March 5, 1969
Address in 1969: 3617, 3619 and 3621 Prospect Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Location: The houses occupy Lot 50 in Square 53 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lots 65, 66, 67 in Harnedy's Subdivision in Square 1223 in the City of Washington.

Date of erection: 1890's

Owners in 1969: President and Directors of Georgetown College

Occupants in 1969: Rental tenants

Use in 1969: Residences

Significance: Typical of low-income, inexpensively built rental row houses of the late nineteenth century, these houses reflect the mode of living of artisans of that period. Subsequent renovations have enabled these buildings to continue as rental property.
In 1836 John A. Smith, who had been appointed trustee to sell Lot 50 and other property which had belonged to Leonard M. Deakins, sold the lot in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown on which the present three houses stand to John Hoye. Hoye was a wealthy landowner with a prosperous estate near Cumberland in Allegheny County and considerable other landholdings throughout Maryland. His Georgetown property, as well as much of his land elsewhere, was no doubt held for investment purposes for he willed his house and estate in Allegheny County to his wife, stating that if she would not accept this provision "then she is to take her dower and legal interest alone which on account of the unproductive nature of much of my said real estate will not be very valuable." (1)

John Hoye died in June 1849. His Will reflects the character of the man and the spirit of the times: "Being in impaired Health of body, but of Sound disposing mind, memory and understanding...that I may be the better prepared to leave this scene of things whenever it shall please the Almighty to call me hence...I commend my Spirit to the Keeping of its merciful Author and my body I commit to the earth...." (2)

A year after his death, in 1850, Hoye's executor, George Smith, sold Lot 50 to Timothy O'Donnoghue. In 1830 Timothy had been a
grocer with a business at Market Space south of Bridge (now M) Street. (3) Three years after buying Lot 50 on Prospect Street, he is listed as having a "candle factory, south side of 1st (now N Street) near College, Georgetown" and also in 1853 as operating with Patrick O'Donnoghue a "candle & soap factory, north side G north between 4th and 5th W" in the City of Washington. (4) Since Lot 50 adjoined on the south the property on which Timothy had his candle business on First Street, it is probable that it was also used for part of the operation. In 1858, a year before his death, the City Directory shows Timothy in the same location listed as "Timothy O'Donnoghue & Son (James), soap & candle manufacturers, 1st (N) corner Lingan (36th), house 98 First." (5)

Patrick O'Donnoghue, listed as "Tallow Chandler Second (0) Street near Warren (37th)" as early as 1830 and in partnership in the City of Washington with Timothy in 1853, bought Lot 50 from Timothy's executors in 1859. (6) The next year the City Directory shows Patrick as "soapmaker, house 121 2nd Street." (7) Throughout the nineteenth century there were many O'Donnoghues in the soap and candle business, both in the western end of Georgetown and, as their business expanded, in the City of Washington.

1890-1954

Patrick O'Donnoghue held Lot 50 on the north side of Prospect Street for thirty-one years, presumably using it most of that period in connection with his candle and soap manufacturing operations. In 1890 Mary E. Harnedy bought the land and a few years later subdivided Lot 50 into three lots, 65, 66, and 67, on which she and her husband, William, built three similar houses. (Tax records for 1893-94 show Lot 50 assessed to Mary Harnedy still vacant, so it is probable that the houses were put up about 1895.) (8) These houses (3617, 3619, and 3621) were evidently built for rental purposes, for Mary Harnedy never lived at that location.
In 1889 the Harnedys had a liquor business at 3288 M Street. They are shown at the M Street address operating consecutively a liquor store, restaurant, saloon, and barber shop throughout the 1890s. William Harnedy died about 1901, for Mary E. Harnedy, "widow William," is found living at 3286 M Street from 1902 to 1907.

In 1908 Mary took as her second husband Nicholas Graef, a cooper who was living at 509 22nd Street, N.W. That same year he moved to Mary's house on M Street and is listed in the following years as both a grocer and a cooper. (9)

Mary E. Harnedy Graef died in December 1913, leaving everything to her husband, Nicholas, and upon his death to Frank P. Reeside as trustee. Mary's will stipulated that the trustee should rent, lease, and collect money from her real estate and pay the net income to Annie C. Clarke. It also stated that not more than ten years after Annie's death the money and real estate should go to the College and Commissariat of the Holy Land of the U.S.A. (10)

The Harnedy row houses changed occupants often. In 1914 they were occupied by Elias Joseph, a tailor (in 3617), Theodore Lipscomb, a policeman (in 3619), and George Shism, a carpenter (in 3621). (11) Fifteen years later, in 1930, the middle house was vacant but a house painter, Lawrence Vermillion, rented the western most house while a tile setter, Charles Gates, rented the eastern most house. (12) By the middle of the next decade the occupants had again changed but had the same kinds of occupations as the earlier tenants. Luther Smallwood, a carpenter, was living in 3617; Marshall Miller, occupation not mentioned, was in 3619; and Calvin Hill, a guard, was renting 3621. (13)

When Nicholas Graef died in 1953, the estate of Mary E. H. Graef consisted of eight lots in the western end of Georgetown on which stood seven dwellings and a store. Rents collected at that time for 3617, 3619, and 3621 Prospect were $19.18, $12.77, and $20.43 per month, respectively.
1954-1969

The Board of Condemnation of Insanitary Buildings of D.C. issued a warrant against the holdings of the estate the next year. Since there were not adequate funds in the estate for improving the eight buildings, six of the houses were sold to Georgetown College for $37,500; the two exceptions were the house and store on M Street. The proceeds for this transaction went to Annie C. Marmaduke (who died in 1965) and the Commissariat of the Holy Land for the U.S.A. (14)

Following extensive renovation the Harnedy row houses were rented as residences. Georgetown University still uses the property for rental purposes.

Original and Subsequent Owners

1836

John A. Smith, Tr. to John Hoye

Deed July 16, 1836 Recorded July 16, 1836
Liber W.B. 59, folio 5

Recites that by Decree of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia passed in the case of John Hoye as Heir at Law of Leonard M. Deakins et al, April 11, 1829 and January 13, 1830, John A. Smith was appointed trustee to sell Lot 50 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition as well as other lots.
1850

George Smith, Ex.,
last Will of
John Hoye
to
Timothy O'Donnoghue

Deed August 2, 1850
Recorded August 5, 1850
Liber JAS 16, folio 24

1859

Timothy O'Donnoghue died.

Will March 3, 1859
Probated March 29, 1859
Will Book 8, page 68

Sarah O'Donnoghue (wife)
James O'Donnoghue (son)
Peter O'Donnoghue (brother), Executors under the Will of Timothy O'Donnoghue
to
Patrick O'Donnoghue

Deed May 13, 1859
Recorded August 3, 1859
Liber JAS 180, folio 129

1890

Patrick O'Donnoghue, widower
to
Mary E. Harnedy

Deed November 8, 1890
Recorded December 5, 1890
Liber K-10, folio 31

1901

William Harnedy died in 1901.
1908

Mary E. Harnedy married (for second time) Nicholas Graef.

1913

Mary E. Harnedy Graef died December 23, 1913. Frank P. Reeside was appointed trustee under her Will.

Will January 9, 1912
Probated March 2, 1914
Will Book 83, page 463
Administration 20452

1953

Nicholas Graef died January 1953.

Frederick Stohlman and Joseph A. Rafferty were appointed substitute trustees for Frank P. Reeside, deceased in 1926, under civil action case.

Annie Clarke Marmaduke
vs.
Commissariat of the Holy Land of the U.S.A. et al.
Civil Action 1878-53

1954

Frederick Stohlman and Joseph A. Rafferty, trustees

deed December 6, 1954
Recorded December 8, 1954
Liber 10327, folio 343

to

President and Directors of Georgetown College
References


2. Same reference as #1.

3. City Directory. 1830, p. 11.

4. Same reference as #3. 1853, p. 76.

5. Same reference as #3. 1858, p. 459.

6. Same reference as #3. 1830, p. 11; 1853, p. 76.

7. Same reference as #3. 1860, p. 171.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This is one of three similar frame houses in a row. Built in the last part of the nineteenth century, the outward appearance of this row has been little altered over the years. They are simple flat fronted frame houses with little ornamentation other than their simplified version of the elaborate Victorian cornices seen earlier in that period.

Condition of Fabric: Good, reasonably well-maintained.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 20'-0" with a 12'-0" by 12'-0" ell. Two bays across Prospect Street facade. Two stories high.

Foundations: Stucco on masonry.

Wall Construction: Frame with plain drop siding and flat corner boards.

