

#12 Tradd Street

Edward Lightwood's House

c. 1750

RMCO  
00-p.151

Lot #7 was conveyed to Richard Trade (sic- Tradd) by the Lords Proprietors, etc., on 24 August 1688.

Richard Tradd died c. 1700 leaving the balance of lot #7 (the part east of #14 Tradd) to his son Robert.

Ibid  
P-6  
p. 379

Robert Tradd conveyed this part of the lot, on which stands #12, to William Baker, on 27 February 1702/3. Upon his death it descended to Richard Baker, his son.

Ibid  
FF p. 46

Richard Baker conveyed it to Edward Lightwood on 13 March 1748 for £1400 currency.

Ibid  
P-6, p. 378;  
also-Wills  
Book 12, p.

Edward Lightwood, by will dated 1 May 1761 with codicil of 24 May 1764, proved 20 October 1769, devised it to Peter Manigault, "barister-at-law", as executor or trustee, and directed that all his property was to be sold, for the benefit of his two illegitimate sons, Edward and John Lightwood.

Ibid  
P-6, p. 378

Peter Manigault then sold it to John Lightwood for £7000 currency on 11 July 1770.

P-6, p. 380

Copies of  
Wills  
Book 22,  
pp. 353

Enclosure:  
Will of Hum-  
phrey Sommers

John Lightwood sold it to Humphrey Sommers, on 1 June 1784, for £1848-15, sterling. Humphrey Sommers, by will of 18 December, proved 30 December 1788, directed his executors "to build good and substantial brick buildings" on this lot, the rent of which should

should be divided between his three daughters, Ann Olney Sommers, Susanna Sommers, and Mary Sommers.

Ibid  
P-6 pp 384

Nicholas Harleston and Ann Olney his wife; Susan Sommers; and Mary Sommers sold the property on 3 May 1796 to Thomas Barksdale for £1455 sterling.

Ibid  
U-7, p.428

George Edwards, as executor of the will of Thomas Barksdale apparently conveyed the property to W. Hammond.

#### Conclusions

This property, standing in one of the prime business blocks throughout the 18th century, presents a curious puzzle for estimating the age of the present building:

- A. The transaction in 1748, for £1400 currency, shows by its price that a house existed then, but probably a smaller one.
- B. The transaction of 1770, for £7000 currency, certainly was for a fairly large house, something probably about the size of the existing one.
- C. The fire of 1778 did extensive damage in this area.
- D. The transaction of 1784, after the fire, bore the high price of £1848-15 sterling (about seven times the value of the local currency); certainly a house as valuable as the existing one must have been included.

But

E. Humphrey Sommers directed his executors to "build good and substantial brick building<sup>s</sup>" on this lot, the one he had bought from John Lightwood, and this is the exact same lot.

However

F. The Petrie map, from a survey six months before Sommers' death, shows a brick house already on this lot.

G. In the writer's opinion, much of the building looks earlier than 1789-96, during which period Sommers' executors would have built it.

Therefore

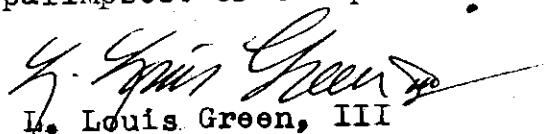
It is my opinion that Sommers bought in 1784, a house damaged by the fire of 1778, which he repaired, but which house he wanted his executors to raze and replace with at least two new buildings (plural, in the will).

I feel the physical evidence strongly indicates that his wishes were not followed, and that the existing building survived the fire of 1778.

