

Amherst Street - - Edward McGuire House
103 North Braddock Street
Winchester
Virginia

HABS No. VA-694-E

HABS
VA
35-WIN
11-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS
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AMHERST STREET - - EDWARD MCGUIRE HOUSE

HABS No. VA-694-E

Location: 103 North Braddock Street (at the northwest corner of North Braddock and Amherst Streets), Winchester, Virginia

Present Owner: William P. McGuire and Dorothy R. McGuire

Present Occupants: Winchester Surgical Clinic

Present Use: Surgeons' offices.

Statement of Significance: The Edward McGuire House is one of a group of well-preserved, representative historic buildings on a block of Amherst Street. The house is also a very fine example of the Federal style of architecture as found in Winchester, and has remained in the ownership of the McGuire family.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION-(PART I)

Physical History

1. Dates of erection: 1825 or 1826, probably. Wayland gives 1825 and indicates that the house was built for Dr. Hugh H. McGuire, information that may have been obtained from Dr. Hunter H. McGuire. (Wayland, p. 61). Mrs. W. Nelson Page, great granddaughter of Hugh H. McGuire, in an interview with the writer on 27 July 1972 said that she believed that the house was built in 1826. The Federal style of the house might seem to indicate an earlier date, but the persistence of this eighteenth-century style in many locations in Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas is common (Hamlin, p. 192). Difficult to reconcile with the 1825 or 1826 date of construction, however, is the fact that the sale price of the lot increased from five shillings in 1780 to \$1000 in 1814. It would seem that there must have been another building on the property by 1814 in order to account for the sale price of that date. The consistency of design of the present house would seem to deny the possibility that it incorporates an older structure.

2. Architect: Not known.

3. Original and subsequent owners: The following is an incomplete chain of title for the land on which the house stands.

1780 Deed 6 March 1780, recorded 8 March 1780 in Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book No. 19, p. 6
Christopher Fry

to
John Duffield of Frederick County
For five shillings current money of Virginia, lot No. 3 in James Wood's Addition to Winchester on the west side of Braddock Street. 107 feet frontage on Braddock Street and 180 feet in depth.

1814 Deed 8 March 1814, recorded 8 March 1814 in Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 3, p. 51
Mary Duffield, widow and relict of John Duffield, deceased
Mary Duffield and Abigail Duffield, daughters
Daniel Gold and Sally Gold, his wife (nee Duffield)

- John Duffield and Richard Duffield, sons
to
Edward McGuire
For \$1000. The dimensions are given more accurately:
197 feet 4 inches on Braddock and 188 feet 6 inches on
Amherst.
- 1828 Will 12 Nov. 1828, recorded 1 Dec. 1828 in
Frederick County, Va., Will Book No. 15, p. 19
Edward McGuire
He appointed his son Hugh H. McGuire and his son-in-
law Alexander S. Tidball his executors with instructions to
sell his property and, with certain exceptions, to divide
the proceeds equally among his children. The children
mentioned are Rebecca Mackey, daughter; and Edward McGuire,
John Samuel McGuire, David Holmes McGuire, and Hugh H.
McGuire, sons.
- 1829 Deed 3 Sept, recorded 5 Sept in
Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book No. 55, p. 437
Hugh H. McGuire and Alexander S. Tidball, executors of the
estate of Edward McGuire
to
Rebecca Mackey and Edward D. McGuire
- 1829 Deed 4 Sept. 1829, recorded 7 Sept. 1829 in
Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book No. 55, p. 439
Rebecca Mackey and Edward D. McGuire
to
H. H. McGuire
For \$1100.
- 1868 Deed 8 May 1868, recorded 8 May 1868 in
Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 11, p. 490
Hugh H. McGuire, M. D., and Ann Elizabeth, his wife
to
William Province McGuire
The real estate at the northwest corner of Braddock
and Amherst Streets where Hugh and Ann now reside; i. e.,
the same property as in the previous deeds. To be kept
for the use of Ann Elizabeth McGuire, William's mother,
free from debt. She may leave it to whom she chooses,
free from debts and controls by Hugh.
- 1879 Will 16 March 1876, recorded 21 April 1879 in
Winchester, Virginia, Will Book No. 3, p. 219
Ann E. McGuire
to
Gettie and Annie McGuire, her daughters
The house that Ann E. then lived in. Her son Hunter
was to be reimbursed for the money which he had advanced on
the house. Codocil, 12 April, no year given: If Annie join
the Romish Church she would forfeit all interest and Gettie
would have all interest during her life and Hunter at her
death.

