HISTORIC BUILDING SITE SURVEY REPORT

Bldg. No. 3 -- Wager Lot No. 53

HARPERS FERRY NATIONAL MONUMENT

HF-17 001334 15

#3

001334

HISTORIC BUILDING SITE SURVEY

REPORT

for

Bldg. No. 3 — Wager Lot No. 53 - High Street,

"The Williams and Koonce Lots"

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Note
Description of House
on Wager Lot 53A
Rewritten on
Basis of Photo HF-648 and 787
in Hand 1973 CWSnell

Prepared by

Charles W. Snell,
Historian (Park Supervisory)
Dated July 29, 1958,
19 pages. 1 MAP, 4 PHOTOS
HF-17

APPROVAL SHEET

Recommended: _____
Director

Recommended: _____
Regional Director

Recommended: _____
Chief, E.O.D.C.

Approved: _____
Superintendent

Harpers Ferry National Monument

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SECTION I - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

A. Name and Number of Building:

Bldg. No. 3 (non-historic), Wager Lot No. 53 - the Samuel M. Williams and George Koonce's Lots.

B. Proposed Use of Structure and Grounds:

We recommend that Building No. 3 be demolished. Original pre-Civil War Wager Lots and sub-divisions on Wager Lot No. 53 could be marked on the ground. After the removal of Building No. 3 the entire High Street Row (Wager Lots No. 53, 54, and 55 and 56) should be interpreted by two or three trail side exhibits which should include several of the old photographs that form a part of this report.

C. Provisions for Operating the House:

No operation planned.

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

The preliminary estimate of the cost of this project is $600.00.

SECTION II - HISTORICAL DATA

1. Ownership of the Property, 1835 to 1865

On April 2, 1835, the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for Jefferson County, Virginia, appointed Commissioners "to lay off and divide into three equal lots and parcels the real estate at Harper's Ferry which descended to James B. Wager, Gerard B. Wager and Sally Ann Wager, now Sally Ann Swayne, the wife of Noah H. Swayne, from their father John Wager [Jr.], deceased."[1] The property thus being divided at Harpers Ferry was commonly known as the "Wager Six Acre Reservation and Ferry Lot," an island of land in private ownership surrounded on all sides by land owned by the United States Government.[2]

On October 10, 1835, the three Commissioners reported to the Court: "To James B. Wager we allot & assign the following lots as designated J.B.W. & numbered in the annexed Plat, viz: Lots No. 1-7-9-15 being a part of the old tavern lot-19-23-25-27-37-39-41-44, including the new buildings recently attached to the mansion-46-47-53 & 54." The Court further directed that George W. Sappington be appointed a special receiver of the Court to take into possession the share assigned to James B. Wager for the purpose of collecting rents on this land to be paid into the

1. Gibson etc. vs. Wager, etc. Decree. Deed Book 29, pp. 140-41. Jefferson County Clerk's Office, Charles Town, West Virginia.

2. 1835 Plat, "The Wager Six Acre Reservation, Drawn by James M. Brown, S.G.C.," in Deed Book No. 29, p.140.

Court, "from and after the time the said [James B.] Wager took benefit of the insolvent laws..."[3]

On January 14, 1836, the Court appointed two Commissioners and directed them to sell at public auction to the highest bidder the real estate of James B. Wager in Harpers Ferry. This the Commissioners did and sold Wager Lot 53 to James Duncanson and Philip Coons, both of Harpers Ferry, for the sum of $1,010 on November 1, 1836.[4] Building No. 3 now stands partly on the site of Wager Lot No. 53 and the remainder on Wager Lot No 54.

On January 10, 1840, James Duncanson put into trust with George W. Sappington, for the purpose of securing a $500 loan, the following property: "two houses and lots...which two lots are marked and numbered on the plat of said [Wager] Estate as Nos. 53 and 46, the one being situated on the south side of the street leading from Harpers Ferry to Charles Town [High Street], and opposite the lot owned by W. & S. B. Anderson [Wager Lot No. 15-subdivision 4, site of Building No. 15]-The other [Wager Lot No. 46] on Potowmac (sic-Shenandoah) Street adjoining the U. States Line on the south..."[5]

On November 12, 1842, at public auction, Mr. Sappington sold, on Duncanson's behalf, his undivided portion of Lot No. 53

3. Deed Book 29, pp140-141.

4. January 1, 1840, Deed of B. & S., Deed Book 24, pp.214-15.

5. January 10, 1840, Trust, Deed Book 24, pp.94-95.

to Edmund Chambers for $350. This deed reads in part:

"the one undivided half of the lot designated in said trust as No. 53, situated on the South side of the street leading from Harper's Ferry to Charlestown, and opposite the lot owned by Wm. & S. B. Anderson..." "To have and to hold the said one half of said house and lot..." [6]

Thus Chambers and Coons now became the joint owners of Lot 53.

