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## HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

White Hall Tavern. Bldg. No. 7,  
on Subdivisions No. 2 and 4 of  
Wager Lot No. 15.  
Historical Data

by

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PREFACE:

The purpose of this report is to update the "Historic Building Report, Part II, Historical Data Section, for Bldg. No. 7, White Hall, Harpers Ferry National Monument, W. Va.," prepared by Historian Charles W. Snell, March 30, 1959, on the basis of additional archaeological, architectural, and historical evidence that has been discovered during the 20 year since the above-mentioned study was completed.

The writer wishes to thank Librarian Hilda F. Staubs of the staff of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park for providing copies of documents and photographs for use in preparing this study.

Charles W. Snell,  
Historian

April 1980

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## II. HISTORICAL DATA SECTION:

### A. Significance:

White Hall(Bldg. No.7), located within approximately 65 feet of the original site of the U.S. Armory Fire Engine House, or "John Brown Fort", is of the Second Order of Significance because it formed an immediate part of this key historic scene during the John Brown Raid at Harpers Ferry in October 1859. Most of the action of that attack took place directly in front of Bldg. 7. Like Bldgs. No. 8 and 9, Bldg. No. 7 is visible in the background of most photographs that were taken of the John Brown Fort from 1859 to 1892.

Bldg. No. 7 was constructed by William Anderson in 1838-39 as as a one-story stone warehouse, with a cellar and a slate-covered gable roof. Measuring 24 feet by 40 feet in size, Anderson used Bldg. No. 7 as a warehouse from 1839 to 1847. Frederick A. Roeder, a confectioner, purchased the structure for \$ 1,000 in 1847, and probably in 1848-49, added a stone story and a half(attic) to the original building. Bldg 7 was used as "drinking house" known as "White Hall" and also as a warehouse and dwelling during the years 1848-1856.

In 1856, Roeder sold the front half of Bldg. 7 to the United States Government for \$ 1,700. The Armory demolished this portion of the structure in order to widen the 15-foot wide alley in front of White Hall to its present width of 40 feet. This demolition reduced Bldg. 7 to its present size, fronting approximately 24 on Potomac Street and about 20 feet deep. In 1856 Roeder rebuilt the north or front elevation of Bldg. 7 using stone for the first story wall and brick for the upper story and one-half. As rebuilt in 1856, Bldg. No. 7 had a cellar, a slated covered gable roof, and a small chimney centered in each gable end. The north or front elevation was divided into three bays. On the first story there was a center door flanked on either side by a widow with exterior louvered shutters. The second story had three windows and the third or attic story had one window centered under the end chimney. Widdows had six over six lights. The structure had five rooms in 1861: probably one on the first floor and two each on the upper floors. Bldg. Seven, known throughout the years 1848-1953, as "White Hall" was also used throughout most of this period as as tavern. The front of building appears to have been painted white during these years, hence the name "White Hall."

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Chain of Title for Bldg. No 7 on Wager Lot No. 15-  
Subdivision No. 2, and No. 4, 1751-1953:

The lot that was to include the future site of Bldg. No. 7 was part of a 125 acre tract that was acquired by Robert Harper, a millwright from Pennsylvania, from Lord Thomas Fairfax on April 25, 1751.<sup>1</sup> Harper died at Harpers Ferry in October 1782 and under the terms of his will, the future sites of Bldg. 7, the lower town of Harpers Ferry, and the U.S. Musket Factory, passed to his niece, Sarah Harper, then the wife of John Wager and residing in Philadelphia.<sup>2</sup> On June 15, 1796, John and Sarah Wager sold all of this Harper inheritance, except for 6 and 3/4 acres retained in what became known as the Wager Six Acre Reservation and the Wager Ferry Lot, to the United States Government for \$ 7,016.66.<sup>3</sup> The Federal Government acquired the land to erect an Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry.

The future site of Bldg. No. 7 was located in the Wager Six Acre Reservation, which with the Ferry Lot, remained the property of the Wager family from 1796 to 1836. The only available private land on which mercantile stores and shops could be built in this sea of Federally owned land, the Wager property increased in value as the Armory and population of the town expanded, with the passage of time. The Wager heirs refused to sell any of their land, but leased it out at high ground rents to merchants who also agreed to erect buildings as a part of securing a leasehold. These costs were passed on to the Armory.

1. Fairfax deed for 125 acres to Robert Harper, April 25, 1751, in Northern Neck Grant Book No. 6, p. 496, in Virginia State Library, Richmond, Va.

2. Last Will of Robert Harper of Berkeley County, Va., dated 26 September 1782, probated in Berkeley County, Va., on October 15, 1782. Copy of will in Office of the Judge Advocate General, Military Reservation Division, West Virginia Reservation File, Box 41, National Archives Record Group No. 153, Washington, D.C.

3. Copy of Warranty Deed of John Wager, et ux, Berkeley County, Va., to the United States, June 15, 1796, National Archives Record Group 121, Public Buildings Service, Entry 75, Washington, D.C.

workmen in the form of the very high prices charged for goods.  
three

One of the Wager heirs, James Bates Wager, however, overextended himself in his financial operations and, on July 7, 1834, was thrown into prison for debt. He was forced to declare bankruptcy. 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." 4

The commissioners subdivided the Six Acre Reservation and the Ferry Lot, together with the buildings on this land, into 56 numbered lots, and on October 10, 1835, the Circuit Court divided the lots and structures equally among the three Wager heirs. Among the lots allotted to James B. Wager was Lot No. "15" being a part of the old tavern lot". 5 The future site of Bldg. No. 7 was located on a portion of Wager Lot No. 15.

On January 14, 1836, the Circuit 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 for the purpose of paying off Wager's debts. The Shenandoah and High Street frontages of Lot No. 15 in 1836 were occupied by the "Harper's Ferry Hotel", a rambling frame structure that the Wagers had erected in 1803, and

was then operating under a leasehold that did not expire until March 31,

1838. A newspaper advertisement for the 1836 public auction

4. Gibson, etc. vs. Wager etc, Decree, in Deed Book 29, pp. 140- 141, Registry of Deeds, Jefferson V County Courthouse, Charles Town, W. Va. Henceforth all deed books mentioned are located in the Jefferson County Court House unless otherwise specified.

5. Ibid. The 1835 Plat- prepared for the commissioners and entitled "The Wager Six Acre Reservation, drawn by James M. Brown, S.G.C," is located in Deed Book 29, at p. 140.

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described Lot 15 as " A lot fronting on the U.S. Arsenal (on Shenandoah Street) 90 feet by about 150, binding on a cross street (High Street).

On this lot are erected the spacious frame buildings occupied and known as a Hotel for the last 30 years....

This property was offered for sale in 1836, but it was so valuable that no bidder was apparently able to offer a reasonable price for the the hotel and land, hence the commissioners refused to sell Lot 15.

On November 26, 1836, the Court next authorized the commissioners to subdivide Lot No. 15 into four smaller lots that were marked as Subdivisions No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, of Lot No. 15. About 11 months

later, on October 28, 1837, the four subdivisions of Lot 15 were offered and sold at public auction for a grand total of approximately \$ 5,872.50.

to three bidders. William Anderson, a Harper's Ferry merchant and builder, was one of the three successful bidders, acquiring Subdivision No. 2 for \$ 1,610.00 and Subdivision No. 4 for \$ 1,012.50. Subdivision No.

2 was an L-shaped lot fronting 30 feet on Shenandoah Street, extending back about 120 feet six inches and the short leg of the L fronted 10 feet six inches on the 15 foot wide alley that ran between the north boundary of the Wager Six Acre Reservation and the southern property line of the U.S. Musket Factory. This alley later became known as Potomac Street. Subdivision No. 4 of Lot 15 abutted on the rear or west property line of Subdivision No. 2, fronted 30 feet on High

Street, extended back (north ) about 125 feet on the east line to the 15-foot

8. Ibid., Deed Book No. 24, pp.457-458.

6. Virginia Free Press, April 7, 1836, p.4.

7. Deed Book 24, pp.457-458, Deed of B. & S., February 8, 1841, for Subdivisions 2 and 4 to William Anderson for \$ 1,610, and \$ 1,012.50 respectively; Subdivision 3 to Philip Coons for \$ 1,450. Deed of B. & S., February 8, 1841, Deed Book 24, 457; Lot No. 1 went to Mrs. Ann C. Stephenson, Deed of B & S., April 29, 1842, Deed Book, 25, p.512- Much of the deed has been torn out of the book so that the purchase price is missing. However, as it was the choice corner lot at High and Shenandoah Streets, the price has here been estimated at \$ 1,800.00.

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wide alley on the north side. Subdivision No. 4 fronted 30 feet on this alley and then ran back(south) about 120 feet to High Street. (See Map No. 1- 1835 plat.)

Bldg. No. 7 was constructed so that it fronted on the alley; the structure occupied the complete 10 feet six frontage of Subdivision No. 2 and about 13 feet six inches of the 30 foot frontage of Subdivision No. 4 on the same alley, making the total frontage of Bldg. No. 7 on that narrow lane about 24 feet.

On November 2, 1847, William Anderson and Sarah his wife, both of Baltimore City, sold the site of and Bldg. No. 7 itself for \$ 1,000.00 to Frederick Augustus Roeder of Harpers Ferry.

The deed describes the bounds as follows:

....certain warehouse property, including the ground the said warehouse stands upon, the said ground or lot being twenty-~~four feet wide~~ and forty feet long, situated in village of Harper's Ferry - and standing upon the alley (now called Potomac Street) which runs parallel with the Armory buildings, and in the rear of the property recently sold and conveyed by the said William Anderson to Susan Downey (This was the balance of Subdivision No. 4, of Lot 15, including Park Bldg. No. 15, which Anderson had constructed. This sale took place on July 20, 1846), including also in this conveyance any portion or strip of ground which may lie between the end of said warehouse and the alley aforesaid- but with this exception or addition, it is hereby declared to be the and intent of this deed to convey only the ground said warehouse stands on, the said warehouse being of the dimensions aforesaid... 9

Frederick A Roeder and Anna Marie, his wife, held title to this warehouse and lot until February 13, 1856, when in consideration of \$ 1,700, they sold the following portion of the lot and building to the United States:

9. Deed of B. & S., November 2, 1847, Deed Book 29, p. 240. The lot also appears to have been about 45 feet deep and not only forty, as stated in the deed.

" Beginning at the north Eastern corner thereof (Lot 15- subdivision No. 2, abutting on Subdivision No. 1 of Lot 15,) ~~and~~ on the Alley, which passes along the land near the public workshops (of the U.S. Musket Factory) and thence westwardly embracing the entire front of said Lot on said Alley of Twenty four feet from said front on said Alley, together with so much of the building thereon as occupies the said area...

The meaning and intent of this conveyance being to sell and convey twenty-five feet in depth of the whole front of this lot, now owned and occupied by the said Roeder as a warehouse....: " 10

This sale reduced ~~the~~ Roeder's Bldg. 7 property from ~~a~~ lot that was 24 feet wide and 40 feet deep to one ~~lot~~ that was 24 feet wide and 15 feet deep; that actual ~~lot~~ depth, as we shall see, however, was 20 feet. The United States Government was acquiring this piece of Roeder's land and warehouse so that they could widen the 15-foot alley to a width of 40 feet, thus creating an effective fire break between the privately owned structures situated on the Wager ~~lot~~ Six Acre Reservation lots and the public workshops located on the U.S. Musket Factory land.

his  
Fredick A Roeder and heirs owned this reduced tract and building from 1856 to May 12, 1874. On this latter date the Roeder heirs sold Bldg. No. 7 to Charles L. Hopwood for \$ 321.43. The deed described the lot and structure as follows:

...a certain Lot & House situated on Potomac Street (the former 15-foot wide alley) in said Harper's Ferry North of and adjoining the property situated in High Street, now owned and occupied by Charlotte R. Hopwood (that is, the balance of Subdivision No. 4 of Lot 15, with Park Bldg. No. 15 located on the tract)...; the said property hereby conveyed being a part of that Known as 'White Hall' and bounded as follows; Beginning on Potomac Street at the Northeastern corner of the House hereby conveyed, running West with said street twenty-four feet three inches, thence south twenty feet, thence east twenty-four feet, three inches, and thence north (about 20 feet) to the beginning... 11

10. Deed of B. & S., ~~Feb~~ February 13, 1856, Deed Book 35, pp. 299-300.

11. Deed of B & S., May 12, 1874. Deed Book B, pp. 153-154.

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Charles L. and Charlotte R. Hopwood, and their heirs owned Bldg. No. 7 and lot and Bldg. No. 15 on Subdivision No. 4 of Lot 15 from 1874 to March 28, 1923. On this latter date the Hopwood<sup>12</sup> sold the two structures to Harry Rockenbaugh for \$ 1,500.00. The property then passed under Harry Rockenbaugh's will, to Aldridge<sup>13</sup> Rockenbaugh. The Rockenbaugh family owned this property from 1923 to July 28, 1941, when Aldridge sold Bldg. No. 7 and lot to Luke Loveless for \$ 380.00.<sup>14</sup> The deed described this as "Being ~~the~~ the same property which is known as White Hall on Potomac Street." Loveless enlarged the lot by purchasing a small lot that fronted 15.7 feet on Potomac Street, running back 20.6 feet on the east side, 19 feet on the west side, and was 14.2 feet wide on the rear or south side, from R. L. Stephens on August 13, 1946.<sup>15</sup> This added lot, which was located between Bldgs. No. 7 and No. 5, was fully occupied by Bldg. No. 6, a two-story frame structure that was probably erected about 1890 and in 1894 was being used as a restaurant.<sup>16</sup> Luke Loveless owned Bldgs. No. 6 and 7 until December 1, 1952, when he sold these two lots and structures to the State of West Virginia, for about \$ 1,900.00.<sup>17</sup> On December 19, 1953, the State of West Virginia donated Bldgs. No. 6 and 7 and their lots to the United States Government to be included in the authorized Harpers Ferry National Monument.<sup>18</sup>

18. Deed of B. & S. December 19, 1953, Deed Book 199, p. 41.

12. Deed Book 123, p. 141. Deed describes lot as fronting "on High Street and running back to what was formerly known as Canal Street, now Potomac Street, improved by a dwelling house on High Street and one fronting on Potomac Street and other buildings."

