

LANDMARK



SURVEY

Thomas, Fall 1977

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 1901 East Market Street
Map and Parcel: 55A-149
Census Tract & Block: 3-101
Present Owner: Hallie Johnson Shisler
Address: 1901 East Market Street
Present Use: Residence, Single-family
Original Owner: William Hunter Meriwether
Original Use: Store (?)

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Pireus Store
Date/Period: 1835-40
Style: No Identifiable Style
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 1, 2
Present Zoning: R-2
Land Area (sq.ft.): 15,825
Assessed Value (land + imp.): 13,000

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Pireus Store is a simple vernacular structure whose appearance has been much reworked during its lifetime. The store is rectangular in form with the narrower, gable-end fronting on East Market Street. Actually two storeys in height, only one storey shows on Market Street because of the sharp ground rise. A finished attic has provided an additional half storey. The facade is two bays in width (door and a window, side hall and one room), and the store is two rooms deep. Construction is brick laid in Flemish bond on the facade (but only partially into the gable) and laid in five-course American bond elsewhere. The roof is gable (with gable-end facade) and has an obviously later central gable on the Riverside Avenue side. Along the sides, the sloped, overhanging eaves nearly obscure a corbelled-brick cornice with mouse-tooth dentils. This detail and the obviously later side gable strongly suggest that the entire roof system is a later addition. The store has two interior, gable-end chimneys of brick that, upon close inspection, appear to have been later additions to the structure. Windows are six-over-six-light, double-hung sash, with two, four-light, casement attic windows flanking each chimney in the gable. Original windows are surrounded by a heavy, three-quarter round molding. A single-storey, Victorian porch covers the Market Street facade.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In the year 1825, William Hunter Meriwether purchased from Isaac and Molly Miller 148 acres on the Rivanna River that was Molly's share of her father Nicholas Lewis' estate (Co. DB 25-212, DB 26-342). Meriwether was an active entrepreneur and developer and immediately began to improve the area around the confluence of the Rivanna and Moore's Creek as "Pireus" (The "port city" of Charlottesville, just as the original Piraeus was and is the port of Athens, Greece). By 1840, Meriwether had operating mills on the far (east) side of the River, had erected a toll bridge, and was constructing on the near side a flour mill, which was leased and completed as a cotton factory (Co. DB 38-363), the beginnings of the Charlottesville Woolen Mills. The Woolen Mills Store was part of this development, and was most likely built no earlier than 1835 and no later than 1840 (tradition assigns a date before 1825, but tax records dispute this). In 1844 the "store" house was sold to James R. Jones for \$1,200 (Co. DB 42-213) and then after several years of ownership by H.C. Marchant, passed to the Charlottesville Woolen Mills in 1875 (Co. DB 69-587) and was converted to a residence. See also: Co. DB 67-651, DB 93-389, DB 330-230, WB 14-552.

SIGNIFICANCE

This house is closely associated with the development of the Charlottesville Woolen Mills, the most important industry in Charlottesville in the late 1800's. It is one of two houses remaining from the "Pireus" phase of industrial development along the Rivanna River, which began with the construction of a bridge across the Rivanna by William H. Meriwether in 1826. The store was most likely built to serve workers at the "Charlottesville Factory" a forerunner to the textile plant that eventually became the Woolen Mills. At its peak, the Woolen Mills area was a self contained community with this store, a church (nomination #21), a school and houses for the workers (nomination #56 is an example of such housing)

CONDITIONS

Good

SOURCES

City and County Records
Hallie Johnson Shisler

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 1901 East Market Street
Map and Parcel: 55A-149
Census Track & Block: 3-101
Present Owner: Hallie Johnson Shisler
Address: 1901 East Market Street
Present Use: Residence, Single-family
Original Owner: William Hunter Meriwether
Original Use: Store (?)

