

163 CHURCH STREET (COMMERCIAL BUILDING)
Texas
Baltimore County
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1000

HABS
MD
3-TEX
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Northeast Field Area
Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

163 CHURCH LANE (COMMERCIAL BUILDING) HABS No. MD-1000

Location: Main facade and entryway on Railroad Avenue
Texas, Baltimore County, Maryland

USGS Cockeysville, Maryland Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18. 357585. 4369285

Significance: This area was developed in the early to mid-nineteenth century to exploit the nearby "white alum" limestone quarries. The tavern, built or renovated during the period between 1909 to 1915, replaced an earlier tavern; it has served as the social center of the community for more than seventy years. Centrally located between the Texas quarries and the residences, this establishment was the main meeting place for workers at the end of the day. Adjacent to the railroad station, it also served as an important hotel, store, and post office at points in its history. Texas, Maryland is arranged with strict social and physical stratification, with the quarries and bars at the base of the hill, residences running up the hill, and St. Joseph's Church at the crest of the hill.

Description: The tavern is a two-story frame and stone structure with at least three periods of construction. The frame portion may replace an earlier log structure. The middle stone section was probably the original section with later frame sections added.

The structure's overall shape is linear with an ell and irregular fenestration. A second floor door and window have been closed on the east side. The longest axis, the east-west side, faces Railroad Avenue. The gable end on Church Lane has a canted ell wing; the main, recessed entry is on the corner of Church Lane and Railroad Avenue. On this north facade, a pent overhang has been added and fenestration has been altered. When originally built, the property fronted on Railroad Avenue, and the street address was probably a continuation of the Railroad Avenue numbers. However, during the early 20th century, with the assignment of tax parcels, the numbers were assigned along Church Lane, resulting in a change of street address.

Exterior sheathing materials include asphalt, vinyl siding, and painted vertical wood planks, with asphalt shingles on the roof. On the north end are 6/6 sash windows with wood trim; the south end has 2/2 sash and small 3-light windows. A brick and a cinder block chimney pierce the north and center section.

The south gable end wall is shared with the adjacent house (HABS No. MD-999).

History:

This lot was part of a 44-acre tract purchased by Samuel Griscom in 1844 and developed into a residential complex for arriving Irish immigrants. Lot 11 was rented to Thomas Deye Cockey, a member of a prominent family in the area, who established a tavern on this corner during the period 1848-1850. Cockey transferred the lease of the property to Patrick Kenny in 1858. The Kenny family, one of the leading families in the town, continued to operate the tavern through most of the 19th century. In 1909, the lot was divided in half, and a store was established on the property by lessee Edward Doyle. By 1919, the structure had been converted into a hotel, and a tavern was opened within the hotel. It passed through a number of owners, and was purchased by James McDermott in 1953, who operated the tavern to the present.

Source:

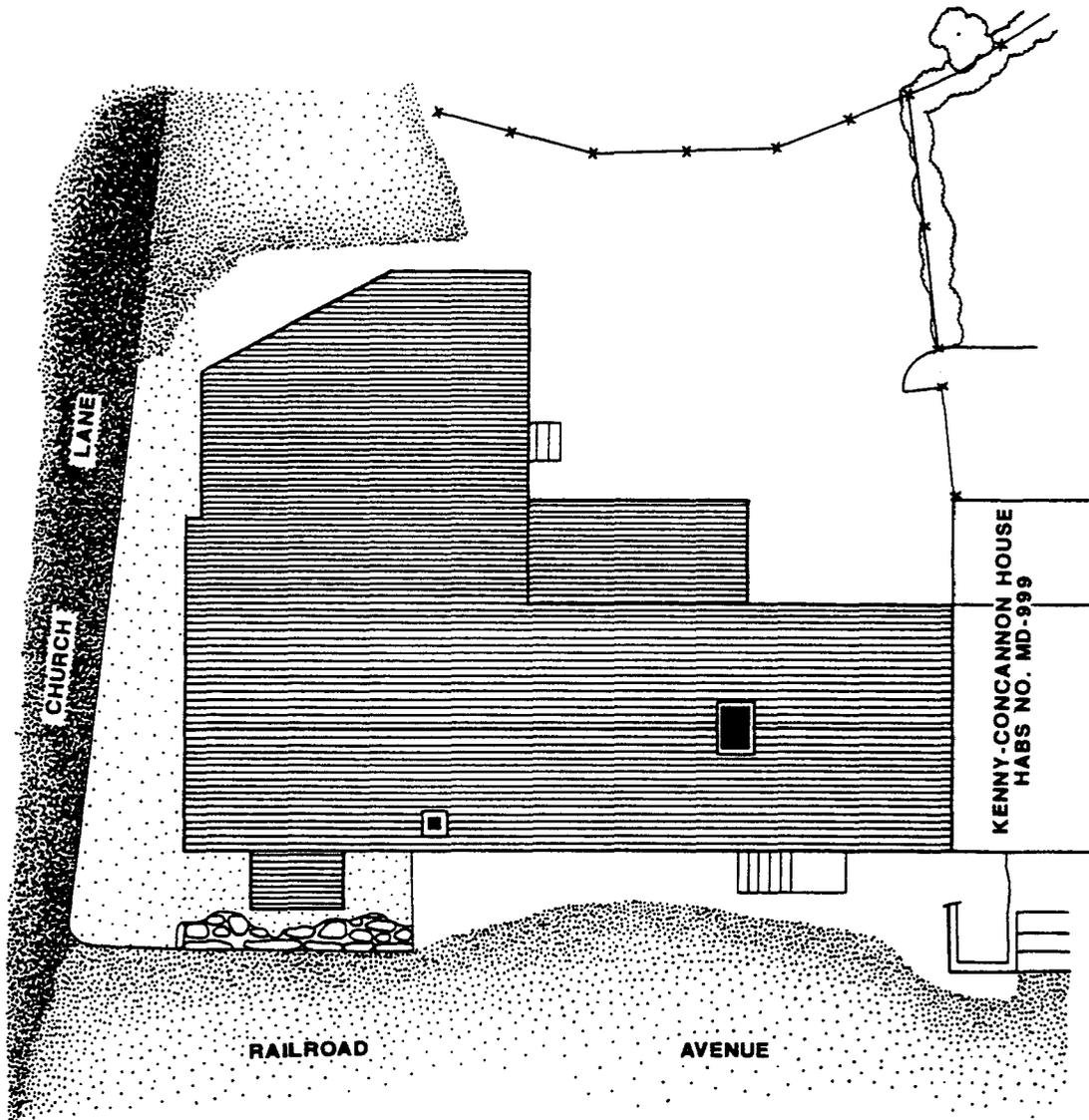
Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form, Texas Village, 1985.
Maryland Standing Structure Site Form No. BA1833.

"Phase II Archaeological Survey for Sites 18BA313, 18BA314, 18BA324, & 18BA325, Beaver Dam Road, Baltimore County, Maryland," by Ted M. Payne and Kenneth Baumgardt, MAAR Associates, Inc., Newark, Delaware.

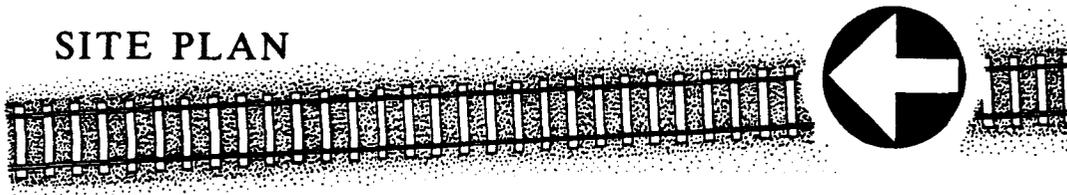
Historian:

Kenneth Baumgardt
Lauren Archibald
MAAR Associates, Inc.
May 1990.

