

HISTORICAL CASE STUDIES
OF ALEXANDRIA'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

217 NORTH ROYAL STREET (44AX66)
1790-1910: ARCHIVAL PROFILE
OF SITE AND AREA ADJOINING

by

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Foreword

The Alexandria Archaeology Publications series is composed of papers on various aspects of research conducted under the auspices of Alexandria Archaeology, a division of the Office of Historic Alexandria, City of Alexandria, Virginia. The authors include professional staff members, university students and Alexandria Archaeology volunteers. Editing of the papers has been kept to a minimum. It should be understood that the papers vary in tone and level of technicality, since they were originally directed toward many different audiences.

We are pleased to offer the papers within this series and in so doing are opening our "manuscripts on file" - including professional conference papers, background documentary studies, student course papers, and volunteer research papers - to professionals and public alike.

Sara Revis has been researching and writing the history of Alexandria's archaeological sites since 1980. She has produced many important outlines and summaries which have guided our investigations. By using deeds, tax, census and city directory sources Sara has been able to piece together the history of lots, streetfaces and blocks. By editing her work, Sara has produced fascinating histories of parts of Alexandria. They are case studies of urban life in Alexandria.

We began studying 217 N. Royal Street in the early 1980s as part of the City Survey Project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Sara's research provided the outline of occupation at the site which directed our work. We conducted test excavations in 1984. James McGuire first came to my attention in Penny Morrill's 1979 book Who Built Alexandria? A house joiner, lumberyard owner and builder of homes, McGuire was a noteworthy citizen. Merrill (p. 30) credits him with constructing houses on Queen Street (319, 321, 323, 325), North Royal Street (217, 219, 221, discussed in this study), and on Prince Street (1113, 1115, and 1117).

He is perhaps most known to Alexandria Archaeology as the man with whom Adam Lynn, Jr. engaged in a duel. We excavated Lynn's home on the 500 block of King Street in 1977, prior to the Alexandria Courthouse's construction on the site. Thus, we have studied both these men and their homes. The original account of the duel provides a fascinating glimpse of life 166 years ago:

"The difficulty which has for some days existed between Capt. McGuire and Col. Lynn, culminated in a duel, which was fought at sunrise this morning, near 'Oxon Hill' opposite Alexandria. Both of these gentlemen held commands in the war of 1812, and are deservedly popular. Their purpose to settle the matter by an appeal to 'the code' became known to quite a number of their mutual

friends, and among others, your correspondent was early on the ground. Dr. Semmes attended Col. Lynn, as surgeon; and Dr. Washington, Capt. McGuire. The choice of positions was won by Col. Lynn, who faced the west; the distance forty yards; the weapons double-barreled shot guns, of long range, as will be seen. Among the spectators was officer Slatford, a police constable of Alexandria, who selected a position on a fence, at a distance of four hundred yards from the field; and in an opposite direction. Just as the gentlemen had taken their stations, the sun made its appearance in all its glory, and glaring in the eyes of Capt. McGuire, rendered his aim uncertain, from which cause, doubtless, the ball from the Captain's gun struck the rail upon which Slatford was sitting. This accidental shot, however, was not relished by Slatford, who, fearing personal injury, changed his position to a gully and with his head partly exposed above the bank, awaited the next round. The arrangements for a renewal of the combat were speedily made, and, at the second shot, in consequence of the sun shining directly into the eyes of Capt. McGuire, his ball struck the bank, in such close proximity to Slatford, as to throw the dust in his eyes. Perplexed at the singular circumstance, which had already twice occurred, and half inclined to repair to the field and command the peace, he concluded to witness another shot, and then to execute his office as a conservator of the peace, should his life be spared, and either of the gentlemen demand a fourth fire. Uncertain as to a place of safety, from which he could witness a continuation of the duel, he decided to take his chances, and, boldly standing upon the bank (though not without forebodings of evil), awaited the next round. Slatford states that 'the sight was one long to be remembered.' Before him stood two gallant and popular gentlemen, facing each other in deadly array. Each had served his country on the 'tented field;' the one demanding and the other according the satisfaction due to 'wounded honor.' The parties being ready for the strife, the word was given, and so near to Slatford did Col. Lynn's ball come that he swears it 'sing'd the hair on his wig!' Recovering from his fright, and finding himself uninjured, he repaired at once to the field, just as Capt. McGuire had demanded another fire; but this faithful guardian of the public peace, swearing that his life was in danger, and that instead of firing at each other, they took deliberate aim at him, demanded a cessation of hostilities, and commanding the peace, in the name of the Commonwealth, threatened to have both arrested if they did not at once abandon their purpose to continue the strife. This ended the duel, neither of the principals having been injured.

"Recounting the dangers to which he had been subjected, from the reckless fire of the gentlemen, Slatford stated that, as member of Sangster's company, he

was in the thickest of the fight at 'Lundy's Lane,' but in that fight his life was in far less danger than as an innocent spectator of this duel." -- National Intelligencer.

The National Intelligencer, in the above, fails to state what officer Slatford always stoutly maintained, that on going home that night, he took from his pocket a bullet, which he stated was fired by Capt. McGuire, and which he caught in his hand,- not the least interesting incident of this extraordinary affair.

This site also provides important information on Alexandria's free and slave African Americans. McGuire's 70 year old mulatto slave, Sally Dyson, resided at 217 North Royal in 1850. When McGuire died at age 76 in November, 1850, Dyson inherited a portion of the house for her lifetime, even though she was evaluated at \$50 in his probate inventory (page 17 of this publication). This case study documents the complexity of owner-slave relationships.

