

10-23
(May 1929)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

----- NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 0-36

GENL. SCHUYLER PROPERTY

acc 52-A55
Oct 238

PROPOSED HISTORIC SITE

PROPERTY
~~HOUSE~~
GENL. SCHUYLER ~~HOUSE~~, SCHUYLerville, NEW YORK.

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

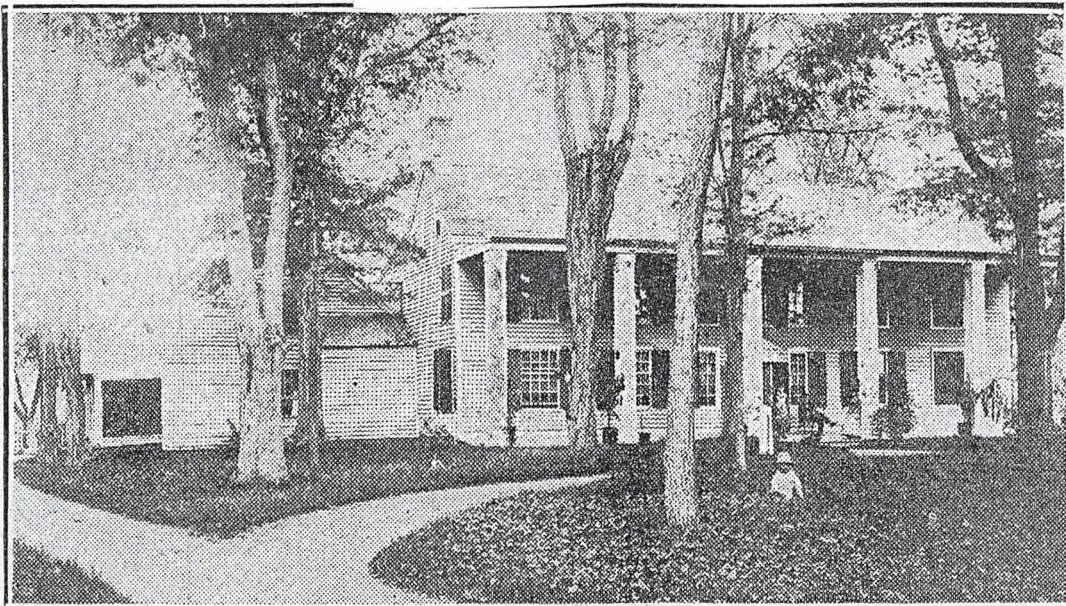
All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room.

Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

Government Gets Schuyler Mansion

✓Clipping from THE SARATOGIAN
Saratoga Springs, New York,
Friday, July 30, 1943.



The present Schuyler Mansion was built by General Philip Schuyler in November, 1777. The main house was erected in 17 days by the artisans of Gates' army. This house has sheltered Washington, Hamilton, Lafayette, Clinton and many other

notables. General Burgoyne burned the predecessor on October 11, 1777. The original house was burned by the French and Indians in the massacre of 1745. In it Captain Philip Schuyler, uncle of the General was shot.

Government To Get Schuyler Mansion

Schuylerville—A deed conveying the rights, title and interest to the historic Schuyler Mansion and surrounding premises located off the road leading from Schuylerville to Coveville, just across Fish Creek, to the United States of America was executed yesterday morning by George S. Lowber who shares ownership with his sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall.

The conveyance is made as a gift, the premises to be included within the Saratoga National Historical Park.

Mr. Lowber, who lives on the premises with his sister, reserves for himself and sister life use of the property.

Lafayette Entertained At 3rd Schuyler Mansion

HISTORIC Schuyler Mansion, where General Philip Schuyler, one of the heroes of the Battle of Saratoga, lived and which, through the gift of its present owners, has become the property of the Saratoga National Historical Park, is, 166 years after it was built during the battle of Saratoga, one of the great show places and historic buildings of New York State.

A few years ago, Mrs. Charles Marshall, with her brother, George S. Lowber, the owner, was hostess there to the Saratoga Historical Society, of which she was a vice-president, and on that occasion I recall visiting every room and reveling in the historical relics in which the place abounds.

General Washington, Marquis de Lafayette and General Schuyler sat in the living room in which the Historical Society met to hear about the history of the house. It was the first and only time that the house was opened for such an occasion.

The present house is the third of a series of Schuyler Mansions. The first one was built by John Schuyler, grandfather of General Schuyler, in 1720, 20 rods east of the present building, of which the government now is custodian. It was on the bank of the old Champlain Canal. It burned Nov. 28, 1745, in the French and Indian War when French and Indians attacked by night.

Some of the first house was exposed years after when excavation was going on.

The second mansion, built in 1766, was 20 rods southeast of the present house. It was larger and offered more protection than the first. Among the notables who visited in the second house were Samuel P. Chase, Charles Carroll and Benjamin Franklin, signers of the Declaration of Independence, and the ill-fated American General Richard Montgomery, who fell at Quebec in 1755 in the French and Indian War.

The third and present mansion, which Mrs. Marshall and her brother, George S. Lowber, have presented to the United States of America as a gift, was built during the Battle of Saratoga. Authenticity for this date is given in the letters written by General Schuyler to Congress, in which he stated he expected to be comfortably living again in his own house in 20 days or Nov. 4, 1777, 17 days after the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

The present mansion has a portico, 10 by 60 feet, a reception room flanked by two wings, one a dining room and the other used as a parlor by the Schuylers and which still has the same wallpaper with which it was papered for the wedding of Miss Ruth Snyder, great-granddaughter of General Schuyler, to T. W. Ogden of New York City.

The rear room was used as a guest chamber by General Schuyler, and it was here that Marquis de Lafayette slept in 1824.

THE HOUSE has a schoolroom where private tutors taught the children, for there were no public schools, and north of this is the kitchen, which is still filled with all the things that made the colonial kitchen the fascinating marvel of all ages.

The second house, burned during the battle of Saratoga, was occupied by General John Burgoyne after his retreat at Saratoga on Oct. 9 and 10. He spent the night there and left the following day, having his soldiers set fire to the house and all the buildings.

History relates that on Burgoyne's advance to the South General Schuyler's wife on fleeing from the mansion rather than let the enemy have the wheat fields set fire to them herself.

All the lumber in the house was sawed in the General's mill, now Victory Mills not far from the stone bridge from Victory to Southville.

In the guest chamber I recall inspecting the skull of Lovelace, the notorious Tory raider, who was put to death after being tried at court-martial at the military barracks near the present Schuylerville High School occupied by General Stark at one time. Lovelace, so Mrs.

Marshall recounted for her guests then, was buried in a sitting position in a gravel pit across the roadway from the barracks. In excavations for gravel he was found and the skull preserved by George Strover.

Mrs. Marshall's mother, who was Priscilla Strover, married John Lowber.

The mansion belonged to the Schuyler family until the panic of 1837, according to William Snyder, a lifelong Schuylerville resident, who on the occasion of the Historical Society's visit to the mansion related part of the history of the house to the guests.

Then, in order to fulfill obligations, the family had to dispose of it, and it came into the possession of George Strover, the grandfather of Mrs. Marshall. The house has been in the hands of this family for 100 years.

Mrs. Marshall, on the occasion of the visit, related many quaint stories of a ghost and of a closet back of the beautiful stairway in which an Indian hid.

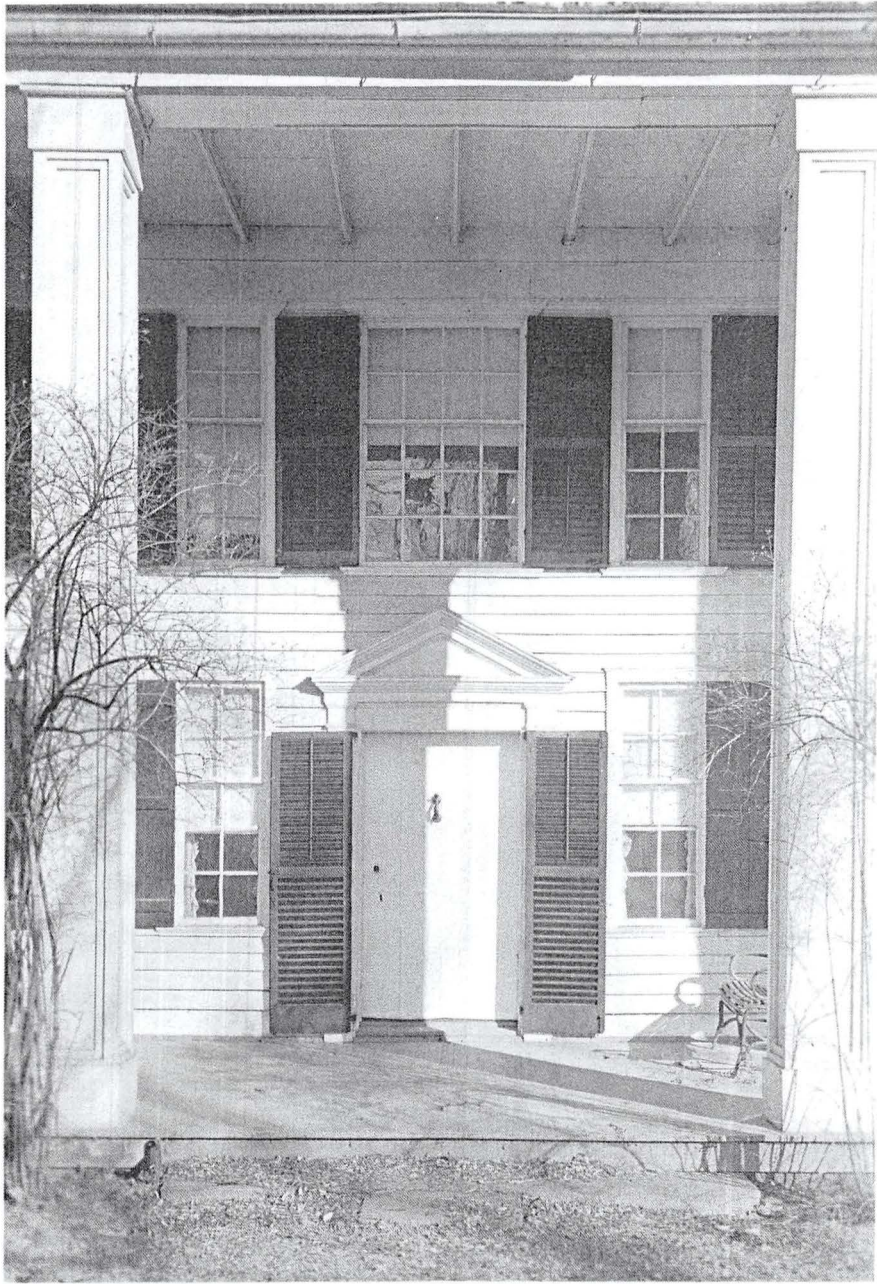
On the occasion of this first and only entertainment of the public in the house, the Saratoga Historical Society members wore colonial costumes, and Mrs. George S. Andrews had in costume five men, representing the five famous men of General Schuyler's time.

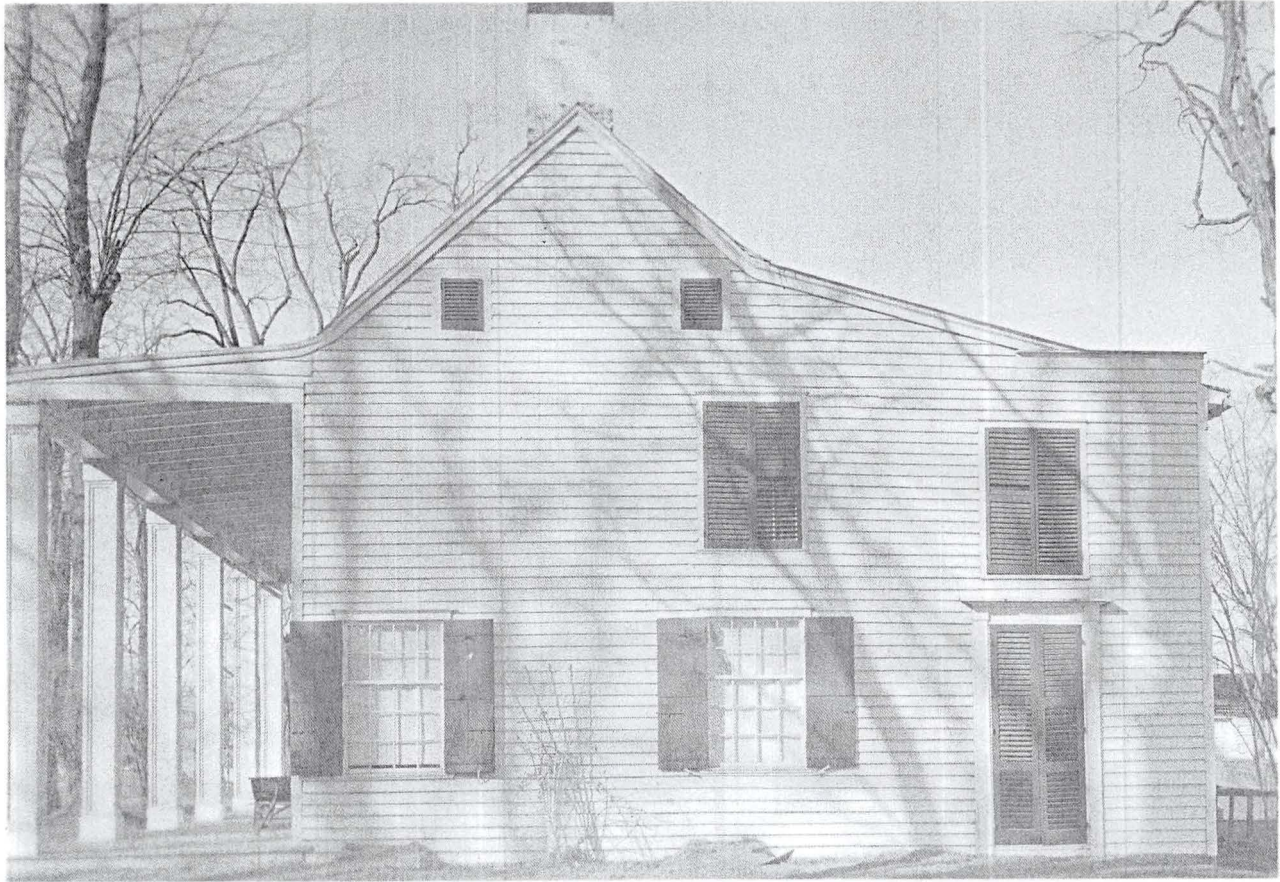
Mrs. Marshall has preserved the house as it was in the General's time, the furnishings, method of lighting, heating etc. Nothing was changed. She would never permit it so interested is she in preserving the home for posterity.

THEODORE WELT













UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Schuylerville, N. Y.,
July 31, 1943.

