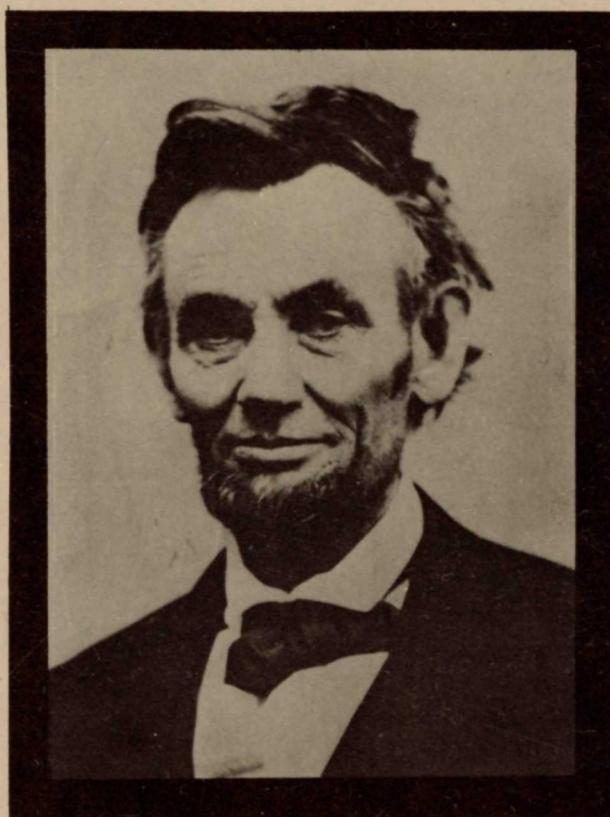


HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN DIED

WASHINGTON, D.C.



April 15, 1967

HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN DIED

Furnishing Study

by

George J. Olszewski



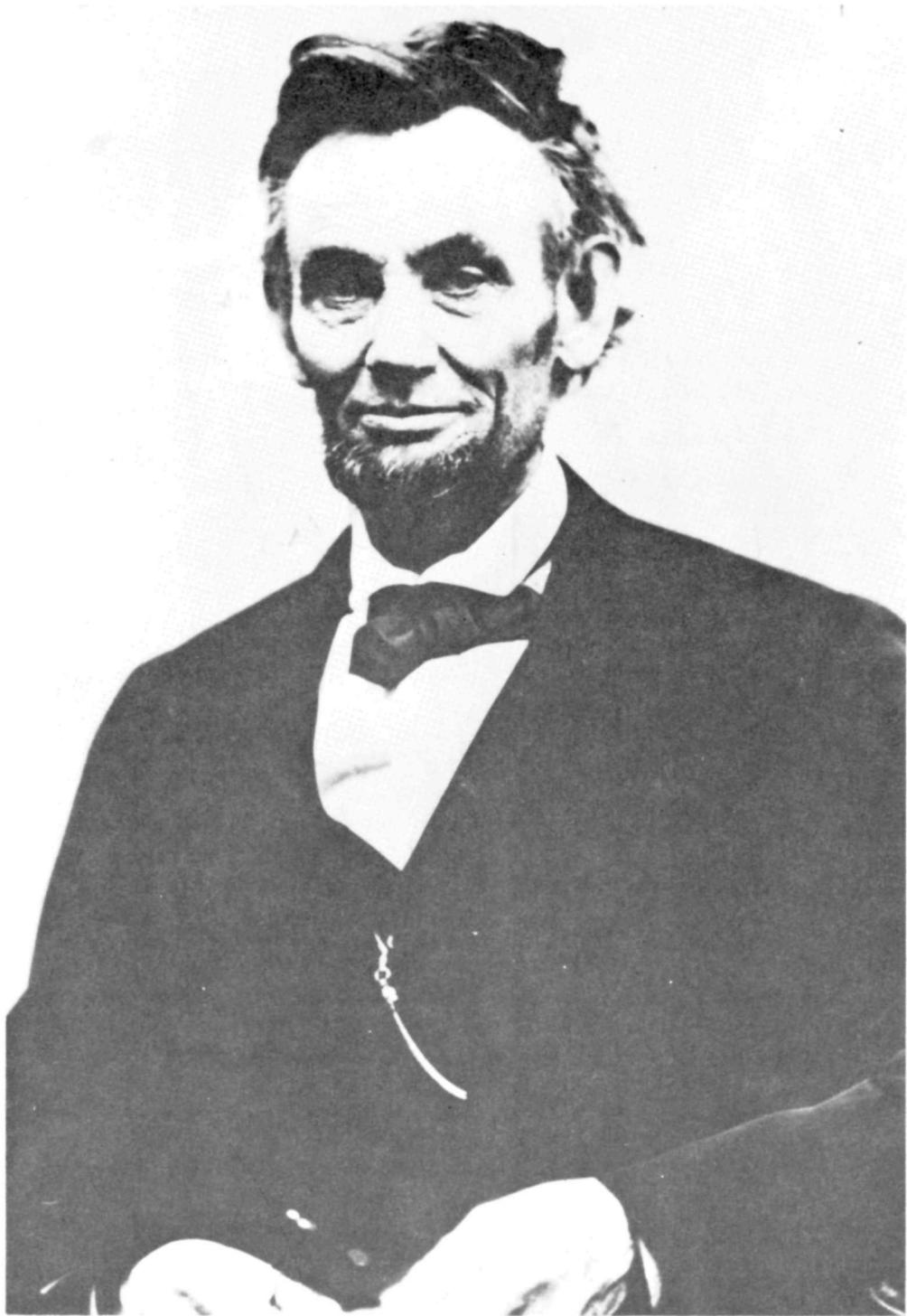
DIVISION OF HISTORY

Office Of Archeology & Historic Preservation

April 15, 1967

National Park Service

U.S. Department Of The Interior



(National Archives)

1. Last photograph of Abraham Lincoln taken by Alexander Gardner on April 10, 1865.

PREFACE

This furnishing study for The House Where Lincoln Died has been researched to provide the superintendent, curator, and interpretive staff of Central National Capital Parks, and the National Capital Region, with all available documentary information, photographs, drawings, and affidavits on the occupancy and furnishings of this historic site as of the night of Lincoln's assassination and death.

While some parts of the history of this site are still surrounded with an aura of fiction and hearsay, every effort has been made to dispel such trivia and to document, wherever possible, the history associated with the inhabitants of this site, the historic events occurring therein, and the attempts to refurnish the rooms as they appeared on that fatal night, April 14-15, 1865.

My historic structures report on the Restoration of Ford's Theatre and the Furnishing Plan for the Restored Ford's Theatre should be used in conjunction with the present study. My principal sources of information were the archives of the Lincoln Museum, files of the Mail and Records Branch, National Capital Region, and collections of official documents in the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and in various offices of the D. C. Government. For analytical purposes and precise documenting, photographs have been especially selected and explanatory captions affixed thereto. The majority are from the files of the Information Branch, National Capital Region, unless otherwise credited. Joseph Sunde did the art work. My own continuing research since 1960 on details of Lincoln's assassination provided many hitherto obscured facts. Tables have been especially collated and documents included herein to substantiate my findings.

G.J.O.

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SECTION ONE

ANALYSIS OF HISTORIC OCCUPANCY

Introduction.-- The House Where Lincoln Died is one of the more outstanding historic sites in the Nation's capital. It is generally known as the Petersen House. An unknown German tailor, William Petersen, was projected into international prominence slightly over a century ago, when his home was the scene of President Lincoln's death on April 15, 1865.

Lincoln had been carried into a tiny bedroom at the rear of the house the night before after being mortally wounded by the demented actor, John Wilkes Booth, in Ford's Theatre, about 10:15 P.M., during Act III, Scene 2, of the comedy farce, "Our American Cousin."

While Lincoln lay between life and death, the back parlor of the house was the scene of what one writer on the assassination said "a dictatorship for eight hours," when the country was, in fact, without a President. In this room Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, for all intents and purposes, ran the government. He issued all news on the President's condition, set up the back parlor Cabinet room, initiated a court of inquiry, and prepared the oath of succession to the presidency. In the front parlor, Mrs. Lincoln sat throughout the all night vigil in hysterical abandon as Major H. R. Rathbone and Miss Clara Harris, who were members of the theatre party the night before, attempted to calm her. Several times during the night Mrs. Lincoln visited the dying President until Stanton ordered her kept out of the death chamber.

Subsequently, the house was sold by the Petersen heirs to Louis and Anne Schade in 1878. In 1896 the government purchased the building for \$30,000, permitting O. H. Oldroyd, who had brought his collection of Lincoln memorabilia to Washington in 1893, to remain in the house rent-free until he died in 1930. In 1926 the government purchased the Lincoln collection for \$50,000. In 1932, when the administration of the Old Ford's Theatre building was placed under the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service opened the Lincoln Museum on the first floor of the building and from time to time as funds became available attempted to restore the tragic setting of the House Where Lincoln Died to its appearance as of that fateful night. Today, as the restoration of Ford's Theatre nears completion, these two buildings will become important units of the historic sites of the Nation's capital.

The Petersen family.--At the time of Lincoln's death, the house at 453 Tenth Street, Northwest (now 516), was owned by William A. Petersen, a German tailor. It is reported that his shop was in the front basement room of the house.

Petersen was born in Hanover, Germany, August 16, 1816, and his wife, Anna, in Darmstadt on June 21, 1819.¹ They had married and in 1841 emigrated to the United States. On June 23, they arrived at the Port of Baltimore aboard the SS EUROPA of the North German Lloyd

1. Dates taken from inscription on tombstone, Prospect Hill Cemetery, Washington.

Steamship Company. Wilhelm Petersen was number 11 on the passenger list; she number 12. He was listed as being born in Hanover, Germany. His wife's birthplace was erroneously listed as the same city.² The tombstone inscription clarifies this date for once and all. There is also no sense in prolonging numerous arguments about their ages that are given erroneously in many official documents: they were exactly 2 years, 10 months, and 5 days apart. Petersen most probably simplified the matter by giving their ages as 3 years apart. Thus, when they arrived in the United States in 1841, he was 25 years of age; she 22. When he was naturalized in 1846, he was 30; she 27. When they died in 1871, he was 55; she 52.

Shortly after his arrival in this country, Petersen most probably changed his name from "Wilhelm" to "William" to adopt to the American milieu, and it was good for business reasons, too. Aside from the Europa's passenger list, his christian name of "Wilhelm" appears on no other documents researched for this study. Furthermore, his family name of Petersen is misspelled on so many occasions that it would serve no useful purpose to note them. Undoubtedly, that is what has aroused so much confusion as to Petersen's nationality and allusions to him being a "Swedish" tailor, a "Swedish sailor," etc. The documentation cited herein should be conclusive. Within a year of his arrival in the United States, in 1842, Petersen made his application for naturalization as an American citizen

2. "Passenger List No. 35," Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Baltimore, 1820-1891, Microcopy M-255, Roll 3, Aug. 3, 1840 through Dec. 21, 1842. Records of the Bureau of Customs, National Archives, Record Group 36. Cited hereafter as NARG with appropriate record group number. See also NCR Press Release, July 2, 1958.

in the District. In 1846, after the required five years of residence, the Petersens became naturalized citizens of the United States at Washington.

According to the Eighth Census of 1860, the Petersens had seven children, three sons and four daughters, of the following ages: William F., 16; Louisa, 13; Fertner, 11; Pauline, 8; Charles, 5; Anne, 2; and Julia, 3 months. Petersen was 45; his wife Anna, 42. All the Petersen children were born in the District.³

The 1860 census also gives strong, clear evidence of the life that went on in the Petersen home. It listed, for instance, in addition to the family, other occupants of the house who were either lodgers or boarders. The distinction was not made. There was one servant girl, Mary Crowft, aged 18; Henry Ulke, aged 36, and his brother, aged 27, both born in Prussia, photographers; a Major Carter, aged 40, clerk, birthplace unknown; Peter Keller, aged 26, and T. P. Keller, aged 19, both born in Pennsylvania; a Mr. and Mrs. Francis (no given names), both aged 35, birthplace "unknown"; and a Captain Cushman, clerk, aged 32, born in Pennsylvania. In 1860 the census listed the value of the Petersen real estate at \$5,000; their personal property was valued at \$400.⁴ Of all the roomers, the Ulke

3. Eighth Census, Free Inhabitants, District of Columbia, Georgetown, Vol. I, Wards 1-3, 1860, Schedule 1, pp. 40-41. Records of the Bureau of the Census, NARG 29.

4. Ibid.

Brothers assume importance. Being photographers with their studio listed as being at 278 Pennsylvania Avenue,⁵ they were undoubtedly competitors of Mathew Brady who also had his studio on the same street.⁶ Most probably, Brady and the Ulke Brothers had a "gentlemen's agreement" in regard to who would photograph the two historic sites. The Ulke photograph⁷ came to light on the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's assassination in Life Magazine and was reported to have been discovered in England. Later it appeared in American Heritage⁸ through whose courtesy it is reproduced in the present study. In addition to showing the appearance of the bed after Lincoln's remains were removed, it is the only known photograph which shows the position of one of the two small pictures that hung in the room reportedly. Although there is no known photograph of the north wall of the room, to show if the second small sketch hung near the other large picture, it is possible that Mrs. Petersen liked uniformity in the decor of her home. She had numerous prints and lithographs in other rooms of the house as is revealed in the "Appraisal Inventory of October 25, 1871," that will be discussed further on.

The 1870 Census revealed that things had changed in the Petersen home. At that time, the occupants had dwindled to William and Anna

5. Boyd's Directory, 1865, p. 350.

6. This fact most probably explains why I found no photographs taken by Brady of the Petersen House and the room in which Lincoln died, during my research on the restoration of Ford's Theatre and the present study.

7. See Illustration 4.

8. April 1965.

Petersen, aged 54 and 52; and but three children, Frederick (formerly listed as "Fertner"), 21; Paulina, 18; and Charles, 15. There was but one lodger, a Victor Schanag, age 20, a photographer, who had been born in Prussia. By this time the value of the Petersen real estate had risen to \$8,000; their personal estate was \$300.⁹ Of the other children, William F., who was 26, and Louisa, who was 23 at the time this census was taken, had most probably married. It is reported that the two younger children, Anne and Julia, who had been 2 years and 3 months of age respectively at the time of the 1860 census, had died. The death records, however, are unclear.¹⁰ According to Bernard Anderson, Superintendent of Vital Statistics Unit, D. C. Department of Health, there is no record of deaths during the period 1862 to 1866. Mr. Anderson stated that deaths were occurring so fast that it was impossible to record them. The official D. C. records of deaths are also sporadic for the period 1866 to 1874. But in 1874 and continuing since, the Department of Health has issued Death Certificates.

Petersen's business role is verified by Boyd's Washington and Georgetown Directory. In 1862 Petersen was a merchant tailor and had his shop at 480-1/2 Pennsylvania Avenue.¹¹ In 1865 it was located

9. Ninth Census, 1870, Vol. I, Wards 1-2, p. 218. NARG 29.

10. Most probably further genealogical research would clarify this point. The official interment record at Prospect Hill Cemetery was unavailable for further research at the time of my visit.

11. P. 142. Boyd's is the sole source of this type of information. It is generally referred to by its short title as Boyd's Directory for its name changed to include Alexandria as the metropolitan area grew. It was also published by various printers over the years.

at 442 8th Street, West.¹² By 1871, Petersen had, undoubtedly, disposed of his shop for none was listed in Boyd's Directory for that year.¹³ No record was found that Petersen actually ran a tailoring shop in the front basement room of his home. Perhaps this was hearsay, or possibly he may have done minor clothing repairing there. It is also possible that Petersen may have had some psychological reaction to the death of Lincoln having occurred in his home. His personal fortunes appear to have diminished thereafter so that he may have abandoned his personal tailoring business.

For several years prior to his death that had occurred under mysterious circumstances, Petersen had worked as a "cutter" for various local tailoring establishments.¹⁴ Petersen had been found by the Metropolitan Police lying unconscious on the grounds of the Smithsonian Institution on June 18, 1871. He was rushed to the hospital and despite all attempts to save his life, died the same day. The Coroner's inquest determined that death was due to "accidental mancotic poisoning."¹⁵ Actually, Petersen had taken an overdose of laudanum which he had obtained from a local druggist, C. B. Bishop,

12. Ibid., p. 298.

13. Ibid., p. 265.

14. The fact that Petersen worked as a "cutter" gives some indication of his craftsmanship. Based on personal family business experience with Ernest Olszewski & Sons, Wholesale Clothing Contractors, Baltimore, Md., cloth "cutting" is one of the more elite jobs in the clothing business. A "cutter" must have a steady hand, a good mind, and expert knowledge of suiting patterns.

15. Record of Interments, January, 1855-July 1874, entry No. 96, folio 523. Vital Statistics Unit, D. C. Department of Health. This record erroneously lists Wm. Petersen as "female."

without a doctor's prescription. Before he died, Petersen told police that he had taken the drug "once or twice a week" for several years past.¹⁶

Mrs. Petersen died within four months to the day of her husband's death, October 18, 1871, after a long illness. Her funeral was held in the residence on Friday, October 20, 1871, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.¹⁷ Both Petersens died intestate. They were buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Washington. There is no official record of the death of Anna Petersen.

Within two days of her death, the D. C. Register of Wills, A. Webster, authorized the preparation of an appraisal inventory of the goods, chattels, and estate of Anna Petersen.¹⁸ On Monday, October 30, 1871, the entire furnishings of the house were sold at public auction by Green & Williams, Auctioneers.¹⁹ This phase of the history of the sale of the furnishings and the subsequent construction of an addition to the rear of the house will be fully dealt with in Section II of the present study so that the historic events relating to Lincoln's death may be completed at this point. However, a few notes on the construction and appearance of the Petersen House are necessary to set the scene for this tragic event.

The Petersen House.--After his arrival in Washington, Petersen purchased the site of his future home for \$850 on February 9, 1849,

16. Washington Evening Star, June 19, 1871.

17. Evening Star, Oct. 18, 1871.

18. See Table II, pp. 42-47.

19. Evening Star, Oct. 31, 1871. See also Table III, pp. 48-51.

in Square 347, Lot No. 14.²⁰ According to available evidence, the house which he constructed was a plain red brick three story and basement structure. The entrance from Tenth Street was by a 10-riser curving stairway with an iron railing leading to the first floor. The basement entrance was beneath the landing and presently is about 2.5 feet below the sidewalk level. It also provided a separate entrance-exit to Petersen's tailoring shop that was reportedly in the basement and, later, to Schade's editorial and publishing offices of the Washington Sentinel.²¹ Today it gives the Service a convenient exit for the visiting public.

Although it is extremely unlikely that Petersen's original plans for his home can ever be located, sufficient evidence has been uncovered to document to some degree the size and architecture of the house at the time of Lincoln's death therein.

For instance, under the MISSION 66 program of the Service, the Petersen House was rehabilitated under Contract No. 14-10-028-1607. On July 4, 1959, Secretary of the Interior, Fred A. Seaton, officially reopened the house to the public.²² But since that project is not the immediate subject of the present study, the inclusion of some evidence of this work is considered essential to the interpretive function of this report, at least until the tentatively scheduled Historic Structures Report of the house is completed. Therefore,

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20. Survey Book of Square 347. Office of the Surveyor of the District. D. C. Government.
21. Illustration 6.
22. N.P.S. Press Release.

photographs, a sketch, and sample drawings of the official rehabilitation construction plans are included to support these collated observations.²³

As shown in Illustration "Floor plan of the Petersen House," the areas marked with a large "X" and identified by the letters A, B, and C, were demolished during the rehabilitation. Preliminary architectural investigation revealed that they were not part of the original structure. These areas are rooms 14 and 15 at the rear of the basement; room 106 at the rear of the first floor; and the bath at the rear of the second floor. As will be shown in Section II of this report, paid vouchers for work done on the house in 1871-72 prior to its sale to the Schades will substantiate and document these conclusions.

Lodgers on the tragic night.--The Petersens supplemented their income by renting rooms as noted earlier. Among some of the boarders who lodged there prior to Lincoln's assassination was John C. Breckinridge, who rented the double parlors as a unit; the Ulke Brothers, photographers, and various actors among them being John Matthews, a friend of John Wilkes Booth. It is said that Booth frequently visited Matthews and in 1863 actually slept in the bed in which Lincoln was later to expire. Unconfirmed reports state that Booth's confession to the assassination of Lincoln was sent to Matthews, directing him to turn it over to the newspapers, particularly the National Intelligencer, one of the leading Washington papers of the day.

23. Appendix D-2, p.89, and Plates I-II, pp. 90-91.

Matthew burned it after reading it, fearing to become involved as a conspirator. Reports of Booth's confession being sent to the National Intelligencer were later denied by its editor, John F. Coyle. Coyle, who was a stockholder in Ford's Theatre, undoubtedly, would have been more than glad to have had the information so that he could have published it and thus confirm the first rumored reports of Booth's involvement in the crime and thereby aided the investigations by the War Department.²⁴

The Ulke Brothers, Henry W. Saffold, and a soldier detailed to duty at the Quartermaster Department in Washington, a William T. Clark of Company "D", 13th Massachusetts Infantry, roomed at the Petersen house the night of the tragedy. Clark is said to have had the small room at the end of the hallway on the first floor of the house to which Lincoln was carried under the direction of Charles A. Leale, a 23-year old Army doctor who was a specialist in gunshot wounds. Dr. Leale was on duty at the time at the U. S. General Hospital, Armory Square, Washington. Being an admirer of Lincoln, Leale, upon completion of his military duties as surgeon-in-charge of the wounded Commissioned Officers Ward at the hospital, changed into mufti and went to Ford's Theatre that fatal night to catch a glimpse of Lincoln. He had a seat in the dress circle about forty feet from the Presidential box, and when the tragedy occurred, he was a first-hand witness to Booth's escape from the box and across the stage

^{24.} See G. J. Olszewski, Historic Structures Report, Restoration of Ford's Theatre (Washington, 1963), p. 19.

while holding a gleaming knife in his right hand.²⁵ This later led Leale to consider the possibility of Lincoln having been stabbed before locating the real wound made by the blast of Booth's deringer three inches to the rear of Lincoln's left ear.

