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April 26, 1934.

Thomas F. Loy  
Historian  
Office Antietam National Cemetery  
Sharpsburg, Md.

Dear Mr. Loy:

Your letter April 16th was received last Friday morning and in consequence the men could only work on the abstracts from the Hagerstown Herald on Torch Light on Monday and Tuesday of this week.

These will be forwarded to Dr. Jones, along with the other work and you can get them from him in due course.

I am also including in this copy of a letter to General Reckord which responds to a request from your Mr. John C. O'Connell. Please call his attention to this and tell him that I regret that we did not have more complete information on the data he wanted.

Very truly yours,

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
EASTERN DIVISION, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF DIVISION

May 17, 1934.

James E. Hancock, Esquire,  
521 East Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

My dear Mr. Hancock:

I was sorry not to be able to get in touch with you during my visit to Fort McHenry National Monument about two weeks ago. The purpose of my trip was to decide, if possible, the location for the Comfort Station facilities at the Monument. With that in mind I took Mr. Leisenring of the Construction Quartermaster's Office who has been so closely connected with and interested in this project, as well as representatives of our Engineering Branch.

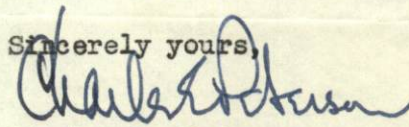
Our recommendation, in which most of our officers have already concurred, is represented on the attached blue print, drawing No. McH-1003. In our judgment it is very important to keep the Sally Port, Barracks "E" and Officers Quarters "A" as intact as possible since they form a very important part of the first impression given our visitors and they remain very much in their original state. Since Building "C" is now occupied, Building "D" is the only structure which could be feasibly adapted for our purpose. Large scale details on the blue print show exactly the changes proposed.

It is believed that this arrangement will be convenient from the standpoint of location and will not offer any serious objections from the standpoint of general appearances. It will be convenient to have the Comfort Station in the same building with the Society's rooms. At the same time the two functions will not interfere with each other.

We have canvassed the situation rather completely and I believe that we are offering herewith the best possible solution. I do not believe that there is an ideal solution - there never is when the problem means adapting an antique building to modern uses.

I thought that you as an officer of the Society, would be interested in seeing the preliminary plan and hope that you concur in our recommendations. Hoping to see you the next time I visit the Fort, I am

Sincerely yours,



Charles E. Peterson,  
Chief of Division.

May 21, 1934.

Mr. Charles E. Peterson  
Chief of Division  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Your letter of May 17th with its blue print enclosure has been received and is appreciated as was also our talk over the phone this afternoon.

Thinking over the matter, I am sorry that we have not contacted before this, because I believe we could help make Fort McHenry a wonderfully attractive place.

As previously planned, the garage in Barrack D (which incidentally should never have been placed there) - was to be moved out on the grounds either near the U. S. Engineer's wharf or near the incinerator and after the room had been restored, the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland would install the museum in the building. To encourage this removal, we started the museum and asked the Daughters of the War of 1812 to begin their collection of old furniture on the second floor.

Barrack A, which had originally been the quarters of the Commandant of the fort, with his adjutant and the office of the garrison on the first floor, was to be furnished by the Daughters of the War of 1812, with period furniture as their particular exhibit and we felt sure that when that time came, the ladies would be content to take the items which they had gathered on the second floor of Barrack D for their equipment of Barrack A.

Barrack E was to be equipped as an exhibit of the living conditions of the enlisted men of the garrison. The upper floors of this Barrack would contain replicas of the simple bunks that they used, while the first floor would be given over to mess room equipment of the period of 1812.

If you think of the physical aspects of these buildings I believe that you will get the logic of these plans. The rooms of Barrack A are connected by corridors upstairs and down, and the rooms of Barrack E are

only connected by communicating doorways on the upper floor, but not on the lower floor.

Thus these two barracks would seem suited to the proposed plans, while Barrack D in which the rooms are directly connected with each other, both upstairs and down, are better adapted for a museum with an attendant in charge. Under these conditions, visitors would necessarily be received by the guide in Barrack D and then if he saw that they were interested in the fort and its story, he could take them into the other buildings at his convenience.