- 1878 Deed 17 Dec. 1878, recorded 21 April 1879 in Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 16, p. 104
Gettie H. McGuire and Susie T. McGuire, devisees under the will of Mrs. Eliza McGuire, deceased
to
William P. McGuire, M. D.
For \$200, the lot on the north side of Amherst Street fronting 28 feet 6 inches on Amherst and running back 107 feet. "It being the extreme western end of the garden lot of which Mrs. McGuire died seized, together with the one-story brick office now standing on said lot." (Note: This deed deals with the selling off of the western portion of the original lot.)
- 1896 Will 11 March, recorded 24 Oct. 1896 in Winchester, Virginia, Will Book No. 4, p. 474
Gettie McGuire
to
Anne T. McGuire, her sister
All she possesses, with the exception of some cash bequests to her nieces.
- 1917 Will 20 Nov. 1916, recorded 16 July 1917 in Winchester, Virginia, Will Book No. 7, p. 77
Annie Tucker McGuire
Cash bequests to several nieces and a nephew, and \$2000 to the pastor of Sacred Heart Church (Roman Catholic). The remainder to her executor, Dr. Hunter H. McGuire, with annual proceeds to go to her niece Laura Holmes McGuire.
- 1918-1927 Nine deeds, dates from 1 Aug. 1918 to 20 Jan. 1927, recorded in Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 34, p. 16 & p. 49; No. 36, p. 336, p. 337, p. 380, p. 381, p. 383, p. 529; No. 46, p. 45.
Heirs of Anne Eliza McGuire
to
Hunter Holmes McGuire
All the respective interests of all the heirs.
- 1949 Will 21 May 1944, recorded 26 Jan. 1949 in Winchester, Virginia, Will Book No. 19, p. 466
Hunter Holmes McGuire
to
Jane L. McGuire, his wife
Lifetime tenancy of the property for his wife. On her death his son W. P. McGuire is to sell the property and distribute the estate equally among his children: W. P. McGuire, Judith B. Lindsey, and Anne T. Booth. The division is to be in kind, if possible. If not, sale is permitted.
- 1961 Deed 29 March 1961 recorded 29 March 1961 in Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 98, p. 114
Judith Braxton Lindsey and Julian B. Lindsey, her husband
Anne Tucker Booth and Thomas Macaulay Booth, her husband
to
William P. McGuire
For \$10 and other considerations, Nos. 103 and 105 North Braddock Street. This is the same property as described in the 1927 deed. No. 105 is a brick office building adjoining No. 103 on the north.

1961 Deed of Trust 9 May 1961, recorded 9 May 1961 in Winchester, Virginia, Deed Book No. 98, p. 148
 William P. McGuire and Dorothy R. McGuire, his wife
 to
 Henry H. Whiting and Peter K. McKee of Winchester, Trustees
 and
 The Handley Board of Trustees

The property at 103 and 105 North Braddock Street was mortgaged for \$32,000, payable in five years. (Note: Since there is no later instrument transferring the title of the property to the trustees, it is presumed that the mortgage was paid up and that the ownership of the property remains with William P. and Dorothy R. McGuire.)