Carrying the President to the Petersen House.--A great deal of conflicting testimony details the events which led to Dr. Leale instructing that the President be carried to the Petersen house. The statements of the soldier, Wm. T. Clark, the Petersen family affidavits, and Oldroyd's Reminiscences, among others, all point to a still controversial question. Who was it that held the candle and guided Dr. Leale to the Petersen House?

Private Clark, supported by Oldroyd, says that he heard a commotion on the street while he was sitting in his room. He then went to the porch of the house where the hallway light drew the attention of the party carrying the President to the Petersen house. There was never a porch on the Petersen house but rather a landing at the head of the curving steps of red sandstone with an iron railing. This led into the first floor hallway to the rear of which was the room into which Lincoln was carried. Illustrations and sketches of the house made at the time indicate the appearance of these steps. They still exist today. There was a porch at the rear of the house which led to the basement and the yard at the rear. Oldroyd is in error when he identified the first floor as the second.²⁶

25. Helen Leale Harper, Jr., "Lincoln's Last Night," in Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine (Feb. 1953), p. 179.

26. See Illustration 10.

Affidavits of members of the Petersen family state that it was Wm. A. Petersen, himself, at home alone with his elder daughter, Louise, who became aware of the commotion in the street. He is said to have gone to the front door of his home with a lighted candle to guide the carrying in of the body of a "wounded man." Petersen did not know at the time that it was the President. Further conflicting testimony indicates that Petersen's youngest daughter, Pauline, ministered all night to the wounded President by "bringing in hot water and tearing up linen sheets for bandages." Later investigations reveal that although the small room was actually the bedroom of Petersen's two daughters, Louise, then aged 18, and Pauline, aged 13 at the time, it may have been rented to Clark for Pauline was away at school at the time. Furthermore, there is little, if any, mention of bandages having been used. Lincoln's loss of blood was a slow trickle from time to time as the wound was probed.²⁷ While these conflicting stories are continually repeated, even in official circles,²⁸ the authoritative report of the event should be given preference.

Considering the intense drama and horror of the tragedy, and the inherent fallibility of human nature under the stress of such circumstances, the official report of Dr. Leale, which became the authoritative report for the "Congressional Committee Investigating the

27. Fraser Affidavit in Appendix.

28. See DI Pamphlet, "House Where Lincoln Died."

"Assassination of the President," should be accepted. Leale's report tells in the following words the facts which guided his decision to order carrying Lincoln to the rear room of the Petersen house.

When we arrived to the street, I was asked to place him [Lincoln] in a carriage and remove him to the White House. This I refused to do being fearful that he would die as soon as he would be placed in an upright position. I said that I wished to take him to the nearest house, and, place him comfortably in bed.

We slowly crossed the street, there being a barrier of men on each side of an open passage towards the house. Those who went ahead of us reported that the house directly opposite was closed.²⁹ I saw a man standing at the door of Mr. Peterson's (sic) house holding a lighted candle in his hand and beckoning us to enter which we did and immediately placed him in bed, all of which was done in less than twenty minutes from the time that he had been assassinated, we not having been in the slightest interrupted while removing him.³⁰

The death Watch.--Once Lincoln's unconscious form was placed on the bed, every attempt was made to make him as comfortable as possible in an effort to ease his suffering. Finding the bed too short for the President, Dr. Leale placed Lincoln in a diagonal position so that his body and limbs were straight upon the bed. Dr. Leale requested that the window of the room be opened to provide as much fresh air for the President as possible. The ghastly flame of the single gas burner in the room undoubtedly burnt up much of the needed oxygen. As the room was crowded by numerous persons who

29. This undoubtedly was No. 434 Tenth Street, now occupied by the Lincoln Building. See illustrations which show the house adjacent to the Petersen house c. 1907.

30. Leale Report, pp. 8-9.

accompanied the body from the theatre to the Petersen house, Dr. Leale asked that they leave the room and only the "medical gentlemen" stay. The room was finally cleared when an officer ordered them out. Mrs. Lincoln was present when Lincoln was undressed and his body made as warm as possible.

Dr. Leale's report, having been accepted as the official medical testimony of the last hours of Lincoln, is herewith cited in part with all its dramatic impact:

After undressing him [Lincoln] I found that his lower extremeties (sic) were quite cold to a distance of several inches above his knees. I sent the Hospital Steward who had been of great assistance to us while removing him from the theatre, for bottles filled with hot water, hot blankets, etc. which we applied to his lower extremeties (sic).

I asked again to have the Surgeon General and Dr. Stone sent for also sent a special messenger for Surgeon D. W. Bliss then in command of Armory Square Hospital.

Several physicians now arrived among whom were Dr. Leiberman and Dr. Ford. On looking around I saw Senator Charles Sumner, in a short time Dr. Stone arrived. I was introduced to Dr. Stone as having charge of him. I asked Dr. Stone if he would take charge of him he said "I will."

I then told Dr. Stone the nature of the wound and what had been done. The Surgeon General and Surgeon Crane arrived in a few minutes and made an examination of the wound.

When the President was first laid in bed a slight ecchymosis of blood was noticed on his left eye lid and the pupil of that eye was dilated, while the pupil of the right eye was contracted.

About 11 p.m. the right eye began to protrude, which was rapidly followed by an increase of the ecchymosis until it encircled the orbit extending above the supra orbital ridge and below the infra orbital foramen.

The wound was kept open by the Surgeon General by means of a silver probe and as the President was placed diagonally on the bed his head was held supported in its position by Surgeon Crane and Dr. Taft.

About 2 am the Hospital Steward who had been sent for a Nelaton's probe arrived and an examination of the wound was made by the Surgeon General who introduced it to a

distance of about two and a half inches when it came in contact with a foreign substance which laid across (sic) the tract of the ball, this being easily passed the probe was introduced further when it again touched a hard substance which was at first supposed to be the ball but as the porcelain bulb of the probe did not show the stain of lead upon it after its withdrawel(sic) it was generally supposed to be another piece of loose bone. The probe was introduced a second time, and the ball was supposed to be distinctly felt by the Surgeon General, Dr. Stone and Surgeon Crane. After this second exploration nothing further was done except to keep the opening free from coagula, which if allowed to remain would soon produce signs of increased compression. The breathing becoming profoundly ster-torous, and the pulse more feeble and irregular.

During the greater part of the night the number of pulsations were counted by Dr. Ford and noted by Dr. King.

As morning dawned it became quite evident that he was gradually sinking and at several times his pulse could not be counted two or three feeble pulsations being felt and followed by an intermission when not the slightest movement of the artery could be felt. The inspirations now became very prolonged accompanied by a guteral (sic) sound. At 6:50 am the respirations ceased for some time and all eagerly looked at their watches until the profound silence was disturbed by a prolonged inspiration, which was soon followed by a sonorous expiration.

During his dying moments the Surgeon General held his finger to the carotid artery. Col. Crane held his head, Dr. Stone who was sitting on the bed held his left pulse, and his right pulse was held by myself.

Mrs. Lincoln visits the dying President.--Mrs. Lincoln was escorted
to the Petersen house behind the group carrying Lincoln. She was shown to the front parlor. Accompanying her were Miss Clara Harris and Major Henry Rathbone who had been in the presidential party at the time of the shooting, and Laura Keene, star of the play "Our American Cousin" which was on the boards that night. Some time later their son, Captain Robert Lincoln, arrived at the house as did the Rev. Phineas

Gurley, Lincoln's pastor, from the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church where the Lincolns regularly worshipped. Undoubtedly, all members of the government who were in the house during the night stopped to pay their respects to Mrs. Lincoln and to offer their sympathy and, later, condolences. Several times during the night she visited the room where the President lay dying. Her sobs of grief echoed throughout the quietness of the night as she sat on the black horsehair sofa moaning and watching the flicker of the fire in the grate as her husband's life ebbed. Several times during the night Lincoln's stentorian breathing would be heard accompanied by renewed outbreaks of hysteria from Mrs. Lincoln. Various discrepancies exist about the number of times Mrs. Lincoln visited the President while he was dying. A few words from Dr. Leale's report may clarify the subject.

According to Dr. Leale, he states that as soon as the President was placed in the bed and made as comfortable as circumstances permitted, he went into the front parlor where Mrs. Lincoln sat, accompanied by Miss Clara Harris, all others having been cleared from the house:

I went to Mrs. Lincoln and asked her if she would have the kindness to step into the next room for a few minutes while we examined him, removed his clothes, and placed him more comfortably on the bed. Mrs. Lincoln readily assented.

Later, Dr. Leale reported:

Mrs. Lincoln accompanied by Mrs. Senator Dixon came into the room several times during the course of the night. Mrs. Lincoln at one time exclaiming, 'Oh, that my laddy might see his Father before he died,' she then fainted and was carried from the room.

When notified that the President had died, Mrs. Lincoln was brought into the death room and fell into a hysterical faint across the President's body.

The back parlor "Cabinet Room".--The back parlor of the Petersen house was the scene where one of the most controversial figures in the history of the assassination of Lincoln directed almost all activities of the government. During the grim hours after Lincoln was shot and until his death, the United States was without an effective President at the helm of the Ship of State.

Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton arrived at the Petersen house as soon as he had assured himself that Secretary of State, William H. Seward, would live. Stanton had hastened to see Seward as soon as the news of the attempted assassination of the Secretary of State reached him together with the report of Lincoln's assassination.

In rapid succession Stanton installed a "Cabinet Room" in the rear parlor of the Petersen House and became a man of action. He assembled members of the Cabinet, set up a special Court of Inquiry for the interrogation of witnesses to the assassination, issued orders to military commanders in all areas for the apprehension of suspects to the conspiracy against the Government, and controlled news on the condition of the President and the name of his alleged assassin. Stanton believed that other members of the government would be assassinated.

a. The Court of Inquiry.--Stanton immediately set up a court of inquiry and Corporal James Tanner, a soldier who could take

stenographic notes, was pressed into service. Tanner roomed next door at 424 Tenth Street and was a witness to the event. As soon as Chief Justice David K. Carrter arrived, he administered the oath to a long line of witnesses whom Stanton had ordered be brought before him. Stanton did the interrogation. He had ordered the confiscation of Ford's Theatre and the arrest of everyone who worked in it. The audience had been cleared out as soon as Lincoln was removed and a guard placed on duty. Among the witnesses was Harry Hawks who was the only person on stage at the time of Booth's escape, Harry Phillips, a member of the cast who had written the lyrics for the song "Honor to Our Soldiers," that was to have been sung for the President, and Ferguson, one of the doorkeepers, who also ran a restaurant to the north of the theatre. "In 15 minutes," Tanner wrote, "I had testimony enough down to hang Wilkes Booth, the assassin, higher than any human being ever hung."³¹

Despite the fact that many of the witnesses from the theatre identified Booth by name, Stanton failed to order Booth's apprehension and arrest because he considered Lincoln's assassination and the attempted assassination of Secretary of State Seward as part of a conspiracy against all members of the government. Apparently, Major General C. C. Augur, Commanding General, Washington, was the first to have issued an official order for Booth's detention. In a telegraphic message to Colonel John R. Giles, Commander of the Reserve

31. Washington Evening Star, Dec. 5, 1936.

Corps at Washington, Augur ordered him to board the train leaving Washington for Baltimore accompanied by ten enlisted men, to stop the train enroute, to search every car, and to arrest Booth if found.

Although all telegraphic services were cut off from Washington for several hours upon Stanton's orders, newspapers throughout the country had already composed headline stories of Lincoln's assassination. They awaited news of the official identification of the alleged assassin. Stanton, however, suppressed all news of Lincoln's condition and pending death. But all newspapers knew that Booth was the assassin, including the Associated Press in New York. The first official word was finally released in New York through Major General John A. Dix, Commanding, New York, to whom Stanton had wired a message composed by him at 1:30 A.M. and sent out at 2:15 A.M.

b. Preparation of the oath of succession.--The witnesses being disposed of, Stanton set about preparing a formal notification for Vice President Andrew Johnson who roomed at the Kirkwood House (later the Raleigh Hotel, since demolished) at 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest. Stanton ordered Attorney General Joshua Speed to draw up the note advising Johnson that the President had died and that he was to prepare to assume the presidency at once. Stanton read the note aloud and he was overheard by Mrs. Lincoln who screamed and shrieked, "Is he dead?" Stanton tried to explain to her that he was only preparing for a grave eventuality. Mrs. Lincoln, however, remained inconsolable.

By this time members of the Cabinet and other Government dignitaries had assembled in the back parlor. Among them were the Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton; Attorney General Joshua Speed; Chief Justice Carrter; the Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles; the Assistant Secretary of War, Charles Dana; the Secretary of the Interior, John P. Usher; Postmaster General William Dennison; Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase; and Secretary of the Treasury Hugh McCullough.

About 1:30 A.M., Saturday morning, April 15, 1865, all Cabinet members present signed the formal notification to Johnson of Lincoln's death in the presence of Stanton and Attorney General Speed.

Meantime, shortly after midnight, Stanton had ordered all of his law enforcement staff to assemble for a conference at the Petersen House. Corporal Tanner was ordered to take no notes of this conference. Among those appearing were Major A. C. Richards, Chief of the Washington Metropolitan Police, Major James O'Beirne of the U.S. Marshal's office and members of their staffs.

c. The Vice President visits Lincoln.--When the affidavit was signed by members of the Cabinet, Stanton ordered John Lee, a detective on O'Beirne's staff, to go to the Kirkwood House and there to protect the Vice President. At the time it was not known that one of the conspirators, George A. Atzerodt, also roomed there. Lee reported to the Vice President and while checking the security of the hotel discovered enough evidence in Atzerodt's room to send him to the gallows.

O'Beirne arrived a short time thereafter to deliver the message of the Secretary of War to the Vice President informing him that the President was dying and to hold himself in readiness to take the oath of office as President of the United States.

Johnson wanted to go immediately to the Petersen House but this was opposed by Governor Leonard J. Farwell, who was visiting him, and by O'Beirne. Both of these men insisted upon summoning a guard of soldiers to escort him. Johnson, however, was adamant despite the tragedy which was to bring him to the Presidency. Johnson said, as Lincoln had said on numerous occasions, that he wanted no guard, no carriage, and that he would walk the short distance. Accompanied by Farwell and O'Beirne, Johnson arrived at the Petersen House where two guards were on duty at its entrance. A small group of civilians stood outside the house waiting for word of Lincoln's condition.

Johnson went into the room where Lincoln was dying and stood for awhile, showing no emotion. He then paused to say a few words to Stanton and to Mrs. Lincoln. Flanked by Farwell and O'Beirne, he walked back to the Kirkwood House. Early that morning, following Lincoln's death, Johnson was sworn in as the 17th President of the United States.

Death of the President.--The President drew his last breath at 7:22 A.M., Saturday morning, April 15, 1865. Although 7:22 A.M. is the generally accepted time of Lincoln's death, having been officially certified to by several of the physicians present and the Secretary of War, Dr. Leale's official report, dated July 20, 1867, to Major General B. F. Butler, Chairman of the Congressional Assassination

Committee, gives this moving account of the passing of the President:

A short time before death occurred (sic), his pastor, the Rev. Dr. Gurley, said, "Let us pray," when we all knelt down upon our knees around his dying bed, while he offered a most solemn and impressive prayer after which we arose to witness the struggles between life and death. At 7:20 A.M., he breathed his last, not having been conscious one moment from the time of his being shot until his death.

The silence of the room is reported to have been broken by the Secretary of War as he said, while standing over Lincoln's corpse, "Now he belongs to the ages."^{32a} In an official telegram dated Washington City, April 15, 1865, Stanton informed Major General Dix, Commanding General, New York, of the official time of Lincoln's death:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN DIED THIS MORNING AT 22 MINUTES AFTER 7 O'CLOCK. At this late date, it undoubtedly would be useless and perhaps impossible to prove that Lincoln died two minutes earlier than the time which has been officially and generally accepted for more than a hundred years.

Persons Visiting the House or Room Where Lincoln Died.--The controversy has continued for over a century among Lincoln scholars and writers as to exactly who visited the dying President, during the night of April 14-15, 1865. The controversial painting by John H. Littlefield shows twenty-three persons, in addition to Mrs. Lincoln, surrounding the President. It seems impossible for that many persons to have gathered around the death bed in the small room. However, the painting is probably allegorical and can be

32. Copy in Library, Division of History Studies (DHS).

32a. NCP Press Release, July 2, 1959.

accepted as plausible. Nevertheless, it is not in accordance with the facts. For one thing, Secretary Stanton ordered Mrs. Lincoln kept out of the room after a particularly hysterical outburst by her about 5:30 A.M., when she fell across the dying President's body. MRS. LINCOLN WAS NOT IN THE ROOM WHEN THE PRESIDENT DIED.

Various Lincoln "experts" still differ on the number of people who were present or who visited the house or the room during that night. Bishop says "46"; Oldroyd, who spent more than thirty years in the house with his Lincolniana Collection, says there were "30". Herndon in his Life of Lincoln says nothing; Randall and Current end their noteworthy Lincoln and the President with the Lincolns leaving for the theatre, ignoring the assassination and death; Sandburg lists twenty-eight³³ in his brilliant lifetime study of Lincoln. The Washington Weekly Chronicle lists 27.³⁴ My research documents the following groups:

1. LINCOLN'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

The President's immediate entourage included: Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln; Miss Clara H. Harris; Major Henry R. Rathbone, Lincoln's military aide; his son, Captain Robert T. Lincoln; Dr. Robert King Stone, Lincoln's personal physician; John Hay, Lincoln's private secretary; the Reverend Dr. Phineas D. Gurley, pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church where the Lincolns regularly worshipped; Miss Laura Keene, star of "Our American Cousin"; and Constance and Mary C. Kinney, friends of Mrs. Lincoln.

33. Carl Sandburg, Abraham Lincoln, the War Years, IV (New York, 1939), 292-97.

34. April 22, 1865.

2. MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

Members of the Cabinet were as follows: Vice President Andrew Johnson; Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Attorney General James Speed; Secretary of the Interior, John P. Usher; Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles; Postmaster General, William E. Dennison; and Secretary of the Treasury, Hugh McCullough.

3. GOVERNMENT DIGNITARIES

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Maunsell B. Field; Charles A. Dana, Assistant Secretary of War; Commissioner of Public Buildings, Benjamin B. French; Speaker of the House, Schuyler T. Colfax; Senator Charles Sumner; Senator F. R. Andrews; Governor Richard J. Oglesby of Illinois; General Lyman B. Todd, Governor of Dakotah Territory; former Governor Leonard J. Farwell of Wisconsin, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Salmon P. Chase.

4. SURGEONS AND PHYSICIANS

Attending physicians included four who were in the audience at Ford's that night: Dr. Charles A. Leale, Dr. Charles S. Taft, Dr. C. D. Gatch, and Dr. Albert F. A. King; and the following medical personnel: Surgeon General Joseph K. Barnes; Assistant Surgeon General Charles H. Crane; Surgeon D. Willard Bliss; Dr. Ezra W. Abbott; Dr. C. H. Lieberman; Dr. J. C. Hall; and Dr. S. T. Ford.

5. MILITARY PERSONNEL

The following military personnel stationed in Washington, or field commanders visiting the city: Major Thomas T. Eckert, Chief, U. S. Military Telegraph; Brigadier General John F. Farnsworth,

Provost Marshal; Brigadier General Gilman Marston; Major General Christopher C. Augur, Commanding General, Department of Washington; Colonel Almon F. Rockwell; Colonel Louis H. Pelouze; General Thomas M. Vincent, Assistant Adjutant General; Major James J. O'Beirne, Commanding, Washington Provost Guard; Major General Montgomery C. Meigs, Quartermaster General, War Department; Colonel George V. Rutherford; Major General Henry Halleck; General Daniel H. Rucker, Washington Depot Quartermaster. Also present were E. L. Dixon, Edward H. Rollins, Isham N. Haymes, John B. S. Todd, and Isaac N. Arnold. Thus the number of persons whom it has been possible to identify is fifty-five (55).

Removal of Lincoln's remains.--With the death of Lincoln in the Petersen House followed by Dr. Gurney's prayers, Mrs. Lincoln was escorted from the house to her carriage. As she came out on the steps leading to Tenth Street, she paused momentarily in her hysteria and glanced across the street to Ford's Theatre, the scene of such tragic events of the night before. It is reported that she cried out hysterically, "That terrible place; that terrible place," as she was led away.

Shortly after nine o'clock on Saturday morning, April 15, 1865, the official undertaker for the Government, Frank Sands, prepared Lincoln's remains for removal to the White House. His nude and discolored body was wrapped in an American flag and placed in a temporary coffin. Six soldiers of the Quartermaster Department carried the coffin from the Petersen House and placed it on a caisson drawn by men of the Union Light Guard Cavalry commanded by Lt. G. Jamison.

The solemn procession moved slowly up Tenth Street to G Street and thence proceeded to the White House. Along the route, and as church bells tolled the Nation's tragedy, a large crowd stood with heads bowed and uncovered. The Cavalry escort was followed by General C. C. Augur; General D. H. Rucker; Colonel Louis H. Pelouze; Capt. Finley Anderson, Acting Assistant Adjutant, Hancock's Corps; Capt. D. C. Thomas, commanding the Quartermaster Clothing Depot; and Capts. J. H. Crowell and C. Baker.