Given such a set up, I know that we could fill the museum within a short time and make the fort a credit to the Department. As it is, people are unwilling to hand over articles that they have treasured for years, because they feel that there is not adequate protection. Within the past six months a ship model exhibit has been turned aside and right now I have an arms exhibit of over 500 pieces, muskets, rifles, pistols and swords that display the military history of the country from the revolutionary war to the World War. With it we could make a veritable Battle Abbey of Fort McHenry that would not only portray its full history but emphasize the dramatic incidents connected with it; but - this exhibit is valuable. Other museums are begging for it, and while it is in our hands and ready to be placed, it would not be fair to put it at Fort McHenry unless it is properly protected.

How think over this outline and I will be in to see you soon.

But please do not tear up the old brick floor in Barrack D, that makes the building all the more unique for our plans. Move the registration desk into Barrack D where it would be properly supervised and then if you enlarge the toilet quarters in the building where they now are and use the two doors for respective entrances for the sexes, you would have all that is necessary for every day needs; while you could keep the emplacement that is in the magazine building out on the grounds for the unusual crowds, that would come only 3 or 4 times a year.

Very truly yours,

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

May 26, 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock, President,  
Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland,  
521 West Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Hancock:

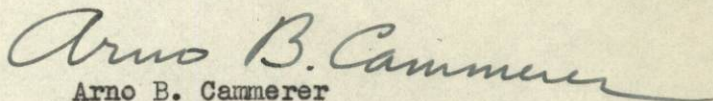
I have received your letter of May 21, which was written to Mr. Peterson, in regard to the location of the comfort stations at Fort McHenry.

The concensus of opinion in this Service seems to be that it is better to go ahead as we had planned. Our reason for this is that we believe the museum developments will be cramped if retained in quarters in which the Society of the War of 1812 is also established.

I might add that we plan to develop, as soon as possible, a heating system for all of the buildings. In that case, it will be possible to place some of the museum activities in the buildings now not otherwise used. In the plan to expand this program, we are in complete accord with you.

I trust that this solution will prove to be satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

  
Arno B. Cammerer  
Director

May 30, 1934.

Dr. Arno B. Cammerer  
Director, National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of May 26th has been received and is appreciated.

While in Washington Monday, I went over the plans for Fort McHenry with Mr. Peterson and after leaving him, called at the Institute of Pharmacy to talk over some details for the Procter Memorial with Dr. Kelly, who told me of the great help you had been to them in erecting their building.

Although I have thought that the more protracted sunlight in Barrack D would make that building more attractive for museum purposes than Barrack E and incidentally keep down the dampness that would otherwise be detrimental to metal objects that would be deposited therein, your letter suggests that all of the buildings at Fort McHenry would soon be heated and Mr. Peterson told me that artificial light would be provided for the proper display of the firearms collection.

Under these conditions, I would not presume to question your more competent judgement, and would further assure you that it is the desire of our society to help make Fort McHenry as interesting as possible so that visitors may recognize its importance as a cross section of national history.

Very truly yours,

May 30, 1934.

Mr. Sol Bloom  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your very interesting letter of May 26th was received while the writer was out of town and to make some amends for the delay I am taking the liberty of mailing you a dozen package of Campho-Menthol Lozenges.

Your comments on the package in which the Campho-Menthol Lozenges are dispensed is most interesting and I feel that your criticism is justified under the circumstances. I have checked up on the cork question and think that we can prevent that in the future, but I would appreciate any suggestion that you may otherwise have about the package. In fact we have been testing them out in another package than glass for the past month but cannot make up our mind that the new proposition is as good as the old.

Of course, we could provide a heavier glass vial but that would be more awkward than the one that we are now using.

Nevertheless we thank you for your criticism and would be more than pleased if we could improve the package in which they are dispensed.

Very truly yours,

June 4, 1934.