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Hoy m*

Memorandum for the Regional Director:

There is enclosed the first page of the Saratogan issued Friday, July 30th, 1943. This article has reference to the transfer to the United States of a half interest in the Schuyler Mansion located in Schuylerville, New York, and desired as an addition to the Saratoga National Historical Park.

The opportunity to acquire a half interest in this property arose immediately after my arrival here. Mr. Lowber was to undergo an operation at the hospital and wished to make his will before the operation. He was desirous of willing his interest which he owns jointly with his sister to the United States in order that the Schuyler Mansion would be, upon the demise of his sister, in the perpetual care of the Government.

It was thought upon talking the donation over with Mr. Lowber's attorney that it would be advisable to obtain, if possible, a deed for Mr. Lowber's interest in preference to the donation being made a part of his will. To me this set-up was a golden opportunity to acquire an immediate interest in what is believed to be one of the oldest, original and unmodernized dwellings, to my knowledge, in the east. The house has no plumbing, illuminated only by lamps and heated by open fireplaces, while the walls are covered with an unknown number of old wallpapers.

Preliminary examination of the records in the Clerk's office at Ballston Spa shows the title in this property to be vested in George S. Lowber and his sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall. Mrs. Marshall is, and has been for a number of years, in very feeble health. A clause in the transfer of Mr. Lowber's interest reserves to him and his sister permission to occupy the premises as long as they are physically able to do so.

Superintendent Hamilton is in thorough accord with this possible acquisition and it is believed that if Mr. Lowber survives his sister he will devise this remaining interest to the United States.

- cc: Assoc. Director
- Director
- Chief Historian
- Ronalds, Co-ordinating Supt.
- Hamilton, Superintendent.

Olinus Smith
Engineer.

Died August 5.

*Miss Story:
I don't think we
should announce
anything at this stage.
CWP.*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

August 2, 1943.

Memorandum for the Regional Director, Region One:

For your consideration and advice I am submitting the following report of the Schuyler Mansion, Schuylerville, New York. Regarding the house itself, Superintendent Hamilton writes as follows:

"Long the country home of General Phillip Schuyler, once Commander of the Army of the Northern Department during the summer before the final defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga in October 1777, this third mansion of the Schuyler family was constructed immediately after the second one had been burned as the British retreated to Saratoga (now called Schuylerville in honor to General Phillip Schuyler). The house was built with the aid of the soldiers of General Gates' Army during the fall and winter of 1777-78. This mansion is believed to be one of the most well preserved buildings in its original form that exists in this section of the country. Many notable persons of the Revolutionary period such as Washington, Hamilton, Lafayette, and Governor Clinton were entertained here by the Schuylers.

"The home was occupied by the Schuyler family until 1837 when the panic of that year forced Phillip Schuyler II to sell the ancestral estate. It then passed into the hands of a Col. George Stover of Schuylerville who owned it for about fifty years and then sold it to a Mr. Lowber, the grandfather of the present owners. ... The interior is excellently furnished, and, so far as is known, many of the articles of furniture are of the Revolutionary period. The main structure is 22 by 60 feet, three stories high of sound frame construction. There are seven spacious rooms on the first floor and in addition a kitchen 23 by 25 with a large fireplace. On the second floor there are seven bedrooms in the main house and four rooms above the kitchen. On the third floor is a large attic, which it is understood contains many historical treasures such as relics, papers, wearing apparel, etc.

"A few rods north of the house is a small building used as a servants' quarters partially hidden by large old trees that are scattered throughout the grounds including approximately 60 acres. The estate is located at the southern end of the village on the west side of the Hudson River facing the historic river road leading to Saratoga National Historical Park about seven miles to the south."

Superintendent Hamilton's statement is an excellent one. Regional Architect Emerson, who has seen the house a number of times from the outside, has photographs of it and can give you his opinion of the building. I believe that Mr. Lisle, Mr. O'Neil, and Mr. Arnold have also seen the house.

Tuesday night, July 27, Mr. Kenneth Bullard, of Schuylerville, New York, telephoned me that Mr. George Lowber, fearing that he might not survive a serious operation scheduled for July 31, was anxious to insure the preservation of the Schuyler Mansion and had asked how this could best be done. After explaining to Mr. Bullard that there was no way in which the Service can assure him that the gift of the house would be accepted by the Government, I suggested that Mr. Louis Follett (Mr. Lowber's lawyer and an excellent friend of the park), who was drawing Mr. Lowber's will, have him will his share in the house to the United States Government with the proviso that if not eventually accepted the property was to go to the State of New York. The State already owns the Saratoga Battle Monument at Schuylerville. As I see it, the first consideration is the preservation of this splendid old house, and the prevention of its falling into the hands of individuals who might modernize or otherwise injure the building.

Superintendent Hamilton informs me that the following day the matter was discussed with Mr. Olinus Smith, who suggested that a deed of gift be drawn up for Mr. Lowber's half interest in the property rather than including the donation in his will. This was acted upon, and on July 29 Mr. Follett drew a deed to convey the property to the United States. The deed was signed by Mr. Lowber just before he left for the hospital at Albany; the deed being recorded that same day.

Superintendent Hamilton recommends that the Service consider steps to extend the boundaries of Saratoga National Historical Park to provide for eventual acquisition of the Schuyler Mansion, as well as the surrender monument now owned by the State of New York which the State would gladly donate, the field of grounded arms (surrender field) owned by the village, and the site of Burgoyne's personal surrender to General Gates.

This is an excellent suggestion of Superintendent Hamilton's, but I am inclined to recommend that for the time being the Service take steps to designate the Schuyler Mansion a national historic site, and that it be acquired separately under that designation. My reasons are that due to lack of funds it would be impossible for some time to come to properly care for the other important sites at Schuylerville, plus the fact that the actual site of Burgoyne's surrender has not, in my opinion at least, been determined beyond peradventure. Should you act favorably on this suggestion, Superintendent Hamilton and I could prepare a statement on the historical significance of the house for submission to the Advisory Board.

Half of the property is owned by Mr. Lowber's sister, a Mrs. Jessie Marshall. It is my understanding that Mrs. Marshall is no longer of sound mind and is not expected to live. If she should pre-decease her brother, her half of the property goes to him and he is willing to deed it in its entirety to the Government. However, if Mr. Lowber should chance to die first, I believe that Mr. Arthur Kemp of New York City would be willing to purchase Mrs. Marshall's half of the property from her heirs and present it to the Government. I keep in touch with Mr. Kemp in New York and he has visited us in Morristown. He is most anxious to see that the house is preserved and would have already purchased the property if it were possible to deal with Mrs. Marshall.

Before Mrs. Marshall became completely incapacitated I had the privilege of going through the house. I do not believe there is anything like it in America. It is practically the same building, inside and out, as it was in the days of General Schuyler. Though in excellent repair, it has never suffered modernization. Neither plumbing, heating, nor electricity has ever been installed. The house contains a great deal of fine old furniture. Mrs. Marshall lamented the fact that a change had been made in one room. This change, which really seemed to horrify the old lady, was that new wall paper had

been installed in this room in 1828. One has to see this house to believe it. Mrs. Marshall, fortunately an eccentric, has as a table decoration the skull of a spy hung at Saratoga in 1777. The poor Tory's chaps are bound up with red, white, and blue ribbon.

My apologies for being so verbose but I am anxious that you have the full story, as to my mind there is no question but that the Schuyler Mansion is of outstanding national significance. I am submitting an extra copy of the report should you care to send it to the Director.

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

FSR:AA

CC: Saratoga N. H. P.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Schuylerville, N. Y.,

August 3, 1943.



~~Mr. Vinton~~
~~Kelley~~
~~Dr. Porter~~
~~Mr. Moske~~
~~Mr. [unclear]~~
~~Mr. [unclear]~~

Memorandum for the Director:

There is enclosed a clipping from the Saratogian, Saratoga Springs, New York, issued July 31st, 1943, which gives a very good account of the historical background of the building known as the Schuyler Mansion and in which we now own a half interest. The other half interest vests in Mrs. Marshall and were she in better health would no doubt be glad to join her brother in the donating of their entire interests to the United States.

Olinus Smith

Olinus Smith
Engineer.

cc: Assoc. Director
Ronalds, Co-ordinating
Superintendent

AUG 6 1943

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Handwritten:
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Hamilton
Sobers 8/26/43
Kibler
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August 5, 1943.



MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Attached is a copy of Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds' report of August 2, which refers to Superintendent Hamilton's description of the old Schuyler Mansion at Schuylerville, New York, and outlines the steps now being taken to assure the preservation of this unspoiled historic building. The attached photographs of the house are duplicate copies taken from the Regional Office file.

The proposed acquisition of the Schuyler Mansion and grounds is desirable, and can be strongly recommended, as the ownership of this house would add considerably to the historical significance of Saratoga National Historical Park. The legality of the joint ownership of the property by the United States Government and a private individual which would result in the event the sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall, survived the brother, Mr. George Lowber, is questioned, but it is assumed that suitable arrangements can be worked out to meet the legal requirements of the proposed transaction.

The proposed extension of the Saratoga boundaries to include the surrender monument owned by the State of New York, and the surrender field owned by the village of Schuylerville, New York, can probably be deferred for consideration at a later date.

I fully concur in Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds' recommendation that the Schuyler Mansion be acquired separately under the designation of a national historic site, and it is recommended the proposal be submitted to the Advisory Board for consideration.

Oliver G. Taylor
Oliver G. Taylor,
Regional Director.

cc:
Supt., Morristown NHP
Supt., Saratoga NHP

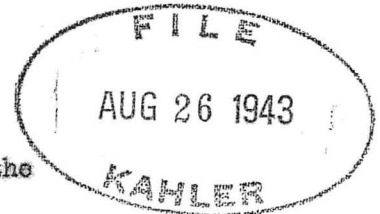
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

~~Mr. E. H. Wilson~~
H 8/11
~~W. B. H.~~
~~W. B. H.~~
~~W. B. H.~~
Kahler
W. Kahler



August 9, 1943.

Memorandum for Acting Regional Director Taylor, Region One:



Reference is made to previous correspondence regarding the Schuyler Mansion at Schuylerville, New York.

Superintendent Hamilton has informed me that Mrs. Jessie Marshall, sister of Mr. George Lowber who made a deed of gift of half his interest in the house, died the evening of August 6. As Mrs. Marshall's condition was such that she was unable to make a will, she died intestate and Mr. Lowber will inherit the remaining interest in the property.

Mr. Lowber survived his operation of August 2 and Superintendent Hamilton's latest information is that he is doing fairly well. We would appreciate your concurrence in the recommendation that when Mr. Lowber is sufficiently recovered for us to see him we call on him with reference to deeding the entire property to the Government.

(SGD.) Francis S. Ronalds

Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: The Director ✓
Mr. Demaray
Saratoga N. H. P.

AUG 26 1943

C
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P
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

August 9, 1943.

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/s/ Francis S. Ronalds

Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: The Director
Mr. Demaray
Saratoga N.H.P.

*Mr. Cask
please get P.C.*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



*8/16
Wilson*

VER Kahler

August 14, 1943. *not in Boston
File!*

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

It is noted that Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds sent you a copy of his memorandum of August 9 calling attention to the change in ownership of the Schuyler Mansion at Schuylerville, New York, in which he recommends that when Mr. Lowber, the present owner, sufficiently recovers from his present illness Messrs. Ronalds and Hamilton be authorized to call on him with reference to deeding the above property to the Government.

This office concurs in the idea of designating the Schuyler Mansion a national historic site and in its acquisition by the Government. Will you please advise on further procedure?

Oliver G. Taylor
Regional Director.

cc/ Washington Liaison Office.
Supt., Morristown NHP.
Supt., Saratoga NHP.

AUG 16 1943

Mr. Eddy W.C.
Sh. Porter
File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 26, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

This will acknowledge the receipt of your memoranda of August 6 and 14 concerning the recent tender to the United States by Mr. George Lowber of his one-half interest in the Schuyler Mansion at Schuylerville, New York. You recommend that steps be taken to have the Mansion designated as a national historic site.

We fully appreciate the historical significance of this fine example of Revolutionary type structure and the desirability of preserving it for posterity in its present unspoiled state. We will be glad, therefore, to submit the matter to the Advisory Board. Please request Dr. Ronalds and Superintendent Hamilton to furnish a complete report on the history of the Mansion showing justification for its designation as a national historic site. The report should be accompanied by appropriate photographs as well as detailed information as to acreage, improvements, the estimated cost of administering, maintaining and protecting the property, etc.

Any further steps toward designating the Mansion as a national historic site must, of course, await the receipt of the Advisory Board's recommendations. However, in the meantime, Mr. Lowber's deed, accompanied by an abstract or other evidence of title may be submitted for examination. If Mr. Lowber does not have an abstract of title, it is suggested that Dr. Ronalds or Mr. Hamilton investigate the possibility of inducing Mr. Louis Follett or other local attorney to furnish an abstract without cost to the Government.

It is our understanding that there are many pieces of antique furniture in the Mansion which would perhaps be suitable for display. Information is desired as to whether Mr. Lowber contemplates donating any or all of these furnishings to the United States.

We note from Mr. Hamilton's monthly narrative report for July, dated August 10, 1943, that Mrs. Jessie Marshall, sister of Mr. Lowber, and the owner of the remaining one-half interest in the property, died intestate on August 5. Mr. Hamilton indicated that it is understood Mr. Lowber will inherit one-half of Mrs. Marshall's interest in the property and will convey this interest to the United States in due course. The remaining one-half of Mrs. Marshall's interest in the property will descend to her other heirs. It is suggested that the names, ages, and addresses of these heirs be obtained and if possible that information also be secured as to their attitude with respect to the donation of their one-fourth interest in the property to the United States. If the heirs are unwilling to donate their interest, perhaps Mr. Arthur Kemp will be interested in purchasing this interest for donation to the United States, as suggested by Dr. Ronalds. Favorable action by the Advisory Board would be more likely if the Government were offered the ownership of the entire estate.



AUG 26 1943

We have been unable to locate a copy of Dr. Ronalds' memorandum of August 9 referred to in your memorandum of August 14, and would appreciate it if you will send us a copy.

((SGD)) Hillary A. Tolson

Acting Director.

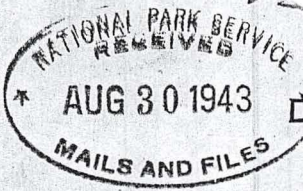
cc: Coord. Supt. Ronalds.
Supt., Saugatoga.

Mr. Kahler.

Mr. Sanders.

file PC

Schuyler Proprietor
8/30



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

W. H. ...
W. H. ...
Rahler
Dr. Porter
August 28, 1943. *file*

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

As requested in Acting Director Tolson's memorandum of August 26 we are enclosing a copy of Dr. Ronalds' memorandum of August 9 regarding the Schuyler Mansion, Schuylerville, New York.

E. M. Lyle

Acting Regional Director.

Enclosure 352.

SEP 1 1943

8-31-43.

- SWAN*
1. ~~Mr. Moskey~~
 2. ~~Mr. Sanders~~
 3. Mr. Kahler *WEK*

All matters relating to additions, or proposed additions, to the National Park System - whether proposed by donation or otherwise - should be routed through the Branch of Lands.