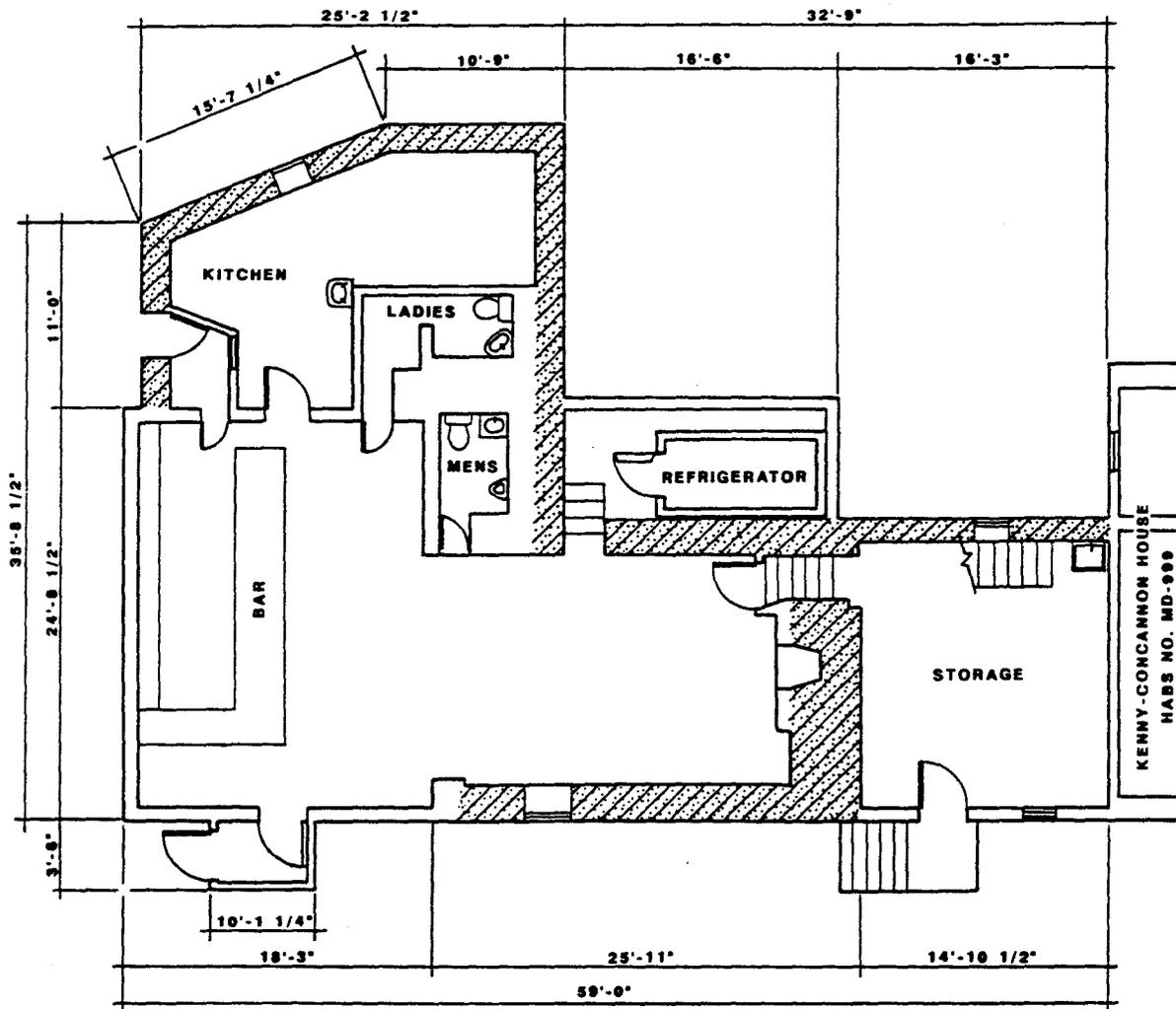
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SITE PLAN