Mr. James R. McConaghie  
Federal Director  
National Military Parks  
Gettysburg, Pa.

Dear McConaghie:

Your request for suggestions for a six year program at Fort McHenry makes me wonder what the department is planning.

In the first place I had thought that the fort buildings had been practically restored and only needed to be kept up or reasonably adapted to some use in which the visitors would be historically interested. Of course, I am aware that, in the restoration, certain innovations, like maintaining a garage in one of the old buildings were installed, but they are inconsistent to the dignity that Congress intended, and we have heretofore regarded them as temporary expedients that would be eliminated when possible.

Although I realize that it is not an easy task to reconcile the modern with the antique, I favor Mr. Peterson's idea to heat the buildings and install electric lights for proper display, particularly if their evidence does not clash with the old surroundings, but honestly I do not think that it will be discreet to appropriate 50% of these historic buildings for housing employees. I agree that the buildings are better protected when someone is inside the fort proper at night, but Zuger already has one of the buildings plus the garage and if they now put the comfort station in Barrack D, plus the living quarters for another attendant upstairs, it will practically make Barrack D useless for any other purposes.

Taking this as a general back ground, let us keep in mind that Fort McHenry was made a National Shrine because it was the birthplace of the "Star Spangled Banner" and undoubtedly that episode should be made the dominating feature. In this connection I think that if the department could get the consent of Congress to fly a replica of the old flag with its 15 stars and 15 bars, that the difference in size and design from the present standard would impress the visitor. Of course it isn't regulations but think of its effect as an historical lesson.

Then I would mount a battery of 4 old cannon in the principal star point, or if practical in all of the points. Fort McHenry was armed at that time with four 20 or 24 pound cannon in each of its 5 star points and the contrast of these small calibre guns with that of modern guns would greatly interest the visitors.

Then I would install replicas of the old bunks that were used by the enlisted men in garrisons at that period in at least one of the upper rooms of Barrack E and equip a kitchen and a mess room for them on the lower floor. There are very few buildings left in America with the old cooking cranes and open fire places still intact, and it would be very interesting to accentuate them.

I am non committal about deepening the moat around the fort, because if that were done you would have to provide the drawbridge that was placed in the approach to the sally port, and I can see that it would be the source of many broken bones and bruises for the number of people who would be persistantly falling off of it. Several years ago, we considered carefully a proposition to reestablish the old rifle pits that were in front of the fort, during the War of 1812, but we decided that they would be a greater hazard than their historical worth.

I am not including in this the details that I talked over with Mr. Peterson the other day, but if the buildings are properly painted and the cases built for the arms collection; and especially if a guide is provided so that the buildings may be kept open and the exhibits protected, you will see an outpouring of relics from the old trunks in Baltimore that will surprise you.

But move the garage out of Barrack D and put it in the old incinerator or build a shed for it down near the Engineer's Wharf, and please do not put a comfort station and living quarters for another attendant in Barrack D, unless you want to run the risk of the Daughters getting out of it.

Baltimoreans are proud of Fort McHenry's place in national history, but we are prouder still of the fact that this history is interwoven with the traditions of our town. We remember that we built it and defended it and gave it to the government, when the government was so poor that it could not indulge in such luxuries as national defense, and now that it is a National Shrine we want to feel that it is for the historical education of the American people.

Fort McHenry is also a rare cross section of American history from

the Revolutionary to the World War. The Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland was born there on September 14th, 1814 and both ourselves and the Daughters worked hard to have it made a National Shrine when others were trying to get it for a city park and museum. Therefore we realize our sense of responsibility and are anxious to help you build it up as a worthwhile memorial.

Very truly yours,

June 5, 1934.

Mr. Charles E. Peterson  
Chief of Division  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

So that you may not think that I am saying anything behind your back, I am inclosing in this copy of letter to Mr. McConaghie in reply to his request for suggestions for making Fort McHenry more interesting to visitors.

His request, however, was for a "six year plan" which is rather mystifying, because there is not much to be done to the fort proper and I feel that any additions outside will come naturally.