*Also proposed
natl. historic
sites*

Tolson
Tolson.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 12, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

Hon. A. E. Demaray
Associate Director,
National Park Service.

What is the latest on the
acquisition of the Philip Schuyler
house in Schuylerville?

I am enclosing an excerpt
from a letter in regard to it.

F.D.R.

Enclosure.

C
O
P
Y

Olivius Smith left me a photograph of the Schuyler Mansion, which he wanted me to give you, the next time I saw you. I am sending it in a separate envelope.

As you know, the house was built by Philip Schuyler, in 1775, on the site of one burned by the British -- It is just as it was, no heat, lights or water, and with much of the original furniture - Olivius is very proud of himself (and it seems, justly so) for getting it for the Park Service - He has all but $\frac{1}{4}$ share already, and the village and township have agreed to buy out the other quarter - In addition there are something over a hundred acres of land (I am not sure of the amount) which should go with it, and for the purchase of which, as well as something to do with the "Administration Building on the hill", he needs another \$20,000. It seems foolish for me to be trying to tell you, for I know very little about it - However, he said to tell you, if you want further information that you could call Mr. Demaray.

C
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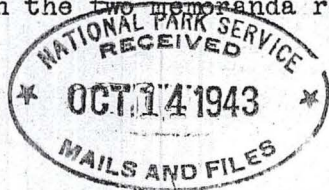
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Oct 10-14
10/10/43
9 am
→ [Handwritten signature]
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October 12, 1943. [Handwritten signature]
File
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MEMORANDUM for the Director.

This office is in receipt of copies of two memoranda, both dated October 9, and addressed to Olinus Smith at Schuylerville, New York. Both concern the final actions in acquisition of lands for addition to Saratoga National Historical Park.

Mr. Smith left Schuylerville early this month and after several days in this office and in Washington he left Sunday morning by automobile for his new station at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. It will, therefore, be necessary for the Superintendent, Saratoga National Historical Park, to handle the procedures outlined in the two memoranda referred to.



Hubert Eison
Acting Regional Director.

Mr. Simmers:

Memoranda referred to were prepared in this office. The attached memorandum was sent to you presumably for informational purposes only.

Sanders

OB

File
HCP
~~Sanderson~~

I believe we
are in agreement that
all matters on lands
will go through this
office before signing in
the future. However,
Taylor has requested
that all matters on
lands be address
to the Region
in the future.
Thanks.
E.M.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

25, D. C. October 14, 1943.

WASHINGTON

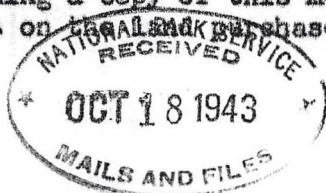
ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

I am enclosing for your information and preparation of report a copy of a memorandum that I have received from the President asking what is the latest on the acquisition of the Philip Schuyler house in Schuylerville. If you have a map showing the relation of the Schuyler house and the Saratoga Battlefield, please include it.

I suppose that Olinus Smith's reference to needing another \$20,000 refers to completing the land acquisition at Saratoga.

I also am sending a copy of this memorandum to Regional Director Taylor asking for a report on the land purchase program at Saratoga.



(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY
Associate Director.

Enclosure 387.

cc: Region One, w/c of memo from the President of Oct. 12/43 & enclosure
Director's Office. ditto

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ²⁵ D.C.
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

10-18
Follow
2. Smith
3. [unclear]
October 14, 1943. *VER 10-18*
1. Hatter
4. [unclear]
10-25

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

Please note the attached correspondence from the President and a copy of my memorandum to Superintendent Ronalds. I assume that Dr. Ronalds will be able to give me the latest on the Philip Schuyler house but, I believe that you had better have Olinus Smith prepare a statement on our land acquisition at Saratoga. If there could be a small map attached showing the lands acquired and the lands remaining to be acquired, and a statement of the amount necessary to complete the acquisition these would be desirable.

(SGD.) A. E. DEMARAY

Associate Director.

Enclosure 2614861.

cc: Supt., Morristown N.H.P.
Director's Office

↑
OCT 19 1943



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

601
October 15, 1943.

Mr. [unclear]
10/18
Tolson
Wood
Shutt
W. C. [unclear]
W. C. [unclear]
W. C. [unclear]
IVEN
F. M.

MEMORANDUM for the Custodian,
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

There is enclosed a copy of memorandum of October 14, with attachments from Associate Director Demaray requesting information on the Schuyler House acquisition and on the further land acquisition program at Saratoga National Historical Park. In preparing the data requested give the full picture with arrangement for quick interpretation. If there are parcels needed that are outside the designated boundary and require legislation before acceptance they should be so listed.

Please make reply at once directly to Mr. Demaray with appropriate copies to others.



(Sgd.) OLIVER G. TAYLOR

Regional Director.

Enclosure 743

cc: The Director ✓
Associate Director
Morristown
Saratoga



OCT 25 1943

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Date 10/18/43

<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Bartling.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Neilson.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Bayliss.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Patraw.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Bowden.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rittase.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Burney.	<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Russell.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Cahalane.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sanders.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Carnes.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Simmers.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Carpenter.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Smith.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Coffman.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sorrill.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Douglas.	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Story.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Drury.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sullivan.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Gable.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. B. Thompson.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Gerner.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tolson.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kahler.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tripp.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kennedy.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Vint.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McLaren.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Webber.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Miller.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Wilt.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Moskey.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Wirth.

=====
 For action.
 To prepare reply.
 Please discuss with me.
 To note.
 Please send file.

Memoranda referred to were not prepared
in this office.

3882

(Name) Simmers

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY



October 20, 1943.

10.26.43
Drury
10/22
Holsinger
11/28-8
Katley
Mr. Porter
Smith
S

Memorandum for the Associate Director:

Reference is made to your memorandum of October 14 together with copies of correspondence from the President regarding the Philip Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York.

General Philip Schuyler's part in the history of the Nation is well known and his town house in Albany has long been an historical house museum administered by the Conservation Department of the State of New York. It is immediately under the supervision of Mr. William Howard, Director of Lands and Forests.

General Schuyler's country house at Saratoga, now Schuylerville, New York, was built in November-December, 1777, after his former residence had been burned by Burgoyne's army retreating from the Saratoga Battlefield. On November 2d, 1777, Schuyler wrote, "In less than twenty-days, I shall nearly complete a comfortable house for the reception of my family." Again on November 6th he wrote, "I am earnestly engaged in building me a house at this place, that I may be as far out of the noise and hustle of the great world as possible...my hobby-horse has long been a country life... But observe that it is only a frame house, sixty feet long, twenty one broad, and two stories high, filled in with brick."

✓ This is the present house, which in construction is very similar to the Ford House at Morristown National Historical Park.

Neither Superintendent Hamilton nor I have been able to find any contemporary accounts of the building of the present house. However, the Schuyler papers are in New York City and if there are any private letters dealing with the subject they should be in this collection. At the first opportunity I will get Carl Van Doren to accompany me to the library and there examine the papers with the hope of gaining additional information.

The Schuyler House is just within the village limits of Schuylerville facing the old River Road leading to Saratoga National Historical Park, eight miles to the south. The approximate location of Burgoyne's personal surrender to General Gates on October 17, 1777, is three-quarters of a mile south of the House. The field of grounded arms, now owned by the village, is three blocks north and east of the House along the Hudson River, and the surrender monument erected in 1890 in commemoration of the event, and now administered by the Conservation Department of the State of New York, is

OCT 27 1943

about five blocks west of the House on the hill overlooking the field.

In 1837, the General's grandson sold the property to Col. George Strover of Saratoga, grandfather of Mr. George Lowber and his sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall, who have long been residents in the house. Naturally we were interested in the Schuyler House from the beginning of the negotiations with the State of New York, looking toward the transfer of the Battlefield. In 1940 I was first taken through the house by Dr. Bullard, now deceased. At that time no one could even venture a guess as to what Mrs. Marshall planned to do with the property. She was an eccentric, to say the least, but this was a blessing as it is probably the reason that the house today is in such an unspoiled state. Neither plumbing, furnace, nor electricity has ever been installed.

May I call your attention to my memorandum for the Regional Director of August 2d, in which I wrote:

"Tuesday night, July 27, Mr. Kenneth Bullard, of Schuylerville, New York, telephoned me that Mr. George Lowber, fearing that he might not survive a serious operation scheduled for July 31, was anxious to insure the preservation of the Schuyler Mansion and had asked how this could best be done. After explaining to Mr. Bullard that there was no way in which the Service can assure him that the gift of the house would be accepted by the Government, I suggested that Mr. Louis Follett (Mr. Lowber's lawyer and an excellent friend of the park), who was drawing Mr. Lowber's will, have him will his share in the house to the United States Government with the proviso that if not eventually accepted the property was to go to the State of New York. The State already owns the Saratoga Battle Monument at Schuylerville. As I see it, the first consideration is the preservation of this splendid old house, and the prevention of its falling into the hands of individuals who might modernize or otherwise injure the building.

Superintendent Hamilton informs me that the following day the matter was discussed with Mr. Olinus Smith, who suggested that a deed of gift be drawn up for Mr. Lowber's half interest in the property rather than including the donation in his will. This was acted upon, and on July 29 Mr. Follett drew a deed to convey the property to the United States. The deed was signed by Mr. Lowber just before he left for the hospital at Albany; the deed being recorded that same day."

On August 6th, Mrs. Jessie Marshall died intestate and the remaining half interest in the property falls ^{half} to Mr. Lowber and half to the heirs of another sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Coffin, who had two sons, one living and one deceased. The living son, Mr. Henry L. Coffin, of Glen Rock, New Jersey, had no children. The deceased son, Mr. Leslie R. Coffin, had two sons, John M. and Robert, both of whom are now in the army. When we first learned that Mr. Lowber had a three-fourths interest in the house, I suggested obtaining sufficient funds from Mr. Arthur Kemp, of New York City, with which to purchase the remaining portion. However, Mr. Olinus Smith tackled the local people directly and arranged with Mayor Jack O'Brien and Town Supervisor

Malloy, for the Village of Schuylerville and the Town of Saratoga to set up a joint fund totalling \$600.00 to be used in purchasing the interests of Mrs. Coffin's heirs. Mr. Smith believes that this sum is sufficient for the purpose and arranged with Mr. Lowber to write to the three heirs offering \$250.00 to Mr. Henry L. Coffin and \$125.00 a piece to the two young men. Mr. Lowber has not yet heard from the heirs and I cannot help being skeptical as to the success of this negotiation. I do hope I am wrong. In any event, the cost of preparing an abstract is being met from this fund and Mr. Ralph Cooper, of Albany, New York, is now working on the abstract.

Mr. Lowber has offered to donate all the furnishings in the house to the National Park Service. I have insufficient knowledge of colonial furniture to qualify as an expert. However, I feel certain that very few articles of furniture are of the period of General Schuyler's occupancy. We would be most appreciative if Mr. Ned J. Burns could inspect the furniture, because if he agrees with me it might be unwise to accept Mr. Lowber's offer. On the other hand, Mr. Burns might find that the furniture would be worth accepting for other Service areas where it might be appropriately utilized.

On August 14th Regional Director Taylor wrote to the Director that he concurred in our recommendation that the Schuyler House be brought to the attention of the Advisory Board and designated as a National Historic Site. On August 22nd, Acting Director Hillory A. Tolson said that the matter would be presented to the Advisory Board. I do not know the date set for the next meeting of the Advisory Board and I have heard nothing further in this regard. The property should be called, "The Philip Schuyler House" to avoid, as far as possible, confusion with the Schuyler Mansion in Albany.

Enclosed is a report on the Schuyler House, prepared by Superintendent Warren Hamilton. There are a few slight slips in the historical account, such as the statement that Congress replaced Schuyler with Gates despite the wishes of General Washington. Because of the American evacuation of Ticonderoga on July 6th, 1777, the court-martial of Generals Schuyler and St. Clair had been ordered and Washington had refused to enter into the controversy even to the extent of making a recommendation to Congress. Any such criticism of Mr. Hamilton's report would be the work of a pedant, and what we had planned to do jointly. I am sending in purely the report of Superintendent Hamilton alone. He has done a fine job and as to the historical report it is of incidental interest as another excellent example of the versatility of Park Service rangers. I have always heard that a good ranger can do anything. With regard to Mr. Hamilton I know this to be so.

Several extra photographs are herewith added to the report. We regret not having a map showing the relationship between the Schuyler House and Saratoga National Historical Park.

(SGD.) Francis S. Ronalds

Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

cc: The Director w/c
The Regional Director, Region One w/c
Supt. Hamilton, Saratoga NHP

Retained
in
Branch of
History
Files
11/17/43

C O P

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Kennesaw Mountain
National Battlefield Park
Marietta, Georgia



October 21, 1943

MEMORANDUM for the Associate Director.

This will have reference to a memorandum to me from the Regional Director, Region One, dated October 15, 1943, regarding information as to the Schuyler House acquisition and additional land acquisition at Saratoga National Historical Park.

Mr. George S. Lowber and his sister, Mrs. Charles Marshall, were joint owners of the property known as the Schuyler Mansion, including 46 acres of land. Mr. Lowber and Mrs. Marshall in 1939 bought from another sister, Mrs. Cook, her one-third interest in this property, so at the time our dealings were begun there were only two principals involved, Mr. Lowber and Mrs. Marshall.

Mr. Lowber was to have an operation, and I thought that it would be best to obtain a deed from him before he was taken to the hospital. We therefore received from Mr. Lowber a deed to the United States for his half interest. His sister, the joint owner, was an incompetent, and it was not thought that we could obtain a valid deed from her. While Mr. Lowber was in the hospital and several days after his operation, Mrs. Marshall died. Upon her demise, Mr. Lowber and the heirs of Mrs. Cook, who died in California last year, inherited Mrs. Marshall's half interest in the property, one-half to Mr. Lowber and the remaining quarters to Mrs. Cook's two sons.

Mr. Lowber has agreed to donate to the United States this additional one-fourth interest, and we are now endeavoring to purchase through Mr. Lowber the one-fourth interest which is owned by the two sons of Mrs. Cook. The money to make this purchase is being furnished by the town of Saratoga and the village of Schuylerville. It was believed that to have the town purchase these interests would be simpler and cheaper than if the Government endeavored to make the purchase.

We do not, in our land acquisition fund for Saratoga at the present time, have sufficient money to acquire the Holmes tract and the Burdyl tract. We have sufficient money to purchase the former, but not the latter, which will probably cost twelve or thirteen thousand dollars.

file
Lowber
M.A.A.
11-5
Tolson
11-5
W.S.K. Kahler
Mr. Thompson
B.T.O. Mr. [unclear]
Mr. [unclear]
Switzer

NOV 5 1943

Both acquisitions have been recommended for condemnation due to the fact that they are placing a value on their land which was optioned by the state for approximately \$200 per acre. One small area at the northeast corner of the park containing possibly 15 acres and a dwelling house and barn can probably be purchased for \$3,000. This, with the estimated amount of the Burdy property, will make \$15,000 or \$16,000 necessary to pay the condemnation awards. \$500 will probably be needed to cover the costs of travel and incidental expenses in connection with the condemnation trials, and approximately \$2,000 or \$3,000 should be available for drilling test wells in order to acquire a potable water supply for the administration building. This will roughly approximate the \$20,000 which I estimated would be necessary to complete the desired acquisitions and make possible a showing whether the administration site as now proposed could be supplied with potable water.