At the Petersen House, a detachment from local units arrived to post guards at the scenes of the tragedy and to keep out the curious as steps were immediately taken to investigate one of the Nation's greatest crimes. A correspondent from the Washington Weekly Chronicle, who visited the room in which Lincoln died shortly after his remains were removed, reported: "When we visited the house, the sheeting and blankets used the night before had been removed, and nothing remained but two cotton mattresses and two pillows. They were all stained with his [Lincoln's] blood."³⁵

Autopsy of the President.--Lincoln's body arrived at the White House about 9:00 A.M. It was carried to the northwest corner room, otherwise known as the Guest Room, on the second floor. It was then prepared for autopsy. This was performed about 11:00 A.M. under the direction of Surgeon-General Joseph K. Barnes, assisted by Drs. Robert King Stone, Charles H. Crane, Charles Taft, and J. Curtis, B. Notson and R. Woodward. President Andrew Johnson was present

35. April 22, 1865.

with Generals Augur and Rucker. The President's scalp was removed, the bullet extracted and the brain taken out and weighed.³⁶

The body was prepared for interment by Sands and Harvey. That afternoon, between 3 and 4 o'clock, Sands assisted the Washington undertakers, Brown and Alexander, to embalm the body. Brown and Alexander also furnished the coffin for the deceased President at a cost of \$1500. Made of mahogany covered with black cloth, the interior of the coffin was first lined with lead upon which was placed a lining of white silk. A square silver plate, placed on the side of the coffin, bore the following engraved inscription:

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
* *
* ABRAHAM LINCOLN *
* 16th PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES *
* BORN FEBRUARY 12, 1809 *
* DIED APRIL 15, 1865 *
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Upon completion of all preparations, the coffin was placed on a catafalque in the black-draped East Room of the White House awaiting final obsequies.^{36a}

The aftermath of Lincoln's death.--As noted earlier, the Petersen family continued to live in the house where Lincoln died. From time to time visitors and the curious sought entrance to view the rear room. When Petersen died in 1871, followed within four months by his wife, the furniture of the entire house was auctioned,

36. Ibid., p. 2.

36a. The grief of the Nation was expressed by more than two hundred odes, requiems, and dirges composed at Lincoln's death.

additions made to the rear of the basement and first floor, including a bath on the second. In 1878 the Petersen heirs sold the home with its improvements to their neighbors, Louis and Anne Schade for \$4,500. The deed was recorded on November 25, 1878.³⁷

According to this deed, the Petersen children had married as follows: William F. Petersen and his wife, Jennie, were living in Galveston, Texas. Louise Petersen had married Charles E. Rector, the famous restaurateur of Chicago (and later New York fame). Rector was originally from Washington. Pauline Petersen had married Otto Wenzing of Baltimore. Ferdinand and Charles Petersen were living in Washington, the former being in the carpeting business and had furnished rugs to the White House. The two youngest children were reported to have died at an early age.

The Schade family.--Louis Schade, a German by birth, was a lawyer, publisher, and interested in politics. He was the Washington correspondent for several German language newspapers and from time to time had worked for the Smithsonian Institution, the Census Bureau, and the State Department. At the request of Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois, Schade left the government service and, because of his influence with German-Americans, became editor of the National German Democrat and the National Union, local Washington newspapers of the time. He had obtained national prominence in 1865 by his

37. Copy in Appendix.

spirited defense of Captain Henry Wirz, the "butcher" of Andersonville Prison of ill-repute during the Civil War. Wirz was later executed at the Old Capitol Prison for his cruelty to Union prisoners-of-war.

Prior to their purchase of the Petersen home, Louis and Anne Schade had been neighbors of the Petersens for a number of years. They lived within a few doors of each other on Tenth Street, and Louis Schade had done some legal work on July 15, 1872, for Charles Kloman, when he administered the settlement of the estate of Anna Petersen.³⁸ According to Boyd's Directory for 1872, the Schades lived at 510 Tenth Street.³⁹ In 1876, Schade was listed as editor and publisher of the Washington Sentinel with offices at 935 E Street, Northwest.⁴⁰ By 1878, he had moved to 512 Tenth Street.⁴¹ Following his purchase of the Petersen house in 1878, he moved his newspaper publishing business to the basement of the Petersen House at 516 Tenth Street.⁴² It is reported that three of the Schade children were born at that address and that they played in the room in which Lincoln had died because it was the sunniest in the house. Owing to the large number of the curious who desired to see the historical room, the Schades finally became so annoyed that they moved away in 1893.

38. "Vouchers, Jacket No. 6584, O.S." Records of the District Courts. NARG 21.

39. P. 406.

40. P. 469.

41. P. 664.

42. Boyd's Directory for 1880, p. 573.

Purchase by the Government.--Congressional interest in memorializing the site of Lincoln's death dates back to 1880. Although it was never carried out, the plan of Congressman J. D. Sayers of Texas, provided not only for the purchase of the house where Lincoln had died, but also for the purchase of the two buildings adjoining, number 514 Tenth Street to the south (now the Lincoln Building), and the other at 518 Tenth Street to the north (now the Beef-Feeders Restaurant). Sayers envisioned the demolition of these two buildings and conversion of the site to a park-like tranquil scene with shrubbery and walks to enhance the setting for visitors to this historic site.

Under the provisions of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act, approved June 11, 1896, Congress provided \$30,000 for the purchase of the house in which Lincoln had died and an additional sum of \$1,000 for its repair after purchase. By letter of June 24, 1896, the Chief of Engineers assigned the responsibility for completing the purchase to Brigadier General (then Colonel) John M. Wilson, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, engineer officer in charge of public buildings, grounds and works.⁴³

Correspondence was initiated with Mrs. Louis Schade, through her agent, and on June 29 she agreed to sell the building to the U. S. Government for the amount appropriated, \$30,000. When the U. S. District Attorney declared the title perfect, purchase of the house was completed and the deed thereto was recorded on November 10,

43. Annual Report of the Chief of Engineers for 1897, Appendix BBB, p. 4035. Cited hereafter as ARCE and the year.

1896. That same day the United States assumed charge of the premises. For thirty years, until 1926, the House Where Lincoln Died, as it became officially known, remained under the supervision of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds. In 1926, it was transferred to the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, and since then it has been administered by National Capital Parks, now the National Capital Region. When the region was reorganized in 1965, the house was placed under the supervision of the Superintendent, Central National Capital Parks, effective May 23, 1965.⁴⁴

The Oldroyd Lincoln Memorial Collection.--When the House Where Lincoln Died was purchased by the government in 1896, Osborn H. Oldroyd, who had amassed one of the largest collections of Lincolniana in the Nation, was placed in charge of the premises, occupying it rent free and acting as temporary custodian without pay.⁴⁵

Oldroyd had almost 3,000 items in his collection. He began it at the age of 18, in Mount Vernon, Ohio, when he was fired with enthusiasm for Lincoln, the rail-splitter. The first item in his collection was the so-called Wigwam edition of the "Life, Speeches, and Public Services of Abraham Lincoln." Oldroyd made his Lincoln collection his life's work. In 1883, he moved into the Lincoln home in Springfield, Illinois, remaining in the house from which all the original furniture had been removed, until 1893. In that year, Robert Lincoln, the only surviving son of the President, presented his father's Springfield home to the State of Illinois.

44. Press Release, National Capital Region, April 30, 1965.

45. ARCE, 1897, p. 4035.

Oldroyd then brought his collection to Washington at the invitation of the Memorial Association of the District of Columbia. This group had been created by Act of Congress on March 18, 1892, and had leased the house from Schade, who had become annoyed at the large number of visitors to the site desiring to see the scene of Lincoln's tragic death. The Association allowed Oldroyd to occupy the premises rent free, to install his collection in the rooms on the first floor of the house, and was paid a small salary as its caretaker. When Oldroyd moved into the house, none of the furniture from the night of Lincoln's death was in the rooms. The only exception was Herring's lithograph, "The Village Blacksmith," which hung on the wall above the bed on which Lincoln had died.

Oldroyd spread his collection throughout the rooms on the first floor of the house and continued to gather more materials as the opportunity arose. When various individuals and groups sought to purchase his collection, offering Oldroyd as much as \$100,000 for it, he sought to arouse the interest of the government in its purchase. Oldroyd declared:

I hope Congress will take over the collection and let it become government property. The government can have the collection at whatever price it wants to pay. I have no hope of getting as much from the government as I could get by selling it piecemeal, but I want the collection to stay in Washington and preferably in this building, which should be safeguarded by being fire-proofed. These things should be here where any one might come and see them and at the same time see where the great man died.⁴⁶

46. Aaron Hardy Ulm, The Dearborn Independent, February 11, 1922.

From 1911 to 1926, legislation was introduced in Congress for its purchase and various schemes were offered for housing the Oldroyd collection in a separate fireproof building to be attached to the house in which Lincoln died. Positive action was taken in the first session of the 69th Congress when S. 957, "A Bill for the purchase of the Oldroyd collection of Lincoln relics," was approved on May 11, 1926, becoming Public Law 215. Under its provisions, the Secretary of State, Frank B. Kellogg; the Secretary of War, Dwight F. Davis; and the Attorney General, John G. Sargent, were designated as a commission with authority to purchase the Oldroyd collection and \$50,000 was authorized to be appropriated to consummate its purchase.

Subsequently, the commission designated by PL 215, 69th Congress, surveyed the situation and was of the opinion "that purchase should be made without delay." On June 25, 1926, in a communication to the Congress, President Calvin Coolidge concurred with the views of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and submitted a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, for the purchase of the Oldroyd collection of Lincoln relics.⁴⁷ Congress approved the request. On the afternoon of May 30, 1926, Oldroyd was presented with a check for \$50,000 in payment for his collection which thereafter became the property of the U. S. Government.⁴⁸

Prior to the purchase of the Oldroyd collection by the government, the Smithsonian Institution was invited to express its opinion on the value of the collection. In a terse memorandum on the subject,

47. See Illustration 9.

48. Washington Evening Star, May 30, 1926.

the Secretary of the Smithsonian indicated that in his opinion, "The collection is of little practical value."⁴⁹

Among some of the significant items which Oldroyd managed to have donated to his collection either through his personal knowledge of the items or through friendship with the principals involved were: (1) life and the so-called "death mask" from the sculptor, Leonard Volk, including the piece of sawed off broom handle which Lincoln held in his hands when Volk requested the President to hold something "in his fist" as he modeled them; (2) the frock coat of William Withers, Jr., that was slashed by Booth when the latter ran into the orchestra leader as he was escaping after the assassination of Lincoln; (3) the last example of Lincoln's handwriting which was a pass issued to a White House usher for two men who wanted to go into Virginia; and (4) innumerable items from Lincoln's funeral cortege, his home in Springfield, funeral orations and requiems especially composed for the occasion. When the collection was officially turned over to the government, Congress authorized its acceptance without an inventory from Oldroyd. Thereafter, the inventorying of Oldroyd's collection became the occupation of National Capital Parks for many years.

Although the Government purchased the Oldroyd collection in 1926, it continued to be exhibited in the Petersen House until 1932, when the Lincoln Museum was opened to the public on February 12 of that year in the Old Ford's Theatre building.⁵⁰

49. Charles D. Walcott to Secretary of War, Dwight F. Davis, January 26, 1925. NARG 107.

50. NCP press release, July 2, 1959.

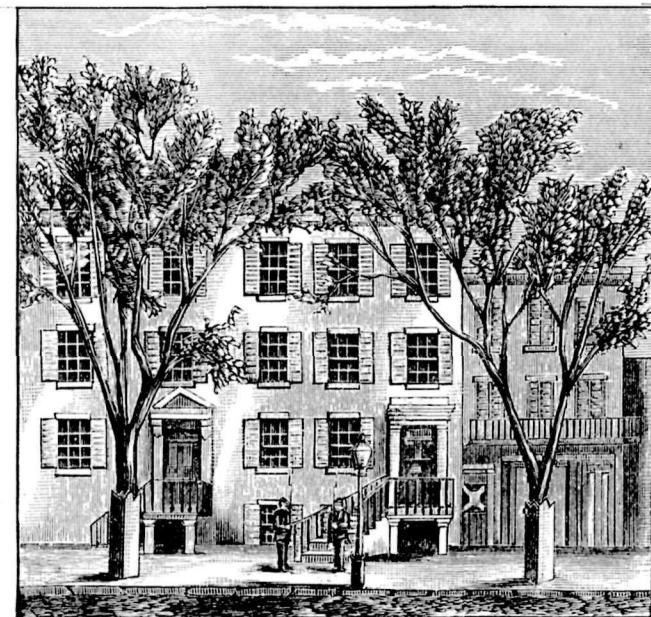
TABLE I

ORIGINAL FURNITURE PURCHASED WITH OL德ROYD COLLECTION
 (P. L. 215, 69th Cong.)

Catalog & Acc. No.:	Date Ac- cessioned:	Description:	Present Location:	Condition:
3.2-5 Acc. 2	Dec. 15, '36	Engraving, "Lincoln," by H. Gugler from Littlefield painting. Black walnut 23"x39" frame.	Front parlor	Poor (water stained)
3.2-6 Acc. 5	Mar. 22, '37	Engraving, "The Village Blacksmith," by George Paterson, after the painting by J. F. Herring. Dark brown frame w/ 1/2" inner gold band. Size, 33"x39-5/8".	Room in which Lincoln Died	Fair
3.5-1 Acc. 8	Mar. 22, '37	Painting, "Last Moments of Abraham Lincoln," by John Henry Littlefield. Gold frame, 54"x36".	Porch, 1st floor exit	Poor (water stained)
3.6-2 Acc. 5	Mar. 22, '37	Photograph of Wm. T. Clark, 4-1/2"x 5-3/4", framed w/copy of letter to sister.	In LMC	Fair
4.4-1 Acc. 5	Mar. 22, '37	Goblet from room in which Lincoln died.	In LMC	Good
4.7-1 Acc. 2	Dec. 15 '36	Two ceramic vases, fishtail design, gilt & white, flower decoration, 12" tall. Gift of Lincoln to C. B. Smith, Sec. Interior	Front parlor	Fair

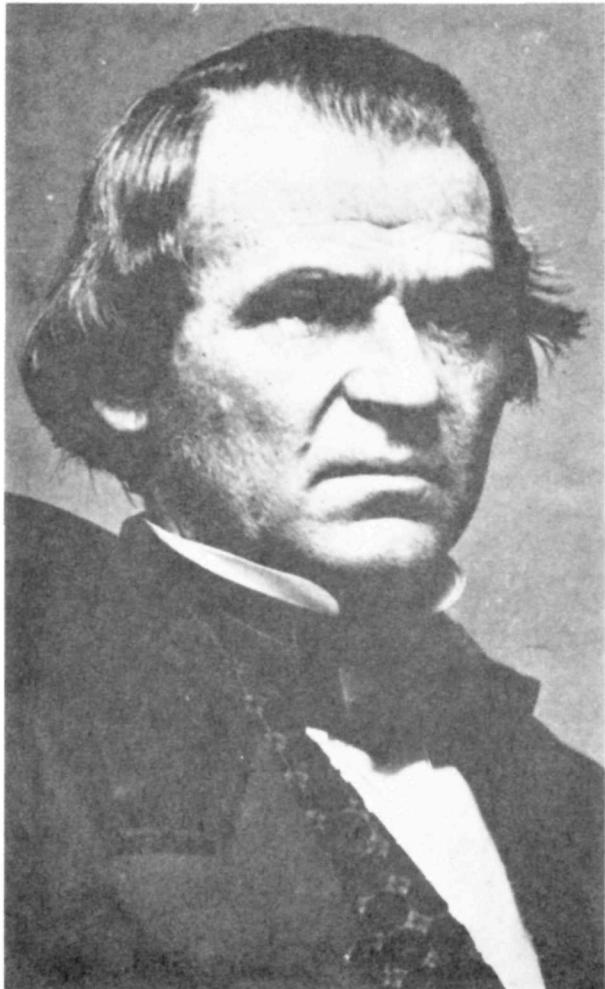
TABLE I (CTD.)

Catalog & Acc. No.	Date Ac- cessioned	Description	Present Location	Condition
7.4-1&2 Acc. 3	Mar. 22, '37	Pair brass candlesticks, 12" high, lead bases, w/carved flowers.	Mantlepiece of back parlor	One good; one w/out top
7.5-3 Acc. 2	Dec. 15, '36	Mahogany rocking chair w/arms, hand carved top. Seat and back w/horse- hair upholstery. Sold in 1861 by Lincoln from his Springfield home.	Front parlor	Fair
7.16-1 Acc. 2	Dec. 15, '36	Sofa, mahogany, handcarved wooden back w/floral design, upholstered w/black horsehair, scroll ends, 6 ft. 9 in. long. First sofa owned by Lincolns, purchased in 1844, Springfield, Ill. Sold by him in 1861.	Front parlor	Fair
7.16-2 Acc. 3	Dec. 15, '36	Sofa, mahogany (solid rosewood), 5 ft. 3 in. long, hand carved top & black tufted horsehair upholstery. From Lincoln home, Springfield, Ill.	Back parlor	Good



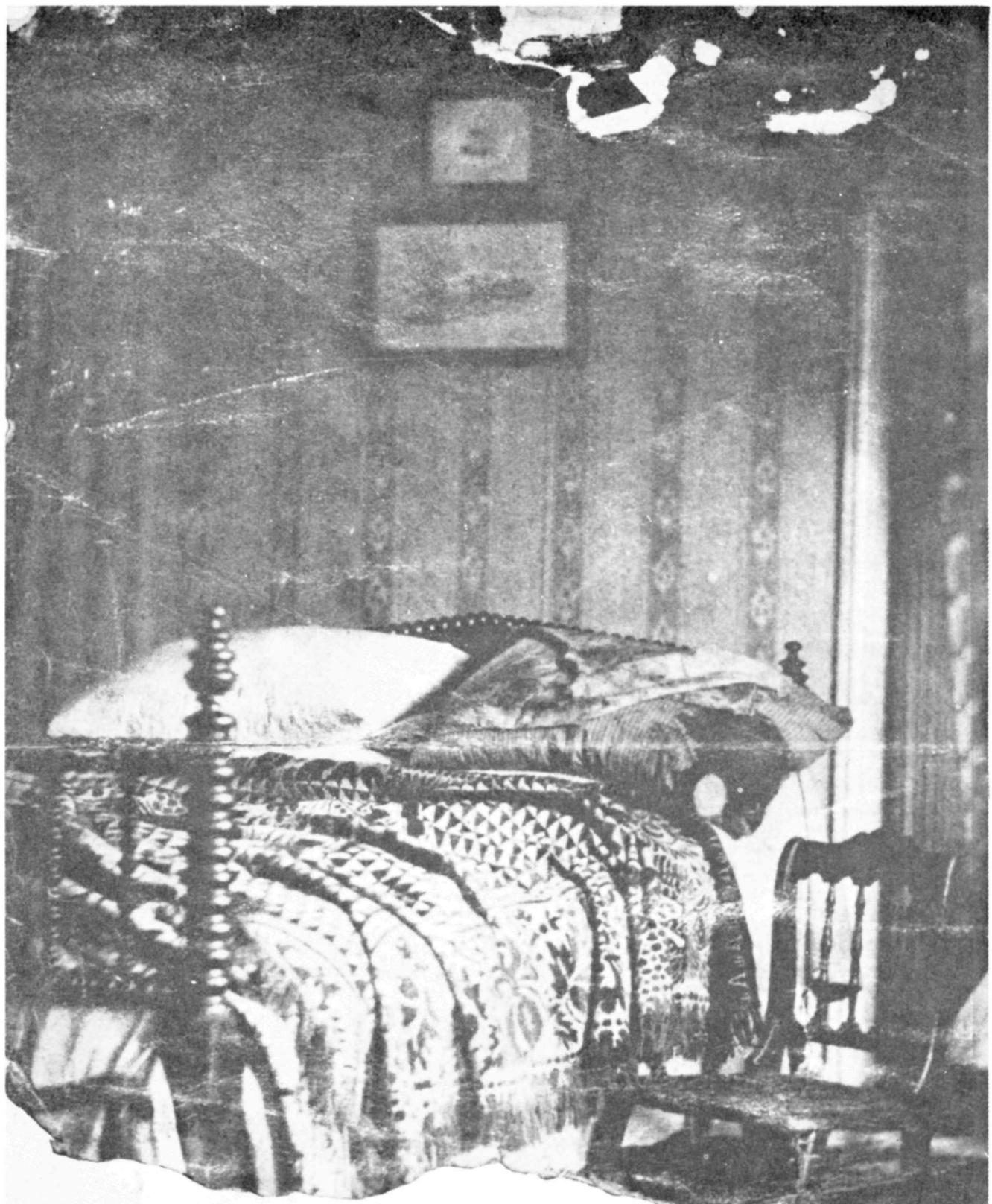
3 1 2

2. Engraving of contemporary scene at Petersen house night of Lincoln's death. Note position of gas lamp (1), door to easement passageway (2), and stoop of house adjoining to south (3).



(American Heritage)

3. Vice President Andrew Johnson (left) visited the dying President at the Petersen House early on the morning of April 15, 1865. Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton (right), conducted the court of inquiry, interrogated witnesses to the **assassination**, and wrote the presidential oath of succession in the back parlor.



(American Heritage)

4. Rare photograph of the actual scene in the room where Lincoln died showing the blood stained pillow on which his head rested. The photograph was taken by the Ulke Brothers, who roomed at the Petersen House at the time, after Lincoln's body was removed to the White House.



CHARLES A. LEALE, M.D.

(National Library of Medicine)

5. Dr. Charles A. Leale, first physician to minister to President Lincoln after his assassination. Dr. Leale was in the audience at Ford's Theatre at the time and was a specialist in gunshot wounds. He directed the carrying of Lincoln to the Petersen House.



6. Petersen house after its purchase by Anna Schade. Believed to be earliest photograph, c. 1883, when memorial plaque was placed on front between first and second floors, and Louis Schade published the Washington Sentinel in the front basement. Note sign over door to permanent easement to the house and position of gas lamp compared to Illustration 2.