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Pireus Store
Date/Period: 1835-40
Style: No Identifiable Style
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 1, 2
Present Zoning: R-2
Land Area (sq.ft.): 15,825
Assessed Value (land + imp.): 13,000

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Pireus Store is a simple vernacular structure whose appearance has been much reworked during its lifetime. The store is rectangular in form with the narrower, gable-end fronting on East Market Street. Actually two storeys in height, only one storey shows on Market Street because of the sharp ground rise. A finished attic has provided an additional half storey. The facade is two bays in width (door and a window, side hall and one room), and the store is two rooms deep. Construction is brick laid in Flemish bond on the facade (but only partially into the gable) and laid in five-course American bond elsewhere. The roof is gable (with gable-end facade) and has an obviously later central gable on the Riverside Avenue side. Along the sides, the sloped, overhanging eaves nearly obscure a corbelled-brick cornice with mouse-tooth dentils. This detail and the obviously later side gable strongly suggest that the entire roof system is a later addition. The store has two interior, gable-end chimneys of brick that, upon close inspection, appear to have been later additions to the structure. Windows are six-over-six-light, double-hung sash, with two, four-light, casement attic windows flanking each chimney in the gable. Original windows are surrounded by a heavy, three-quarter round molding. A single-storey, Victorian porch covers the Market Street facade.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In the year 1825, William Hunter Meriwether purchased from Isaac and Molly Miller 148 acres on the Rivanna River that was Molly's share of her father Nicholas Lewis' estate (Co. DB 25-212, DB 26-342). Meriwether was an active entrepreneur and developer and immediately began to improve the area around the confluence of the Rivanna and Moore's Creek as "Pireus" (The "port city" of Charlottesville, just as the original Piraeus was and is the port of Athens, Greece). By 1840, Meriwether had operating millson the far (east) side of the River, had erected a toll bridge, and was constructing on the near side a flour mill, which was leased and completed as a cotton factory (Co. DB 38-363), the beginnings of the Charlottesville Woolen Mills. The Woolen Mills Store was part of this development, and was most likely built no earlier than 1835 and no later than 1840 (tradition assigns a date before 1825, but tax records dispute this). In 1844 the "store" house was sold to James R. Jones for \$1,200 (Co. DB 42-213) and then after several years of ownership by H.C. Marchant, passed to the Charlottesville Woolen Mills in 1875 (Co. DB 69-587) and was converted to a residence. See also: Co. DB 67-651, DB 93-389, DB 330-230, WB 14-552.