The area now agreed on for the administration building site is underlain by a red unconsolidated shale which gives the water percolating through a very disagreeable and unpleasant taste.

It is believed that the estimated sum of \$20,000 would enable us to pay for the above items and for such legal work as is necessary in connection with the purchases and other small incidental expenses.

O.S.

Olinus Smith,
Engineer.

cc: Regional Director, Region One.
Coordinating Superintendent, Morristown, N. J.
Superintendent, Saratoga N. H. P.

P. S. This improved area will have to be acquired under the Historic Sites Act or under authority provided by additional legislation as the Schuyler House is 4 or 5 miles north of the present Saratoga N. H. Park boundary.

O. S.

c
o
p
y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY



October 30, 1943.

11-2
Mr. Brown
11-2
Kahler WEK
11-3
Smith

Memorandum for the Associate Director:

In my memorandum to you of October 20th regarding the Philip Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York, I mentioned the need for examining the Schuyler Papers at the New York Public Library.

On October 28th after taking part in a broadcast commemorating the Statue of Liberty at Federal Hall, I took Dr. Carl Van Doren to luncheon and then to the New York Public Library; the people in the Manuscript Division being well-known to him. As I knew the manuscripts were not available to ordinary students I had hoped that Carl could obtain the use of them. Unfortunately we found that the Schuyler Papers had been evacuated, are not longer in New York City and that it will be impossible to examine them until after the war or until such time as the library considers conditions warrant their return to the City.

Superintendent Hamilton had heard from Miss Dorothy Barick, Librarian of the New York Historical Society, that the Society has a rough floor plan with dimensions, which apparently shows the early house with later additions sketched in. At the first opportunity I will examine this drawing and if it really refers to the present house will obtain a photostat of it. Miss Barick is the daughter of one of the directors of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, and has been most helpful to us. She examined the calendar of the Gates Papers and such few Schuyler Papers that the Society owns but found no further reference to the building of the house.

(SGD.) Francis S. Ronalds.

Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

cc: The Director
Regional Director
Supt., Saratoga NHS

NOV 2 1943

Noted
8/10/11/5

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Chicago 54, Illinois

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

November 4, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,

Morristown National Historical Park.

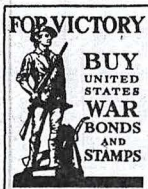
We were pleased to receive Superintendent Hamilton's report on the Philip Schuyler Home, and, in anticipation of submitting a report to the Advisory Board and a proposal to the Bureau of the Budget, we are seeking additional information.

Will you please send us the sources of the quotations in the report, especially the one relating to the building of the house? We presume that they are taken from Schuyler's letters, the originals of which are in the New York Public Library, but we should appreciate receiving confirmation.

Has an actual measurement been made of the early part of the structure indicating that it is "60 feet long and 21 feet broad"?

I gather from the report that the present house was built, or was nearly completed, in the period October 17 to November 24, 1777. To me this seems to be pretty fast work, especially when it is realized that the spaces between the studdings were filled with brick. I wonder if the Schuyler papers give any more details about the construction of the house; for example, how large a force of workmen did he have employed, etc. Somewhere, I read that soldiers were employed to help in the construction. However, at the time, Schuyler was "in the dog house" and his enemy, General Gates, was in charge of the armed forces in that section of the country. Lossing, in his Pictorial Field Book of the American Revolution (written 1848-50) says that the house was built "after the war," but gives no source for his information. Lossing, however, did write a two-volume Life of Philip Schuyler, which may give the source of his data.

I am glad to know that an abstract of title is being made, which should authenticate Schuyler's ownership of the property, including the house. If there is any doubt as to the year in which the house was built, a study of the tax records or insurance policies, if there are any, may be of value. An examination of Philip Schuyler's will and the inventory of his estate



may be particularly helpful in determining the kind of furniture that was in the home during his lifetime and the approximate size of the house.

We should like to have a dozen photographs of the front view of the house for inclusion in the report to the Advisory Board. Photograph No. 2 in Superintendent Hamilton's report would be admirable for the purpose.

The Bureau of the Budget will doubtless ask what use we have in mind for the structure. Therefore, we shall appreciate your views in this matter.

As a final request, we should like to have a brief statement on the importance of Philip Schuyler and his contributions to the American Revolution, including the part he played in the Saratoga campaign.

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER

Chief Historian.

HEK:lc

cc: Supt., Saratoga. ✓
Regional Director, Region One. ✓
Mr. Demaray. ✓

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

November 4, 1943.



Memorandum for the Associate Director:

Reference is made to my memorandum of October 20 and to Mr. Olinus Smith's memorandum of October 21 to you regarding the Philip Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York.

As there were some discrepancies in the two accounts, I wrote to Superintendent Hamilton to ascertain whether or not I was correct in my statements. He said they were accurate in every instance, so no doubt Mr. Smith was writing from memory. Mr. Lowber's and Mrs. Marshall's sister was a Mrs. Coffin whose remaining heirs are three in number. The distance between the Schuyler House and the northern boundary of Saratoga National Historical Park is 8 miles by the River Road, not 4 or 5. The River Road is shorter than the route followed by U. S. 4.

Superintendent Hamilton has just sent me the attached map showing the relationship of the Schuyler House to the park. We are sorry that this map was not available when our original reports were sent to you.

Mr Burns I trust that Mr. Ned J. Burns will be available for a study of the furniture in the Schuyler House, as mentioned in my memorandum of October 20. I am afraid that Mr. Lowber has been led to believe we would accept this furniture which, to my own not too knowledgable eye, dates from the 1840s and 50s, and which, should we accept title to the House, should not be shown. On the other hand, there may be certain acceptable pieces in the House.

(SGD.) Francis S. Ronalds

Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

cc: The Director
Regional Director, Region One
Supt., Saratoga NHP

NOV 8 1943

Int 11-6
Tolson
WBC
K. J. ...
Russell 11/9
B...

Mr. Kahley 11/2K

Mr. Burns

Do you think that Reg. One
can supply a furniture expert?

If not, I am agreeable to
your making the trip but your
travel should be delayed until
Cahalan returns, - or longer.

→ EPR
I doubt if Jean Ronalds has
found anyone in Reg I available for this
Hence his letter.

I suggest trip be deferred until
January or February, may be later, when
I can combine it with other areas
needing attention. I doubt if the
matter is so critical it can not wait
WKB

NOV 12 1943



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Handwritten notes:
D. M. ...
11-8-43
D. M. ...
11-8-43
Kathleen
File

NOV - 5 1943

My dear Mr. President:

I have received your memorandum of October 12 requesting the latest development in the proposed acquisition of the Philip Schuyler Mansion, including approximately 46 acres of land in Schuylerville, New York.

It appears from the records of the National Park Service that on Tuesday, July 27, Mr. Kenneth Bullard, of Schuylerville, New York, telephoned Dr. Ronalds, coordinating superintendent of the Saratoga National Historical Park, that Mr. George Lowber, one of the present owners of the Mansion and grounds, fearing that he might not survive a serious operation scheduled for July 31, was anxious to insure the preservation of the Schuyler Mansion property and had inquired how this could best be done. After explaining to Mr. Bullard that there was no way in which the National Park Service could assure him that the gift of this property would be accepted by the Government, Dr. Ronalds suggested that Mr. Lowber have his lawyer, who was drawing his will, include a provision devising his share in the Mansion to the United States Government subject to the condition that, if not eventually accepted, the property would go to the State of New York. The State owns the Saratoga Battle Monument at Schuylerville.

The following day the matter was discussed with Mr. Olinus Smith, engineer and land buyer of the National Park Service, who suggested that Mr. Lowber's half interest in the property be conveyed by a deed of gift rather than through disposal by his will because Mr. Smith had some doubt as to whether a part interest in the property could be willed to the Government. This suggestion was acted upon and, on July 29, a deed to convey the property to the United States was drawn which was signed by Mr. Lowber just before he left for the hospital at Albany. The deed was recorded that same day.

On August 6, Mrs. Jessie Marshall, Mr. Lowber's sister, died intestate. Her half interest in the Philip Schuyler Mansion was inherited by Mr. Lowber and the heirs of a deceased sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Coffin, in equal shares. The deceased sister had two sons, one of whom is living. The surviving son, Mr. Henry L. Coffin, of Glen Rock, New Jersey, has no children. The deceased son, Mr. Leslie R. Coffin, had two sons, John M. and Robert, both of whom are now in the Army. Mr. Lowber has offered his additional one-quarter interest in the Mansion and has agreed to negotiate with the heirs of the remaining one-quarter interest. Mayor Jack O'Brien and Town Supervisor Malloy for the Village of Schuylerville and the Town of Saratoga respectively have obtained funds totaling \$600 to be used in purchasing the interests of the heirs of Elizabeth Coffin, deceased. Mr. Lowber has written to the above-mentioned heirs offering Henry L. Coffin \$250 for his interest and the two young men \$125 each for their interest in the Philip Schuyler Mansion. No reply to these offers has been received to date. The cost of preparing an abstract is being paid out of the contributed funds. Mr. Ralph Cooper of Albany, New York, is now preparing the abstract.

NOV 8 1943

Mr. Lowber also has offered to donate all of the furnishings in the Mansion to the National Park Service.

The lands of the estate containing approximately 46 acres are situated on the west side of the Hudson River and along the south side of the Fish-Kill just within the southern limits of the Village of Schuylerville. The main house, surrounded by large old maple, pine, and ash trees faces the historic river road leading to Saratoga National Historical Park eight miles to the south. There is a small tenant house to the north and two or three outbuildings. The barns, carriage house, and storehouses have been removed, some by fire and others by demolition. The spacious lawns and grounds have been well kept by cutting and mowing. Of pleasing Colonial architectural design, the old home is in an excellent state of preservation despite 166 years of weathering. It is believed to be one of the best preserved buildings in its original form in this section of the country.

Only some very minor alterations have been made since it was occupied by General Schuyler. It has never been modernized by plumbing, heating, or electric lighting. Having such unique characteristics and being of particular historical significance both as to the Schuylers and the Saratoga Campaign, it seems that the house warrants recognition as a national historic site in order that it may be preserved.

If the complete title to the Schuyler Mansion property is offered to the United States as a gift it may, with your approval, be accepted by me as Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of the National Historic Sites Act, approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666).

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HAROLD L. ICKES

Secretary of the Interior.

The President,

The White House.

cc: Region One *mailed 11/6/43*
Supt. Ronalds, Morristown N.H.P.
Director's Office
Washington Liaison Office

(by NPS) *mailed*
" " "
" " "
" " *Detached*
AMS

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

November 9, 1943.



Memorandum for the Director:

Reference is made to Chief Historian Kahler's memorandum of November 4 regarding the Philip Schuyler House at Saratoga National Historical Park. In Secretary Ickes' letter to The President of November 5, he says,

"Having such unique characteristics and being of particular historical significance both as to the Schuylers and the Saratoga Campaign, it seems that the house warrants recognition as a national historic site in order that it may be preserved.

"If the complete title to the Schuyler Mansion property is offered to the United States as a gift it may, with your approval, be accepted by me as Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of the National Historic Sites Act, approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666)."

In view of the above will it be considered necessary to ask the Advisory Board for its recommendations regarding the historical significance of the house?

With regard to your anticipated report to the Bureau of the Budget, I very much doubt that we will have full title to the house for a good time to come. Superintendent Hamilton tells me that two of the heirs are in the army and as there is a very small sum with which to purchase their interests I cannot believe that this will be done in the very near future. However, I may be wrong in this supposition.

Your further requests will take some time to answer but this I will do as time permits. As explained in my memorandum of October 30 for Mr. Demaray, copy to you, the Schuyler Papers cannot be examined at this time. Miss Dorothy Barck and her father spent Sunday at Morristown. Miss Barck kindly offered to be of further assistance and I will take advantage of her offer in the very near future.

The quotations from General Schuyler's letters regarding the building of the house are from Mr. Wilshin's notes. Mr. Wilshin examined the papers at the New York Public Library. I have asked Superintendent Hamilton to furnish me with chapter and verse regarding these quotations.

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

cc: Regional Director, Region One
Supt. Hamilton, Saratoga NHP

NOV 11 1943

75
11-11
11-11
Kahler
See V. with
File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Chicago 54, Illinois

*Porter
Kahler
Morking*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

November 16, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

This will reply to your memorandum of November 9, regarding the Philip Schuyler House at Saratoga, New York.

Even though the President may indicate his approval of the Schuyler House project before the question is presented to the Advisory Board, the advice of that Board should be obtained before this Service takes advantage of the President's acquiescence. In passing judgment on the question, the President will, in effect, be giving advanced authorization for us to go ahead if we believe the acquisition is a desirable one. The report to the Advisory Board and the anticipated report to the Bureau of the Budget should, therefore, be completed as soon as practicable.

(SGD) Hillory A. Tolson

Acting Director.

CWP:HT:lc

cc: Supt., Saratoga. ✓
Regional Director, Region One. ✓
Mr. Demaray.

Burns
Russell

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

November 16, 1943.

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

With reference to Dr. Ronalds' memorandum of November 4, requesting that the Chief of the Museum Division assist him in determining the acceptability of period furniture at the Schuyler House, Schuylerville, New York, we find that curtailment of funds available for travel will not permit this trip except possibly as a part of a proposed trip to several eastern and southeastern areas. In two or three months it may be necessary for Mr. Burns to visit Region One on other business. It would be more economical to visit Schuylerville at that time.

(SGD) Hillory A. Tolson

Acting Director.

NJB:HT:md
In duplicate.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

December 27, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

As requested in Acting Director Tolson's memorandum of August 26, we are enclosing for your review abstract in duplicate covering the Schuyler Mansion property at Schuylerville, New York.

It is our understanding that Olinus Smith arranged locally for payment for this abstract.

Enclosure 2172987



Olin G. Taylor
Regional Director.

*Abstract in Mr. Gaudin's
office*

One copy returned by Dir (Smem of 12/1/44)

12/30
Muskey
J. H. S.
File
AKS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

January 14, 1944.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
MEMORANDUM
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

We are preparing an agenda for the meeting of the Interim Committee of the Advisory Board, and one of the subjects coming up for discussion is the Philip Schuyler House.

I understand that the Chief Counsel has requested the deed for the property. We have examined the abstract of title, but it traces the property only to a Philip Schuyler who was living in 1837. Therefore, we still need pertinent sections of the will, the inventory of the general's estate at Saratoga, and other data referred to in my memorandum of November 4, 1943, so that we can make an intelligent presentation of the matter to the Interim Committee.