This streetface also was the location of early free black homes. As early as 1802, Nanny Hall (or Harle) was given the ability to rent here for her lifetime in William Ramsay's will. In 1810, her household consisted of seven free blacks, and her occupation was recorded as a nurse. By 1830, Simon Turley, a free black baker, resided on the block at 229 S. Royal Street. He continued living there until at least 1840. Another black baker, Charles Bruse occupied the house at 229 S. Royal in 1850. Sara brings up the possibility that Turley and Bruse operated the bakery on the premises. Interestingly, Turley had seven slaves in his household. Turley was also a leader in forming the second African American church in Alexandria, Davis Chapel (Watermelon for God, Fern C. Stukenbroeker, Alexandria, 1974:159). He may also be the man referred to as Simon Finley, one of the purchasers of the Davis Chapel lot, now Roberts Memorial Church (Afro-American Institute for Historic Preservation and Community Development, A Study of Historic Sites in the Metropolitan Washington Regions of Northern Virginia and Southern Maryland Importantly Related to the History of Afro-Americans, Part III, 1978).

This block is rich with history, and Sara's study and appendices enrich our knowledge of this neighborhood just across the street from Market Square.

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1991

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History of No. 217 N. Royal Street

James McGuire, house joiner, bought the property now known as No. 217 North Royal Street from Dennis Ramsay in October 1796 for L160 (Deed Book [DB] H:241). It measured 32 feet on North Royal, running east to a depth of 123 feet 5 inches, the width of the quarter square. A building must have already existed on the lot, since in the 1790 tax record Ramsay had a house and lot on Royal, assessed at "L7/4" and occupied by Mary Caton, a seamstress (Veloz 1978). The lot was originally part of a parcel belonging to his father, William Ramsay, and is the only one not otherwise accounted for.

1800-1850: James McGuire

McGuire built on or improved the lot over the next few years and by 1802 had a frame dwelling and shop, assessed at \$1000. In 1810 James McGuire, lumber merchant, occupied the house, now assessed at \$2000 (Alexandria Tax Records [TR]), with his wife, and three slaves (1810 U.S. Census). Acquisitions continued: buying the next lot (No. 219) in 1811 for \$666 from John T. Brooks (DB U:498); then buying a lot and tenement (No. 221), from Ramsay descendants in 1832 for \$500 (DB V2:22). He built or improved houses there; his total tax assessment by 1840 was \$8000 for all three properties.

No. 217 was McGuire's home. He was an active citizen of Alexandria. In addition to the business of building houses, he had an interest in the militia. When the District of Columbia militia was formed in 1802, he joined along with other Alexandria men and was appointed an ensign of infantry. Adam Lynn, whom he was later to engage in a duel, was a captain of infantry (Clark

1932:293). In the War of 1812, McGuire was Captain of the Alexandria Volunteers, stationed at Annapolis over the winter of 1812-13 (Todd 1952:424). In 1816, he was appointed Superintendent of Police. In 1830 President Jackson appointed him Surveyor of the District of Columbia and Inspector of Revenue for the Port of Alexandria (Morrill 1979:30). The 1834 directory of Alexandria listed him as a clerk in the Custom House. His wife, Lucy, died in 1831 (Brockett 1876:198). The household in 1850 consisted of himself, aged 76, owner of \$10,000 in real estate, and a mulatto, Sally Dyson, aged 70 (1850 U.S. Census). He died in November 1850 at the age of 76 years. According to his obituary, he disposed of his estate almost entirely for benevolent purposes, since he had no living relatives (Alexandria Gazette, May 20, 1850).

1850-1875: The French Family

McGuire's will is not recorded but an inventory exists, as well as a record of the sale of the contents of the house (Will Book [WB] 5:301, 323). These two are compared in Appendix I.

No. 217 went to McGuire heirs, perhaps nieces and nephews of his wife, Lucy: Eliza Ann Talbot, wife of William P. Faherty; Wilmer Talbot of Prince George's County, Maryland; and Lucinda Crandell Denny of Brownsville, Texas. Sally Dyson, whom McGuire had left a share for use during her lifetime, released her claim to the heirs for \$300. Eliza and William Faherty sold to William Lambert for \$2200 in August 1852 (DB N3:442). Lambert sold to J. Newton Harper for \$2550 in 1853 (DB P3:433) and Harper to James McCullough of Richmond in 1858 for \$4500, with annual payments of \$1500 (DB T3:311). The increased value suggests Harper had made

considerable repair and improvements to the property.

McCullough leased what was now a brick dwelling to James F. French and family in January of 1859 (DB T3:328). In addition, McCullough bought the house next door (No. 215) from Emanuel and Julia Frances for \$850 (DB T3:484). He passed both houses to the Frenches through a trustee, Robert French, of Robison County, North Carolina. The Frenches were to assume the payments still owing--\$1500 to Harper and \$425 to Emmanuel Frances. McCullough made reference to his "esteem for James French's family," although the terms of the deed applied especially to the welfare of Laura French and her children (connection so far unknown). The property was described as "consisting of a comfortable dwelling with the necessary outhouses and all furniture now therein or which McCullough may place there" (DB W3:522). Perhaps the house built by Frances was considered one of the "necessary outhouses," or it may have been torn down by this date.

With the lease, McCullough also provided an inventory of the contents of No. 217, given below. The six engravings and oil cloth in the passage, for instance, suggest that some of McGuire's furnishings had been bought and left with the house.

- 2 lounges, 2 armchairs, 6 small chairs, 2 etageres,
- 1 centre table, 4 vases, 6 engravings for the parlor.
- 4 hair mattresses, 8 pillows, 2 Jenny Lind bedsteads,
- 2 French bedsteads, 4 spring bottoms, 4 washstands,
- 5 chamber carpets, 1 stair carpet, 2 oilcloth for passage,
- 2 hatracks, 1 doz. chamber chairs,
- 1 set china dinner service, 1 china set tea service,
- 1 set albata castors, 1 doz large albata spoons,
- 1 doz albata small spoons,
- 1 doz large forks, albata ware, 4 small and 1 large stew dishes, four bolsters, also 2 large and 2 small bureaus and 3 wardrobes.