13. Will Book F, p. 202-Registry of Deeds, Jefferson County Courthouse, Charlestown, W. Va.

14. Deed Book 154, p. 535. , Bldg. No. 6,

15. Deed Book 170, p. 355. A small frame building stood on this lot in 1946.

17. Deed Book 190, p. 318.

16. Sanborn Perris Map of Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County, West Virginia, November, 1894, shows Bldg. 6 and gives use.

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C. Construction and Alterations to Bldg. No. 7

The Map entitled "Sketch No. 2, Shewing two practicable locations for the Balto. & Ohio R. Rd. through the Village of Harper's Ferry, Scale <sup>1</sup> 100 ft = one inch" (See Map No. 2), <sup>1</sup> site reveals that there were no structures located on the future of Bldg. No. 7 when this map was ~~made~~ made ~~in~~ in ~~1837-38~~ 1837-38. On October 28, 1837, William Anderson and his brother, Samuel B. Anderson, Dr. owners of Subdivisions No. 2 and 4 of Lot 15, and George W. Stephenson, the oldest son of Mrs. Ann C. Stephenson, the owner of ~~Subdivision~~ Subdivision No. 1 of Lot 15, advertised for bids from carpenters and masons to erect ~~Park~~ Bldgs. No. 11 and 12 on Subdivisions No. 1 and 2, and and Park Bldgs. No. 7 and 15 on Subdivisions 2 and 4. The Anderson-Stephenson advertisement described the plans for the latter two structures as follows: "Also two stone houses, ~~each~~ each 24 by 40 feet, with cellars, one of them to be one (Bldg. No. 7), and the other two stories (Bldg. No. 15) high-<sup>2</sup> all to be covered with slate..... Construction on these four new buildings got underway in the spring of 1838, after March 31, when the lease on the Harper's Ferry Hotel expired and this old frame building could be demolished in order to clear the sites for the construction of the large three-story brick buildings, Bldgs. No. 11 and 12, on Subdivisions No. 1 and 2 of Lot 15.

The two brick buildings were completed in the spring of 1839. Mrs. Ann C. Stephenson leased her store in Bldg. No. 12 in April 1839. <sup>3</sup>

1. Ordnance Office Dower No. 5, Portfolio 1, No. 5- National Archives
2. Virginia Free Press, November 16, 1837, p.3, c.4.
3. Harpers Ferry Constitutionalist, May 1, 1839, p.4- the merchants' notice, of opening in Bldg. 12, however is dated April 20, 1839.

William and S.B. Anderson moved into their newly completed Bldg.

Bldg. 11 by June 19, 1839, when their leasehold on the large store building located on Wager Lot No. 51, at the corner of High and Shenandoah Street, expired.<sup>4</sup> Construction on the two stone Bldgs., No. 7 and 15, apparently started later in the 1838 season, or perhaps, not until early 1839. Bldg. No. 15 thus was completed<sup>5</sup> and first leased for use as a tavern in September 1839.

Because Bldg. No. 7 was intended for use as a warehouse to service the store located in Bldg. 11, there was no notice in the newspaper when the warehouse was completed, as had been the cases with Bldgs. No. 11, 12, and 15. On the basis of the evidence presented, however, Bldg. No. 7 was probably completed in 1839.

As constructed in 1839, Bldg. No. 7 was a one-story stone warehouse with a slate roof and cellar. The structure fronted 24 feet on the 15 foot wide alley that later became known as Potomac Street and was 40 feet long. The original ground plan of Bldg. No. 7 is shown on Map No. 3, a plat dated July 17, 1846 and prepared by James N. Brown, Surveyor of Jefferson County, for William Anderson.<sup>6</sup>

As has been mentioned, Frederick A. Roeder, a confectioner, purchased "certain ware house property," including the ground the said warehouse stands upon, the said ground or lot being

twent-four feet wide and forty feet long... including any portion or

4. Harpers Ferry Constitutionalist, September 11, 1839, p. 1- the notice that the store on Lot 51 was rent, however, is dated June 19, 1839.
5. Harpers Ferry Constitutionalist, September 11, 1839, p. 3.
6. Deed of B. & S., dated July 20, 1846, Deed Book 28, p. 174- The plat shows the bounds of Subdivision 4 of Lot 15, and the ground plan of Bldg. No. 15, which William Anderson sold to Susan Downey on July 20, 1846 for \$ 3,000.00. Scale 1 one inch equals 30 feet.

"strip of ground which may lie between the end of said warehouse and the alley..." from William Anderson for \$ 1,000<sup>7</sup> on November 2, 1847.

Also, as has been noted, the evidence indicates that the front of the warehouse stood five feet north of the edge of the alley so that the full size of the lot was 24 by 45 feet in size. ~~At some undetermined date after November 1847 and prior to July 1852, Roeder added a full plus a half story or attic stone second story to his warehouse.~~ <sup>but probably in 1848-49,</sup> This information is provided by a letter that Armory Superintendent Benjamin Huger wrote to Col.

Henry K. Craig, Ordnance Department, on July 17, 1852. Huger reported:

Mr. A. F. Roeder (sic) who owns part of Lot No. 15 (on Map)- which extends to within 15 feet of Armory wall (along the 15-foot wide alley) offers to cut off 21 feet of the building (Bldg. No. 7) & remove it, & give the U. States a fee simple of that portion of the lot so that the road can be widened to 40 feet for \$ 1,700. The size of this part of the lot (that is, the portion that was need by the United States for use as a street) is only 24 x 25 feet. - & it cuts off 21 feet of the two story stone building now on it. As this is the main part of the building he considers it worth at least \$ 1,000 to replace ...<sup>8</sup>

On February 13, 1856, as has been mentioned, Roeder sold to the United States " the entire front of said lot on said Alley of Twenty four feet, together with so much of the building thereon occupied the said area ... to convey twenty-five feet in depth of the whole front of this lot, now owned and occupied by the said Roeder as a warehouse...", for \$ 1,700.00.<sup>9</sup>

Included in this sale of the 24 foot wide by 25 foot deep lot was the front (northern) portion of Roeder's two  $\frac{1}{2}$  story stone warehouse- a section 24 feet wide and 20 feet deep. The demolition of this front

7. Deed Book 29, p. 240.
8. Huger to Craig, July 17, 1852, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Microfilm Reel 26, Volume 4, p331. From National Archives Record Group No. 156, Records of the Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D.C.
9. Deed Book 35, pp. 299-300.

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section by the United States in 1856 in order to widen the alley to a 40-foot wide street at this point, left Roeder with the rear section of his two-story stone warehouse still standing. A new front (north) elevation, of course had to be constructed in 1856. Bldg. No. 7, as it now stands, thus basically assumed its present form as a two-story <sup>and a half</sup> ~~two-story~~ <sup>covered gable</sup> stone structure with a slate/roof and cellar, and measuring 24 feet in <sup>10</sup> width by 20 feet in depth in ~~the~~ the 1856 remodelling.

also

During the 1847-1855 period Bldg. No. 7 had more exciting uses than simply serving as a baker's warehouse. Armory Superintendent Henry W. Clowe in letter to Chief of Ordnance Henry K. Craig, dated July 25, 1855, requesting that the sum of \$ 1,700 be included in the estimates for 1856 so that the Rodder Bldg. 7 property could be acquired, noted that this property " consists of a two-story stone house occupied now as a Dwelling and Warehouse, and formerly as a <sup>11</sup> Drinking House know as the " White Hall'." This information suggests that the facade of Bldg. No. 7 was painted white during this period and as the name "White Hall" was to be applied to the structure constantly in ~~all~~ the deeds ~~1857~~ down to 1953, it further suggests that the front elevation of Bldg. 7 was usually painted white and the structure must have been used as a tavern during most of its existence.

Testimony of the Roeder children, given in 1902, indicates that Bldg. No. 7 had five ~~rooms~~ <sup>12</sup> in 1861-62.

10. See Photograph HF- 55- taken in 1865, shown part of front elevation of Bldg. No. 7, also HF-379, taken period 1882-1886.
11. Clowe to Craig, July 24, 1855; HFNHP <sup>R</sup> Reel 25, Vol. 8, p. 748.
12. See data in Appendix No. I.

Architectural evolution of Bldg. 7

Based on documentary and photographic evidence and a study of measured drawings of White Hall, the probable architectural evolution of Bldg. No. 7 follows:

Stage 1: As constructed for William Anderson in 1838-39, Bldg. No. 7 was a one-story stone warehouse that fronted 24 feet on the alley that later became known as Potomac Street and was 40 feet long. The roof, probably gabled, was covered with slate and there was a cellar under the structure. The ~~east~~ and west side walls of both the cellar and first story were about two feet three ~~inches~~ inches thick; the front(~~north~~) and rear(~~south~~) stone walls were approximately one foot 10½ inches thick. The north facade was probably painted white, hence giving the name "White Hall" to the house.

Stage 2. 1848-49: About 1848-49, Frederick A. Roeder, the new owner, added a stone second story and a half(an attic) to the original one-story building. The new walls, on all four sides, appear to have one foot seven ~~inches~~ inches thick. The roof, probably gabled, was covered with slate and the enlarged structure was remodelled for use as a tavern or drinking house on the first story and for service as a dwelling on the upper floor and a half.

Stage 3. 1856: In 1856 the front(~~north~~) half of Bldg. 7 -a portion 24 feet wide and 20 feet deep was demolished by the United States Government in order to widen the 15-foot alley in front of White Hall to a 40 foot-wide street. This alteration left Roeder with a two and one-half story stone structure, approximately 24 feet wide and 20 feet deep, the present size of Bldg. No. 7. In reconstructing the destroyed north or Potomac Street facade, Roeder <sup>new</sup> built the cellar ~~North~~ walls and first story of stone and both about one foot 10½ thick, probably the same thickness that they had had since 1839.

1. They matched the original rear(~~or south~~) cellar and 1st story walls, which do not appear to have been rebuilt since 1839. Perhaps the new North wall was a ~~new~~ cross wall in the center of the structure.

Roeder now, however, rebuilt the ~~old~~ second story and half story of the <sup>new</sup> north facade of brick rather than stone. The new brick walls were ~~old~~ approximately 10 inches thick. As remodelled in 1856 Bldg. No. 7 was a two<sup>story</sup> and one-half ~~old~~ stone and brick structure with a gabled and slate-covered roof and a cellar. The house fronted ~~old~~ 24 feet on Potomac Street and was about 20 feet deep. The plan of the house included five rooms; probably one large room on the first floor, and two rooms each on the second floor and in the attic. The first floor was again used as a tavern room and the upper floors as a residence. The <sup>new</sup> north elevation was ~~old~~ again probably painted white, so that the tavern continued to be known as "White Hall" from ca. 1848 to 1873.

Photo HF- 55, taken in 1865, provides some details on the nature of the ~~old~~ 1856-65 north facade of White Hall. The ~~old~~ reveals that there was a small end chimney centered in the north(front) gable end of Bldg 7, which was apparently balanced by a similar small end chimney in the south gable end. The roof is covered with slate. One window ~~old~~ <sup>is</sup> centered ~~old~~ in the third or attic story, under the end chimney. The ~~old~~ <sup>is</sup> second story ~~old~~ clearly divided into three bays, each with a window containing six over six lights. The brick upper story and a half appears to be unpainted, or the paint has faded away. Only a small portion of the center of the first story can be seen in HF-55. <sup>However,</sup> ~~old~~ it is quite clear ~~old~~ that the one-story stone walls of the first floor are ~~old~~ painted white and that a large door was centered in the middle bay of the north elevation.