Chimneys: One about 16" square at rear of main block.
Openings:

Doorways and Doors: The front door has eight raised panels and a three-light transom. There is a simple flat wood surround with a small cyma reversa cap. The doorway has two red sandstone steps down to the sidewalk.

Windows and Shutters: Windows in general have six-over-six double-hung wood sash with a flat wood surround and a small cyma reversa cap moulding. The apron is a heavy cyma reversa moulding with breaks at the ends to form small brackets. The front windows have louvered wood shutters (modern replacements).

Porches: None.

Roof:

Shape and Covering: Low shed roof pitched toward rear (north); metal covering.

Framing: Wood (assumed).

Cornice: Wood; a simple late Victorian cornice with broad soffit, simple brackets and modillions.

Dormers: None.
Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plan: The first floor has a living room across the Prospect Street front, an enclosed stair and a small hallway across the middle, and a dining room across the rear. At the northwest corner is an ell containing a kitchen and small pantry. The second floor has a bedroom across the front, the stair and landing across the middle, a hallway along the west side, a bedroom on the east, and a bath in the northwest ell. There is no basement.

Stairways: A simple enclosed stair runs from a small hallway on the east between the dining and living rooms up to a landing one riser below the level of the hallway on the second floor.

Flooring: Pine, 4" to 5" wide, probably original.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Painted plaster.

Doorways and Doors: All doors are mid-twentieth century six-panel replacements.

Decorative Features and Trim: There is a cornice in both the dining and living rooms made up of stock mouldings; it is box-like in form and somewhat naive in design. The doors and windows have an unmoulded flat trim.

Hardware: All mid-twentieth century replacements.

Lighting: All mid-twentieth century incandescent fixtures, none of note.

Heating: Small boiler in pantry of kitchen.
Site

General Setting and Orientation: This is one of a group of three similar frame houses on the north side of the westernmost developed block of Prospect Street. While the south side of the street has several brick houses of a somewhat formal nature, the north side of the street is made up of very simple late nineteenth-century frame houses.

Enclosures: Simple board fence around rear yard.

Outbuildings: None.

Walks: The house is built abutting the brick public sidewalk.

Landscaping: No front yard; informal residential planting in the rear yard surrounding a brick-paved terrace.

Prepared by: The Office of Walter G. Peter, Jr.
AIA
Architect
March 19, 1969
HALCYON HOUSE

Address in 1969: 3400 Prospect Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
(Formerly this address was known as Prospect, corner of Frederick Street.)

Location: The house is located on old Lots 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48 out of old Lot 32, out of old Lot 17 and parts of 16, 18, and 19, in old Square 34, Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, now taxed as Lot 814, Square 1204 in Washington, D.C.

Date of erection: 1787

Owners in 1969: Edmund W. Dreyfuss and Blake Construction Co.

Occupants in 1969: Mr. and Mrs. George Roper in original house and tenants in apartments.

Use in 1969: Residence and apartments

Significance: Within the shell of the present structure, reasonably intact, is a very fine example of a free-standing Georgian mansion. Built by Benjamin Stoddert, our first Secretary of the Navy, it was the scene of frequent informal conferences in connection with the shaping of national as well as Georgetown history. Despite its twentieth-century disfigurement, the early house retains much of its original detail and should be considered a prime prospect for preservation.
"Within the shell of the present structure, reasonably intact, is a very fine example of a free-standing Georgian mansion."

Halcyon House prior to twentieth-century disfigurement
(Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library)
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1786-1819

Benjamin Stoddert built the house on the corner of Frederick (34th) Street and Prospect Street, naming it "Halcyon House" most appropriately, for the calm beauty of the dwelling epitomized the fabled halcyon, a bird which had the power of charming winds as it nested on the floating sea.

The erection date of the house is generally credited as 1783; however, investigation of early land records of Montgomery County indicates a later date of construction. Stoddert did not buy the land on which Halcyon House stands until November 26, 1786. The deed, "...between William Deakins, Junior and John Threlkeld, both of Montgomery County and State of Maryland, of the one part, and Benjamin Stoddert of the County and State aforesaid..." was recorded on April 18, 1787 in Montgomery County, Maryland.

The deed clearly states that Stoddert bought "...all those two Lotts or portions of ground in Beatty's, Peter's, Threlkeld's & Deakins' Addition to George Town known and distinguished by numbers sixteen and seventeen...." For the property Stoddert paid 100 pounds to Deakins and one shilling to Threlkeld. (The token payment was merely a protection of his wife's family claim. She was Elizabeth Ridgely, Deakins's stepdaughter—the child of his wife, Jane, by her first marriage. Threlkeld's gesture thus recognized his wife's family relationship, but relinquished profit from the sale to his father-in-law.) There is no mention in the deed of any buildings on the land and the low figure of the purchase corroborates the absence of a structure on the land. (2)
Benjamin Stoddert, first Secretary of the Navy and builder of Halcyon House (Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library)

"...investigation of early land records of Montgomery County indicates a later date of construction."

1786 Deed between William Deakins, Jr. and John Threlkeld and Benjamin Stoddert (Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland)
Halcyon House was built on Lot 17 with its gardens extending into Lot 16. Lot 17 was at the corner of Prospect Street and Frederick (34th) Street; Lot 16 was at the corner of Bridge (M) Street and Frederick. The two lots joined, and together they comprised the eastern half of the square.

It was not until 1795 that Stoddert acquired the western half of the square. He paid William Deakins 450 pounds for Lots 18 and 19. Lot 18 was on the corner of Fayette (35th) Street and Bridge Street, and Lot 19 was on the corner of Fayette and Prospect Streets. The lots adjoined each other, as well as Lots 16 and 17 which Stoddert already owned. Thus, Benjamin Stoddert, at the age of 44, owned the entire block in which he lived.

Benjamin Stoddert was born in 1751 in Charles County, Maryland, the only son of Sarah and Thomas Stoddert. Benjamin's grandfather, James Stoddert, "a man of education and a surveyor by profession," emigrated from Scotland about 1650 and settled in Maryland. He continued his surveying career in the new country, but in addition, being a man of means, he invested in land. (3)

James Stoddert's youngest son, Thomas (Benjamin's father), inherited a large tract of land from two of his brothers who died in their youth. Thomas married Sarah Marshall, daughter of Thomas Marshall, of Marshall Hall. Benjamin and his sister, Sarah, grew up in an environment of comfort and ease.

Benjamin Stoddert, in his youth, spent some years in Philadelphia, whether to attend school or to learn the shipping business is not clear. However, it was in Philadelphia, early in the Revolutionary War, that he joined Captain Hartley's "Additional Continental Regiment of Cavalry" with the rank of captain. (4)

He was wounded so severely at Brandywine that he was no longer fit for military service. In 1779 he resigned his commission, which was then that of major. He declined a government pension feeling that he had the means to support himself.
In that same year, 1779, he was named Secretary to the Revolutionary War Board in Philadelphia. John Adams, the future President of the United States, was at that time President of the War Board. For the next two years Stoddert labored arduously with the complicated problems of carrying on the Revolutionary War.

In February 1781 he resigned his post and returned to Maryland. On June 7 of that year a marriage license was issued at Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland, to Benjamin C. Stoddert and Rebecca Lowndes, daughter of Christopher Lowndes of Bostock House, Maryland. Christopher Lowndes, a wealthy shipping merchant, had been one of the founders of Bladensburg in 1746. Bladensburg was named for his wife's uncle, Thomas Bladen, who in 1742 was Governor of Maryland. (5)

In 1783, two years after his marriage, Stoddert began a mercantile career of his own as a partner in the Georgetown shipping firm of Forrest, Stoddert and Murdock, which established branches in England and France. The firm prospered and Stoddert's increased income may have been a factor in his decision in 1785 to buy land in Georgetown and build a home there.

Stoddert was interested in real estate as well as in trade. He began to acquire extensive property holdings in Georgetown and Washington in addition to his holdings in Maryland. (6)

Taking an active role in civic affairs, he developed into one of the most public-spirited and influential citizens in the community.

