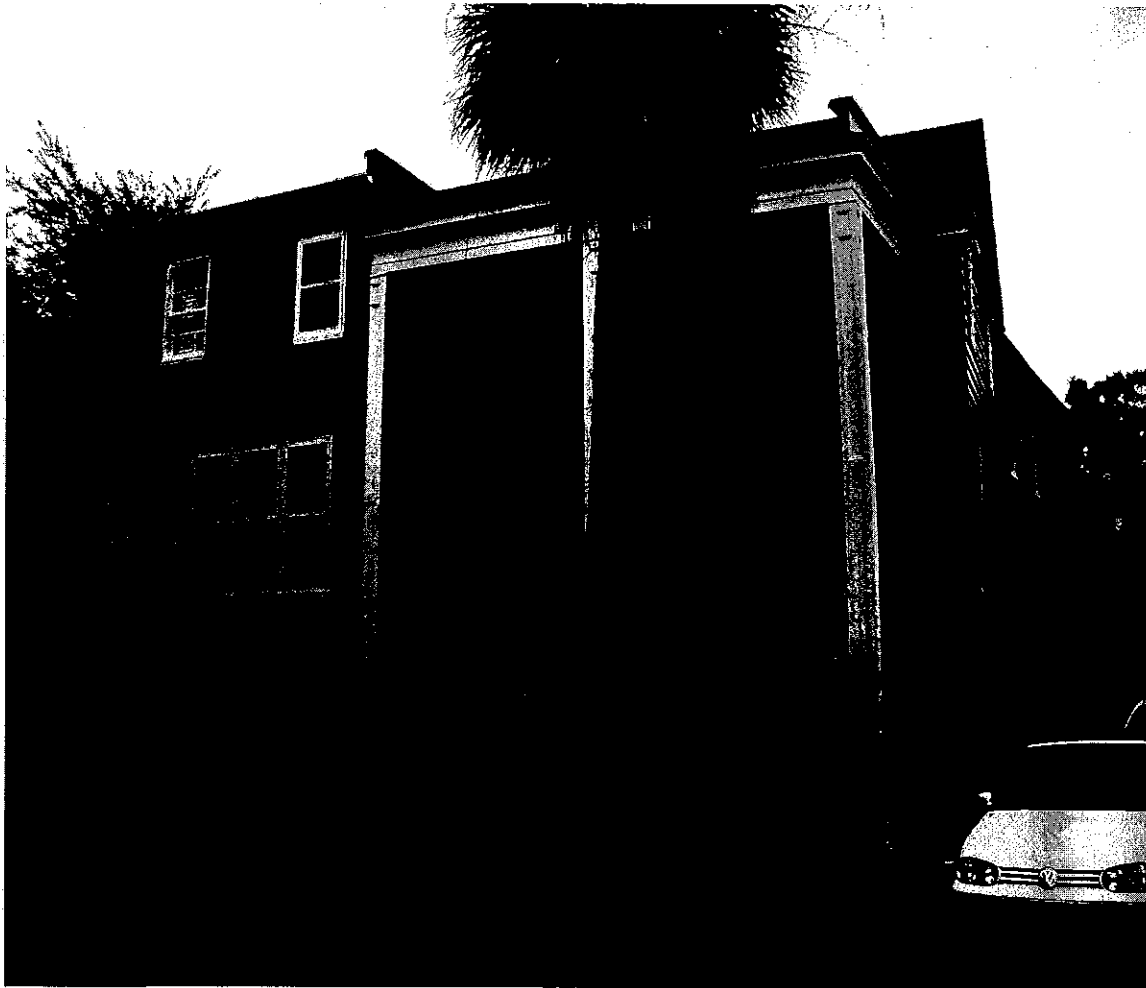


18 Water Street
Charleston, SC



Natalie Ford
October 12, 2006
Clemson Historic Preservation Graduate Program

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- 'John Edwards and Some of His Descendants'
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- 'Inscriptions from the Independent or Congregational (Circular) Church Yard'
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- 'The Charleston Fire of 1861 as Described in the Emma E. Holmes Diary'
S.C. Historical Magazine vol. 76 p. 60-76
- 'S.C. Birthday : James Gadsen Holmes.'
News and Courier. June 7, 1944 p. 13
- McCrady Plat # 6987
- 'Map of Charleston' 1788
- 'A Plan of the Town & Harbor of Charles-Town' 1710
- 'Could this wall be the old wall?'
Post and Courier. Sep. 14, 2006

Date	Book & Page	Grantor	Grantee	Type	Lot Size	Price	Comments
12/2/2005	K564 p. 805	Patricia & Keith Bridges	George Taylor	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$875,000	
12/23/2002	K430 p. 210	Barry S. Halpern	Patricia and Keith Bridges	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$700,000	
5/18/1998	A303 p. 001	Robert & Faye Curtis	Barry S. Halpern	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$339,000	
1/27/1995	A252 p. 595	Ursula R. Small	Robert & Faye Curtis	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$240,000	
8/14/1972	W99 p. 499	Elizabeth Lemon Brenner	Ursula R. Small	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$35,000	
4/1/1964	X79 p. 228	Agnes M. Street	Elizabeth Lemon Brenner	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$18,500	
4/22/1957	G64 p. 11	Timothy T. Street	Agnes M. Street	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$5.00	conveyed with love and affection

2/7/1950	U51 p. 535	Frances Matheson Wilkinson	Timothy T. Street	conveyance	26' 7" front 25' 9" back 38' west 39' 7" east	\$12,750	Plat made by Joseph Needle 7, 1950 Book C p. 63 (Copy of platnin appendix)	Feb
4/7/1944	H44 p. 521	Georgiana Horry Townsend	Frances Matheson Wilkinson	conveyance	27' front 25' 10" back 39' west 41' east	\$11,000		
2/11/1938	C40 p. 761	Eloise L. Palmer	Georgiana Horry Townsend	conveyance	27' front, 36' W 14' E, 3' N 11' E, 41' S	\$3,500		
8/17/1938	S40 p. 117	Mary H. Bailey	Georgiana Horry Townsend	conveyance	14' 10" (NS) X 3' (EW)	\$35	Property dimension increased in the NW corner (copy of deed in appendix)	
10/27/1920	Z29 p. 332	Harriott A. Palmer	Eloise L. Palmer	conveyance	27' front, 36' W 14' E, 3' N 11' E, 41' S	\$5.00	conveyed for \$5.00 & other valuable considration	
Nov-18	Q28 p. 154	Eliza H. Palmer	Harriott A. Palmer	mortgaged	27' front, 36' W 14' E, 3' N 11' E, 41' S			
8/2/1916	E28 p. 187	Mary E. O'Hagan	Eliza H. Palmer	conveyance	27' front, 36' W 14' E, 3' N 11' E, 41' S	\$2,375		
6/6/1906	Y24 p. 74	Isabella E. Frith	Mary E. O'Hagan	conveyance	27' front, 33' W, 17' 6" E, 4' S, 6' 6" E, 29' S	\$600	(copy of deed in appendix)	
1902		Marian Whitehead	Isabella E. Frith	will	27' front, 33' W, 17' 6" E, 4' S, 6' 6" E, 29' S		Left all of her estate to her daughter Isabella E. Frith as stated on deed Y24 p. 74	

1896	W22 p.157	Sarah A. Beesley	Marian Whitehead	conveyance	27' front, 33' W, 17' 6" E, 4' S, 6' 6" E, 29' S	\$700	(copy of deed in appendix)
1889	W 20 p.361	James G. Holmes	Sarah A. Beesley	conveyance	27' front, 33' W, 17' 6" E, 4' S, 6' 6" E, 29' S	\$1,000	(copy of deed in appendix)
1880	Box 266 19 book Q p. 276	Mary Holmes	James G. Holmes et al	will	27' front, 33' W, 17' 6" E, 4' S, 6' 6" E, 29' S		Mary Holmes left her estate to the children of her brother, but allowed her friend Mary Ann Wilson to live there as long as she wished. (copy of will in appendix)
2/28/1852	S12 p. 87	Edward & Edgar Holmes	Mary Holmes	conveyance	38' 9" front 75' 9" depth	\$2,750	Mary Holmes is the aunt of Edward and Edgar Holmes
2/26/1821	G9 p. 338	William Holmes	Edward & Edgar Holmes	conveyance	38' 9" front 75' 9" depth	\$1	conveyed with love and affection (copy of deed in appendix)

History of 18 Water Street, Charleston, SC

18 Water Street is situated on the North side of the street between Church and Meeting Street in downtown Charleston, SC. The house is a two story wood frame Charleston single house. The exact date of construction is unknown. It is, however, known that in 1816 William Holmes owned the property and no buildings are mentioned in any of the census. In 1821, when William Holmes conveyed the land to his two sons, Edgar and Edward, the deed states that there is a two story house on the property. It is therefore likely that the house was built sometime between 1816 and 1821.

The Holmes family owned the property on the north side of Water Street prior to 1816, and it remained in the family until 1889. The Holmes' were a prominent Charleston family, well known throughout the city (family tree in appendix). They were important members of the Independent (Circular) Congregational Church.¹

It is certain that William Holmes owned the property in 1816.² It is, however, unclear when he obtained the property and from whom he obtained it. At that time it was known as 14 Water Street. It has also been known as 16 Water Street. It is likely that the property changed numbers several times, until the 1880's when it became 18. It has not changed since then.

Williams Alexander Holmes was the son of John Bee Holmes and Elizabeth Edwards Holmes, both born in Charleston. The Edwards and Holmes families were a close knit group of high society Charlestonians. John Edwards, Elizabeth's father, was one of the naval commissioners of South Carolina and a wealthy Charleston Merchant. Edwards' third wife was John Bee Holmes' mother. Both John Bee and his brother married the daughters of John Edwards and his second wife (article 'John Edwards & Some of His Descendants' in appendix).³

John Bee Holmes was an attorney who teamed up with Charles C. Pinckney and Edward Rutledge in the 1790's on cases dealing with the issue of debts owed to English merchants (letters from Charles Pickney in appendix).⁴ These three men also greeted President Washington in 1791 in Mt. Pleasant and escorted him into the city. In Charleston, John Bee Holmes is most known as the man whom the bookcase and secretary on display at the Heyward-Washington House were made for.⁵ The Heyward-Washington House is also the home where President George Washington stayed during his 1791 visit to the city.⁶

¹ www.familysearch.org.

² UK and US Directories 1680-1830 Record. "William Holmes owned 14 Water Street and lived in a house at 9 East Bay."

³ South Carolina Historical Magazine. Vol. 55. 1954. p.15-27.

⁴ South Carolina Historical Magazine. Vol 76. 1975. p. 19.

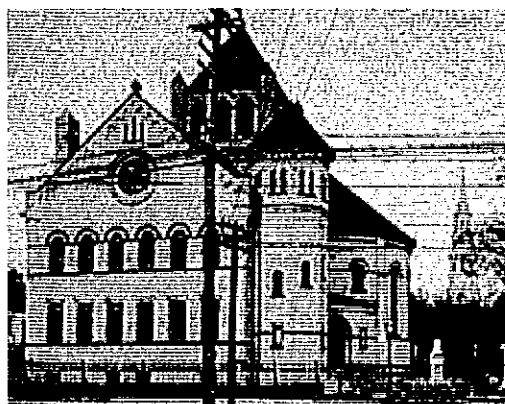
⁵ South Carolina Historical Magazine Vol 55 1954. p. 25.

⁶ "The Buildings of Charleston." Jonathon H. Poston. p.20.

John Bee Holmes and Elizabeth Edwards were married on November 19, 1783. They had 12 children together. John Bee Holmes died September 5, 1827, at sixty-seven years old. Elizabeth Edwards Holmes died November 6, 1836, at seventy-one years of age. They are buried together in the Circular Church Yard (article 'Inscriptions from the Independent (Circular) Church Yard' in appendix).⁷



Vault of John Bee Holmes and Elizabeth Edwards Holmes



Circular Congregational Church

⁷ South Carolina Historical Magazine. Vol 29. 1929 p. 238.

William Alexander Holmes was born in 1788 in Charleston, SC. He was a local physician and had an office at 1 East Bay, opposite Battery Street. Dr. Holmes married Eliza Collins. They had two sons, Edward William Holmes and Edgar Henry Holmes. Dr. and Mrs. Holmes owned the property at 18 Water Street for nearly 10 years, but it is unclear if they every resided there. Dr. William Holmes died 1835, aged 47 years (copy of will in appendix).⁸ His funeral took place November 13, 1835 at the residence of his mother, East Bay. Eliza C. Holmes died 1852, aged 58 years. They are buried together in the Central Congregational Church cemetery.⁹

In 1821, Dr. William A. Holmes conveyed the land and the two story house to his two sons. During this time in Charleston the Denmark Vesey slave insurrection plot is revealed. Many conspirators were hung or sent out of state, and more stringent slave laws are passed.¹⁰ Also while the sons owned 18 Water Street, the nullification controversy began as a response to the tariff of 1832, an enactment unfavorable to the southern states.¹¹

Edward and Edgar Holmes owned the land until 1852 when they sold it to their aunt, Mary Edward Holmes. She was the younger sister of William Holmes. Born to John Bee Holmes and Elizabeth Edward Holmes in 1802, Mary was baptized in the Circular Congregational Church on March 30, 1802. She never married.

During Mary E. Holmes' residence on Water Street, the city of Charleston went through major changes. In 1860 South Carolina sign the Ordinance of Secession on December 20 at Institute Hall in Charleston. Six days later the United States Army Major Robert Anderson moved his troops from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter. April 12, 1861 firing on Federal forces at Fort Sumter initiated the War Between the States.¹² The devastating fire that blazed through Charleston in a diagonal direction from the Cooper to the Ashley Rivers on December 11 is chronicled in the diary of Emma E. Holmes. She speaks of its affects on many members of the Holmes' family and its affects on Charleston society (copy in appendix).¹³

Mary lived in the Water Street property for many years, while leasing the empty rooms to friends and boarders. The 1880 United States Federal Census lists 5 household members in 18 Water Street including Mary. Jas Holmes, Mary's nephew resided in the house and was 36 years of age at the time. Mary Wilson, a close friend of Mary's, lived in the house and was 54. Also, Sarah Doar, 48, and Sarah Smilt, 63, leased rooms.¹⁴

⁸ Charleston Will Books. Book H. 1834 - 1839. p. 181.

⁹ South Carolina Historical Magazine vol 29 1928 p. 238.

¹⁰ The Buildings of Charleston. Poston. Pg. 20

¹¹ The Buildings of Charleston. Poston p. 20.

¹² The Buildings of Charleston. Poston p. 21.

¹³ South Carolina Historical Magazine. Vol. 76. 1975. pg. 60-76.

¹⁴ 1880 United States Federal Census Record.

Mary Edward Holmes died that same year. She is also buried in the Circular Congregational Church, next to her parents. Her tombstone inscription reads: Mary E. Holmes/ Born Feb 1, 1802/ Died Nov 26, 1880/ "He giveth his beloved sleep."¹⁵ She willed her estate to her the children of her brother, Arthur Fisher Holmes. However, Mary Wilson stayed in the house until 1889 through the wishes of Mary in her will (located in appendix).¹⁶



¹⁵ South Carolina Historical Magazine. Vol 69. 1968. pg. 254.

¹⁶ Charleston Will Books. Microfilm. Box 266. No. 19. Book Q. pg. 278.

Mary Wilson lived there in 1886 during the destructive earthquake that struck Charleston in August of that year. She is listed as dweller in the Earthquake Records. 18 Water Street is listed as a frame building with a shingle roof. The dimensions were 32' long 16' wide and 35' high. The conditions of the walls are listed as all very old frames, and the condition of the chimney as having the top down. The chimney needed to be rebuilt from below the ceiling and the building anchored to maintain safety in the house.¹⁷

No. 204

MONEY VOUCHER FOR WORK DONE.

CHARLESTON, S. C. *Oct 22* 1886.

To *Mary Ellen Wilson*
 No. *18* Street.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the sum of *One Hundred* Dollars has been appropriated by the "COMMITTEE ON RELIEF OF SUFFERERS BY THE EARTHQUAKE," towards the repair (exclusive of Plastering) of your House, *Water* Street. Situated No. *18* Street.

This sum will be paid to any Builder or Contractor who may perform the work, after inspection and approval by this Committee, of the work done.

J. H. Barnwell
 CHAIRMAN.

Description of Loss to House:

Description of Loss	Amount of Loss
Walls	
Plastering	
Roof	
Ceiling	
Framing	
Chimneys	
Foundation	
Other loss to house stated particularly	
Total	100

*Accepted by request of the
 owner - Mrs. Wilson
 No. 18, 16
 100*

¹⁷ Earthquake Records - Aug 1886 p. 494

¹⁸ Charleston Earthquake Voucher. August 1886. Charleston County Public Library. Special Collections Room.