On April 29, 1844, Edward Chambers sold to Thomas Earnshaw and 15 other men a "certain house and lot called No. 53" for $400.[7] These men failed to meet their payments and according to the terms of the trust, the lot was offered at public auction. Chamber's half-lot was thus purchased on August 18, 1845, by William Moore for $351.[8]

Coons's half of Lot No. 53 was also put on the market in 1844.

On May 2, 1844, for $650, Philip Coons and his wife, Anne C. Coons, sold to Esau Woods and 25 other men, the following property:

"A certain piece or parcel of land lying and being in the town of Harper's Ferry..., the same being that portion of Lot No. 53, fifty-three,...which fell to him, the said Philip Coons, in the division of said Lot No. 53, and on which portion a large two story frome building stands,..." [9]

On May 1, 1845, Esau Wood and the 25 others, having failed to raise the money to complete payments on Lot 53, through their trustee Isaac Fouke, offered the property for sale. The half-lot and building were repurchased by Philip Coons for $499.[10]

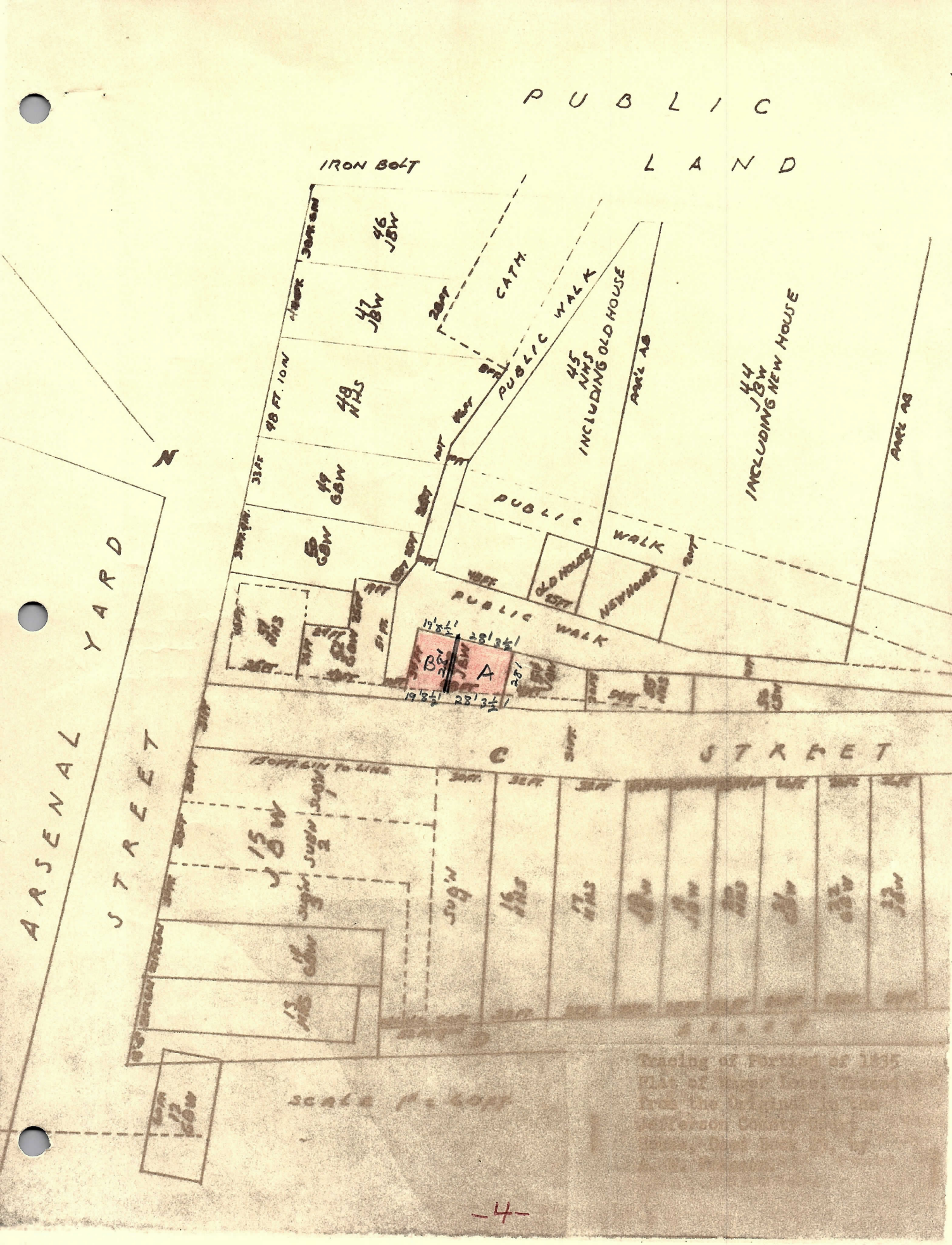
6. November 12, 1842, Deed of B. & S., Deed Book 27, p.61.