His close associates included not only leaders in Georgetown, but many of our early patriots—men such as George Washington and John Adams—men with whom Stoddert worked diligently to strengthen the young nation. Halcyon House was often the scene of parties where the Stodderts' friends gathered. In 1796 Mrs. Stoddert wrote to her niece, Eliza:

"Mrs. Mason will dine here on Thursday. I believe I shall have a pretty large party again--Mr. Lee's family will make part of it." (7)
A newspaper story describing the history of Halcyon House records the important role Stoddert played in choosing the site of the Federal government:

"He [Stoddert] played a prominent part in having the seat of government situated here. Considerable correspondence still exists showing that George Washington leaned heavily upon Stoddert for advice in selecting the area for the Capital." (8)

William Tindall, in his Standard History of the City of Washington, quotes much of this correspondence. (9)

Stoddert was one of the nineteen "original proprietors" who signed the agreement for the ten mile square of land for the District of Columbia. In 1793, when the Bank of Columbia was founded to handle the transactions involved in establishing the new seat of government, Stoddert was one of the incorporators of the bank and five years later its president. (10) (11)

During these fruitful years, Stoddert and his growing family were enjoying the beauty and comfort of living at Halcyon House. There were times, however, when Stoddert apparently sought refuge from the turmoil by retreating to his country home in Maryland. Mrs. Stoddert tells her niece, Eliza, in a letter dated September 11, 1796, of a noisy girls' party at Halcyon House and adds that she is glad her husband is not at home, "...for his not being well would make such a partying irksome to him--he went to the Farm this morning and from there went to Dine with Dr. Thornton whose farm adjoins ours..." (12)

In 1798 this pleasant mode of life was interrupted. President John Adams, who held Stoddert in high esteem as a result of his close association with him during the War Board days, appointed him Secretary of the Navy to direct the newly formed Department of the Navy.
Those were difficult days, for France and the United States were perilously close to war. Stoddert must have felt the tug of conflict as he debated his responsibility to the nation and his personal desire for a quiet life for himself and his family. In a letter written to Francis Lowndes, his wife's brother, on May 26, 1798, he expresses his dilemma:

"I suppose you have heard of my appointment to be Secretary of the Navy of the United States. I have not determined to accept—and what you will think more extraordinary—I have not determined to refuse. I hate office—have no desire for fancied or real importance and wish to spend my life in retirement and ease without bustle of any kind. Yet it seems cowardly at such a time as this to refuse an important and highly responsible position...." (13)

Stoddert did accept, and along with the rest of the Cabinet moved to Philadelphia, which was the temporary seat of government pending the completion of facilities in the new Capital in Washington.

Stoddert preceded his wife and family in Philadelphia. When they joined him, they lived initially at a boarding house operated by Mrs. Rosanna White and patronized by many notable figures; later they took a house of their own. Mrs. Stoddert, in letters to her cousin, Miss Eliza Gantt, told of breakfasting daily with George Washington at the boarding house. The letters give a lively account of the social scene in Philadelphia, but do not conceal Mrs. Stoddert's longing to resume life in her lovely home in Georgetown. In April 1799, she wrote her cousin, "You can scarcely conceive how anxious I am to return." (14)
But during their two-year sojourn in Philadelphia Secretary Stoddert achieved formidable accomplishments in his new Department. He drafted the bill to organize the U.S. Marine Corps; he pushed Congress to appropriate money for six Navy yards; he got Congressional approval for building more powerful 74-gun naval vessels. (15)

President Adams was laudatory about the quality of the navy which Stoddert built and its success in the crisis with France:

"[The Navy]..., called suddenly into existence by a great national exigency, has raised us in our own esteem and by the protection afforded our commerce, has effected to the extent of our expectations the object for which it was created." (16)

When George Washington died in 1799 a memorial service was held for him in Philadelphia. Stoddert was one of the pall bearers at the ceremony.

In 1800 before the seat of government was moved to Washington, President Adams asked Stoddert to take on the additional duties of Secretary of War after James McHenry resigned that office.(17) He did so, continuing as Secretary of both the Navy and War Departments until April 1801. Although Thomas Jefferson, the new President, asked Stoddert to remain in office, he did so for only one month before retiring to private life.

The Stoddert's were delighted to return to their beloved home --or perhaps "mansion" is a more appropriate term in view of the 1800-1807 tax appraisal of $8,000 for "1 Square with improvement where he lives." The style of their way of life is further disclosed by the same tax records which include:
Stoddert resumed his active efforts to promote the advancement of the new Federal City. He invested heavily in real estate in Washington, and he became financially involved in many civic projects such as the erection of The Upper Bridge across the Eastern Branch. His spirit and imagination, his hopes for the new Capital, stimulated his activities beyond his financial resources.

By 1801 Stoddert’s finances were so shaky that he was forced to place a mortgage on his home. He turned to the Bank of Columbia, which he had helped to establish eight years earlier. Although he borrowed $50,000, he received only about two-thirds of that amount because his former debt to the bank was deducted.

Two years later, in 1803, Stoddert described his own suffering from his financial decline to General Dayton:

"Do not be offended by anything I shall say. I have been embarrassed & Disturbed in mind, almost beyond bearing, ever since my return to private life by being forced to assume debts to a large amt. & take for my chances of reimbursement, City lots.

"The story is too long to tell--& it is unnecessary to tell it--by continual efforts, I have sold a good many lots & have pd. a good deal of debt. But I have still too much of both on my hands for peace. If I could divest myself of feeling and reason myself into patience, I could make my City property produce an ample provision for my children, after paying My Debts--and preserve a large Estate I have out of the City." (19)
Stoddert's misfortunes accumulated, for his wife died shortly after the turn of the century leaving him with eight children. (20) One of them, Elizabeth, was married in the house six years later, in 1807. It was a festive occasion attended by many people of prominence. Allen Clark, in his Life and Letters of Dolly Madison, quotes a letter which Dolly Madison wrote to her sister, Mrs. Cutts, mentioning her attendance at the wedding:

"We are quiet and have but few parties. We went to the wedding feast of Miss Stoddard and dined last Saturday with...." (21)

Elizabeth (or "Betsy" as she was known in the family) married Thomas Ewell who became an eminent physician and author, as well as a beloved son-in-law. Stoddert named Dr. Ewell as his executor, so fully did he trust and respect him.

Dr. and Mrs. Ewell lived in the Stoddert home where she took charge of the household. Here she cared for her sisters and brothers and her father until he retired to their country home, "Beall's Pleasure," near Landover, Maryland, which Stoddert had built in 1775. The lovely home is still in use, sometimes opened for house and garden tours of the area. A local newspaper stated:

"'Beall's Pleasure' would stand on its own merits as a notable 18th-century structure without the lustre of famous inhabitants. The house is Georgian...." (22)

The Ewells remained in Halcyon House although they did not own it. It was still in the hands of the Bank of Columbia with little prospect of being redeemed, as the Stodderts' fortunes were at low ebb.

Marie Stoddert Turner describes Major Stoddert's last public appearance in 1812 at the funeral of his long-time friend, General Lingan, who had met a violent death at the hands of a mob in Baltimore:
"Lingan's mangled body was not allowed to be given to his family, but the people assembled in multitudes near Georgetown for funeral services, at which Colonel Stuart and Major Stoddert, both old Revolutionary soldiers, supported on the platform the venerable Major Musgrave...." (23)

Stoddert died, still heavily laden with debt, in 1813, in Bladensburg and was buried at Addison's Chapel, Maryland, beside his wife.

Stoddert's reputation as a patriot continues to endure. One of his descendants gives a graphic delineation of Stoddert's character:

"The man who won the confidence of Washington, the affection of Adams, the esteem of Jefferson, the intimate friendship of Light-Horse Harry Lee and Francis Scott Key, the respect of Aaron Burr, the warm support of Truxton and Decatur, was, as he said of himself, but a 'poor politician'. Yet he gave to his country the unstinted service of his best years and never forfeited his integrity for peace, power or wealth....His best legacy to his children was the record of his patriotic life, and the motto which inspired it--DENIQUE DECUS."

Truly Benjamin Stoddert, first owner of Halcyon House, exemplified in his life the full meaning of the Stoddert family motto, "Denique Decus"--"Honor at last." (24)

1819-1839

The Ewells continued to live in Halcyon House until 1819, six years after Stoddert's death. After the Ewells' departure, the house was occupied by the newlywed couple, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Mackall. The story is often told that the bride's father, William Whann, who was Cashier of the Bank of Columbia from 1801 to 1822, bought the house as a wedding gift for Anna Maria, his only daughter. This is probably
a tale that developed because tax records for 1818 show "B.F. Mackall, B. Stoddert's heirs" assessed for lots 17 and 19 and a two-story brick house at $7600. However, Mackall was paying the taxes most likely as a trustee for the Stoddert estate and actually the Mackalls never owned the property. (25) Moreover, land records show that the Bank of Columbia continued to own the property until 1834, when it was assumed by the Washington branch of the Bank of the United States as part of the transfer of assets when the Bank of Columbia went out of existence. (26)

Four years later, in 1838, the Bank of the United States transferred a number of properties, including "...Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19...with the large three-Story Brick house situated thereon..., "to Richard Smith as trustee with power to sell for a group of investors which included names prominent in the early history of Georgetown—Clement Smith, William S. Nicholls, John Kurtz, Samuel Swartout, Dudley Seldon, Elisha Riggs, John Carter, William Jewell, William W. Corcoran, Walter Mead, John S. Crary, and John Wainright.