904

Pay to B. & Taylor
 M. A. W. 100⁰⁰
 100⁰⁰

Received of H. L. Hampton
 and O. C. Hampton
 100⁰⁰

Receipt, Pay to
 M. A. W. 100⁰⁰
 O. C. Hampton
 100⁰⁰

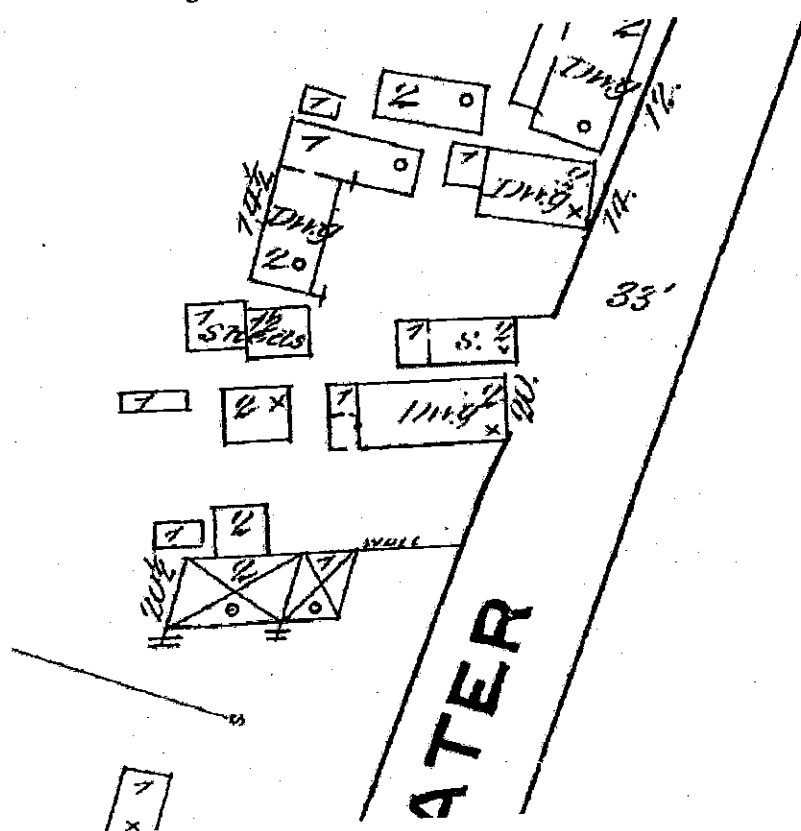
¹⁹ Charleston Earthquake Voucher. August 1886. Charleston County Public Library. Special Collections Room.

James G. Holmes and the other remaining children of Arthur Fisher Holmes owned the property and house at 18 Water Street for nine years. James was a graduate of the Citadel and an active soldier during the War Between the States. The News and Courier wrote an article on his accomplishments in the June 7, 1949 issue (copy in appendix).²⁰

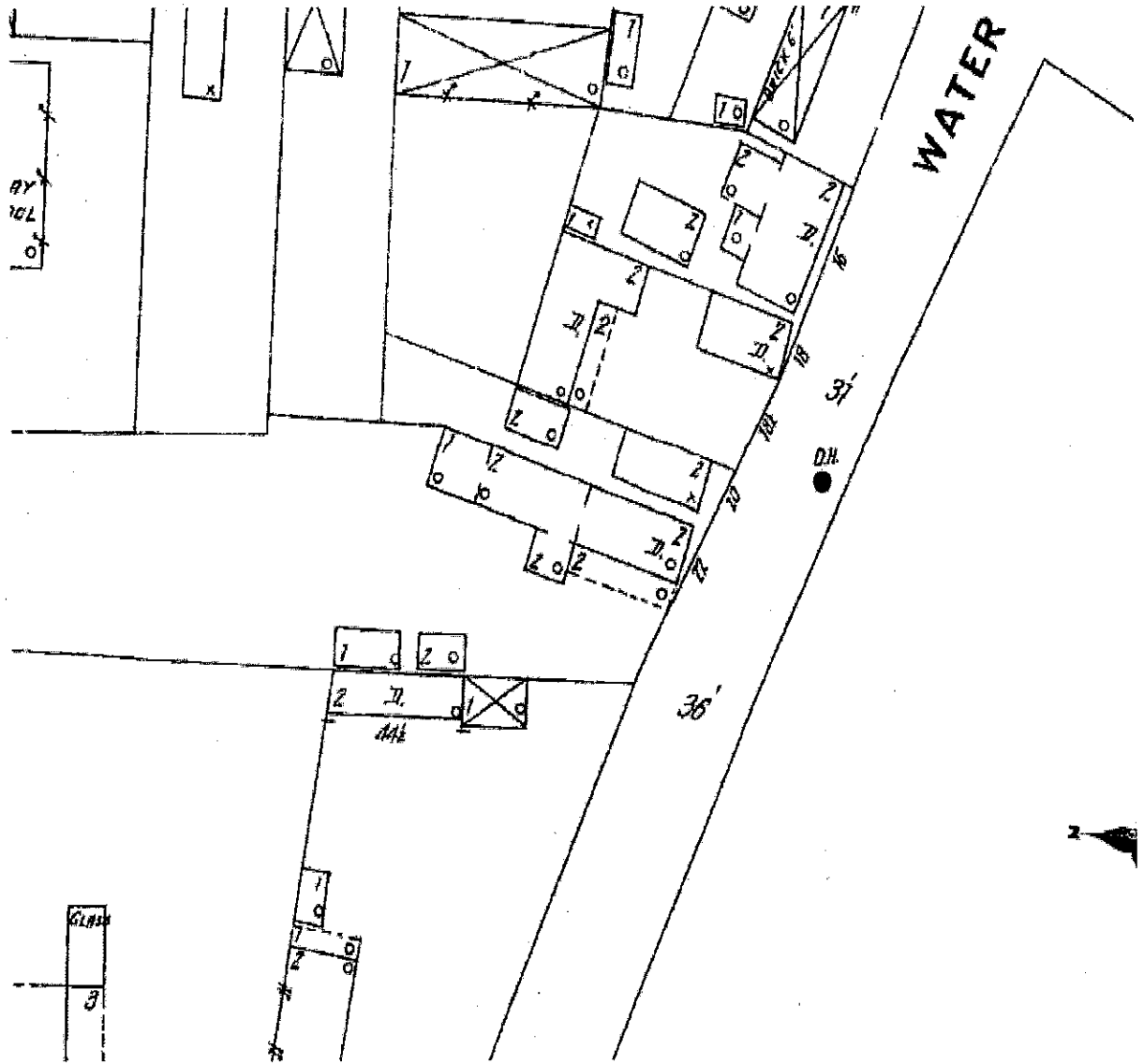
The house and property was sold in 1889 to Sarah A. Beesley. 18 Water Street, since then, has been passed along to many 20th century families.

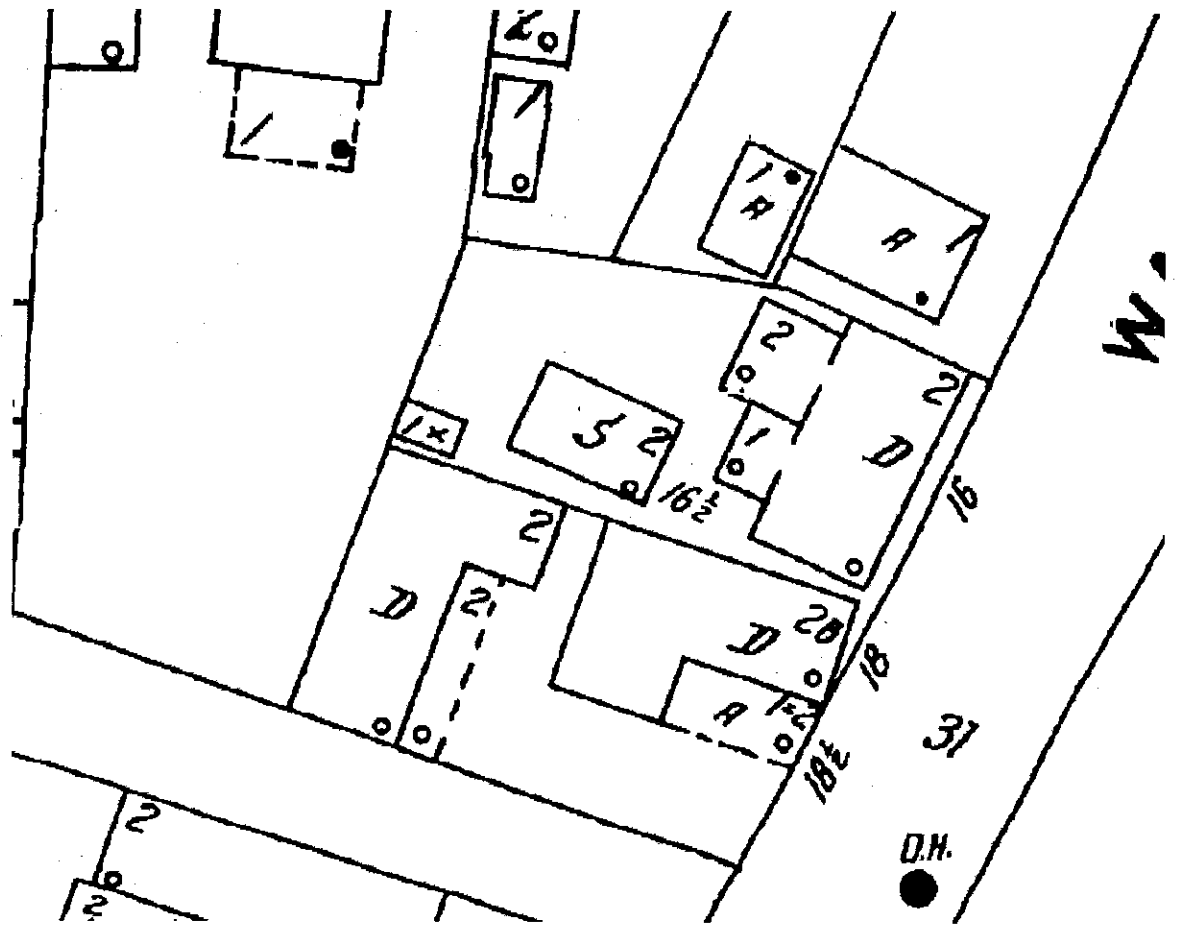
The overall appearance of the house has changed little since the 19th century. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from 1888, 1902, 1944, and the 1950's show the structure at 18 Water Street as a two-story wood frame dwelling. The 1944 Digital Sanborn Maps show the wood framed side house with an extended addition and porch on its east side. It is likely that the addition and porch was built between 1903 and 1944, since it is not shown on the 1902 Sanborn Map.

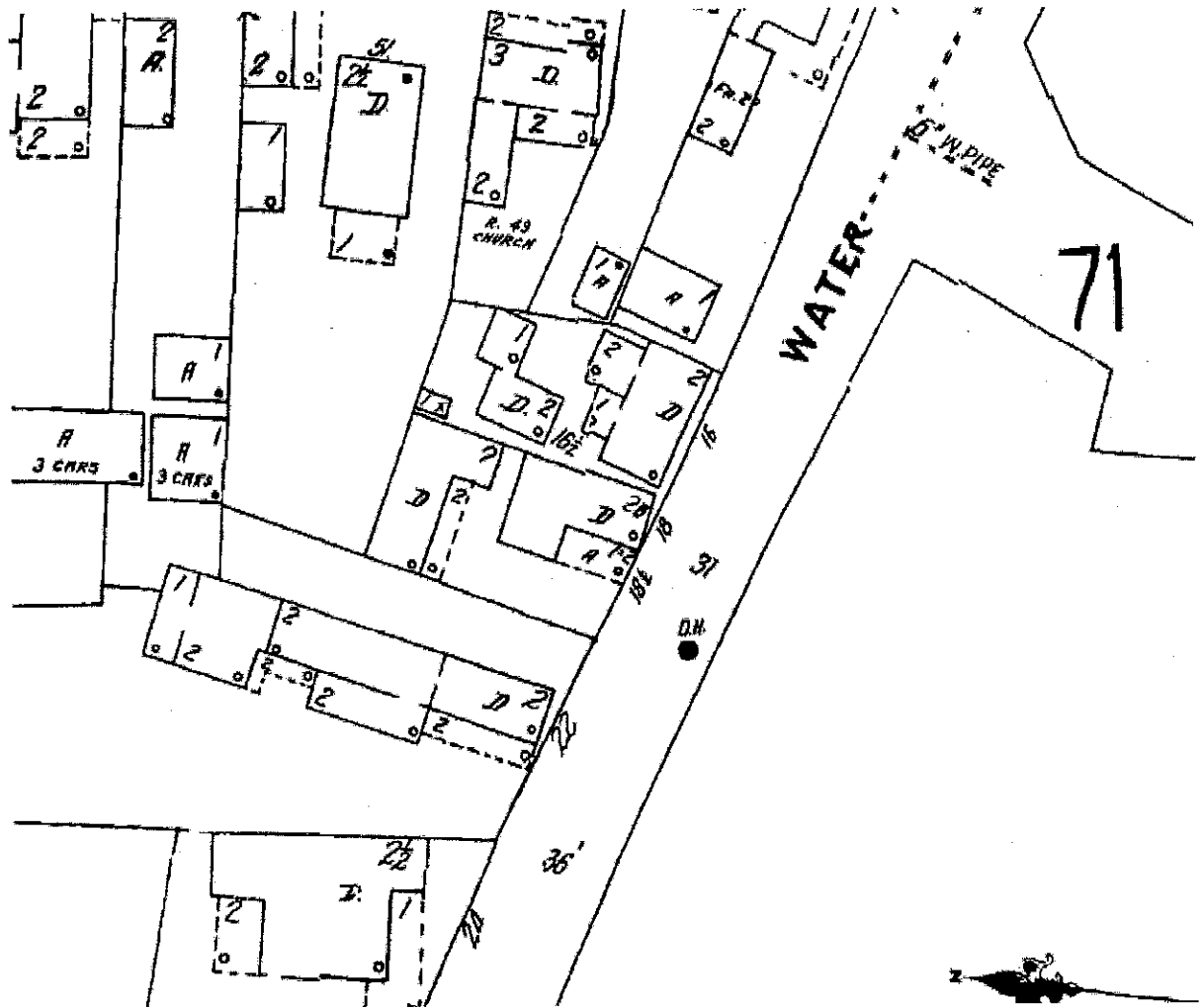
Digital Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. May 1884, sheet #13



²⁰ News and Courier, June 7, 1949, p. 13.