7. Deed of B. & S., April 29, 1844, Deed Book 27, p.126; also Deed of Trust, Deed Book 27, p.127.

8. Deed of B. & S., August 18, 1845, Deed Book 28, pp.236-237.

9. May 2, 1844, Deed of B. & S., Deed Book 27, p.177.

10. Mayl, 1845, Deed of B. & S., Deed Book 27, p.481.


PUBLIC
LAND
IRON BOLT
CATH.
PUBLIC WALK
INCLUDING OLD HOUSE
INCLUDING NEW HOUSE
PUBLIC
WALK
OLD HOUSE
NEW HOUSE
PUBLIC
WALK
A
B
ARSENAL YARD
STREET
C STREET
N
SCALE

-4-

It is thus apparent that Lot No. 53 had been divided by the joint owners into two halves in 1844; no formal deed of partition, however, was issued until January 16, 1849. This deed reads in part:

"Whereas Philip Coons and William H. Moore are owners in common of Lot No. 53. And whereas a verbal agreement has been heretofore made by said Coons and the assigner of the said Moore, for the subdivision of Lot No. 53, whereby Coons was to have in fee simple that portion of the west end of said Lot No. 53, as would be laid off by a line of 28 feet 3½ inches from the northwest corner of Lot 53, laid off on the north or front of said lot-the said division line to run between the large two story frame building on that portion of the said lot, and the simgle frame building on the other portion thereof, and to intersect in the rear on the south the Public Walk, and to embrace all the residue of said lot lying west of said intersecting division line-and whereby also the said Moore was to have the whole of the residue of said Lot No. 53, not specially above allotted to the said Coons, including the brick chimney in the said line, which is declared to belong exclusively to said W. M. Moore, who hereby convenants with the said Coons to permit him, at all times hereafter to use the flues of the said chimney for his portion of the house, until the said Moore shall build or tear it down, the right to do which is acknowledged and yielded by this article..." 11

Between 1844 and 1849, Lot No. 53 was divided into two separate lots and for the purpose of this report the northwest portion will be called Lot No. 53-PART A and the southeast portion Lot No. 53-PART B.

A. Ownership of LOT NO. 53-PART A, 1845 to 1865: (North)

This portion of the lot fronted 28 feet 3½ inches on High

11. Deed of Partition, January 16, 1849, Deed Book 30, p.497.

Street and 28 and 3½ inches in the rear on the Public Walk. The lot was 28 feet deep on each end.[12] From May 1, 1845, until January 17, 1849, LOT NO. ~~54~~ 53-PART A was the property of Philip Coons. On January 17, 1849, Mr. Coons sold this property to George Rothery for $900.[13] On August 17, 1849, Mr. Rothery, in turn, sold LOT NO. 53-PART A to Samuel M. Williams for $893.[14] Mr. Williams remained the owner of this portion of the lot until after the Civil War.

B. Ownership of LOT NO. 53-PART B, 1845 to 1865: (South)

This portion of the lot fronted 19 feet 8½ inches on High Street, was 34 feet deep on the line running up the Stone Steps, faced 19 feet 8½ inched on the Public Walk in the rear, and was 28 feet deep along the division line with LOT NO. 53-PART A. This property was acquired by William H. Moore on August 18, 1845, for $351. Mr. Moore, on February 21, 1850, sold this portion of the lot to Philip Coons for $600.[15] Mr. Coons, in turn, sold the lot to George Koonce on March 11, 1850, for $600.[16] Mr. Koonce remained the owner of LOT NO. 53-PART B until after the Civil War.

12. Virginia Free Press, August 9, 1849, p.3, c.1. gives the dimensions of this lot in full. Notice will be cited in full later in this report.

13. Deed of Trust, January 17, 1849, Deed Book 30, pp.356-357. Also Release of Trust, August 17, 1849, Deed Book 30, p.493.

14. Deed of B. & S., August 17, 1849, Deed Book 30, pp.494-495. Also Deed of Trust, August 17, 1849, Deed Book 30, p.496.

15. Deed of B. & S., February 21, 1850, Deed Book 31, pp. 81-82.

16. Deed of B. & S., March 11, 1850, Deed Book 31 pp.82-83.

2. CONSTRUCTION OF THE HOUSES ON WAGER LOT NO. 53:

A. HOUSE ON LOT NO. 53-PART A. South

A 1836 newspaper advertisement for the sale of James B. Wager's real estate in Harpers Ferry described Lot No. 53 as "One lot 48 by 34 with one comfortable dwelling of frame."[17] The May 2, 1844, trust for this lot also states that "a large two story frame building stands..."[18] on the property. Further information on this house is to be found in George Rothery's notice announcing the coming sale of his property in 1849:

"...to sell at Public Auction on Aug. 11, the house and lot at present occupied by him situated on the south west side of High Street, between the stone steps leading to the Catholic Church, and the new brick house just built by R. D. Doran, Esq. Located on Wager Lot No. 54, PART B, and adjoining the latter. The lot fronts on High Street 28 feet 3½ inches, and is bounded on the northwest by the new Brick House and lot belonging to R. D. Doran, and on the southeast side by a small frame house and lot belonging to William H. Moore (Wager Lot No. 53-Part B), and runs back to the public walk on the hill 28 feet, thence along said walk 28 feet and 3½ inches, and then to High Street 28 feet...