House No. 516 Tenth Street NW., as when President Lincoln died there

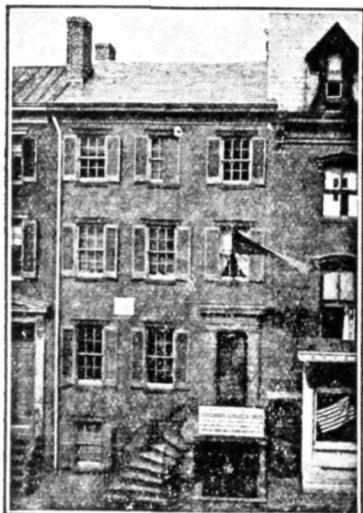
7. Typical erroneously identified photograph of Petersen House. Could not be its appearance as when Lincoln died for the plaque in center of wall was not installed until 1883; Louis Schade published the Washington Sentinel there only after it was purchased by his wife, Anna, in 1878; and the stoop of the house to the south is changed from its 1865 appearance. Compare with Illustration 2 noting also original position of gas lamp at curb line.

THE HOUSE IN WHICH

ABRAHAM LINCOLN DIED

516 TENTH STREET

WASHINGTON, D. C.



CONTAINS THE
Oldroyd Lincoln Memorial Collection
CONSISTING OF OVER THREE THOUSAND
ARTICLES PERTAINING TO THE
MARTYRED PRESIDENT
OPEN EVERY DAY AND EVENING AT ALL HOURS

The house in which President Lincoln died is located at 516 Tenth Street, N. W., between E and F Streets, and directly opposite Ford's Theater, where President Lincoln was shot by J. Wilkes Booth in the private box a few minutes past ten o'clock on the night of April 14, 1865, and almost immediately carried across the street to the house in which he died (the home of Wm. Petersen) at twenty-two minutes past seven the following morning. At nine o'clock the body was taken to the White House, where it remained in the East room until the funeral sermon was preached, by Rev. P. D. Gurley, on the 19th, after which the body was removed to the Capitol, and there remained, exposed to the view of many thousand persons, until the 21st. On that day the journey to his tomb commenced, arriving at Springfield, Ill., on the 3d day of May, and on the 4th it was placed in a temporary vault, there to await the building of a final resting place by a grateful and loving people.

This Collection Contains

15 books and miscellaneous articles once the property of or associated with him.

13 pieces of furniture from the Lincoln Homestead, Springfield, Ill.

11 autograph letters and documents.

62 pictures illustrating his early life and homes.

70 badges, caricatures and flags relating to the Lincoln campaign in 1860.

27 scenes in his life, illustrating his journey from Springfield to be inaugurated President in 1861.

35 caricatures of his administration.

145 pictures illustrating the assassination and funeral of the President.

37 photographs of Booth, his flight, capture, death and burial.

The spur worn by Booth which caught in the flag draped before the President's box.

The silk flag which caught Booth's spur as he leaped from the box to the stage.

1,000 biographies of Lincoln, histories of slavery, the Civil War and works relating to the martyred President.

200 magazines containing editorials upon the death and various articles upon his administration, etc.

325 newspapers, dating from 1843 to 1865, containing his speeches, elections, war papers, death and burial.

255 funeral sermons, addresses and eulogies delivered upon his death.

227 original autographic tributes, reminiscences, etc., from prominent men upon his life and character.

66 pieces of sheet music published at the time of his death.

65 photographs and illustrations of Ford's Theater, the conspirators, their trial and execution.

253 portraits, consisting of original photographs, steel engravings, lithographs, etc.

83 engravings of the Lincoln family, groups of the President and Cabinet, allegorical pictures, etc.

24 United States fractional currency issued during the Lincoln administration.

27 busts, statuettes, life masks, etc.

24 medallions.

171 political and memorial medals struck in honor of the President.

An original black locust rail split by Abraham Lincoln in 1830, with an affidavit by John Hanks, attested to by Governor Ogelsby, dating back to 1860, five years before the President's death.

The office chair used by him in his law office at Springfield, when elected President in 1860, and in which he sat when he formed his first cabinet and drafted his first inaugural address before leaving for Washington.

The last cook stove used by Mrs. Lincoln in the home-stead at Springfield.

The family cradle in which the Lincoln children were rocked.

An original reward bill offering \$100,000 for the capture of Booth, Harold and Surratt.

Family Bible out of which his mother read to him when he was a very young boy. The bible is 100 years old, and on the cover of this bible Lincoln wrote his name when not over nine years of age.

A large book would be required to describe the many articles found in this vast collection; it must be visited in order to be fully appreciated. An admission of twenty-five cents is charged in order to defray the expenses of preserving the house until such time as an appropriation is made by the Government to throw the house open to the public.

8. Pages from pamphlet describing the Oldroyd Lincoln Memorial Collection while the Lincoln Museum occupied the first floor of the Petersen House, and after its purchase by the U. S. Government.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

DEC 23 1925

WASH. D. C.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 10, 1925

Mr. WILLIS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Library

Opp'd My. 11... Pub. Law 215

Re. P. R. 215
2. 312. 2

A BILL

For the purchase of the Oldroyd collection of Lincoln relics.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the
4 Attorney General are hereby designated as a commission
5 with authority, in their discretion, to purchase the Oldroyd
6 collection of Lincoln relics, and that the sum of \$50,000,
7 or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized
8 to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not
9 otherwise appropriated, to enable the commission to con-
10 summate such purchase.

9. Senate Bill 957, 69th Congress, 1st Session, for the purchase of the Oldroyd collection of Lincoln "relics". It became Public Law 215 and the collection was purchased for \$50,000 from Oldroyd on May 30, 1926.

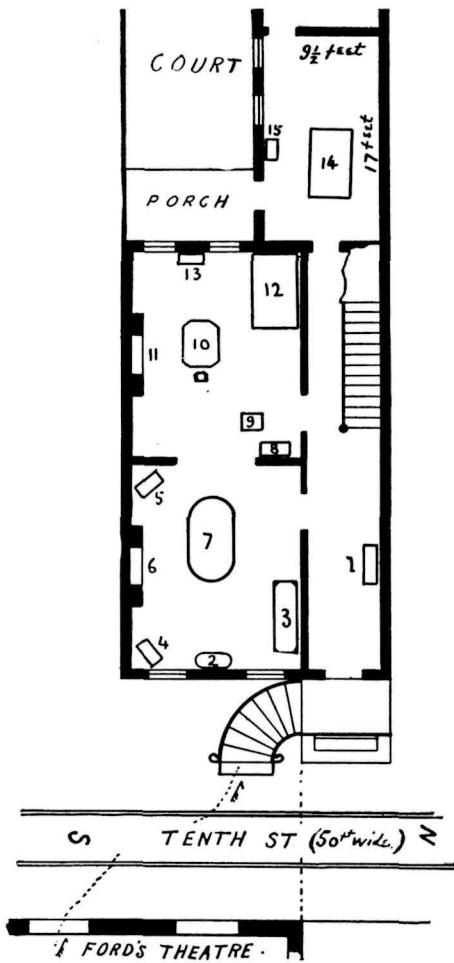


DIAGRAM OF THE SECOND STORY OF THE HOUSE IN WHICH LINCOLN DIED.

Mrs. Lincoln occupied the front parlor, making frequent visits to the bedside of the President.

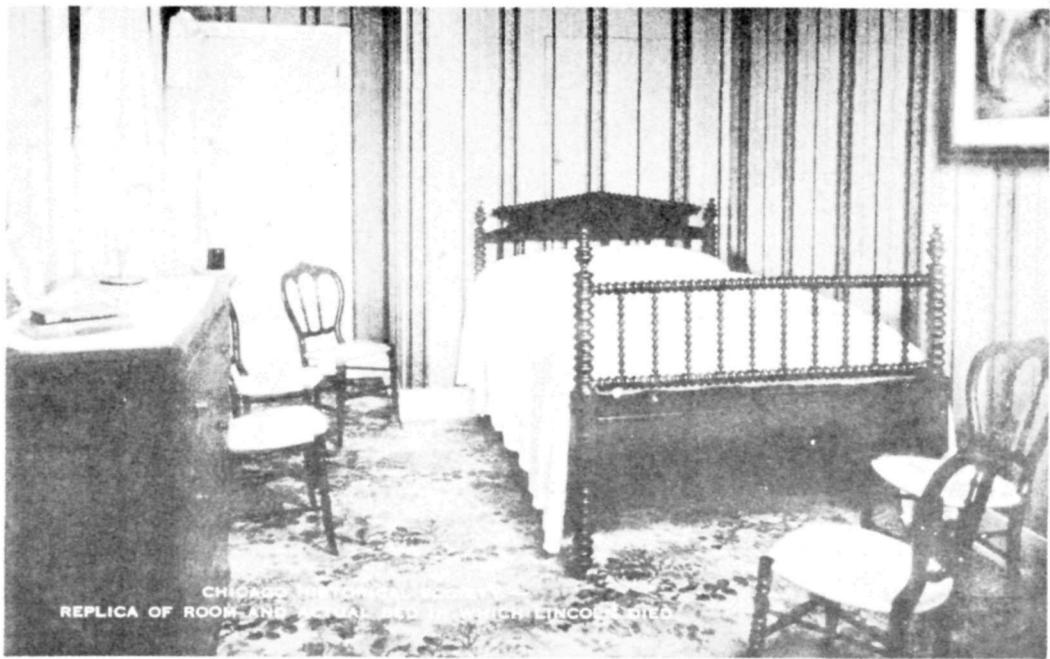
1. Hat-rack in hall. 2. Table. 3. Sofa, occupied by Mrs. Lincoln. 4 and 5. What-nots. 6. Fireplace. 7. Center table.

Back parlor.

8. Washstand. 9. Table at which Secretary Stanton wrote his dispatches. 10. Table and chair occupied by Corporal James Tanner as stenographer during the preliminary examinations of the witnesses. 11. Fireplace. 12. Bed, not made up. 13. Bureau.

14. Bed on which the President died. 15. Table.

10. Diagram by Oldroyd of first floor (erroneously referred to as "second" floor) of the House Where Lincoln Died. According to the Appraisal Inventory of October 21, 1871, only one whatnot was in front parlor where Mrs. Lincoln passed the tragic night. (See Table II)



(Chicago Historical Society)

11. Lincoln Room of the Chicago Historical Society, showing original bed on which Lincoln died and other artifacts from the Petersen House. The bed is shown against the northwest corner of the room whereas it was against the northeast corner. Dummy door appears behind head of bed and probably led to a small clothes closet over steps leading to the kitchen below in the basement.



(D. C. Library)

12. House where Lincoln died as it appeared in March 1907.



(D. C. Library)

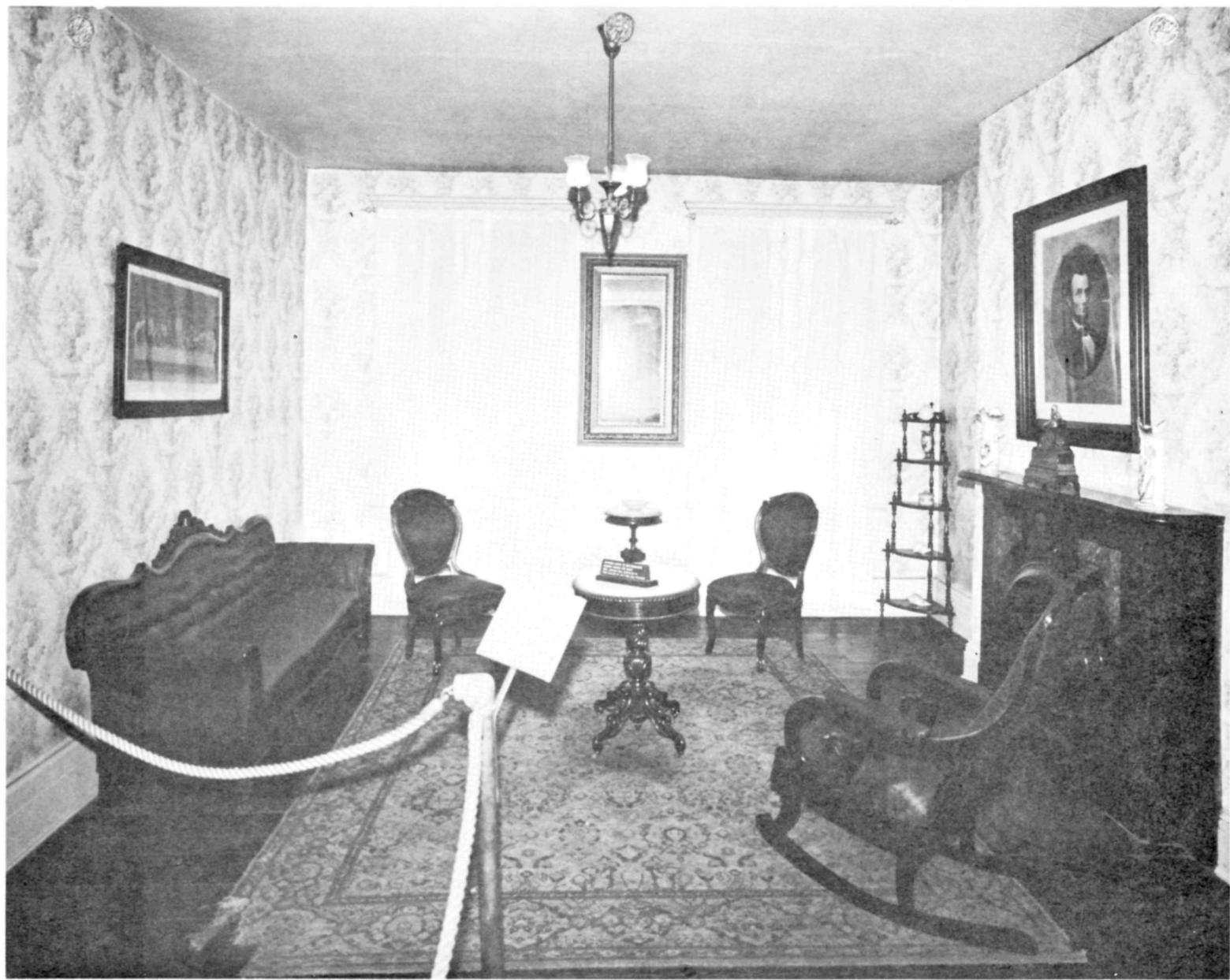
13. General view of Petersen House, adjoining row houses to the south, and typical street scene, March 1907.



14. The Petersen House prior to removal of the Oldroyd collection to the old Ford's Theatre building.



15. Early restoration of the first floor hallway through which Lincoln was carried.



16. East end of refurnished front parlor, June, 1967.



17. Overall scene of refurnished back parlor looking west, June, 1967.



18. Room where Lincoln died as it appeared prior to rehabilitation of 1958-1959. Note dummy door (doorknot seen through foot of bed) that probably led to former clothes closet. Lincoln Room at the Chicago Historical Society is probably based on this scene.



19. Park guide Joanne Richards interpreting the bed on which Lincoln died to a typical visiting family group consisting of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Browne of Northport, Long Island, N.Y., and their three children, Margie, age 11; Barbara, age 10; and Katherine, age 6, March 27, 1967. Note original pillow on which Lincoln's head rested and reproduction of original bedspread. Compare with Ulke photograph, Illus. 4.



20.

REHABILITATION OF PETERSON HOUSE
516, 10th STREET, N.W.

CONTRACT NO. 14-10-028-1607
DEMOLITION OF REAR OF BUILDING
DECEMBER 17th, 1958

GEO.C.MARTIN CONTRACTOR



21.

REHABILITATION OF PETERSON HOUSE
516, 10th STREET, N.W.

CONTRACT NO. 14-10-028-1607
GENERAL VIEW OF FRONT AFTER SANDBLASTING & PRIOR TO WATER PROOFING &
POINTING
FEBRUARY 10th, 1959

GEO.C. MARTIN CONTRACTOR



22. General neighborhood scene of the House Where Lincoln Died as it appeared March 27, 1967.



23. The controversial easement that was deeded in perpetuity to the U.S. by Anna Schade in 1896. Utility controls are affixed to the exterior of the north wall of the basement hallway. Light controls, fire alarm and room indicator assure instant pinpointing in emergency.

SECTION TWO
DOCUMENTED ACCOUNT OF HISTORIC FURNITURE

Introduction.--Any examination of the documentation of the historic furnishings of the Petersen House must take into account the various materials on which the refurbishings to date have been based. Despite the voluminous number of writings made over the past century since the assassination of Lincoln in 1865, it appears that conjecture more than official documentation has been used by writers attempting to describe the historic scene. Contemporary newspaper accounts dwell solely on the furniture of the room where Lincoln died. The Littleton painting distorts to a great extent the size, the furnishings, and the actual death bed scene. It is logical to assume that Mrs. Lincoln sat on a sofa in the front parlor for all front parlors of that day and of the Petersen's social standing had the type of sofa described. It is also logical to assume that Stanton worked at a table in the back parlor. When the Chicago Historical Society became the donee in 1893 of the original furnishings of the room in which Lincoln died, the affidavit accompanying the furniture from the Chicago Gunther Collection was based partly on information received from the Petersen heirs, partly on family hearsay, and partly fact. Even family documentation becomes questionable, as witness the Frasier affidavit made in 1950 concerning the alleged role of Pauline Petersen that fateful night.

The Petersen's youngest daughter was not even home that night so how could she have played the role of Florence Nightingale?

She was away at school. And furthermore, the official report of Dr. Charles A. Leale apparently did not see the light of day until a copy of this significant document was exhibited to the public for the first time at the Library of Congress in 1960. Dr. Leale's elderly nieces donated a copy of the Leale report to the National Park Service in 1964. Yet not one copy mentions a word of the supposed ministrations of Pauline Petersen. A hospital steward was officially on duty throughout the night. That little has been known of the Leale report is not surprising. The Congressional Assassination Investigating Committee, or the so-called Butler Committee under the chairmanship of Major General Benjamin F. Butler, never published the results, if any, of its findings. Indeed, Dr. Leale made his report at the request of General Butler in 1867 more than two years post facto of the event.

Oldroyd's sketch of the setting¹ is noted particularly for its vagueness. It appears that he was more concerned with the manner in which the articles of furniture from Lincoln's Springfield home would fit into the scene and thereby justify the government's purchase of his collection of Lincolniana. Even the Smithsonian Institution, when queried about its interest in the collection, pronounced it to be of little practical value. Therefore, for quite some years, at least from 1926 to 1932 when the Service became custodian of the Petersen House, the Oldroyd collection of Lincolniana, and the Ford Theatre

1. Illustration 10.

building, documentation for the furnishings of the scene of Lincoln's death was based on questionable sources. It appears that the most obvious source of documentation was ignored. These were the records of the Office of the Register of Wills, D. C. Government. It contains in addition to last wills and testimony filed according to law, the inventories and sales accounts of estate settlements made under the direction of court appointed administrators, appraisers, and auctioneers when a decedent dies intestate. Such was the case with both William and Anna Petersen who died intestate in 1871 within four months of each other. From a critical examination of these records and the events it appears that the Petersen heirs had no desire either to retain the furniture of their parents or to live any longer in the house which had seen such tragedy. The only item retained by any member of the Petersen family was the original pillow on which Lincoln's head rested, and as shown by the Frasier affidavit, it was willed to Louise Petersen by her father, even though the Register of Wills records no such document. It is to these two documents that we must turn and finally for once and all, it is hoped, recreate as accurately as possible at this late date the historic scene in the House Where Lincoln Died.

The Petersen documents.--There is no official record of wills having been filed for either William or Anna Petersen as noted earlier.² When Mrs. Petersen died on October 18, 1871, the local District Court appointed Charles Kloman, reportedly a relative, as

2. Archivist Mosholder to Olszewski, June 14, 1967.

executor of her estate. Kloman obtained the services of a local firm of appraisers, Ott & Wheeler, who were authorized by the Register of Wills on October 21, 1871, to make an appraisal of the goods, chattels and estate of the late Anna Petersen. This was completed by them on October 25. Notice of the auction of the furnishings of the Petersen house appeared in the Evening Star of October 28, specifying that it would be held by Green and Williams, local auctioneers at 7th and D Streets, Northwest, at the Petersen home.

The auction was held as scheduled and on November 7, 1871, a final account of the sale and the amount received for each item was approved by A. Webster, Register of Wills. These documents were filed with the Office, Register of Wills, until they were transferred to the National Archives in 1953. The furnishings were appraised at a total value of \$561.40 and auctioned for a total of \$747.68. The few cents discrepancy between the original documents and Tables II and III of this report is due to slight clerical errors in the original computations and to partial illegibility of the writing.

The most significant value of these documents is: (1) that the inventory at least locates the furniture in particular rooms as of 1871; and (2) even though the sales account gives no listing of the individual rooms from which the furniture was sold, it is most useful because one is able to deduce from it the prices paid for items easily identifiable as being from the room where Lincoln died. Further, by comparing these two documents one realizes that the inventory did

TABLE II

APPRAISAL INVENTORY OF FURNISHINGS OF THE PETERSEN HOUSE
October 21, 1871.3FIRST FLOOR

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Item:</u>	<u>Appraised Value:</u>	<u>Forward:</u>
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FRONT PARLOR:

[Room in which Mrs. Lincoln passed the night]	1 Carpet and rug, 18.	\$18.00
	6 H.C. [heavy cane] chairs, 12.	12.00
	1 Marble top table, 7.	7.00
	1 H.C. [horsehair covered sofa, 10.	10.00
[Room 100]	1 Fireboard 25¢.	.25
	1 Pier glass, 18.	18.00
	1 Secretaire, 16.	16.00
	4 C.S. [cane seat] chairs, 3.	3.00
	1 Marble top stand & pitcher, 2.50.	2.50
	1 Rocker, 3.	3.00
	1 Whatnot, 3.	3.00
	2 Venetian Blinds & Cornices, 3.	3.00
	2 Ottomans, 1.	1.00
	4 Cornice ornaments, 1.	1.00

Sub-total: \$ 97.75

BACK PARLOR:

[Room in which Sec. War Stanton ran the government]	1 Fireboard, 20¢.	\$.20
	1 Carpet, 6.	6.00
	8 C.S. chairs & rocker, 4.	4.00
	3 H.C. chairs, 3.	3.00
	1 Ottoman & stool, 45.	.45
[Room 102]	1 Bureau & Glass, 4.50.	4.50
	1 Wardrobe, 7.	7.00
	2 Venetian Blinds, 2.	2.00

Sub-total: \$ 27.15

3. Records of the District of Columbia Courts, Supreme Court of Washington County, Office of Register of Wills, National Archives, Record Group 21, Case No. 6584, O.S., "Anna Petersen." Cited hereafter as NARG.