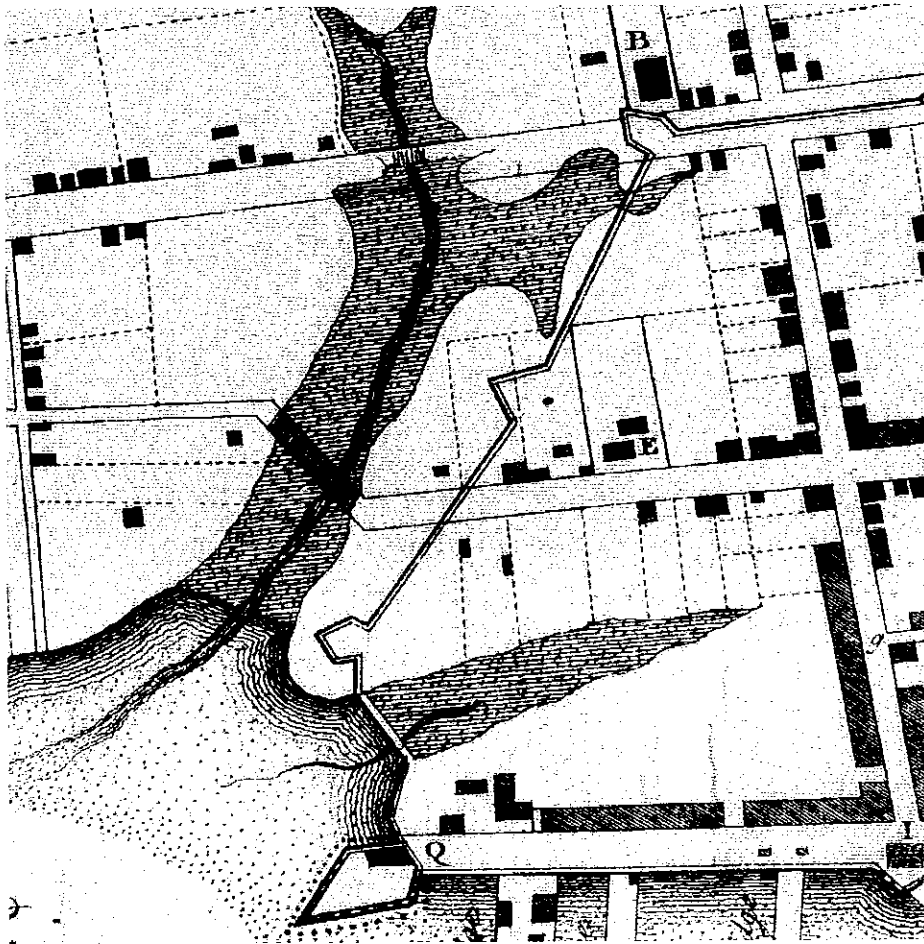




History of Water Street

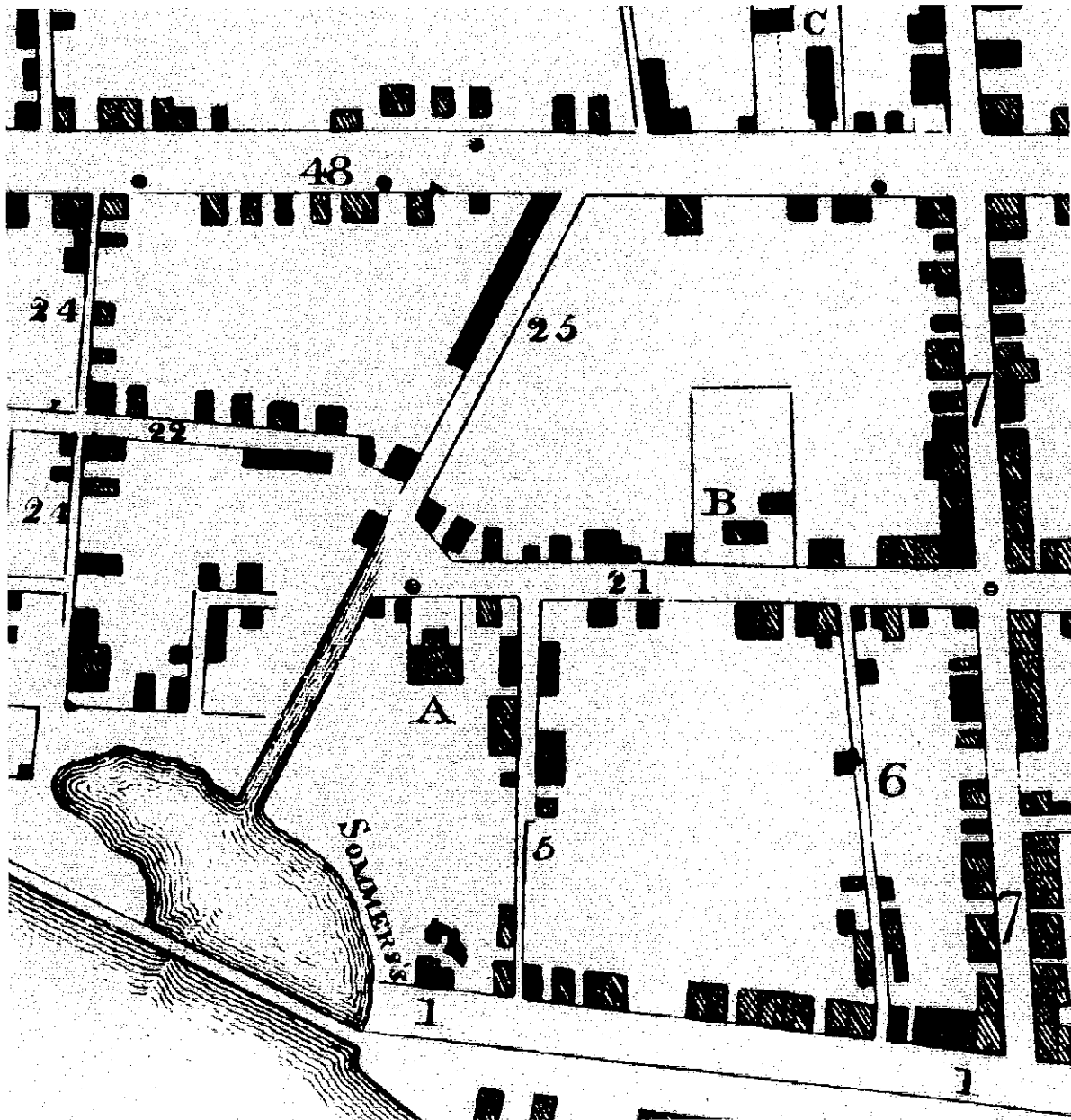
Water Street follows the course of Vanderhorst Creek. Water Street was a canal in 1751 and there was a bridge that crossed the 30ft canal at the bend. The McCrady Plat # 6987 shows Water Street as being either a street or a canal that is 30 feet wide (copy of plat in appendix). This plat illustrates that Water Street is the same width as the original creek or street that lie there. In the 1788 "Map of City of Charleston" it is clear that the western part of Water Street was not filled in, while the eastern half was a working street. Vanderhorst Creek was completely filled in by 1792. The main branch of the creek became Water Street by 1819, while the southern branch became Lynch's Lane. The large granit post that are situated along Water Street at the bend of Church Street were used to tie boats up to that came up the canal. Vanderhorst Creek is the waterway which Lord William Campbell, the last Royal Governor, escaped down by row-boat in 1775. After learning that local Revolutionary leaders planed to take him prisoner, he made his way to Vanderhorst Creek through his garden of 34 Meeting Street.²¹

Water Street 1739



²¹ "Charleston Streets." Burton, Milby, compiler. Water Street.

Water Street 1788



What could possibly have been a part of the original wall around Charles Town was recently discovered in September of 2006 on the corner of Church and Water Street. The original city wall was built about 300 years ago as a defense mechanism for the city (article: 'Could this wall be 'the' old wall?' in appendix).

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'Map of City of Charleston.' "Phoenix" map. Figure 615. bottom left quadrant. 1788.

McCrary Plats. 1750 – 1900. Charleston Co. Register Mesne Coveyance.

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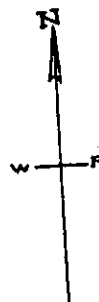
UK and US Directories 1680-1830 Record. 1816 source. Ancestry.com.

Ward Books. 1852-1898. Charleston Co. Register of Mesne Conveyance.

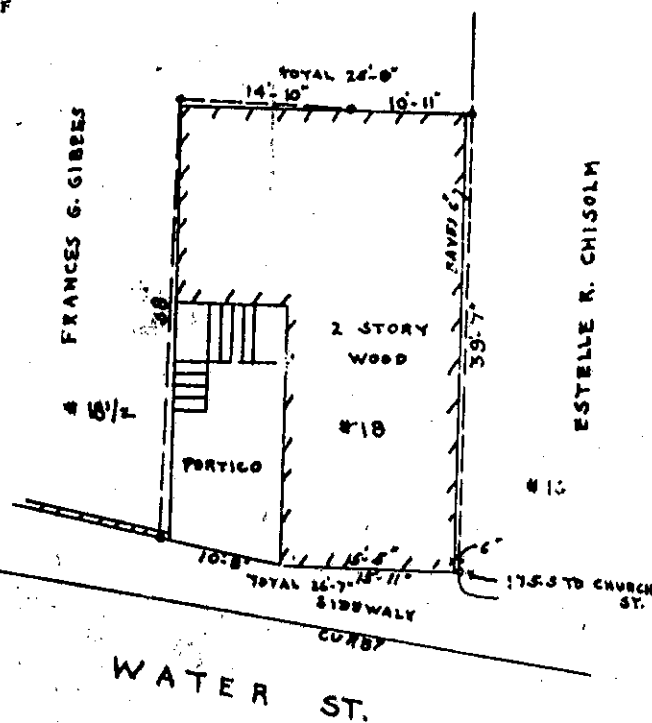
Appendix

Register Meson Conveyance Office
Charleston County S.C.

Recorded by filing in Book 26-57 Page 535, at
5:10 o'clock, March 24, 1950. This tracing furnished
by and original (a blue print) delivered to the Clerk and
Julius P. Cooper 12 1/2 P.M.C.
Per Clerk R. G. M.



FRANCES G. GIBBS

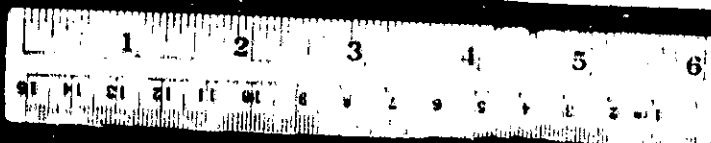


WATER ST.

PLAT OF 10'18" WATER STREET, SITUATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF STREET,
BETWEEN CHURCH AND MEETING STREETS IN CHARLESTON S.C.
SHOWN AS LOT C ON A PLAT DATED DEC. 5, 1946 AND RECORDED IN PLAT
BOOK C PAGE 63.

ABOUT TO BE CONVEYED BY FRANCES MATHESON WILKINSON TO
TIMOTHY S. STREET.

SCALE 1"=10' FEB. 7, 1950 BY *Joseph H. Smith*
C.E.



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT

I, Mary H. Bailey

in the State aforesaid

in consideration of the sum of Thirty-five

Dollars,

to me in hand paid at and before the sealing of these Presents by Georgiana Harry Townsend

in the State aforesaid

the receipt whereof is hereby acknow-

ledged, have granted, bargained, sold and released, and by these Presents do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said Georgiana Harry

Townsend

ALL that piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the City and County of Charleston, State aforesaid, being located to the rear of, and adjacent to, the premises known as No. 18 Water Street, the latter property now being owned by the grantee herein; Measuring and Containing on the North and South lines fourteen feet ten inches (14'10") by three feet (3') on the East and West lines; and being bounded on the North and West lines by land of Mary H. Bailey; and on the East and South lines by land of Georgiana Harry Townsend.

TOGETHER with all and singular the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in anywise incident or appertaining.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all and singular, the said premises before mentioned unto the said

Georgiana Harry Townsend, her

Heirs and Assigns forever.

And I do hereby bind myself and my Heirs and Executors and Administrators to warrant and forever defend all and singular the said premises unto the said Georgiana Harry Townsend, her

Heirs and Assigns, against me and my

Heirs,

and all persons whomsoever

lawfully claiming, or to claim the same or any part thereof.

WITNESS my Hand and Seal, this 17th day of August

in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight and

in the one hundred and sixty-third

year of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
in the Presence of

Mary H. Bailey

(L.S.)

The State of South Carolina.

Isabelle C. Frith
To
Mary E. O'Hagan.BOOK Y. 24.
TITLE TO REAL ESTATE.
CLARK, STAN & OSBORN, SO., CHARLOTTE, N. C. 25200

Whereas Mrs. Marion Whitehead late of the City of Charleston s^{ta} aforesaid departed this life on October 3^d 1902 seized and possessed in fee simple of the premises hereinafter described and

Whereas by her last will and testament dated June 23-1897 and duly admitted to probate in the Probate Court for Charleston County on Nov. 1st 1902 the said Marion Whitehead bequeathed and devised all her estate real and personal to her daughter Isabelle C. Frith in fee simple

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT

I Isabelle C. Frith of the City of Charleston in the State aforesaid, for and in consideration of the sum of Six hundred Dollars, to me in hand paid at and before the sealing of these Presents, by Mary E. O'Hagan of the City of Charleston

(the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged) have granted, bargained, sold and released, and by these Presents do grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said Mary E. O'Hagan

All that lot of land with the buildings thereon situate being and being on the north side of Water Street in the City of Charleston State aforesaid and known as no. 18-

Measuring and containing in front on Water Street twenty seven (27) feet on the west line thirty three (33) feet then from the north west corner west seventeen (17) feet six (6) inches then south four (4) feet then east again six (6) feet six (6) inches then south again to Water Street twenty nine (29) feet be the said dimensions more or less

Butting and bounding South on Water Street aforesaid north and west on lands formerly of Sarah W. Beasley afterwards of Margaret Fleming but now of the said Mary O'Hagan and east on lands of Mrs. Rosalie K. White

TOGETHER with all and singular the rights, members, hereditaments and appurtenances to the said premises belonging or in anywise incident or appertaining

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD all and singular the said premises beforementioned unto the said Mary E. O'Hagan

La Plata y el mundo

CONFIDENTIAL

the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and granted, bargained, sold

Chas. W. Johnson

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all and singular the said Premises before mentioned unto the said

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Examiners and administrators, to Vietnam and Soviet Union and Singapore the aid. Examiners with the aid.

1950-1951

SECRET

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That
We *James H. Holmes, Charles R. Holmes Jr. Anna H. Wilcox, George S. Holmes, Edward S. Holmes,*
and *Elizabeth E. Holmes*, devisees under the last will of *May E. Holmes*, late of
Charleston -

in the State aforesaid,

in consideration of the sum of

One thousand dollars to us paid by *Sarah A. Berley* of *Charleston* ~~to~~ *in hand paid at and before the making of these Presents, by*

in the State aforesaid.

~~(The receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged)~~, have granted, bargained,
sold and released, and by these Presents DO GRANT, bargain, sell and release unto the said *Sarah A. Berley*

All that lot of land with the building thereon situated lying and being on the North side
of *Water Street* in the City of *Charleston* and known as *Nº 18. Messing* and containing
in front on *Water Street* *Seventy seven (27) feet* on the West line *Thirty three (33) feet*
then from the North West corner East *Seventeen (17) feet six (6) inches*, then South
four (4) feet, then East again *six (6) feet six (6) inches*, then South against *Water Street*
Twenty nine (29) feet, by the said dimensions more or less. Betting and bounding South on *Water*
Street, West and North on lands of *Sarah A. Berley* and East on lands of *Rosalie R. White*.
The lot above described forming with a lot now of *Sarah A. Berley* the whole of a lot
conveyed by *Ed W. and Edgar Holmes* to *May E. Holmes* by deed dated *January*
22. 1852. and recorded *M C O Bk 512 p 87.*

Together with all and singular the Rights, Members, Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the said Premises
belonging, or in anywise incident or appertaining;

To Have and to Hold, all and singular the said Premises before mentioned unto the said

Sarah A. Berley her

Heirs and assigns forever.

And We do hereby bind ourselves and our Heirs,
Executors and Administrators, to warrant and forever defend all and singular the said Premises unto the said

Sarah A. Berley her

Heirs and Assigns, against

us and *our*
and all persons

Heirs,

lawfully claiming, or to claim the same, or any part thereof.

WITNESS our hand and seal this *Eighteenth* day of *July* in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred and *eighty nine* and in the one hundred and *fourteenth* year
of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America

E. A. Cooper, J. W. Parker.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED

IN THE PRESENCE OF

Chas. Bland } ask signature of
E. M. Gadsden } *H. S. C. R. and*
E. E. Holmes

J. H. Cutler,
L. B. Hall,
C. M. Stalcombe,
William Ellison

James H. Holmes (S)
C. R. Holmes Jr. (S)
Anna H. Wilcox (S)
George S. Holmes (S)
E. S. Holmes (S)
Elizabeth E. Holmes (S)

I Mary E Holmes of the City of Charleston State of South Carolina being in good health and of sound mind and memory do make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner following

I order and direct my just and lawful debts to be paid as soon after my death as convenient

I order and direct that my Brother Arthur F Holmes shall be allowed to have the use occupation and enjoyment of my wooden house on my Lot of Land on the North side of Water Street in Charleston for and during term of his natural life but so as not to be subject to his debts and from and after his death I give devise and bequeath the said house and its appurtenances to be equally divided among the children of my said Brother Arthur F Holmes living at the time of his death and to and among the children of any of his children then dead leaving a child or children then living such child or children to take among them by representation the parent's share

I give devise and bequeath my Lot of Land with the building thereon on the North side of Water Street in Charleston but subject to the use by my Brother Arthur Holmes of the wooden house upon the said Lot as provided for in the preceding clause of this my Will to be equally divided among all the children of my said Brother Arthur F Holmes who may be living at the time of my death and to and among the children of any deceased child who may be then dead leaving a child or children then living such child or children to take among them by representation the parent's share

Mem

I give and bequeath all my household furniture of every kind whatsoever unto the children of my said Brother - Arthur F Holmes who may be living at the time of my death.

Mem

I give and bequeath my gold watch to my Niece Mary D Holmes as a token of my affection.

Mem

I authorize and appoint my Executors to sell all or any part of my property not specifically devised or bequeathed, as in their judgment may be advisable or necessary.

Mem

I hereby nominate and appoint George S Holmes and James C Holmes Junior Executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Wills by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Twenty sixth day of March A.D. 1874.

Signed sealed and declared by the Testatrix as her last Will and Testament in our presence who in her presence and in presence of each other sign our names as Witnesses.

M E Holmes

Seal

Emily Holmes

J. H. Doar

Mary Ann & Misses

Whereas my brother Arthur F Holmes was under my last will dated the 26th day of March 1874 to enjoy a life estate in a certain house therein described, and whereas my said brother has since departed this life therefore

I Mary E Holmes of the City of Charleston State of South Carolina make this my codicil hereby

confirming my said last Will so far as
this codicil is consistent therewith and do
herewith and hereby order and direct that
my friend Mary Ann Wilson of the City of
Charleston State of South Carolina Spinster
shall have the same use and enjoyment of the
said wooden house as my said brother Arthur
F. Holmes would have had if he had survived
me, and that upon the death of the said
Mary Ann Wilson the remainder shall
vest as directed in said Will.

In witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and seal this seven-
teenth day of April A.D. 1876

Signed sealed and declared
by the Testatrix as her codicil *Mary F. Holmes*
in our presence who in her
presence and in the presence
of each other sign our names as
witnesses.

Elizabeth B. Kemmings

Mary P. Mitchell

Sarah A. Doss

also all her right and claim of Power of attorney as to all and singular the premises within mentioned & released - Given under my hand and seal this seventh day of February A.D. One Thousand Eight Hundred & Twenty One Bk. 10th District S.C. at Greenville Dist. Court. J.W. Tucker D.C. The State of South Carolina Charleston Circuit Personally appeared before me Robert Brown and made oath that he saw the within named Joseph Senters sign seal and as his act & deed deliver the within written deed unto that his wife to I Tucker witnessed the execution thereof - Sworn to before me this 24th February 1821 Chas. J. Tucker D.C. Recorded & Transcribed this 24th February 1821 Chas. J. Tucker Register -

William A Holmes South Carolina This indenture made the
Seventy fourth day of February in the year of
our Lord One Thousand Eight hundred and
Twenty one between William A Holmes
physician of Charleston of the one part and S. E. Holmes of
the same place of the other part witnesseth that the said Wil-
liam A Holmes as well for the Love and affection he had
+ beareth to his children Edgar Henry Holmes + Edward Wil-
liam Holmes and for settling and securing the premises hereinaft-
mentioned upon the trust hereinafter mentioned and in con-
sideration of One Dollar to him the said William A Hol-
mes paid by the said S. E. Holmes the receipt where-
of is hereby acknowledged he the said William A Holmes hath
granted conveyed sold and released and by these presents doth give
grant bargain sell and release unto the said S. E. Holmes
his Executors administrators + assigns all that

Family Group Record

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Husband's NameJohn Bee HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N1M)[Pedigree](#)

Born: 23 Apr 1760 **Place:** , , Sc
Died: 5 Sep 1827 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: 6 Sep 1827 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Married: 19 Nov 1783 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

Father: Isaac HOLMES (AFN:1VDH-2TM)[Family](#)**Mother:** Rebecca BEE (AFN:1VDH-2R7)

Wife's NameElizabeth EDWARDS (AFN:1VDF-W85)[Pedigree](#)

Born: Abt 1765 **Place:** , , Sc
Died: 6 Nov 1836 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Married: 19 Nov 1783 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

Father: John EDWARDS (AFN:1VDF-W4B)[Family](#)**Mother:** Margaret PERONNEAU (AFN:1VDF-W5J)

Children

1. Sex Name**M** John E HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N2T)[Pedigree](#)

Born: Abt 1785 **Place:** <Charleston, , Sc>
Died: 1810 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

2. Sex Name**M** William Alexander HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N48)[Pedigree](#)

Born: Abt 1788 **Place:**
Christened: 15 Feb 1789 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 1835 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

3. Sex Name**F** Rebecca HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N32)[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1786 **Place:** <Charleston, , Sc>
Christened: 12 Nov 1786 **Place:**
Died: 1802 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

4. Sex Name**M** Isaac Edward HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N6N)[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1796 **Place:**
Christened: 1 May 1796 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 1867 **Place:**

5. Sex Name**M** James Gadsden HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N7V)[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1798 **Place:** <Charleston, , Sc>
Christened: 28 Jan 1798 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 1882 **Place:**

6. Sex Name

M Charles Rutledge HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N83)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1800 **Place:**
Christened: 18 Mar 1800 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

7. Sex Name

F Mary Edwards HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N99)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1802 **Place:**
Christened: 30 Mar 1802 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

8. Sex Name

M Thomas Bee HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-NBH)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1804 **Place:**
Christened: 15 May 1804 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: Aug 1804 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

9. Sex Name

M Arthur Fisher HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-NCP)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1805 **Place:**
Christened: 29 Nov 1805 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

10. Sex Name

F Elizabeth Catherine HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-N5G)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 29 Jan 1794 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Christened: 16 Feb 1794 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 3 May 1852 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc

11. Sex Name

M Henry McCall HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-KLM)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: 1 May 1790 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Christened: 28 May 1790 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 17 Jan 1854 **Place:** , Pendleton, Sc

12. Sex Name

M Albert Christopher HOLMES (AFN:1VDG-NDW)

[Pedigree](#)

Born: Jul 1808 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Christened: 17 Nov 1810 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Died: 1810 **Place:** Charleston, , Sc
Buried: **Place:** Charleston, , Sc



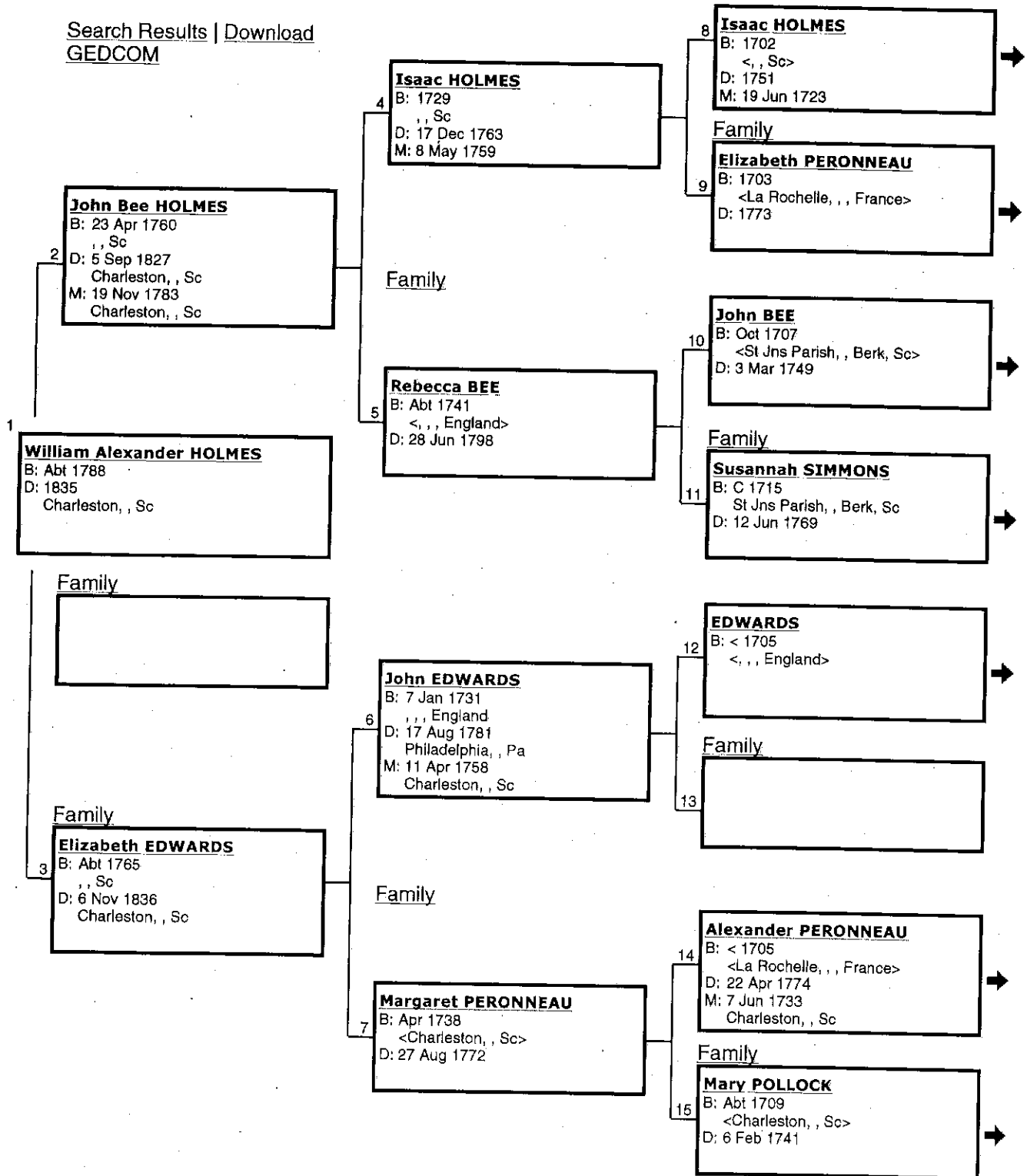
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having crossed Broxton's Ford in a canoe, arrived yesterday at my old lodging place, Mr. Bartholomew's Church, where I met Mr. [unclear] preach in English after my discourse. He in- [unclear] his baptized children without license or [unclear] employed him in preference to Mr. Graff's [unclear] my discourse from Luke 15, 18, Mr. Graff [unclear] the English language, although it was con- [unclear] people's expressed desire. After service I [unclear] rather than suffer it to be baptized by an im- [unclear] leave of this people, exhorting them to [unclear] their minister. They answered that this could [unclear] as lost sheep without a shepherd: that they [unclear] among the Methodists and Baptists, but [unclear] wished to keep to the religion of their fathers. [unclear] minister would soon be their pastor, and begged [unclear] before the Lutheran Synod, and that they would [unclear] later to visit them again. I received from the

[unclear] loss with the hope of filling my appointment [unclear] ag-House, when I was informed that they [unclear] my being a Lutheran minister. The next day [unclear] friend Dreher, agreeable to my promise; my [unclear] distemper, had rest here for several days;

[unclear] went to church at Sandy Run where I met [unclear] we preached to a numerous assembly; and [unclear] I administered the Lord's Supper to many [unclear] of a large assembly. I arrived at home, thanks [unclear] and my family in good health, though my [unclear] home.

JOHN EDWARDS AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

By MARY PRINGLE FENHAGEN

CHAPTER I

John Edwards, one of the naval commissioners of South Carolina, 1777-1780, has not been completely overlooked in the history of the state, but references to his services to country and church are scattered. His death occurred just at the termination of his exile to St. Augustine. He shared in his country's misfortunes but did not live to enjoy the rewards. He left ten children. Three sons and four daughters married and left descendants, but his sons died in early middle age. He built in 1770 one of Charleston's beautiful homes, which was sold in 1844. Only the recent fashion of identifying a house by the name of its builder has caused 15 Meeting Street to be known as the John Edwards House.

John Edwards came from Bristol about 1750 to engage in the importing and exporting trade in Charleston. He mentions in his will a widowed sister, Elizabeth Jones of Holywell, Flintshire, North Wales,¹ and it is possible that he was a native of that region. Holywell has access to the export trade through the river Dee. John Edwards was a staunch member of the Independent Congregational Church, which is consistent with a Welch upbringing. He seems not to have been connected with the several other families of the same name. Particularly confusing is a younger contemporary John Edwards, whose son George Edwards built the pineapple gateway and fence at 14 Legare Street, Charleston. The two John Edwards do not seem to have been related, and Colonel Isaac Hayne in his records differentiates them by calling the younger man "John Edwards, esq., merchant, Beaufort".² The man himself used "Junior".

John Edwards was one of the wealthier Charleston merchants of his day. His firm, Edwards, Fisher and Company, advertised in the press for sale both slaves and indentures of families and single persons, as well as many commodities.³ He was one of the first to advance large sums of money to the embryo government in South Carolina. When in 1775 the Committee of Safety was gathering a supply of gun powder to withstand a British attack, Henry Laurens armed Captain Lemprière for his raid on the British ship, "Betsey," off the St. Augustine bar, with a draught of £1000 on

¹ Motte Alston Read genealogical notes (MS, S. C. Historical Society), cited as Read MS.

² This Magazine, XI, 101.

³ Leila Sellers, *Charleston Business on the Eve of the American Revolution* (Chapel Hill, 1934), pp. 121, 131.

John Edwards, treasurer.⁴ His was one of the signatures under which the paper money, legal tender of the day, was issued.⁵

In 1768 John Edwards and his next door neighbor and fellow churchman, Josiah Smith, Jr., had been appointed Commissioners of Fortifications.⁶ The following year, when the colonies were trying peacefully to alter the oppressive taxes of Great Britain, and South Carolina along with the others formed a Non-Importation Association, John Edwards was a member of the committee appointed to enforce the ban on imports. This measure hampered planter and merchant alike. Mrs. Ann Mathews protested in court that her condemned cargo had arrived only shortly after two consignments to John Edwards, who, being a member of the committee, had been allowed to retain his. Mrs. Mathews went on to cite Mr. Rutledge as having received two imported horses at an even later date. But although the lady protested, public opinion was so strong that her son retracted her statements.⁷

John Edwards served in the Commons House of Assembly in October and December 1772. He was a member of both the first and second Provincial Congresses in 1775.⁸ When the General Assembly decided to authorize a separate board to handle naval affairs of the Province, John Edwards, Roger Smith, Thomas Corbett, John Neufville and Joshua Ward, were asked on September 21, 1776, to prepare such a bill. Six days later Edwards presented the bill. On August 28, 1777, Edwards was appointed one of the Naval Commissioners, and he seems to have been a regular attendant at meetings thereafter.⁹ The Commission at this time became very busy forwarding to Commodore Gillon in Europe the produce of the country, to enable him to buy military supplies for the state.¹⁰ Mr. Edwards probably

⁴ John Drayton, *Memoirs of the American Revolution* (Charleston, 1821), I, 306. Letter of Thomas Neel, this *Magazine*, VI, 98.

⁵ Joseph Johnson, *Traditions of the American Revolution* (Charleston, 1851), p. 195. *This Magazine*, XLV, 173.

⁶ Edward McCrady, *History of South Carolina under the Royal Government*, pp. 407, 671-676, 679.

⁷ A. S. Salley (ed.), "Eligibility List", *Register of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of South Carolina* (Charleston, 1945). The Provincial Congress in September 1775 favored an attempt to close the channels by sinking schooners across them. William Tennant, John Edwards, George G. Powell, and others not named, "strong votaries of this measure," were appointed on the committee. *This Magazine*, V, 77, 78.

⁸ A. S. Salley (ed.), *Journal of the Commissioners of the Navy of South Carolina* (Columbia, 1912), pp. 3, 91.

⁹ William Moultrie, *Memoirs of the American Revolution* (New York, 1802), I, 209. D. E. Huger Smith, "The Luxembourg Claims," this *Magazine*, X, 92-115. Most interesting postscript is the chancery suit against Alexander Gillon by South Carolina in 1794, in which the state is represented by John Julius Pringle and John Bee Holmes.

further impoverished himself in this connection. He with other members of the Privy Council in August 1777 sat as a Court of Chancery under the state constitution of 1776.¹¹

In 1779 he was elected for one year to the Privy Council, and met with the Governor and other members of the Council to consider the terms of surrender offered by General Prévost in May 1779. With Christopher Gadsden and Thomas Ferguson, Edwards most strongly objected to accepting the terms. Moultrie says "Edwards was so affected as to weep, saying, 'What are we going to give up the town at last?'" Because of the strong opposition in Council, which caused delay, and the opportune arrival of General Lincoln, the surrender of the city was postponed a year.¹²

When the surrender came, Admiral Arbuthnot, ranking officer of the British navy, was quartered on Mr. Edwards, the family being allowed to retain a portion of the house. As with other prominent men of the province, the British tried to talk him over to their side. This conversation between Admiral Arbuthnot and Mr. Edwards was detailed by John Bee Holmes, Edwards' stepson.¹³

In August 1780 the British, having failed by persuasion to win over the patriots, decided to deport the leaders. Mr. Edwards' being among this number sent to St. Augustine is mentioned in a letter of Governor Rutledge to the South Carolina delegates in Congress.¹⁴ "Josiah Smith's [Jr.] Diary" gives an account of the sufferings of the exiles. Their estates were sequestered by the British so their funds were scant. They were forced to furnish much of the expense of their keep. They grouped themselves into several "messes" and Edwards was one of twenty who rented a house in which to live. Letters passed back and forth to their families so these heads of families kept in touch with each new move of the British. When in June 1781, word came that they would be exchanged and allowed to proceed at their own expense to Philadelphia, the good news was followed by word that their families would have to follow them into exile, leaving Charleston not later than August first. "None of us are to be allowed to go to Carolina to the assistance of our Dear families there," writes Smith.

Edwards knew that his eldest son, John Edwards, just twenty-one years old, was one of the militia on parole sent aboard the prison ships in Charles-

¹¹ Anne King Gregorie (ed.), *Records of the Court of Chancery of South Carolina* (Washington, 1950), p. 627. Note to letter of Thos. Neel, cited above, identifies John Edwards as member of Privy Council, May 29, 1776.

¹² Edward McCrady, *South Carolina in the Revolution*, I, 282, 362, 373. Johnson, *Traditions*, p. 219.

¹³ Alexander Garden, *Anecdotes of the Revolutionary War* (Charleston, 1822), pp. 186-188.