"The Dwelling House is 28 feet 3½ inches by 18 feet, and if a small sum in repairs and improvement was expended upon it, would readily rent for $150 per annum, and there is room on the rear of the lot, facing the public walk, for another house of the same dimensions."[19]

To this can be added the data from the 1849 Deed of Partition, which states that the brick chimney standing on the division line between Wager Lots No. 53-Part A and B, was to go with Part B,

17. Virginia Free Press, April 7, 1836, p.4, c.1. See also September 22, 1836, p.3, c.5.

18. Deed of Trust, Deed Book 267-268. May 2, 1844.

19. Virginia Free Press, August 9, 1849, p.3, c.1.

but that the owner of Part A was to be permitted "at all times hereafter to use the flues of the said chimney for his portion of the house, until the said Moore (owner of Part B) shall build or tear it down..."[20]

It thus appears that the Wager family had constructed a two story frame house on Lot No. 53-Part A at some date before 1836. The house fronted 28 feet 3½ inches on High Street and was 18 feet deep, being set on the level with High Street. It was probably designed for use as living quarters and it is believed that this house was standing at the time of the John Brown Raid in 1859.

B. HOUSE ON LOT NO. 53-PART B. (South)

This portion of the lot was apparently vacant in 1836 and remained so until after it was purchased by William H. Moore in 1845 for $351. Between August 18, 1845, and January 16, 1849, Mr. Moore apparently constructed a small one story frame house, the house being mentioned in the 1849 Deed of Partition for Lot No. 53. The sale of the lot by Moore to Coons in 1850 for $600 probably indicates that the building was then worth about $250. No further data on the nature of this building has been found, but its maximum dimensions, based on lot size and the ground, must have been a 19 foot frontage on High Street by about 18 feet in depth.

20. Deed Book 30, p.497.

3. USES OF THE HOUSES ON LOT NO. 53:

A. Use of House on Wager Lot No. 53-Part A: (North)

This house was apparently used as a residence from 1836 to 1861; documentary evidence is therefore naturally limited. The census of 1850 indicates that the building was occupied by the following people:

"Samuel M. Williams, 48 years old, male, Toll Gatherer. Value ofreal estate owned: $900. Born in Maryland.
Hecikiah Williams, 45 years old, male. Born in Maryland.
Joshua P. Williams, 29 years old, male, Carpenter. Born in Maryland.
Robert Williams, 17 years old, male, Carpenter. Born in Maryland.
Rachel A. Williams, 14 years old, female. Born in Maryland.
Prudence R. Williams, 11 years old, female. Born in Maryland.
Rachel R. Brown, 20 years old, female. Born in Maryland.
Mary Holland, 8 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
William Willis, 19 years old, male, Watchman. Born in Virginia." 21

In 1860 the house on LOT NO. 53-PART A was apparently rented and occupied by:

"William Wilson, 49 years old, male, Laborer. Value of Personal Estate: $25. Born in Virginia.
Mary J. Wilson, 38 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
Margaret Wilson, 15 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
Maratha J. Wilson, 13 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
Hamiah Wilson, 10 years old, female. Born in Virginia.

21. National Archives R. G. 29. Records of the Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules of the Seventh Census of the United States 1850. Virginia, Volume 12, Jefferson County (part), p.411.

Rose E. Wilson, 1 year old, female, Born in Virginia." 22

B. Use of House on Wager Lot No. 53-Part B:

This building was also apparently used as a residence.

In 1850 it was probably rented by:

"Caroline Docamp (?), 25 years old, female, Mulatto. Born in Virginia.
Mary A. Docamp, 5 years old, female, Mulatto. Born in Virginia.
James F. Docamp, 2 years old, male, Mulatto. Born in Virginia." 23

In 1860 it was rented by:

"Daniel Keaf, 30 years old, male, Laborer. Value of Personal Estate: $25. Born in Ireland.
Mary H. Keaf, 30 years old, female. Born in Ireland.
Anna Keaf, 4 years old, female. Born in Maryland." 24

The census of 1860 also yield the following information on the owner of
owner of this lot:

"George W. Koonce, 42 years old, male, Town Constable. Value of Real Estate: $5,400. Value of Personal Estate: $1,000. Born in Virginia.
Bettie E. Koonce, 23 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
George W. Koonce, 20 years old, male. Clerk. Born in Virginia.
Imogene F. Koonce, 18 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
Mary E. Koonce, 16 years old, female. Born in Virginia.
Alice R. Koonce, 9 years old, female. Born in Virginia." 25

22. National Archives R.G. 29. Records of the Bureau of the Census. Population Schedules of the Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. Virginia, Volume 13, Jefferson County (Part), p.196.