Bldg. 7 received heavy use by the Union Armory in 1861-62. The first floor served as a stable and hay and other supplies were stored on the upper floors. Charles L. Hopwood, who purchased the house for only \$ 321 43. in May 1874, reconditioned the building and put it into  good condition( See Photo HF- 379-Photo No. 27 taken in the period 1882-86). During this work the north exterior, all three-stories, was painted white, but the facade was apparently not altered from its 1856-59 appearance.

Photo HF- 379 also reveals that the the first story of the north or front elevation was divided into three bays, like the second story above. A doorway is visible in the center bay and a portion of a window adorned by louvered exterior shutter  can be seen in part in the west or right-hand bay. The east or left-hand bay, which is not visible in any historical(pre-1900) photo, presumably contain  a window with shutters to match the one in the west bay. This three-bay wide fenestration appears to date back at least to the 1856 rebuilding of the north or front elevation.

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and probably after 1907, a  
At some undetermined date after 1901, a one story covered wooden

porch ~~was~~ added to the first story of Bldg. No. 7 (See Photo No. 5-HF- 96, taken 1896-1900), but otherwise the north facade, still painted completely white, appears unaltered from the earlier view.<sup>2</sup>

The floor plans indicate that one earlier opening in the west (right) side wall of the cellar had been walled up with rock at some ~~undetermined date~~, but probably in 1846 by William Anderson. On the ~~first~~ floor, a former doorway located in the west (right) wall approximately over the opening in the cellar below, has also been walled up at some undetermined date. This doorway would, of course, have been closed when Bldg. No. 6 was erected, which was prior to 1894. The doorway was also probably cut after 1874, when Hopwood obtained title to both Bldg. No. 7 and 15 lots.

The Inventory of Buildings prepared by Henry C. Edwards and John T. Willett in 1955 to accompany the Architectural Base Map of Harpers Ferry, Drawing No. NM-HF - 3055, offers the following information on the state of Bldg. No. 7, when the Park Service took charge of the structure: "Bldg. No. 7, Type: Dwelling or tavern. Name "White Hall". Date: B. 1859. 2½ stories. 496 square feet per floor. Cost to West Virginia, \$ 1,900. Construction: Walls: stone; Roof, slate. Dormers, sash etc. Wood. Wood porch. Remarks. Condition September 1955. Flood damage; deterioration from neglect, walls sound. Remarks, Owned by Frederick Roeder, 1859."

2. Photo HF- 1896-1901, shows the north or front elevation of Bldg. 7 without a porch. Map No. 5- the Sanborn Company insurance map of Harpers Ferry dated September 1907, indicates that the porch had not been added to Bldg. 7 as of that date. For a photo of the 20th century porch on Bldg. 7, misdated 1893 and taken after 1907, see Figure 34, page 50, in Archeologist David Hardgrave Hannah, "Archeological Excavations on Virginus Island, Harpers Ferry National Historic Park, 1966-1968:" (Harpers Ferry Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, March, 1969).

Archeological Evidence Regarding Bldg. No. 7 :

Archeologist William M. Gardner excavated the area along side the west wall( Trench G) and the south(rear) elevation of Bldg. 7(Trench FØ ), in 1973-74. In regards to Trench G, Mr. Gardner found "a brick sidewalk immediately adjacent to Building No. 7. This is a very late featured and well post-Civil War but undoubtedly used by the occupants of the inner courtyards to gain access to Potomac<sup>1</sup> Street."

Documentary evidence provides the following information that may help date the age of this walk:

1. Map No. 3, Plat prepared in 1846 when William Anderson sold Bldg. 15 and most of Subdivision No. 4 of Lot No. 15 to Susan Downey on July 20, 1846, reserved to Anderson a right of way through Downey's backyard, via the area enclosed by figures and numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, J. I, H. and G thus running adjacent to the south(rear) and west(side) walks of Bldg. 7, from  the rear of his brick store, Bldgs. 11 and 11A on Subdivision 2 of Lot 15. William Anderson, in 1846, was thus have found such a brick walk useful.

2. Mrs. Sasan Downey, however, apparently found the passage of Anderson and his customers through her backyard objectionable, for two years later, on August 1, 1848, she paid Anderson \$ 300.00 to acquire that 1846 route and in addition, gave him a new right of way leading to High Street via the area enclosed by figures and letters 1, 2, 3, C, B and A on Map No. 3. The deed further specified that both parties<sup>2</sup> were to keep up fences.

1. Gardner, William A., "Excavations - Harpers Ferry, 1973-74," (Contract study for the Denver Service Center, December 6, 1974), p. 32.
2. Deed Book 30, p. 306-307.

Thus from 1848 to 1874, Bldg. 7 and Lot No. 15, subdivision 4, with Bldg. 15, were under separate ownerships and there would have been no real need for a brick walk close to Bldg. 7. Fences would also keep the occupants of Wager Lots 14, and Subdivisions 3 and 2 of Lot 15 from cutting around the rear of Bldg. 7 and across Subdivision 4 of Lot 5 to reach Potomac Street. In 1873-74, however, Charles L. and Charolette R. Hopwood purchased Bldgs. 7 and 15, thus obtaining title to all of Lot 15, Subdivision 4. The 1907 insurance map. (Map No. 5) shows the right of way granted Anderson in 1848 closed off and its space occupied by a frame addition or structure located between Bldgs. No. 14 and 15. In order to do this legally, the owners of Bldg. 15 would have had to either give the owners of Lot 15, subdivision 2 a new outlet from the back of to Bldgs. No. 11 and 11A, or have purchased their right.

The brick walk along the west side of Bldg. 7 was thus constructed after 1874 and prior to ca. 1890, when Bldg. No. 6 was erected over the top of the sidewalk, so as to completely fill in the space between Bldgs. No. 5 and 7 (See Maps no. 4-1894 and No. 5-1907). As has been mentioned the first-story door in the west wall of Bldg. 7 was probably cut about 1874 and brickup about 1890, when Bldg. No. 6 was erected.

B. Foundation Wall

In the 1873-74 excavation Archeologist William M. Gardner reported

"Another feature of which only a part of was uncovered due to the excavation difficulties (from vast quantities of rubble, consisting of very large shale fragments that could not be readily moved) was a deeply buried foundation wall which was oriented from the NE to SW, or parallel with the northwest (our "west" side) wall Building 7. This foundation only extended for approximately six feet back (south) of the present sidewalk but ran (north) under the sidewalk and Potomac Street. It was once thought, and it is still possible that this wall was connected with some sort of basement entrance into Building 7. I am of the opinion... that this foundation represents the remains of a building shown on the 1803 map and which falls in the general vicinity... 3

3. Gardner, "Excavations-Harpers Ferry, 1873-74", p. 32.

This writer, however, believes that the foundation wall was probably constructed by William Anderson when he erected Bldg. No. 7 in 1838-39, to provide a basement entrance to the cellar of Bldg. 7. Floor plans of Bldg. 7 reveal that there was once a doorway located in the west cellar basement wall at a point approximately eight feet 10½ inches from the northwest (front or Potomac Street) corner of the building. The former doorway was later walled shut with rock.

In 1846, as has been mentioned, Anderson sold most of Subdivision 4, Lot 15, to Susan Downey and reserved a right of way around the south (rear) elevation and west side of Bldg. 7. In order to walk on the ground level via his path to Potomac Street, William Anderson would have had to fill up the former basement entranceway to Bldg. 7 along the west wall. This writer thus suggests that cellar door in the west wall of Bldg. 7 was formed in 1838-39 when William Anderson erected the warehouse and closed up, together with the filling in of the sunken basement entrance way, in July 1846, when Anderson sold adjacent Subdivision 4 of Lot 15 to Susan Downey.

D. Use of Bldg. No. 7, "White Hall", 1839-1953:

Erected by William Anderson and probably completed in 1839, Bldg. No. 7 service<sup>d</sup> as a one-story stone warehouse from 1839 to 1847, storing <sup>the</sup> goods that were sold in Anderson's store, which was located in Bldg. No. 11. Frederick A. Roeder purchased Bldg. No. 7 in November 1847, and added a second story <sup>and re-halt</sup> to the warehouse, probably in 1848-49. During this period, 1848-1855, Roeder leased the structure out as a tavern, which probably because of its white painted exterior, was generally known as "White Hall." In the 1855-56, period, ~~was~~ however, the structure <sup>was</sup> described as being used as a warehouse (on the first floor) and a dwelling on the second. Bldg. 7 then apparently reverted to service as a drinking house again during the years 1857 to 1861, for the 1874 deed for the sale of the structure describes the property as "known as White Hall.", thus indicating that this title had been <sup>1</sup> associated with Bldg. 7 for at least some 20 years.

Disaster struck the Roeder family, the owners of this property in 1861. Anna Maria, the wife of Frederick A. Roeder, died on March 23, 1861, in her 41st year;. The Civil War then began and on July 4, 1861, Frederick A. Roeder, a strong supporter of the Union cause, was killed by sniper's bullet that had probably been fired by a Union soldier. Mary L. Roeder, Frederick's 18 year old daughter and the recent bride of 25 year old John Kern, with her husband

1. Deed of B. & S., May 12, 1874, Deed Book B, pp. 153-154.

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aid, assumed responsibility for the six minor and orphaned <sup>2</sup> Roeder children, whose <sup>the</sup> ages ranged from two to 16. As first the Confederate and then the Union Arm<sup>ies</sup> occupied Harper's Ferry during the summer of 1861, the Kerns took the six Roeder children and fled to Maryland for safety, residing at Middletown and Frederick during the remainder of that year. With family gone, the <sup>the</sup> remaining citizens of Harpers Ferry and the soldiers of the occupying armies stole and looted ~~the~~ Frederick A. Roeder's personal property and furnishings in his residence and bakery, Bldgs. 16 and 16A, in Bldg. No. 5, and in Bldg. No. 7, <sup>the</sup> WhiteHall. Tavern. On or about July 25, 1861 the Union Army occupied Harpers Ferry ~~the~~ and held the town until <sup>generally</sup> March 25, 1862 <sup>^</sup>. During this eight month period, the United States Army utilized the vacant Roeder buildings. The first floors of Bldgs. No. 5 and 7 served as <sup>3</sup> stables for Army horses and the upper floors were used to store hay and for other warehouse purposes. The Army paid no rent. John J. Kern, like his father-in-law, was also a strong Union man and he returned to Harpers Ferry with his wife and the Roeder children in March 1862, when the Union Army occupied the town in force. He resided there during the remainder of the war, except for brief periods when the Confederate Army again invaded the town. During these short intervals Kern and family again fled into Maryland. Augustus H. Roeder, Frederick's oldest son, enlisted in the Union Army at the age of 16 in

2. U.S. Court of Claims, JC 11803-Statement of James R. Roeder, Roeder's son, Sept. 5, 1902, p. 4.
3. U.S. Court of Claims-11803- Claim of J. J. Kern, Administrator, 3 (sic) A. Roeder Estate for rent under Act July 4, 1864, filed September 25, 1873.

1863 and served three years in the Independent Loudoun Ranger Company.

In 1863 the Circuit Court of Jefferson County appointed John J. Kern to be the administrator of the "Estate of Frederick A. Roeder." Neither Roeder nor his wife had left wills.

In October 1873, in his role as administrator, Kern presented a claim against the United States in the total amount of \$ 504.00 for the rent of Roeder's buildings in Harper's Ferry that were occupied by Federal troops under the command of Colonel Baxter of the 72nd Pennsylvania Fire Zouaves, and others, for military purposes on or about July 25, 1861 until on or about March 25, 1862. The rent claim for Bldg. No. 7 was listed as follows:

For rent of two-story brick house (Bldg. no. 7-with five rooms) on Potomac Street from July 25, 1861 to March 25, 1862 at \$ 6.00 per month..... \$ 54.00. 12

This claim was presented to the U.S. Quartermaster General under the terms of the Act of July 4, 1864 and was disallowed by the Third Auditor of the U.S. Treasury Department about seven years later, on June 1, 1880, for want of jurisdiction. Giving as his reason for rejection, the auditor commented: "this property was in Jefferson Co., W<sup>st</sup> Va., on <sup>e</sup><sub>A</sub> of the counties declared in ~~insurrection~~ insurrection, and the settlement of the claim is therefore barred by Act of Feb. 21st 1867 (Section 300 "R" Appendix Rev. Stats, U.S.) which denies settlement of claims for occupation of real estate in a State or part of State declared in insurrection during the rebellion."

12. Claim of J.J. Kern for Rent, 504, Power of Attorney, dated October 8, 1873, to N.M. Mcrae, National Archives Record Group No. 123, Washington, D.C.