¹⁴ *This Magazine*, XVII, 140.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, XXXIII, XXXIV.

ton harbor on May seventeenth.¹⁶ Also on board were his two step sons, John Bee Holmes, about twenty-one, and William Holmes, younger. His anxieties about them and the wife, who must transport nine younger children and twelve servants to Philadelphia, undoubtedly were contributing causes to his death. Edwards sailed from St. Augustine on the same ship with Josiah Smith, Jr., on July 19, and on July 30, they landed in Philadelphia. Much was made of these battered civilian heroes on their arrival. Josiah Smith, Jr.'s, family and Daniel DeSaussure's arrived on August 3 on the same ship. Edwards found his son and step sons already in Philadelphia but his wife's arrival was delayed beyond August 1, the British deadline for departure. We know that on August 4, she was still in Charleston, for Isaac Hayne, on his way to the gallows, handed his thirteen-year-old son papers giving his account of the events leading to his arrest and execution, and instructed his son to put the papers in the hands of Mrs. Edwards to forward to her brother in Congress, Thomas Bee.¹⁷

John Edwards died on August 18, 1781. The next day, Josiah Smith wrote in his diary, "This day was buried, in Arch Street Church burying Ground, the remains of my Friend, Neighbor and Companion in Exile, John Edwards Esqr. who suddenly exchanged this (I hope) for a happier existence, the preceding evening by a Fit of Apoplexy. This melancholy event took place, previous to the arrival here of his much afflicted Widow, and numerous Children, his family thereby lost a most valuable head, Religion a True friend, and the Public a most hearty Supporter of American freedom." When the Edwards family returned after the withdrawal of the British, they reinterred his body in the Congregational Churchyard, Charleston, where a stone, partially defaced, marks his resting place, and states that he left ten children.¹⁸

John Edwards had been a devout member of the Independent Congregational Church since his arrival in Charleston. His three marriages were into families closely identified with the church, and in September 1775, he had headed a committee to revise the constitution of the church.¹⁹

John Edwards married first Dorothy, daughter of the Reverend Nathan Bassett, minister of the church, who died June 26, 1738.²⁰ Dorothy was baptized April 1, 1733, married about 1754, and died in 1756, her issue with her.²¹

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, XXXIII, 116, 283; XXXIV, 79.

¹⁷ Henry Lee, *Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department* (New York, 1870), p. 456.

¹⁸ *This Magazine*, XXXIV, 70; XVII, 160.

¹⁹ George N. Edwards, *A History of the Independent or Congregational Church of Charleston South Carolina* (Boston, 1947), p. 42.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 152; *this Magazine*, XII, 28, 30.

²¹ Read MS.

John Edwards married second, on April 11, 1758, Margaret Peronneau,²² daughter of one of the staunch laymen of the church, Alexander Peronneau, by his first wife. Alexander Peronneau's name appears in 1732 on the earliest surviving list of pew holders.²³ His first wife was Mary Pollock, daughter of the Presbyterian divine, the Reverend John Pollock.²⁴ They were married by the Reverend Nathan Bassett on June 7, 1733.²⁵ After her death on February 6, 1741, in her thirty-second year, Peronneau married on December 24, 1744, Margaret Hext.²⁶ His name appeared frequently in the account books of Thomas Elfe,²⁷ the cabinet maker, both as creditor, holding bonds on which Elfe paid regular interest, and as debtor for small services, most often the putting up or taking down of beds. When Peronneau died on April 22, 1774,²⁸ he bequeathed £500 to the church, one of the four people who made such bequests in the eighteenth century. On the rebuilding of the church in 1806, the congregation voted to bestow four rent-free pews on the descendants of these four benefactors, one pew to each family.²⁹ Mr. Peronneau's daughter, Margaret Edwards, predeceased him, dying on August 27, 1772, in travail with her tenth child, at the age of thirty-four years and four months.³⁰ Peronneau mentions in his will (not proved) the children of his daughter Margaret Edwards.³¹

John Edwards married third on January 3, 1774, Rebecca (Bee), widow of Isaac Holmes, a member of the Congregational Church.³² Isaac Holmes had married her on May 8, 1759,³³ and on December 17, 1763, died "Mr Isaac Holmes of this town, merchant, lately returned from England".³⁴ Thomas Bee, brother of Rebecca, was one of Holmes' executors. Her father, Colonel John Bee, married Susanna Simons and died March 3, 1749, aged forty-two years and six months.³⁵ In 1752 a petition having to do with the management of his estate lists his minor children as Thomas Bee

²² *St. Philip's Register 1754-1810*, p. 151.

²³ Edwards, *Circular Church*, p. 2.

²⁴ *This Magazine*, XXIX, 320. Frank J. Klingberg, *Carolina Chronicle: The Papers of Commissary Gideon Johnston 1707-1716* (Berkeley, 1946), p. 58.

²⁵ *This Magazine*, XII, 30.

²⁶ *St. Philip's Register 1720-1758*, p. 180.

²⁷ *This Magazine*, XXXV-XLII.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, XXXIV, 214; XVII, 87.

²⁹ Edwards, *Circular Church*, pp. 88, 54.

³⁰ *This Magazine*, X, 168; XXIX, 238.

³¹ Read MS.

³² Marriage Settlements (MS, S. C. Historical Commission, Columbia), I, 122. *This Magazine*, XXI, 66.

³³ *Ibid.*, XX, 131.

³⁴ A. S. Salley (ed.), *Death Notices in the South Carolina Gazette*, (Columbia, 1917), p. 32.

³⁵ *This Magazine*, X, 160.

aged thirteen years, Rebecca Bee aged eleven years, and Joseph Bee aged six years. One son was apparently already of age.³⁵ The mother Susanna Bee lived until June 12, 1769.³⁷ Isaac Holmes left only two children by this wife, John Bee Holmes and William Holmes.³⁸ Both were to marry daughters of John Edwards by his second wife, Margaret Peronneau. His third wife, Rebecca (Bee), had one child only, a daughter, Mrs. Rebecca Edwards' will was proved February 21, 1821.³⁹ John Edwards had left her the occupancy for life of 15 Meeting Street.

John Edwards left the following children:⁴⁰

- 2 I John Edwards, born about 1760.⁴¹
- 3 II Alexander Edwards, born about 1767, probably on October 14.⁴²
- 4 III Edward Edwards.
- IV Mary Edwards, died unmarried (between January 1813, when she signed her will, and June 1814 when it was proved), at which time only one brother and three sisters living. When the Circular Church was rebuilding, 1804-1806, Mary Edwards made a loan of \$4,500 to the church.⁴³
- V Ann Edwards, died unmarried, April 26, 1783.⁴⁴
- 5 VI Elizabeth Edwards, born about 1765.⁴⁵
- 6 VII Margaret Edwards.
- 7 VIII Catherine Edwards.

To account for ten children as surviving John Edwards when nine are all that intense searching has found, it has been suggested that his wife was pregnant at time of his death. Careful examination shows this to be one case in which it may be proven that the wife was not enceinte, Edwards having left Charleston in August 1780, and having died before his family

³⁵ Gregorie, *Chancery Records*, pp. 467, 547, 585.

³⁷ *This Magazine*, XVI, 90.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, XIII, 185. Timothy Ford's Diary gives a charming description of Mrs. Rebecca Bee Edwards' plantation and a Christmas spent there in 1785. The footnote confuses John Edwards, the son, with his father, deceased in 1781. Henry M. Holmes was grandson of Mrs. Rebecca Bee Edwards.

³⁹ Charleston County Probate Court (cited as CPC), Will Book 1818-1826, p. 474.

⁴⁰ Read MS. No birth or baptismal records have been found.

⁴¹ *This Magazine*, XXV, 148; death notice places year of birth.

⁴² *Ibid.*, XXXVII, 33. Mrs. Edwards (Margaret Peronneau) was lying in Oct. 14, 1767 and March 4, 1769; Mrs. Edwards (Rebecca Bee) lying in Nov. 27, 1774. "Extracts from Journal of Mrs. Ann Manigault", *ibid.*, XX, 259; XXI, 13; 69.

⁴³ CPC, Will Book 1807-1818, p. 807. Edwards, *Circular Church*, p. 53.

⁴⁴ *This Magazine*, XVIII, 41.

⁴⁵ Epitaph, *ibid.*, XXIX, 239.

joined him twelve months later. The only surviving child that he had by Rebecca was:

- 8 IX Harriet Edwards, perhaps born November 27, 1774, when Mrs. Edwards was reported to be lying in.

The South Carolina families seem to have been twelve or more months in Philadelphia. They had so little money that Congress authorized collecting a relief fund. Names of the donors and the size of their gifts are reported in Josiah Smith's Diary. Some of the younger ones were probably sent to school or to the college in Philadelphia.⁴⁶ Henry William DeSaussure studied at this period. From a casual study of the Edwards family, I gather that the social life of these exiles was rather self contained. A study of the marriages by this family shows a preponderance were made among this group, although some took place years later.

2

John Edwards (1) saw service as an aide-de-camp to Gen. Marion, and perhaps he is the one elected to the Jacksonborough Assembly, which met in January 1782, five months after his father's death.⁴⁷ His interests seem to have been business and political. He was one of the founders of the Chamber of Commerce in 1784.⁴⁸ Entries from an old Almanac of 1793 list him as a director of the Bank of South Carolina, president of the Union Fire Club which was formed in 1786, and president of an organization formed in 1788 called the Colf (golf?) Baan.⁴⁹ He was intendant (mayor) of Charleston in 1795.⁵⁰ His obituary adds that he was treasurer of the state and a member of the legislature, but this may be an error, as it also claims he served twice as intendant. John Edwards married, June 12, 1783, Rebecca Donnom, daughter of the deceased James Donnom. She died June 26, 1798, aged thirty-three years, and John followed after a "short and painful illness" on December 31, 1798, in his thirty-ninth year.⁵¹ His will, signed April 6, 1790, mentions his wife but does not name the small children. His brother Alexander Edwards qualified as executor, January 11, 1799.⁵² Also named as executors were his two brothers-in-law

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, XLV, 191. John Edwards had been one of many Charlestonians who contributed to College of Philadelphia in Jan. 1772.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, XXXIV, 200.

⁴⁸ *Year Book City of Charleston*, 1883, p. 421.

⁴⁹ *This Magazine*, XXXII, 73, 77, 80.

⁵⁰ *Year Book City of Charleston*, 1883, p. 334.

⁵¹ *This Magazine*, XVIII, 85; XXV, 46, 148.

⁵² CPC, Will Book 1793-1800, p. 799.

- VII Alexander Fisher Edwards, bapt. July 24, 1804, died young.
- VIII Alexander Lewis DeSaussure Edwards, bapt. January 23, 1809.
- IX Jane K. Edwards.⁶⁸

4

Edward Edwards (I) married on December 8, 1796, Mary, daughter of James and Sarah (Cannon) Wakefield, who were married November 26, 1771. Mary Wakefield was baptized December 28, 1773.⁶⁹ James Wakefield, a militia officer, was deported to St. Augustine on November 25, 1780. His wife and seven children (no servants mentioned, but two Negro women were on the return list) were banished along with other families of patriots, and in August 1781 they were in Philadelphia. They were among those returned at British expense in August 1782; the children then were six in number, and James Wakefield was not listed.⁷⁰ Sarah Cannon was the eldest daughter of Daniel Cannon who was influential in the early days of the Revolution, and a vestryman of St. Philip's Church. He lived until October 5, 1802.⁷¹ Edward Edwards was living at the time his sister Mary Edwards signed her will in 1813.

- I Daniel Cannon Edwards, bapt. November 19, 1797. Married Mary Elizabeth Pinckney, daughter of Hopson Pinckney and his second wife Elizabeth Cannon, as her second husband.⁷²
- II Edward Henry Edwards, bapt. October 10, 1801. He died in his twentieth year on August 30, 1819.⁷³
- III Martha Cannon Edwards, bapt. October 10, 1801.
- IV John Alexander Edwards } bapt. December 17, 1805.⁷⁴
- V James Fisher Edwards }

5

Elizabeth Edwards (I) married on November 19, 1783, John Bee Holmes, attorney,⁷⁵ who was Recorder from 1786-1792, and from 1811-1819.⁷⁶

- ⁶⁸ No baptismal record found, but she is mentioned in her Mother's Will.
- ⁶⁹ *St. Philip's Register*, II, 261, 199, 88.
- ⁷⁰ *This Magazine*, XXXIII, 90, 100, (mistakenly called John Wakefield); XXXIV, 31, 83, 206; LI, 102. Sarah Wakefield died Sept. 1787.
- ⁷¹ Johnson, *Traditions*, p. 34; *St. Philip's Register*, II, 373.
- ⁷² *Ibid.*, 136, 224; *this Magazine*, XVIII, 16. Mary Elizabeth Pinckney must have been older than Daniel C. Edwards. Hopson Pinckney married Elizabeth Cannon, Jan. 21, 1777, and died in 1794.
- ⁷³ *Ibid.*, XLVI, 73; *St. Philip's Register*, II, 141.
- ⁷⁴ *This Magazine*, XXXIV, 49. Baptism is from Circular Church records; name of mother is blank. List of children of Edward Edwards is not offered as complete.
- ⁷⁵ *S. C. Weekly Gazette*, Nov. 21, 1783.
- ⁷⁶ O'Neill, *Bench and Bar*, II, Appendix.

On May 2, 1791, John Bee Holmes dressed in the robes of office and accompanied by Edward Rutledge and C. C. Pinckney, were the welcoming committee that greeted President Washington at Mt. Pleasant and conducted him to the city in the elegantly prepared barge. In 1794 he served as intendant.⁷⁷ To present day Charlestonians, he is known as the man for whom the handsome bookcase and secretary on display at the Heyward-Washington House were made.⁷⁸ John Bee Holmes died September 5, 1827, aged sixty-seven years, and was buried in the Circular Church yard. Beside him was buried Elizabeth Edwards Holmes, who died November 6, 1836, aged seventy-one years.⁷⁹

- I John E. Holmes, died in 1810, aged 25 years.⁸⁰
- II Rebecca Holmes, bapt. November 12, 1786, died 1802, aged 15 years.
- III William Alexander Holmes, bapt. February 15, 1789, died 1835, aged 47 years.
- IV Henry McCall Holmes, bapt. May 28, 1790.
- V Elizabeth Catharine Holmes, bapt. February 16, 1794, died unmarried 1852, aged 58 years.
- VI Isaac Edward Holmes, bapt. May 1, 1796.
- VII James Gadsden Holmes, bapt. January 28, 1798.
- VIII Charles Rutledge Holmes, bapt. March 18, 1800.
- IX Mary Edwards Holmes, bapt. March 30, 1802; and mentioned in 1813 in Will of her aunt, Mary Edwards.
- X Thomas Bee Holmes, bapt. May 15, 1804, died aged three months.
- XI Arthur Fisher Holmes, bapt. November 29, 1805.
- XII Albert Christopher Holmes, bapt. November 17, 1810, died 1810, aged eighteen months.⁸¹

6

Margaret Edwards (I) married William Holmes, younger brother of her sister's husband, John Bee Holmes, on March 31, 1791.⁸² She predeceased her husband some years, probably dying about 1800. William died between the time his mother Rebecca Edwards signed her will on June 2, 1818,

⁷⁷ *Chas. Year Book*, 1883, pp. 504, 505, 334.

⁷⁸ E. Milby Burton, "The Furniture of Charleston", *The Magazine Antiques*, LXI, 38, 53.

⁷⁹ *This Magazine*, XXIX, 239.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 238, 239, 345; the index confuses epitaphs of Edwards family with Holmes. Rebecca, Thomas B., Albert C., John E., William A., and Eliza C. are Holmes, as shown by baptismal records.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, XXXIII, 156, 159, 160, 166, 171, 174, 308, 312, 315; XXXIV, 49, 100. List of Elizabeth Edwards Holmes' children may not be complete.

⁸² *This Magazine*, XXXIII, 30.

when he was named an executor with his brother and brother-in-law Thomas Mathews, and a codicil signed on November 12, 1820, which reads: "The property and estate I gave to my son William, I hereby give and bequeath to his children".⁸⁵

- I William Henry Holmes, bapt. January 29, 1792, mentioned in Will of Mary Edwards in 1813.
- II John Bee Holmes, bapt. January 26, 1794.
- III Mary Fisher Holmes, bapt. January 18, 1796.
- IV James Fisher Holmes, bapt. January 2, 1798, mentioned in Will of Mary Edwards in 1813.
- V Elizabeth Harriet Holmes, bapt. November 4, 1799, perhaps the Harriet Holmes mentioned in Mary Edwards' will.

7

Catherine Edwards (1) married Philip Gadsden on November 19, 1783, the same day her sister Elizabeth married John Bee Holmes.⁸⁶ Philip Gadsden, youngest son of Christopher and Mary Hasell Gadsden, was christened October 11, 1761.⁸⁵ Christopher Gadsden was the only patriot banished to St. Augustine who refused to give the British his parole, saying as he had already given it at Charleston, that at this time to reaffirm it "His honour would not permit him to do it". Consequently he spent the ten months in St. Augustine, locked in a cell in the castle. Philip Gadsden was another of those sent on board the prison ships in Charleston harbor and later shipped to Philadelphia. Mary Hasell Gadsden had died January 27, 1769,⁸⁶ so she was spared having to move herself and household to Philadelphia as did Rebecca Edwards, Mary DeSaussure, and Sarah Wakefield. Catherine Edwards was living when her sister Mary Edwards died in 1813.