23. National Archives R. G. 29, Seventh Census, 1850. Volume 12, p.411.

24. National Archives R. G. 29, Eighth Census, 1860, Volume 13, p.196.

25. Ibid., p.218.

4. HISTORICAL PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS:

All historical prints and photographs as well as all modern photographs of the High Street houses and Bldg. No. 3, four in number, will be found in Appendix I of this report.

See HF-49, 1861
HF-64-1859
HF-43, 1870-75
HF-648 Ca 1882
HF-787, Ca 1882
HF-79, Ca 1886
HF-99, 1892-96
HF-96, 1896

5. HISTORICAL PLANS OF THE BLDG.

No historical plans of the pre-Civil War buildings that once stood on Wager Lot No. 53 have been found and it is unlikely that any will ever be located. No modern measured drawings of these structures exist as the buildings were torn down by 1900. No measured drawings have been prepared of Bldg. No. 3 which is a non-historic structure.

6. SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL DATA:

A. Ownership of the Land, 1835 to 1865.

1. October, 1782, to October 9, 1835, owned by the Wager family.

2. October 10, 1835 to November 12,1836, owned by John B. Wager.

3. November 1, 1836, to November 13, 1842, jointly owned by Philip Coons and James Purcanson; Purchase price: $1,010.

4. November 12, 1842, to April and May, 1844, jointly owned by Philip Coons and Edward Chambers. Chambers' purchase price: $350.

5. April 29, 1844, to August 18, 1845, Chamber's interest sold to Thomas Earnshaw and 15 other men for $400.

6. May 2, 1844, to May 1, 1845, Coons' interest sold to Esau Wood and 25 other men for $650.

7. August 18, 1845, to February 21, 1850, Part B of Lot No. 53, Chambers'-Earnshaw's interest

acquired by William Moore for $351.

8. May 1, 1845, to January 17, 1849: Part A of Lot No. 53, Wood's interest purchased by Philip Coons for $499.

9. January 17, 1849, to August 17, 1849. Part A of Lot 53 owned by George Rothery. Purchase price: $900.

10. February 21, 1850 to March 11, 1850, Part B of Lot 53 owned by Philip Coons, Purchase price: $600.

11. March 11, 1850, until after Civil War, Part B of Lot 53 owned by George Koonce. Purchase price: $600.

12. August 17, 1849, until after Civil War, Part A of Lot 53 owned by Samuel M. Williams. Purchase price: $893.

B. Construction of Bldgs. on Wager Lot No. 53.

1. PART A of Wager Lot No. 53

B 1½ story frame dwelling erected by ~~Koonce~~ Hamilton Williams during period 1850–1858

This two story frame dwelling was erected before 1836 by the Wager family. The building fronted 28 feet 3½ inches on High Street and was 18 feet deep. The structure was used as a residence.

2. PART B of Wager Lot No. 53

This one story frame dwelling was erected by William Moore between 1845 and 1848. The maximum possible dimensions of this structure were approximately a 19 foot frontage on High Street and about 18 feet in depth. This building was also used as a residence.

C. Uses of Bldgs. on Wager Lot No. 53

1. PART A of Wager Lot No. 53: South (Right)

In 1850, the house was apparently the home of the lot owner, Samuel M. Williams. In 1860, it was apparently rented as a home to the family of William Wilson.

2. PART B of Wager Lot No. 53: South (Left

In 1850, it was apparently rented to the Mulatto family of Caroline Decamp(?). In 1860, it was apparently rented by the family of Daniel Keaf.

D. Bldg. No. 3.

Bldg. No. 3 today, is a three story brick structure fronting 41 feet on High Street by 33 in depth. The house is situated with approximately one half standing on Lot No. 53-Part A and the other portion standing on Wager Lot No. 54. The material used in the construction of Bldg. No. 3, together with the dimensions and its location astride two Wager Lots, clearly indicate that this structure was not standing before the Civil War. Further proof that Bldg. No. 3 was erected after 1893 will be found by a glance at Photograph HF-99. Photograph HF-142 also indicates that Bldg. No. 3 was constructed ~~before~~ after 1893 and Before 1900 (see Appendix I).

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Bldg. No. 3 be demolished as a

non-historic structure. It is further recommended that original pre-Civil War Wager Lots and sub-divisions on Wager Lot No. 53 be marked on the ground, perhaps using stone to form these boundary lines. It is also suggested that, after the removal of Bldg. No 3, it will be possible to interpret the entire High Street row (Wager Lots No. 53, 54, 55, and 56) by the means of two or three well placed trail side exhibits which should include several of the old photographs that form a part of this report. In conclusion that is recommended that Wager Lot No. 53-Part A be called the "Samuel M. Williams Lot" and Wager Lot No. 53-Part B be called the "George Koonce Lot", after the owners of this property in the 1859-65 period.