FIRST FLOOR (CTD.)

	Am't Forward	\$124.90
<u>BED ROOM</u> (Lincoln's):		
[Room in which Lincoln died]	1 Picture & frame, 50¢.	\$.50
	1 Carpeting (2 carpets) on floor, 8.	8.00
	1 Scatter [Rug], 25¢.	.25
[Room 103]	7 C. S. [cane seat] chairs, 3.50.	3.50
	1 Bureau, 2.50.	2.50
	1 Looking glass, 50¢.	.50
	1 Stove, 3.50.	3.50
	1 Bedstead and bedding, 7.	7.00
	1 Leaf stand & cover, 2.50.	2.50
	1 Stool, 25¢.	.25
	1 Curtain fixture, 50¢.	.50
	1 Stand, 1.	1.00
	1 Waiter, 20¢.	.20
	1 Spitton, 15¢.	.15
	1 Basin, 10¢.	.10
	Sub-total:	\$ 30.45

PORCH:

[Rear of 1st floor]	1 Table, 1.50.	1.50
	1 Stand, 75¢.	.75
	1 Marble top table, bowl & pitcher, 4.	4.00
	1 Wardrobe, 5.	5.00
	1 Chair, 75¢.	.75
	1 Chest, 25¢.	.25
	1 Dust pan, 05.	.05
	1 Footstool, 10¢.	.10
	1 Drop light & shade, 1.50.	1.50
	1 Jug, etc., etc., 1.	1.00
	Sub-total:	\$ 14.90

SECOND FLOOR

<u>FRONT ROOM</u>		
[Front or family parlor]	1 Carpet, 18.	\$18.00
	1 Plush sofa, 8.	8.00
	2 H. C. Chairs, 2.	2.00
	2 Camp Chairs, 2.	2.00
[Room 201]	1 Desk, 6.	6.00
	1 Whatnot, 2.50.	2.50
	1 Clock, 75¢.	.75
	1 Venetian blinds, 2.50.	2.50
	Sub-total:	\$ 41.75

SECOND FLOOR (CTD.)

FRONT ROOM (CTD.)

Am't Forward \$212.00

1 Spittoon, 10¢.	\$.10
1 Stand/ water & pitcher, 1.25.	1.25
1 Picture & frame, "Colum- bus," 2.	2.00
1 Picture & frame, "Russia, 1812," 1.	1.00
1 Picture & frame, "Heidel- berg," 1.50.	1.50

Sub-total: \$ 5.85

BACK ROOM:

[Room 202]

1 Carpet & rug, 3.	\$ 3.00
1 Bureau & glass, 3.	3.00
1 Washstand bowl & pitcher, 2.	2.00
1 Stand, 75.	.75
1 Wardrobe, 4.	4.00
1 Looking glass, 1.50.	1.50
1 Blinds [Venetian], 2.50.	2.50
1 Stand, 2.	2.00
1 Clothes basket, 1.	1.00
1 Picture "Niagara," 1.25.	1.25

Sub-total: \$ 21.00

HALL ROOM:

[Room 203]

1 Carpet, 75.	\$.75
1 Bedstead & bedding, 6.	6.00
1 Stand bowl, 75.	.75
1 Bucket, .25.	.25
1 Bureau & glass, 2.50.	2.50
1 Stand & cover, 75.	.75
1 Spittoon, 15¢.	.15
1 Lot pictures, 75¢.	.75

Sub-total: \$ 11.90

THIRD FLOOR

HALL ROOM:

[Room 303]

1 Carpet, 50¢.	\$.50
1 Stove, 2.50.	2.50
1 Stove, 2.50.	2.50

Sub-total: \$ 5.50

THIRD FLOOR (CTD.)

HALL ROOM (CTD.) Am't Forward \$256.25

1 Bedstead & bedding, 5.	\$ 5.00
1 Bureau, 2.	2.00
1 Curtains, 25¢	.25
1 Toilet glass, 1	1.00
2 C.S. chairs, 50	.50
1 Table & cover, 1	1.00
1 Washstand bowl & pitcher, 1.25.	1.25
1 Picture, 15¢.	.15
1 W. C. [water closet] chair, 15¢.	.15
1 Spittoon, 10¢.	.10

Sub-total: — \$ 11.40

FRONT ROOM

1 Carpet, 5.	\$ 5.00
1 Sofa, 3.	3.00
1 Bedstead and bedding, 6.	6.00
1 Table & cover, 125.	1.25
1 Looking glass, 50¢.	.50
1 Bureau, 3.50.	3.50
1 Clothes basket, 50¢.	.50
3 C.S. Chairs & Rocker, 1.50.	1.50
1 Stand bowl & pitcher, 2.50.	2.50
1 Stand, 25¢.	.25
2 Curtains, 50¢.	.50
3 Pictures, 75¢.	.75
1 Spittoon, 10¢.	.10

Sub-total: — \$ 25.35

BACK ROOM

1 Carpet, 4	\$ 4.00
1 Bedstead and bedding, 5.50.	5.50
1 Bureau & glass, 3.	3.00
1 Bookcase & drawers, 4.	4.00
1 Sofa, 3.	3.00
1 Table & cover, 1.25.	1.25
1 Washstand bowl & pitcher, 1.50.	1.50
1 Foot tub, 20¢	.20
1 Clock, 3.	3.00
1 Shades, 20¢.	.20
1 C.S. Chair, 25¢.	.25

Sub-total: — \$ 25.90

THIRD FLOOR (CTD.)

HALL: (3d Fl.)

Am't Forward \$318.90

1 Wardrobe, 4. \$ 4.00
2 Stoves, 6. 6.00

Sub-total: \$ 10.00

HALL: (2nd. Fl.)

1 Stove, 4 \$ 4.00
1 Table & cover, 2.25. 2.25
1 Water cooler, 75¢ .75

Sub-total: \$ 7.00

HALL: (1st Fl.)

1 Hat rack, 1.50. \$ 1.50
1 Stand & cover, 1. 1.00
1 Venetian blind, 1. 1.00
1 Picture, 50¢ .50

Sub-total: \$ 4.00

STAIRS (1st, 2nd,
3d floors):

1 [Lot] Oilcloth carpet,
stair carpet & rods \$ 5.00

Sub-total: \$ 5.00

BASEMENT

DINING ROOM:

[Room 10]

1 Carpet, 8. \$ 8.00
1 Rug, 50¢ .50
1 Looking glass, 7. 7.00
1 Ven. Blinds, 1.50. 1.50
1 Lounge, 2.25. 2.25
1 Table & cover, 6. 6.00
1 Clock, 2.50. 2.50
1 Bookcase & Secretaire,
6. 6.00
1 Easy chair, 1. 1.00
1 Rocker, 75¢ .75
1 Fireboard, 25¢ .25
4 Pictures, 4. 4.00
1 Ottoman, 20¢ .20
1 Stool, 25¢ .25
2 Conch shells, 50¢ .50
1 Spittoon, 10¢ .10

Sub-total: \$ 40.80

BASEMENT (CTD.)

		Am't Forward \$385.70
<u>BACK DINING ROOM:</u>		
[Room 11]	1 Matting, 25¢	\$.25
	1 BEDSTEAD & BEDDING (LINCOLN'S), 6.	6.00
	1 Table, 1.25	1.25
	1 Looking glass, 0.25	.25
	1 Clothes press, 1.50	1.50
	1 Toilet glass, 75¢	.75
	1 Bureau, 5.	5.00
	1 C.S. Chair, 25¢	.25
	2 Waiters, 20¢	.20
	<u>Sub-total</u>	<u>\$ 15.45</u>
<u>KITCHEN:</u>		
[Room 12]	1 large table, 75¢; 1 old sofa, 50; 1 safe 1.50; 1 sm table, 50¢; 5 chairs & rocker, 1.25; 1 stove fixture, 10; 4 flat irons, 50¢; 1 lot crockery, dishes, glass & tinware, 3.; 1 looking glass, 20¢	
	<u>Sub-total:</u>	\$ 8.30
<u>YARD:</u>		
	1 dresser, 25; 1 old refrigerator, 1.25; 4 tools, 1.; contents of yard & lumber house, 6.; 1 sm. refrig. 2.	
	<u>Sub-total:</u>	\$ 10.50
<u>BASEMENT HALL:</u>		
[Room 9]	1 lot oilcloth & stair carpet, 1.; 1 bookcase, .25; 1 hvy box, 20¢; CASH ON HAND: \$140.00	
	<u>Sub-total</u>	<u>\$141.45</u>
	<u>GRAND TOTAL:</u>	<u>\$561.40</u> ⁴

4. The slight discrepancy of \$4.10 between the official appraised value of \$557.50 as noted in the inventory of Ott & Wheeler and the present computations is negligible since some of the figures were undecipherable.

TABLE III
SALES ACCOUNT FOR THE ESTATE OF ANNA PETERSEN

Washington, D. C., Oct. 30th, 1871

Account of Sale

For Charles Kloman, Administrator on the Personal effects
of the late Anna Petersen, Deceased.

By Green and William, Auctioneers

ITEM:	AMT:	ITEM:	AMT:
Lot Tins	\$.15	Amt. Brot. up	\$ 23.79
" "	.20	Ladder & Hose	1.00
2 Buckets	.10	Lot Crockery	.25
2 Cups & Pans	.20	Lot Plates	.20
1 K. Table	.75	" Crockery	.40
Bucket, etc.	.50	" "	1.10
1 Table	.25	1 Pitcher	.15
1 Glass	.15	1 Table & Cover	2.30
1 Sofa	2.50	2 Waitors	.10
1 Lounge	.50	1 Mirror	.70
4 Wood Chairs @ 31¢	1.24	1 "	.25
1 Cook Stove	8.25	1 Cupboard	1.50
Coal Hod & Pans	.35	1 Wood Rocker	.85
Lot Tin Ware	.40	1 Bureau	5.25
1 ps Oil Cloth	.45	Lot Matting	1.40
2 Sad Irons <u>/sadiren/</u>	.25	1 Clock	1.30
3 " "	.60	1 Lounge	1.50
Lot Oil Cloth	.15	1 Table	3.60
Curtain, Bucket & Picture	.45	1 " Cover	1.15
1 Refrigerator	1.00	1 Mirror	10.00
1 " , Table & Stool	.70	1 Book Case	15.00
Box, Chair & Bench	.10	1 Lot Book	2.00
1 Bath Tub	.25	3 Shells	.15
2 Tubs	.45	2 Spittoons @ 25¢	.50
2 "	1.25	5 C. S. Chairs @ 60¢	3.00
1 Washboard	.20	1 Fireboard	.20
Chair, C. Horse & Box	.45	21 Yds. Carpet @ 55¢	11.55
1 Axe	.65	1 R. Chair & Tidy	2.10
Lot Sundries in Shed	1.30	2 Engravings @ 60¢	1.20
Am't Forw'd	\$ 23.79	Am't Forw'd	\$ 92.49

5. From the original sales account in Op. cit., NARG 21.

TABLE IV (CTD.)

ITEM:	AMT:	ITEM:	AMT.
Amt. Brot Up	\$ 92.49	Amt. Brot Up	\$285.59
2 Veg. Dishes @ 20¢	.40	1 Saloon Table	2.00
1 Box & Stool	.60	1 Tidy	.21
1 Comb Box	.55	1 Engraving	.55
1 Hanging Shelf	.40	1 Ottoman	.45
1 " Box	.15	1 "	.30
Lot Oil Cloth	4.00	1 Rug	1.50
" " "	1.00	30 Yds Carpet @ 50¢	15.00
1 Bedstead & 2 Mattresses	80.00	1 Mirror	26.00
2 Feather Pillows	2.62	1 M. T. Table	10.00
1 Comfort	1.60	1 Book Case	21.50
1 Spread	1.00	1 H. C. Sofa	15.25
2 Blankets	2.62	6 H. C. Chairs @ 1.50¢	9.00
2 "	1.50	1 What Not	8.75
32 Lbs Feathers @ 35¢	11.20	1 Rocker	3.25
1 Mattress	1.62	3 C. S. Chairs @ 90¢	2.70
1 Stove & Pipe	3.75	2 Ottomans @ 1.00¢	2.00
1 Drop Light	.50	1 Rug	2.62
1 Bureau	5.00	4 Ven. Blinds @ 25¢	1.00
1 Mirror	1.15	2 Cornices @ 45¢	.90
1 Picture	.75	33 Yds Carpet @ 1.30¢	42.90
3 Books	.55	1 Hat Tree	3.25
2 Curtains @ 45¢	.90	1 Table	1.12
Lot Carpets	11.00	1 Picture	.30
1 Table	.75	36 yds Stair Carpet @ 32¢	11.52
1 " & Cover	1.50	Lot Oil Cloth	1.25
1 Arm Chair	.87	1 Vase	.10
1 Wardrobe	4.00	1 Curtain	.24
1 Chair	1.25	16 Lbs. Feathers @ 40¢	6.40
Pan & Brush	.15	2 Blankets @ 1.20¢	2.40
Chest & Trunk	.40	38 Lbs. Feathers @ 16¢	6.08
1 Oak Chair	.65	1 Mattress	1.62
1 Fire board	.10	1 "	2.00
1 Bureau	19.00	1 Basket	.75
1 Wardrobe	12.00	1 Mirror	4.25
1 Spread	1.25	1 Washstand	1.40
1 Pil. Case	.35	1 Bureau	3.00
1 Comfort	1.55	1 Table	1.50
11 Lbs. Feathers @ 40¢	4.40	1 Rug	.40
1 Mattress	1.50	1 Wardrobe	4.00
1 "	1.87	1 Fireboard	.35
1 Bedstead	5.25	32 Yds Carpet @ 21¢	6.72
1 C. S. Rocker	3.40	1 Picture	.55
Amt. Forw'd	\$285.59	Amt. Forw'd	\$510.67

TABLE IV (CTD.)

ITEM:	AMT:	ITEM:	AMT.
Amt. Brot Up	\$510.67	Amt. Brot Up	\$629.80
4 Blinds @ 30¢	1.30	Spittoon & Curtain	.35
1 Sofa	5.75	1 Table	.70
1 Rocker	2.75	2 Chairs @ 25¢	.50
1 Camp Chair	.80	1 Stove	1.37
1 Picture	.65	Washstand Crockery etc.	.80
1 Clock	.85	1 Bureau	3.12
Lot Books	1.50	1 Toilet Glass	.50
3 H. C. Chairs @ 1.20¢	3.60	Lot Carpet	1.50
1 What Not	4.12	1 Sofa	3.75
1 Desk	10.00	1 Mirror	.70
2 C. S. Chairs @ 70¢	1.40	4 Curtains @ 30¢	1.20
1 Camp "	.50	Lot Pictures	.75
1 Picture	.40	2 Blankets @ 1.00¢	2.00
2 Fireboards @ 25¢	.50	6 Lbs Feathers @ 30¢	2.16
1 Ornament	.12	1 Pil Case	.10
1 Table	2.75	1 Hair Mattress	2.75
22 Yds Carpet @ 1.00¢	22.00	1 Bedstead	3.25
Lot Carpet & Rug	2.25	2 Mattresses	2.75
1 Spittoon	.20	1 Table	.60
1 Bedstead	3.00	1 Spittoon	.15
5 Lbs Feathers @ 35¢	1.75	1 Table	.25
19 " " @ 35¢	6.65	1 Rocker	1.60
1 Blanket	.80	1 Bureau	3.87
36 Lbs Hair Mattress @ 13¢	4.68	1 Basket	.80
1 Mattress	1.10	1 Arm Chair	1.15
1 Table & Tray	1.00	Washstand & Crockery	1.25
1 Bureau	5.75	2 C. S. Chairs @ 75¢	1.50
Lot Pictures	.12	27 Yds Carpet @ 50¢	13.50
3 Chairs @ 35¢	1.05	1 H. C. Sofa	4.20
Washstand & Crockery	1.00	1 Clock	2.00
Spittoon & Curtain	.10	1 Book Case	4.00
Lot Carpet	1.37	1 Table Cover	.25
1 Stove	4.25	1 Bureau	6.25
1 Table & Cover	2.75	1 Arm Chair	.75
1 Cooler	1.25	Washstand & Crockery	1.87
1 Chair	.65	2 Spittoons	.15
Lot Carpet & Crash	1.75	1 Bedstead	2.65
1 Stove	3.00	2 Mattresses @ 1.70¢	3.40
1 Wardrobe	4.00	2 Rugs	.80
1 Bedstead	3.00	1 Table	1.35
5 Lbs Feathers @ 35¢	1.75	Pillows & Comfort	2.00
29" Hair Mattress @ 20¢	5.80	1 Carpet	5.50
1 Corn "	1.12	1 Bedstead	10.50
Amt. Forw'd	\$629.80	Amt. Forw'd	\$728.39

TABLE IV (CTD.)

ITEM:	AMT:	ITEM:	AMT:
Amt. Brot Up	\$728.39	Amt. Brot Up	\$741.36
1 M. T. Table	2.87	1 Washstand	2.37
1 Ottaman	.25	1 Armchair	1.25
Lot Rods	.85	1 " "	1.25
Images & Oil Cloth	1.00	1 " "	1.00
B. Stead & Mattress	8.00	1 Chair	.45
 Amt Up	 <u>\$741.36</u>	Total	 <u>\$747.68</u>

CHARGES

Commission, Etc.	\$ 37.37
Bellman	1.00
Advt in Star	10.50
Hauling goods to Store	1.00
By Cash to Settle	<u>\$697.81</u>
	\$747.68

Settled by
 [LS] D. TIM JOHNSON
 for GREEN & WILLIAMS
 Auctioneers

Nov. 7th/71

AFFIDAVIT

District of Columbia) Washington County) to wit:

Supreme Court of the
 District of Columbia,
 Holding a Special Term.

Nov. 7, 1871

This day appeared CHARLES KLOMAN, EXECUTOR OF ANNA PETERSEN, deceased, and made oath on the Holy Evangel of Almighty God, that the foregoing is a just account of sales of ALL the personal estate of the aforesaid ANNA PETERSEN deceased, and that the same was faithfully and fairly made to the best of HIS knowledge and belief.

TEST:

/LS/ A. WEBSTER
 Register of Wills
 per
 JJAcc [Illegible]

TABLE IV
SALE PRICE OF HISTORIC FURNITURE⁶

<u>ITEM and NO.</u>	<u>PRICE PAID</u>	<u>TENTATIVE HISTORICAL IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>PRICE FOR LIKE ITEMS</u>
Bedstead (1) & mattresses (2)	\$80.00	Lincoln's death bed	\$3.00-\$10.00
Bureau (1)	19.00	Room Where Lincoln Died (RWLD)	\$3.00-\$ 5.75
Wardrobe (1)	12.00	RWLD	\$4.00
Wash stand, bowl & pitcher (1 set)	2.50	RWLD	\$1.25-\$ 2.00
Rocker (1)	3.25	RWLD	\$.85-\$ 2.75
Mirror (1)	26.00	RWLD	\$.25-\$10.00
Lace [?] curtains (pr.)	.90	RWLD	\$.24
Engravings (2)	1.20	RWLD	\$.55 ea.
Rug (no size given)	2.62	RWLD	\$.40-\$ 1.50
Carpet (no size given)	11.00	RWLD	\$1.37-\$ 5.50
Hair covered sofa (1)	15.25	On which Mrs. Lincoln sat	\$2.50-\$ 5.75

6. With the exception of the bed that is definitely identified as "Lincoln's", this furniture is presumed to be historic based on prices paid according to the official Sales Account of Green & Williams, dated October 30, 1871, and certified to by the Recorder of Wills, D. C. Government, on Nov. 7, 1871, as shown on Table III. My choice of these particular items is based on the fact that they have been identified as being in the room where Lincoln died, or elsewhere as noted, according to the Appraisal Inventory of October 25, 1871, contemporary newspaper accounts and the records of the Chicago Historical Society.

not include all the furnishings of the house for the sales account contains several items not previously listed, such as blankets, kitchen utensils, and others. Nevertheless, these documents possess great value in that they are two of the basic documents that appear to have been previously overlooked. While not giving us a documented record of the historic furnishings of the house on the night of Lincoln's death, they do document certain easily deducible functions of the rooms. Another point worthy of note is that definite documentation has been made of the purchase of the furniture of the room where Lincoln died by noting the price differential as compared to the going price for like items but without the historical significance of the furniture of the Lincoln death room.

Historic Function of Rooms.--The functions of the front parlor, back parlor, the hall, and the room where Lincoln died are established beyond a shadow of a doubt by the numerous reports and writings, including the Littleton painting and the Ulke photograph all of which have appeared during the past century. The functions of the rooms of the basement and of the second and third floors are logically deducible from copies of the original documents appearing herein. However, a few notes on the immediate neighborhood of Ford's Theatre and the House Where Lincoln Died will be helpful in corroborating the historic functioning of the rooms of this historic site.

William Petersen's house was a substantial row house on the west side of Tenth Street, immediately across the street from Ford's Theatre. Had Lincoln not died there, the house would have been of

no historical importance whatsoever. As the March 1907 photographs portray,⁷ the Petersen house was one of a group of three houses which stretched to the south and formed part of a small German Lutheran immigrant community. Undoubtedly, it replaced the earlier Baptists who moved away thereby causing the Board of Trustees of the First Baptist Church of Washington, the site of the present restored Ford's Theatre, to sell their holdings to John T. Ford in 1861.

These three-story and basement homes, undoubtedly, remained unchanged throughout the period when they were occupied by the original owners. The Petersen House, for instance, was most probably unchanged during the twenty-two years, from 1849 to 1871, that William and Anna Petersen lived there and raised their family. No alterations to the structure have been documented prior to the death of William and Anna Petersen in 1871. The changes made in the structure and the additions to the rear are documented by vouchers paid in 1871 and 1872 for work done in enlarging the house at that time prior to its sale to Anna Schade whose husband was a prominent lawyer. The Petersens and Schades were neighbors.