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Twenty

~~years~~ years later, ~~Kern~~ Kern took the same claim to Congress. On March 11, 1902, the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on War Claims referred the claim of the Roeder Estate to the U.S. Court of Claims to be considered under the Bowman Act of March 3, 1883. This Court dismissed the claim in January 1904 for want of ~~jurisdiction~~ jurisdiction. But Kern persisted. On March 3, 1905, a ~~resolution~~ resolution of the U.S. Senate referred the claim of the Roeder Estate again to the U.S. Court of Claims, - this time to be considered under the terms of the Tucker Act of March 3, 1887. The case was brought to hearing based on the loyalty of Frederick A. Roeder and merits of the claims on May 28, 1906. G. W. Hott appeared as attorney for the Roeder Estate and Assistant Attorney General F. Dec. Faust represented the United States Government

The U.S. Court of Claims handed down its finding of facts on June 8, 1906, declaring:

I. It appears from the evidence that the claimants' decedent Frederick A. Roeder was loyal to the Government of the United States during the late war of the rebellion.

II. During the war for the suppression of the rebellion, the military forces of the United States, by proper authority, took possession of and occupied, for military purposes, certain buildings belonging to the claimants' decedent, situate at Harper's Ferry, State of West Virginia. That the reasonable rental value of said buildings during the period of said occupancy, together with the repairs incident to such occupation, was the sum of Three hundred and twenty dollars ( \$ 320 ) for which no payment appears to have been made.

The U.S. Attorney had recommended that the Roeder rent claim of \$ 504.00 be reduced to \$ 200.00 and the U.S. Court of Claims apparently  
13  
split this difference to arrive at the figure of \$ 320.00.

13. All of the Frederick A. Roeder Estate Claim papers from 1873 to 1906 are now filed in National Archives Record Group No. 123 under U.S. Court of Claims JC( Congressional Jurisdiction) No. 11803, at the Federal Record Center at Suitland, Md.

*enclly*

Kern, in his 70th year in 1906, had<sup>A</sup> won a battle but not the war, for there was no money to pay the claim and 10 more years were to pass before ~~the~~ the heirs received any money. Public Law No. 289, approved March 4, 1915, finally appropriated ~~the~~ \$ 320 necessary to<sup>14</sup> pay off the Frederick A. Roeder claim of October 1873.

The money was received from the Government by J. W. Gardner, acting as administrator of the Roeder ~~the~~ Estate, in June 1915. Of the \$ ~~320~~ 320.00 received, \$ 114.32 went to pay the fees of the lawyer and administrators, leaving a total of \$ 205.68 to be divided among the seven Roeder children. On January 1, 1916, each of the heirs received an equal share in the amount of \$ 29.38. Four of the seven Roeder children were still alive in 1916 and the shares of the three deceased<sup>15</sup> children were divided equally among their 11 children.

To return to the Civil War era, Bldg. No. 7 was no doubt subjected to heavy use by the armies in 1861-62 and was probably in poor condition in 1865. When the Ordnance Department decided <sup>not</sup> to rebuilt the destroyed Armory at Harper's Ferry, the town was in a depressed state economically, which was to continue for nearly 20 years(1865-1885).

Beginning in the 1870's and acting as the administrator of the Frederick A. Roeder Estate, John J. Kern gradually began selling off Roeder's real estate holdings in Harpers Ferry so that the money could be divided up among the Roeder children. On May 12, 1874, Kern thus sold<sup>16</sup> off "White Hall" (Bldg. No. 7) for only \$ 321.43. The low price was probably

14. U.S. Statues at Large, Vol. 38, Part I, p. 994.

15. Account Fiduciaries Book O (1915), pp. 155-156; Jefferson County Courthouse, Charles Town, W. Va.

16. Deed Book B, p.153-154.

due to the both the poor physical state of the old structure and to lack of any real industry in the town..

The purchaser, Charles L. Hopwood, apparently rejuvenated the <sup>battered</sup> structure and gave the exterior an sparkling coat of white paint (See Photo HF-379, taken in the period 1882-1886), thus continuing the use as "White Hall" <sup>1</sup> tavern. The Sanborn-Perris Insurance Company Map of Harper's Ferry, W. Va. dated November 1894, indicates that Bldg. No. 7 was being used as a "saloon." The Sanborn Company Insurance Map of Harpers Ferry, W. Va., dated September 1907, shows that Bldg. No. 7 was then serving as a "restaurant".

The Inventory of buildings prepared by the National Park Service in September 1955, when the Service took charge of the National Monument, lists Bldg. No. 7 as "Dwelling or tavern", known as "White Hall".

L. Charles L. Hopwood and his wife Charolette also owned Bldhg. No. 15, in which they resided. The Census of 1880 provides the following data on the Hopwood family:

35,  
Hopwood, Charles L., / Retail dry good merchant. Born in Md.  
" Charolette, 30, his wife, keeping house, Born in Va,  
Harry 12, son born in W. Va.  
Bernise 9 daughter born in W. Va.  
Charles A., 7 son " " "  
Frank A., 5 son " " "

A female boarder, 28 years old, and a bonnet maker by trade, was also living with the Hopwood family in 1880. Census of 1880, National Archives Record Group No. 29, Microfilm Reel 1404, Washington, D.C.

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## L. Primary Material:

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2. Deed Books, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, W. Va.
3. Will Books, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, W. Va.
4. Virginia Free Press, Charles Town, Va., 1824-1861, a weekly newspaper that printed Harpers Ferry and county news. Available for use on nine reels of microfilm at Library of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.
5. Harper's Ferry Constitutionalist, 1839-1840, a weekly newspaper that was briefly published at Harpers Ferry. Available for use on microfilm at Park Library.
6. Virginia Free Press, Charles Town, West Virginia, 1865-1896. Weekly newspaper publishing area news. Available for use (with some gaps) at Shepherd College Library, Shepherdstown, W. Va. on microfilm. Some bound volumes of originals in Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, W. Va.
7. Spirit of Jefferson, Charles Town, West Virginia, 1865 to 1955, and to date. Weekly newspaper publishing area news. Available for use on microfilm at the University of West Virginia, at Morgantown, W. Va.
8. National Archives Record Group No. 29, Records of the Bureau of the Census, Population Schedules of the ~~6th, 7th~~ 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Censuses of the United States, 1840 to 1900, Washington, D.C. Censuses for the years 1840 to 1870 are available for use on microfilm at the Park Library.
9. Northern Neck Grants Books, Virginia State Library, Richmond Virginia.
10. National Archives Record Group No. 121, Public Buildings Service, Entry No. 75, Warrenty Deeds and Correspondence, 1796-1884, for Public Lands of the U.S. Armory at Harper's Ferry, Va., Washington, D.C. Has copies of all the early deeds, leases, etc.
11. National Archives Record Group 123, U.S. Court of Claims, JC (Congressional Jurisdiction)- No. 11803- Claim. Federal Record Center at Suitland, Md. This has all the of the Frederick A. Roeder Claims for Bldgs. No. 5, No. 7, and No. 16 against the United States from 1873 to 1906.

I. Primary Material:

12. National Archives Record Group No. 153. Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General, Military Reservation Division, 1809-1942, Boxes 44 and 45, West Virginia. Copies of early deeds of the public lands at Harper's Ferry Armory and also of Robert Harpers' 1782 will. Washington, D.C.
13. National Archives Record Group No. 156. Records of the Chief of Ordnance. Correspondence of the Chief of Ordnance and the Superintendents of the U.S. Armory at Harper's Ferry regarding the purchase of land and buildings adjacent to the U.S. Musket Factory, during the years 1844 to 1857. Available on microfilm at the Park Library of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

II. Published Material :

Barry, Joseph, The Strange Story of Harper's Ferry, with Legends of the Surrounding Country (1st printing 1903, 7th printing, Shepherdstown, W.Va., 1974). pp. 107-108, for extended account of the death of Frederick A. Roeder on July 4, 1861. p. 109 for an account of the looting of private and public buildings by citizens of Harpers Ferry and by soldiers of both Armies.

III. National Park Service Reports:

Historic American Buildings Survey, Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_, "White Hall, Potomac Street, Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County West Virginia," no date, ca. 1960, prepared by Charles S. Dotts, supervising architect, eight sheets.

Snell, Charles W., "Historic Building Report, Part I, Historical Data Section for Bldg. No. 7," (NPS typescript, Harpers Ferry National Monument, W. Va., October 1, 1957, revised January 29, 1958), 15 pp., 3 maps, and one photo.

Snell, Charles W. S "Historic Buildings Report, Part II, Historical Data Section for Building No. 7, White Hall," (NPS typescript, Harpers Ferry National Monument, W.Va., March 30, 1959), 21 pp., five maps, and six photos.

No Part II Architectural or Archeological Data sections have thus far been prepared for Bldg. No. 7. The Architectural data section is now in progress.

Gardner, William M., "Excavations - Harpers Ferry, 1973-74," (Contract study for the Denver Service Center, December 6, 1974). Archeologist Gardner dug test trenches G, on the site of Bldg. 6, between Bldgs. 5 and 7, and also Trench F, at the southwest(rear) corner of Bldg. 7.

APPENDIX NO. I

Documentary evidence on the number of rooms and use of White Hall, Bldg. No. 7, during the years 1861-62 by the Union Army.

Data extracted from

National Archives Record Group No. 123. U.S. Circuit Court of Claims, Claim File No. JC- 11803, Congressional Jurisdiction, Abstract of Evidence from the 1873 to 1906 Claims of the Estate of Frederick A. Roeder for U.S. Army use of Bldgs. No. 5, 7, and 16, from 1861 to 1862. Federal Record Center, Suitland, Md.

White Hall Tavern, Building No. 7.

- a. John J. Kern's claim, October 1, 1873, for rent on behalf of the Estate of F. A. Roeder from the U.S. Government:

for Rent of two story Brick House on Potomac Street from July 25, 1861 to March 25, 1862 at \$ 6.00 per Month - \$ 54.00.

rented to Col. Baxter Commanding Baxter Philadelphia Fire Zouaves.

- b. John J. Kern, 66 years old, statement of Sept. 5, 1902:

"There was one building (No. 16) on Washington (or High) Street and two (Bldgs. No. 5 and 7) on Potomac Street.

"They were all used by Col. Baxter's Zouaves... The two brick buildings on Potomac Street were used for stables and other purposes.

They took possession shortly after Mr. Roeder was killed...

They (the Union Army) held it continuously until Baxter left and they used them off and on during the entire war. I think Baxter left sometime in the Spring of 1862... The other two (buildings) on Potomac street were worth \$ 10.00 each (in rent per month) and did bring \$ 15.00 at one time.

The buildings were in good condition when the U.S. first took possession, and he (Roeder) always kept them in good repair. They were in a bad condition when the U.S. left them. The windows had been taken out and removed to Camp Hill to build quarters with. I guess it would have cost \$ 1,000.00 at that time to restore the (three) buildings to the condition in which they were before the U.S. authorities used the same.

Cross-examination of Kern:

"...One of the buildings on Potomac Street had five rooms (Bldg. No. 5) and the other (Bldg. No. 7) three.... I can't say who (what Union officers) used the buildings on Potomac Street. They were in and out all the time... The other two (buildings) on Potomac Street (were worth) about one thousand dollars (at the time the army occupancy commenced)."

- c. Mary L. Kern, 59 years old, oldest child of Frederick A. Roeder, statement of Sept. 5, 1902:

"I know the U.S. authorities occupied buildings belonging to my father's estate during the war, -- our home place (Bldg. No. 16) and two (Bldgs. No. 5 and 7) on Potomac street..... One (Bldg. No. 5) on Potomac Street (contained) seven (rooms) and the other (Bldg. No. 7) five (rooms).

Our father was killed July 4, 1861, and the troops took possession of the house (Bldg. No. 16) that month. They gave up the home building (16) and we took possession in March, 1862. The other two they used after that at different times during the war. They were brick buildings. (The Union Army

used) The Potomac street buildings for stables and warehouses for storing feed, etc.

Cross-examination of Mary L. Kern:

The two buildings on Potomac Street were two and one-half stories high. I think it was Col. Baxter who had control of the home house (Bldg. 16) and it was the same troops had the other two."

d. James R. Roeder, 54 years old, second oldest son of Frederick A. Roeder's three sons, statement of Sept. 5, 1902:

"The Union army used three houses (Bldgs. No. 5, 7, and 16) and a bakery (Bldg. No. 16A) belonging to my father's estate...

The other two buildings were on Potomac Street. They were built of brick. One (Bldg. No. 5) had seven rooms and the other (Bldg. No. 7) five. They used the lower part for horses and had forage in the upper part. The larger building (No. 5) was worth \$ 10 per month (in rent) and the other (Bldg. No. 7) \$ 6.00.