GRAPHICS

CONDITIONS

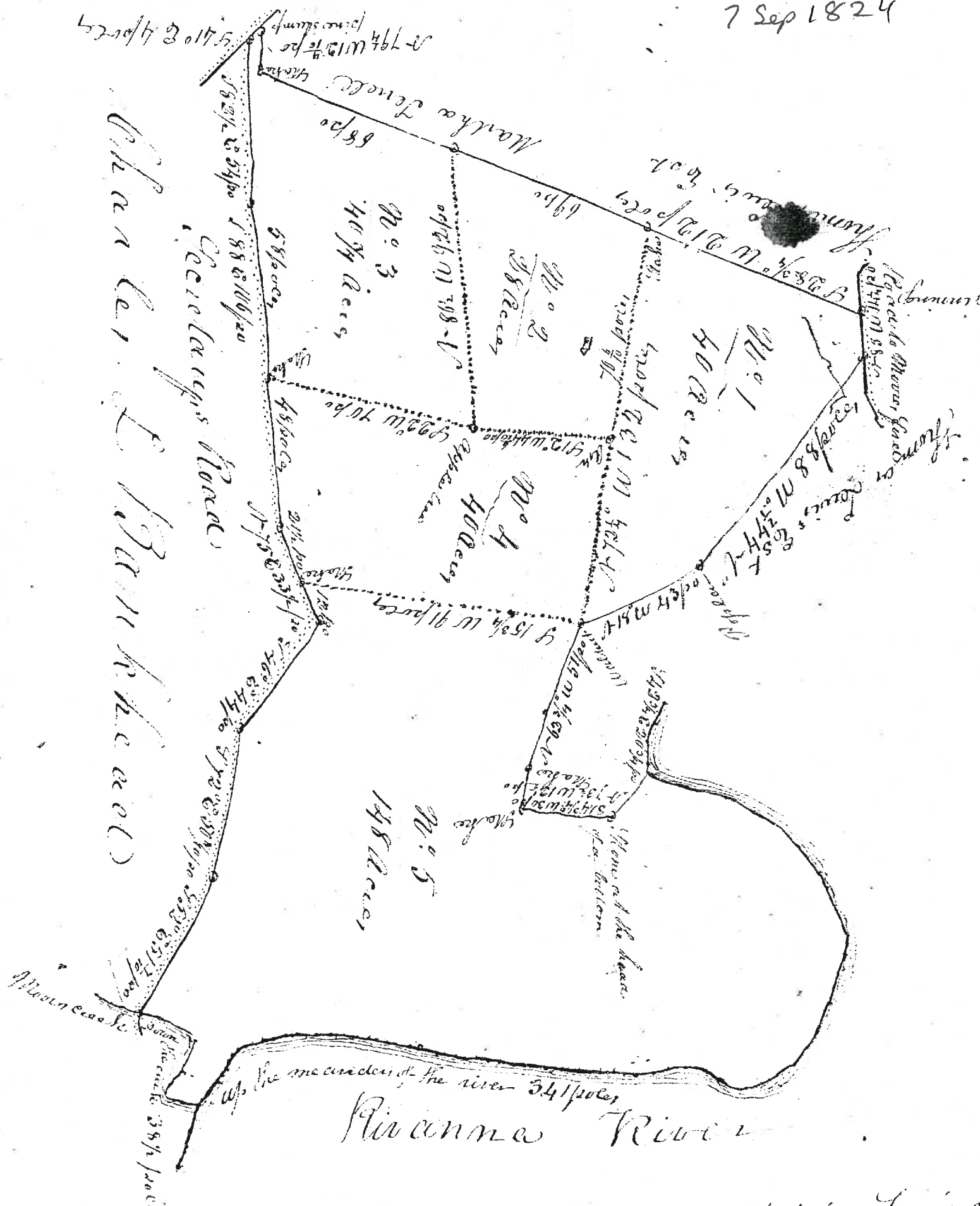
Good

SOURCES

City and County Records
Hallie Johnson Shisler

WB7-426

7 Sep 1824



This is a Plat of Land belonging to the Estate of Nicholas Lewis and
 in the County of Albemarle on the west side of the Rappahannock River, adjacent
 of Charles L. Bankhead, Thomas Lewis Estate & Martha Terrell, an. con. A Branch
 of the Rappahannock River
 Dec. 15th 18

WOOLEN MILLS STORE
Piræus

1715 T

In the year 1825, William Hunter Meriwether purchased from Isaac and Molly Miller 148 acres on the Rivanna River that was Molly's share of her father Nicholas Lewis' estate (Co. DB 25-212, DB 26-342). Meriwether was an active entrepreneur and developer and immediately began to improve the area around the confluence of the Rivanna and Moore's Creek as "Piræus" (The "port city" of Charlottesville, just as the original Piræus was and is the port of Athens, Greece). By 1840, Meriwether had operating mills on the far (east) side of the River, had erected a toll bridge, and was constructing on the near side a flour mill, which was leased and completed as a cotton factory (Co. DB 38-363), the beginnings of the Charlottesville Woolen Mills. The Woolen Mills Store was part of this development, and was most likely built no earlier than 1835 and no later than 1840 (Tradition assigns a date before 1825, but tax records dispute this). In 1844 the "store" house was sold to James R. Jones for \$1200 (Co. DB 42-213) and then, after several years of ownership by H. C. Marchant, passed to the Charlottesville Woolen Mills in 1875 (Co. DB 69-587) and was converted to a residence. See also: Co. DB 67-651, DB 93-389, DB 330-230, WB 14-552. (Co. WB 14-552). ~~See also: Co. DB 67-651, DB 93-389, DB 330-230.~~

Pierre

The ~~Woolen Mills~~ Store is a simple vernacular structure whose appearance has been much reworked during its lifetime. The store is rectangular in form with the narrower, gable-end fronting on East Market Street.

Actually two storeys in height, only one storey shows to Market Street because of the sharp ground rise. A finished attic has provided an additional half storey. The facade is two bays in width (door and a window - side-hall and one room), and the store is two rooms deep.