The Frenches lived here, evidently in some comfort, until

1875. James French was clerk of a grocery, and in 1860 the family consisted of James, age 45, possessing real estate worth \$5000, with Laura, aged 29, and three children aged 2 to 9 years (1860 U.S. Census). In 1870, James had apparently aged 15 years (age 60), while Laura was only five years older (age 35). Real estate listed under her name was valued at \$10,000 and personal estate at \$2500. Seven children ranged in age from 1 to 17 years. George French, age 40, an invalid, was living with them (1870 U.S. Census), possibly in the Frances house next door. The tax rolls for 1873 carried the property as 49 Royal Street and included in the taxable furnishings a clock (\$2.00), piano (\$75), and furniture valued at \$400.

1875-1910: Rental Property

In 1875, the Frenches "wishing to leave Alexandria" sold No. 217 North Royal for \$5000 to James W. Denvers of Wilmington, Ohio (DB 5:8). The deed included the next lot at No. 215, but the house Emanuel Frances had built on it was no doubt gone. The Hopkins fire insurance map of 1877 shows an empty lot. From this point on, No. 217 evidently was rental property. It is doubtful that the Denvers lived in it; no one was listed there in the 1880 census and it was presumably vacant. Denvers sold it in 1888 to Sarah J. Gray, wife of Dr. William Gray, of Frederick County, Maryland (DB 20:429).

Sarah Gray secured her purchase with stock in the Gray Clock Co. and the Gray Automatic Steam Governor Co., but soon lost her investment (DB 20:429; 21:78; 21:349). At a public sale of the "three-story brick" in March 1890 (Alexandria Gazette, March 6, 1890), the property went to Jane F. Ballenger for \$2000 (DB

23:210). Jane was the wife of Robert W. Ballenger, a clerk with the firm of Peyton Ballenger, bootmakers, in 1881-82 (Chataigne:64). She rented No. 217 in 1888-89 to Anne Schofield, a teacher (Chataigne:159). She rented in 1891 (TR) to R. T. Lucas, auctioneer, and Charles King, who had a grocery on Cameron Street (Chataigne:122). Her tax assessment was \$2500.

Ballenger continued to rent through at least 1910 to full households while the tax assessment declined to \$2000. In 1900, Andrew Sullivan occupied the house or houses with nine other persons, including a carpenter and a baker (1900 U.S. Census). Andrew had a produce stall on Market Square as of 1897 (directory). In 1910, the occupant was Henry M. Ale, from New Jersey, a bottle glassblower. His household of ten included laborers in the glass factory, a shoe clerk, and a seamstress (1910 U.S. Census).

No. 217 North Royal is still standing at this time of this writing in 1991.

Block Profile

The following is adapted from a 1985 study by Virginia Jenkins, based on my research at the time. New information and some further details have been added.

Summary

The east side of the 200 block of North Royal Street in Alexandria, is on the northern edge of the Market Square neighborhood between Cameron and Queen Streets. Cameron Street, to the south, was a commercial thoroughfare. The corner of Cameron and North Royal was in commercial use throughout the nineteenth century, first as a blacksmith shop and later as a grocery. The location of this block, close to the business and governmental heart of Alexandria, was attractive to a variety of merchants, skilled artisans, lawyers and government employees who lived there. Many of the residents of the block were upper middle class until about 1880, when there were fewer owner-occupied residences, and the occupational and economic level of the block declined.

Between 1802 and 1850, there were one or more free black families living at the northern, Queen Street, end of the block. This block bordered the African American residential area called "the Berg," to the east of North Royal Street and north of Queen Street. The free blacks living on the 200 block of North Royal generally had skilled occupations, such as baker, printer and wheelwright. The number of free blacks living on the block rose from one household of seven in 1810 to three households with a total of 27 individuals in 1830. It declined to one household of

10 in 1850. This appears to correspond to the increase in the free black population in Alexandria while it was a part of the District of Columbia. After 1846, when Alexandria retroceded to the Commonwealth of Virginia, many free blacks may have moved into the District of Columbia or to other free states to avoid the perils of living in a slave state. After 1850, there are no further records of black occupants on this block.

The number of white residents per household averaged six throughout the century. The total number of residents on the block increased in 1830 and peaked in 1840 when several households included slaves. The census records from 1810 to 1840 show a steady growth in the number of slaves held by households on this street. By 1840, six households contained a total of 23 slaves. This may indicate increasing economic status of these households, but if so, it is contrary to the trend in Alexandria for a decrease in the slave population during this period.

The chronological overview given below is based largely on tax records for the years shown. Attached as Appendix II is a chronological table of owners and occupants based on tax and census data for each decade. Appendix III contains deed information on each property.

1800

According to the 1802 tax record, the street was already quite developed, with six residences on the North Royal block. Four were owner-occupied and included the families of William Somers, coachmaker, deceased; James McGuire, a house joiner; and Jacob Fortney, blacksmith. Two others were rented, one to a free black

woman, "Nanny" Harle (or Hall), for her lifetime under the will of William Ramsay (DB V2:22). McGuire and Fortney were taxed in 1802 for frame dwellings and shops on North Royal, although Fortney's shop may have faced on Cameron Street, since his was the corner property.