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER

Chief Historian.

HEK:lc

cc: Regional Director, Region One,
Supt., Saratoga.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY



Kahler
VER
Gale

January 19, 1944.

Memorandum for the Director:

Reference is made to Chief Historian Herbert E. Kahler's memorandum of January 14 regarding the question of presenting the Philip Schuyler House to the Advisory Board.

On January 13 Superintendent Hamilton transmitted a copy of the continuation of the abstract to the Regional Director. I have no copy of the continuation, but will request Superintendent Hamilton to send one to you.

I am still working on the report on the history of the house, which I expect to have completed and in your hands by the end of the month. Will you please let me know the exact date of the meeting of the Advisory Board.

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One
Saratoga N. H. P.

JAN 21 1944

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

*Dandery
Kahler
Dummers
Callis*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(5h)

January 21, 1944.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

This will acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum of December 27, 1943, transmitting the abstract of title (in duplicate) covering the Philip Schuyler House property at Schuylerville, New York, prepared by Mr. Ralph W. Cooper, Attorney, of Albany, New York.

Before referring the abstract to the Solicitor for review, we believe it desirable to obtain certain additional data as outlined below.

1. A plat of the property showing the boundaries of the land described in the deed to the United States should be submitted. In this connection, attention is invited to the requirement for the submission of plats in paragraph 6, pages 12 and 13, of the enclosed "Regulations for the Preparation of Title Evidence in Land Acquisitions by the United States." In addition, we would like to have copies of old plats that may be on record which may serve to identify the property. Some of these maps are mentioned in conveyances shown in the abstract. It is thought that Superintendent Hamilton of Saratoga National Historical Park may be able to make pencil tracings of such maps if it is not possible to obtain prints.
2. A copy of the will of General Schuyler, who died in 1804, is desired, if available.
3. A complete copy of the deed from George Lowber to the United States of America, recorded July 29, 1943, in Book 419, page 207, records of Saratoga County, New York (abstract, entry No. 21), is also desired.

It appears from the abstract that the above-mentioned deed contains a condition that "This conveyance is made as a donation by (sic) the United States for inclusion in the Saratoga National Historical Park." This condition will have to be either eliminated from the deed or revised. There is no authority to accept the property as a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park since it is not within the authorized boundaries of the park. It would be possible, however, to accept title under authority of the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666). If the donor insists, there would be no legal objection to a condition in the deed to the effect that the property is donated for the establishment of a national historic site "to be administered in conjunction with the Saratoga National Historical Park."



It is noted also that the deed as abstracted purports to convey the entire fee in the property and not just an undivided one-half interest, which it appears the grantor owned at the time the deed was executed. We understand, however, that Mr. Lowber's sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall, who owned the remaining one-half interest, died intestate on August 6, 1943, and that her one-half interest is inherited by Mr. Lowber and the heirs of another deceased sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Coffin, in equal shares. If this is true, Mr. Lowber would be in a position to convey an undivided three-fourths interest in the property. It is suggested that Mr. Hamilton verify the fact that Mrs. Marshall died intestate by making local inquiry as to whether or not a will has been filed for probate and if an administrator for her estate has been appointed. It will, of course, be necessary that the abstract later be extended to show administration of Mrs. Marshall's estate.

We are enclosing a copy of the abstract of title for Mr. Hamilton's information in securing plats, etc.

(SGD) G. A. Moskey

Acting Director.

In triplicate. ✓
Enclosure 526. ✓

cc: Mr. Demaray. ✓
Mr. Sanders. ✓

HKS:rd

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

January 22, 1944.

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

In reply to your memorandum of January 19, the meeting of the Interim Committee has been postponed from January 27 and 28 to March 1 and 2. This will give you a little more time to collect data on the Schuyler House.

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER

Chief Historian.

HEK:lc

cc: Regional Director, Region One. ✓
Supt., Saratoga. ✓

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
FEB 18 1944
MAIL ROOM

February 16, 1944.

2/18
Tojalon
APK
Seneca
Mullady
K. H. C. W.
File 2
APK

Memorandum for the Director:

Reference is made to my memorandum of February 14 regarding the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York.

Enclosed is a copy of General Philip Schuyler's will drafted June 20, 1803, and recorded December 12, 1804, soon after the General's death. Superintendent Hamilton located this will in the Surrogate's Court in Albany County.

The first bequest gives the grandson, Philip Schuyler, the house and approximately two thousand acres adjoining. Superintendent Hamilton is endeavoring to locate the map of the partition of the Saratoga Patent referred to in the will. Reference is made to an inventory, but it is not among the records. It is to be hoped that this inventory will be found among the Schuyler Papers when they are returned to the New York Public Library.

After this copy of the will has served its purpose in presenting the question of the Schuyler House to the Advisory Board, may I suggest that it be filed in Mr. Moskey's office together with the deed and abstract.

So filed
APK

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One
Saratoga N. H. P.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

504.04

PAL
EN RVICE
FEB 23 1944

February 19, 1944.

Memorandum for the Director:

Attached is a photostatic copy of a map of the estate of Philip Schuyler from the New York State Library. I have indicated the position of the Schuyler House in ink.

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One

2/23/44
70606
Kablow
sup. F. g. g. g.
File
Map attached
in file of
Ronalds
sup

FEB 23 1944

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY



Dr. Porter ^{cwb}
February 23, 1944. 772-25
Kaplan
Sales

Memorandum for the Director:

Reference is made to my memorandum of February 14 regarding the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York. I have just noticed two errors in typing which should be corrected. On Page 3 Schuyler was born November 11, 1733 not 1722. Just below this the affair at Lake George occurred in 1755 not 1775. ✓

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One
Saratoga N. H. P.

corrections made
cwb

FEB 25 1944

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Chicago 54, Illinois

March 10, 1944.

*Porter
Kahler*

MEMORANDUM for the Chief Counsel.

Reference is made to the attached deed of Mr. George Lowber conveying to the United States all of his interests in the General Philip Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York, "for inclusion within the Saratoga National Historical Park."

The Interim Committee of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, at its meeting in Chicago on March 2, recognized the historical importance of the General Philip Schuyler House in its relation to the Saratoga Campaign, the battle of Saratoga, and the surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga (now Schuylerville) and recommended that legislation be sought to authorize its acquisition as an integral part of Saratoga National Historical Park.

It is recommended that the bill be drawn to provide for the acquisition of the area without cost to the United States and that the authorized area be limited to the house and grounds comprehended in Mr. Lowber's deed (i.e. less than 46 acres) or such part of the acreage thereof as the Secretary may deem necessary and desirable for National Park purposes.

Enclosure 249.✓

cc: Mr. Wirth.✓
Mr. Vint.✓
Dr. Porter.✓

CWP:lb

(SGD) HERBERT E. KAHLER

Chief Historian.

*M. W. Little
Perry*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(54)

March 27, 1944.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Hortistown National Historical Park.

Reference is made to previous correspondence concerning the Schuyler House
at Schuylerville, New York.

The Inberia Committee of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, at its meeting in Chicago on March 2, recognized the historical importance of the General Philip Schuyler House in its relation to the Saratoga Campaign, the battle of Saratoga, and the surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga (now Schuylerville), and recommended that legislation be sought to authorize its acquisition by donation as an integral part of Saratoga National Historical Park. Steps are being taken, therefore, to draft a bill providing for the acquisition of the area without cost to the United States as a part of Saratoga National Historical Park. The area authorized for acquisition will be limited to the house and grounds comprehended in Mr. Lomber's deed (i.e., less than 1/2 acres), or such part of the acreage thereof as the Secretary may deem necessary and desirable for national historical park purposes.

Pending the enactment of the above-mentioned bill, it is believed desirable that Mr. Lomber be requested to execute a new deed which will cancel the deed executed by him on July 29, 1943, conveying "all of his right, title and interest" in the property to the United States, and convey all of his present interests in the property to a trustee, to be held in trust until such time as authority for acceptance of the property by the Secretary is secured and the Secretary requests the trustee to execute a conveyance to the United States. It is not contemplated that the Secretary would request a conveyance until the complete fee title to the property can be tendered to the United States. It appears necessary to follow this procedure for the following reasons:

1. The above-mentioned deed of July 29, 1943, contains the following condition: "This conveyance of the above described premises is made as a donation to the United States of America for inclusion within the Saratoga National Historical Park." The Act of June 1, 1938 (52 Stat. 608), authorizing the establishment of the park, provides that the park area "shall include that part of the Saratoga Battlefield now belonging to the State of New York and any additional lands in the immediate vicinity thereof which the Secretary of the Interior may, within six months after the approval of this Act, designate as necessary or desirable for the purposes of this Act." The Schuyler House property was not, of course, included in the designated area of the park and there is no existing authority for acceptance thereof as a part of the park.



2. At the time Mr. Lowber executed the deed, it appears that he owned only an undivided 1/2 interest in the property, the other 1/2 interest then being owned by his sister, Mrs. Jessie Marshall. According to information furnished by the field, Mrs. Marshall died intestate on August 9, 1943, leaving as her heirs-at-law Mr. Lowber and the heirs of a deceased sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Coffin. Therefore, Mr. Lowber should now own an additional 1/4 interest in the property subject to payment of debts against Mrs. Marshall's estate. Administration of the estate will probably take from 12 to 18 months. However, it may be possible, in the interim, to secure authority from the surrogate's court for the conveyance to a trustee of the 1/4 interest inherited by Mr. Lowber from his sister.

3. Reports from the field also indicate that the remaining 1/4 interest in the property descended to a Mr. Henry L. Coffin of Glen Rock, New Jersey (1/8 interest), and John M. and Robert Coffin (1/16 interest each), the latter now being in the Army. It was reported further that officials of the Village of Schuylerville have raised the sum of \$600 to be used to purchase these interests, but we understand that while offers have been made, no replies have been received from the owners. Is this small sum sufficient to purchase these interests? It would, of course, be highly undesirable from an administrative standpoint for the Government to become a co-owner of property with private individuals even though authority should exist for the acceptance by the Secretary of "interests" in land, unless there was real assurance that the outstanding interests would be acquired within a reasonable time.

We suggest the following steps:

A. That you take the matter up with Mr. Lowber and explain the situation to him indicating that, while we greatly appreciate his generosity and public-spiritedness, and are interested in obtaining the property, the Secretary has no authority to accept the deed in its present form.

B. That Mr. Lowber be requested to execute a new deed cancelling the old deed and providing for a trust arrangement whereby the trustee shall convey the property to the United States for inclusion with the Saratoga National Historical Park when authority for its acceptance for that purpose has been obtained or the area has been designated a national historic site to be administered in connection with the Saratoga National Historical Park. The latter provision would be helpful in the event it should become necessary for us to invoke the authority of the Historic Sites Act in lieu of a special act of Congress authorizing the outright addition of the property to the park.

Before taking any action, Mr. Lowber will probably desire to consult his attorney regarding the appointment of a trustee or trustees as well as the terms of the trust. We shall be glad to assist in the matter in any way we can. In view of the interest shown by officials of the Village of Schuylerville, Mr. Lowber may wish to convey his rights in the property to the

municipality on condition that the property shall be transferred to the Federal Government as soon as the title is cleared up and authority for Federal acceptance exists (assuming, of course, the Village has authority and is willing to accept the property on this basis). Or Mr. Lowber may prefer to convey his interests to a non-profit organization upon the same condition. These are offered merely as suggestions in discussing the matter with Mr. Lowber.

The original recorded deed from Mr. Lowber to the United States is enclosed and should be returned to him in the event the course of action herein suggested meets his approval. We have had a photostat made of the deed for our files.

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON
Acting Director.

Enclosure 563.

cc: Regional Director, Region One.
Supt., Saratoga.

Mr. Demaray.
Mr. Wirth.
Mr. Kahler.
Mr. Sanders.

National Park Service
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 1944.

To:

~~Mr. Sanders~~ *AKS 3/30*

Should we not, in line with the request of the Regional Directors and our procedure, have sent the attached memorandum to the Regional Director, Region One, in duplicate, instead of to the Superintendent, Morristown? I suggest sending this memorandum since it has been typed in final form, but in the future, unless there is some reason for handling the matter otherwise, that we address such communications to the Regional Director concerned.

6400

Helen A. Tolson
Assistant Director.

3/30/44

a
~~Mr. Wirth~~

Mr. Kahler *VEK*

*You are
right but
I believe Tolson
is the one
responsible
for this*

In all of our discussions of this matter, we spoke of writing to Dr. Ronalds directly. I assumed that this was a special case and that deviation from the usual procedure was desirable. Am I right?

*I believe
we are
wrong
in this case*

Sanders
Sanders.

OFFICE
DEPT.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
APR 3 - 1944
MAILS AND FILES

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

J. B. Johnson
Wirth
n

April 3, 1944.

BTD 4/5/44

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Wirth.

There is attached a copy of a proposed bill, "To authorize the acquisition by donation of the General Philip Schuyler House property as an addition to the Saratoga National Historical Park, and for other purposes."

An early expression of your views on this proposed legislation will be appreciated.

C. Mullady
Acting Chief Counsel.

Enclosure 749.

Mr Mullady
This appears to be a step in the right direction and is discretionary.
BTD /

A B I L L

To authorize the acquisition by donation of the General Philip Schuyler House property as an addition to the Saratoga National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to accept, in behalf of the United States, all or any portion of the property or interests therein, not in excess of 50 acres, known as the General Philip Schuyler House property, situated at Schuylerville, New York, the title to such property or interests therein to be satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior.

All such property or interests therein, upon acceptance thereof, shall become a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park and shall be subject to all laws and regulations applicable thereto.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA



Mr. Sims
WPK
Keller
7-4-6-44
Stoison
Thompson
Wright
→ *3. Mullaly*
Vint
April 4, 1944
1. [unclear]
2. [unclear]

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

We note in your memorandum of March 27 to the Superintendent, Morristown National Historical Park, that steps are being taken to draft a bill providing for the acquisition of the Schuyler House and grounds without cost to the United States as a part of the Saratoga National Historical Park.

On March 21 we sent you an advance print of Master Plan Drawing No. NHP-SAR-2006, Road System Plan, which also showed suggested boundary changes requiring land acquisitions to the north and west outside of the area now authorized as a part of the park. Mr. Vint has a full understanding of the need for this additional acquisition.

This is brought to your attention so that you may consider whether these additional parcels should be included in the bill you contemplate drafting.

This is a good suggestion and should be done
TW

Oliver G. Taylor
Regional Director.

cc: Morristown NHP.
Saratoga NHP.

ONAL P
REC
APR 3 - 1944
MAIL ONLY NO FILES
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
54

[Handwritten signature]
OK
Kahler
WEK
wsp
file
April 3, 1944. OK
wsp

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Kahler. *WEK*

There is attached a copy of a proposed bill, "To authorize the acquisition by donation of the General Philip Schuyler House property as an addition to the Saratoga National Historical Park, and for other purposes."

An early expression of your views on this proposed legislation will be appreciated.

C. Mullady
Acting Chief Counsel.

Enclosure 748.