1839-1859

The following year, 1839, Smith and William Nicholls, representing the group of investors, sold all of Square 34, together with the "...large three-Story Brick house thereon..." to William M. Worthington of Louisiana for $6500, of which $1000 was paid in cash. He placed a trust with the bank for the remainder of the purchase price, the property serving as security.

It seems clear that Worthington was the first private owner of the property since Benjamin Stoddert. During the intervening years the house presumably was rented or vacant for part of the time. The address is not listed in the Georgetown City Directories of 1830 and 1834.
Worthington died in 1842, three years after his purchase of the property. He willed all of his property to his minor son, William Nicholas Worthington. His wife, Alice, was named executrix with power to sell the property at her discretion.

Alice Worthington later married William H. Haxall of Richmond, Virginia. In 1849 the Haxalls sold Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition, with "...dwelling house...and other improvements..." to Charles W. Pairo and his wife, Mary Jane, for $3500, of which $500 was paid in cash. (It is interesting to note that ten years earlier, Worthington had paid almost twice as much for the same property.)

The remainder of the purchase price was handled through a loan that Pairo and his wife received, together with Alice Haxall as guardian for her minor son, from George D. Fisher of Richmond, Virginia. The terms of the deed permitted Pairo, so long as he made his payments promptly, "...to occupy, possess and enjoy the said property and take the rents and profits thereof."

Charles W. Pairo was a partner in a banking firm with William Nourse at 462 15th Street in Washington. (27) Pairo and his family moved into the house and lived there until 1858, just before the forced sale of the property. (28)

By 1857 Pairo and Nourse were having financial difficulty; much of their property, including Square 34 (Lots 16-19) and the buildings, was assigned in trust to Samuel Edes of New York and "...all creditors of the said Pairo and Nourse, jointly and severally..." with Edes serving as trustee, with power to sell for the benefit of creditors.

1859-1900

In 1859 Samuel Edes sold Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19, "...together with dwelling house and other improvements thereon..." to John L. Kidwell for $6000 cash. Kidwell was a prosperous
druggist who, in 1858, owned a business at 65 High Street (Wisconsin Avenue) and lived at 2 First (N) Street. (29)
Two years later, in 1860, he and J.A.S. Laurence are listed as druggists with their firm, Kidwell and Laurence, at 296 E Street, north (N.W.) in Washington, although both of them lived in Georgetown. (30)

Kidwell, his wife, Catharine, and his four children—Emma, John W., Ida, and Julius L.—moved into Halcyon House in 1860; it remained in the Kidwell family until the end of the century. (31)

In 1873 John L. Kidwell put all of his property in trust with Martin F. Morris for his wife, Catharine. Whether he had already become incapacitated by paralysis or whether he felt the threat of impending illness is uncertain. But his effort to protect his wife's security is clearly seen in the terms of the deed:

"Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the natural love and affection of him the said John L. Kidwell for his wife Catharine A. Kidwell and of his desire to provide for her comfort and support and that of his family...."

Not only did the deed include property in Washington and Lots 16, 17, 18, and 19 in Georgetown, but also "...paintings, pictures, engravings and works of art and all the furniture of every kind in and upon the said premises." (32)

Emma McCahill, a daughter of the Kidwells, returned to Washington from New York in 1879 and managed her invalid father's property for him. Kidwell died in February of 1882. Eight months later Martin F. Morris, trustee, and Catharine A. Kidwell conveyed to Emma McCahill, for $20,000, Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, together with "...the buildings, improvements, rents, thereof and all rights and interest, both in dower and otherwise and all paintings, pictures, engravings, and works of art, and all the furniture in...the premises."
This deed became part of a lengthy lawsuit (1893-96), for Catharine Kidwell claimed she did not know the transaction was "in fee simple," but thought it to be a trust. There were other bases for the suit which Catharine Kidwell brought against her children and Charles M. Mathews, surviving trustee, in a Deed of Trust transaction of 1872 when the property was security against a loan of $10,000. One of the charges in the litigation is particularly relevant to the history of Halcyon House. In 1885 Emma McCahill subdivided Lots 16-19 into Lots 20-38; most of these lots were small, but Lot 32, on which Halcyon House is located, remained a large lot with a 176-foot frontage on Prospect Street and 162.50 feet on Frederick (34th) Street.

In 1896 a decree of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia ordered that all property which John L. Kidwell had put in trust for his wife in 1873 be sold. That same year the property was advertised for sale at public auction, but no bid was made so the property was withdrawn from sale at that time.

In order to make the second public sale of the property more advantageous, Lot 32, on the corner of Prospect and 34th Streets, was divided into thirteen lots (lots 39-51 inclusive). Halcyon House was on Lot 48, with adjoining Lots 40-47 facing Prospect Street and Lots 49-51 facing 35th Street. In the newspaper advertisement, prior to the second public sale, on June 7, 1898, Lot 32 is described as being 28,600 square feet, "...improved by a large commodious dwelling house containing 18 rooms." At the public auction in June 1898 Emma McCahill bid for all of the property at fifty cents a square foot. (For 42,065 square feet this amounted to $21032.50.) Then bids for individual lots were made, but they totaled less than the bid for the entire property. Therefore, Emma McCahill's bid was the highest and she acquired possession of the property.
(The sale did not include the lots which she had already sold in 1885 and 1888—Lot 20 on the corner of 34th and M Streets, Lots 33, 34, and 35 on 35th Street, Lot 36 on the corner of 35th and Prospect Streets, and Lots 37 and 38 on Prospect Street adjoining Lot 36 on the east.)

During all of this period Catharine A. Kidwell and her son, John W., a chemist, continued to occupy Halcyon House. They lived there until 1900. The only architectural change in the house up to this time was the construction of a bay window, which replaced a rear door, facing Prospect Street.

1900-1942

In 1900 Emma McCahill sold Lots 44, 45, 46, 47, and 48 (present Lot 814) for $7500 to Albert Adsit Clemons who initiated a bizarre chapter in the history of the venerable dwelling, Halcyon House. Clemons, during his entire occupancy of nearly forty years, "remodeled" Halcyon House, disfiguring it beyond credibility.

The house, as Stoddert planned it, was set back from the street, facing the Potomac and the Virginia Shore. Clemons extended the wings flush with Prospect Street and built a new center front entrance joining them, thereby enclosing the entire old dwelling within a shell.

Albert Clemons, with the aid of a carpenter, both of whom are said to have lived in the cellar of the house, steadily, year by year, worked on the interior of the house, creating strange and manifold changes. He divided rooms into smaller ones; he built halls and stairways. A theatre was built, although no record has been found of it having ever been used. He constructed a ballroom where no balls have ever been known to have occurred. He built a chapel, complete with pulpit. He seems to have been obsessed with doors, for he used them for panels in walls and ceilings.
"Clemens, during his entire occupancy of nearly forty years, 'remodeled' Halcyon House, disfiguring it beyond credibility."
Halcyon House, extended east wing flush with Prospect Street
(Washingtoniana Room, D.C. Public Library)
Halcyon House prior to Clemons' ownership (Library of Congress)
There was no surcease from Clemens' continuous "improvements" and no abatement in the neighbors' interest in each fresh onslaught Clemens made on Halcyon House. A newspaper report in 1966 described one resident's reaction:

"George Williams, a Georgetown resident since 1925, can remember Clemens sitting on a barrel in front of his house directing the work.... He said that it was believed at the time that Clemens was 'touched' and that he thought he wouldn't die as long as he kept on building something." (36)

Clemens gathered and hoarded an array of what he called "antiques." Some were genuine artifacts discarded from notable buildings and some were odds and ends of every imaginable material—bits of marble and stone, pieces of wrought iron, an assortment of window frames. He collected paintings, furniture, rugs, building ornaments—an amazing array of diverse objects. (The inventory of his collection, made after his death, consists of seventy-five pages of legal-size paper!) (37)

Although Clemens furnished the house with many of his treasures, such as the marble busts which sat in each of the five round attic windows with their backs to the street, his collection was so extensive that he needed additional storage space. For this purpose he bought, in 1915, the John Thomson Mason House ("Quality Hill") at 3425 Prospect Street. (38) He also bought the house at 3410 Prospect Street for storing the overflow of objects.