1810

As of 1810, there were at least seven residences on the block in the tax rolls. Widow Isabel Somers' lots on the Queen Street corner probably included an eighth, a brick dwelling facing Queen Street. At least three were owner-occupied and four were rented. A number of blacks lived on the street. Nanny Harle's household included seven free blacks, and her occupation was listed as nurse (Alexandria City Census); Jacob Fortney, the blacksmith, had four slaves, and James McGuire had three. In 1811, McGuire acquired the property to the north, now No. 219, which had belonged to John Turpin Brooks (DB U:498). He no doubt rebuilt, and in 1814 was renting to Noblett Herbert, husband of Mary Lee Washington (Cox 1976:151).

1820

The 1820 tax showed that of the nine houses on the block, Nos. 213 and 229 were vacant. A third, No. 223, inherited by Eleanor Somers Fox, was occupied by a slave, Araminta ("Minta") Webster, as caretaker. In 1817, prices for agricultural commodities had begun to decline and Alexandria's economic growth slowed. The 1820s were a decade of distress (Sharrer 1977:23). James McGuire was now the Superintendent of Police (Morrill 1979:30) and George H. Duffey, next to him, perhaps at No. 213 or 215, was a

blacksmith and "bellhanger." The property on the corner of Cameron had been divided into two lots and the house at No. 209 was occupied by Jacob Fortney, Jr. The corner lot was owned by Edward McLaughlin, a grocer, and the building appears to have been used as a grocery store through the 1870s. In the 18th and 19th centuries, many shops in Alexandria had living quarters in the upper floors (Myers 1977:145).

1830

In 1830, there were eight residences and a stable on the block. Despite the decline of Alexandria as a port, and perhaps because of the Great Fire of 1827 that destroyed 55 buildings in Alexandria, all of the buildings on the block were occupied; three free Black households were here at Nos. 221 and 229. All heads of household had skilled occupations. Simon Turley, baker, rented 229; Robert Bell, printer, owned 221 S. Royal. Both Bell and Hugh Piper, wheelwright, occupied the house at 221. The white residents included William Fox, superintendent of the Alexandria Gazette; Washington Page, customs clerk; John West, another clerk; and McGuire, who was appointed Surveyor for the District of Columbia and Inspector of Revenue for the Port of Alexandria by President Andrew Jackson (Morrill 1979:30). George Duffey, blacksmith, had married the widow of Jacob Fortney, Jr., and the Duffey-Fortney family continued to live at No. 209.

1840

Alexandria continued to decline economically throughout the 1830s. There was a cholera epidemic in 1832. Many young men

left Alexandria for the new government lands of the West (Carne 1897:7). Of the eight residences on the 200 block of North Royal, only three appear to have been owner-occupied. However, three of the renting families had slaves, and the renters included Thomas Semmes, a lawyer; and Archibald Fleming, railroad contractor. The one free black household remaining was at No. 229, headed by Simon Turley, and seven slaves who might have been employed in the bakery. The 1840 census showed the largest households of the century, with a mix of whites, free blacks, and slaves living on the block.

1850

In 1850, there were only two owner-occupants of the eight residences. No. 229 was rented by two black families, one headed by Charles Bruse, a baker. This house had been occupied by bakers since 1830, and the baking may have been done on the premises. Other renters included William Atwell, merchant, tobacconist and tailor; John Lancaster, Treasury clerk; James Fossett, livery stable owner; William Morrow, a shoemaker; and J. W. Smith, hotelkeeper. This seems to reflect the convenient location of this block with respect to the commercial and governmental activities in Alexandria. James McGuire died in 1850 and No. 217 also became rental property during the 1850s.

1860

Alexandria, at the outbreak of the Civil War, was quickly occupied by Union troops. According to reports and diaries of the time, it was "a dilapidated old town" (Beede 1977:182). Many ardent secessionists fled the town, including many business

people. On the 200 block of North Royal Street, only two houses were occupied by the owners in 1860. The Duffey-Fortney family had lived at No. 207. George Duffey, Jr., silversmith and watchmaker, was the fourth-generation owner. James French, a grocery clerk, at No. 217 had at first leased the house for five years and then purchased it. The occupations of the other occupants on the street show a decline in status from upper middle to lower middle class and skilled craftsmen. They included Joseph McLain, a cooper; two grocers, Joseph Broders and Elizabeth Alexander; and Harry Jenkins, master carpenter. The stable at No. 213 became a grocery warehouse. Gone are the government employees, lawyers and merchants.

1870

In 1870, the Duffey-Fortney family had sold No. 207, and the house was rented to an engineer from Pennsylvania and his son, a machinist. The occupational level on the street had risen to include a schooner captain, Shirley King; and a lawyer, John Chapman. Although James French at No. 217 was listed as a grocery clerk, his wife, Laura, had assets of \$27,500, and the terms of the deed of sale of the property had applied especially to the welfare of Laura and her children. Therefore, French's occupation may not reflect their actual social standing. Living with them was George French, an invalid, doubtless a relative. No. 229, on the corner of North Royal and Queen Street, was owned and occupied by Jesse Sherwood, whose occupation was listed in the census as huckster. This building was consistently occupied by

families of lower occupational status than the rest of the block throughout the nineteenth century and may have been smaller or in worse condition than the other buildings.

1880

The block begins to show an increasing rate of transiency in this period. The only occupant remaining since the 1870 census was Joseph Young at No. 207, an engineer with the Steam Engine Fire Company. The warehouse next door at number 213 had become the engine house for the fire company and was owned by the City of Alexandria. The Kauffman and Waterman households at Nos. 221 and 219 were headed by German immigrants. Joseph Kauffman owned No. 221. The other owner-occupied house was at No. 223, where George Clifford, Superintendent of Police, lived with his four-year-old grandson. The occupations of the residents of the block continued to reflect its proximity to the central business district of Alexandria, with two public employees and three commercial dealers--in coal, clothing and shoes.