4. Builder or contractor: Not known.

5. Notes on original plan and construction: From inspection of the building, it appears that the original building was essentially the same structure which stands today: the rectangular front portion, of which one long side faces North Braddock Street and constitutes the front of the building, and the rear ell, which extends the south end of the rectangular portion back along Amherst Street. The brickwork of the walls at the junction of the ell shows no sign that the ell was an addition. The curious and rather elaborate construction of the brickwork cornice of the front of the house appears at the Amherst Street side of the ell also, and the backyard-side brickwork cornices of both parts of the building--these cornices are of plainer construction--also match each other.

6. Notes on known alterations and additions: It appears, then, that no additions have been made to the house. The porch of the ell, however, has been enclosed, and modern plumbing, heating, and electrical wiring have been added to the house.

Historical Events and Persons Associated with the Building:

Christopher Fry, who sold the lot to John Duffield, was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church (Russell, p. 103).

John Duffield is listed on a tax return for 1788 prepared by John Conrad, commissioner. Duffield is chargeable for personal property of three horses and two slaves. In a list of owners of lots in Frederick County, the list having been prepared for the First Battalion of the local militia for 1782, Duffield is given as having four lots. These may have been in Frederick County or Winchester or both. (Morton, pp. 266, 268, 272).

Edward McGuire, who purchased the property in 1814, was a hotel keeper, operating the hotel built by his father on North Loudoun Street in the center of the city before the Revolution (Russell, p. 94, p. 112 Note 5; Quarles, p. 79).

Hugh Holmes McGuire, who owned the property from 1829 to 1868 was the son of Edward McGuire and the first Dr. McGuire in Winchester, beginning practice in 1822. He served as president of

the American Society of Surgeons, and he was a leader in founding a medical school in Winchester in 1826 and a member of its faculty and of the Winchester Medical College that succeeded the first institution in 1847. Although past military age at the time of the Civil War, he served in the medical branch of the Confederate Army under his son, Hunter Holmes McGuire, who was surgeon to Stonewall Jackson (Russell, p. 40 Note 13; Quarles, pp. 79, 80).

William Province McGuire (1845-1926), who owned the property from 1868 to 1879, was another son of Hugh Holmes McGuire and served in the Confederate Army, studying medicine after the Civil War (Quarles, pp. 80, 81). In 1879 he purchased the west 29'-6" of the Edward McGuire house lot, on which a one-story brick office stood at that time (Winchester, Va., Deed Book No. 16, p. 104).

Hunter Holmes McGuire, who died in 1949, was an ophthalmologist and was for many years chairman of the Board of Winchester Memorial Hospital. He was a son of William Province McGuire and owned the Edward McGuire house until his death, having bought the interests of all the heirs (Quarles, p. 81).

Sources of Information

Primary and unpublished sources.

Frederick County, Virginia. Deed Book No. 19, No. 55

----- Will Book No. 15

Winchester, Virginia. Deed Book No. 3, No. 11, No. 16, No. 34, No. 36, No. 46, No. 98.

----- Will Book No. 3, No. 4, No. 7, No. 19.

Interview: Mrs. W. Nelson Page (who is Willie McGuire Page, daughter of William P. McGuire) with the writer, 28 July 1972.

Secondary and published sources.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America. New York: Dover, 1964 (originally Oxford University Press, 1941)

Morton, Frederic. The Story of Winchester in Virginia. Strasburg, Va: Shenandoah Publishing Co., 1925

Quarles, Garland R. The Story of One Hundred Old Homes in Winchester, Virginia. (Prepared for the Farmers and Merchants National Bank) 1967

Russell, William Greenway. What I Know About Winchester: Recollections of William Greenway Russell 1800-1891. Staunton, Va: McClure Publishing Co., 1953.

Wayland, John W. Historic Homes of Northern Virginia and the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. Staunton, Va: McClure, 1937.

Likely sources not yet investigated.

Property tax records for late 18th and early 19th centuries, said to be at the State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

Prepared by:

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PART II, ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

For drawings of the Edward McGuire House, see AMHERST STREET (HABS No. VA-694).