However, as pointed out in Section I, we do have documented evidence that roomers or lodgers and boarders were taken in by the

7. Illustrations 12 and 13.

⁸ Petersens. We may, therefore, deduce that certain floors had definite functions. The second and third floors were most probably occupied by the family, and the entire first floor was undoubtedly rented to the persons identified earlier by the 1860 Census.

Since it is reported, but unconfirmed by any documentary evidence, that the front or east room of the basement was used as a tailoring shop by William Petersen, it is possible that the adjoining room to the rear may have been used as the family dining room. At least these are the deductions to be made from the appraisal inventory of October 25, 1871. We know that the family kitchen was immediately to the rear (Room 12) of the basement hallway (just as the small bedroom to which Lincoln was carried was to the rear of the first floor hallway) because the floors were connected by stairs. Furthermore, Dr. Leale reported that the male nurse brought up hot blankets and hot water the entire night from the room below.

8. The distinction should be kept in mind between "roomers" or "lodgers" and "boarders." The former were entitled to a minimum of services whereas the latter were often accepted into the bosom of the family. This is particularly significant to understanding the sociological history of the mass immigration movements to the United States, particularly from Germany and Occupied Poland prior to the outbreak of World War I. The immigrant did not hesitate to live in his own center of transferred native culture. He had not the slightest fear of living in what contemporary society considers "ghettos" with all their erroneous connations of filth, poverty, disease and racial violence. This Tenth Street area where the Petersens lived consisted largely of German immigrants. That is one reason why the First Baptist Church of Washington was forced to close for lack of a local congregation to support it. The German immigrants were mostly of Lutheran faith and naturally patronized the religious denomination of their heritage. That is also another reason why the Petersens are buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, one of the best cared for private cemeteries in the city. It is still being operated by the Lutheran ministry, the corporation headquarters being at 20th and I streets, Northwest.

Numbering and historic function of rooms.--Much confusion has existed in the past in discussions of the location and historic function of the rooms in the basement and three floors of the Petersen House. To avoid such complications room numbers were assigned to each room and the hallways when the construction drawings for the rehabilitation of the Petersen House were completed in 1958 by Walter G. Peter.

These numbers have been used in Table II, "Appraisal Inventory," to assure conformity in collating these documents. As noted earlier, the architectural sketch shown as Appendix D-2, and dated April, 1958, appears to be a preliminary sketch of the construction drawings included herein as Plates I and II. These plates will serve as partial documentation of the actual rehabilitation until the historic structures report is completed. Their primary function, however, is to document present observations. Below in Table V this collating is set forth and should be used for reference purposes.

One basic observation must be stressed at this point. The 1871 appraisal inventory and sales account are intended to serve as documentary evidence of the historic furnishings as of that date.⁹ There is no known document available to list the furnishings in the Petersen House the night of Abraham Lincoln's death, April 15, 1865. A span of six and a half years separates the date of Lincoln's death and that when the furnishings appraisal inventory was made. The record does not disclose what changes in the furnishings of the house, if any,

9. Author's underscoring.

TABLE V

HISTORIC FUNCTION AND NUMBERING OF ROOMS IN THE PETERSEN HOUSE¹⁰

FLOOR:	HISTORIC FUNCTION OF ROOMS:	ASSIGNED NUMBER:	PRESENT FUNCTION IF DIFFERENT:
<u>BASEMENT:</u>	Hallway	9	Same
	Alleyway	Easement	Same
	Dining room (tailor shop later, newspaper office)	10	Storeroom
	Back dining room	11	Boilerroom
	Kitchen	12	Janitor's room
	Pantry	13	do.
	Storeroom (added in 1871-72)	14	Demolished '58
	Coalbin (added in 1871-72)	15	Demolished '58
<u>FIRST:</u>	Hallway	107	Same
	Front parlor	100	Same
	Back parlor	102	Same
	Bedroom (Room where Lincoln died)	103	Same
	Small room	104	Office
	Bedroom	105	Office
	Library-study (added in 1871-72)	106	Demolished '58
	Porch	None	Rebuilt
<u>SECOND:</u>	Front or Family parlor	201	Archivist's Ofc.
	Back room (bedroom)	202	Lincoln Library
	Hall bedroom	203	Files
	Hallway	None	Same
	Bath (added in 1871-72)	None	Demolished '58
<u>THIRD</u>	Front room (bedroom)	301	Storage
	Back room (bedroom)	302	Storage
	Hall room (bedroom)	303	Flagroom
	Hallway	None	Same
<u>YARD:</u>	Yard		Court
<u>STAIRS:</u>	All floors		Same

10. This table should be collated with Table II, Plates I and II, and Appendix D-2.

were made in this interval. Curatorial analysis and judgment necessarily will have to be exercised in using the data encompassed in this report in determining what furnishing items were for the April 15, 1865 date.

BASEMENT

Front or East Room (Dining Room).--The front or east room (Room 10) of the basement was reported to be Petersen's tailoring shop. The inventory of 1871 identified it as the front dining room with a list of its contents. The sales account also lists five sadirons among the contents of the kitchen (Room 12). If this room should be refurnished as its historic function would indicate, then it should include the following items: sadirons, a grate in the fireplace for heating them, a Singer sewing machine, a table large enough to spread out garments to be worked on, a padded clothes press for ironing garments, and a clothes rack with hangers on which garments were hung when repaired.¹¹

Rear or West Room (Back Dining Room).--This room was most probably the main dining room for the Petersen family and their boarders. It is listed as the "back dining room" (Room 11) but none of the furniture is appropriate to such use. The Lincoln bedstead and bedding were stored here along with other articles which may have been from the same room in which he died (Room 103). If it should be returned to its historic function which, however, appears highly unlikely

11. For the balance of Section II, the basic documents as shown in Tables III and IV, the "Appraisal Inventory" and the Auction "Sales Account" should be collated with the rehabilitation drawings of Plates I and II.

since it is now used as the boiler room and contains the safety devices for the protection of the site, furniture appropriate to such use should be procured.

Kitchen or North Room.--The inventory definitely places the kitchen in the basement. This is the logical location as it was only a few steps from the basement dining rooms, near the refrigerators in the shed in the yard, and could be reached easily for the delivery of groceries from either the rear alleyway or the Tenth Street basement entrance. It should be refurnished as a kitchen, its contents being fully documented on the inventory. The small rooms (Rooms 13, 13a & 13b) to the rear of the kitchen most probably functioned as a pantry.

FIRST FLOOR

East Room or Front Parlor.--Although this room (Room 100) functioned as the front parlor where Mrs. Lincoln spent that fatal night, it was also rented to roomers who occupied both rooms as a unit (the front and back parlors). As noted earlier, it was rented to the Ulke Brothers when Secretary of War Stanton held his court of inquiry there on the night of Lincoln's death. It should most probably retain its present furniture.

West or Rear Parlor.--This room (Room 102) should retain its historic function as the back parlor. The inventory appears to indicate, however, that in 1871 it may have functioned as the family dining room. It should be noted that the secretary presently placed against the south wall between the fireplace and the front parlor is listed as

being in the front parlor in 1871.

Room Where Lincoln Died.--The small bedroom (Room 103) should definitely retain its historic function as the room where Lincoln died. The contents are documented as previously indicated, even though the inventory lists items such as seven chairs, a stove, etc., which from available evidence do not appear to have been part of the original furnishings.

Porch.--The historic function of the porch as it presently appears as an exit for visitors should most probably be retained even though the inventory indicates that it most probably was the usual home "catchall" used for additional storage space.

Yard.--The yard with its shed was most probably used principally for general storage and for food storage in refrigerators.

SECOND FLOOR

Front or East Room.--The front or east room of the second floor was most probably the personal domain of Mrs. Petersen and the family and was used as the front parlor, replacing the usual front parlor of the main or first floor of the house because it was rented.

Rear or West Room.--This room should be refurnished as a bedroom for it most probably functioned as the master bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. Petersen.

Hall Room.--The smaller hall room (Room 203) should be refurnished as a typical hall bedroom for some of the Petersen children most probably slept here.

Third Floor

Front, Rear and Hall Rooms.--These rooms should be refurnished as bedrooms to return them to their historic functions. In them will be recaptured the spirit of the children of the Petersen family as they grew to adulthood.

Hallways.--The hallways of the first, second, and third floors should be restored and furnished with stoves, wardrobes, and on the third floor with a water closet chair, as indicated on the inventory. Most probably there was little change in their function from that of the night of Lincoln's death.

Stairways.--All stairways leading from the basement to the first, second, and third floors should be carpeted, as they probably were in 1865, based on the information of the numerous yards of carpeting reported in the inventory.

Feathers.--Owing to the large amount of feathers noted in the 1871 sales account, it is felt that a word or two about them would be appropriate. A total of 132 pounds, selling for from 16¢ to 40¢ per pound was sold during the auction. At first it was felt that possibly the Petersens may have engaged in a business activity that involved the use or the importation of feathers from their native Germany, one of the largest suppliers of this type of commodity. Or perhaps Mrs. Petersen was a typically frugal German housewife who plucked the feathers over the years from the chickens and geese that she may have served to her family and boarders. A further analysis of the inventory and auction sales account was made and upon compilation of like items it was found that exactly

eight beds were sold and eight lots of feathers. The obvious deduction that would bear up under critical scrutiny is the fact that in all probability these feathers were removed from their ticking and sold in lots. Health regulations alone would infer this. It is presumed that the lot bringing 16¢ per pound consisted most probably of coarse chicken feathers; the other lots bringing 35¢ to 40¢ per pound were undoubtedly down of which the best featherbeds were made. Since there was no central heating at the time, this analysis appears logical. There is no evidence that a featherbed was used to cover Lincoln.

Additions of 1871-1872.--Since the history of the additions made in 1871-1872 to the Petersen House is more properly a part of the pending historic structures report, construction details will be included therein. However, to document certain observations of this study and to provide useful information for interpretive purposes at the present time, some paid vouchers which accompanied the appraisal inventory and sales account are included in Appendix F. For instance, the plumbing bill of Tim. P. Noonan indicates the possibility that the gas lamp which stood at the curb line was moved in November, 1871, for a new gas cock was installed then,¹² This bill also indicates the payment of \$150 for plumbing work, and may indicate the construction of the bathroom addition to the rear of the second floor that was removed during the rehabilitation of 1958. The Chr.

12. Compare Illustrations 2 and 6. Appendix F, p. 96.

Riessner bill substantiates completion of considerable roofing work and undoubtedly refers to installing a new roof on the addition at the rear of the house.¹³

Memorial Plaques.--As shown in Illustration 6, the first plaque to memorialize the site of Lincoln's death was placed between the second and third floors c. 1883 by the Washington Memorial Association. Due to visitor complaints and to make it more accessible to the historically minded tourist, a bronze memorial plaque was installed between the basement and first floor levels in 1923 by the Washington Citizens Committee at no expense to the government. This plaque is now easily accessible to the interested visitor.¹⁴

Easement.--When the Petersen House was purchased by the government in 1896, the use of the passageway (known as the easement) at the south end of the north half of Lot 14, Square 347, was guaranteed in perpetuity to the United States by the Schade deed of October 7, 1896, as follows:

Subject to the perpetual right in the owner of the adjoining North part of said lot [14], to build over the North 3 1/2 feet by depth of thirty-six feet, of the said south twenty-five feet of said lot, from and above a point ten and one-half feet above the level of the pavement; and for that purpose, to use without charge, the north wall of the building [Petersen House] on said south part of said lot, - the part so built over to remain forever for the exclusive use of the owner of the said south part of said lot, as an alley way, as provided for in deed in Liber J.A.S. 80, folio 267.¹⁵

13. Ibid., Voucher No. 17, p. 98.

14. See Illustration 23.

15. See copy of original deed in Appendix B-1, pp. 73 ff., being a copy of the official U.S. Government deed in the files of the Land Records Division, NCR. Interview with Miss Mary McColligan, Attorney-Advisor, Div. of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Office of the Solicitor, DI; Joseph A. Ronsisvalle, Chief, Land Records Div., NCR; and Leland Kozar, Realty Specialist, Office of Land and Water Rights, WSC, NPS., Sept. 8, 1967.

In other words, the easement is part of a reciprocal agreement: the government is guaranteed this easement in perpetuity in return for allowing the owner of the north half of lot 14, square 347, to use the north wall of the House Where Lincoln Died as his south wall. This easement is of considerable benefit to the government for it allows the Park Service to maintain its fire alarm system indicator outside of the house as shown in Illustration 23. In case of fire anywhere on the premises of the House Where Lincoln Died, the indicator located in the easement passageway would not be subject to involvement in the emergency, since it is located outside of the immediate premises.¹⁶

Refurnishing to date.--Over the years the refurnishing of the first floor rooms of the Petersen House was carried out as information on the historic function of the rooms was documented. Following the purchase of the Oldroyd collection and the acquisition of some original items from Lincoln's Springfield home, the Service made an attempt to recreate the scene of Lincoln's death. Finally, in 1932, various ladies patriotic societies merged their forces and brought about a large part of the existing appearance and furnishings in the Petersen House. This was further enhanced by the rehabilitation of the home as part of the MISSION 66 program during 1958-59.

As it stands today, undoubtedly the first floor is refurnished as accurately as it has been possible to achieve with available information. Copies of the documents included herein from the Register of Wills makes possible a more accurate historical recreation of the overall furnishing of the Petersen House and its use as it probably appeared on the night of Lincoln's death.

16. Author's italics.

Gas street lamp at curb line.--As part of the overall restoration of the sites of Lincoln's assassination and death, the gas street lamp which stood at the curb line in front of the Petersen House will most probably be restored to its original location as is the case with the gas street lamps in front of Ford's Theatre. Some discrepancies exist, however, in its documentation. No Brady or other contemporary photographs are known to exist of its facade. Reference has already been made of the possible reason for the lack of existing photographs under the circumstances.¹⁷

It had been believed for many years by such authorities as T. Sutton Jett, Truett, McClure and Simms, who had been closely associated with this site, that the photograph dating to the time of Schade's occupancy of the house, c. 1879 to 1893, was the "earliest known" photograph of the site. This photograph may be accepted as documentary evidence of the contemporary appearance of the facade of the Petersen House for Schade published his newspaper, the Washington Sentinel, in the front room of the basement. The sign above the door leading to the easement attests to this fact.¹⁸

Previous to the present study, little thought apparently had been given to the possibility of restoring the street gas lamp to its location. This writer raised the question despite the fact that it was not part of the furnishings study. It was felt that no restoration would

17. See p. 4, and Olszewski, Restoration of Ford's Theatre, Figs. 14, 22 and 23, pp. 23, 31 and 32.

18. Illustration 6.

be complete without this information and Engineer Thomas F. Condon, Division of Design and Construction, Washington Service Center, concurred. In the course of subsequent research, it was found that Ben: Perley Poore, an outstanding authority of the history of the Nation's capital, the Congress, and of the assassination of Lincoln, shows in his Reminiscences of Sixty Years in the National Metropolis a contemporary engraving which is an artist's concept of the scene outside of the Petersen House. It is included herein as Illustration 2. Two soldiers with bayoneted rifles are shown on guard at the foot of the steps leading to the Petersen House. A gas street lamp is shown at the curb line directly in front of the steps as if to light the visitor's way to the house. By contrast, the 1883 photograph,taken during Schade's occupancy, shows the gas lamp standing on a direct line with the north face of the house.¹⁹

During the past summer, the District Department of Highways filled the unused vaults under the sidewalks on both sides of Tenth street between E and F, and replaced the concrete sidewalks with a herringbone-patterned red brick sidewalk to recreate the historical scene. The work is sponsored by the Downtown Progress Association. The overall plan envisions the closing of this block to all vehicular traffic and renaming this area "Lincoln Center." The work was done by Corson and Gruman, local paving contractors, under the supervision of James E. Higgins, Project Engineer, D. C. Highway Department.

19. Poore, II, 173. Author's italics.

I requested Higgins to authorize Corson and Gruman to dig a hole in front of the steps, about one foot from the curbline, and about two feet deep, to see if it was possible to locate a piece of abandoned gas line with a cut off gas cock that would have been needed to supply fuel for the gas lamp. Usually, if a gas street lamp is moved to a new location, the supply of gas is cut off at one point and a new gas cock is installed at the new location. Higgins explained that undoubtedly when the street level was regraded during the last fifty years or so, as it has been, that new curbing would be laid down. In such a case, the Highway Department excavates about two feet on the inside of the curbing and several feet on the roadway. If any abandoned material such as gas lines are found, they are considered to be junk and discarded. Therefore, in view of the possibility that such was the case, and that any gas line which may have been abandoned would have been discarded, it was considered feasible to investigate the situation further to determine, if possible, the precise location for this gas lamp.

A further investigation of the Probate Court records of the settlement of the estate of Anna Petersen revealed documentary vouchers for work done at the Petersen House in 1871-1872, before it was sold to the Schades. One of these vouchers, dated November 17, 1871, documents the fact that Tim. O.Noonan, who did the plumbing work, installed a "New Stop Cock and Box at Curb Line" for \$5.00,²⁰ On the basis of this indisputable evidence, it is believed

20. See Appendix F, p. 96.

that the original location of the gas street lamp in front of the Petersen House is as depicted in Illustration 2 , and that Noonan moved the street lamp to the new location shown in Illustration 6. It is therefore recommended that when this lamp is restored, it be installed at the curb line in front of the steps leading to the House Where Lincoln Died, unless new evidence is forthcoming. Engineer Condon's recommendations on the subject are included in this study as Appendix E . He has provided for installation of the lamp at either site of the curb line, when the final decision is made by the appropriate authorities. He has authorized the District Department of Highways to install two connections for gas: one on a direct line with the entrance steps to the Petersen House; the other on a direct line with the north wall at the entrance to the alleyway easement.

Conclusions.--The information presented in this study of the occupancy and historic furnishings of the House Where Lincoln Died is as complete as it is possible to document at the present time. While there undoubtedly are questions which can only be resolved by the curators regarding the furnishings, they appear to be largely a matter of interpretation and judgment. The one room for which there is adequate documentation is the room where Lincoln died. This is based largely on a combination of factors, including contemporary publicity, the Fraser affidavits, the letter of the Chicago Historical Society, but more recently the original appraisal inventory and sales account of 1871. These latter two documents may be termed the "bible" for the historic furnishings. Others are

the vouchers for work done in 1871 and 1872 and the photographs of the west wall and interior of the room where Lincoln died showing the change in the size of the room. Thus, there appears to be slight doubt that with the completion of the restoration of Ford's Theatre and possible changes in the refurnishings of the House Where Lincoln Died as a result of this study, the historic scene of this American tragedy will be accurately represented and interpreted. The two documents of the Office of the Register of Wills should prove invaluable in authenticating the historic scene of Lincoln's death.

APPENDICES

A.	Documents concerning sale of the Petersen House to Anna Schade	70
B.	Documents concerning sale of the Petersen House by Anna Schade to U. S. Government	73
C.	Documents concerning the Petersen's genealogy and the original furniture	83
D.	Documents concerning rehabilitation of the House Where Lincoln Died	88
E.	Engineer's views concerning re-installation of gas lamp at curb line	94
F.	Vouchers documenting additions to the Petersen House, 1871-72	96

APPENDIX A-1

DEED OF WILLIAM PETERSEN TO ANNE SCHADE¹

WILLIAM PETERSEN et al)

to)

ANNE SCHADE)

Deed Recorded August 21, 1896

2 14 pm

This indenture made this twenty-fifth day of November in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy eight (1878) between William F. Petersen and Jennie Petersen, his wife, of Galveston, Texas, Charles E. Rector and Louisa A. Rector, his wife, of Chicago, Ill., Otto Wenzing and Pauline Wenzing, his wife of Baltimore, Maryland, and Ferdinand Petersen and Charles W. Petersen of Washington, District of Columbia, sole heirs of Anna Petersen, deceased, of the first part and Anna Schade of the said city of Washington, District of Columbia, of the second part, witnesseth that the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of four thousand and five hundred dollars, current money of the United States, to them in hand, paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt of which before the ensealing and delivery of these presents is hereby acknowledged have granted, bargained and sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed and by these presents do grant, bargain, and sell, alien, enfoeffe, convey and confirm unto and to the use of the said Anna Schade, her heirs and assigns all that certain piece or parcel of land and premises situate and being in the City of Washington, District of Columbia and known and distinguished as the south half of lot numbered Fourteen (14) in Square numbered Three hundred and forty seven (347) fronting twenty-five feet (25) on Tenth street and running back the same width to an alley together with the buildings and improvements, rights, easements, privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise thereto appertaining, and also all claims arising out of paid or unpaid special assessments to have and to hold the said land and premises with the appurtenances and hereditaments to the same belonging unto and to the only use and benefit of said Anna Schade, her heirs and assigns independent of all control of her present or any future husband, And the said parties of the first part for themselves and their heirs, executors and administrators do hereby covenant with said party of the second part her heirs and assigns that the said herein above described land and premises with the appurtenances unto said party of the second part, her heirs and assigns, from and against all persons claiming by, through, or under said parties of the first part, or their heirs or assigns at the same time authorizing their trustee to sign a similar conveyance.

1. Office, Recorder of Deeds, D. C. Government, Land Records,
Liber 2150, folio 134-139.

And further that the said parties of the first part and their heirs, shall and will forever warrant and defend by these presents, and further than any act or deed deemed by counsel learned in the law requisite and necessary the more perfectly to assure unto said party of the second part her heirs and assigns, the said land and premises herein above granted the said parties of the first part and their heirs shall, will at all times at the cost of the person requesting the same, do perform execute and deliver.

In Testimony whereof the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and years first above written.