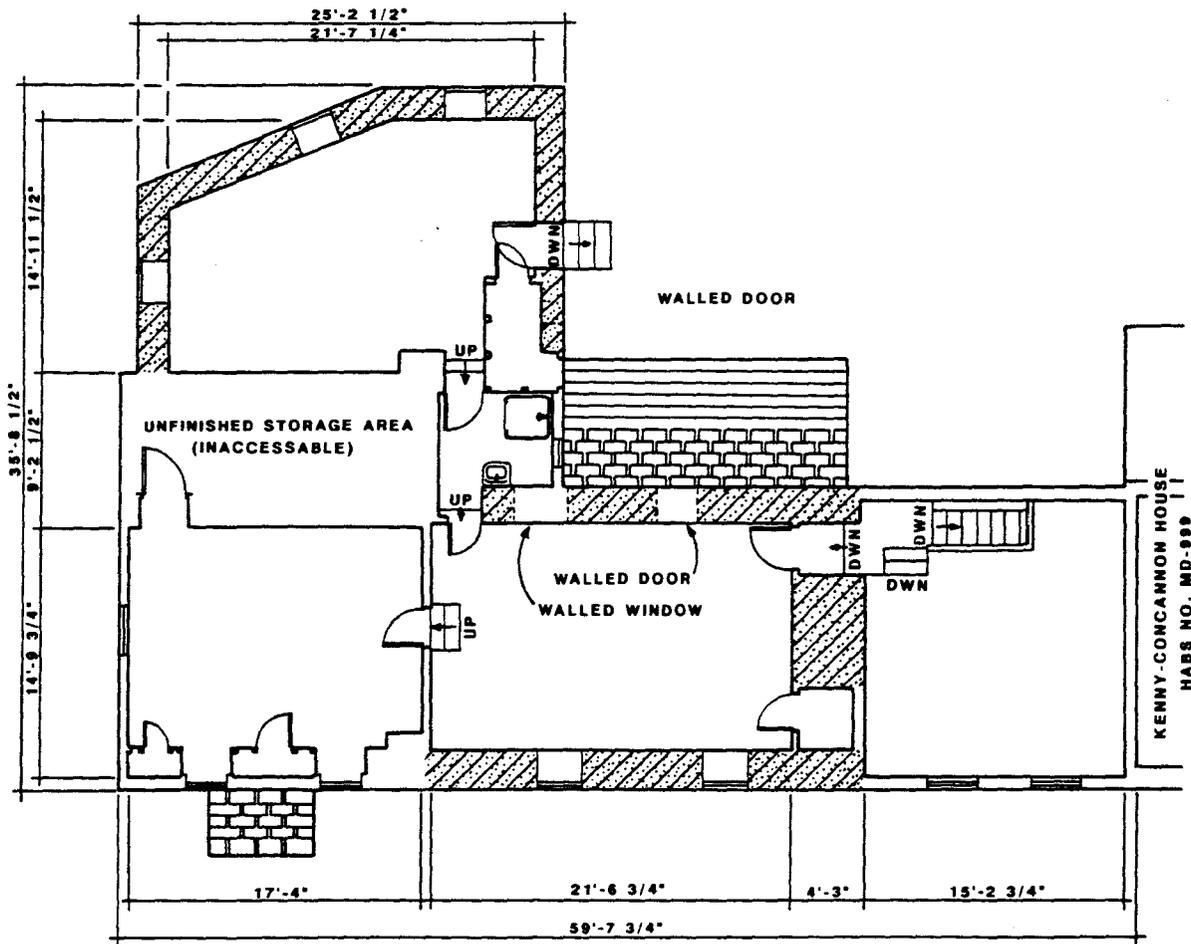


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FIRST FLOOR PLAN





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