CP
Mr. Mullady

~~Mr. Tolson~~ 4-8

① → *Mr. Tolson* APR 8 1944

② *Mr. Sullivan*

Note-attached draft is
satisfactory to Mr. Kahler.
A copy also has been sent
Mr. Wirth who, I understand
is going to follow through
on the matter.

T. A. Sullivan
Sullivan.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY



Handwritten notes:
7/15
~~James~~
Mulligan
5/23

May 11, 1944.

Memorandum for the Director:

Reference is made to your memorandum of March 27 regarding the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York.

In accordance with your instructions I discussed the matter with Mr. George Lowber and his lawyer, Mr. Louis Follett of Schuylerville, who are anxious to carry out your suggestions as to the best way to expedite the matter.

Attached is a sample deed prepared here in accordance with what I believe will incorporate your ideas. However, will you please rewrite, reject, or include any additions which you would like to have incorporated in the deed. When it is returned to me I will send it to Mr. Follett who will see that the instrument is executed in accordance with your wishes. It would be greatly appreciated if you would do this as soon as possible.

I am glad to learn that you plan to draft legislation for authorization to include the Schuyler House in the Saratoga National Historical Park, if and when it is offered to the Government without charge. In the meantime, we are working on various ways to obtain the one-quarter remaining interest in the house.

Please note that "Schuyler House" is being substituted for "Schuyler Mansion" in the deed. The Schuyler Mansion is the official title for the Albany Town House which is administered by State of New York.

Francis S. Ronalds
Francis S. Ronalds,
Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One

*Simon
Wirth*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

May 18, 1944.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

This refers to the memorandum of May 11 from Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds and accompanying draft of a deed for the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York, proposed for inclusion in the Saratoga National Historical Park.

I believe that we should secure a more accurate description of the property. In the 10-acre tract, the only dimension given is the distance or frontage along the east side of the turnpike. The turnpike is probably U. S. Highway No. 44 at the present time, and the alignment of the road may be different than the bearings and distances given in the deed description. The bearings and distances along the west side of the canal and on the south side of the Creek and the Hudson River should also be obtained and incorporated in the deed description. The only dimension given for the 36.4-acre tract is the south line, North 78 degrees West, 11 chains. The bearings and distances along the east side of the canal, the south side of the Creek and the Hudson River should also be obtained and incorporated in the deed.

The two tracts total 46.4 acres, but it is impossible to determine how much land is proposed to be conveyed, and there are eight exceptions recited, none of which is described. Will you please secure descriptions of the eight exceptions. The Champlain Canal map of the State of New York should indicate the extent of the three canal exceptions, and possibly the two railroad exceptions. The Smith, Victory and Bullard exceptions are probably described in the deeds indicated in the recital of exceptions. The State Highway Department should have right-of-way maps or record of U. S. Highway No. 44, and the Delaware & Hudson Railroad should be able to furnish a right-of-way map.

When the above information is obtained, please submit it to this Office in order that a plat of the property can be made.

There are attached for your files, two prints showing the approximate location of this property.

(SGD) Conrad L. Wirth

CKS:amw
cc: Mr. Simmers, Room 1150-B
Enclosure 562.

Chief of Lands.

In duplicate.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York
June 6, 1946

MEMORANDUM for Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds;

There is given below a report on new developments concerning the status of the Schuyler Home at Schuylerville, New York.

Last Friday morning, May 31, 1946, Mr. George M. Lowber, Schuylerville, N. Y., died at the Mary McClellan Hospital, Cambridge, New York. Having no close relatives in this vicinity, his friend William Snyder, Schuylerville, N. Y., made the funeral arrangements and Mr. Lowber was buried Monday afternoon, June 3rd.

The Last Will and Testament of Mr. Lowber was opened and read Tuesday afternoon at the Schuyler Home before all interested parties. I was invited to attend as a representative of the Government interests. It will be noted that the Will was made at the time Mr. Lowber donated his one-half interest in the house to the United States in July, 1943. At this date no subsequent Will has been found nor any other change in the status of Mr. Lowber's affairs, with the exception of the death of his sister, Jessie Marshall, it is believed no changes have been made.

By the terms of the Will the outstanding interests have not been changed to any great extent. As I understand it according to Attorney Louis Follett, the United States has title to an undivided one-half interest. Of the remaining Henry L. Coffin, a nephew, inherits about one-quarter of that one-half interest, the St. Stephens Protestant Episcopal Church a one-half of the interest and the two grand nephews, John and Robert Coffin, a one-eighth interest each. It so happened that Mrs. Henry L. Coffin, wife of the nephew, was in the east, they now live in Pasadena, California, and was present at the funeral and meeting Tuesday. She stated that her husband is of the opinion that the house should be preserved by the Federal Government and that he will be agreeable to donating his interest to the United States. In view of this, Mr. Follett is preparing a deed for Henry L. Coffin to convey his interest to the United States in the same manner as Mr. Lowber. At the meeting Rev. Arthur W. Abraham also stated that the St. Stephens Episcopal Church would also convey all interests the Church acquires in the house to the United States. When these two donations are made the only outstanding interest will be the one-eighth owned jointly by John and Robert Coffin. While they were not present or represented at the meeting, it was felt that their interests can be obtained in the same manner, though of course, at that time there was no way of knowing whether they would or would not. However, as their interest is so small it may be that they will be willing to donate their share in the house.

At the meeting there was considerable discussion about the disposition of the furniture in which I took no part. It may be necessary to sell all the furniture. In event it is not, the heirs want to retain only a few pieces and are willing that the rest remain with the house. I was asked if the Government would be willing to accept the furnishings and I stated I was unable to say at the moment. You will recall that very little of the furniture in the house is of the Revolutionary period and consequently of no use there. However, if it could be used elsewhere it might be worth accepting, but that is something which should be decided.

A matter of immediate concern is protection of the house and contents. I was asked if the Government could provide a caretaker, but I explained that the Government could assume no responsibility until it took possession of all right title and interest. It was then decided to employ a man and his wife to live in the house until such time as the Government can accept the title. The caretaker will be paid by the Estate.

Mr. Lowber's friend, William Snyder, is to be made Executor of the estate of Mr. Lowber and of Jessie Marshall as well in order that the whole affair can be settled at the same time. The Will is to be probated as soon as possible. It is understood that it will take nine months to settle the Estate. Perhaps this is just as well insofar as the Government is concerned for even if it were possible for us to take the property over sooner, it is unlikely that the Service would be in a position to do so. However, in view of the possibility of obtaining the house by July, 1947, it is suggested that if possible to do so, some estimates for operation and maintenance should be prepared.

Taking everything into consideration, it appears that the recent turn of events have made it possible to probably acquire the outstanding interests in the Schuyler Home within the next year. In this connection it is hoped that some action may be taken to have an Act established to provide for the extension of the boundaries of Saratoga National Historical Park which as now proposed includes the Schuyler Home.

(SGD) WARREN F. HAMILTON

Warren F. Hamilton
Superintendent

In triplicate.
Enclosure 2128613

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

I, GEORGE LOWBER, of the Village of Schuylerville, in the Town and County of Saratoga and State of New York, being of sound mind and memory, do make, publish and declare this my last WILL AND TESTAMENT, in manner following that is to say:

FIRST: I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid.

SECOND: I give, devise and bequeath unto my beloved sister, JESSIE L. MARSHALL, with whom I reside, the use and income of all my property, both real and personal and wheresoever situate, for and during the term of her natural life, together with the right unto my said sister, if such income be insufficient for her care and maintenance, to use so much of the corpus of my said property as she may require for her comfortable maintenance, care and support. And I will and direct that at and after the death of my said sister, Jessie, all of my aforesaid property, or such part thereof as may remain, be hereby given, divided and distributed as follows, viz:-

(a) Unto the PROSPECT HILL CEMETARY ASSOCIATION, at Schuylerville, N. Y., the sum of five hundred dollars, (\$500.00), to which Association I give and bequeath the same in trust nevertheless, to invest and apply the use and income thereof for the perpetual care of the George Strover family burial plot in said Cemetery. And I will and direct that this legacy unto the said Cemetery Association shall not abate, but that the same shall be paid in full.

(b) Unto the RECTOR, WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN OF ST. STEPHENS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT SCHUYLERVILLE, NEW YORK, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) to whom I give and bequeath the same in loving memory of my mother, Priscilla Lowber.

(c) Unto my nephew, HENRY L. COFFIN, of Glen Rock, N. J., the sum of five thousand dollars, (\$5,000.00), to whom I give and bequeath the same.

(d) Unto JOHN COFFIN and ROBERT COFFIN, now serving in the armed forces of the United States, the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), each, to whom I give and bequeath the same.

(e) Unto the SCHUYLERVILLE FREE LIBRARY, at Schuylerville, N. Y., the sum of five hundred dollars, (\$500.00) to which Library I give and bequeath the same.

(f) Unto my friend, Mabel Tefft, of the Village of Schuylerville, N. Y., the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), to whom I give and bequeath the same.

(g) Unto the Rev. ARTHUR W. ABRAHAM, of the Village of Greenwich, N. Y., the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), to whom I give and bequeath the same.

(h) Unto MARY A. QUINN, of the Village of Victory Mills, N. Y., the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), to whom I give and bequeath the same.

(i) Unto the RECTOR, WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN OF ST. STEPHENS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT SCHUYLERVILLE, NEW YORK, such rest, residue and remainder of my said property, both real and personal, as may remain undisposed of in and by the foregoing provisions of this my Will, to whom I give, devise and bequeath the same.

In the event that my property should be insufficient to pay in full those bequests hereinabove set forth in subdivisions "(b)" thru "(h)", inclusive, of this paragraph of my said Will, then and in that event, I will and direct that such legacies shall abate ratably and in proportion.

LASTLY: I hereby appoint my friend, William M. Snyder, of the Town and County of Saratoga, N. Y., to be the Executor of this, my last Will and Testament; hereby revoking all former wills by me made. And I do further will and direct that he be not required to give bond for the faithful performance of his duties as such.

IN WITNESS, I have hereunto subscribed my name the 29th day of July, in the year Nineteen Hundred and Forty-Three.

George S. Lowber L.S.

We, whose names are hereto subscribed, DO CERTIFY that on the twenty-ninth day of July, in the year 1943, GEORGE LOWBER, the Testator above named, subscribed his name to this instrument in our presence and in the presence of each of us, and at the same time, in our presence and hearing, declared the same to be his last WILL AND TESTAMENT, and requested us and each of us, to sign our names thereto as witnesses to the execution thereof, which we hereby do in the presence of the Testator and of each other, on the day of the date of the said Will, and write opposite our names our respective places of residence.

Jean B. Green residing at Schuylerville, N. Y.

Louis E. Follett residing at Schuylerville, N. Y.

C
O
P
Y

Pasadena, Calif.
June 11, 1946

Louis E. Follett, Esq.
National Bank Building,
98 Broad Street,
Schuylerville, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Follett:

Your letter received yesterday afternoon. I took this morning off and had the two waiver of citations signed by a notary and also the county.

I am very pleased to have my cousin William Snyder as administrator of the estates of my late uncle George Lowber and Mrs. Jessie Marshall. I know that he will handle the estate carefully and to the best of his ability for everyone.

There is nothing mentioned about the furniture. If the furniture is to be sold I wish is for the government to have first choice before putting it on the market. I am against having the furniture leave the house. There should be a good appraiser of old furniture come in and price each piece. I suppose the church comes in for their share of the furniture also.

I am not sending the deed to the property just yet as I want to look into the matter more thoroughly. The way it looks to me is, that I will have to pay my share of the inheritance of the house and grounds which will amount to a great deal. Then turn around and give it away to the government.

If it is possible I would like the amount of my total inheritance, taxes for my share of the house and grounds. The government and State wont hesitate in sending me a bill, why should I not get something for my part of the estate? You can take this question up with Will Snyder.

You mention a couple living in the house for protection being the government is already a half owner of the mansion I think they should share part of the expenses.

I am very glad that you were able to get someone to stay there. The younger generation want all conveniences and they surely don't have any there, a telephone is the only thing that I remember being there. My uncles last years must have been pretty lonesome for that is a large house. Please let me know how you progress. Thanking you for the copy of the will

I remain,
Yours truly,

(Sgd.) Henry L. Coffin.

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 REGION ONE
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
 JUN 18 1946
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

Name	Date
Kobler	7-2
J. Brown	7/6/18
Purcell	6/20
Frison	6/21
Hamm	
Bishop	CAR 7/2
S. J. ...	7/17/46
...	19
...	490
June 13, 1946	
Hart	SW 7/16

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

We are attaching a copy of a memorandum to Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds from Superintendent Hamilton of Saratoga National Historical Park. This memorandum, dated June 6, reports the death of Mr. George M. Lowber and the situation concerning the disposition of the Schuyler Home at Schuylerville, New York. There is also attached a copy of the Last Will and Testament of Mr. Lowber. This, together with the deed, which I understand is in your office and which transferred one-half interest in the home to the Federal Government in 1943, represent all documents concerning our rights in that property.

When and if the matter of extending the boundaries of Saratoga National Historical Park is proceeded with, recommendations of the Park, the Coordinating Superintendent and the Regional Office have already been presented to you and are in your office.



Thomas J. Allen,
 Regional Director.

Enclosure 196

cc: Mr. Demaray, w/enc.
 Coord. Supt., Morristown NHP
 Supt., Saratoga NHP

Posted 7/17/46
 [Handwritten initials]



JUN 21 1946



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Name	Date
<i>Johnson</i>	6-18
<i>Phillips</i>	6-20
<i>Anderson</i>	6-19
<i>Bailey</i>	6/21
<i>Green</i>	
<i>Stevens</i>	6/21

June 13, 1946.

File

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

We received Superintendent Hamilton's memorandum to you of June 6 informing us of the death of Mr. George M. Lowber and bringing up to date the situation as to the ownership of the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York.

It appears to be quite proper for Superintendent Hamilton to suggest to Mr. Louis Fellett that he approach Messrs. John and Robert Coffin as to their willingness to donate their one-eighth interest in the property in the same manner as the shares held by the St. Stephens Protestant Episcopal Church and Henry L. Coffin are likely to be offered. A copy of Superintendent Hamilton's memorandum is going to the Director's Office and to Mr. Demaray, together with a copy of George Lowber's Last Will and Testament.

No recent action has been taken to extend the boundaries of Saratoga National Historical Park to include the Schuyler House. That action, of course, will be necessary before acceptance of the house occurs.

(Sgd) THOMAS J. ALLEN

Thomas J. Allen,
Regional Director.

cc: Director
Supt., Saratoga NHP

Posted 6/21/46
Jones



C
O
P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York

June 24, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for Coordinating Superintendent Ronalds:

In writing this memorandum to you I feel very much like the football announcer who said, "He's up, he's down, he's away, he was thrown for a loss".