* * *

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered)
in presence of LOUIS SCHADE)

FERDINAND PETERSEN

/SEAL/

As to FERDINAND PETERSEN)
and CHAS. W. PETERSEN)

CHARLES W. PETERSEN

/SEAL/

In presence of G. EVETT REARDON)
as to OTTO WENZING and PAULINE)
WENZING)

OTTO WENZING
PAULINE WENZING

/SEAL/

In presence of S. STERNBERGER as to)
CHAS. E. RECTOR and LOUISE A. RECTOR)

CHS. E. RECTOR
LOUISE A. RECTOR

/SEAL/

In presence of WM. R. JOHNSON)
as to WILLIAM F. PETERSEN and)
JENNIE PETERSEN)

WILLIAM F. PETERSEN
JENNIE PETERSEN

/SEAL/

* * *

District of Columbia)
County of Washington)

to Wit

I. Louis Schade, a notary public in and for the County and District aforesaid do hereby certify that Ferdinand Petersen and Charles Petersen, parties to a certain Deed bearing date on the Twenty-fifth day of November, A. D. 1878, and hereunto annexed personally appeared before me in the District aforesaid, the said parties being personally well known to me, to be the persons who executed the said Deed and acknowledged the same to be their act and deed. Given under my hand and notarial seal this twenty fifth day of November, A.D. 1878.

* Notarial *
* SEAL *

* * *

LOUIS SCHADE
Notary Public

Notarial acknowledgements were also appended by G. Evett Reardon, Samuel Sternberger, Phillip Knopf, and Wm. R. Johnson

APPENDIX A-2

AFFIDAVIT OF HEIRSHIP

District of Columbia) SS
County of Washington)

Personally appeared before me a Notary Public and for the District aforesaid, John Walter, Jr., who being duly sworn, deposeth and sayeth: That the late William Petersen and his wife Anna Petersen left at the time of their deaths as sole heirs five children to wit: William F. Petersen, Louise Rector nee Petersen, Pauline Wenzing nee Petersen, Ferdinand Petersen and Charles W. Petersen, the latter two unmarried in 1878 and 1879, being well acquainted with and living for years in the same neighborhood of the family.

/LS/ JOHN WALTER, JR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of August A.D. 1896.

NOTARIAL
SEAL

/LS/ JOHN E. McLERAN
Notary Public

Filed with 1330

APPENDIX B-1

Recd., Nov. 10"

7

Arthur A. Birney,
U. S. Attorney.
Hugh T. Taggart,
Asst. U. S. Attorney.
Charles H. Ames,
Asst. U. S. Attorney. OFFICE OF UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
Tracy L. Jeffords,
Asst. U. S. Attorney. for the
Alexander E. Mullowny,
Asst. U. S. Attorney. District of Columbia.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 1896.

Col. John M. Wilson, U. S. Army,

War Department.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I certify that the two deeds of trust upon part of lot 14, square 347 mentioned in the letter of the Attorney-General to the Secretary of War bearing date Nov. 5, 1896, have been duly released of record in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. And I further certify that the certificate accompanying this letter under the seal of the District is a guarantee to the Government that all taxes have been paid as expressed therein. I further certify that the deed in fee simple from Anna Schade and her husband conveying said property to the United States has this day been admitted to record in the office of the Recorder of Deeds and that the said Mrs. Schade is now entitled to the consideration agreed upon for said property.

Payment may be made lawfully by drawing to the order of Mrs. Schade several checks representing the various amounts which have heretofore been liens upon said property but which have all been released provided the checks be drawn to her order and her receipt be taken for the aggregate amount.

A true copy:

Very respectfully,

John M. Wilson
John M. Wilson
Asst. U. S. Attorney, D. C.

This Deed of Release, Made this first day
of September, 1896. APPENDIX B-2

Witnesseth, that the debt mentioned in the _____ deed of trust from
Anna Schade and husband bearing date
the 28th day of April A.D. 1888 and recorded in the 1st book
of May 8th 1888 in page No. 1039, file 257 et seq.

of the land Records of the District of Columbia, having been fully paid in
witness of which the note herein described has been shown
marked "Paid" and cancellation _____

Robert H. McLane and James H. Berrett Jr.

trustees under
said deed of trust, in consideration of the premises and for and in consideration
of one dollar current money of the United States to them in hand, at the date
hereof, paid by Said Anna Schade, receipt of which is hereby
acknowledged _____

have released, remised, quit-claimed and conveyed, and do hereby release, remise,
quit-claim and convey unto and to the use of the said Anna Schade and
husband _____

and assigns _____ the following described real estate situate and
being in the City _____ of Washington, District of Columbia, namely:
The south half of original lot numbered forty-four
being the south thirty-five (35) feet front by the depth
of said lot in space measured three hundred and
forty-one (341) feet _____

To Have and to Hold, the said real estate with all the ~~appurtenances~~
appurtenances unto and to the use of the said John Schaefer Jr.

and assigns fully discharged from
the effect and operation of the aforesaid _____ deed of trust

In Witness Whereof, the said Robert M. Malone and
James G. Berry have hereunto
set their hands and seals, as trustee as aforesaid, the date
first herein above stated.

Robert M. Malone 
James G. Berry 

District of Columbia } To wit:
District of Columbia } APPENDIX B-3

I, Hillard St. Myers, a Notary Public
in and for the aforesaid District of Columbia do —, hereby certify
that James L. Beret trustee, one of the parties to said
who is personally well known to me to be the person who executed the foregoing
and annexed Deed of Release, dated September 1st 1896
personally appeared before me in said District — and acknowledged
the said Deed to be his act and deed as — trustee.

Given under my hand and ~~affix~~ seal this Fourth day of
~~September~~, A. D. 1896.
November

Hillard St. Myers,
Notary Public

City of Paris ^{Yorit}
Republique de France

I Henry Vignaud Secretary of the Embassy of the United States
of America, at Paris France, do hereby certify that
Robert M. McLane, trustee, one of the parties to said
who is personally well known to me to be the person
who executed the foregoing and annexed Deed of
Release dated September 1st 1896 personally ap-
peared before me at the City aforesaid and acknowl-
ledged the said Deed to be his act and deed, in manner

given under my hand and official
Seal this 23rd day of September ^{or to be} 1896

Henry Vignaud

Know all Men by these Presents, That John Walter, trustee,
of Washington, District of Columbia,
hereinafter Trustee under a certain Deed of Trust from
Anna Schade, at our Leinhardt, of the same
place, bearing date on the
twentieth day of April, A. D. 1863, and recorded in
Liber No. 1808, Folio No. 168, et seq., of the Land Records of the District of
Columbia, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar, current money of the United
States, to him in hand paid by the said

APPENDIX B

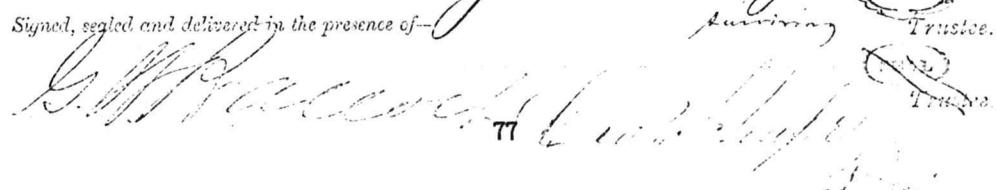
Anna Schade,
at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged,
hath released, remised, and conveyed, and doth hereby release,
remise, quit-claim, and convey, unto said

Anna Schade, her
heirs and assigns, the following described Real Estate, situate in the City of
Washington, District of Columbia, to wit: All that certain piece or parcel of
land and premises, known and distinguished as and being
the south one half of lot numbered Fourteen (14)
in square numbered Three Hundred and forty-seven
(347)

To Have and to Hold the same, with the appurtenances, unto and to the use of said
Anna Schade, her
heirs and assigns forever,
fully released and discharged from the effect and operations of said Deed of Trust
the indebtedness secured thereunder having been
fully paid as is evidenced by signature hereunto of
Charles Schaefer, treasurer of the Oriental Building
Association No 6, the party named by said Deed
of Trust.

Witness his hand and seal this Seventh day of
October, A. D. 1896.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of — John Walter, Trustee.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, DC.

I, G. W. Barrows, a Notary Public
in and for the District aforesaid,
Do Hereby Certify That John Walter jun.

part, to a certain Deed, bearing date on the seventh day of October,
A. D. 1896, and hereto annexed, personally appeared before me, in the District
aforesaid, the said John Walter jun.

being personally well known to me to be the person who executed the said Deed, and
acknowledged the same to be his act and deed.

Given under my hand and notarial seal this seventh day of October,
A. D. 1896.

G. W. Barrows
Notary Public

3
NOTICE, CERTIFICATE OR RELEASE

167 RELEASE

FROM
WAR DEPARTMENT,

John Walter Jun. Wm.

457 J —

Trustee,

TO

John Walter

955 a.m.

Received for Record on the 10
day of December, A. D. 1896, and
Recorded in Liber No. 2164, Folio 244, one
of the Land Records of the District of
Columbia, and examined by—

J. P. Meyer
Recorder.

THI S IN D E N T U R E , made this seventh day
of October A. D. one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six,
by and between Anna Schade and Louis Schade, her husband,
both of the District of Columbia, parties of the first part
and the United States of America, parties of the second part:

WITNESSE TH , that the said parties of the first
part, for and in consideration of the sum of thirty thousand
dollars, in lawful money of the United States, to them in hand
paid by the said parties of the second part, at and before
the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt where-
of is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold,
aliened, enfeoffed, released and conveyed, and do by these
presents grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and
convey unto the said parties of the second part in fee simple
forever, the following described real estate, situate in the
City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, to wit:

All that certain piece or parcel of land and premises known
and distinguished as and being part of original lot numbered
fourteen (14), in square numbered three hundred and forty-
seven (347) beginning for the same at the south-east corner
of said lot and running thence west ninety-five (95) feet and
one (1) inch, to an alley ten feet wide, thence north along
the line of said alley twenty-five (25) feet, thence east
ninety-five (95) feet and one (1) inch, and thence south twen-
ty-five (25) feet to the place of beginning; being the south
twenty-five feet front on Tenth Street north-west, by a depth
of ninety-five feet and one inch, of said original lot four-
teen; subject to the perpetual right in the owner of the ad-
joining North part of said lot, to build over the North 3 1/2
feet by depth of thirty-s~~ix~~ feet, of the said south-twenty-

five feet of said lot, from and above a point ten and one-half feet above the level of the pavement; and for that purpose, to use without charge, the north wall of the building on said south part of said lot,- the part so built over to remain forever for the exclusive use of the owner of the said south part of said lot, as an alley way, as provided for indeed in Liber J.A.S. 80 folio 267:

Together with all the improvements, ways, easements, rights, privileges, appurtenances and hereditaments to the same belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and all the remainders, reversions, rents, issues and profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, claim and demand whatsoever either at law or in equity, of the said parties of the first part, of, in, to or out of the said piece or parcel of land and premises.

To Have and to Hold, the said piece or parcel of land and premises, with the appurtenances unto the said parties of the second part and to their sole use, benefit and behoof in fee simple forever.

And the said parties of the first part, for themselves and for their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns do hereby covenant, promise and agree to and with the said parties of the second part, that they the said parties of the first part, and their heirs shall and will warrant and forever defend the said piece or parcel of land and premises and appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part, from and against the claims of all persons claiming or to claim the same, or any part thereof, by, from, under or through them or any of them, the easement hereinbefore described and the parties entitled to enjoy the same, only, excepted.

And further, that they, the said parties of the first

part, and their heirs, shall and will at any and all times hereafter, upon the request of the said parties of the second part, make, execute, deliver, and acknowledge all such other Deed or Deeds, or other assurance in law, for the more certain and effectual conveyance of the said piece or parcel of land and premises and appurtenances unto the said parties of the second part as the said parties of the second part or their counsel learned in the law shall advise, devise or require.

In Testimony Whereof, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals on the day and year first hereinbefore written.

Anna Schade (seal)
Louis Schade (seal)

Signed, sealed and delivered

in the presence of

Edward D. Bullock

District of Columbia : : SS.
City of Washington : :

I, Edward D. Bullock, a notary public in and for the aforesaid District, do hereby certify that Anna Schade and Louis Schade, her husband, parties to a certain Deed bearing date on the Seventh day of October, A. D. 1896, and hereunto annexed personally appeared before me, in the District aforesaid, the said Anna Schade and Louis Schade, husband of the said Anna Schade being personally well known to me to be the persons who executed the said Deed, and acknowledged the same to be their act and deed; and the said Anna Schade being of full age and being by me examined privily

44-5-75
6

Deed in Fee.

Anna Schade and Louis Schade

NOTARY PUBLIC
S. G. S. 2
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

to

The United States of America

\$56 25

Received for Record

November 10, 1896

Received in U.S. Citizen
No. 21164. Serial No.
of 20th. one of the
Chancery Records for
the District of Col-

and apart from her husband, and having the deed aforesaid fully explained to her, acknowledged the same to be her act and deed, and declared that she had willingly signed, sealed and delivered the same, and that she wished not to retract it.

Given under my hand and notarial seal, this Seventh day of October, 1896.

Edward R. Burkett
Notary Public

E.P. Taylor
Recorder

R

APPENDIX C-1

AFFIDAVIT

26 May 1950

City of Washington)
)
 ss.
District of Columbia)

Donald Sherwood Fraser, being duly sworn, says:

1. That I reside at 1080 Gilford Street, Vancouver, British Columbia;
2. That the pillow which I hereby give to the Marjorie Webster Junior College of Washington, D.C., is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the one and same pillow on which Abraham Lincoln died on April 15, 1865, in a room in the home of William Petersen at 516-10th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., across from the Ford Theater;
3. That I received this same pillow from my wife, Frances Rector Fraser, who died April 6, 1950, in Vancouver, British Columbia; that it was her oft expressed wish while living that upon her death this pillow be given to the Marjorie Webster Junior College; and that in giving this pillow to the Marjorie Webster Junior College I am carrying out this wish of my wife, Frances Rector Fraser;
4. That my wife, Frances Rector Fraser, received the one and same pillow from her father, Charles E. Rector, who died in 1914; that Charles E. Rector received the one and same pillow from Louise Petersen Rector, his wife and the mother of my wife; and that Louise Petersen Rector received the one and same pillow at the time certain household furnishings and effects from her parental home were divided among the children of her father, William Petersen of 516-10th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.;
5. That Louise Petersen Rector was the daughter of the William Petersen, who had resided in the home 516-10th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., in which Abraham Lincoln died; and that the same William Petersen occupied this home with his family on the date of President Lincoln's death;
6. That Pauline Petersen Wenzing was the daughter of William Petersen and his wife, and the sister of Louise Petersen Rector, the mother of my wife, Frances Rector Fraser; that this is one and the same Pauline Petersen Wenzing who resided at 3909 Liberty Heights [Avenue], Baltimore, Maryland; and who in a sworn statement, dated March 31, 1925 (certified copy of which is attached hereto), stated that President Lincoln died in her room in her old home at 516-10th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
7. That my wife, Frances Rector Fraser, was a direct descendent of the same William Petersen, being his granddaughter; that she obtained

the pillow on which President Lincoln died in the manner described above; and that this is the one and the same pillow which I am this day giving to the Marjorie Webster Junior College of Washington, D.D.

(LS) DONALD SHERWOOD FRASER
Donald Sherwood Fraser

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia, this 26th day of May 1950.
SEAL
(LS) H. R. BAUCKMAN, Notary
My commission expires the Aug. 31, 1954.

APPENDIX C-2

AFFIDAVIT

"I, Mr. D. S. Fraser, do hereby certify that the following information is true as I have heard it from the Petersen family. My wife, Frances Rector Fraser, is the daughter of Louise Petersen Rector (Mrs. Charles). The room to which Abraham Lincoln was carried after his assassination was the room shared by Louise Petersen and her sister, Pauline Petersen. Louise and her mother, Mrs. William Petersen, were not in the house at the time Lincoln was carried in, but returned later. William Petersen, and his children, Pauline and Charles, the youngest child, were at home at the time Lincoln was carried from the Ford's Theatre. Hearing a commotion in the street, William Petersen went out to learn that 'a man had been shot,' and directed the people to carry him into his house, into the small bedroom which was on the main floor so that he wouldn't have to be carried upstairs. It was not until after the first commotion that Mr. Petersen learned that the wounded man was Abraham Lincoln.

Pauline Petersen assisted the surgeon who had been called from the audience of Ford's Theatre by bringing him hot water and towels, and by tearing up linen sheets to be used for bandages. She was in and out of the room all night, and until Lincoln's death early the following morning, April 15th, 1865. After Lincoln had been removed from the house, some of the accessories in the room at the time of his death were divided up among members of the family, among them being the death-bed pillow now in the possession of my wife.

It is my understanding that the furniture now on exhibit in the Lincoln Bedroom in the Chicago Historical Society, through information from members of the Petersen Family, is the original furniture which was in the room in William Petersen's house at the time of Lincoln's death.

(LS) D. S. Fraser

APPENDIX C-3

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

North Avenue at Clark Street
Lincoln Park

December 5, 1942

Mrs. Jessie H. Pearce
House Where Lincoln Died
516 Tenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Pearce:

Your letter of recent date received, asking for information regarding the furnishings of the house in which Lincoln died.

As you probably know, we have the original furnishings from the bedroom in which he died, including the bed, bureau, rocking chair, curtains and gas jet. Letters of authentication include correspondence dated 1889 and 1890 between Andrew Boyd of Syracuse, New York and Charles F. Gunther, the well known Chicago collector, stating that Boyd had the above mentioned furniture in his possession and offering the same for sale to Mr. Gunther. Mr. Gunther purchased the furniture upon full investigation of its authenticity.

Also in our files is a certificate signed by Louise H. Petersen, Mrs. Charles E. Rector, Pauline Petersen and Charles Kloman, stating that Col. Wm. H. Boyd (father of Andrew) purchased the furniture at auction from the estate of William Petersen at his late residence, 516 Tenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on October 30, 1871. We have, too, a notarized statement, dated November 10, 1871, in which Ferdinand Petersen certifies that the bed which we have is the one on which Lincoln died. Statements from Mr. B. F. Stoneberger, secretary to Mr. Gunther, and Mr. Edward Munger, Mr. Gunther's agent, further substantiate the authenticity of the furniture.

Enclosed herewith is a photograph of the Society's replica of the Petersen House bedroom, showing the original furniture. If I can give you any further information, I shall be glad to do so.

Sincerely yours,

/LS/ L. HUBBARD SHATTUCK
L. Hubbard Shattuck
Director

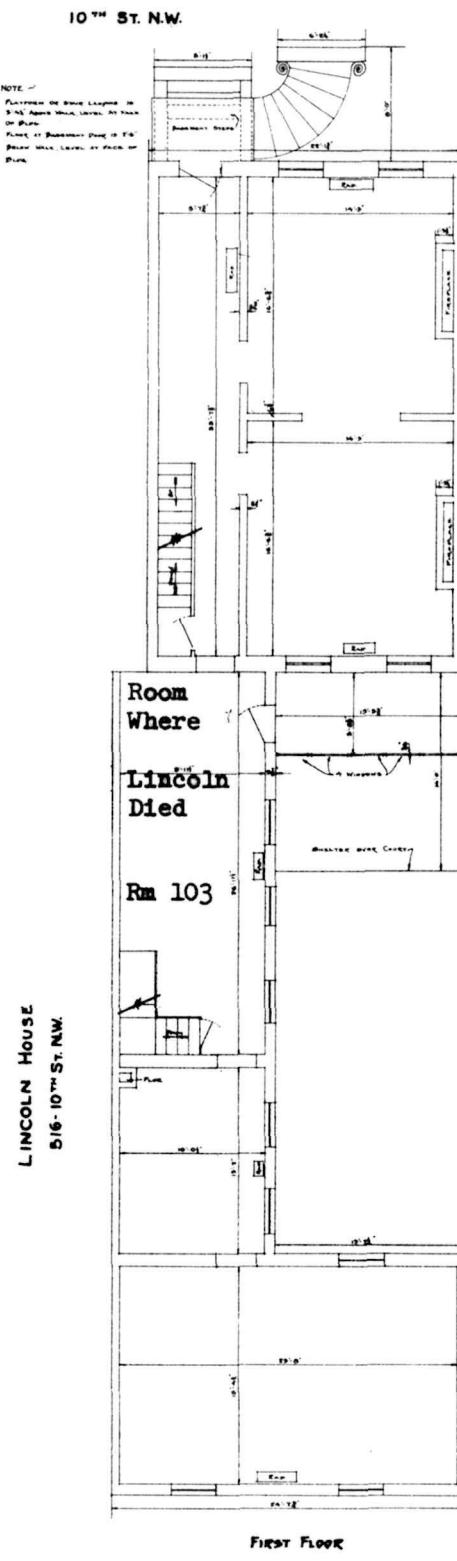
lhs:bs
enc.

APPENDIX C-4

DEATH FROM AN OVERDOSE OF LAUDANUM
(From the Evening Star, June 19, 1871)

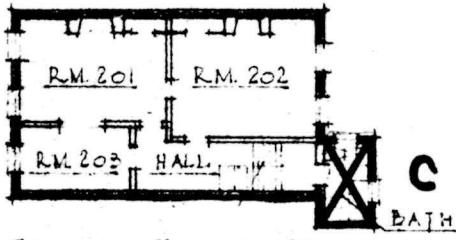
On Saturday night, Mr. Wm. Petersen was found lying on the Smithsonian grounds in a stupified condition with an empty vial labelled "Laudanum" by his side. When aroused by Police Sergeant Clayton, of the fifth precinct, he said that he had taken 25 cents of laudanum, as was his practice once or twice a week. He was removed to the central guard house, where Drs. J. F. Hartigan and Muncaster were called in and administered emetics and also used a stomach pump, but could not save his life. Mr. Petersen was for many years one of our leading merchant tailors on Pennsylvania Avenue between 3rd and 4-1/2 streets but lately has been employed as cutter in various tailoring establishments in this city. Yesterday Coroner Potter summoned a jury of inquest, and the testimony of the officers and Mr. S. E. Bishop, the druggist who sold the deceased the laudanum, was taken, when a verdict was rendered that the cause of death was an overdose of laudanum taken through mistake. The body was removed to the residence of his family on 10th Street, between E and F, being the house to which the remains of President Lincoln were removed from Ford's Theater after his assassination.