1890

The 1890 census shows a sharp increase in home ownership with the construction of two new houses at Nos. 227 and 225 by Harry and Charles Hantzman. Four of the nine residences were now owner-occupied. The owners included the Superintendent of Police and the Superintendent of Street Improvements. The occupations listed in the census for the residents of the rental properties included a bricklayer, furniture dealer, salesmen and clerks of boots and shoes, a baker, carpenter, and a fish dealer. Despite the increase in home ownership, the occupational and economic

level of the residents on the block declined.

1900

In 1900, five of the eight residences on the block had changed hands since the 1890 census. The Hantzman brothers still lived at Nos. 227 and 225, and Andrew Sullivan still rented No. 217. No. 229, on the corner of Queen Street was a grocery store. Other renters included two carpenters, a railroad clerk, seamstress, a braker and a brickmason. Harry Hantzman, the Street Superintendent, was the only public official living on the block. The other homeowner, Charles Rauch, at No. 223, was variously described as a broom manufacturer, clerk, and clerk in a rag shop. The residents at this time seem to have been mainly lower middle class or blue collar workers. It may be that there was some connection between Charles Hantzman, the carpenter who built and lived in No. 227, and the carpenters and brickmason living at Nos. 221, 217, and 207.

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Appendix I

Inventory and Sale of Effects from 217 North Royal Street

The following is a combined list of the probate inventory of James McGuire's estate taken in late 1851 (WB 5:301) and the accounting for an estate sale in January 1852 (WB 5:313). The items have been matched up as closely as possible.

<u>Inventory Listing</u>		<u>Sale Record</u>	
Mahogany sideboard	\$10	Sideboard	\$9.00
Set mahogany dining tables	\$12	Set of tables	\$14
12 rush bottom chairs	\$7.20	12 parlour chairs	\$9.90
Looking glass, gilt frame	\$4.00	Gilt looking glass	\$8.25
Set curtains & fixtures	\$3.00	2 curtains	\$2.50
Carpet on parlor floor	\$4.00	Carpet 21 1/2 yds [by] 25 FEET?	\$5.32 1/2
Small mahogany table	\$2.00	Small table	\$2.50
6 engravings	\$10	Grand Lodge engraving	\$4.12 1/2
		Jackson engraving	\$2.00
		Monroe engraving	\$1.87
		Jefferson engraving	\$1.50
		Washington engraving	\$1.87
		?President's message	\$1.52 1/2
Small engraving	\$0.25	Engraving	\$0.60
Family bible	\$5.00	(not sold)	
Pair pistols	\$1.50	2 pistols	\$1.81
Gold watch, chain & seals	\$45	Lever watch (gold)	\$60
Gold watch,	\$12	Gold watch (French)	\$17.00
4 silver tablespoons, 3 tea-		4 silver tablespoons	\$6.20
spoons, 1 sugar tongs,		3 silver teaspoons	\$2.25
	\$10	Pair sugar tongs	\$1.25
Stove and pipe fixtures	\$9.00	Stove	\$8.75
Castor earthenware in cupboard	\$2.00	Casterite (lot)	\$1.72 1/2
Pair shovel & tongs	\$1.00	Pair shovel & tongs	\$1.25
Small table, walnut	\$1.00	Small table	\$1.06 1/4
Looking glass in back parlour	\$1.00	Looking glass	\$1.50
Carpet in back parlour	\$1.00	Carpet 10 yds [sic]	\$1.80
Dining table	\$2.00	[by] 18	\$2.00
8 chairs (odd)	\$2.00	Table	\$2.00
Inkstand, etc. in cupboard	\$0.25	5 yellow chairs	\$2.62 1/2
Small mahogany table in passage	\$2.00	3 black chairs	\$1.27 1/2
Oil cloth passage carpet	\$0.25	Small table	\$2.50
Map U. States in passage	\$0.25	Oil cloth in passage	\$0.95
Settee	\$2.00	Map	\$0.35
Maple bedstead	\$4.00	Settee	\$2.25
Lot of canes	\$1.00	Bedstead	\$7.00
Bureau	\$4.00	Lot canes	\$0.20
Old writing desk	\$1.50	Bureau	\$6.00
		Desk	\$1.25

Desk and bookcase	\$6.00
Lot of books	\$1.00
Pine cot	\$.95
Pine Bedstead	\$2.50
Wardrobe	\$5.00
Fender & andirons	\$5.00
Feather bed & bolster	\$10
Steaming machine and 2 injection pipes	\$5.00
Injection pipe	\$1.00
Quilt, blanket & 2 sheets & saddlebags	\$2.00
Chair and pan	\$.50
Thermometer	\$.50
Kitchen furniture	\$20
Lot of implements in smoke house	\$3.00
Negro woman Sally Dyson	\$50
Negro girl Harriot Baylor	\$300
Negro boy Andrew Jackson	\$650
Brown horse	\$50
Buggy & harness	\$30
Saddle & bridle	\$2.00
Lot & stable etc.	\$200
Corner house occupied by Mr. Robinson	\$700
H/L on Royal occupied by Mr. Lancaster	\$2200
H/L occupied by James Fossett	\$1600
H/L lately occupied by Capt. McGuire	\$2000
H/L on Union occupied by Miss Langley	\$500
24 shares Alexandria Corporation stock	\$2400
Samuel Lunt's notes	\$600
Claim to bounty land not "pattented" [for service in War of 1812?]	
Silver cream pot	\$5.00

