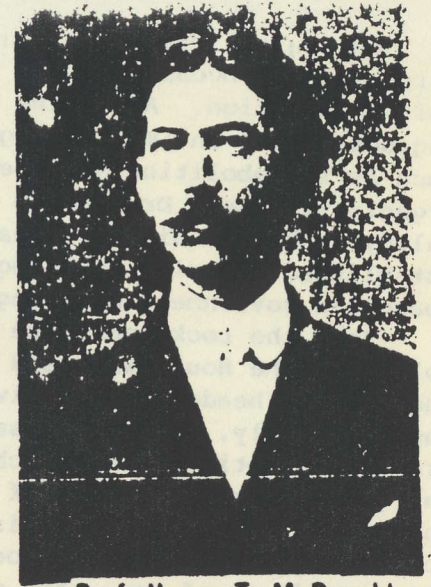


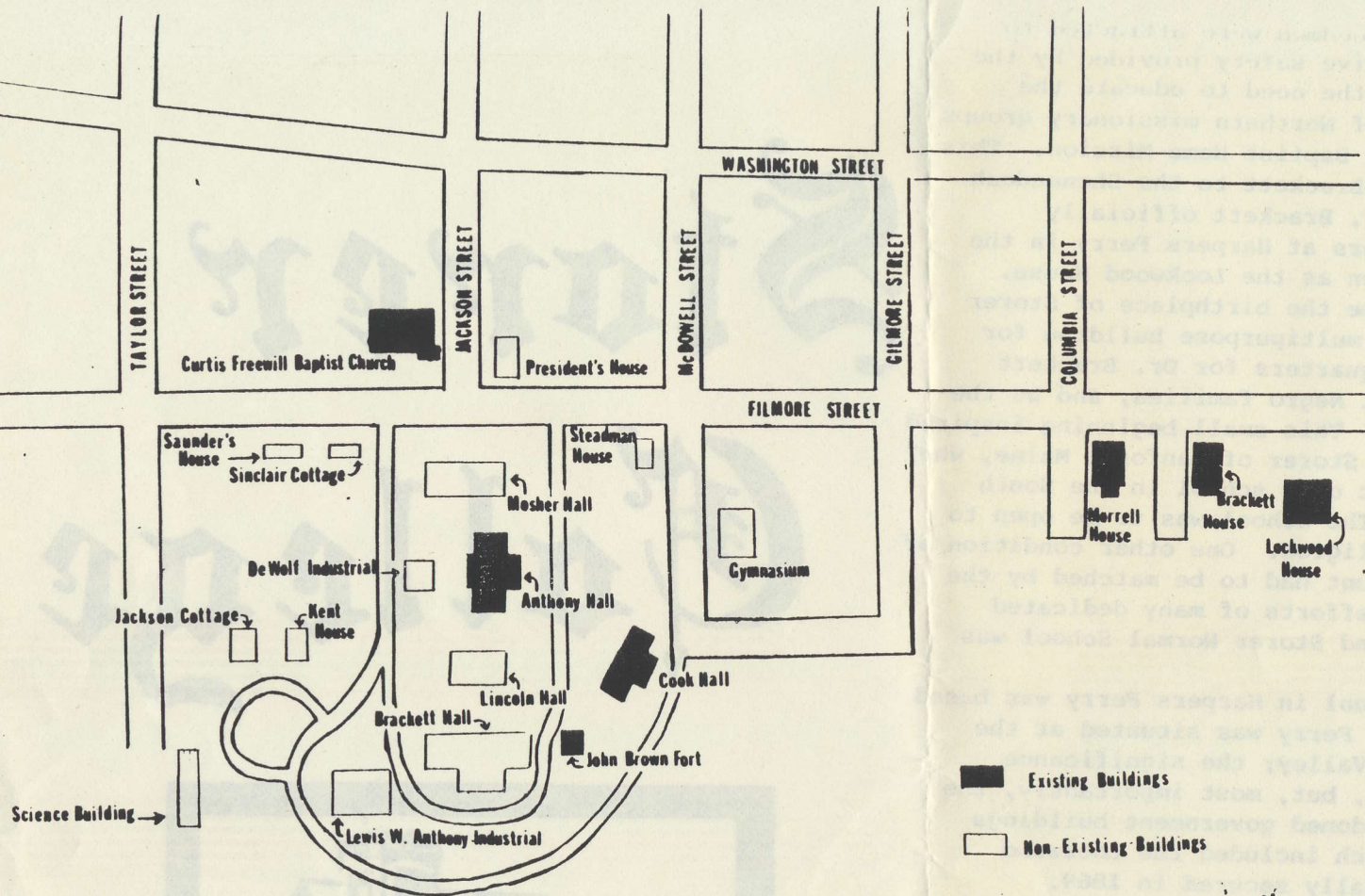
# Storer College



1865 - 1955



Prof. Henry T. McDonald  
President Storer College  
The Longest Term



■ Existing Buildings  
□ Non-Existing Buildings

COOK HALL-(originally men's dormitory) rehabilitated in 1962; used as a dormitory by visiting National Park Service personnel

JOHN BROWN FORT-(originally part of U.S. Armory; used as a museum on the Storer College campus) NPS moved the Fort to the lower town, closest to the original location in 1968

MORRELL HOUSE-(used as housing) the present location of the Park Administration (eg. Superintendent)

BRACKETT HOUSE-(used as housing) the present location of the Curators of Reference Services (eg. the furnishing plan team)

LOCKWOOD HOUSE-(the birthplace of Storer College) two rooms are presently restored and the basement is used for artifact storage.

LEWIS W. ANTHONY INDUSTRIAL-(used as classroom) the present location of the Reference Service Library

WIRTH HALL (originally Wirth Hall) rehabilitated in 1963; known as "Mather Training Center" and used to instruct NPS personnel

CURTIS FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH-used by the NPS and other groups for various programs

MOSHER HALL-(also known as "Myrtle Hall") men's dormitory; demolished by NPS in 1962

BRACKETT HALL-girls' dormitory; demolished 1962

JACKSON COTTAGE-demolished 1962

SINCLAIR COTTAGE-demolished 1962

SAUNDERS' HOUSE-demolished 1962

LINCOLN HALL-classroom building; burned 1909

DeWOLF INDUSTRIAL-demolished 1962

KENT HOUSE-demolished 1962

GYMNASIUM-(barn converted into gymnasium) demolished by NPS

PRESIDENT'S HOUSE-burned; afterwards the family located in the Brackett House

SCIENCE BUILDING-(built in the 1940's) demolished by NPS