APPENDIX D-1

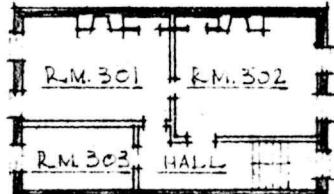


Floor plan drawn from 1958 summer students' field notes. Note dimensions of room 103. Compare with Plate II.

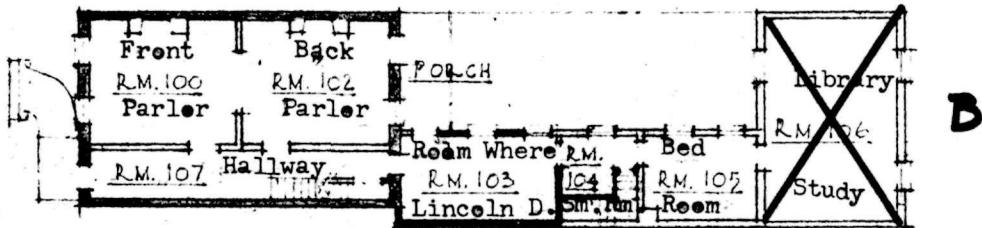
APPENDIX D-2



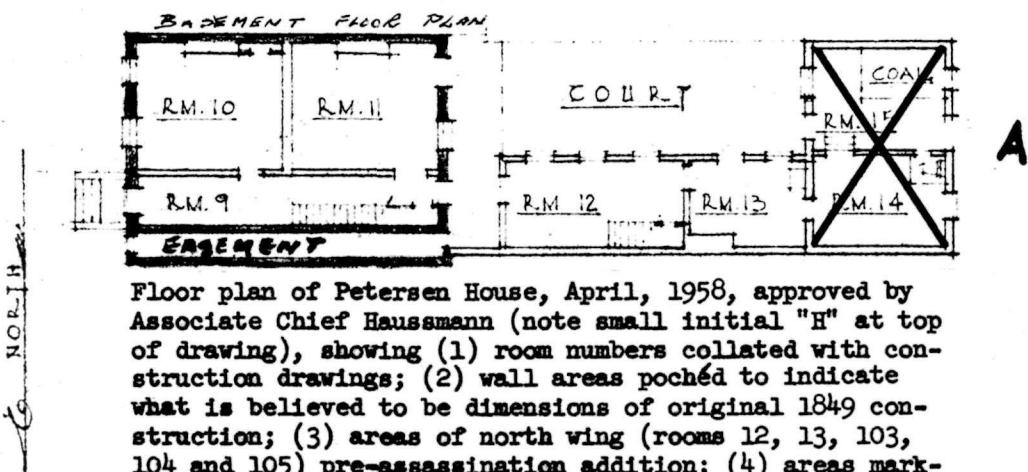
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



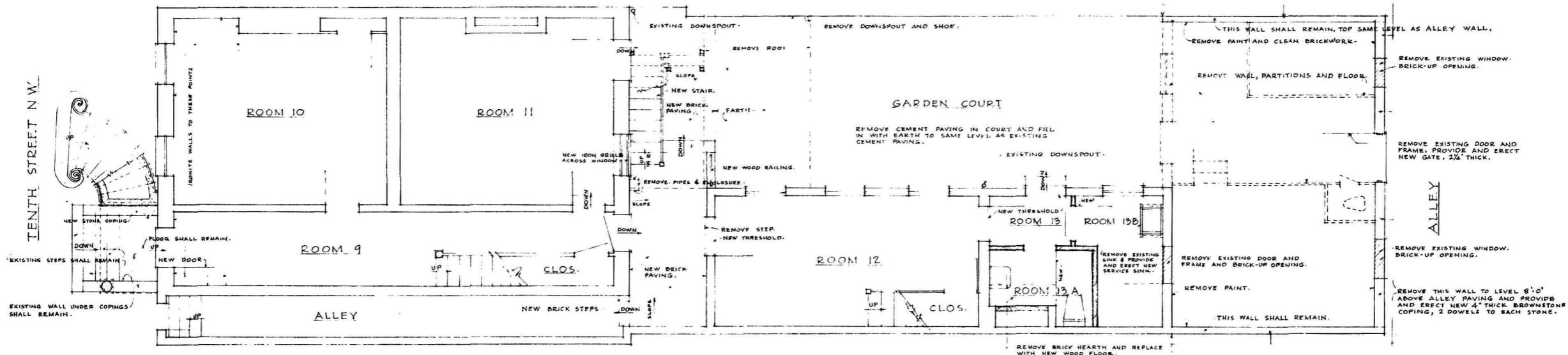
THIRD FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



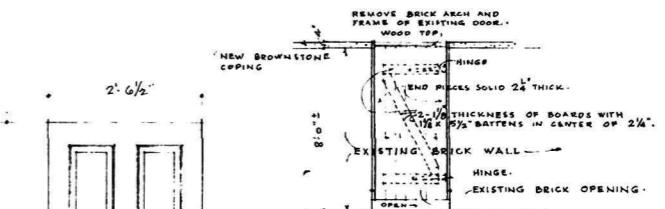
Floor plan of Petersen House, April, 1958, approved by Associate Chief Haussmann (note small initial "H" at top of drawing), showing (1) room numbers collated with construction drawings; (2) wall areas poched to indicate what is believed to be dimensions of original 1849 construction; (3) areas of north wing (rooms 12, 13, 103, 104 and 105) pre-assassination addition; (4) areas marked X-A to X-C are 1871-72 additions demolished in 1958; and (5) easement passageway to rear of original part of Petersen House. Compare with Plates I and II. Architectural exploration should definitively document these historical observations.

**BASEMENT PLAN**

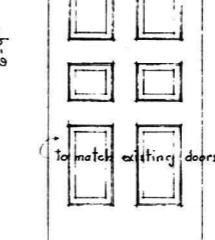
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

ROOM FINISHES

- ROOM 9** → REMOVE PLASTER ON EAST AND PORTION OF NORTH WALLS AND APPLY "IRONITE" FROM FLOOR TO CEILING FOR EXTENT SEE PLAN. PLASTER OVER "IRONITE" FULL HEIGHT, PATCH ALL OTHER WALLS WHERE CRACKS OCCUR. PATCH CRACKS IN CEILING. REFINISH WOOD FLOOR. ALL WOODWORK SHALL BE REPAIRED WHERE NEEDED TO MATCH EXISTING.
- ROOM 10** → REMOVE PLASTER ON EAST AND PORTION OF SOUTH WALLS AND APPLY "IRONITE" FROM FLOOR TO CEILING. FOR EXTENT SEE PLAN. PLASTER OVER "IRONITE" FULL HEIGHT, PATCH ALL OTHER WALLS WHERE CRACKS OCCUR. PATCH CRACKS IN CEILING. REFINISH WOOD FLOOR. ALL WOODWORK SHALL BE REPAIRED WHERE NEEDED TO MATCH EXISTING.
- ROOM 11** → PATCH ALL PLASTER WALLS WHERE CRACKED OR BROKEN OFF. REMOVE EXISTING PLASTER CEILING AND PUT ON A NEW PLASTER CEILING.
- ROOM 12** → PATCH ALL PLASTER WALLS WHERE CRACKS OCCUR. METAL CEILING AND CORNICE SHALL BE REPAIRED. REFINISH WOOD FLOOR. ALL WOODWORK SHALL BE REPAIRED WHERE NEEDED TO MATCH EXISTING.
- ROOMS 13A & 13B** → PATCH ALL PLASTER WALLS WHERE CRACKS OCCUR. AND PLASTER NEW PARTITIONS. PATCH PLASTER CEILING WHERE CRACKS OCCUR. COVER EXISTING AND NEW WOOD FLOOR WITH VINYL FLOOR. ALL WOODWORK SHALL BE REPAIRED WHERE NEEDED TO MATCH EXISTING. NEW BASEBOARD ACROSS BRICKED-UP DOOR ON WEST WALL OF 13B. ALSO NEW PLASTER.



ELEVATION OF NEW
GATE Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"



ELEV. OF NEW.
DOORS - ROOM 13.
Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"

DES. & CONST. STERN	6/17/58
A. [initials]	6/17/58
E. [initials]	6/17/58
L. [initials]	6/17/58
WASHINGTON A.	
E. [initials]	
L.A. [initials]	
OTHER Construction	
EO [initials]	6/17/58

PREPARED	
DESIGNED	
DRAWN	
Hatchman	
CHECKED	
REVISED	
DATE INITIAL	

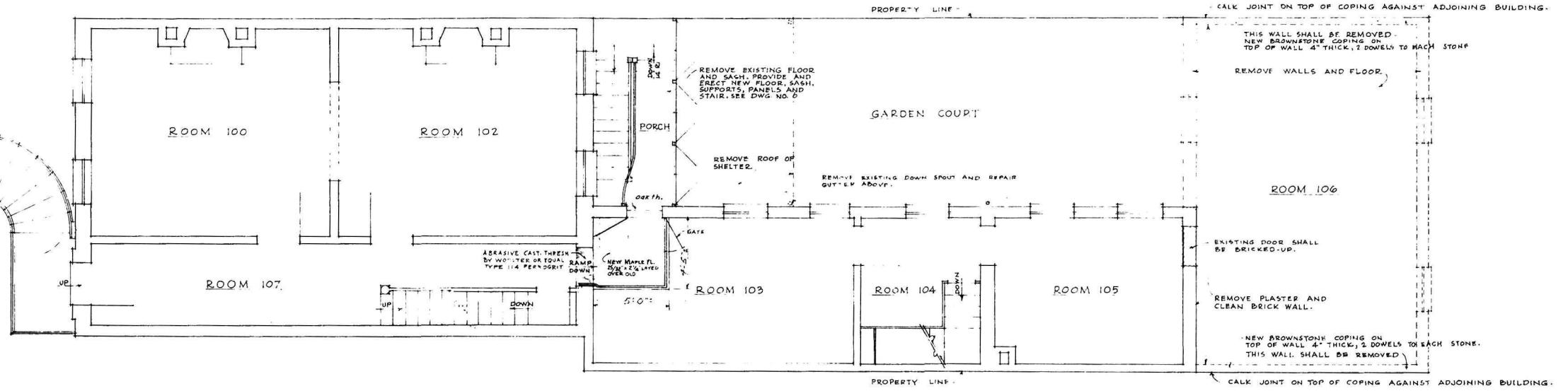
Contract No. 14 10-020-1607
BASEMENT PLAN
Scale 1/4"=1'-0"

TO NPS	DATE
	6/17/58
FROM NPS	
DIR. DIRECTOR	6/17/58
PLANS CONTROL OFFICER	6/17/58

PREPARED BY OFFICE OF
WALTER G. PETER, JR.
WASHINGTON, D.C.
D.C. REG. NO. 590
MD. REG. NO. 734-F.

RECOMMENDED CLIF. ARCHITECTURAL BRANCH N.C.P. DIR. DIV. OF DESIGN & CONST. N.C.P. COTER. DIV. OF DESIGN & CONST. N.P.S. ACTG. SUPERINTENDENT, N.C.P.	6/17/58 6/17/58 6/17/58 6/17/58
APPROVED HILLARY A. TOLSON NATIONAL PARKS (RESERVATION NO. 698)	6/17/58
ACTG. DIRECTOR, H.P.S.	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS PREPARED BY DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION REHABILITATION OF FLETCHER HOUSE (HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN DIED) TITLE OF DRAWING 516 102-511 E STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. LOCATION WITHIN AREA NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS (RESERVATION NO. 698) NAME OF AREA	REGION N.C.P. PCP D-190 SHEET 1 OF 9 DRAWING NO. N.C.P. DATE JUN 17 1958
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ORIENTATION

REVIEWED

OPERATIONS REGION

WASHINGTON

INTERP. REGION

WASHINGTON

COOP. ACTV. REGION

WASHINGTON

DES. & CONST. STERN

A.

E.

L.A.

WASHINGTON

A.

E.

L.A.

OTHER

PREPARED

DESIGNED

DRAWN

H. H. [initials]

CHECKED

REVISED

DATE / INITIAL

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'0''$

ROOM FINISHES

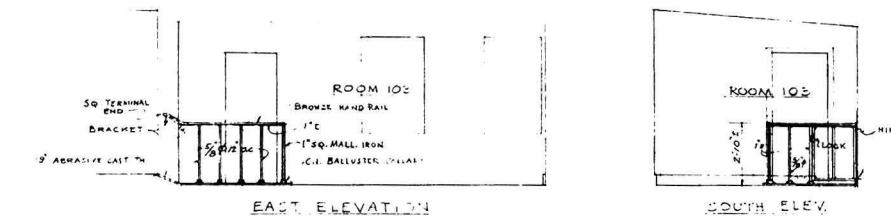
ROOM 100 → REPAIR CRACK IN NORTHEAST CORNER OF ROOM. REFINISH WOOD FLOOR.

ROOM 102 → REFINISH WOOD FLOOR.

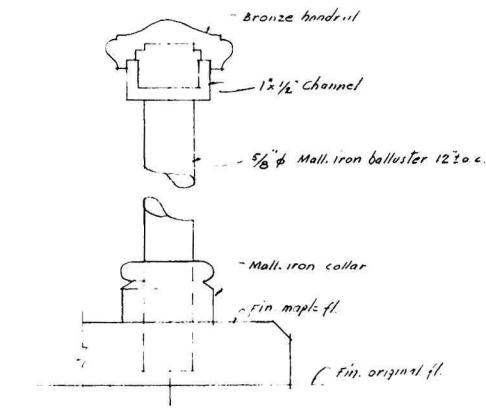
ROOM 103 → REFINISH WOOD FLOOR.

ROOM 104 → REFINISH WOOD FLOOR.

ROOM 105 → REFINISH WOOD FLOOR. NEW WOOD BASEBOARD TO MATCH EXISTING. ACROSS BRICKED-UP DOOR ON WEST WALL, PLASTER OVER DOOR OPENING WHICH HAS BEEN FILLED IN.



DETAIL OF W.I. RAILING
SCALE $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'0''$



F.S. DET. OF RAILING

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'0''$

RECOMMENDED	SEE SH. FOR SIGNATURE	DATE
APPROVED	SEE SH. FOR SIGNATURE	DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS PREPARED BY DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION REHABILITATION OF PETERSEN HOUSE (HOUSE WHERE LINCOLN DIED) 516 10TH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. LOCATION WITHIN AREA NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS (RESERVATION NO. 698)
REGION N.C.P. PCP B-190 SHEET 2 OF 9 DRAWING NO. N.C.P. 02-12-19-2 NAME OF AREA DATE JUNE 1, 1958

APPENDIX D-4

DEC 17 1958

George C. Martin, Inc.
4842 Georgia Avenue, N. W.
Washington 11, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to Contract No. 14-10-028-1607 for
Rehabilitation of Petersen House (House Where Lincoln Died),
Washington, D. C.

The following breakdown submitted in your letter of December
5, 1958, is satisfactory:

Carpentry & Lumber	\$3,755.00
Electrical Work, incl. Alarm System	2,150.00
Plumbing & Heating	3,150.00
Painting	2,300.00
Roofing & Sheet metal work	1,350.00
Plastering	1,540.00
Stonework	4,600.00
Sandblasting & pointing	1,150.00
Millwork	1,250.00
Ornamental Iron work	650.00
Finish hardware	330.00
Demolition	900.00
Masonry	500.00
Composition flooring	275.00
Contract Price	\$23,900.00

DEC 17
3
03 PM '58
PARKS

MAIL

Sincerely yours,

William M. Haussmann
Associate Chief, Division of
Design and Construction

RLGreen/mw
Copies to: Files 2 ✓
Construction 2
Architecture ✓

Official approval of contractor's cost estimates for rehabilitation
of Petersen House.

DEC 17 1958

George C. Martin, Inc.
4242 Georgia Avenue, N. W.
Washington 11, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to Contract No. 14-10-026-1607 for Rehabilitation of Petersen House (House Where Lincoln Died), Washington, D. C.

The following subcontractors and material suppliers submitted with your letter of December 5, 1958 have been reviewed and they are satisfactory:

Subcontractors

Electric Work
Plumbing & Heating
Painting
Masonry
Sheet Metal Work
Stonework
Ornamental Ironwork
Millwork
Vinyl Flooring

Major Electric Construction Co., Inc.
Kaldenbach & Wysong, Inc.
C. A. Block Co.
Thomas & Armistead
The Mathy Company
McLeod & Rosberg Stone Co., Inc.
Acme Ironworks, Inc.
Arlington Woodworking & Lumber Co.
Southern Floors & Acoustics, Inc.

Material Suppliers

Ornamental Iron
Concrete
Millwork
Hardware
Lumber
Photographs

Acme Iron Works, Inc.
Maloney Concrete Co.
Arlington Woodworking & Lumber Co., Inc.
Barber & Ross Co.
Swing Lumber & Millwork Corp.
Stewart Brothers

Sincerely yours,

William M. Haussmann
Associate Chief, Division of
Design and Construction

RLGre n/mw

Copies to: Files (2)
Construction (2)
Architecture

Official approval of subcontractors and material suppliers for
Petersen House rehabilitation.

DEC 17 3 02 PM '58
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS

MAIL

APPENDIX E

July 27, 1967

Ford's Theatre Restora. Street Lights

Ralph Ross:

The sketch that was forwarded to you on March 29, for the purpose of obtaining a permit for the erection of the street lights in the Theatre Restoration contract, has been revised to include two locations in dispute of a street lamp at the House where Lincoln died and also a "third" street light on the theatre side of the street previous not taken into account, now marked on the sketch as Post "D". Application for the erection of the Post "D" I presume shall have to be made by you with the District Highway Dept. as you did with the others.

I was informed this p.m. by the Highway Dept. that the laying of the new sidewalk on 10th street began this morning, on the west side, at "E" street. In order to stay ahead of the construction progress I arranged with the Gas Co. to lay the street light service tomorrow morning (July 28) to accommodate both of the

disputed locations so that when the sidewalk is
laid and the question of location resolved we
can connect to whichever one is proper. The service
will be laid inside of the curb from the main service
to the house which is located at the south side of
the house. There will be no charge by the Gas Co. for
the service installation. Since gas consumed by the lamps
will be supplied from ahead of the meter a fixed
charge will apply which I understand to be their
minimum and is about 13¢ per thousand.

Six points of the plan are being forwarded
forward for the conducting of your transactions.

Tom Condon
Arch. Engg. W.S.C.

^{cc}
Issie
Oszewski
Finance, N.C.R. 2

WASHINGTON CITY.

Folio 379

Charles Klosman
Guest of Petersen
 TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, D. C.

For Tax on REAL ESTATE for the year ending June 30, 1873, to wit:

For District Fund and Loans, 62 cents; For School Fund, 33 cents;

For Metropolitan Police Fund, 15 cents; For Gas Fund, 20 cents; and,

For Sinking Fund Corporation of Washington, 40 cents.

Total Tax, \$1.70 per \$100, assessed valuation..... \$ 118,471

Less abatement of one per cent. per month to July 1st, 1873..... 11,841

Net amount of Tax..... \$106,57

DESIGNATION AND ASSESSED VALUE OF REAL ESTATE.

SQUARE.	LOT.	VALUE OF LOT.	VALUE OF IMPRS.	REMARKS.
347	8 1/2 14	\$ 2965	\$ 14000	

\$ 6965-

Total assessed valuation.

Received Payment,

M. A. O. L.

Collector.

By

W. C. G.

If Payment is made by check it }
 must be written on the back of the bill. }

Increased taxes on higher assessed value of additions to Petersen House, 1871-72.



Washington, D. C., Nov 17th, 1871.

M^r Charles Kloman Administrator of Estate Peterson:

TERMS CASH
FOR
GOODS AND LABOR.

To Tim. O. Noonan, Dr.

PRACTICAL PLUMBER AND GAS-FITTER,

Corner of Seventh and L streets, N.W.

1	To Plumbing work at House on 10 th Street as agreed	\$150.00
2	" New Stop cock & Pipe at curb line	5.00
3	" Taking up & Relaying Manholes	5.00
4	" New Gas pipe laid in Dining room & putting up	2.50
	Cash on Acct -	\$162.50
		<u>\$100.00</u>
		<u>\$62.50</u>

Received Payment J. V. Noonan

This work is warranted
for one year from date.

The account shall be settled after six months.

Plumbing bill of Tim O. Noonan. Note item 2 referring to street lamp, Nov. 17, 1871.

(Voucher No. 17)



Washington, D.C., Nov. 14th 1871

Mr. C. S. Coleman

Chr. Riessner,

717 Seventh Street, bet. G and H Streets.

Var. 11 th to 198 ft. of Roofing &c. &c.	\$ 16. 82.
" 4 ft Gutter	08.
" 2 ft of Pipe and Cb.	42.
" Rgr. and hanging of Gutter.	4. 50

\$ 22. 31

Received

Chr. Riessner



Roof repair bill of Chr. Riessner, Nov. 14, 1871.

(Voucher No. 29)
District of Columbia, } Office of Register of Wills,
Washington County, ss. } 363

November 1872

Estate of Anna Petersen

To REGISTER OF WILLS, Dr.

For Stating, Passing, Filing, Recording, and Probate of	36	27	4.69
Account, and Filing Vouchers,	44	1	
Copy of Account under Seal,			1.88
Taxing Costs,			.25
Revenue Stamps,			
Paid for settling distribution of			5.26
			2.63
			7.89

Received Payment,

Register of Wills

Paid voucher for charges of Register of Wills for handling
records of estate of Anna Petersen, Nov. 1872.

(Voucher No. 26)

Second Ward.

Washington, D. C., Nov 8 1871

M 516

To SCAVENGER, Dr.

FOR NIGHT WORK..... 10..... \$125

Received Payment.

Marshall Brown

Voucher No. 26, for scavenger work and also identifying
Petersen House as being in Second Ward on which census
records for the period are based.

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<u>Daily National Intelligencer</u>	Washington <u>Post</u>