Clemens' eccentricity was manifest. A newspaper account described Clemens as customarily appearing in a torn coat, an ancient creased hat with holes at the peak, unpressed trousers, and always carrying a cane. (39)

For years the house was padlocked and all were denied admission. Then he built apartments in the house for rental purposes. A description of his efforts to entice tenants is reported in a newspaper at the time of Clemens' death in 1938:
"Outside the house, up to five years ago, hung perhaps the sternest sign ever put up by a hopeful landlord. It read: Apartments for rent. No children, no dogs, no electricity permitted. Apartments furnished in beautiful antiques." (40)

There were conflicting theories about the source of income that would support almost forty years of construction, as well as a continuous collection of objects. A report in the Washington Daily News at the time of Clemons' death said, "Clemons and his brother were believed to have made their money in New England utilities." (41) A later report in the Times-Herald said that Clemons "...had plenty of money reportedly provided by his wife on condition that he stay away from her." (42)

It is true that Clemons and his wife were separated. She was Elizabeth White, daughter of Senator White of New Hampshire. (43) Mrs. Clemons never lived in Halcyon House.

One curious aspect of the relationship of the Clemonses is revealed in his Will, dated March 12, 1938, just five days before his death. One item in the Will reads:

"To my wife...who has ample, independent means, I leave my grateful love and affection for many years of kindness and friendly interest and assistance."

Then the Will states that Elizabeth "...has released all of her rights of dower in my estate, evidenced by a document duly recorded in the District of Columbia and in Lyons, New York."

But another section of the Will states:

"The contents of two safe deposit boxes at National Savings and Trust Company...are to be turned over to my wife immediately after my death, if she survives me, the same being her personal property."
According to the executors' report to the Register of Wills, Elizabeth received two cash items of $800 and $1000, and a few articles of furniture and jewelry "of no value." The executors' accounts also show that Clemons had ample means to exercise his passion for collecting and constructing. Tax records of 1940, paid by Clemons' executors, showed that he owned considerable property adjacent to Halcyon House—three lots south of it on 34th Street, one lot in the center of the square just south of the three on 34th Street, and one lot on 35th Street in the middle of the block. The executors' report of Clemons' finances show that he had almost $11,000 in liquid assets, of which almost $7000 was kept in his safe deposit box.

There is a poignancy in Clemons' disposition of his treasured collection:

"The many articles which I have collected for years past, consisting of paintings, pictures, ornaments, furniture, images, bric-a-brac, building ornaments and miscellaneous material...have long held my personal attention and interest, and I have cherished hope therefore that they become the nucleus for a permanent collection and museum. However, as my hopes in this respect have not been realized, I now desire...."

He then directs his executors to give to museums and established institutions "...any articles that may be acceptable to them..." and to sell the remainder at private or public auction.

Sixteen institutions did accept articles from Clemons' estate. Among them were the Chicago Historical Society, The Smithsonian Institution, National Park Service, the Library of Congress, Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria, Virginia, the Museum of Fine Arts at the University of Virginia, Washington Cathedral, the Syracuse Museum of Fine Arts and the Lincoln House (Ford's Theatre). All other items were sold, save for a few which went to Constance Louderbach, daughter of Albert's deceased brother, Dr. Carl Clemons.
Clemons directed that all of his real estate be sold within five years after the furnishings had been removed from the premises and that the proceeds and assets of his estate should be donated to Harvard University as an endowment to be named for him. Thus, it is clear that the often repeated tale that Clemons bequeathed Halcyon House to Harvard University is unfounded.

Many items in Clemons' Will are thought-provoking as one reads the document, but none is more provocative than the first item with its request for an operation that at one time was common practice—when the field of medicine was not always trusted—but which is a rare procedure in the twentieth century. The item reads:

"I direct that upon my death having been definitely determined, the attending physician shall thereafter pierce or puncture my heart for the purpose of absolute certainty of death...in the presence of George H. Paltridge, one of my executors...there shall not be an autopsy or any cutting of my body more than necessary for fulfilling the purpose expressed herein." (44)

Albert Adsit Clemons was an enigma to all, even his neighbors. What prompted him to enclose an eighteenth-century house within a shell, and leave the original exterior of the structure intact, is a mystery.

1942-1951

For four years after Clemons' death Halcyon House remained vacant. (45) Then, in 1942, it was purchased by Mrs. Dorothy W. Sterling, wife of Honorable Frederick Sterling, former United States Ambassador to Sweden. The Sterlings moved into Halcyon House, occupying part of the original, but much altered, house. They rented out other apartments in the house.
A newspaper account of the Sterlings' purchase of the well-known house described their astonishment at the havoc Clemons had wrought and their adjustment to the curious house:

"The Sterlings moved in about two months ago and began exploring the maze of rooms and stairways. Bit by bit they began to learn the weird geography of their remarkable home until now they rarely get lost.

"A few days ago, however, Mr. Sterling was astonished to find an unexpected visitor wandering vaguely through the theater that runs almost the length of the house, three stories up, on the Prospect Avenue side.

"'How did you get in here?' he asked.

"The dazed intruder took him down through dark passageways and galleries and out through a side door on Thirty-fourth Street that looks to the casual passerby like nothing more than a couple of weather-beaten window blinds that have not move for 20 years.

"'I just pulled them and they came open', explained the stranger, 'and when I looked up those stairs it seemed to me nobody had been in this place since 1902, so I decided to take a peek. When I got in, I got lost and couldn't find my way out.'"

Mrs. Sterling added her discoveries in the house:

"There are dozens of tiny rooms--some of them hardly large enough for a table or chair. There are staircases that lead nowhere, doors that open on blank walls and closets that open on other closets." (46)

The Sterlings planned to restore Halcyon House to its original state, a formidable project but one to which Mrs. Sterling, gifted artistically, was particularly attuned. A 1957 account of the remodeling reflects the compelling interest which this Georgian-Victorian mansion held for the community:
"All Georgetown watched, fascinated, as she [Mrs. Sterling] directed the re-opening of rooms, the installation of electricity, and the furnishing of the house with lovely antiques collected during her years in Europe." (47)

The Sterlings restored the garden, frequently entertaining there in the summer. The restoration of the house, however, was cut short by Mrs. Sterling's death.

1951-1961

In 1951 Halcyon House was purchased by Susie H. Kondrup and her daughter, Anne K. Gray, wife of George Gray, who was an official in the U.S. Department of State. Mrs. Gray's grandfather was the first Danish minister to the United States. (48)

Mrs. Gray and her mother bought Halcyon House through an error. They intended to look at Prospect House, 3508 Prospect Street, but they were given the keys to 3400 Prospect Street by mistake. They were so captivated by the structure that they bought it. (49)

Mrs. Gray, like her predecessor, was fascinated by the residue of Clemons' fancy:

"On the floor above the bathroom are bits of stained glass windows, a pulpit, carved beams on the ceiling—all of which came from Old St. Matthews Church when it was torn down....

"Elsewhere is a lantern from the Capitol, which was sold when the Capitol was converted from gas to electricity. There's also woodwork from the old Metropole Hotel, marble and bits of wood from the old Marcia Burns farm where the White House now stands." (50)
The family lived in the original part of the house and remodeled the apartments. Mrs. Gray told a newspaper of their efforts:

"It took us two years to do over the house....

"After we bought it we found two rooms we didn't know existed. One was a trap door with steps going down to another room, the other was at the end of a corridor so long and winding that we have never have gotten to the end of it." (51)

1961-1969

In 1961 Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Kondrup sold the house to Georgetown University. This was on a Friday. The following Monday sixty women students in the Foreign Service and Language Schools moved in.(52) From newspaper accounts it is clear that the students relished living in the curious building. The girls placed two desks in the marble floored crypt and found it a fine setting for study.(53) For the next five years Halcyon House, within a block of the east gate of the campus, was used by Georgetown University.

In 1966 the property was sold to Edmund W. Dreyfuss and the Blake Construction Company with which Dreyfuss is also affiliated.(54) The structure is at present being used as an apartment house.

The original part of the house is occupied by Mr. George Roper, Manager of Investment Property of Georgetown University, and his wife. Their son, Nick Roper, wrote a graphic account of his experiences as a resident of Halcyon House. The illustration of the author emerging from a concealed hideaway in the chimneypiece gives credence to the claims of former residents, Mrs. Sterling and Mrs. Gray, about the architectural whimsies Mr. Clemons created. (55)
The future of Halcyon House is uncertain. Its lovely garden borders on a commercial area, part of which is also owned by Dreyfuss and the Blake Construction Company.