Construction is brick laid in Flemish bond on the facade (but only partially into the gable) and laid in five-course American bond elsewhere. The roof is gable (with gable-end facade) and has an obviously later central gable on the Riverside Avenue side.

Recent composition shingles cover the roof.* The store has two interior, gable-end chimneys of brick that, upon close inspection, appear to have been later additions to the structure. Windows are six-over-six-light, double-hung sash, with two, four-light, casement attic windows flanking each chimney in the gable.

Original windows are surrounded by a heavy, three-quarter round molding. A single-storey, Victorian porch covers the Market Street facade.

Along the sides, the sloped, overhanging eaves nearly obscure a corbelled-brick cornice with mouse-tooth dentils. This detail and the obviously later side-gable strongly suggest that the entire north section is

a later addition

Wheeler Mills -

O. A. Gianinny 295-2619

*

Tradition - Buick house - see sketch: built
base Ma, T. Trused to mill from Monticello
+ stop at Truse. Prison during Civil
War.

→ Historical sketch of Wheeler Mills.

In summer of '860, Sheridan destroyed mill,
used as prison camp.

1962 made up by Charlie H. (Dickerson?)
Dickerson, Jr. (qu)
973-6737

O. Allan Gianinny 296-6226 home
924-3196 office

Helen G. Pace (Nag)
295-4970

* Records dispute this oral
Tradition.

DB 45-265, 15 May 1847 AGREEMENT

Between Henry W. Jones

and W^m P. Farish & Thomas L. Farish

Concerning the Woolen mills at PIREUS

formation of the firm of Farish, Jones & Co.

6. The said Thomas L. Farish agrees to
take charge of the store & to manage the same

DB 86-111

Plat of Brennan lots
1886

WB 14-552, 18 Dec 1970

fr. Horace Randolph Johnson

to (sister) Hattie Johnson Shisler

A16 Co.

DB 330-230, 25 Jan 1957

fr. Charlottesville Woolen Mills, Inc.

to H. P. Johnson

lot 5 of plat (DB 330-35)

part of

DB 69-587

DB 73-389, 4 June 1889

fr. John L. Cochran, Charles H. Harman, + George Perkins, Tes
of B. H. Brennans

to The Charlottesville Woolen Mills Co.

2a w plat

part of

DB 69-587, 14 May 1875

fr. H. C. Marchant + Elizabeth P. runs

to Charlottesville Woolen Mills.

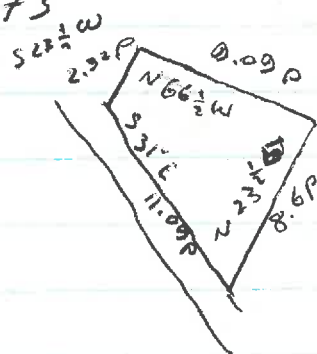
50 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. w/ bldgs + impts thereon.

DB 67-651, ~~18~~ 3 Aug 1866, recd 18 Mar 1873

fr. Joel W. Shuflett + Sallie H. (w)

to A. Clay Marchant

50 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.



DB 47-46, 15 Nov 1848 recd 1 Jun 1849

fr. James R. Jones

to Joseph W Shuflett

DB 25-212, 11 May 1825

fr. W^m Douglas Meriwether, atty for
Isaac + Molly Miller of Ky
to W^m Hunter Meriwether

#13.50 ^{as ac.} 148a Molly Miller's part of her father
Nicholas Lewis' (decd) estate

DB 25-323, 9 Dec 1825

fr James Leitch
to W^m H. Meriwether

Permission to abut toll bridge on his
property on E side of Rivanna
+ rdw fr. Bridge to ^{pub.} road down fr. Bridge

DB 26-342, 4 Dec 1826

fr Isaac + Molly Miller
to W^m Hunter Meriwether

1908.00 148a

DB 38.363, 22 Dec 1840

fr W^m H Meriwether

to Robert S. Jones + James S. Grandson
Lease of

"The house adjoining the Southern abutment
of his bridge originally erected as a toll house
+ now occupied by John I. Pace w/ the
Garden Kitchen + Smoke House adjoining
also the small lumber house covered with
shingles near the back of the Garden the
corn house on the south side of the
Turnpike road The Blacksmith shop and
an undivided moiety of the ice house also
land...