- I Christopher Edwards Gadsden, bapt. May 26, 1787.⁸⁷
- II John Gadsden, bapt. May 26, 1787.⁸⁸
- III Elizabeth Gadsden, bapt. February 19, 1792.⁸⁹
- IV Rebecca Harriott Gadsden, bapt. April 19, 1795.

⁸⁵ CPC, Will Book of 1818-1826, p. 474. List of children of Margaret Edwards Holmes is incomplete.

⁸⁶ *This Magazine*, XVIII, 144.

⁸⁷ *St. Philip's Register*, II, 48.

⁸⁸ *This Magazine*, XXXIII, 9, 10, 283; XXXIV, 59; *St. Philip's Register*, II, 327.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, 105. With his brother John Gadsden, Christopher was executor of will of Mary Edwards, his aunt.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, 106, 48.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*, 119, 132, 137, 139, 366, 141.

- V Thomas Gadsden, bapt. September 14, 1798.
- VI Philip Gadsden,
- VII Margaret Gadsden, bapt. February 9, 1800, buried November 15, 1800.
- VIII Ann Gadsden, bapt. October 4, 1801.
- IX Eliza Fisher Gadsden, bapt. April 4, 1805.⁹⁰
- X Fisher Gadsden, bapt. November 22, 1805.
- XI James Gadsden.⁹¹
- XII Mary E. Gadsden.⁹²

8

Harriet Edwards (1) married Thomas Mathews of "White Hall, John's Island", on December 4, 1805.⁹³ Both were living at the time Rebecca Bee Edwards added the codicil to her will on November 12, 1820. The witnesses to the signing of the will on June 2, 1818 were Benjamin and Maria Mathews.

- I Harriet Rebecca Mathews, bapt. July 23, 1807.⁹⁴
- II William Edwards Mathews, bapt. January 6, 1808.
- III Mary Julia Mathews, bapt. November 17, 1810.

(To be continued)

⁹⁰ *This Magazine*, XXXIV, 48, 49. Children with Fisher in their names were baptized at Circular Church.

⁹¹ *St. Philip's Register*, II, 48.

⁹² Mentioned in will of Mary Edwards, her aunt, as are her sisters Harriet R., Ann, Elizabeth H. Gadsden.

Philip and Catherine Gadsden had eight sons and eight daughters so this is incomplete.

⁹³ A. S. Salley (ed.), *Marriages Notices in Charleston Courier 1803-1808* (Columbia, 1919), p. 27; *this Magazine*, XXXIII, 44; XXIX, 162.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, XXXIV, 52, 96, 100.

Eliza, Mr. and Mrs. Middleton and their children,²⁰ Ralph Izard²¹ and States Rutledge,²² are all well. We shall dine together tomorrow. I hope our friend Mr. Izard of South Bay is entirely recovered of his indisposition.²³ It is well he is not here, for European politics would make him mad. They even ruffle the *serene philosophy* of my *temper*. Remember me affectionately to him and his family, to my sister, children, nephews, nieces, and friends and believe that I constantly am

Your sincere and affectionate friend

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

* * *

Paris, November 4, 1797

Dear Major,²⁴

By a chance opportunity I venture a line to inform you that myself and family are well, but that neither myself or Colleagues have been officially acknowledged by the Directory, tho the Minister of foreign affairs received from us the copy of our Letters of Credence so long ago as the Eighth of last Month. To speak in the mildest terms the dispositions of this government appear to be very unfriendly to America, and I have not at present any hopes that our negotiations will be successful. My Countrymen will I dare say be ready to meet events with firmness. Divisions and parties in America are much relied on here. My own opinion is that when the conduct of this Country to ours is fully known, we shall have but one party and that will be

²⁰ Mr. and Mrs. Henry Middleton (son of Arthur and Mary Izard Middleton), who for several years had been living in England, had come to Paris just before Pinckney's arrival there in December of 1796. Mrs. Middleton, née Mary Helen Hering, was an English woman not known by the Pinckneys until this sojourn in Paris.

²¹ Ralph Stead Izard, the son of Mrs. Pinckney's sister Elizabeth. Undoubtedly, he had accompanied the Pinckneys to France in order to study the French language, for, in her letters to her sister, Mrs. Pinckney shows considerable concern over the progress of his education.

²² States Rutledge (1783-1829), the son of John Rutledge and Elizabeth Grimké. Perhaps he too had accompanied the Pinckneys to Paris.

²³ Senator Ralph Izard (1742-1804), Mrs. Pinckney's cousin. In 1797 he suffered a stroke and was an invalid for the rest of his life.

²⁴ Considerable difficulty was experienced in determining the correct identification of this Major DeSaussure, since, in 1797, both Daniel DeSaussure, the father, and Henry William DeSaussure (1763-1839), his son, were then alive and residing in Charleston. Both men were active during the Revolutionary War, although only Henry William DeSaussure is listed by F.B. Heitman as an officer ("Lieutenant 8d South Carolina; 1777") of the Continental Army. Additional search into Heitman's volumes failed, moreover, to provide evidence of DeSaussure's promotion to Major. But as noted in the text above, in 1798 Henry William was appointed aide-de-camp to General C.C. Pinckney.

truly American—our vessels are still taken for the want of a *Role d'Equipage*²⁵; the Tribunals continue to condemn them; and tho application has been made to the supreme Court of appeals, the Tribunal of Cassation, to suspend proceedings till the result of our negotiations shall be known, such delay has been refused, and our lawyers are of opinion that every American vessel will be condemned, and declare that it will be in vain to attempt to defend them.

Your favour of the 8th of July did not reach me till about three weeks ago. I am much obliged to you for it; if you knew how much pleasure your letters give me you would indulge me oftener in hearing from you, and besides this pleasure they always bring me some intelligence of our domestic politics and local transactions not mentioned by any of our other friends. I am convinced many of my letters must miscarry; I will in future keep a list of the dates of those I write.

I wrote to my brother October 28th, to my sister Oct. 11th, and Nov. 1st, and to my friend E. Rutledge yesterday; as they are all sent by different conveyances, some of them I trust will reach their destination. By Cap. Izard I sent a cypher enclosed to our friend E R and I desired him to let you take a copy of it. In hopes that it will arrive safe my next letter shall contain a few paragraphs written therein. I had not time to arrange the key but Mr. W A Deas²⁶ will show you how to do it. The Northern papers mention that my Brother is appointed Member of Congress for Charleston district,²⁷ but I have not received any intimation of that kind from Carolina. Return my best remembrances to my friends Holmes,²⁸ Ford,²⁹ Majors Lining³⁰ and

²⁵ A *Role d'Equipage* was a bill of lading or a form of ship's paper required by the French government of American sea captains, the lack of which made American vessels liable to capture by French ships. Allegedly, these were practically impossible for American ship's masters to obtain.

²⁶ William Allen Deas had been private secretary to Thomas Pinckney, Charles Cotesworth's brother, when Thomas as United States ambassador to England had represented American interests in London.

²⁷ Thomas Pinckney replaced William Loughton Smith as United States senator when Smith resigned his seat in 1797 to become United States minister to Portugal.

²⁸ John Bee Holmes, a Charleston lawyer who had collaborated with Charles C. Pinckney and Edward Rutledge in the 1790s on various cases dealing with the question of debts owed to English merchants.

²⁹ Timothy Ford (1762-1830), brother-in-law and law partner of Henry William DeSaussure.

³⁰ Charles Lining (1753-1813), a Major in the Continental Army and son of Dr. John Lining. He shared with Charles C. Pinckney various civic interests, and like Pinckney was a prominent member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE INDEPENDENT OR CONGRE-
GATIONAL (CIRCULAR) CHURCH YARD
CHARLESTON S. C.¹

Prepared for publication by MABEL L. WEBBER

(Continued from April)

Underneath / lies what was mortal of / Mrs. Margaret Edwards
/ Wife of Mr. John Edwards, Merchant of this place / Daughter
of Mr. Alexander Peronneau, Gent / She Died / in Travail with
her tenth Child / Aged 34 years and about 4 months / A sincere,
modest and humble Christian / A Member of this Church / who
adorned her holy Profession / Triumphed over the last Enemy /
Exulting in the Riches of free Grace / She committed her Soul to
Him whom she ardently loved / and died without fear or a groan /
Aug^t 27th, 1772.

"My flesh shall slumber in the Ground /
Till the last Trumpet shall sound /
Then burst the chains with sweet surprize
And in my Saviour's Image rise /

Here also is deposited the remains / of the / Honourable
John Edwards / [Two lines illegible] And one of the Privy Council
of the State / He died in Philadelphia in August — 178— / After
his releasement from Captivity / in St. Augustine where / he was
sent on account of his / staunch attachment of the liberties / of
his Country / He left a Widow and ten children / to lament /
an affectionate husband / And tender parent /

[On South Side of Tomb] In and around the Vault are the
Remains of / Rebecca, died 1802, aged 15 years / Thomas B.
died 1804 aged 3 months / Albert C. died 1810, aged 18 months /
John E. died 1810, aged 25 years / William A. died 1835, aged

¹ The picture given of the Circular Church and Institute Hall is from a
photograph of an old print. The photograph was given by Mrs. J. Palmer
Lockwood, a Member of this Society. Institute Hall was famous as being the
place where the Ordinance of Secession was finally signed. Both the buildings
were burned December 11, 1861.

INDEPENDENT OR CONGRE-
GATIONAL CHURCH YARD
ASTON S. C.¹

Writen by MABEL L. WEBBER

(and from April)

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Gent / She Died / in Travail with
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ubert C. died 1810, aged 18 months /
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ircular Church and Institute Hall is from a
photograph was given by Mrs. J. Palmer
etc. Institute Hall was famous as being the
son was finally signed. Both the buildings



CIRCULAR CHURCH AND INSTITUTE HALL

47 years / Eliza C. died 1852 aged 58 years / Mary F. wife of
I. E. Holmes / died 1856, aged 60 years.

[East End] Sacred / To the Memory of / John Bee Holmes /
who died Sept. 5 1827 / aged 67 years / Also of his Wife / Eliza-
beth Edwards Holmes / Who died Nov. 6, 1836 / aged 71 years. /
Their Remains are interred / on the south side of this Vault.

[North Side of Vault] Sacred / To the Memory of / Lizzie /
daughter of / Arthur F. and / Amelia L. Holmes / Born / Jan. 2,
1835 / Died Sept. 22, 1854. /

Amelia / Daughter of / Arthur F. and Amelia L. Holmes /
and Wife of William E. Holmes / born June 2, 1837 / Died
October 6, 1856 /

"How short was thy sojourn how brief was thy stay
A Summer of beauty a season of Love
Bright forms that we knew not have called thee away
And wings that we heard not have borne thee above."

Sacred / To the Memory of / Mrs. Hayes Miles / who de-
parted / this life the 28th. May 1800 aged 21 years 21 days /
And of / Thomas Bennet Miles / Her son, interred in this Spot /
the 22d. of June following aged (illegible) 6 months 6 days /
Dedicated by an affectionate / Husband & Father / (4 lines of
verse illegible) [East]

Notent Omnes hic positas esse Reliquias / Revd. Gulielmi
Hutson / Quis a vitiis (quibus Juventus illectus est) Gratia
Divina / reclamatus officio Sacro ministri se dedit A.D. 1743
quo / et domesticis clare et [break] egre fungendis perduravit ideo
ut erat / conjux amans fidelisque parens et benignus herus
vitam / prosperam egit, et (ad Deum vocatus) reliquit populum /
liberosque lugentes A.D. 1761 Aetatis suae 41.

Here are deposited / The precious Remains of the Revd. William
Hutson, the five / last years of his Life one of the Pastors / of
this Church who being of a / truly noble catholick Spirit, an
affectionate Husband and Parent / Sincere friend and kind master,
endeavouring to adorne the Doctrine / of God our Saviour in all
things, exchanged this for a better life April / 11th. 1761 / in the
41st. Year of his Age and has a monument erected for / himself

I William A. Holmes. Devise and bequeath my Estate Real & Personal to be equally divided between my two Sons Edgar & Edward William Holmes. The property I have advanced to my Son Edward William or may during my life time advances, to be taken into consideration in making the Division aforesaid & I appoint my Brothers J. E. Holmes and James G. Holmes Executors to this my last will & testament, hereby revoking all other wills by me at any time made. Witness my hand & seal, twenty fifth day of September Anno Domini Eighteen hundred & thirty two.

Signed sealed and declared by testator to be his last will in our presence, who in his presence and the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as follows.

W. A. Holmes J. E. Holmes Elizabeth Holmes

Proved before Thomas J. J. J. on the seventh day of January 1836 & at same time qualified James G. Holmes Executor therein named.

and

1.

FILED IN WILL BOOK H-1834-1339 PAGE 181

No. 1. Edgar, or to my Son,

entire diary belong to the Mississippi State University Development Foundation with whose kind permission this selection is here printed. In the near future, the entire diary, covering the years 1861-1866, will be published in book form.

December 16, 1861 The past week will never be erased from the memory of Charlestonians. The terror! the misery, & desolation which has swept like a hurricane over our once fair city will never be forgotten as long as it stands. On Monday, Willie [Holmes] came up on business & was to have returned on Wednesday but was twice prevented by accidents. Those three days were as warm and balmy as if it were June, with scarce a breath of air to ripple the calm waters of the Ashley. All was fair and smiling till a quarter before nine at night when the mournful sound of the alarm bell fell on our ears, followed by the cries of fire. At first we thought it was at Rosa's [Bull],¹ so near was the cry, but soon found it was high up town and raging fiercely. Till then, the wind was still, but, as the fire rose, so did the wind, showering sparks & flakes around or bearing them far aloft in the air where they floated like falling stars. Edward [Holmes] went to see where it was, returned to change his clothes, and at eleven went out again. Even then the sparks were falling so near us that Willie would not let Dudley go, as he might be needed at home. Then Willie himself went to see after the fire, before deciding whether he would go, all his baggage being on the steamer. Willie Guerard had just come to town & was with Rosa, who came over to us while he went also. Hour after hour of anxiety passed, while flames raged more fiercely and the heavens were illuminated as if it were an Aurora Borealis—it was terrifically beautiful. The tide was rising & every wave crested with foam, while beyond the rosy clouds floating overhead was the intense blue of the sky & Sirius sparkling like a brilliant diamond. As time passed, the sparks were so thick that we had water thrown on the shed & servants watching it. About one, W. Guerard returned & reported the Institute Hall & Circular [Congregational] Church as burning & cousin Henry's [DeSaussure] in danger. A light rain was then falling & we earnestly prayed for more, but it only lasted a short time & Rosa went home. We heard the roaring & crackling of the flames, the crashing of the roofs falling in, & occasionally the report of an explosion as a house was

¹ The daughter of William Izard Bull (mentioned later in this selection). Mr. Bull was a descendant of Stephen Bull, who as Lord Ashley's deputy, was one of the Carolinas' first settlers. He established Ashley Hall which was still in the family's possession during the Civil War. Mr. Bull was, during the war, a State Senator and a special aide to General P.C.T. Beauregard. Rosa Bull and Emma Holmes were very close friends.

THE CHARLESTON FIRE OF 1861 AS DESCRIBED IN THE EMMA E. HOLMES DIARY

Edited by

JOHN F. MARZALEK, JR.*

Emma E. Holmes was born on December 17, 1838, the daughter of Dr. Henry McCall Holmes and Eliza Ford Gibbs Holmes. Dr. Holmes practiced medicine and was the owner of Washington Plantation, South Carolina. His wife was a descendant of two famous South Carolina families: DeSaussure and Gibbs. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom Emma was the sixth born. When Dr. Holmes died in 1854, his widow leased Washington Plantation and the family lived in Charleston on that income.

Beginning in January 1861 and continuing until 1866, Emma Holmes kept a detailed diary. Here she recorded events of the turbulent Civil War period. She commented on the war, its battles, the literature of the day, life in Charleston and Camden during the war and early Reconstruction period, and family matters.

In the selection that follows, Emma Holmes describes the great Charleston fire of December 11 and 12, 1861, including a detailed inventory of the terrible damage as she saw it. Her description is factual and minute, yet it gives the reader a graphic picture of the disaster. The tone is one of awe rather than fear, surmising that perhaps God had used this conflagration to harden Charlestonians for the coming rigors of civil war. It is one of the fullest accounts of this important event.

As a result of this holocaust, the Holmes family (and many others) were burned out. The Holmes, after considerable indecision attendant in any such personal calamity, (further intensified by the war inflation) moved to Camden for the remainder of the war years. When the fighting was over, they returned to Charleston where Emma lived until her death in January of 1910. She never married and spent much of her life in teaching.