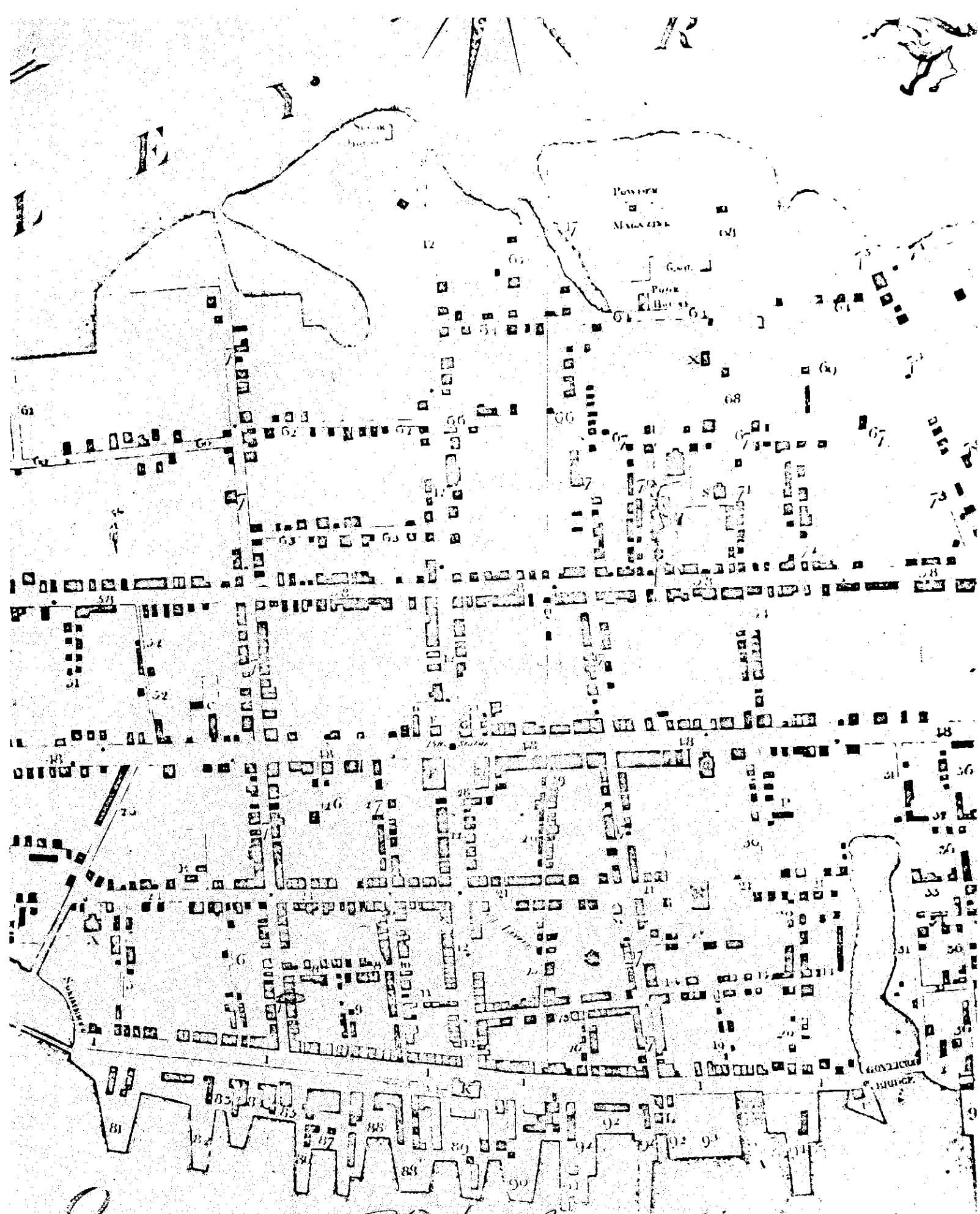
I think this house was replaced by the present one, probably fairly soon after his purchase in 1748, by Edward Lightwood.

I think it is probable that an earlier house stood here, probably built in the first quarter of the 18th century, but that this house is not the existing one.

Incidentally, the northwest corner of an earlier house, apparently, is embedded in the line of division between this house and #14 Tradd Street. In many areas, Charleston is indeed a palimpsest of occupation!

  
L. Louis Green, III

16 January 1969



Feb 5, 1788

EDWARD LIGHTWOOD

(c 1750)

12 TRADD STREET

S.C. Historical Magazine

Page 209

1964

Listed #73 Edward Lightwood Jr. (Merchant or Factor)

who received cargoes of Negroes in Charleston  
and paid the duty upon them.

on Negroe  
Trade  
(

7 years in Trade 1762-74 9 Cargoes

Page 31

1965

Foot-Note #67 Edwin Lightwood (d 1797) a Charleston merchant, married  
Elizabeth Peronneau, whose brother Henry was another leader  
in the radical forces.

Pg 221

1967

"Gabriel Manigault was established as a merchant before his father  
Pierre died in 1729,-----

Significant information about his commercial activities begins with  
his purchase of the sloop "Neptune" toward the end of 1732.  
The master and co-owner Edward Lightwood brought the Neptune into  
Charleston harbor from Rhode Island in November 1732 -----etc.

Manigault and Lightwood advertised the Neptune for sale in the autumn  
of 1736 and sold her sometime between Dec. 1736 and May 1737.  
There is an unfortunate break in the shipping returns from June 1735  
to Dec. 1738. After the latter date there is no mention of the Nancy.  
Vessels are not named in the duty journals, but Manigault imported  
goods on some vessel commanded by Lightwood as late as 1744.