1826 W^m H. Meriwether
148^u fr. Isaac Miller + reassessed
bldg - none

1827 "

1828 "

1829 "

1830 200 added for improvements

1831 \$200

1832 \$500, \$300 added for improvements

1833 "

1834 800, \$300 added for improvements

1835 1100, \$300 " " "

1836 1628, \$528 added for improvements
off 910^u to W^m S Garen and
is in full of the 900^u tract by survey

1837 "

1838 " 60^{po} added fr. Jno A G Davis

1837 DB 34-263 - above 43⁺ - 3, the above addition
of 60^p, not relevant.

1839 1628 1480 60^p

1840 5000 1510 23¹⁰⁰ Mill completed? (no explanation)

1841 "

1842 "

1843 "

1844 "

1845 "

1846 "

DB 29-93, 5 Nov 1930

fr. Rivanna Nav. Co.
to Wm H. Meisner then
Abutment for his dam.

"Beginning at the Souther abutment of
the Sand Meier's Mill dam at Plover Thence
along the N. side of the road made to the
bridge built by Nicholas Lewis ... Thence
a straight line to the road on the south side
of the Big Corn house opposite to the same
Thence along said road to a street proposed
to be laid off 50' wide on the east side of
the White house lot now occupied by Samuel
R Moore, Thence along the E. side of
said street continued straight to the
pub. rd crossing Moore's creek Thence
down N side of the rd to Moore's creek
Thence down the W side of the Creek to the
Rivanna R. Thence up S bank of Riv to
Begin

3a± for 7 yrs fr. 1 July
+ will complete bldg intended as a flour mill
but to be used as a Cotton Factory

Very Very Complete desc. of how mill to be built.

Agree to bld two hses for use of the
factory hands:

- 1 of hewed logs chinked w stone or wood
consisting of 2 log cabins 18 by 27' fr. out to
out, placed end to end w space for chimney
w 4 fireplaces

TAX

amount location

Bldg

Notes

1871

H.C. Marchant .5a Pineus

\$900

This lot was assessed improperly
to Charlie Woollen Mills Co.

1873

Charlie Woollen Mills Ba Pineus

16,900

Fr. J.A. Marchant,
Quantity corrected

1872

John A Marchant 4 3/4 Pineus

16,444

1872

John A Marchant 4 3/4 "

7000

1875

H.C. Marchant .5a Pineus

900

1876

Charlie Woollen " "

950

fr. H.C. Marchant

1877

do

1878

do

1879

do

1880

do

↓

1901

do

1902

1200

DB 33-269, Sep 1835

2a 3rd 11 pch

Stone at head of a bottom

To be conveyed to John AG Davis

S 65° W
37 p 17 lk.

30 p
N 14 3/4°

16 p
S 58 1/2° E

Wm
Merrimether's line
Stake
12 p
S 71 3/4° E
Stake

NP

DB 25-212, 11 May 1825

fr. Wm Douglas Merrimether, atty for Isaac Miller
Molly Miller (ex) (fr. her father Nicholas Lewis
decd