They (the Union Army) took possession not quite a month after my father died, July 4, 1861. I could not say for sure but I think they (Col. Baxter of the 72 Penn. Fire Zouaves) remained there that winter.

Cross-examination of James R. Roeder:

The same officers (Mr. Baxter and his staff) had control of the buildings on Potomac Street."

e. Thomas J. Burleigh, past 50 years of age, owner in 1902 of Bldg. No. 16, statement of Sept. 5, 1902:

"I don't remember about them (the Union Army) occupying the two buildings (Nos. 5 and 7) on Potomac street, but I remember they were very much damaged by some one."

f. Summary of evidence by Attorney G.W. Hott, May 4, 1906:

"One (building No. 5) contained seven rooms and one (Bldg. No. 7) five. The buildings were used for a ... a stable, and warehouses."

Map No. 1

A Portion of the "Plat of the Wager Six Acre Reservation and the Three-fourth of an Acre Ferry Lot Reservation, showing the subdivision of this land of John Wager, Jr., among his three heirs, October 10, 1835." By James M. Brown, S.G.C.  
Scale: One inch equals 60 feet.

Original of this plat is in Deed Book 29, at page 140, Jefferson County Court House, Charles Town, W. Va.

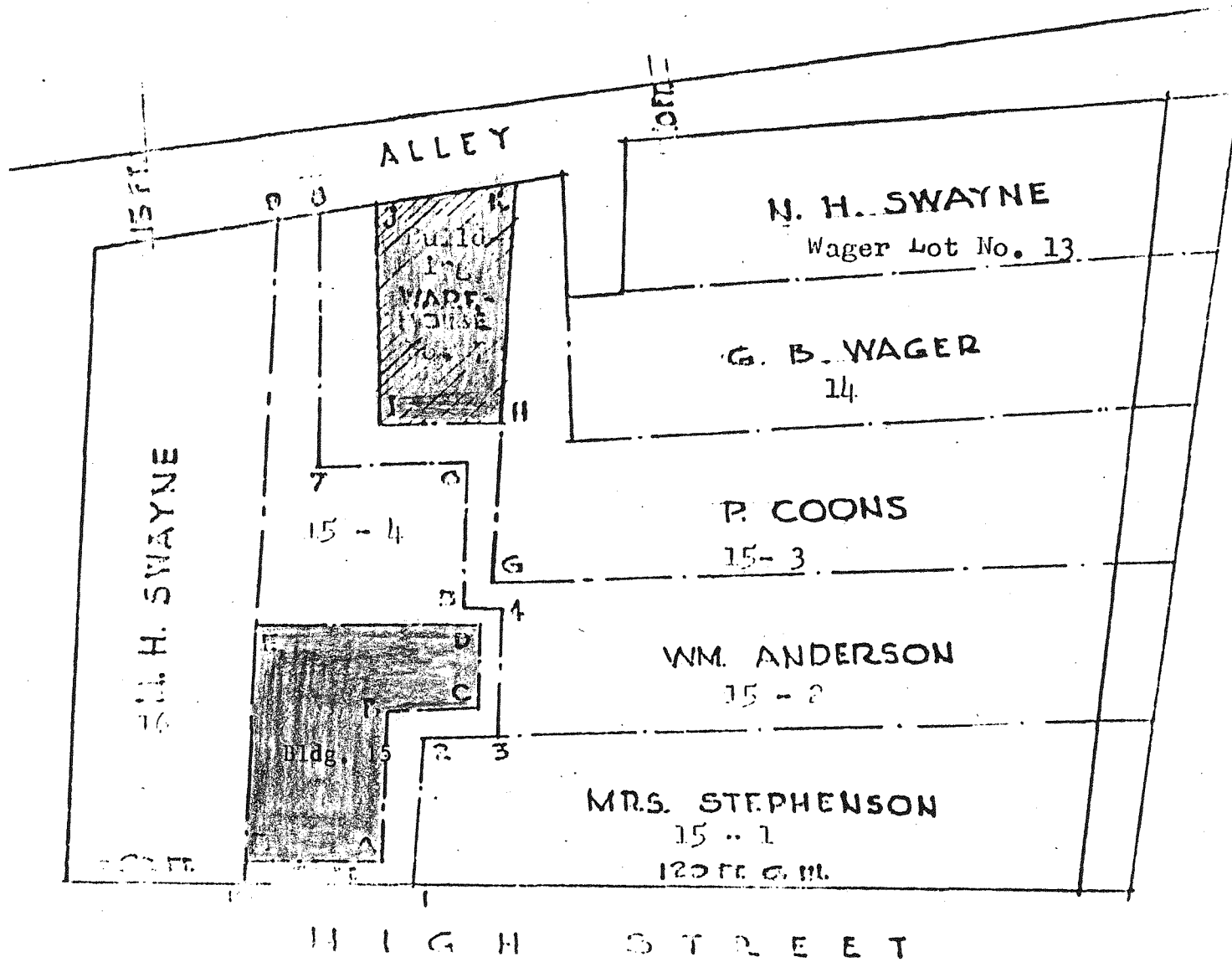
This is from a tracing of the original made by Architect Archie W. Franzen, July 11, 1957, and numbered as Harpers Ferry National Monument Master Plan Drawing No. NM-HF 30706.

The buildings shown on this plat have been added by Historian Charles W. Snell on the basis of the announcement and description of the Wager lots and buildings of James B. Wager that were to be offered for sale at public auction, which was published in the Virginia Free Press, on April 7, 1836, p. 4, c. 1. supplemented by data drawn from the two following sets of railroad maps:

1. "Map of Harper's Ferry Shewing the Location of the Winchester and Potomac Railroad, Drawn by Lieuts. White, Allen, and R.S. Smith, U.S. Army, under the direction of James Kearney, Lt. Col. and T.E.- Map No. 2. Approved by President Andrew Jackson, 27th January 1835. Scale 100 feet to one inch. Prepared in 1834, this map is included in the Harpers Ferry National Monument Master Plan as Drawing No. NM-HF - 3002.

2. "Map Shewing the routes surveyed for the Balt. & Ohio Rail Road along the public grounds on the Potomac at & above HARPER'S FERRY upon which the Company have applied to Government for permission to locate and construct their road. Scale 400 feet to one inch." Signed Benjamin H. Latrobe, Engineer of location & construction, Balt. & Ohio R. Rd. (no date, but prepared in 1837 and agreements based on this map with U.S. signed by the Secretary of War and President of the B & O, on November 3, 1838), Sheet No. 3; and "No. 2- Sketch Shewing two practicable locations for the Balto. & Ohio R. Rd. through the village of Harper's Ferry. Scale 100 feet to one inch." Ordnance Office, Drawer No. 5, Portfolio 1, No. 5 and 6. (National Archives Record Group No. 121, Public Buildings Service, Washington, D.C.)

Buildings colored red are brick; Buildings colored blue are stone; and buildings colored yellow are frame. Materials of buildings have been determined by Historian Snell.



Plat by James M. Brown, Surveyor  
 of Jefferson County, Virginia,  
 July 17, 1846, for  
 William Anderson.

Deed Book 28, p.174.

DEED 28

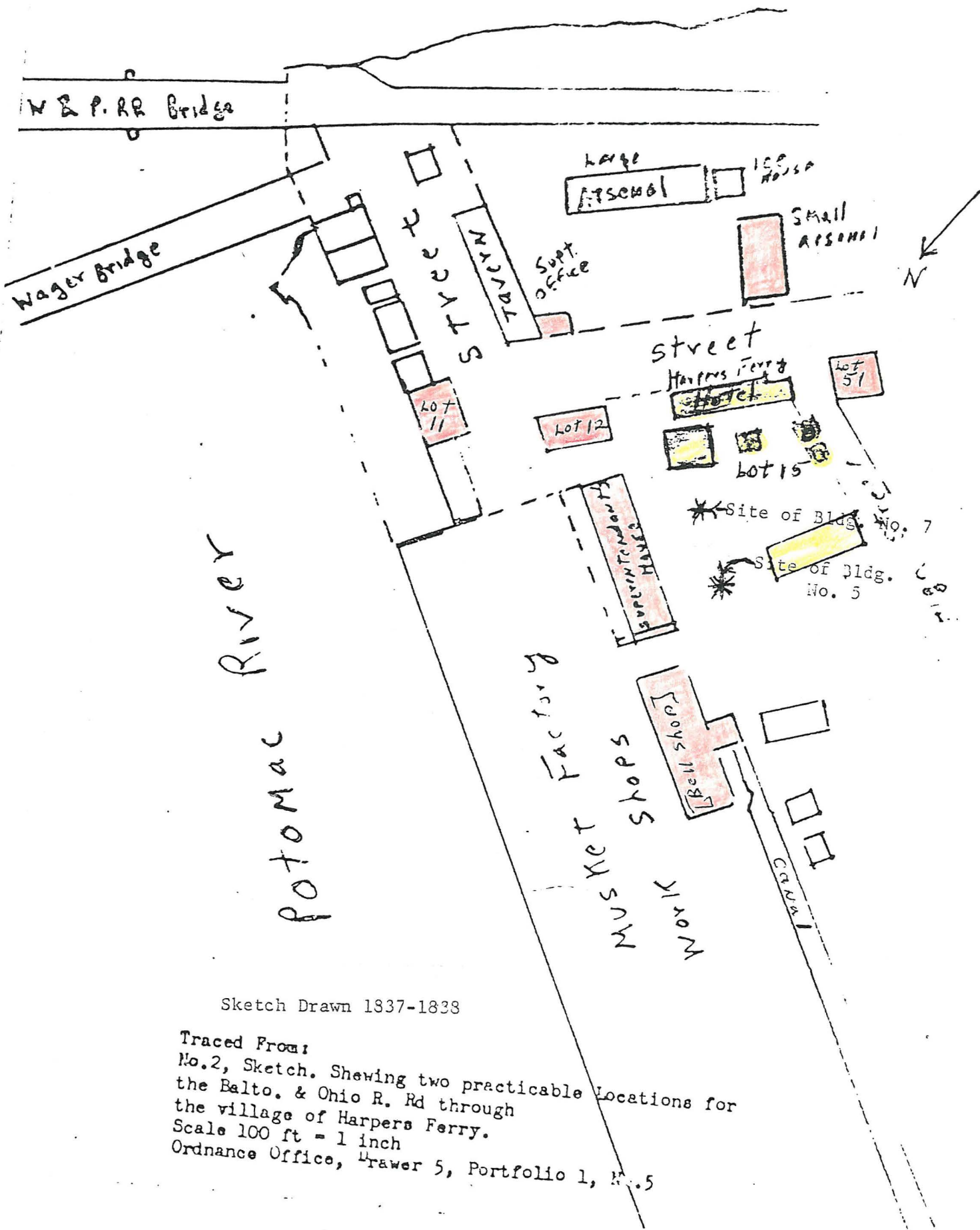
Map No. 2

"Sketch No. 2, Shewing two practicable locations for the Balto. & Ohio R. Rd. through the village of Harper's Ferry. Scale 100 feet to one inch."

No date, but prepared in 1837 as part of a study and agreement that was signed by the Secretary of War and President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for a right of way through the U.S. Musket Factory grounds on November 3, 1838. (Ordnance Office, Drawer 5, Portfolio No. 5) National Archives Record Group 121, Public Buildings Service.

This map, drawn in 1837-38, shows that the the future site of Bldg. No. 7 was vacant in 1837.

Shenandoah River



Sketch Drawn 1837-1838

Traced From:  
 No. 2, Sketch. Shewing two practicable Locations for  
 the Balto. & Ohio R. Rd through  
 the village of Harpers Ferry.  
 Scale 100 ft = 1 inch  
 Ordnance Office, Drawer 5, Portfolio 1, No. 5

Map No. 3

Wager Lots No. 13, 14, 15 and 16 in the  
Six Acre Reseravtion, in 1846

Plat prepared by James M. Brown, Surveyor of Jefferson County, Virginia, July 17, 1846, for William Anderson, a Harpers Ferry merchant who owned Subdivisions No. 2 and 4 of Lot 15 from 1837 to 1846. Scale one inch equals 30 feet.

The warehouse is Bldg. No. 7, which Anderson constructed as a one-story stone structure with a cellar and slate roof, measuring 24 by 40 feet in size, in 1838-39.

The structure marked A, B, C, D, E, F, on Subdivision No. 4 of Lot No. 15, is Bldg. No. 15, which Anderson erected in 1838-39 as a two-story stone house with cellar, slate roof, and measuring 24 by 40 feet in size. With elevated basement, the structure was three stories in height and the two story stone kitchen, shown at B, C, and D, had been added prior to March 1841.

Map No. 4

Section of The Sanborn Perris Maps  
of Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County, West Virginia,  
November 1894. Scale 50 feet to one inch.

A set of original plates from this atlas are in the  
Park Library at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

Buildings colored red are of brick construction.