Charles W. Snell

Charles W. Snell,
Historian (Park Supervisory)
July 29, 1958

APPENDIX I

HISTORICAL AND MODERN PHOTOGRAPHS

(Four)

also
see

1. HF-770 – 1882 Photo – 787
Showing a corner
of Lot 53B

2. HF-96, 1896 Photo Made From Maryland
Height Clearly Shows One-Story
Frame Structure on Lot 56B.

HF-79 1880 – View
Rear of
Lot 53 Looking

"Catholic Church as seen from Main Street (High Street), Harpers Ferry, West Va."
1865-1866.

Photograph by Russell of Baltimore, believed to have been taken in 1865 or 1866.
Donated by Mrs. Henry McDonald, Storer College, May 18, 1958.
Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-359.

On the left stands Bldg. No. 37. On the right, on Part A of Lot 53 (but cut from this print by the photographer) stands the end wall of the two story pre-Civil War building. Readers are asked to look at the photograph (uncensored) on page 24 of Historic Building Report, Part I, for Bldg. No. 37, dated June 30, 1958, for the missing bldg.

HF-K 17 359


QUEENS WARE
GROCERIES
FLOUR
MEATS

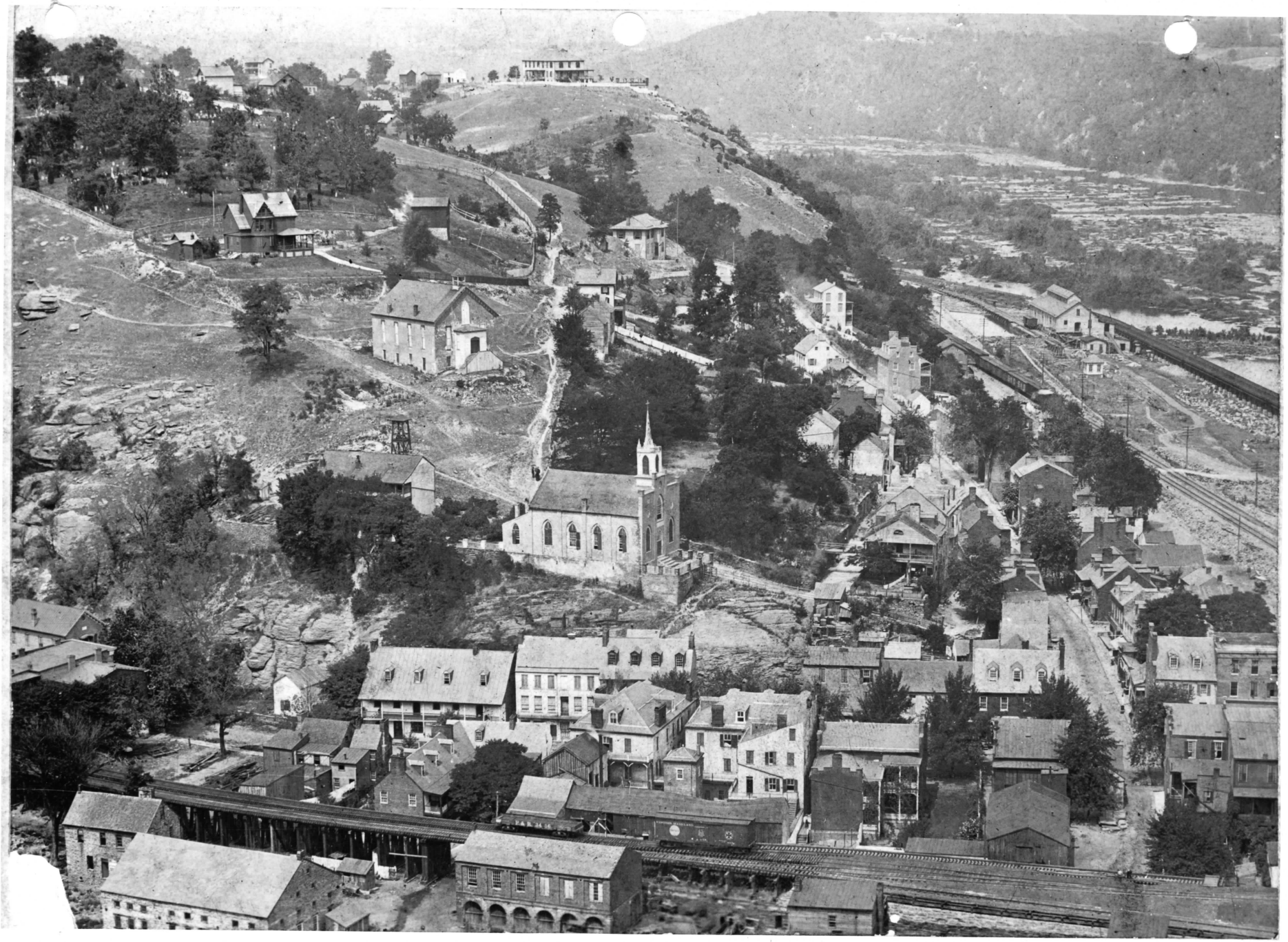
HARPERS FERRY FROM LOUDOUN HEIGHTS

National Geographic File No. 140321-A.