As I mentioned in a recent memorandum regarding the death of Mr. George Lowber and the possible developments in the settlement of his estate, Mrs. Henry L. Coffin stated her husband was agreeable to deeding over his interests. Mr. Follett prepared a deed and sent it to Mr. Coffin for his signature on the strength of Mrs. Coffin's statement. Mr. Follett recently received a letter from Mr. Coffin, a copy of which is attached. As Mr. Coffin's share of the estate will be reduced somewhat by inheritance taxes, he does not now feel so much like donating his interest in the House. However, by the tone of the letter it does not indicate he is against doing so, so it is possible that he may be persuaded to go ahead if the matter is handled properly. Mr. Follett is wondering if there is any way in which the National Park Service can get in touch with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and explain the situation to see if there may be some leniency in the matter of taxation on Mr. Coffin's share of the estate. I do not know whether any such action is possible or feasible. However, I am passing it on to you for whatever it may be worth.

I understand that the vestry of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church was called together the other night to hear the benefits received as described in Mr. Lowber's Will. As yet I have not heard whether any action was taken concerning the donation of the interest in the House owned by the Church. As soon as I hear about this I will let you know.

(Sgd.) Warren F. Hamilton
Warren F. Hamilton
Superintendent.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
JUL 8 - 1946
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

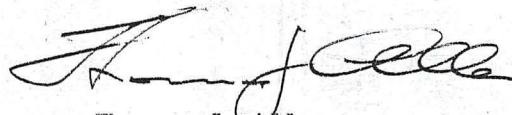
Name	Date
Demaray	JUL 9 1946
Allen	7/7/8
Kantley	2/10
Richey	CAR 7/13
Stacy	7/24
Handley	7/10
File	

July 2, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

The attached copy of a memorandum from Superintendent Hamilton of Saratoga National Historical Park to Coordinating Superintendent, Ronalds, dated June 24, 1946, would indicate that perhaps we will not receive deeds to all shares in the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, New York, quite as simply as was indicated at the time Mr. George Lowber's Will was read. I am sure, however, that the matter will straighten itself out eventually.

I doubt that the Internal Revenue people could waive the inheritance taxes as suggested by Henry L. Coffin to his lawyer. Certainly we cannot expect the New York Tax Authorities to waive their share of these. Should it come down to negotiation on that point, payment to Henry Coffin for his interest of an amount equal to the inheritance tax as purchase price might answer the situation.



Thomas J. Allen,
Regional Director.

Enclosure 873
cc: Mr. Demaray, w/enc.
Coord. Supt., Morristown NHP
Supt., Saratoga NHP

JUL 11 1946



Director

Legal Tangles Delays Planned Conversion Of Schuyler Mansion into National Shrine



THE PRESENT SCHUYLER MANSION, which is soon to be maintained by the United States and become part of the Saratoga Battlefield National

Park. The government is to receive full title to the property at the conclusion of legal proceedings now under way.

By LARRY CRONIN

Legal snarls presently in process of disentanglement stand in the way of full government ownership of the Gen. Phillip Schuyler Mansion, William M. Snyder of the town of Saratoga told the Saratogian yesterday. Snyder, who administered the estates of the late Mrs. Jessie L. Marshall and her brother, George S. Lowber, at one time co-owners of the property, said it was their intention to give the property to the United States so that it could be maintained as a national shrine.

At this writing the government owns half of the assessed \$5,400 valuation of the estate which had been deeded to it by Lowber in July of 1943. Lowber had straightened out his affairs at that time and drawn up a will previous to undergoing a serious operation in Albany. Mrs. Marshall, however, died on Aug. 6, 1943, the date of her brother's operation, and left no will.

Upon settlement of the sister's estate a quarter of the property reverted to Lowber. The remaining quarter went to three persons: Henry L. Coffin, a nephew, of Glen Rock, N.J.; and two grandnephews, Lt. Col. Robert E. Coffin of Washington, D.C., and John M. Coffin of San Mateo, Calif. Lowber, after recuperating, took no further steps toward giving the government full title. When he died on May 31 this year, the will he had written three years before was the one probated.

Under the terms of his will Lowber bequeathed cash amounts to relatives and friends and functionaries of St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Schuylerville, but left the residue, which included his quarter-ownership in the Mansion, to rector, wardens and vestrymen of St. Stephens.

Snyder said all persons concerned wish to carry out the desires of the late owners in giving the

File	Name	Date
①	Katler	8/7
②	...	8/6
③	...	8-8
	...	8/12
	...	8/19
	...	8/13
	...	8/13

last

File

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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AUG 5-1946
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

FROM:

"THE SARATOGIAN"
Saratoga Springs, N. Y.
Saturday, July 13, 1946.

United States full ownership. However, legal complications involving possible technical fines may penalize the surviving heirs of Mrs. Matthews, inasmuch as her estate was not probated until June 25 of this year.

Since she died intestate, Snyder had to secure permission in legal form to act as executor of her estate. He was delayed in this because two of the surviving relatives, the Coffin brothers, were on active duty during this period with the armed forces.

Another factor delaying proceedings concerns the furnishings now in the Mansion. The government may decide to discard the present Empire Period furniture, since there is a possibility that the original Colonial Period furnishings may be secured from descendants of General Schuyler who are residing in Pelham. Therefore, a sale of the present furniture may be arranged.

The present Empire furniture was installed by Col. George Strover, grandfather of the brother and sister, when he purchased the estate from the Schuylers following the financial panic of 1837. The wallpaper he introduced is still in existence. A secretary, believed to be from Colonial days, and some articles taken from the ruins of two previous mansions that had been destroyed during the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars, remain from the Schuyler regime. The original Schuyler decorations were used at one time by the late George Arliss for stage settings of an historical play.

Snyder believes these matters will be straightened out soon. He had been to Albany yesterday morning on this business. He says the government plans to install modern conveniences in the building. At present the place is maintained in the original manner and lacks electricity, central heating and adequate plumbing facilities.

When the government received its half in 1943, Snyder said officials had announced intentions of incorporating the mansion as part of the Saratoga Battlefield National Park.

Lowber's will, which was probated June 24, 1946, awarded the rector, wardens and vestrymen of St. Stephens \$15,000 in memory of his mother, Priscilla Lowber, in addition to the residue. His nephew, Henry L. Coffin, inherits \$5,000 and the grandnephews, Robert and John, each receive \$1,000.

A friend, Mabel Tefft, gets \$500. The Rev. Arthur W. Abraham of

Greenwich and Mary A. Quinn of Victory Mills each were remembered with \$100. The Free Library and the Prospect Hill Cemetery Association, both of Schuylerville, were bequeathed \$500 each. The latter bequest is for the perpetual care of the George Strover family plot.

JUL 25 1946

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Sawyer
Went
Ruby

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(54)

July 19, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Dezaray.

You have received copies of Regional Director Allen's memorandum of July 2 for the Director and Superintendent Hamilton's memorandum of June 24 for Coordinating Superintendent Rosaldo, relating to inheritance taxes on the outstanding interests in the Schuyler House property at Schuylerville, New York.

It appears that the United States has been tendered a deed for a 1/2 undivided interest in the above-mentioned property. Negotiations are being conducted with a view to obtaining the donation of the remaining interests. However, Mr. Henry L. Coffin, who inherited an interest in the property from Mr. George Lowber and Mrs. Jessie Marshall, is unwilling to donate if he has to pay Federal inheritance taxes upon his share. It has been suggested that the matter be explained to the Internal Revenue Bureau in the hope of obtaining "leniency" in the matter of taxation on Mr. Coffin's share of the estate.

While we seriously doubt whether the Internal Revenue Bureau would have authority to waive any inheritance taxes that may be due the United States, we see no objection to explaining the situation with respect to the Schuyler House property to the Bureau. We suggest that the matter be discussed in an informal way with the proper official in the Internal Revenue Bureau.

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Acting Director.

cc: Regional Director, Region One.
Supt., Saratoga.
Mr. Richey.
Mr. Price.
HKS:cq





UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

37-29

Name	Date
<i>Johansen</i>	<i>7-30</i>
<i>Kalton</i>	<i>7/30</i>
<i>Richardson</i>	<i>7/30</i>
<i>Pyper</i>	<i>8/1</i>
<i>W. J. Allen</i>	<i>8/31</i>
<i>July 25, 1946</i>	
<i>File</i>	

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Morristown National Historical Park.

Your letter of July 18 poses the question of whether furniture in the Schuyler House, Schuylerville, New York, would be accepted by the Service, if offered as a gift.

Comments of all Service personnel who have visited the house and have seen the furniture agree that it is not suitable for furnishing an eighteenth century period house.

In view of present difficulties in making final settlement of the estate with a view of vesting full title to the house in the National Park Service, and the apparently accepted fact that the furniture has no historical or period significance related to Saratoga Battlefield, it is suggested that the administrator of the estate be encouraged to proceed with plans to dispose of the furniture by sale.

(Sgd) THOMAS J. ALLEN

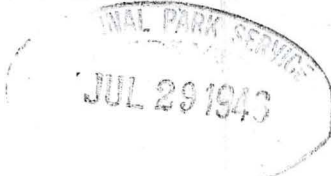
Thomas J. Allen
Regional Director

cc: The Director
Mr. Demaray

JUL 30 1946

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Name	Date
_____	7/7/30
Kahler	
Jarvis	

July 26, 1946

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Reference is made to Acting Director Tolson's memorandum of July 19 regarding inheritance taxes on the outstanding interest in the Schuyler House property in Schuylerville, New York.

We informally contacted Mr. Armstead of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Gift Tax Section, and he indicated that they would not, of course, give us an informal ruling. He did, however, state that the regulations relating to gift taxes and state taxes might be applicable. A copy of each of these regulations with a note made by Mr. Armstead as to the appropriate sections is enclosed for your further consideration.

From our informal discussion it seems to us that there is a good possibility that it will not be necessary to pay a Federal inheritance tax upon Mr. Coffin's share of the property if it is donated to the United States. Mr. Armstead stated that the Bureau of Internal Revenue would be pleased to give us a formal ruling upon the matter if the matter were submitted to that Bureau with all the facts set forth in detail. If the matter is submitted to the Bureau of Internal Revenue, it should be addressed to the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Bureau of Internal Revenue, attention I. T.; P. T.-1. In the letter to the Bureau of Internal Revenue it should be pointed out what use will be made of the property if it is donated by Mr. Coffin.

G. E. Demaray
Associate Director.

Enclosure 1209879.

Copy referred to Director:

Region One	7/30/46
<i>Deer</i>	<i>8/2</i>
<i>John</i>	<i>8/1</i>
<i>Robert</i>	<i>8/11/46</i>
<i>Rance</i>	<i>8/2</i>
<i>Burr</i>	<i>8/2</i>
<i>file</i>	

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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 AUG 1 - 1946
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
 MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

July 29, 1946.

Memorandum for Superintendent Hamilton:

Attached is a copy of a memorandum of July 25 from Regional Director Thomas J. Allen regarding the furniture in the Schuyler House, Schuylerville, New York. In accordance with the Regional Director's instructions, please tell Mr. Follett that it is all right to proceed with the sale of the furniture. I know of course that you will extend to Mr. Follett the appreciation of all of us in the Service for his kindness in offering to make the furniture available if we had thought it appropriate for display in the house, if and when the property is transferred to the National Park Service.

In the little room back of the living room I recall a few objects in a case which might well be appropriate for museum display at the Battlefield. May I suggest that you ask Mr. Follett if there is any way in which these objects might be given to Saratoga National Historical Park.

Francis S. Ronalds,
 Coordinating Superintendent.

CC: Regional Director, Region One

AUG 1 1946

Division of
Operation and Maintenance
V. L. OSTRANDER
Superintendent

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Albany 1

August 16, 1946

Honorable Dean P. Taylor
Republican County Committee
Hendrick Hudson Hotel
Rooms 205-206
Troy, New York

Dear Congressman:

You may perhaps know that the Schuyler Mansion property at the outskirts of the village of Schuylerville, and at one time occupied by General Schuyler, was dedicated to the U. S. Government, effective upon the death of George Lowber, its latest owner and occupant. Mr. Lowber died a month or so ago.

We understand the property will be made a part of the Saratoga National Park. The important part of this property is the Schuyler Mansion and its immediate surrounding grounds. The former is of great historical interest and together with the grounds may be made a beautiful shrine. This area is perhaps of about two acres extent. Also, in the Lowber property covered by this deed, there are fifteen to twenty acres of land along the river flats. This land is physically separated from the Mansion and its grounds by the old abandoned Champlain Canal owned by the State. The canal is unkempt in condition and effectively separates the Mansion grounds from the tillable land.

I am, I believe, duly appreciative of the historical significance of this whole territory and am of the opinion that these fifteen or twenty acres of land are in no way essential to the historic park. About ten acres of the land are tillable and the remainder is swampy setback from the river. A good friend and neighbor, Polie Germain, of Schuylerville, has leased this land for agricultural purposes for several years. It is immediately adjacent to Mr. Germain's farm and the only access to the land, except by crossing the Mansion property, is across Mr. Germain's lands. The area fits in very well with his lands and he is desirous of securing it for farm use.

Would it be asking too much of you to ascertain from the Park Service if the property could be transferred to Mr. Germain. He would very much prefer to acquire the title but in the event that was impossible or impracticable to do, he would probably be satisfied with a lease or permit of some nature.

Honorable Dean P. Taylor
August 16, 1946
Page two

We realize how burdened your time is but if you do find an opportunity to inquire into this, both Mr. Germain and I will be most appreciative.

With our very best wishes, we are

Sincerely yours,

Signed - V. L. Ostrander

DEAN P. TAYLOR
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT
NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
TERRITORIES
ROADS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 21, 1946

Name	Date
Johnson	8/23
Price	
Sander	8/29

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
AUG 23 1946
CHIEF CLERK'S

Hon. Newton B. Drury,
Director,
National Park Service,
Merchandise Mart,
Chicago 54, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Drury:

I am inclosing copy of a letter received from Mr. V. L. Ostrander, Superintendent, Operation and Maintenance, Department of Public Works of the State of New York, concerning the purchase or lease by Mr. Polie Germain of certain land comprising the Government-owned Schuyler Mansion property located at the outskirts of the village of Schuylerville, New York.

It is noted that the acreage in question is physically separated from the Mansion and its grounds by the old abandoned Champlain Canal owned by the State. I should appreciate your advising me whether or not it would be possible, under the circumstances, to sell or lease this acreage to Mr. Germain.

Very sincerely,

Dean P. Taylor

1 incl.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
(54)

*Sanders
Price
Kahler
Richey
Siler*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 27, 1916.

Hon. Dean P. Taylor,
House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Taylor:

We have received your letter of August 21, enclosing a letter which you have received from Mr. V. L. Ostrander concerning the desire of Mr. Polie Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the land comprising the Schuyler House property at Schuylerville, New York.

At present, there is a deed of record in Saratoga County, New York, which conveyed to the United States an undivided one-half interest in the above-mentioned property. The remaining interest is outstanding in other parties. We are referring copies of this correspondence to our local representatives in order that an investigation and report may be made concerning the possibility of effecting an arrangement whereby Mr. Germain would be given the use of the acreage desired by him. We shall communicate with you promptly when this report is received.