I hope however, that you will think seriously about the proposition to extend the housing facilities within the Star Fort, otherwise you are going to run into a lot of criticism.

The next time that I am in Washington, I will drop in to see you.

Very truly yours.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
EASTERN DIVISION, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF DIVISION

June 6, 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock,  
521 West Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

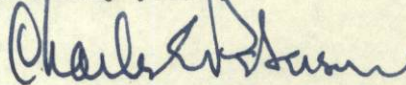
My dear Mr. Hancock:

Thank you for your letter of June 5 which is accompanied by your suggestions for future developments at Fort McHenry. I think your ideas are along the right lines and hope that we will be able to realize them within the next few years.

The Six Year Plan is an annual chore for all of our Park Superintendents. In the case of Fort McHenry, I would expect that most of the years will be blanks since the greatest part of the work there is already done.

I would be glad to see you the next time you are in Washington.

Sincerely yours,



Charles E. Peterson,  
Deputy Chief Architect.

cc The Director.  
Mr. McConaghie.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS,  
BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS  
GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK  
GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

June 11, 1934

Mr. James E. Hancock  
521 West Lombard Street  
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Hancock:

Please pardon me for the delay in acknowledging your letter of June 4, relative to the Six Year Program at Fort McHenry. Your letter was received in the rush of preparing our reports and assisted in the preparation of the Fort McHenry report.

I am quite in accord with the suggestions contained in your letter. Following my talk with you on my recent visit to Baltimore, in which we agreed that restorative work had about reached the desired end, I proposed little further physical restoration.

Briefly, my proposals were that funds be made available to assure proper maintenance of what has already been done; that additional lawn work be accomplished between the inner and outer earth works where there is now an unsightly surface; that further planting be accomplished toward the buildings outside of the Fort to assist in screening undesirable effects out of the Fort; that treatment be given the road within the Star Fort, to improve it for foot traffic; that a walk be placed on top of the outer fortifications, where a bare path has been worn; that adequate storage facilities be provided on the site of the old incinerator, with possibly living quarters established in a second floor of this storage building. This last project would allow us the opportunity of taking all of the utilities out of the Fort proper.

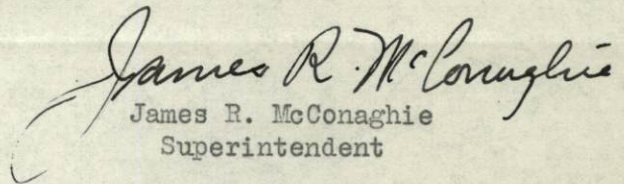
Mr. James E. Hancock

-2-

June 11, 1934

The foregoing briefly outlines the contents of my report.  
I thank you for your continual assistance.

Yours sincerely,

  
James R. McConaghie  
Superintendent

JRMC:me

June, 12, 1934.

Mr. James R. McConaghie  
Federal Director  
National Military Parks  
Gettysburg, Pa.

Dear McConaghie:

Yours of June 11th received and I am pleased to hear that you plan to remove the living quarters out of the old fort buildings, although my particular objection lies more in any extension of them and especially to the garage being maintained therein.

Several people have called my attention to a remark that was made by Azrael in last Saturday's News, that read as follows "The improvements which have been made at Fort McHenry have made the place less attractive." Let us avoid any innovations that will clash with the purposes of the memorial, and try to maintain its real dignity. Otherwise you must expect such criticism from Baltimoreans.

Very truly yours,

June 12, 1934.

Mr. Charles E. Peterson  
Chief of Division  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

It was impossible to get to Washington last week because of the serious illness of my mother and I am afraid that I will not be able to make it this week.

However, I am inclosing in this a clipping from last Saturday's Evening News, because it is along the lines that we have been discussing and it may interest you as an example of Baltimoreans attitude towards Fort McHenry. I have been surprised at the number of folks who have called my attention to the comment and in talking with them, I found that they were all averse to the introduction of innovations that would modernize it at the expense of its real purpose as an historical shrine.