Buildings colored blue are of stone construction

Buildings colored yellow are of frame construction.

These materials as given on this copy of the map are taken  
from data shown on the 1894 insurance maps.

(OLD MAIN LINE.)

PASSENGER STATION  
(NOT FINISHED)

BRIDGE

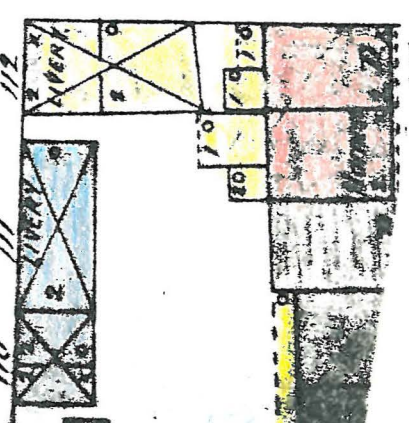
1894

NEW LINE

MAC

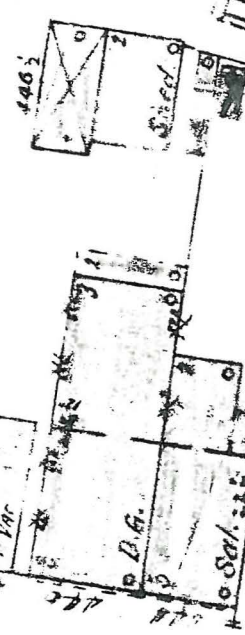
Blg 5 6

113 114 115 116 7



ALLEY HO

HOTEL CONNER



Map No. 5

Sanborn Company Map of Harpers Ferry  
Jefferson County, West Virginia, September 1907  
Scale 50 feet to the inch.

A set of plats from this atlas are available in the library of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

Buildings colored red are brick.

Buildings colored ~~blue~~ are stone.

Buildings colored yellow are frame.

Information on materials used in the construction of the buildings based on data shown on the 1907 insurance maps.



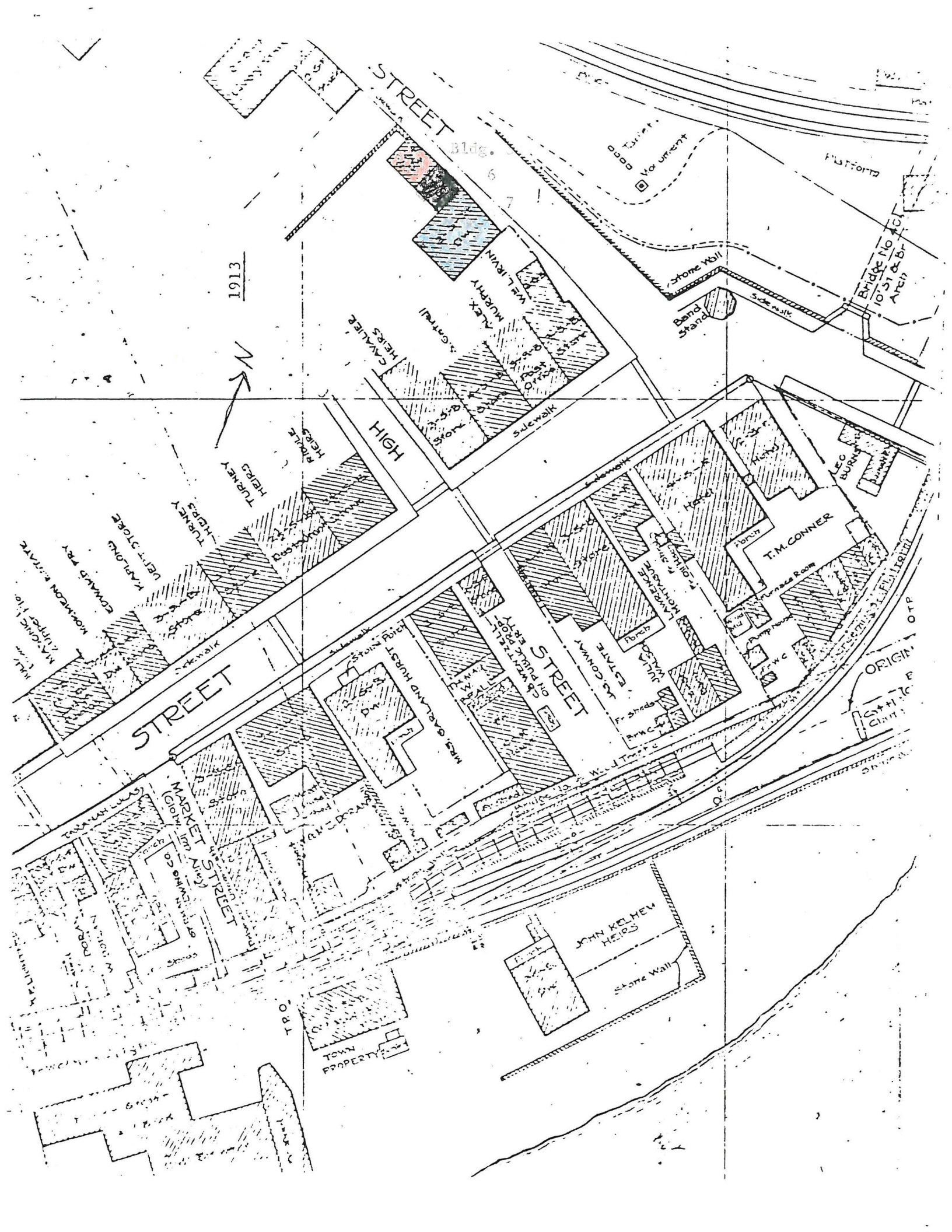
Map No 6

B & O. R.R. Main Line District  
Shenandoah Division - Main Line

 PLAN SHOWING RIGHT OF WAY, BUILDINGS AND TRACK  
HARPERS FERRY, W. VA.

Office of Dist. Engr. M of W., Baltimore, Md.  
February 19, 1913, Note Books C- 31 & 35, 1-7-5.  
Scale one inch equals 50 feet.

Map from part of Harpers Ferry National Monument Master  
Plan - Drawing No. NM- HF 9003.



1913



STREET

Bldg. 6

HIGH STREET

STREET

STREET

MARKET STREET

TOWN PROPERTY

JOHN KELHEV HEIRS

T.M. CONNER

ALEX. MURPHY

WELL IRON

CAVALIER HEIRS

TURNERY HEIRS

ROULE HEIRS

W. G. CONNOR

ORIGINAL CHARTER

Platform

Bridge No. 101st & Br Arch

Stone Wall

Side Walk

Band stand

LEC BUREAU

Porch

Pump

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

W.C.

PHOTO NO. 1

John Brown's Fort, Harper's Ferry - 1873-1875

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Negative No. HF-55

Buildings from left to right: Bldg. No. ~~7~~ and 8. In foreground is the formal entrance to the U.S. Musket Factory Yard; the John Brown Fort, or Armory fire engine house, with cupola and roof, and the east gable end of the Armory Office Building. Visible between the Fort and Office is the upper portion of the north or front elevation of Bldg. No. 7, White Hall Tavern.

Note the small end chimneys, one each, in the north and south gable ends of Bldg. 7. Centered in the third, or attic, story of the north facade and located beneath the end chimney, is one window. The second story is divided into three bays and each bay is occupied by a window with six over six lights. The second story and a half of the north facade are constructed of brick and appear to be unpainted, or the paint has faded badly. A portion only of the 1st story of Bldg. 7 can be seen. However, it is clear that the stone walls of the 1st story are painted white and that a large door was located in the center bay at this level. There is no porch visible on the first story. Above the small end chimneys of Bldg. 7 can be seen the rear (north) elevation of Bldg. No. 15, and immediately to its right, that of Bldg. No. 16.

W  
W

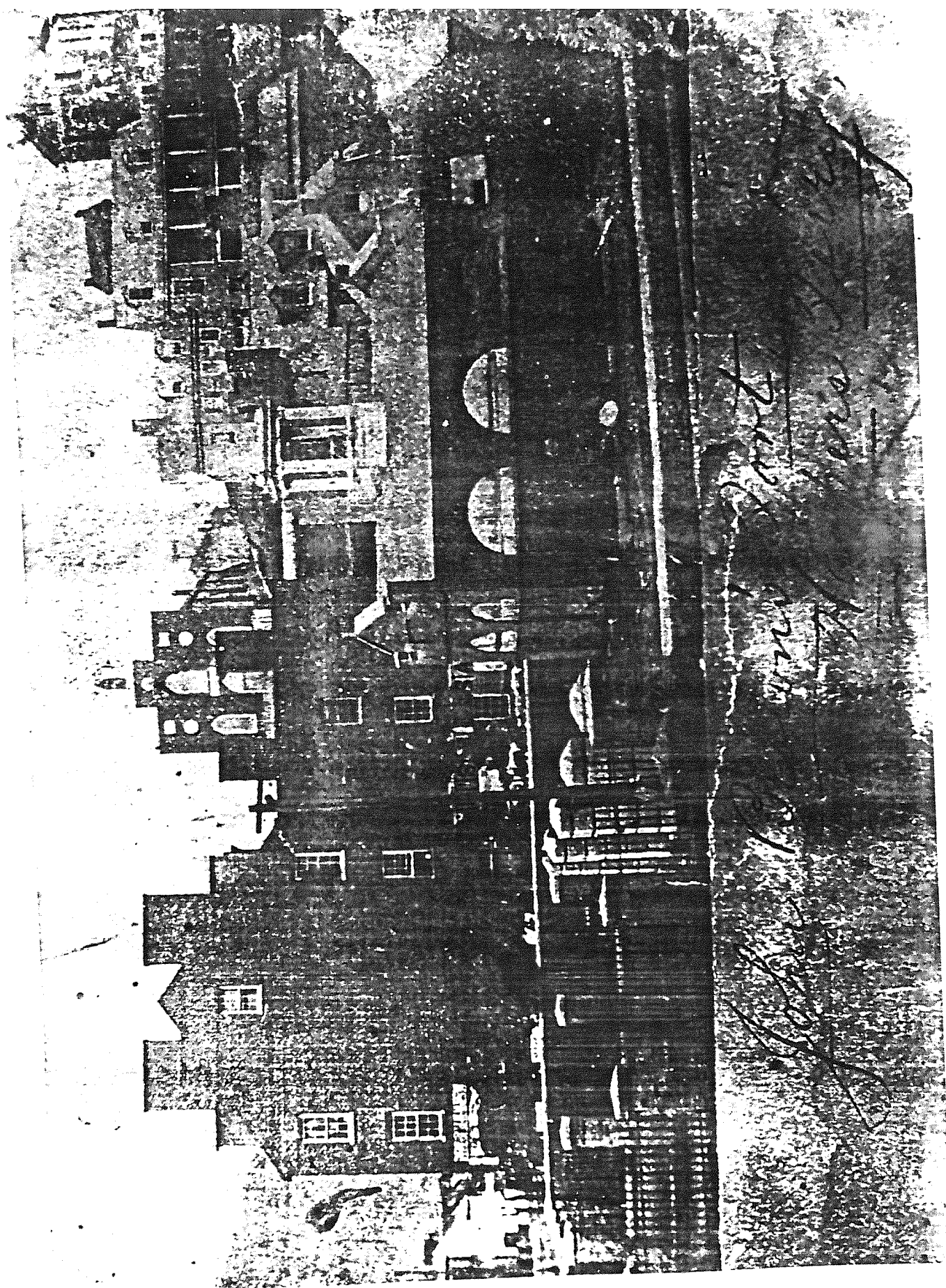


Photo No. 2

JOHN BROWN FORT, Ca. 1882-1886

Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. HF- 379.

Bldgs. Left to right: Part of Bldg. ~~8~~ Bldg. No. 8, John Brown Fort, or Armory fire engine house with cupola on roof, and Armory Office building: (with iron painted on facade). ~~8~~ Between the fort and the office can be seen the northern facade of Bldg. No. 7. The photo reveals that the new owner, Charles L. Hopwood, who had purchased the old building for \$ 321.43 in 1874, has put the structure in good condition. The complete north facade, 2½ stories, has been painted white since 1865(see Photo HF-55). Note the small end chimneys, slate roof, window centered in the third story level and the three windows in the second story facade. Windows have six over six lights. Except for the painting of the 2nd and third story ~~brick~~ facade, this portion of White Hall had not been altered since the 1865 photograph was taken. In the center of the 1st story can be seen a center doorway and what ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> an ~~perhaps~~ exterior louvered shutter ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> a flanking window in the right hand or west bay. Note also that there is no one-story covered porch on the 1st story of Bldg. 7, as appears in NHF- 196(1956).