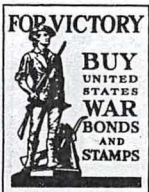
Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HUGH M. MILLER

Hugh M. Miller,
Acting Director.

cc: Regional Director, Region One (2). *(detached)*
Mr. Demaray.
Mr. Kahler.
Mr. Richey.
Mr. Price.

HMS:cq



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

*Stander
Brier
Kahler
Richey
Price*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 27, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

There are enclosed copies of a letter of August 21 from Representative Dean F. Taylor and a letter to him from Mr. V. L. Ostrander, Superintendent, Operation and Maintenance, Department of Public Works of the State of New York, concerning the desire of Mr. Polie Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the Schuyler House property.

It occurs to us that this may offer an opportunity to effect an arrangement whereby the United States, now the record owner of an undivided one-half interest, could obtain complete title to the major portion of the property through a partition of the property between the United States and the co-owners. This proposal contemplates that the land desired by Mr. Germain would be assigned to the latter who, in turn, would sell it to Mr. Germain. The feasibility of this proposal would depend, of course, upon whether or not Federal ownership of the land desired by Mr. Germain is necessary either from a historical or administrative standpoint.

We suggest that you ask Superintendent Hamilton to discuss this with the interested parties and furnish a report with appropriate recommendations. No further action will be taken with regard to the suggestion of Mr. Henry L. Coffin, who owns an interest in the property, that inheritance taxes be waived in consideration of the donation of his interest to the United States, until the above proposal has been fully explored.

(SGD) HUGH M. MILLER

Acting Director.

Enclosure 482.

In duplicate.

Mr. Demaray.

Mr. Kahler.

Mr. Richey.

Mr. Price.

HKS:cq



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

October 22, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
Saratoga National Historical Park.

This will refer to your memorandum of October 17, 1946, transmitting a deed executed by John M. Coffin of San Mateo, California, under date of August 24, 1946, donating to the United States for addition to Saratoga National Historical Park his 1/16 interest in the Philip Schuyler Home at Schuylerville, New York.

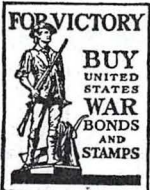
We note that Mr. Louis C. Follett, Attorney for the George Lowber-Jessie Marshall Estate, has informed you that proposed deeds have been submitted to the other remaining heirs, and that no difficulties are expected in obtaining the remaining interests as there is no Federal Inheritance Tax involved in settling the estate. In view of these circumstances, we will hold the deed executed by John M. Coffin pending receipt of deeds covering the remaining interests.

It is noted that the description in the deed executed by John M. Coffin is not exactly the same as the description in our file copy of the deed from George Lowber. The descriptions in the deeds to be received from the remaining heirs should be in complete agreement with the description in the deed executed by John M. Coffin.

E. M. LISLE

E. M. Lisle, Chief,
Recreation Study Division.

cc: Director,
Coordinating Superintendent,
Morristown NHP.



UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 REGION ONE
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

NATIONAL PARK
 OCT 24 1946
 CHIEF CLERK

Name	Date
John	10/24
Price	
Sanders	

October 22, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Director:

Enclosed is copy of our self-explanatory memorandum of today's date for the Superintendent, Saratoga National Historical Park, relative to a deed executed by John M. Coffin of San Mateo, California, for his 1/16 interest in the Philip Schuyler Home, Schuylerville, New York.

We note from the files that an abstract of title was submitted in connection with the deed from Mr. George Lowber, but do not have a copy in our files. We therefore would appreciate your advice as to whether that abstract is in good order to be extended to satisfy all of the deeds or whether a new abstract of title will be required when all of the deeds have been received.

In his transmittal memorandum Superintendent Hamilton remarks "it appears that all outstanding interests in the property may be obtained within the next six months." This is brought to your attention as enabling legislation will be required for the acceptance of this property for addition to Saratoga National Historical Park.

Handwritten signature/initials

E. M. Lisle

E. M. Lisle, Chief,
 Recreation Study Division.

Enclosure 925.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Handwritten:
Sullivan
Price
Hiles
Richey

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October 29, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

We have received Mr. Lisle's memorandum of October 22 concerning the deed recently executed by Mr. John M. Coffin conveying his 1/16 interest in the Philip Schuyler Home, Schuylerville, New York, to the United States.

There is enclosed the abstract of title covering the above-mentioned property, prepared by Ralph W. Cooper, Attorney, and last certified by him December 1, 1943. When the Coffin deed and the deeds from the other heirs for the remaining interests have been recorded, the abstract should be turned over to Mr. Cooper for continuation and recertification to cover the recording of these deeds and any other matters, including probate proceedings, which have been spread upon the public records since December 1, 1943.

It is planned to include a provision in a proposed bill relating to the establishment of Saratoga National Historical Park which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept title to the Schuyler Home property for administration in connection with the Park. This bill is to be introduced early in the next session of Congress.

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Acting Director.

In duplicate. ✓
Enclosure 982. ✓
cc: Mr. Richey. ✓
Mr. Price.
HKS:rd



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York
January 8, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One;

Reference is made to the memorandum of September 4, 1946, over the signature of Acting Regional Director Elbert Cox regarding correspondence from Representative Dean P. Taylor and others concerning the desire of Mr. Polie Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the Philip Schuyler property at Schuylerville which has been partially deeded to the United States.

At the time this memorandum was received the matter was discussed with Attorney Louis Follett of Schuylerville who represents the heirs of the Estate of George M. Lowber. It was Mr. Follett's opinion that the proposed partition of the property between the United States and the co-owners would complicate the settlement because of the different interests of those inheriting the estate. Furthermore, some of the heirs were somewhat perturbed because it was ruled that all of the personal property would have to be sold at auction. As the sale had just been held, Mr. Follett felt that it would be better not to approach the heirs on any new proposition at the time but defer any such action for a while. In the meantime he planned to determine whether or not inheritance taxes would be involved. As it turned out the valuation of the estate was below the minimum liable for inheritance taxes. Furthermore, the two grandnephews have conveyed their interests to the United States. As has been reported recently negotiations have been started to obtain permission of the State Courts to convey the interests of the Episcopal Church in the property to the United States. The only other outstanding interest is the 1/4 share inherited by Henry R. Coffin of Pasadena, Calif. It is now understood inasmuch as there will be no inheritance tax involved Mr. Henry Coffin will convey his interests in the near future. It is therefore believed unnecessary to consider any partition of the property.

While it is true that the Schuyler property is two distinct parcels separated by the r/w of the abandoned Champlain Canal, it is the recommendation of this office that all the property comprising approximately 46 acres be acquired for administrative reasons. The house lot of about 5 acres is quite small in area so it is believed the adjoining fields are necessary to prohibit any possible future development of operations that would be a nuisance and detract from the present country estate appearance, which is probably much as it was during Revolutionary times. Not very much is known about the general area at this time, but

there is a possibility that further historical research will disclose additional justifications for retaining all of the property. As Mr. Germain seems to desire to use the fields there does not seem to be at this time any objection to granting him a permit to cultivate the fields when the area is taken over by the Park Service. It is believed such an agreement could be worked out to the satisfaction of both parties. At the same time by retaining ownership of the land a buffer would be provided around the House Lot.

(SGD) WARREN F. HAMILTON

Warren F. Hamilton
Superintendent

In duplicate.
cc; Coord. Supt., Morristown NHP

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
RECEIVED
JAN 14 1947
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 REGION ONE
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Name	Date
<i>Jones</i>	<i>1/14</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>1/15</i>
<i>Richard</i>	<i>1/16</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>1/15</i>
<i>Rollins</i>	<i>1/15</i>
<i>Bullman</i>	<i>1/15</i>

January 10, 1947

Sibley 1/16
Kanter evs
File

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,
 Saratoga National Historical Park;

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of January 6, 1947, and deed executed by Robert E. Coffin of Alexandria, Virginia, conveying to the United States his 1/16th interest in the Philip Schuyler Home at Schuylerville, New York, for inclusion within Saratoga National Historical Park.

For reasons previously noted in our memorandum of October 22, 1946, concerning the John M. Coffin deed for his interest in the Philip Schuyler Home, we will also hold the Robert E. Coffin deed in this office pending receipt of deeds covering the remaining interests.

We note your comment that the Episcopal Church of Schuylerville is having proceedings instituted to obtain permission of the Courts in the State of New York to convey its 1/4th interest in the Home to the United States and that it appears that the interest of Mr. Henry L. Coffin of Pasadena, California, the only other remaining heir, may be obtained in the near future.

E. M. LISLE

E. M. Lisle,
 Assistant Regional Director.

cc: Director

Coord. Supt., Morristown NHP

Posted
1/14/47
Jones



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGION ONE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Name	Date
<i>Follett</i>	
<i>Rollins</i>	<i>1/20</i>
<i>Rollins</i>	<i>1/29</i>
<i>Kahler</i>	<i>1-3</i>
<i>Rollins</i>	<i>1/31</i>
January 24, 1947	
<i>S. J. [unclear]</i>	<i>2/4</i>

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Reference is made to memorandum dated August 27, 1946, over the signature of Hugh Miller, Acting Director, relating to the desire of Mr. Polie Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the Schuyler House property. It was suggested that an arrangement might be worked out whereby the United States, now the record owner of an undivided one-half interest, could obtain complete title to the major portion of the property through a partition of the property between the United States and the co-owners, with the thought that the co-owners might sell the portion assigned to them to Mr. Germain.

We enclose copy of self-explanatory memorandum dated January 8, 1947, from Superintendent Hamilton in this regard. It will be noted that this proposition did not meet with favor on the part of Attorney Louis Follett of Schuylerville who represents the heirs of the Estate of George M. Lowber.

In any event it appears that the acquisition of the Philip Schuyler property at Schuylerville is clearing up so satisfactorily that a partition of the property as previously suggested to accomplish acquisition for the United States is unnecessary. The problem created by Mr. Henry L. Coffin with respect to inheritance taxes has been resolved by the determination that the value of the estate was below the minimum liable for inheritance taxes. In addition, in a memorandum of January 6, 1947, Superintendent Hamilton indicated that it appeared probable that the interests of Mr. Henry L. Coffin will be obtained at an early date. The deeds for the 1/16th interest of Robert E. Coffin of Alexandria, Virginia, and John M. Coffin of San Mateo, California, have already been received.

It is reported that proceedings are being filed to obtain permission of the Courts in the State of New York to donate to the United States the 1/4th interest in the Home now held by the Episcopal Church of Schuylerville.

It therefore appears that we may look forward to an early settlement of this matter without further obligations, and we concur in



Superintendent Hamilton's recommendation that we should acquire the entire estate.

Agree
Kalich
1-31



Thomas J. Allen,
Regional Director.

Encl. 138

cc: Superintendent,
Saratoga NHP

Coord. Supt.
Morristown NHP

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

*Sanders
Patterson
Richey*

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

March 5, 1947.

Hon. Dean F. Taylor,
House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Taylor:

In our reply of August 27, 1946 to your letter of August 21, we stated that a report would be obtained from our local representatives concerning the desire of Mr. Felix Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the land comprising the Schuyler House property at Schuylerville, New York, in which the United States has only a partial interest at this time.

A recent report from the field indicates that there is a good possibility that the entire estate in the property will soon become vested in the United States. Under the provisions of a bill proposed to be introduced in the 80th Congress, the property will be administered as a detached unit of Saratoga National Historical Park. Since the entire acreage will be needed for the administration and protection of the historic features of the Schuyler House and grounds, it will not be possible to dispose of any portion of the property to private interests.

When title to the property becomes vested in the United States in fee simple, we will be in a position to consider the issuance of a revocable permit to Mr. Germain to use a portion of the farmland for temporary periods if he is interested. We suggest that he obtain further information from Superintendent Warren F. Hamilton of Saratoga National Historical Park, Stillwater, New York, concerning the approximate time the Government will secure full control of the property.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Hillory A. Tolson,
Acting Director.

cc: Regional Director, Region One.
Supt., Saratoga.

Mr. Demaray. ✓
Mr. Richey.
Mr. Price.

HKS:cqd



State of New York
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ALBANY 1

March 13, 1947

Honorable Dean P. Taylor
House of Representatives U.S.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

We wish to thank you for your further attention to the Polie Germain request relative to the use of a portion of the newly acquired General Schuyler property at Schuylerville. We will pass the information along to Mr. Germain for such further effort as he desires to make. I am sure that he also will appreciate your help.

Your letter and the one by Mr. Tolson of March 5, which you enclosed, raise another question. Both letters use the expression "Schuyler House Property." Always the people of that neighborhood refer to this as the "Schuyler Mansion." While we local people definitely recognize that the local mansion is intended, the fact that there is another widely known "Schuyler Mansion" at Albany leads to confusion on the part of the general outside public. Because of the Albany "Schuyler Mansion", the same name should perhaps not be continued for the Schuylerville property.

Further, for several generations there were hotels in Schuylerville—"Hotel Schuyler" and the "Schuylerville House", both of them frequently called "Schuyler House", so that the name shown in your letters does not seem to us to be wholly desirable. Might we suggest for your consideration the name "The General Schuyler Property" as better acceptable than "Schuyler House" as your people are now calling it?

With our very best wishes, we are

Sincerely yours,

C
O
P
Y

(Sgd) V. L. Ostrander

DEAN P. TAYLOR
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT
NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
TERRITORIES
ROADS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.
WASHINGTON, D. C.



March 18, 1947

Name	Date
Kahler	WBA
Adams	3/20/47
Edo	

Mr. Hillory A. Tolson
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Chicago 54, Illinois

REPLY DUE
in Mail Room
by 11:00 a.m.,
3/25/47

My dear Mr. Tolson:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 5, last, and thank you for the information contained therein regarding the desire of Mr. Polie Germain to purchase or lease a portion of the land comprising the Schuyler House property at Schuylerville, New York.

Incidentally, you may be interested in the information contained in the enclosed letter addressed to me by Mr. V. L. Ostrander, Superintendent of Public Works, Albany, New York.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Taylor

MAR 20 1947

Kahler

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

March 25, 1947.

0-36

Hon. Dean P. Taylor,
House of Representatives.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have received your letter of March 18, enclosing a letter of March 18 from Mr. V. L. Ostrander, Superintendent of Public Works, Albany, New York, suggesting that the "Schuyler House" in Schuylerville, New York, be referred to as the "General Schuyler Property" so as to avoid confusion on the part of the public.

Mr. Ostrander's suggestion is appreciated, and it is being brought to the attention of this Service's field officials as well as to the attention of the Branch of History and Office of Information of our Director's Office so that in the future the structure will be referred to in our correspondence and publications as the "General Schuyler Property."

Mr. Ostrander's letter is returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HILLORY A. TOLSON

Hillory A. Tolson,
Acting Director.

HEK:HT:lc

Enclosure 781.

cc: Regional Director, Region One (3), (with copies of Rep. Taylor's
Mr. Demaray (2), (letter of 3/18/47 and
Mr. Evison. (Mr. Ostrander's letter of
Mr. Kahler. (3/13/47)