Very truly yours,

August 9, 1934.

Mr. Charles E. Peterson  
Chief of Division  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

I regretted that you were not in when I called to see you yesterday, because I wanted to again talk with you about the plans for work at Fort McHenry, the blue print of which was given to me by Dr. Jones on Monday.

While there is an absence of any concrete provisions for a museum, I would approve the general plans as an evidence of good intent; although, I still feel compelled to protest against appropriating Barrack D as a garage, and as a comfort station.

There isn't a member of the several societies of the War of 1812 who isn't thankful that the original planning of Fort McHenry was done by the War Department, which saw the anachronism of these two features inside the star fort and proposed to get rid of them; and, to be frank, we had hoped that a similarly intelligent idea of its patriotic conception as a national shrine would be continued by the National Park Service.

Similarly I hope that no evidences of the heating and lighting details will negative the antiquity of the old buildings.

Very truly yours,

August 10, 1934.

Mr. George L. Radcliffe  
Fidelity Building,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear George:

For your information, I am inclosing in this the copy of a letter to Mr. Peterson, relative to the proposed P. W. A. work at Fort McHenry.

No one wants to fuss with Santa Claus, but the absence of any sympathy for local sentiment in this work has gotten my goat and I truly believe that if your bunch was turned loose in Westminster Abbey, they would try to make a modern apartment house out of it.

Sincerely,

August 10, 1934.

Mr. George L. Radcliffe  
Fidelity Building,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear George:

I am inclosing in this a copy of 2 letters to Mr. Peterson - May 21st and August 9th - that will explain themselves.

These letters refer to P. W. A. plans for Fort McHenry and nobody cares to fuss with Santa Claus; but before it is too late I want you, as the regional director, to know that our 1812 societies protest against the misappropriation of 50% of the old historic buildings therein for the convenience and housing of departmental employees and for garage purposes.

Sincerely,

August 14, 1934.

Mr. Charles E. Peterson  
Deputy Chief Architect  
18th and E Streets,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Your letter of August 10th has been received and I am relieved to construe it that plans for the museum will be taken up in due course.

I do think however that now is the time to get rid of the garage in Barrack D, which was placed there as a matter of emergency because the grounds were so torn up at the time that it was not practical to erect one outside of the fort proper; and also I must differ with you regarding the comfort station which will be particularly conspicuous in its new location, and I would respectfully refer you to the closing paragraph of my letter May 21st regarding it.

Only yesterday there was another comment in the Baltimore News as follows: "that Fort McHenry as it has been improved, doesn't look nearly as attractive as it used to look." Not many words, it is true, but they mean a great deal and I am sure that when the papers find out that you are appropriating about 50% of the space in these old historic buildings for housing your employees and what not, that there are going to be some embarrassing questions asked.

By the way, I would again remind you about some of the bricks in the building walls that are going salmon. I believe that a few applications of a mineral wax on these particular bricks would prevent a lot of moisture penetration and sequent disintegration by frost; and that if it is done now it will save some otherwise needless repair bills.

If my letter of August 8th seemed a little sharp I hope that you will overlook it. I feel that you are interested in this work and the Lord knows I am.

Very truly yours,

Resolutions pass<sup>ed</sup> at the joint meeting of The U. S. Daughters of the War of 1812 in Maryland and The Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, Sept. 12, 1934.

"That the U. S. Daughters of the War of 1812 and the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland do protest against the use of the buildings in the Star Fort as apartments for the staff and for additional comfort conveniences within the fort; and that the Department of the Interior be requested to restore these buildings including the rooms that have been converted into a garage to their original historical condition."

"That inasmuch as the present comfort facilities in Barrack C were sufficient for ordinary purposes, that it was preferable to retain these in conjunction with the station that was already placed in the magazine on the outside grounds; rather than as proposed to use a portion of Barrack D to erect another station."

Resolutions pass<sup>ed</sup> at the session of The Society, Sons of the American Revolution, September 18, 1934.