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-99.

Photograph made between 1892 and 1896.

High Street runs down the hill at the right of the picture and joins Shenandoah Street. Starting on the corner, left hand side of High Street, and moving up the hill: First, large brick house on Wager Lot No. 51; then gable roof of Bldg. No. 37 on Wager Lot No. 52; Part B of Wager Lot 53-vacant; Part A of Wager Lot No. 53 occupied by a two-story house with sloping roof, probably pre-Civil War and on site of Bldg. No. 3; three story brick house-gable roof on Wager Lot 54-Part B; three story brick house-gable roof on Wager Lot 54-Part A; Three story brick house on Part A Lot No. 55; two story stone house not visible on Part B of Lot No. 55; Three story brick house ~~not visible-gap;~~ (Turning) on Wager Lot No. 56; and 2½ Story Brick house not visible (gap), and Three story stone-brick house on Wager Lot 56-Part C at top of row. These houses were all standing during the 1859-65 period.



High Street, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.
About 1900.

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-142.

Bldgs. on left side of street; the house on corner located on Wager Lot No. 51; just above it, with only a portion showing is Bldg. No 37. The large three-story brick building above Bldg. No. 37 is Bldg. No. 3.

On the right side of the street, at the corner of High and Shenandoah Streets, is Bldg. No. 12, then 12-A, Bldg. No. 13, Bldg. No. 14, Bldg. No. 15 and Bldg. No. 16.

This photograph, together with HF-99, indicates that Bldg. No. 3 was erected after ~~1902~~ 1901 and before ~~1900~~ 1907.

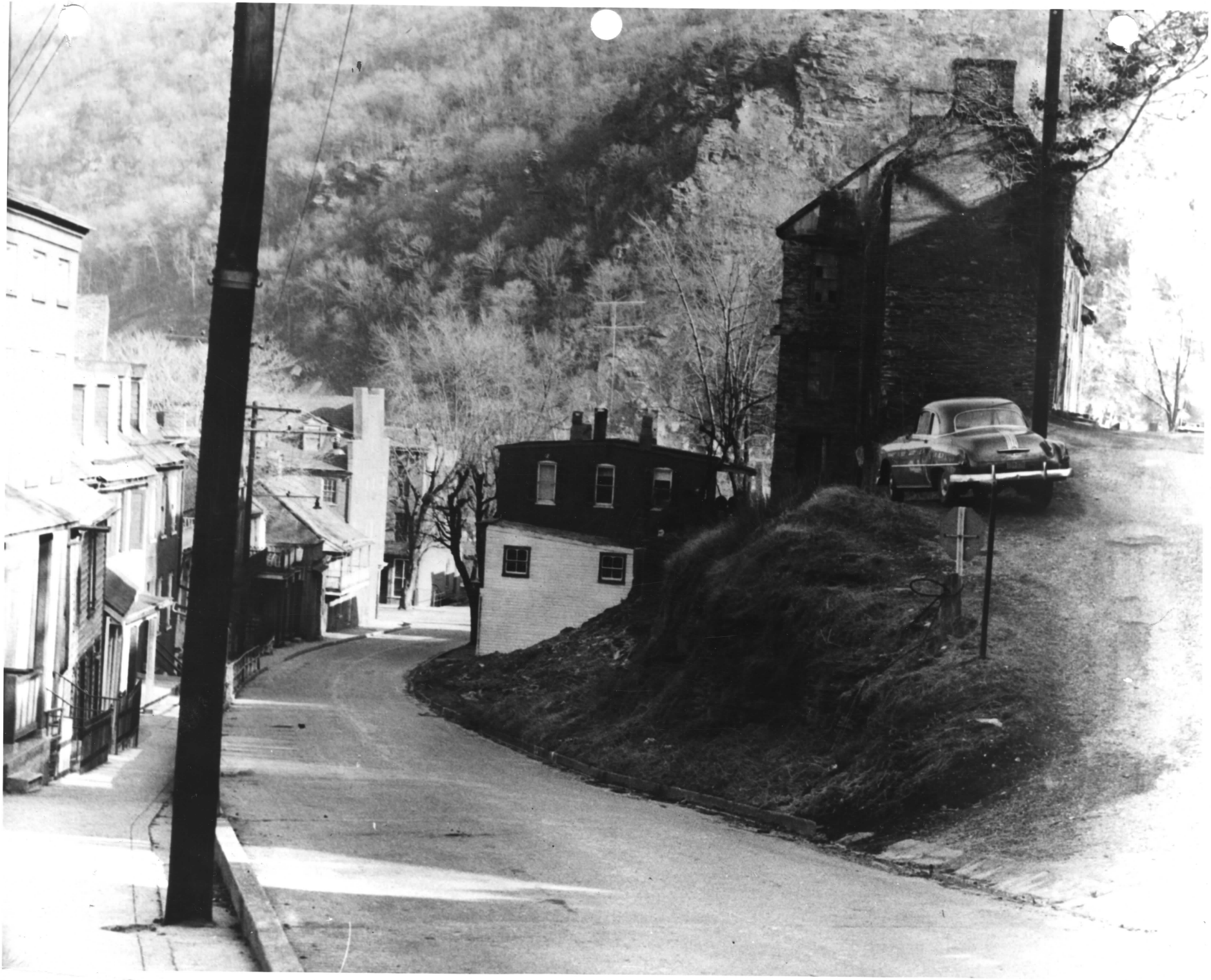


HIGH STREET, HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.