Bookcase and secretary	\$13.12 1/2
Lot of books	\$.40
Cot	\$1.00
Wardrobe	\$8.50
Fender	\$1.90
Andirons	\$1.92 1/2
Bed & bolster	\$23.40
Steaming machine	\$2.75
2 syringes	\$.47
Syringe	\$1.10
Quilt	\$2.10
Blanket	\$.50
2 sheets	\$.50
Pair saddlebags	\$1.15
Chair	\$.50
Thermometer	\$.50

Horse	\$56.00
Buggy & harness	\$50.50
Saddle & bridle	\$5.00

Not found in inventory:

18 stair rods	\$.50
Rule and square	\$.20
Sabre etc	\$1.50
Gun	\$1.05
Small print	\$.27
Small print	\$.06 1/2
Mantel vase	\$.15
Lot sundries	\$.50
3 decanters	\$.90
Pair spectacles	\$1.06 1/4
Rake etc.	\$.70

Appendix II

Tax and Census Records

Lot #	Owner	Occupant	Household Wh./F.B./Sl.		Assmt.	Description/Remarks
<u>1802</u>						
229	Isabel Shaw Somers/ Summers	Isabel/William Somers: coachmaker	X		\$1750 \$1000	2 frames Brick on Queen vacant
221	Wm. Ramsay estate	Robert/"Nanny" Harle		X		
217	James McGuire	Self: house joiner	X		\$1000	Frame house & shop
215	William Smith: carpenter	John Watson Thomas Troop	X		\$950	House/Lot
213	Widow Stroman	Widow of Henry	X		\$500	House/Lot
Cornr/ Cameron	Jacob Fortney	Self: blacksmith	X		\$3800	2 frames/shop and "old buildings" on Queen St.
<u>1810</u>						
229- 223	Wm. Somers estate	Widow Somers	3	1	\$4000	4 lots on corner 100x88
		Elizabeth Ross: seamstress	6			
		Robert Anderson: merchant	1			
221	Wm. Ramsay estate	Nanny Halls: nurse		7	\$650	House/Lot
219	John T. Brooks	vacant			\$600	House/Lot
217	James McGuire	Self: lumber merchant	2	3	\$2000	House/Lot
215	William Smith	Thomas Towers: livery stable keeper	6	4	\$1000	House/Lot
213	Widow Stroman	Self	x		\$500	House/Lot
Corner/ Cameron	Jacob Fortney	Self: blacksmith	5	4	\$3500	House/Lot

1820

229	Wm. Summers	vacant			\$1600	House/Lot
223	William Fox: Superintendent of "Gazette"	Arminta "Minta" Webster: caretaker. Freed, 1823.		1	\$1000	House/Lot
221	Ramsay estate (Betty & James Steuart, heirs)	Nanny Halls: nurse William Downs Joseph Lee		5		House/Lot
219	James McGuire	William Jacobs			\$5000	2 Houses/Lots
217	James McGuire	Self: Superinten- dent of Police	3	2		
215	George H. Duffey	Self: blacksmith and bell hanger	7		\$2000	House/Lot
213	Hiram Hanover	vacant			\$500	House/Lot
207/ 209	George Duffey	John Thompson Henry Fortney			\$2600	House/Lot
corner/ Cameron	Edward McLaughlin	William McDonald: grocer			\$1400	House/Lot

1830

229	Thomas Irwin estate	Simon Turley: baker		7	\$1200	House/Lot
227- 225	Richard M. Scott				\$400	Lot
223	William Fox	Self: Superinten- dent <u>Alexandria</u> <u>Gazette</u>	10	1	\$700	House/Lot
221	Robert Bell	Self: printer Hugh Piper: wheelwright	12 6		\$900	House/Lot (ground rent paid to John Steuart).

219	James McGuire	Washington Page: Customs clerk					
217	James McGuire	Self: Inspector of Revenue and D.C. Surveyor	X			\$5000	2 houses and lots
215- 213	John West	Self: clerk in public office	7	2	4	\$1800	House, lots and stable. Livery stable owned 4 stages.
207/ 209	George Duffey	Self: blacksmith, bell hanger	7			\$2000	2 houses and lots.
Corner/ Cameron	Edward McLaughlin	Self: grocer				\$3500	2 retail licenses

1840

229	John E. Carey	Simon Turley: baker	10	7		\$1200	House/Lot
227- 225	Richard M. Scott Estate					\$400	Lot only
223	Wm. Fox	Archibald Fleming: railroad contractor (?)	8		5	\$900	House/Lot
221	James McGuire	Thomas Semmes: lawyer					
219	James McGuire	Elizabeth Winter	2		1	\$8000	3 Houses/Lots
217	James McGuire	Self	5		4		
215	Hannah Wilson	Elizabeth Mills	2		1	\$1000	House/Lot
213	Eliza Kennedy	Archibald Fleming				\$800	Stable
207/209	George Duffey	self	11	1		\$1800	House(s)/Lot(s)
Corner/ Cameron	J. McLaughlin	James Sheehy				\$3500	House(s)/Lot(s)

1850

229	Ann Carey	Henry Cavins Charles Bruse: baker	5 5	\$1400	House/Lot
227- 225	Richard M. Scott estate	vacant		\$600	Lot only
223	William Fox estate	William Atwell: mer- chant, tobacconist, tailor	9	\$1200	
221	James McGuire	John Lancaster: Treas- ury Department Clerk	7		
219	James McGuire	John Fossett: livery stable owner	7	\$8300	3 Houses/Lots
217	James McGuire	Self	1 1		
215	Hannah Wilson	William Morrow: shoe- maker	11	\$1000	2-story house and lot
213	John Lawson			\$900	Stable
207/ 209	George H. Duffey	Self: gunsmith & bell hanger	7	\$1700	
corner/ Cameron	Edward McLaughlin estate	Bernard Crooks: stone mason. J.W. Smith: hotel keeper	1 13	\$3200	2 houses/lot. Crooks had 1-story house, & Smith had 3-story.