WILL OF

HUMPHRY SOMMERS

P: 1788

South Carolina

In the Name of God Amen. I Humphry Sommers of Charles-  
ton in the State of South Carolina aforesaid Gentleman, being  
(God be Blessed) of sound and disposing Mind and Memory, do make,  
publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in Manner  
and Form following, that is to say. After all and singular my  
just Debts and funeral Expences are fully paid and satisfied, I  
will and ordain that every Part and Parcel of my worldly Estate  
and all such Lands, Tenements, Reversions Goods, Chattals and  
Monies shall go and be disposed of as herein after is respective-  
ly mentioned and directed. Imprimis I give, devise and bequeath  
unto my Daughter Ann Otney Sommers when she shall attain the Age  
of sixteen Years all and singular my Lands in Saint Paul's Parish  
at Stoen being three Tracts containing in the whole about fifteen  
hundred Acres To have and to hold the same to her and the Heirs  
of her Body lawfully begotten for ever. Item I give devise and  
bequeath unto my Daughters Susanna Sommers and Mary Sommers and  
to the Heirs of their respective Bodies lawfully begotten for  
ever, all my Lands in Saint George's Parish at the Cypress con-  
taining about fifteen hundred Acres to be equally divided betwixt  
them by my Executors herein after named, when and as soon as my  
said Daughter Susanna shall shall attain to the Age of sixteen  
Years. Item I give devise and bequeath unto my Daughter Ann  
Otney Sommers and to the Heirs of her Body lawfully begotten for  
ever, that Part of my Lot of Land in Charleston aforesaid which  
fronts on Tradd Street and Bedon's Alley together with the Build-  
ings, Corner Tenement thereon and Appurtenances thereunto belong-  
ing now in the Occupation of James Gregorie on Condition that  
the Passage Way at the back Part of the Store which is now left  
open be continued open and free for the Use of the other two  
Tenements adjoining thereto. Item I give, devise and bequeath  
unto my Daughter Susanna Sommers and to the Heirs of her Body  
lawfully begotten for ever, at her Arrival to the Age of sixteen

Ann gets NE corner Bedim

Susanna gets 14, 16 Tradd

Mary gets 128 Tradd

They split No. 12 Tradd, there are new

Years, the remaining Part of the aforesaid Lot of Land the two buildings  
Tenements thereon adjoining the aforesaid Corner Tenement together with the Buildings thereon and Appertenances thereunto belonging, one of which said Tenements now is in the Occupation of Pott Shaw, the other of which said Tenements now is in the Occupation of Martin. Item I give, devise and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Sommers when she shall attain to the Age of sixteen Years and to the Heirs her Body lawfully begotten for ever, All my Lot of Land and Buildings thereon with the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying and being at the upper End or West End of Tradd Street in Charleston aforesaid. Item I give, devise and bequeath unto my three said Daughters Ann Otney Sommers, Susanna Sommers and Mary Sommers my Lot of Land I bought of John Lightwood situate and fronting on Tradd Street adjoining to the aforesaid two Tenements bequeathed to my aforesaid Daughter Susanna Sommers. Item my Will is that my Executors herein after named do cause, order and direct to be built good and substantial Brick Buildings on the last mentioned Lot the Expences of which are to be defrayed out of the Profits and Income of my Estate the Profits and Income arising from the said Buildings and Lot to be equally divided between my said three Daughters Share and Share alike, that is the yearly Rent and Income which said Lot of Land with the Buildings thereon, it is my Will shall descend to my last surviving Daughter and her Heirs for ever. Item My Will is that my Negroes be kept and employed on my said Plantations at the Discretion of my Executors herein after named or the Survivors or Survivor of them for the sole Benefit, Use and Advantage of my said three Daughters Ann Otney Sommers, Susanna Sommers and Mary Sommers, until they shall arrive to the Age of sixteen Years; when it is my Will and I do hereby direct my said Negroes be divided by my said Executors and three equal Parts or Shares, Respect being had to the true Value thereof, the Use of one third Part or Share of which said Negroes I give and bequeath unto my said Daughter Ann Otney Sommers during her natural Life, and Heirs lawfully begotten for ever; and the other re-

maining two third Parts or Shares of my said Negroes to be kept together and employed to the best Advantage by my said Executors for the sole Use and Benefit of my other two Daughters Susanna Sommers and Mary Sommers until my said Daughter Susanna shall attain the Age of sixteen Years, when it is my Will that the said remaining two third Parts or Shares of my said Negroes be equally divided betwixt my said two Daughters Susanna and Mary Share and Share alike: But in Case it shall so happen that either of my said three Daughters Ann Otney Sommers, Susanna Sommers or Mary Sommers shall die or depart this Life without leaving Issue lawfully begotten, that then and in such Case it is my Will and I do hereby give, devise and bequeath that Part or Share of my Estate real and personal herein before given, devised and bequeathed to such of my Daughter Or Daughters so dying unto the Survivors or Survivor of them and to the respective Heirs lawfully begotten for ever.