This selection is taken from Volume Two of the three volume Emma E. Holmes Diary. The first two volumes are deposited in the William R. Perkins Library, Duke University, while volume three is in the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina. Literary rights to the

* Mr. Marzalek is Associate Professor of History, Mississippi State University.

blown up to try and stop the ravages of the fire. But God had decreed that we should be purified through fire as well as blood, & still the flames swept on with inconceivable rapidity & fierceness, notwithstanding the almost superhuman efforts of the firemen. At two-o'clock, Willie returned and told mother it was time to pack and move. We had already commenced to put up our jewelry, silver & money & by three [A.M.], we had packed all our clothing and started for uncle James [Holmes], each laden with what they could carry & leaving the servants to see after their own things. The scenes all along the streets were indescribably sad. The pavements [were] loaded with the furniture, clothing, & bedding of refugees who covered beside them in despair, while others were hurrying with articles for safety to the side from whence we came. When we reached the Battery, the wind was so high we could scarcely breast it. The heavens [were] black as midnight while the waves were white with foam and all [was] illuminated by the intense lurid lights. The boys all returned & soon came cousins Liz. & Mary [Bacot], their aunts having gone with the children up town to Mr. [John] Harleston. Mrs. Paul Gervais with her four children & cousin Mary Bacot had also gone to Uncle James. Throughout that awful night, we watched the weary hours at the window and still the flames leaped madly on with demoniac fury, & now the spire of our beautiful Cathedral [St. John and St. Finbar] is wrapped in flames. There it towered above everything the grandest sight I've ever beheld. arch after arch fell in & still the cross glittered & burned high over all. Then the roof caught & we saw that too fall in. At five [A.M.], the city was wrapped in a living wall of fire from the Cooper to the Ashley without a single gap to break its dread uniformity. It seemed as if the day would never dawn. Oh, it was the longest weariest night I ever spent. No one felt fatigue or thought of sleep, and, when the sun rose, the fire was still raging so fiercely that its glare almost overpowered that of the sun.

The fire, evidently the work of an incendiary, broke out in a shed next to [H. P.] Russell's extensive machine shop & soon spread to Cameron's foundry, where an immense amount of Confederate work was destroyed, in rifled cannon, shot & shell. It swept all the upper part of Hasell & many small streets near, down East Bay where Miss Harriet Pinckney's splendid mansion, once the palace of the Royal Governors & for long successive years the residence of her forefathers, was destroyed. Just one year ago, I went with mother to see her on the 17th, her 85th birthday and my 22nd, but principally to see the interior of the house which was hung with tapestry, in antique style. Fortunately almost every thing was saved through the strenuous exertions of Captain [John]

Rutledge and the crew of the *Lady Davis*. All the small streets between that & the Charleston Hotel were destroyed. Fortunately that & Ha Street were saved, but the fire leapt across to the south side of Market Street which was swept away in a few moments; consisting of several wooden tenements—down Meeting on both sides to Queen—destroyed the Theatre, Apprentices Library, Art Gallery, & Savings Institution, [B.A.] Rodriguez, [Edward] North & [Henry] DeSaussure, South Express Office, Circular Church, and, more regretted than all, the Institute Hall, one of the largest in the South [and] the scene for many years of almost every public event. There were held all our fairs, concert presentation of flags, The Democratic or National Convention of 1848 and, above all, there was signed our Ordinance of Secession, the instrument which broke the fetters with which the North is seeking to bind down to everlasting slavery and disgrace. That loss can never be replaced those hallowed associations will linger around the ruined walls. Circular [Congregational] Church is where all my ancestors worshipped and are buried for 175 years [sic]. That pulpit has been filled upon the same spot though not in the same church. This was built in 1806, and a few years ago thoroughly done up & refurnished, making it the largest and one of the handsomest churches in the city. Uncle James saved the Bible & Hymn Book. The fine collection of our art gallery was entirely destroyed, but the Savings Institution fortunately saved most of its papers. Cousin Henry Des[saussure], by the exertions of his friends, saved almost everything except his heavy furniture, but Dr. [Edward] North lost immense The square on which the Mills House is built was saved, but the whole other side of Queen was burnt down to the Roper Hospital, four hundred houses being blown up to save the latter & the Medical College, Mari Hospital, Jail, Workhouse, & other public houses which otherwise inevitably have been destroyed. For the wind circled in eddies, driving the flames in every direction & carrying showers of flakes to an immense distance. Horlbeck's Alley is burnt and the greater part of Kings' [sic] on both sides below Enslow's as far as the Quaker Church, on the east side, & nearly to the corner of Broad on the west side. In Broad, where were some of the finest private residences in the city, were burnt on one side. The Cathedral, which was filled to overflowing with the silver clothing, furniture and valuables of scores of people, believing it to be fire proof [was lost]. Bishop [Patrick N.] Lynch's splendid library was also lost there. The residence of the Sisters of Charity was partially burnt. Mr. Coffin's, Mr. Isaac Porcher's, Mr. James Heyward's, Mr. Alfred Huger's, the latter [house] quite an antique & for very many years or

cupied by the same family, Miss Bowman's, Mr. John Laurens', Mr. G. Manigault's, Mrs. Ben Rutledge's & another fine brick house, Dr. Wragg's, & just back of his, Rev. Mr. Campbell's. On the south side of Broad, Miss Marshall's, an old crazy wreck a century old [and] a nuisance to the city, was destroyed. The fine residences of Mr. Belin & Mr. Smith were spared but all below burnt, including Mr. Petigni's & Mr. James Legaré's. The whole of Friend St., from Queen, was burnt, including the very new Public School, nearly to Tradd. The whole of Logan St., including St. Peter's Church, was burnt, except Mr. Tom Frost's & Judge [Edward] Frost's—down Tradd it swept destroying everything on the north side—on the south, sparing Mr. Winthrop's old wooden timber house & destroying the old Rutledge house from which poor old Miss Pinckney had to be moved a second time. Skipped Mr. Sol Legaré's next door, but swept everything below it but the lower part of Limehouse St. on both sides below the fine brick houses of Messrs. Shingle's and Addison, on either side. Col. Edward White's fine new house was destroyed. The whole of Council St. is gone. Mr. Lucas' & Mr. Bull's [were lost], but Mrs. Alston's spared. The whole of New St. commencing with Mr. Cordes Harleston on one side, Mr. Gibbon, Mr. James Wilson, Miss Torre, Dr. Sam Wilson's occupied by Mr. Stevenson, Mr. [Aaron S.] Willington, Mr. A. H. Brown, Mr. Otis Philips, Mr. Geo. Reid, Mr. Paul & his daughter & Mr. James Elliott, on the other side from Mr. O. Middleton's, Mr. Kerrison's, Mr. Gibbons, Misses Muir, Mr. Richard Bacot, Mr. Gibbons' daughter & Mr. Flinn, all are gone. But Mr. Charles Edwards' [is] left standing at the corner, while everything on every side was burnt. The whole of Savage Street is gone and all above & below the Huguenins' on Broad St. Our brothers & cousins, after working at Dr. [Henry] Des[assure] & other friends, went to our houses and, with our servants who worked most zealously, tried to save what they could. But the flames were so fierce and rapid that they were soon cut off from communication with the rest of the city & as the water was on the other side from our house, they were only able to save *all* our clothing which was packed & all our beddings. . . . They opened mother's work press & linen press and swept everything into blankets, which were safely brought round—our sewing machine & the antique mahogany round table, about a century old, our clock, & a nest of card tables, most of the books from our chamber & all the china ornaments, most of the books from the bookcase & many from the étagères. The knives & forks & some of the dinner set that was in use, everybody's desk except Willie's, which he valued very much as it was father's, & many other minor things, each with its own

peculiar value, but no other furniture—some pieces were taken out but burnt in the street. Our carriage was also saved & the mirror from the drawing room. As the Burnets had already sent away most of their things to Camden, they saved a great deal. Cousin Willie [Holmes] saved almost all their clothing and the furniture from his chamber & the drawing room, carpets also, [He also saved] their machine, silver and a good deal of fine old china & cut glass of great value—not only for their beauty but because the china had been brought on by Mr. Charles Deas & the glass belonged to their great grandfather, old Mr. Humphrey Somers—a few mattresses & some bed linen. At Rosa's almost everything was saved, as her house did not burn till much later than ours, & numbers of gentlemen went to help, after their own or relatives' houses were gone. All their clothing, even to ball dresses, elegant drawing furniture, curtains, three immense mirrors, piano, sideboard & even Rosa's sweetmeats were saved. Most of the silver had been sent off to Columbia by Express that very day. From St. Andrew's Hall, many of the portraits were saved, and the walls now stand in their strength, swept bare within. The Cathedral & Circular Church are beautiful, though melancholy, ruins. But the shock has been so great in extent, so sudden & so awful, that private feeling seemed merged into public feeling, and each one seems to forget their own losses to regret that of their friends. On Friday, I walked out to inquire after cousin Mary Des[assure], found her bright & cheerful & thinking of our loss, while we had feared so much for her in her situation, everyday looking for an addition to her family circle, as is Mrs. James Elliott. . . . Mrs. Dan Vincent's infant was but three days old & her husband away, [so] she was carried off to Mr. Hugh Vincent's when the house was burning, but has not felt any ill effects. Afterward I met Mr. Louis Robertson & we walked down what was once Broad & New Sts., but, oh, so changed that I could not realize where I was. All seemed a frightful dream, though I stood among a forest of chimneys. I went home to dine with him & though his family had been obliged to move, they were at home again and everything was so handsome and so comfortable that it was impossible [to] feel that their house looked upon the ruins of ours, a few hundred yards off. Mr. R[obertson]'s niece, Pamela Joyner, is staying with them & after dinner we went out walking amidst the scene of desolation and smouldering ruins. For the week before the fire I had been so unwell and so prostrated as well as in so much pain, from having taken too much exercise previously, that I was scarcely able to walk across the floor, and the doctor had made me begin to take a tonic again. But that memorable night, I was on my

feet almost from nine o'clock until Thursday night. For, during the days, throngs of friends came with offers of houses or rooms in their houses, clothing or anything else they could offer, with their heartfelt sympathy and condolence. Girls who are merely friends as well as relatives came & ever since we have had numbers of kind offers from all the Gadsdens, DeSaussures, Gibbes, Mrs. Leo Walker, Miss Bates, Mr. Frederick Porcher [and] Jimmie Davis who offered his whole house. The Gatewoods offered clothing, & Mrs. Kirkpatrick offered two chambers & some dresses. Our troubles have indeed shown who were friends, and "The milk of human kindness" seems to overflow for the suffering Charlestonians from every part of the Confederacy, as well as our own state. By Friday \$30,000 were subscribed in the city for the sufferers, & numbers of societies & committees formed to feed, shelter, & clothe the poor & destitute, as well as hundreds of the better class who had lost everything. President [Jefferson] Davis proposed, & Congress voted, \$250,000 to South Carolina in part payment of the national debt to her. Savannah has voted \$10,000—Augusta sent nearly \$7,000 already, & intends to make \$15,000—Georgia voted \$100,000—Columbia \$30,000 & numbers of the most munificent donations from \$1,000 down, from private individuals all over the state. How sweet in adversity to feel that the bond of sisterhood is drawn even closer between the states of our glorious Confederacy by our sorrow. I look beyond to brighter times & firmly believe that God has permitted this to unite us still more closely than before & to prepare and purify us through suffering for the great position he means us to occupy. On Sunday Mr. [W.B.W.] Howe² gave us a most beautiful & appropriate sermon. The text [was] the most appropriate that could have been chosen: Job's reply to his wife, "We have received good from the Lord & shall we not receive evil also." Many of the congregation had lost their homes & almost everything. . . . It was only by great exertion that the church itself was saved. There were but few dry eyes when he finished & the hymn "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord!" seemed to soothe and strengthen all in their trials. . . .

December 17th [1861] My birthday was spent very quietly writing & seeing friends & after tea . . . [several of us] walked among the ruins principally to see the Circular [Congregational] Church & the Cathedral [of St. John and St. Finbar]. The walls of the former are perfect & part of the steeple [is] still standing, and, with the moonlight streaming

² William Bell White Howe was during the Civil War the Rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Charleston. From 1871 to his death in 1892, he served as the sixth bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina.

through the windows & the monuments gleaming beyond, the effect was beautiful & reminded us of the Coliseum. While the front view, with the row of Ionic columns standing as if to guard the sanctuary, brought the ruins of the old Grecian temples vividly before us, as did the broken arches of the Institute Hall. The Cathedral is also very beautiful, the walls all standing and the spires all along the side reminded me of the statues on the Vatican while the general offices was that of some old Gothic minister [sic]—indeed everything is so transformed by the work of a single night that it seems as if we were carried centuries back and stood among the ruins of some ancient city. . . .



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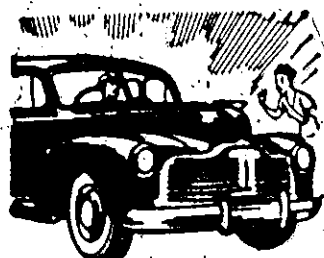
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\$500	31.04	44.81
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New Jet Fighter Plane Passes Test Successfully

LOS ANGELES, June 6. (AP) The United States air force announced today its newest jet fighter, the Lockheed F-90, successfully completed its first test flight Saturday at the Muroc flight test base.

Tony Levier, Lockheed's chief engineering test pilot, kept the needle-nose, swept-wing plane aloft for 37 minutes. The air force revealed no statistical data on the new fighter, but Levier said it handled as smoothly and easily as the F-80 Shooting Star now in operation.

The F-90 is one of the largest fighters ever built, weighing approximately 26,000 pounds. Levier said he climbed to 15,000 feet in 10 minutes, but added this was not the ship's maximum rate of climb.

The school will last six weeks. Pupils will be permitted to take only two subjects and will be charged a \$7.50 fee for each. Report cards must be presented at the time of registration, Mr. Corcoran said.

Each summer school pupil will have to provide his or her own transportation.

Orangeburg Pilot Survives Plane Crash Into Gulf

PENSACOLA, Fla., June 6. (AP) A navy student flier was killed today when his trainer plane crashed off Santa Rosa Sound Beach. Three other airmen were burned in a rescue attempt.

In a separate accident, another navy trainer crashed in the Gulf of Mexico about 25 miles west of here. The two fliers swam ashore and were picked up by a rescue helicopter.

Name of the flier killed was withheld pending notification of next of kin. He was based at Whiting Field and was out on a solo flight.

Public relations at the Pensacola naval air station said a PBY flying boat which had been dispatched to the scene of the Santa Rosa Sound accident crashlanded in the water. In doing so, the gasoline tank of the PBY exploded. Names of the three occupants were not learned immediately.

Swimming ashore from the Gulf of Mexico crash were Midshipman R. D. Antley, of Orangeburg, S. C., and a Lieutenant Helm, instructor, of Helm, Calif. They were based at Saufley Field, near Pensacola. They were unhurt, but were taken to the base hospital.

Columbia Man Named to Head Clemson Alumni

CLEMSON, June 6. (AP) J. B. Caughman, of Columbia, has been re-elected president of the Clemson college Alumni corporation.

He and other officers were chosen during weekend alumni reunions in connection with the college's commencement activities.

Other officers: M. D. Berry of Atlanta, Ga., first vice president; John L. Nichols, of Sumter, second vice president; J. H. Woodward, of Clemson, secretary-treasurer; and Joe Brown, of Clemson, assistant treasurer.

The new board of directors consists of E. H. Agnew, of Anderson, Hamish Turner, of Spartanburg, W. K. McGill, of Chester, W. E. Hallman, of Aiken, Norman E. Byrd, of Branchville, George Warren, of Hampton, W. L. Schachte, of Charleston, and K. B. Hodges, of Bennettsville.

Also, Dr. R. H. Fike, of Moultrie, Ga., Ralph Stewart, of Washington, D. C., W. M. Ballenger, of Chicago, Ill., and W. B. Camp, of Bakersfield, Calif.

Three directors at large: S. C. McMeekin, of Columbia, J. M. Dunlap, of Cleveland, Tenn., and Cecil Reid, of Fredericksburg, Va.

Based on the number of freight cars and freight trains handled daily, the South yards at Charleston

in investigating these charges, which would be violations of the anti-trust laws.

At the same time, the attorney general wrote Hoyt it would be a violation of the laws for textile manufacturers to get together to fix prices or restrict production. This part of the letter was in reply to a suggestion from the Concord manufacturer that some such steps might be necessary if textile prices remain at a low level.

Also in the senate, the banking and currency committee, headed by Senator Burnet R. Maybank, plans to look into the textile price structure. A public hearing on this is tentatively set for June 15.

S. C. Birthday

James Gadsden Holmes, son of Arthur Fisher and Amelia Levering Smith Holmes, was born June 7, 1843, in Charleston.

When South Carolina seceded, he did garrison duty for a time with other members of the freshman class of the Citadel. In June, 1862, he was one of 40 cadets who formed the Cadet Rangers. As Troop F of the 6th South Carolina Cavalry, they were on duty in the state until 1864, when they went to Virginia as part of Butler's brigade. Hampton's division. Holmes served as a trooper until he was detailed to organize the dismounted members of the brigade into a battalion, of which he was adjutant.