12  
7

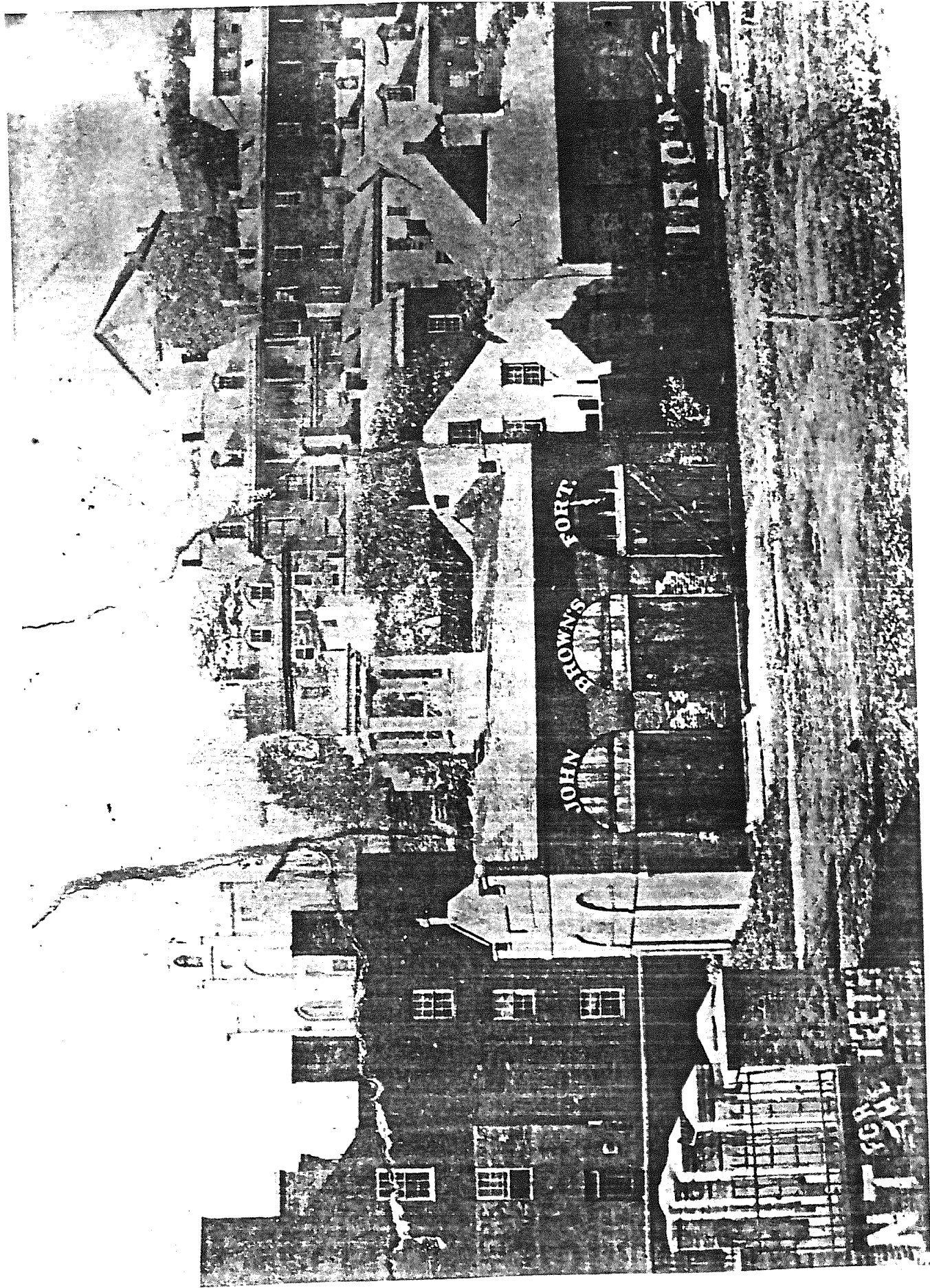


PHOTO NO. 3

HARPERSFERRY FROM THE MARYLAND SHORE

IN THE 1870s.

1875-1880

Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. HF -43.

In left center, the large three-and one-half story brick building with the Gilbert Brothers Druggist sign painted on its gable end wall, is Park Bldg. No. 9, moving to the right, Bldg. No. 8, and in front of 8, the John Brown Fort or Armory fire engine house, with the wooden cupola on its roof. Immediately to the right of the fort is the Armory Office building and directly above it can be seen the northern white-painted third story of Bldg. No. 7- White Hall, with one window and one chimney visible and the remainder<sup>15</sup> concealed by a large pine tree.

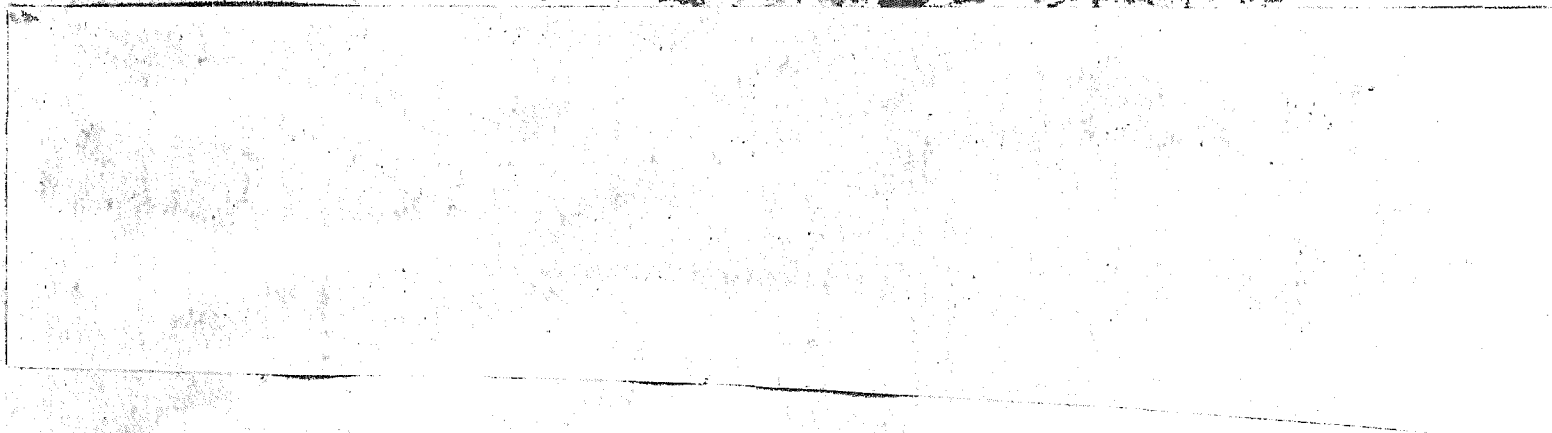


PHOTO NO. 4

THE JOHN BROWN FORT IN THE 1889 FLOOD

Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. HF - 100.

Taken during the great flood of 1889, John Brown's Fort, the Armory fire engine house, still stands in its original position within the formal entrance to the Musket Factory yard. The Armory Office, which stood just to the right of the fort, however, has been demolished. Just above its original site is visible the north or front elevation of Bldg. No. 5, including all of its 2½ stories. Partially visible above the west(right) gable end of the John Brown Fort is the north gable end and facade of Bldg. No. 7- White Hall. Note that that the third story of the north elevation of Bldg. 7 is still painted white, as it was in Photo HF- 379.