to Wm Hunter Merrimether, 148a

WB 4-459, 29 Nov 1803, prob 4 Apr 1809

Will of Nicholas Lewis

WB 7-379 - Inv. App. 6 Mar 1824

* WB 7-425 - Division PLAT 7 Sep 1824

Woollen Mills Tavern 1860? 1901 E. Market
SSA-149

Pres Owner

Hallie Johnson Shisler 12-18-70

1901 E. Market.

WB 14-552, heirs 553

H.R. Johnson

^{co} DB 330-230 pt. ^{co} 330-35-

Annexed 1963

Carried thru 1965 as ACo. 77A-74

lot size 148 x 106 avg

land 4000

imp 9000

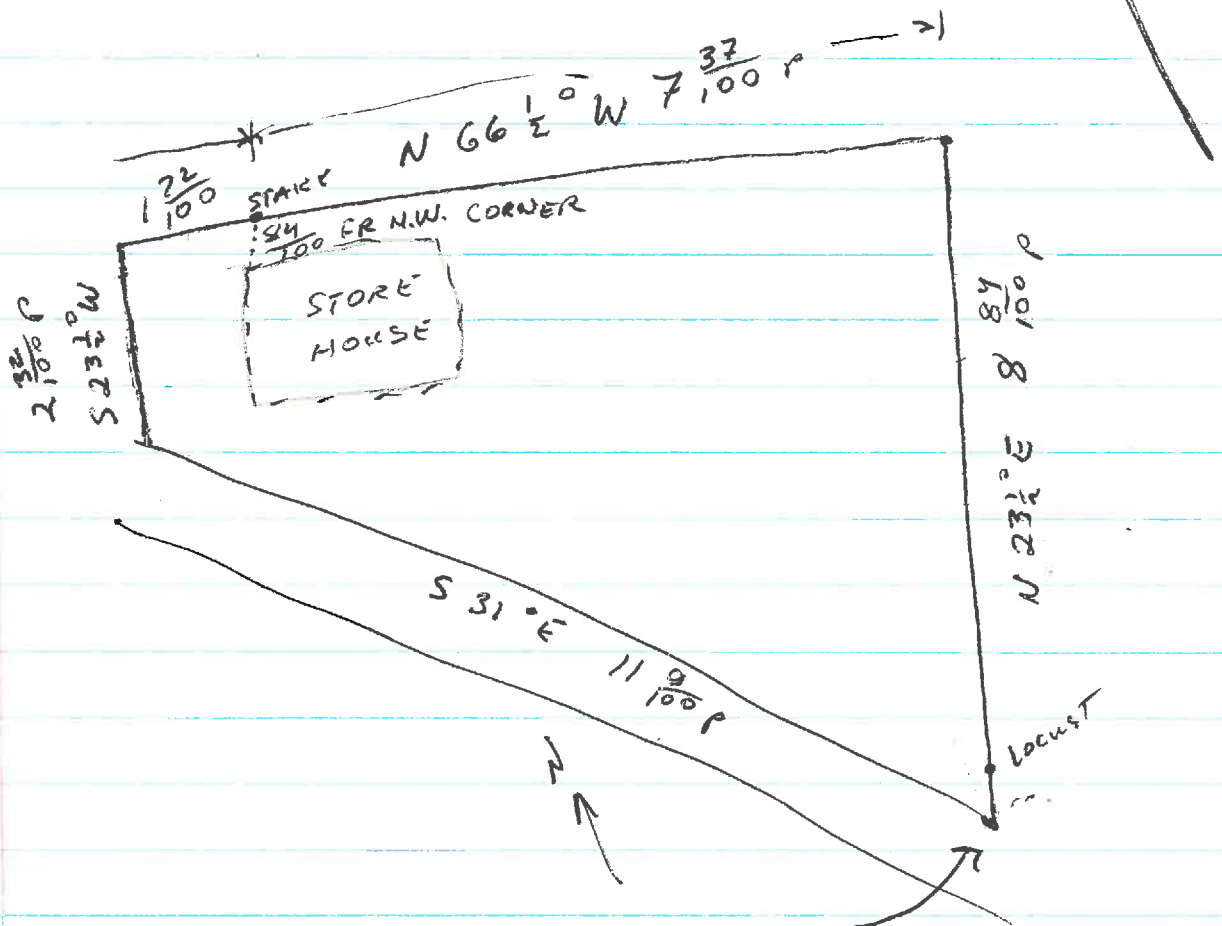
Tot 13000

Slate Roof replaced w/ Asph Shingle 9.7.76

148
106

15688

DB 42-213, 1 Nov 1844,
 by Wm H. Meriwether
 to James R. Jones
 \$200



Plus a street 50' wide extending
 along N side of lot & terminating
 at The river & boat landing

Beginning at a ~~or~~
 stake on the N. side of
 The Turnpike road near
 Meriwethers Bridge