HIGH STREET AND BLDG. NO. 2 and 3.
JANUARY 1955

Harpers Ferry Negative No. NHF-674.

To the right, on the hill, are the Marmion Row Bldgs. 1-D, 1-C and 1-B. Below is the Sites of Wager Lots 56, 55, 54, and 53. The small wooden building on the right hand side of High Street is Bldg. No. 2 and the large three story brick structure just beyond it is Bldg. No. 3. Both are non-historic structures.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

H 30

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

August 18, 1958

REGION FIVE — INITIAL AND DATE
AUG 19 1958
RLG. DIRECTOR
ASST. REG. DIR.
OPERATIONS
INTERPRETATION
ADM.
REC. RES. PLAN
RANGER ACT'S

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

Subject: Historic Building Site Survey, Bldg. No. 3 - Wager Lot No. 53, Research Project No. HF-17

Enclosed please find four copies of the Historic Building Site Report for Building No. 3 - Wager Lot No. 53, the Williams' and Koonce's Lots, dated July 29, 1958, 19 pages. Historian Charles W. Snell has written the Historical Data Section and I have prepared the Administrative Data Section.

Frank H. Anderson

Frank H. Anderson
Superintendent

In duplicate

Copy to Region Five

H30

Region Five
421 Walnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

September 24, 1958

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Regional Director

Subject: Historic Building Site Survey Report
Building No. 3 - Wager Lot No. 53
Harpers Ferry National Monument

In accordance with the procedure outlined in FO-11-56, attached for your consideration is the above-mentioned report prepared by Superintendent Frank Anderson and Historian Charles Snell, Harpers Ferry National Monument. By copy of this memorandum, we are forwarding a copy of the report to EODC for review and comment.

The report should be reviewed by no later than October 6. Our comments will follow.

(Sgd.) Daniel J. Tobin

Daniel J. Tobin
Regional Director

In duplicate

Attachment

Copy to: Chief, EODC, w/copy report
Supt., Harpers Ferry
Operations Division (att. Mr. Nelson)

CP

General
Daily
Area

9/24/58

Historic Bldg. Site Survey - Harpers Ferry

Bldg. #3 - Wager Lot #53

Interpretation

Barnes ~~B~~ Agree with rec for demolition

Cotter ~~JCC~~ - OK

Operations

Coryell Agree with demolition, but think $600 estimate is low for demolition and site rehab. Suggest approx. $1800. for the work.

Assistant Regional Director

Will get rid of 2 sub-standard frames. $50

Regional Director

Go easy! Last needed for "village effect"? Or support of building behind it?

~~Dr. Neiligan--last~~

Agree w/recommendation! 9/30

I don't think it is necessary for "village effect," in fact is intrusive in regards to historic period of the town.

10-5

Nelligan 10/6

Region Five
421 Walnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

October 6, 1958

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

From: Acting Regional Director

Subject: Historic Buildings Report - Building No. 3 - Wager Lot No. 53 - Harpers Ferry National Monument

The subject report has been reviewed by this office, and we are pleased to concur with your recommendations subject to the following proviso: that the structure is not required for the support of any structures behind it.

(Sgd.) George A. Palmer

George A. Palmer
Acting Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Director
Chief, EODC
Operations Division

MHNelligan/cp

General ✓
Daily
Area

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30-D

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

REGION FIVE
OCT 10 1958
INITIAL AND DATE
REG. DIRECTOR
ACT. REG. DIR.
OPERATIONS
INTERPRETATION
ADM
REC. RES. PLAN
RANGER ACT'S

History
Arch. Hts.
Museum

October 7, 1958

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Acting Chief of Design and Construction

Subject: Historic Building Site Survey Report, Building No. 3, Wager Lot No. 53, Harpers Ferry

The above building report, transmitted with your memorandum of September 24, has been reviewed by the interested Divisions in the Washington Office and is recommended for acceptance and approval. The report is prepared with the usual care and detail which we have come to expect from the Park Service personnel of that Monument.

This office concurs in the recommendations that Building No. 3 be demolished as a nonhistoric structure and that the original pre-Civil War Wager lots and subdivisions on Wager Lot No. 53 be marked on the ground with stone to form the boundary lines. We are also in agreement with your further recommendation to interpret the entire High Street row by the means of two or three well-placed trail side exhibits which may include several of the old photographs contained in the report.

Merel S. Sager

Merel S. Sager, Acting Chief
of Design and Construction

Copy to: Chief, EODC (2)
Supt., Harpers Ferry