Later he was assistant adjutant general to General E. M. Law, also serving on the division staff. One of a small band of men with Hampton when he charged a company of Federal troops in Fayetteville, driving out of town those not captured or killed, Holmes was gazetted for bravery. Finally he started with Hampton's escort for the Trans-Mississippi but stopped at Athens, Ga. For taking part in all the fights of his command he was recommended for promotion from captain to colonel for gallantry in battle.

After the war he was a member of the Carolina Rifle club and was prominent in the organization of the United Confederate veterans, to the success of which he contributed much. As a writer and orator he showed considerable interest in the establishment of a home for mothers, widows and orphans of Confederate servicemen, also in the work of the Ladies Memorial association, which began caring for graves of Confederate dead in 1866. In 1902 he became adjutant general and chief of staff of the Army of Northern Virginia department, UCV, with the title of brigadier general.

A member of the St. Cecilia society and the Cotillion club, he died January 8, 1926.

First 1949 Leaf Sold At Mullins

MULLINS, June 6. Special: W. B. Turbeville, of Tabor City, N. C., sold the first load of 1949 tobacco in Mullins today to Paul Hardy, at Hardy's warehouse.

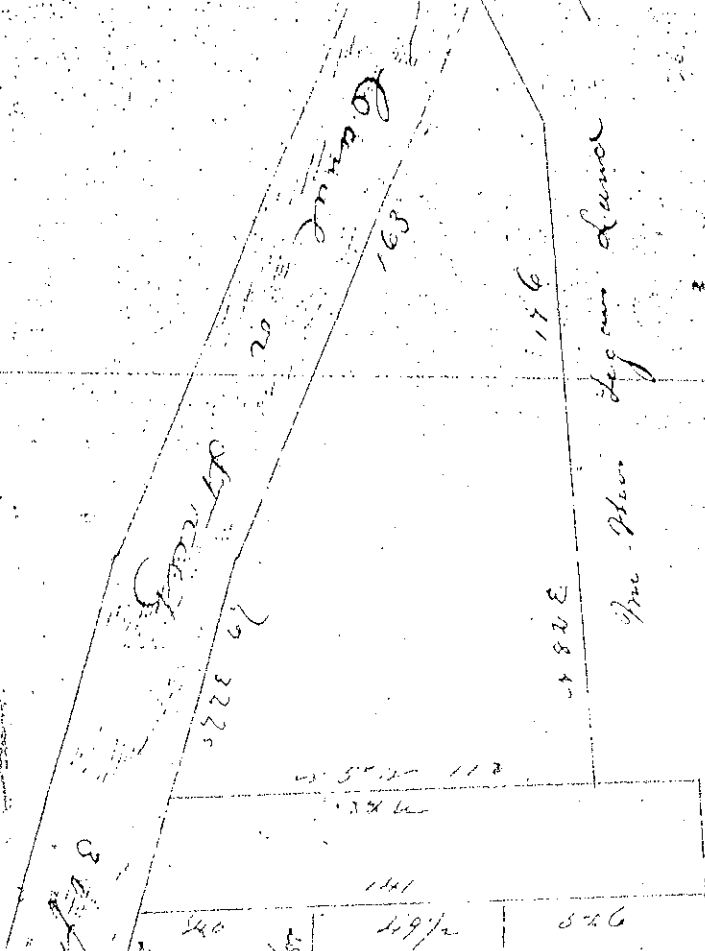
Prices ran as high as 70 cents for top grades. The quality of the

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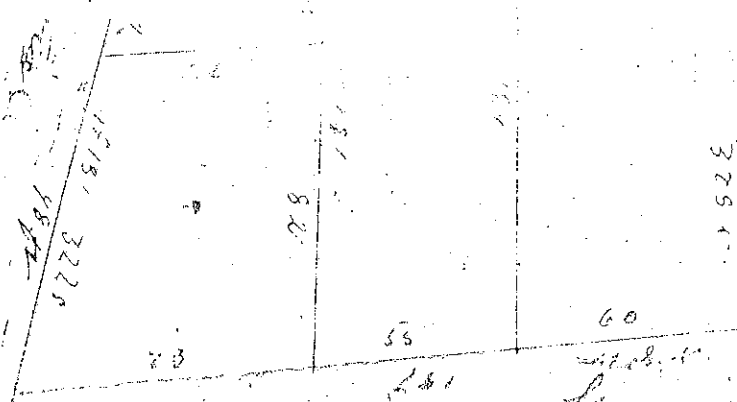
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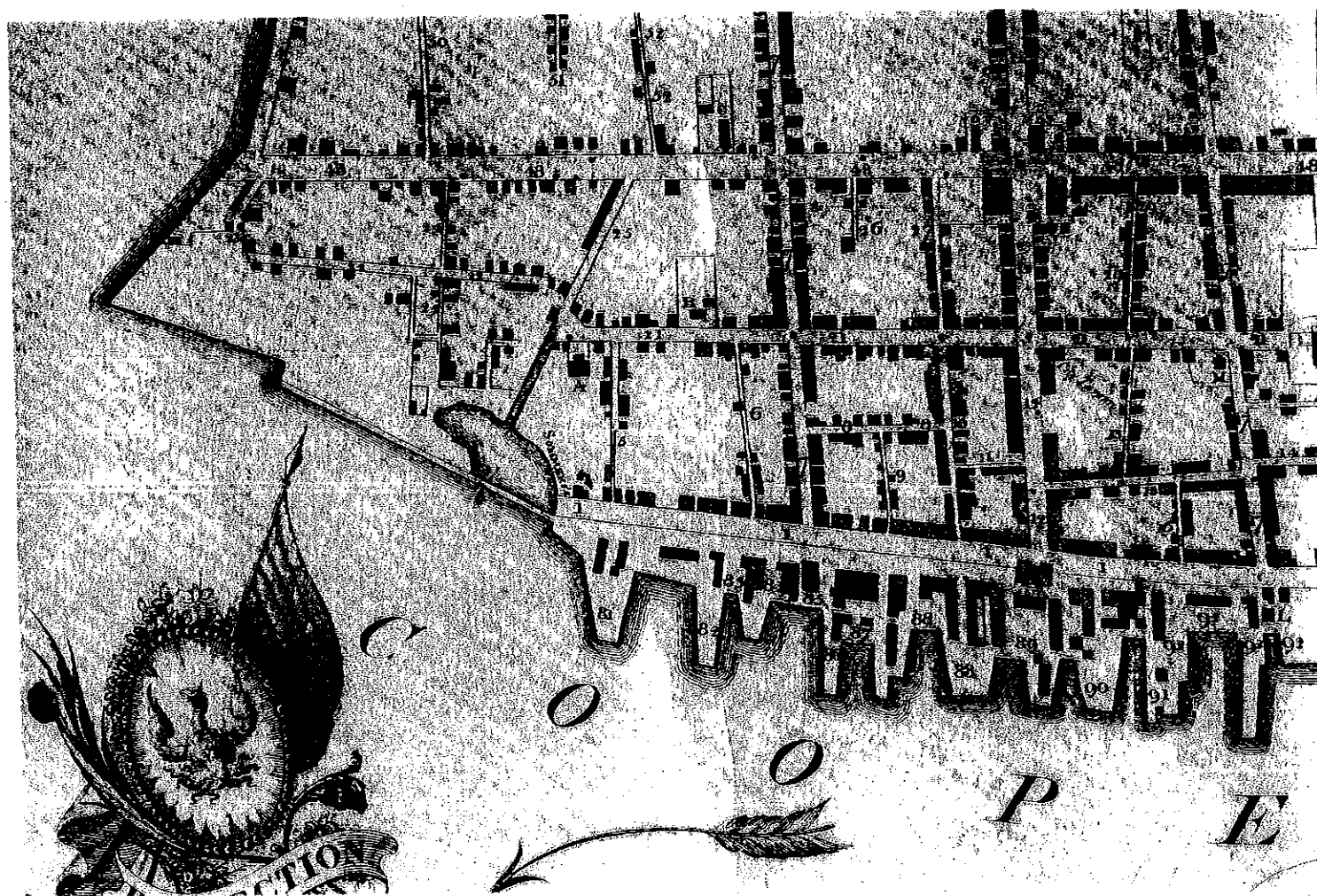
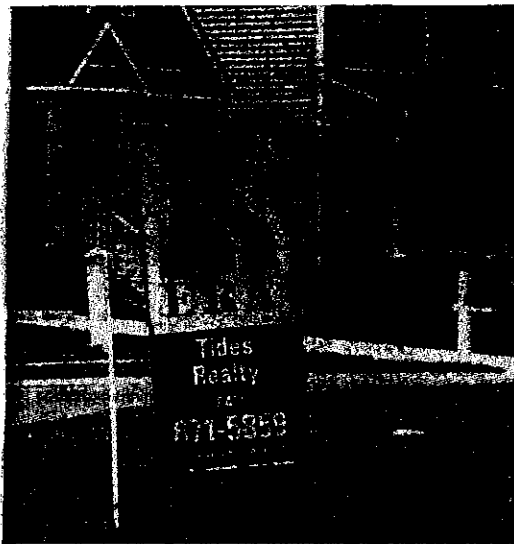


Figure 615. "Phoenix" map; bottom left quadrant
(1788; *ibid.*)



MIC SMITH/STAFF

months old, through her Planter's Pointe up around a for-sale sign in a yard. "I haven't for sale near hers.

effect on town finances

Town Council directing city to research implications growing area.

As of Sept. 5, Mount Pleasant had 645 homes on the market. As of Sept. 5, 2005, Mount Pleasant had 645 homes on the market. As of Sept. 5, 2005, Mount Pleasant had 645 homes on the market.

"I think it's a lending bubble. Lending is out of control. The way some people finance their homes is crazy," said Brad Rundbaken, a real-estate appraiser, investor and consultant at Atlantic Appraisals in Mount Pleasant who recently launched the newsletter.

An adjustable rate mortgage with lower payments gets a buyer into a house he couldn't otherwise afford. But sooner or later, the interest rates climb and so do the payments. The results can squeeze some buyers out of their homes, he said.

Please see HOUSING, Page 12A

der into a freshly dug pit 12 feet below Church and Water streets, then poked up a shovel and began poking the remains of an old brick wall.

Archaeologists are trying to decide if the brick wall discovered this month deep under Church and Water streets is a part of the original city wall built about 300 years ago.

This find could be a big deal, said to date. It could be the first archaeological discovery of a section of the southernmost portion of Charleston's original city wall.

Katherine Saunders of the Historic Charleston Foundation is a co-chair of Mayor Joe Riley's Walled City Task Force. She said the location of the wall fragment and its east-west direction both indicate that it was part of the original city wall.

"I think it is pretty compelling," she said. "It may be wishful thinking."

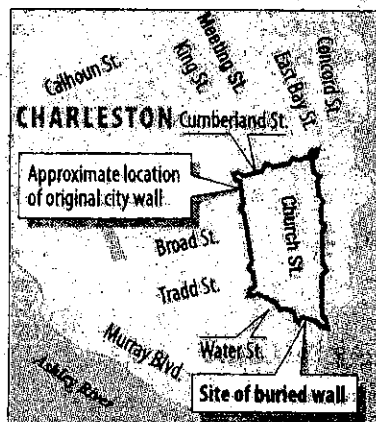
Riley inspected the discovery himself this week.

"I think it's a big deal because you can see the structure," he said Wednesday. "Clearly, you're seeing a 17th or 18th century piece of very important

Please see WALL, Page 13A

Wall fragment found

Archaeologists are trying to decide if the brick wall discovered this month deep under Church and Water streets is a part of the original city wall built about 300 years ago.



SOURCE: ESRI

GILL GUERRY/STAFF

ient
nd

65 bodies found in Iraq; safety steps demanded

BY PATRICK QUINN

Inside

FROM 1A

Experts wonder if structure is city's 'old wall'

WALL From Page 1A

Charleston infrastructure."

Charles Towne was the only walled city in British North America, but colonists began to tear the wall down in the 1730s, and today's historians have more questions than answers about its exact location, construction and lifespan.

Old maps indicate the southern section of the wall ran just north of Vanderhorst Creek, which is approximately where Water Street runs today and where crews dug recently as part of the city's sewer tunnel replacement project.

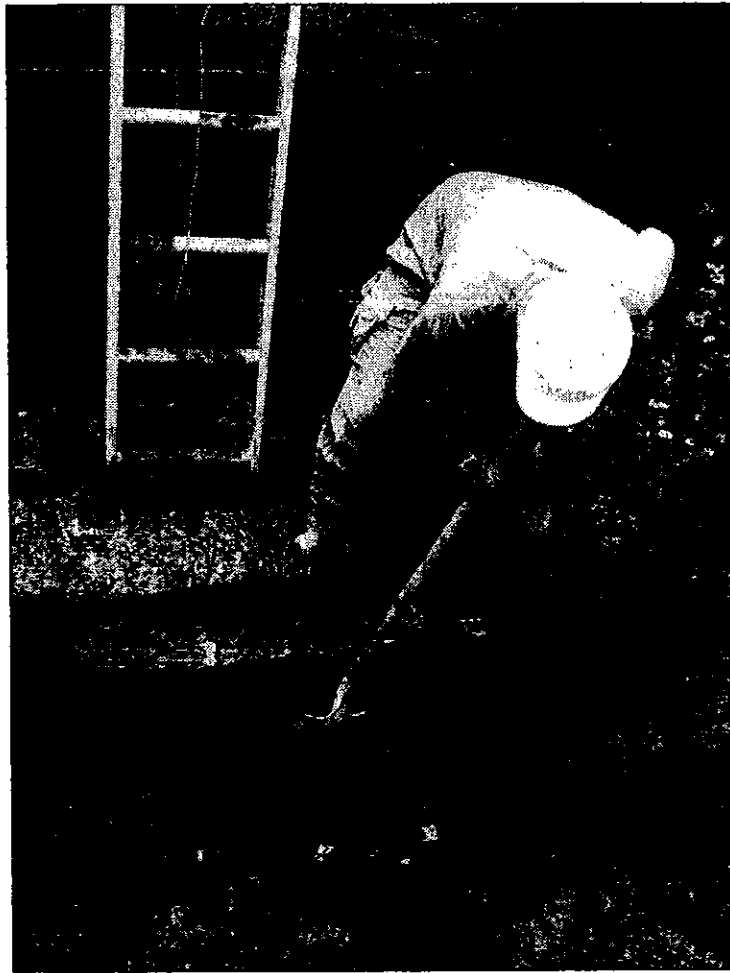
The unearthed brick wall fragment runs east-west underneath Water Street. It is about 8 feet high and rests on thick wooden logs and cobblestones. The base measures about 25 inches thick, while its top is 14 inches wide. Some sections were found 16 inches below the street, while other sections existed several feet further down.

"There's been so much utility work, so it's all chopped up," Fletcher said. "The wall itself is leaning, or maybe it just sank into the mud."

A construction crew stood by recently as Fletcher poked, measured and took notes. Once he was done, a backhoe began ripping out chunks of the wall to make room for a new manhole.

Historian and author Nicholas Butler, who is the task force's co-chair, said he doesn't think researchers have enough information to say if this surviving section of wall is in fact the wall.

Instead, the wall could be a canal wall built around 1750 to constrict a creek and free up nearby land for building.



ROBERT BEHRE/STAFF

Archaeologist Josh Fletcher knocks mud from the foundation of an old brick wall underneath Church and Water streets.

"If you look at maps of Charleston from the early 1700s, Vanderhorst is a big, wild, untamed creek with vague borders. By the time of the American Revolution, Water Street is a very narrow channel with very well defined borders," he said. "They built some kind of structure on both sides of the creek to tame the edges of it.

One piece of evidence that in-

dicates this exposed wall is not the original city wall is its relative thinness.

"If it were a defensive wall from an early 1700s fortification, it would have been pretty slight, or to use layman's terms, a wimpy wall," Butler said.

Saunders agreed the wall is wimpy but said its smaller size and scale might reflect the site's con-

struction demands and the relative lack of threat on the city's southern side, compared to its eastern edge along the Cooper River.

Whatever was found has been partially removed. Workers replacing the city's easternmost sewer tunnel needed to clear space from a 10-foot by 30-foot area under Water Street to make room for new tunnels and shafts. Fletcher said the wall likely extends for several dozen more yards in each direction, and those sections will survive.

Horry Parker with Hussey, Gay, Ball & DeYoung Inc. Engineers, said the demolition of the wall chunk was unfortunate, but necessary, given the sheer number of other underground utilities in this spot. "There is no practical way around it," he said.

Butler said he is pleased with the cooperation among the construction crews, engineers and archaeologists on the \$40 million sewer tunnel job.

"Nobody is stamping their feet and saying, 'No you can't build there.' Everybody understands that progress has to go on," he said.

Riley said a big push behind the creation of the Walled City Task Force was to ensure utility companies took proper steps when digging near where the wall is thought to be.

The wall fragment is the second archaeological discovery made during the sewer tunnel work. In June, the remains of a fish basin — a concrete pool for holding live fish — was unearthed on eastern Market Street.

Reach Robert Behre at 937-5771 or at rbehre@postandcourier.com.

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