During the Civil War, many freedmen were attracted to Harpers Ferry because of the relative safety provided by the Union occupation. After the War, the need to educate the Negroes became an important goal of Northern missionary groups such as the abolitionist Free Will Baptist Home Mission. This organization sent Dr. Nathan Cook Brackett to the Shenandoah Valley in 1865. Within a year, Dr. Brackett officially established the mission headquarters at Harpers Ferry in the abandoned government building known as the Lockwood House.

Thus the Lockwood House became the birthplace of Storer College. The House was used as a multipurpose building for the mission headquarters, living quarters for Dr. Brackett and his family, a home for several Negro families, and as the Free Will Baptist Primary School. This small beginning inspired the generous contribution of John Storer of Sanford, Maine, who gave \$10,000 for the establishment of a school in the South for the benefit of the Negroes. The school was to be open to all regardless of sex, race or religion. One other condition of the contribution was that the amount had to be matched by the Free Will Baptists. Through the efforts of many dedicated people, the funds were secured, and Storer Normal School was chartered in 1867.

The decision to open the school in Harpers Ferry was based on a variety of reasons: Harpers Ferry was situated at the Northern mouth of the Shenandoah Valley; the significance John Brown's Raid had on the area, but, most importantly, the possibility of obtaining four abandoned government buildings from the Ordnance Department (which included the Lockwood House). These buildings were finally secured in 1869.

Storer College's reputation was built in the community by the diligent mission teachers. Gradually, new buildings were added to the campus. However, Storer College always struggled financially, and the Board of Trustees decided to close the doors of Storer College after the decision of the Supreme Court on desegregation. The College closed in 1955.