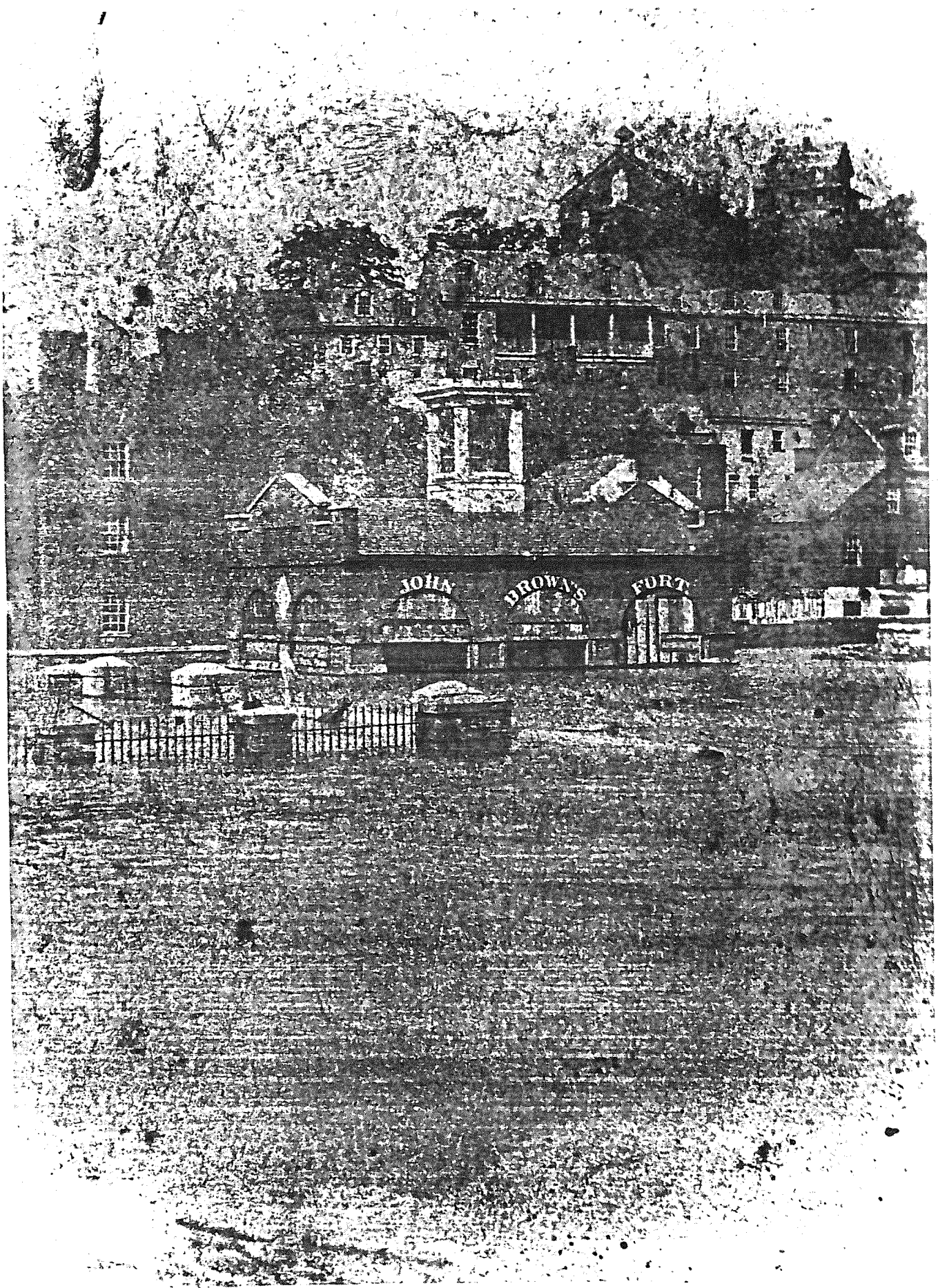


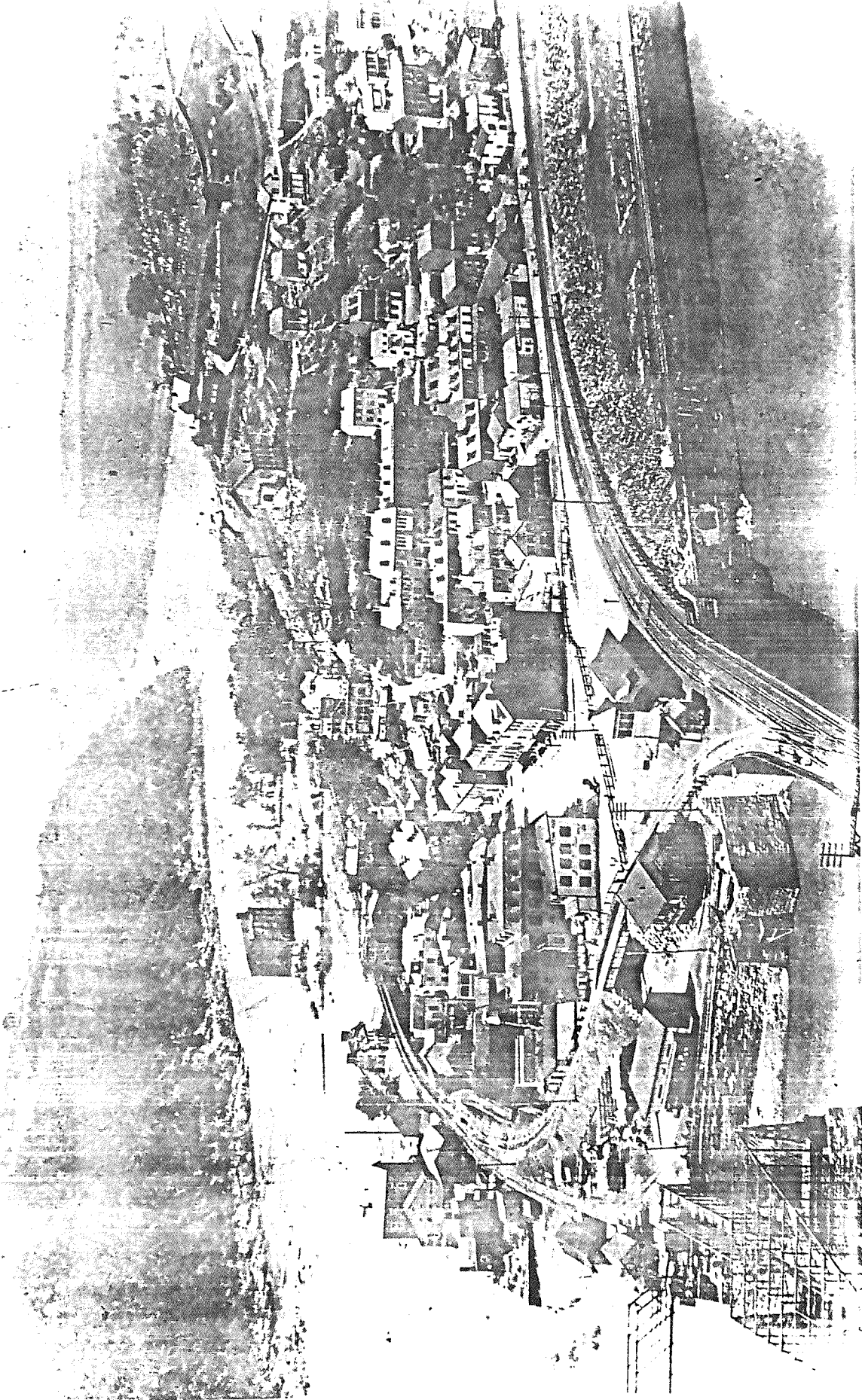
PHOTO NO. 5

HARPER'S FERRY FROM MARYLAND HEIGHTS, 1896-1900.

Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. HF- 96.

This photograph was taken after 1896, because of remodelling of the Catholic Church , which started in that year, is underway in this view, and prior to 1902, when Park Bldg. No. 3 was constructed.

Compare this photograph with Map No. 4, the San Ferris Map of Harper's Ferry dated November 1894. In center, at corner of Shenandoah Street and Potomac Street, stands Bldg. 9, then moving to the right, Bldg. 8, then Bldgs. 7, No. 6, and No. 5. Note that the two and one-half story north(front) elevation of Bldg. No. 7 is painted white and the first story, <sup>still not</sup> like the earlier photographs, is ~~now~~ sheltered by a one-story covered porch.



Bldg. No. 5, 6 and 7 in 1955

Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. NHF - 843.

Bldgs. From left to right, as they appeared in 1955:

Bldg. No. 7, erected in 1839, and altered in 1848, and 1856; Bldg. No. 6, erected prior to 1894, and Bldg. No. 5, constructed by Frederick A. Roeder in 1856.

The one-story covered porch on Bldg. No. 7 was added <sup>after</sup> ~~in~~ the period 1896-1901 (see Photo HF- 96). Also note that the 19th century six over six lights have been removed from all of the windows visible in this view.

3  
8

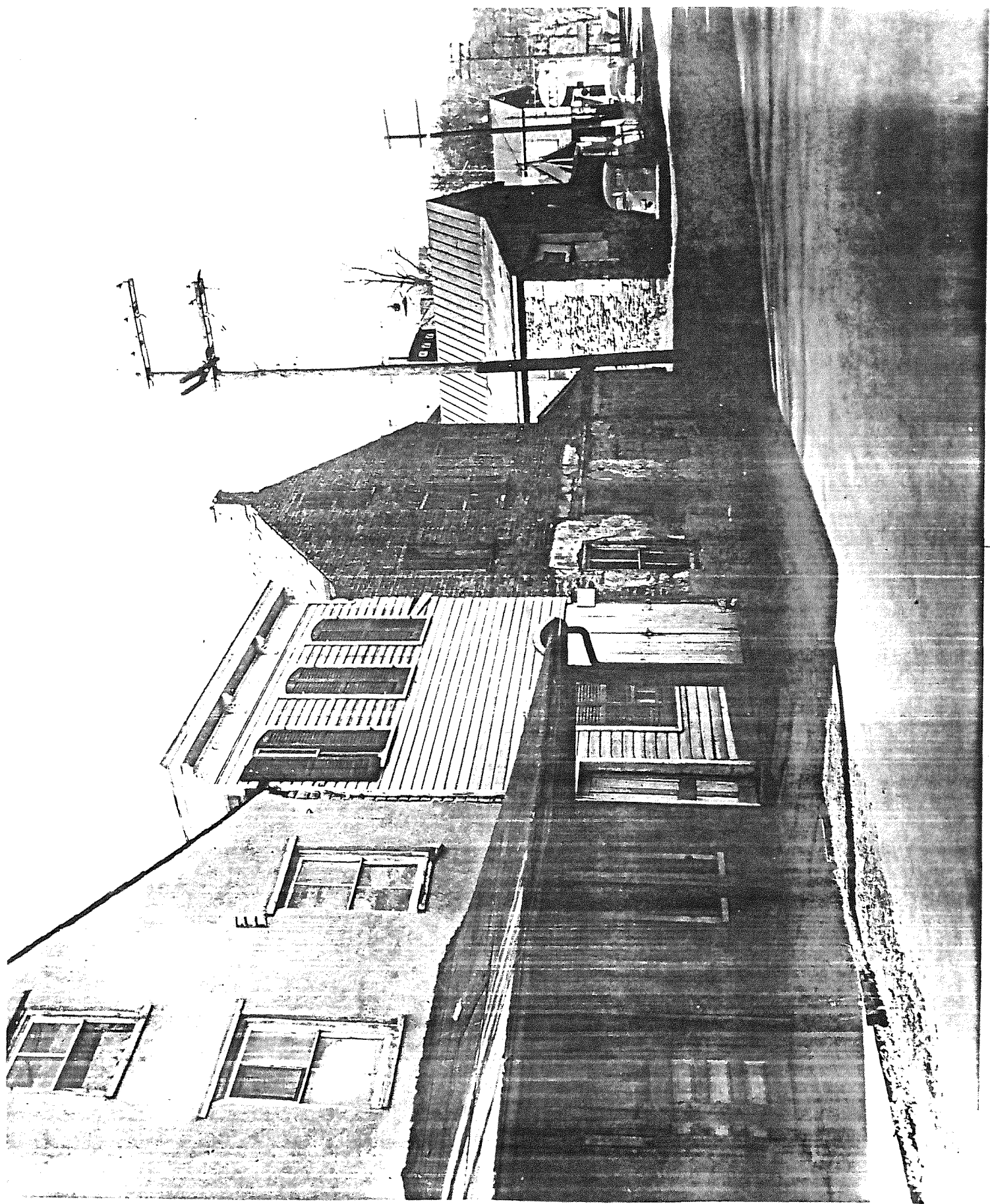


PHOTO NO. 7

Harpers Ferry NIIP Negative No. NIIF - 196.

Photo taken in 1956 by Architect Archie W. Franzen.

Center; Bldg. No. 5, north(front) elevation. Bldg. No. 6, to the right, has been demolished because it was a post Civil War structure, and at the extreme right can be seen a portion of the east side wall of Bldg. No. 16 and 16A

Bldg. No. 6, erected prior to 1894, intruded heavily on the <sup>historic</sup> scene of the John Brown Raid, which took place within about about 150 feet of Bldg. No. 7 in October 1859.

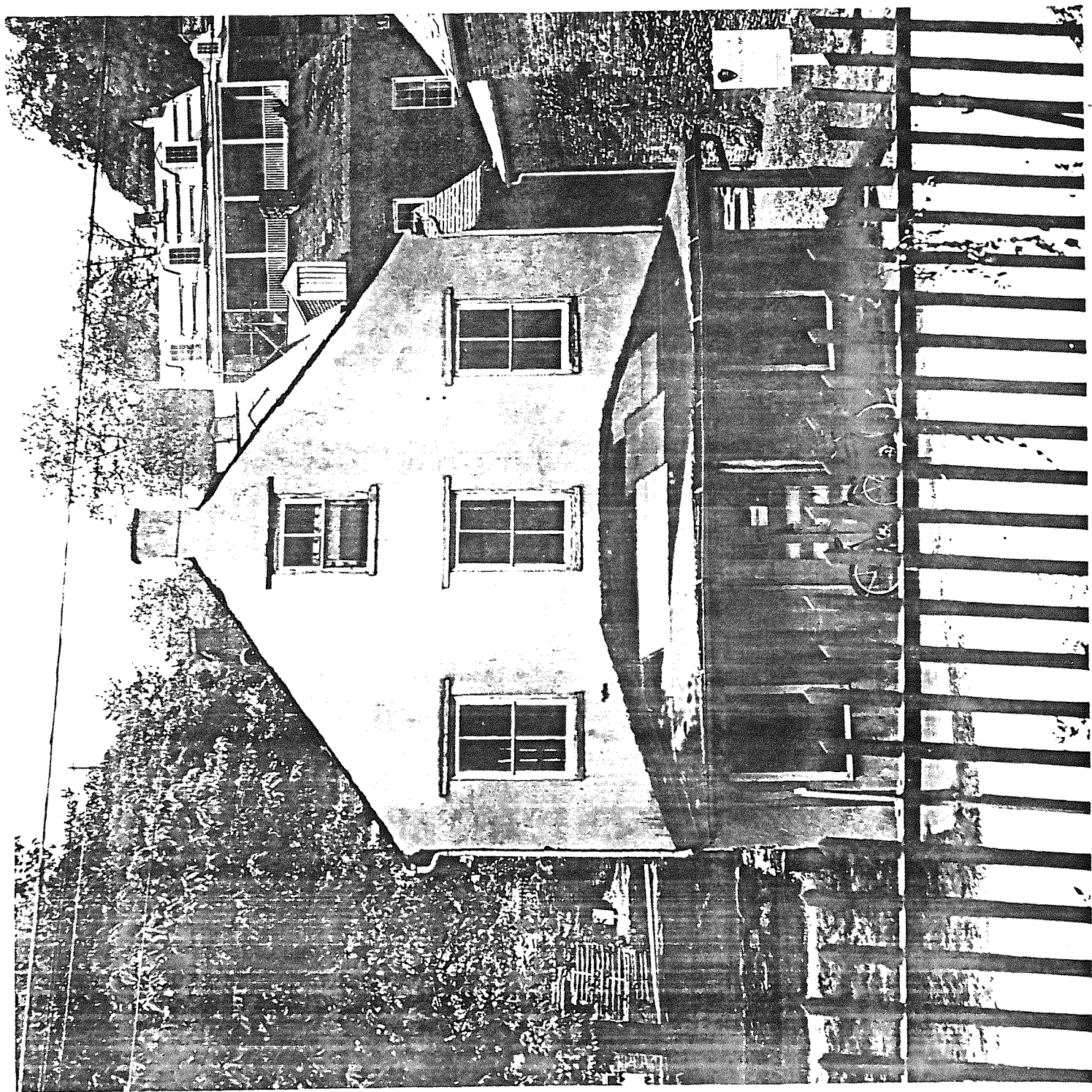


PHOTO NO. 8

HARPER'S FERRY FROM THE MARYLAND SHORE, 1859



Harpers Ferry NHP Negative No. HF- 64.

This view, taken in October 1859, is the earliest photograph in which the Frederick A. Roeder House, Bldg. 16, can be seen.

Bldings: Left to right: Covered railroad and wagon toll bridge of the B.& O. RR Company, brick structure, including portion with portico, is the Wager House or U.S. Hotel, located on Wager Lots 6, 7, and 8; next roof of Armory warehouse, e next roof of Armory fire engine house (with parapet wall at gable end.) Next, the tall hipped roof, square brick structure is the B.&. O. Railroad water tower.

At the left of the cornice of water tower and above the Armory Fire Engine House can be seen a portion of the north(rear) roof, second floor, chimney, and dormer of Bldg. No. 16. Immediately in front of 16 can be seen the north and south end chimneys in the gable end walls of Bldg. No. 7, which was also owned by Roeder. Above 7 can be seen the north(rear) roof and one dormer of Bldg. 15, the Susan Downey House.

On the night of July 4, 1861, Frederick A. Roeder was mortally wounded by a bullet fired by a Union sniper that ricocheted off the brick end of the Wager House Hotel and struck Roeder as he rounded the corner on his way home.