At one time Halcyon House was considered as a potential permanent residence for the Vice-President of the United States. Mrs. Hubert Humphrey, wife of the Vice-President at the time, surveyed the house for that purpose. Mrs. Humphrey refused to render judgement on the suitability of the house, feeling that an impartial committee should make the decision about an official residence that would be utilized for many years by succeeding vice-presidents. (56)

One fears the threat of extinction for this venerable dwelling which was erected in a period when our Constitution was still in the process of being ratified by the thirteen states. Halcyon House had been erected and in use for some years when the City of Washington in 1790 "...was in the form of 17 large farm tracts...covered with woods and streams; the arable portions were tilled and produced wheat, maize and tobacco...." (57)

Halcyon House, one of the few remaining Federal mansions in Georgetown, deserves to be restored. Stripped of its monstrous "shell" and returned to its eighteenth-century architectural grace, the historic home would be a cultural asset to the community. Restored, preserved, and put to twentieth-century usage, it would be a living memorial to patriots like Benjamin Stoddert, who contributed so greatly to the growth of their community and their nation.
Original and Subsequent Owners

1786

William Deakins, Jr. and
John Threlkeld
to
Benjamin Stoddert

Deed November 25, 1786
Recorded April 18, 1787
Montgomery County
Land Records, Rockville, Maryland
Liber 3C, folio 502

Lots 16 and 17 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown

Purchase price—100 pounds to Deakins and one shilling to Threlkeld (Threlkeld's wife, Elizabeth Ridgely, was Deakins' stepdaughter. The token payment of a shilling was to protect Mrs. Threlkeld's interest.)

1795

William Deakins, Jr. of George Town, Montgomery County and State of Maryland
to
Benjamin Stoddert "of the Town, County and State aforesaid"

Deed March 30, 1795
Recorded July 26, 1795
Liber B-2, folio 264
"...all those two lots or portion of ground in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown known by lots number Eighteen and Nineteen...with all and singular the hereditaments, rights, members and appurtenances...."

For "450 pounds current money of Maryland" (was paid in cash).

---

1801

Benjamin Stoddert to The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Columbia

Mortgage May 9, 1801 Recorded November 7, 1801

Liber G-7, folio 353

"...the said B. Stoddert for an in consideration of the sum of fifty thousand dollars to him in hand paid by the said President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Columbia...Doth grant bargain and sell unto the said President, Directors and Company of the Bank of Columbia of that land whereupon the said Benjamin Stoddert now resides...being in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition to Georgetown, being 240 ft. square, bounded on East by Frederick St., on South by Falls St., on West by Fayette St. and on North by the street which runs between the dwelling house of the said Stoddert and that of John T. Mason." (This is Prospect Street.) Benjamin Stoddert and Uriah Forrest jointly owed the bank $16,490 and Stoddert alone owed $17,400. The bank loaned $50,000, including existing obligations, so Stoddert only received $33,890. The agreement stated that if Stoddert failed to pay the notes, the bank could sell the premises. This deed was acknowledged before William Thornton, "one of the Commissioners under the Act for Establishing the Temporary and Permanent Seat of the Government of the United States."
1834

William W. Corcoran, Tr.

Deed August 13, 1834

The President, Directors &

Recorded August 30, 1834

Company of the Bank of

Liber W.B. 51, folio 139

the United States

Apparently the Bank of Columbia had to foreclose
and take over the property; when the bank went
out of existence, the Washington branch of the
Bank of the United States assumed the property.

1838

The President, Directors &

Deed in Trust January 29, 1838

Company of the Bank of

Recorded March 8, 1838

the United States

Liber W.B. 67, folio 48

to

Richard Smith, Tr.

The Bank of the U.S. has agreed to sell to:
Clement Smith
William S. Nicholls
John Kurtz
Samuel Swartout
Dudley Seldon
Elisha Seldon

John Carter
William Jewell
William W. Corcoran
Walter Mead
John S. Crary
John Wainright

as tenants in common, not joint tenants, except
as specified, various listed properties in Wash­
ington and Georgetown, including Lots 16, 17,
18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins
Addition, fronting 240 feet on Bridge St., 240
feet on Fayette St., 240 feet on Prospect St.
and 240 feet on Frederick St., "... together
with the large three-story brick house situated
thereon...." The lots are placed in the hands of
Richard Smith as trustee.
1839

Richard Smith, Tr.  
William S. Nicholls  
Kto  
William M. Worthington  
(of the State of Louisiana)

Deed September 11, 1839  
Recorded September 27, 1839  
Liber W.B. 74, folio 375

Smith, representative of the Bank of the U.S.,  
and Nicholls, representative of the buyers  
noted in previous deed, sold Lots 16, 17, 18  
and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins  
Addition, with "... large three-story brick  
house..." for $6500 ($1000 of it in cash).  
Whole block was sold to Worthington with no  
cumbrances.

William M. Worthington  
Kto  
Richard Smith, Tr.

Deed of Trust September 25, 1839  
Recorded September 30, 1839  
Liber W.B. 78, folio 252

Same property as above as security for debt  
of $5500

1842

William M. Worthington died,  
bequeathing his son,  
William Nicholas Worthington, all residue of estate  
and appointing his wife,  
Alice, as Executrix and  
Guardian of son. If son  
died before reaching 21  
years, the estate would go  
to his wife. Provision for  
wife to sell property if  
she deemed it best.
1849

William H. Haxall and wife, Alice
(late Alice Worthington, relict of William M. Worthington), of the first part
Richard Smith, Tr.
of the second part
to
Charles W. Pairo, third part

The Worthington child is still a minor; debt of $5500 to Richard Smith, Tr., has been paid. Alice has married William H. Haxall. She sold Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition, with dwelling house and other improvements, to Charles W. Pairo for $3500 ($500 in cash).

Charles W. Pairo and wife, Mary Jane Alice Haxall, guardian of William Nicholas Worthington to George D. Fisher

Pairo owed Alice Haxall $500, payable at 6% in one year and $2500 payable within ten years, with semi-annual interest payments (note dated Oct. 11, 1849). Property was security for loan, with provision for Pairo to live in house if payments were kept up.
"... until some default shall happen in the payment of the said single bills and the principal and interest aforesaid, to permit the said Charles W. Pairo, his heirs and assigns, to occupy, possess and enjoy the said property and take the rents and profits thereof."

The agreement was that if Pairo should meet all his commitments punctually, Fisher would convey the property to Pairo after the loan was paid. If there were a failure in payment of a single note or interest on principal, Fisher would sell the property at auction, with certain regulations about advertising the sale, etc.

1857

Charles W. Pairo and William Nourse to Samuel C. Edes, Tr.

Deed September 14, 1857
Recorded September 25, 1857
Liber JAS 42, folio 261

Pairo and Nourse, partners in a banking firm in Washington, unable to meet their commitments, wanted to sell their property, the proceeds to be applied to their debts. Pairo released Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition. Edes served as trustee, with power to sell for benefit of creditors.
1858

Charles W. Pairo and William Nourse to Samuel C. Edes, Tr.

Same property as above. Deed refers to dwelling houses and other improvements. First reference to more than one house. Deed deals with other property also.

Charles W. Pairo et ux Mary Jane to Samuel C. Edes, Tr.

Extinguishes dower rights of Mary Jane Pairo. Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition and dwelling house.

1859

Samuel C. Edes, Tr. to John L. Kidwell

Edes sold Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition "...together with dwelling house and other improvements..." for $6000 cash, subject to payment of debt of Pairo to Fisher, Tr. for Alice Haxall (deed Oct. 15, 1849, JAS 8, 154).
1865

George D. Fisher
William H. Haxall and
wife, Alice
William N. Worthington
to
John L. Kidwell

Deed October 23, 1865
Recorded December 19, 1866
Liber RMH 24, folio 271

Verified that debt had been paid. Worthington, now 21 years, agreed. Kidwell owned property outright.

1872

John L. Kidwell
to
Anthony Hyde, Tr. and
Charles M. Mathews, Tr.

Deed October 9, 1872
Recorded October 9, 1872
Liber 698, folio 176

Mortgage of $10,000 with Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition as security for loan.

1873

John L. Kidwell
to
Martin F. Morris

Deed in Trust March 17, 1873
Recorded March 21, 1873
Liber 712, folio 258

All of Kidwell's property in Washington and Georgetown was put in trust for his wife, Catharine "... to have, hold and use premises and appurtenances." Included Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19. "Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the natural love and affection of him the said John L. Kidwell for his wife Catharine A. Kidwell and of his desire to provide for her comfort and support and that of his family...."
Included also in the deed of trust to his wife, "...paintings, pictures, engravings and works of art and all the furniture of every kind in and upon said premises."