Item My Will is that all my Stock of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs and their Increase, Plantation Tools, Carts, Waggons and Implements of Husbandry be equally divided between my said three Daughters Ann Otney, Susanna and Mary or the Survivors or Survivor of them. Lastly I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my trusty and loving Friends Edmund Petrie as Guardian to my Children and said Edmund Petrie with Edward Rutledge and Thomas Waring Senior my Executors and the Survivors and Survivor of them, Executors of this my last Will and Testament, until my said three Children shall respectively arrive to the Age of sixteen Years; hereby revoking and annulling all former Wills and Testaments as well as Codicils thereto by me heretofore made or declared either by word or writing. In Witness I the said Humphrey Sommers have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Eighteenth day of Dec. 1788.

Humphry Sommers (LS)

Signed, Sealed, Published, Pronounced and Declared by the Testator Humphry Sommers Esquire as and for his last Will and Testament in the Presence of us, who in his Presence, in the

Will of Humphry Sommre Page 4

Presence of each other, and at his Request have subscribed our Names as Witnesses hereto.

William Logan - Isaac Huger Junior - Alexander Fraser Jun-

Proved before Charles Lining Esquire O.C.T.D. December 30.<sup>th</sup>

1788. At same Time qualified Edmund Petrie and Thomas Waring Senior Executors.

Examined }  
61  
12 Co. Sh. } C.L.

Recorded in original Will book "B" 1786-93 Page 241

## TRADE STREET - Continued

1861

## WARD No. 2

No.	Block	Ward	OWNERS	INHABITANTS
75	1	1	Capt. F. W. Benson	Dieudreick Schmaier
77	1	1	Estate Robert Limehouse	Samuel Samson
79	1	1	John Carnighan	John Carnighan
81	1	1	Dr. Elias Horbeck	Patrick Sheehan
83	1	1	Do.	William Paine, f. p. c.
85	1	1	Mrs. Julia Watson	Mrs. Julia Watson
87	1	1	Estate Mrs. C. S. Thayer	Henry Missroon
89	1	1	Mrs. Schwing	James Maxwell, f. p. c.
91	1	1	Do.	Alfred Thomas
93	1	1	Do.	Mrs. Schwing
95	1	1	Miss Mary Jane Fraser	Miss Mary Jane Fraser
97	1	1	Mrs. Mary Peronneau	Mrs. Mary Peronneau
99	1	1	Dr. H. Winthrop & sisters	Dr. H. Winthrop & sisters
101	1	1	Daniel Lesesne	Daniel Lesesne
103	1	1	William C. Bee	Joseph A. Winthrop
105	1	1	Estate Mrs. H. Rutledge	Dr. J. E. Holbrook
107	1	1	Solomon Legare	Solomon Legare
109	1	1	Eliza B. White	Mrs. White
111	1	1	Wm. P. Holmes & others	Wm. Parker Holmes and Misses Dean
113	1	1	C. Garety	Thomas Magnola
115	1	1	J. and Benjamin Lucas	Henry L. Pinckney
117	1	1	William Izard Bull	William Izard Bull

## NORTH SIDE

2	1	1	H. Bulwinkle	James Jenkinson
4	1	1	Estate J. D. Habernicht	Charles Robin
6	1	1	Estate Wm. C. Gatewood	Frederick Fischer
8	1	1	Trust Estate Eliza Levy	Capt. C. R. Graham
10	1	1	Do.	John Wilson
12	1	1	Geo. B. Edwards, Miss E. Hammond	Michael Quinn
14	1	1	B. Garety	John L. Smith & others
16	1	1	Do.	Price Williams, f. p. c.
18	1	1	Mrs. Catherine O'Brien	Mrs. Catherine O'Brien
20	1	1	Estate Benjamin Smith	Wm. McGuire and others
22	1	1	Do.	P. O'Brien and others
24	1	1	Do.	Patrick Boland
26	1	1	John W. Lewis	James Faran
28	1	1	Estate Wm. C. Gatewood	John Scanlan and others
30	1	1	F. George E. Hosegood	George E. Hosegood

Numbers are  
the same