1860

229	Jane Sidebottom	Joseph McLain: cooper	5		
227- 225	Richard M. Scott estate				
223	Robert H. Miller	Joseph Broders: grocer	5		
221	William Gregory	Harry Jenkins: master carpenter	8		
219	William Gregory	Adam Baggett	5		

217	James F. French	Self: grocery clerk Laura French	5
213	John Lawson	warehouse	
207/ 209	George H. Duffey, Jr.	Self: silversmith, watchmaker	11
Corner/ Cameron	Robert Alexander estate (?)	Elizabeth Alexander: grocer	6

1874

229	Charles P. Shaw	John L. Smith, Jr.	7	\$1000	House/Lot
225- 227	Nathaniel Boush			\$800	Lot only
223	Shirley King	Self: schooner captain	6	\$1000	
221	William Gregory	John Chapman: lawyer	5	\$6000	Two Houses/Lots
219	William Gregory	F.W. Ashby: store clerk	6		
217	James French	James French: grocery clerk	9	\$5000	Two Houses/Lots
215	James French	George French: invalid	1		
213	John Lawson			\$ 600	Warehouse
207/ 209	Louisa Swain	Joseph Young: engineer Banner Young: machinist	2	\$1200	House/Lot
corner/ Cameron	Robert Alexander estate	E.A. Alexander: grocer	10	\$6000	

1880

229	(Mary Ann Clifford)	Thomas Fones: 5 gas (glass?) house worker	
223	George Clifford	Self: Superintendent 2 of Police	
221	Joseph Kauffman	Self: shoe dealer 7	
219		Simon Waterman: clothing 7 dealer	
217	(James Denvers)	R.T. Lucas: auctioneer, \$2500 coal dealer	
213		Engine House	
207/ 209		Joseph Young: engineer	
corner/ Cameron		R. Whaley: widow	

1891

229	Louis Shuman	Joseph Haynes: brick layer	\$ 500
227	Harry Hantzman	Self: Superintendent of Street Improvements	\$1200
225	Charles Hantzman	Self: carpenter	\$1200
223	Charles J. Roach	William H. Hantzman	\$ 600
221	Johnson, Chapman and Powell	Joseph Kauffman	\$1600
219	Janet G. Leadbeater	M. Ruben: furniture dealer. Aaron Katz: salesmen, clerks, boots and shoes.	\$1600

217	Jane F. Ballenger	R.T. Lucas and R.T. Lucas, Jr.	\$2500
213		Hydraulic engine house	
207/209		Joseph Young: engineer James P. Young: fish dealer	\$ 600
corner/ Cameron		W.A. Johnson & Co.	

1900

229		Sara Lockett: grocer	2	
227	Charles Hantzman	Self: carpenter	5	
225	Harry Hantzman	Self: Street Superin- tendent	5	
223	Charles Rauch	Self: broom manufacturer, clerk	4	\$600.
221		Thomas Jasper: carpenter	6	
219		John Bartlett: railroad clerk; seamstress	6	
217		A. Sullivan: baker, car- penter	10	
213		Engine house		
207/ 209		Charles Smith: brick mason		\$600
corner		W.A. Johnson & Co.		

Appendix III

Lot and Deed Summary for 200 Block, North Royal Street, East Side

SHAW/SUMMERS LOTS, NOS. 223-229

A parcel measuring 88 feet on Royal Street and running 72 feet on Queen to a 7-foot alley, which eventually became four lots. Willed by William Shaw in December 1774 to his son Thomas. Both Thomas and a sister died intestate, and it went to another daughter, Isabel Shaw Summers, wife of William Summers, coachmaker (DB Z:64).

No. 229, measuring 22 feet on Royal, went to Harvey Summers in 1816 (DB D2:261). He sold in 1818 to Thomas Irwin (DB E2:401), whose descendants, James and Thomas Carey of Baltimore and Pennsylvania, respectively, finally sold 'tenement and lot' in 1854 to Thomas Baggett for \$1000 (DB Q3:25).

Baggett defaulted on a mortgage and it went at auction in May 1859 for \$1250 to Jane Sidebottom (DB V3:17). She sold to Jesse Sherwood, huckster, and his wife, Mary, in 1861 (W3:139). They sold to Charles P. Shaw in 1871 for \$1080 (DB I:356).

A suit involving John Collier vs. Catherine Atwell, et al., put it on the market again and it was sold to Mary Ann Clifford, widow of George Clifford (who lived at No. 223), in 1879 for \$410 (DB 8:250). It went to Washington Irving Clifford in 1886 (DB 17:193). It belonged to Louis Shuman in 1891 and to Carrie and Frank Pullin in 1910 (TR), probably as a corner grocery.

Nos 225-227 were probably a double vacant lot until about 1890. No. 225 went to Isabel Summers' daughter, Jane, in 1816 (DB E2:352), but a No. 227 deed is not located.

Both lots belonged to Richard M. Scott as of 1830-50 (TR). Nathaniel Boush bought them in 1869 from C. W. Wattles, Commissioner, evidently at auction (DB A4:74). Boush heirs sold No. 227 to Charles Hantzman for \$325 in 1889 (DB 22:28) and No. 225 to Harry Hantzman.

No. 223 went to Isabel's daughter, Eleanor, wife of William Fox, in 1814 (DB Z:64) and was a residence. In 1859, Robert H. Miller bought it up at auction for \$197, pursuant to the case of Edward Pittman vs. Lycurgus F. Fox, deceased. It was described as a two-story frame dwelling adjoining McGuire's Row. Miller also paid \$250 each to Micajah and Almenia McGee and Tillotson Fox of Alabama (DB O3:259; P3:241).