1882

Catherine A. Kidwell, wife of John L. Kidwell, of the first part
Martin F. Morris, Tr., of the second part
to
Emma McCahill (daughter of John and Catherine Kidwell)

$20,000 paid to Catharine A. Kidwell for conveyance of Lots 16, 17, 18 and 19, Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld and Deakins Addition, together with "...the buildings, improvements, ... rents, ...thereof and all rights and interest, both in dower and otherwise, and all paintings, pictures, engravings, and works of art, and all the furniture in ... the premises."
This document is later stated to have been intended as a trust (Law Suit in 1893-98).

1885

John L. Kidwell died February 16, 1885, after a long illness, during which he was paralyzed and unable to attend to business for several years prior to his death.
1893-1898

Catherine A. Kidwell  
vs.  
Emma McCahill  
John W. Kidwell  
Ida West Hyde  
George A. Hyde  
Julius L. Kidwell  
Charles M. Mathews,  
surviving trustee  

Long and complicated litigation—Catharine Kidwell had not seen Deed of October 12, 1882 (Liber 1024, folio 177) and had not been told that it conveyed the property in fee simple. She also believed that the $10,000 mortgage had been paid and that the property should be released from encumbrance. Emma McCahill had paid no part of the $20,000 to her mother.

In 1885 Emma McCahill had sub-divided Lots 16-19 into Lots 20-38, of which 74 feet fronted on Prospect St. at corner of Fayette (35th) St. while remainder fronted on Fayette from Prospect to Bridge (M) and on Bridge from Fayette to Frederick (34th). The large Lot 32, almost a quarter of the block and including Halcyon House, remained intact.

Emma McCahill had sold some of the lots and applied to her own use, without accounting, the proceeds. However, Lot 32 (former Lot 17 and parts of Lots 16, 18 and 19) was not sold.

The Court Decree of May 9, 1896, required a sale of the property and Lots 21-32 were advertised for sale at public auction on June 20, 1896. Trustees attended the sale. There was no bid and property was withdrawn from sale.
The trustees believed that the subdivision as offered was disadvantageous. They agreed to make a subdivision of the large Lot 32 (on which Halcyon House is located). The 28,600 square feet of Lot 32 were divided into 13 lots, numbered 39-51 inclusive. Halcyon House was on Lot 48, corner of Prospect and 34th Streets.

The second sale at public auction was held on June 7, 1898. Those lots which Emma had sold in 1885 and 1888 (on M and 34th, on 35th and on Prospect near 35th) were not offered for sale. Emma McCahill was the highest bidder at the sale and purchased the rest of the lots at fifty cents a square foot.

1900

Emma McCahill, widow
to
Albert Adsit Clemons

Deed August 7, 1900
Recorded August 28, 1900
Liber 2490, folio 458

Lots 44-48 out of Lot 32 and building for $7500

1938

Clemons died March 17, 1938.

Will March 13, 1938
Probated May 12, 1938
Will Book 252, page 586
Administration 53362

Directed that all of his property (including present Lot 814) be sold, proceeds to be donated to Harvard University.
1942

F. Urban Woolpert
George H. Paltridge
William E. Huntington, executors and trustees under the last Will and testament of Albert Adsit Clemons, deceased, acting herein in exercise of the power vested in them by said Will to Dorothy Williams Sterling

Deed November 30, 1942
Recorded December 4, 1942
Liber 7816, folio 309

1951

Frederick A. Sterling, executor of the last Will and testament of Dorothy Williams Sterling, deceased, acting in exercise of the power conferred upon him by said Will and pursuant to Order of the Probate Court of the District of Columbia, passed August 16, 1951 in Administration Cause No. 76276 to Anne K. Gray
Susie H. Kondrup

Deed August 21, 1951
Recorded August 22, 1951
Liber 9539, folio 560
1961

Anne K. Gray
Susie H. Kondrup

to
The President and Directors of the Georgetown College, a Corporation in the District of Columbia

Deed August 24, 1961
Recorded August 31, 1961
Liber 11660, folio 297

1966

The President and Directors of Georgetown College

to
John W. Truver

Deed September 22, 1966
Recorded September 29, 1966
Liber 12674, folio 295

John W. Truver

to
Edmund W. Dreyfuss and Blake Construction Co.

Deed September 22, 1966
Recorded September 29, 1966
Liber 12674, folio 303

REFERENCES

1. Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland, Liber C-3, folio 502, Circuit Court, Rockville, Maryland.
2. Same reference as #1.


4. Same reference as #3. pp. 142-143.

5. Same reference as #3. p. 144.


12. Same reference as #7. September 11, 1796.


19. Same reference as #11. p. 35.


24. Same reference as #3. p. 166
   and


26. Same reference as #10. p. 278.

27. City Directory. 1853, p. 75; 1855, p. 44.

28. Same reference as #27. 1853, p. 77; 1858, p. 459.


33. Emma McCahill's Subdivision of Original Lots 16, 17, 18, 19, Square 34 (now 1204). Office of the Surveyor, D.C., Liber ARS, folio 159, November 20, 1885.


35. Same reference as #27, 1887, p. 530; 1899, p. 622; 1900, p. 618.


38. Same reference as #32. Liber 3029, folio 15.


40. Same reference as #39.


42. Same reference as #15.

43. Same reference as #41.

44. Same reference as #36.


46. Same reference as #8.


49. Same reference as #15.

50. Same reference as #48.

51. Same reference as #48.


ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

General Statement

Architectural Character: This symmetrical, refined, late eighteenth-century house with large main block and flanking wings was incredibly disfigured in the first half of the twentieth century by Albert Clemons, an eccentric collector of, among other things, architectural details from demolished buildings. The south front and the interior of the main block are still largely original, while the remainder is completely obscured by Clemons' amazing assemblage.

Retaining the basic house, the wings were first extended out toward the north (Prospect Street). The resulting center space was then filled in, creating an entry hall on the ground (basement) level, a ballroom-theater on the first floor, and a vast unfinished space on the second floor.

Until the late 1940's the north front of the original house could still be seen, complete with window blinds, inside the ballroom, the remainder of which was panelled with heavily moulded Victorian doors salvaged from local sources. Carved mouldings and further panelling from an Italian palazzo were added to this room by the Sterling family during their occupancy. The large space on the top floor, reached by a small curving stair from the northeast bedroom, was built largely of framing timbers and architectural details from a demolished church. The north front of the original house remains as the south wall of this room, and the two original dormers are visible through the upper clerestory windows.
The foregoing is a sample of the type of work built by this architectural scavenger. While the craftsmanship of individual pieces may be high, the quality of the installation is at best slipshod (and at worst, dangerous).

Condition of Fabric: Poor; many areas of failure have been simply stabilized, not restored. Other areas continue to deteriorate.

Technical Description of the Exterior

Overall Dimensions: Approximately 48' by 36' with 16' by 24' wings. Five bays across garden front (originally there were five across the Prospect Street facade as well, although these are now enclosed by later construction). The main block was two-stories high plus attic and basement; the wings were two stories high plus attic and basement, though shorter.

Foundations: Stone and brick.

Wall Construction: Brick, Flemish bond in main block, running bond in wings.

Chimneys: There was one large chimney at each end of the main block as well as one at the far end of each wing originally. There are now several more, though not within the original house area.

Openings:

Doors and Doorways: The front (south) entrance appears to be largely original. The glazed fifteen light door itself is of recent manufacture; however, it hangs in an elegant eighteenth-century doorway with flat fluted
Tuscan pilasters supporting short lengths of frieze complete with triglyphs and a full denticular cornice, repeated in the triangular pediment. The door is set within a panelled, arched reveal with a simple fan light and dentilled transom bar. There is a three-part keyblock and a very free but symmetrical vine carving in the spandrels.

Windows and Shutters: First floor windows were nine-over-nine double-hung wood sash, second floor windows were nine-over-six, dormer windows were six-over-six in the main block. Windows in the wings were six-over-six. Shutters throughout were louvered wood. Many of the original windows remain, though some are now indoors. The two in the northeast first floor room have been re-glazed with mirrors; one in the northwest room has been converted to a door, the other has been replaced with a mural.

Porches: Nothing original remains. There is a small semi-circular porch with steps down each side at the south entry; however, it is very insecure, being built (in part) of brick supported on plywood.

Roof:

Shape and Covering: Gable; ridge running east-west; slate covering.

Framing: Wood.

Cornice: Wood; bed moulds, shaped modillions, crown mould. The one on the south is in position; the one on the north has been removed and re-used as the horizontal member of the huge triangular pediment on the twentieth-century addition to the north. The wings had a simple box cornice with frieze, bed, and crown moulds.
Dormers: Two slate-sided wood dormers with gabled roofs and six-over-six double-hung windows on both north and south fronts.

Technical Description of the Interior

Floor Plans: The first floor had an entry-stair hall in the center of the south front, a large room in each corner of the main block, and a narrow hall in the center of the north front. There were two-story wings at the north and south ends of the main block, now almost completely enclosed in later construction; the north end wall is visible from 34th Street. The second floor had a bedroom in each corner of the main block, a stair hall in the center of the north side which now contains the attic stairs. The southwest bedroom now has a small bath installed in one corner, the northwest bedroom also has a small bath and access stairs to a large space in the Prospect Street addition. The northeast room has been partitioned into storage and bath areas serving the southeast bedroom.

Stairways: The main staircase ascends from north to south along the west wall of the entry hall to a landing above the front (south) door; from there it ascends south to north along the east wall to the second floor. There is another landing above the first, apparently leading nowhere; the stairs to it date from the present century and are somewhat ineptly constructed. The balusters, newels, and rail all appear to be later replacements. There is a small enclosed utility stair to the basement beneath the main stairway, as well as the attic stair remodeling an elaborate entry was added at the ground floor level on the Prospect Street side; from this a central hallway to the first floor level.

Flooring: Random width pine.

Wall and Ceiling Finish: Plaster, painted.
Doors and Doorways: There are a number of late eighteenth- and early-nineteenth century panelled doors, many of which have been recut to fit different openings; some have even been split down the center to form pairs of doors. There are large trimmed openings joining the north and south rooms on both sides of the first floor.

Decorative Features and Trim: The main block retains much in the way of original trim, although many coats of paint have obscured the detail. The mantel in the northeast first floor room is notable; fluted rectangular pilasters at each side of the black slate surround support an entablature with an oval panel in the center and arched vertical panels in projections above the pilasters. The bedmould under the shelf, a series of very thin Greek Revival mouldings typical of the period, breaks out around the projections over the pilasters, as does the shelf itself. There is a large panelled overmantel with a dogeared architrave supporting a broken scrolled pediment. At each side of this chimneypiece are full-height flat fluted Tuscan pilasters topped with short lengths of frieze complete with triglyphs supporting a denticular cornice above the fireplace area. The cornice in the remainder of the room is similar but without dentils. The other mantelpieces are simpler nineteenth-century ones, not original to the house.

Hardware: There is an extensive variety of early to late nineteenth-century hardware throughout.

Lighting: There are no original fixtures, but the chandelier in the northwest first floor dining room, a nineteenth-century bronze-and-crystal one, converted from gas to electricity, is notable.

Heating: Boiler in the basement, radiators throughout, several of the original fireplaces are still operative as well.
Site

General Setting and Orientation: Situated on a hill overlooking the Potomac River, this house was once the sole occupant of its square. Commercial structures along M Street and residences along Prospect Street now surround the complex structure. The south was once the principal entrance; however, the twentieth-century additions shifted the main entrance to the north.

Enclosures: A variety of brick and stone walls and iron fencing enclose the south gardens and terraces.

Outbuildings: No original outbuildings remain; however, just southwest of the house is a small brick building, sometimes called the chapel, which dates from the early part of the twentieth century. There are marked similarities in the brickwork here with that in the center portion of the Prospect Street facade of the main house. This small building now used as a separate dwelling unit, contains an assortment of salvaged architectural parts. For example, there is a graceful fan-light in the entry area similar to the inner one at 3425 Prospect Street, a carved openwork panel above a doorway in the bedroom, and a small pulpit-like enclosed landing on the stair up to the kitchenette. Joist pockets high on the sidewalls of the main room, evidence of an earlier upper level, now contain Christmas-tree lights. There is rumored to be a crypt below the main room.

Walks: Principally herringbone brick, with some concrete and some stone.
Landscaping: Great overgrown boxwoods fill what is left of extensive formal planting on the south side of the main house, now more informal in character and not particularly well-groomed. Neatly trimmed shrubbery borders the Prospect Street sidewalk, and there is much ivy on the building itself.

Prepared by: The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
February 7, 1969
SUMMARY
SUMMARY

This volume has focused on part of western Georgetown, emphasizing structures which have not been studied before in great detail. It is an area where block after block is filled with small row houses, dating back many years. These homes have been occupied by generations of successive residents. Understandably the buildings, which still retain most of their original features, have been modified by their owners over the years. The regularity of the row houses is relieved by the varied architectural forms which resulted from the differing tastes of the inhabitants and the changing styles of architecture.

The residents of Georgetown, by their continued use of these old homes, have made the past part of the present. Their adaptation of old buildings for modern use illustrates a new concept of historic preservation which is not, as is sometimes thought, a means of blocking progress. It is, instead, a means to save the best of the past and employ it in the contemporary city.

The involvement of citizens in historical research of their community is an approach that may be a major contribution of this report. This volunteer program was in a sense an experiment, an untried process. It has been a fruitful endeavor, for the researchers have not only gained knowledge about an historic neighborhood, but have also been aroused to the urgency of maintaining the character of the area. Here, within the community, is an untapped resource for research.

Many of the researchers who investigated these homes have spoken of the impact they felt from the experience of re-living the lives of the past residents of a particular house--of how the house often took on the personality of the occupants. The researchers also mentioned their own
heightened awareness of history as a living process as they traced families through the years and discovered the efforts they made to maintain their homes through changing economic and social conditions.

The participants were untiring in their research activities. Yet they realize that they have not unearthed a totally comprehensive view of the area. There are some gaps which they were unable to fill. For example, there probably is a record of the change of house numbers in Georgetown when street names were changed around 1880. So far, no such key has been located. Information which supplements the content of this volume, or which furnishes additional data, would be most welcome.
"This continued use of old buildings, this fusion of architecture with a living segment of society, illustrates the modern concept of historic preservation."

Southwest corner of 36th and O Streets. Remodeled buildings presently used for Georgetown University Alumni Association (top). The two structures before renovation in 1953 (bottom) (Washingtoniana Room, D.C. Public Library)
References

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Miss Nancy W. Black, a member of the Commission of Fine Arts, researched and assembled most of the material in this book. She was assisted in this work by a number of residents in Georgetown who contributed a great deal of their own free time. The Commission is grateful for their contribution.
APPENDIX

City Directories

The first city directory of Washington (but including Georgetown residents if they worked in Washington) was written in 1822 by Judah Delano and printed by "William Duncan, Twelfth Street West." Directories appeared irregularly, were prepared and printed by a variety of people until 1858 when William Boyd began to issue the directories. After that, except for one or two years, Boyd's Directory appeared regularly until 1943, although in 1906 the R. L. Polk Co. took over the directory but maintained Boyd's name in the title. In 1948 R. L. Polk & Co. began to publish the city directory for Washington under its own name. However, publication has been somewhat irregular since that time. Below is a list of the city directories of Washington and Georgetown:


1830 - Georgetown Directory for the Year 1830 — prepared and published by Benjamin Homans.

1834 - For 1834 A Full Directory for Washington City, Georgetown and Alexandria — prepared and published by E. A. Cohen & Co.


1864 -

1872 -

Contents of Commission of Fine Arts' Briefing Kit
for Georgetown Research

1. Basic Steps for Georgetown House Research (techniques and procedures)

2. Map of Georgetown (showing Additions to Georgetown and old and present street names)

3. Background Reading for Georgetown Research

4. The Peabody Room -- A Source of Information for Local Historians (description written by Miss Mathilde D. Williams, Curator, Peabody Room, Georgetown Branch, D. C. Public Library)

5. Pamphlet Accompanying National Archives Microcopy No. 605, Records of the City of Georgetown (D.C.), 1800-79

6. Historic American Buildings Survey -- Information pamphlet, Historians Work Sheet, and an example of a building recording

7. Library of Congress Manuscript Division -- basic list of background materials

8. Washingtoniana Room, D.C. Public Library -- detailed list of materials related to Georgetown, compiled by Miss Edith Ray Saul


11. *Public Law 808 - 81st Congress* (copy of "The Old Georgetown Act")

12. *Why We Have a Georgetown* (a brief history of Georgetown issued by the Citizens Association of Georgetown)
That the past shall live

GEORGETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
District of Columbia
is hereby designated a
REGISTERED NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Under the provisions of the
Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935,
This site possesses exceptional value in
Commemorating and illustrating the
History of the United States of America.

Secretary of the Interior
Director, National Park Service

Presented October 7, 1967