George Clifford, Superintendent of Police, bought it from Miller in 1864 for \$1250 in trust for Margaret A. King, wife of Shirley King, schooner captain, and her children "free from the debts,

power and control of Shirley" (DB V3:488). In 1888, following a lawsuit by the estate of William Hance against Shirley King et al., Mary Anne Clifford evidently rescued the property for \$445 (DB 9:177). This, too, went to Washington Irving Clifford in 1886 (DB 17:193).

RAMSAY/MCGUIRE LOTS, nos. 217-22

About 92 feet on Royal Street, going north from the mid-block point, by 123 feet in depth. William Ramsay laid out three lots in the late 1700s and James McGuire developed them into upper class properties.

No. 221, William Ramsay leased "forever" in 1785 to Robert Harle or Halls (black) at the annual rent of L16. It measured 24 feet on Royal. Ownership passed to William Ramsay, Jr., in trust for Sarah Ramsay Masterson, who in 1801 left it to (a sister?), Betty Ramsay Steuart, and her son, James M. Steuart. In 1832, "Nanny" Harle, Robert's widow, owed \$500 in back rent, and the Steuarts repossessed it and sold the lot and tenement to McGuire for \$500 (DB V2:22).

After McGuire's death in 1850, it was bought by William Gregory (DB V3:488) and later owned by the firm of Johnson, Chapman and Powell, followed by Mary G. Powell as of 1910 (TR).

No. 219 William Ramsay sold to Thomas Richards in 1795, who immediately passed it to John Turpin Brooks. It was set off from No. 221 by a 6-foot alley and measured 26 feet on Royal. Brooks sold to McGuire for \$666 in 1811 (DB U:498). Gregory bought this lot also in 1852 (DB V3:488), and Janet Leadbeater owned it in 1891 (TR).

No. 217 Ramsay passed to his son Dennis, who sold to McGuire. See full account of this property presented earlier in this publication.

STROMAN LOTS, Nos. 213-215

Henry and Elizabeth Stroman owned these lots in 1790, along with other ground facing on Cameron. They sold lots on Royal Street to one Dedrick Scheckel or Sheckle in 1790 and 1792, measuring 25 and 27 feet 8 inches respectively (DB D:134, 386), but the 25 foot lot is not clearly accounted for in later records.

No. 215 at the northwest corner of the Stroman land, measuring 27 feet 8 inches on Royal and running east 123 feet 5 inches to the "division /lot/ line" (DB D:386), "with all houses," was sold by Scheckel in 1795 to William Smith, carpenter, for L100. Smith sold it to Jonathan Swift in 1806 for \$1500 (DB M:499). The Swifts sold to Jacob Fortney, Jr., in 1812 for \$1000 (DB V2:444).

Fortney's estate lost it in a suit brought by Sarah Chichester and it went at auction in 1821 to William Simms for \$260 (DB K2:454). The Alexandria Gazette advertised it at this time as "a comfortable frame tenement in good repair."

John West next bought it in 1823 for \$100 (see No. 215). He released to Hannah Wilson, who held the ground rent of \$50 a year, inherited from her father, Thomas Irwin (V2:177).

Emmanuel Francis bought it in 1853. He sold a 2 feet 6 inch strip to the lot on the south in 1855 for \$185.50 (DB R3:236) and the remaining 25 feet to James McCullough in 1859 for \$850 (DB T3:484). From this point through the rest of the century it was part of No. 217.

No. 213. Whatever the other lot on Royal bought by Scheckel (DB D:134), No. 213 was the property (or perhaps dower) of Mary Elizabeth Stroman, widow of Henry as of 1817. A Stroman daughter, wife of George Williams, had it in 1819 (DB I2:504). It was bought by Noblett Herbert, perhaps at auction, in 1817 for \$320 and sold to Hiram Hanover, or Harrover (DB H2:1). In 1823 it went to John West for \$1000 (DB N2:182). He evidently ran this as a livery stable, along with No. 215. West sold this lot to Eliza Kennedy in 1833 and Kennedy sold to John Lawson for \$800 in 1845 (DB F3:571). It was the lot of Lawson and Brewis, grocery firm, in 1853 (DB R3:236).

FORTNEY LOTS, No. 211 to corner.

Jacob Fortney purchased this parcel, measuring 117 feet 8 inches on Royal Street and 41 feet on Cameron, from Patrick Allison for \$450 in 1793 (DB E:196). It had two frame dwellings and a shop (TR 1802). According to later maps these probably faced on Cameron. At Fortney's death as of 1818, it was divided between two sons, Henry and Jacob, Jr.

No. 207. Jacob's lot to the north had 72 feet fronting on Royal (DB K2:43). This could have accommodated three houselots, Nos. 207, 209 and 211; and may have done so at different times, but No. 207 is the only one still standing and is possibly the original.

Jacob Fortney was deceased as of 1821 and his widow, Rosina, married George Duffey. They became the owners (DB K2:454; DB N2:215). By 1856, the Duffeys were in debt--specifically to the Canfield Brothers. At some point they disposed of 20 feet along the north of the lot. In 1866 the rest went at public auction to Louisa Swaine, wife of Francis Swaine, grocer, for \$275 (DB 2:290).

The northern 20 feet, probably No. 211, was sold by the City of Alexandria in 1908 to Wilbert Baggett for \$824 (DB 57:186).

The corner lot, measuring 45 feet 7 inches on Royal and with at least one tenement on it, went to Henry and Susanna Fortney in 1818. They sold by 1820 to Edward McLaughlin, a grocer, for \$2630 (DB K2:43). Between 1850 and 1860 it became the property of the Alexander family and in 1890 belonged to M. and J. Henderson (TR).

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