Whereas - The Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland has heard through the press that the Bureau of National Parks, Department of the Interior, has contracted, under the P.W.A. for an extension of the living quarters of its attendants and for certain other conveniences at Fort McHenry.

And Whereas - It is planned to place these innovations within the old buildings of the Star Fort.

Therefore Be It Resolved - That the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, again protests against converting these antique historical buildings into modern apartments; and we further request that the attention of the Bureau of National Parks be directed to the anachronisms that were previously placed therein as temporary expedients, and that such things as garages and what not be vacated and that the quarters used for them be reconditioned to comport with the true historical character of a National Shrine.

Whereas - Certain materials which have been deposited in the museum at Fort McHenry are the property of the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland or of individuals connected with that Society.

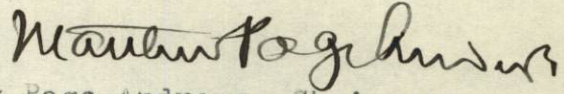
And Whereas - The Bureau of National Parks, Department of the Interior, or its agents have sold certain other items, to wit: Cannon Balls etc, that were being saved for historical display at Fort McHenry.

Therefore Be It Resolved - That the Bureau of National Parks, Department of the Interior, be advised of the private ownership of the collection that has been assembled at Fort McHenry and that it and other items that may hereafter be deposited at Fort McHenry by this society or its agents, are subject, at all or any time, to be withdrawn by the demand of the rightful owner (thereof)

eventually on the sale of the records.

Incidentally, I haven't heard from you with regard to joining the University Club. We should be glad to welcome you there.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Matthew Page Andrews".

Matthew Page Andrews, Chairman

Whereas - The National Society, War of 1812 is interested in Fort McHenry - The Birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner - as the outstanding military memorial of the War of 1812 ; and

Whereas - We have heard that the Bureau of National Parks, Department of the Interior, proposes to increase the housing conveniences for its employees within the Star Fort which same we already regard as objectionable features in this historic National Shrine.

Therefore Be It Resolved - That the National Society, War of 1812 in Congress assembled at Asbury Park, N. J. September 22nd 1834, requests the Department of the Interior to remove from within the precincts of the Star Fort at Fort McHenry , the apartments and the garage for its attendants and also the public comfort station therein and make other arrangements for these same outside of these old historic buildings.

Whereas - The Kiwanis Club of Baltimore is interested in the preservation of Fort McHenry and is proud of the association of this national shrine with the traditions of Baltimore.

Be It Resolved - That we protest against the misuse of the old buildings of Fort McHenry as living quarters for employees, as a comfort station or a garage, which features diminish the historical interest of the public in Fort McHenry and it further requests that the Bureau of National Parks - Department of the Interior will remove them from the area of the Star Fort.

Whereas - The Rotary Club of Baltimore is interested in Fort McHenry as the Birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner and is proud of its military associations with the traditions of Baltimore, and

Whereas - We have heard that the Bureau of National Parks, Department of the Interior, proposes to increase the housing conveniences for its employees within the Star Fort which same we already regard as objectionable features in this historic National Shrine.

Therefore Be It Resolved - That the Rotary Club of Baltimore, requests the Department of the Interior to remove from within the precincts of the Star Fort at Fort McHenry, the garage and the apartments for its attendants and also the public comfort station therein and make other arrangements for these same outside of the Star Fort proper.

September 13, 1934.

Mr. George L. Radcliffe  
Fidelity Bldg.,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear George:

Every one was disappointed that you did not get over to Fort McHenry yesterday, and it was hard to explain it as a political necessity.

Remember, old fellow, that we have sold the Star Spangled Banner to the rest of the nation and people who would otherwise never know that we are on the map, are acquainted with Baltimore. There isn't another city in the country that wouldn't be proud to have the tradition, and yet we ourselves sacrifice it to the expediency of a primary election.

My particular disappointment is that you did not get over to see what work is contemplated at the fort, so that you could prevent certain mistakes before they are made.

Sincerely,

September 18, 1934.

Mr. Theodore Straus  
Fidelity Bldg.,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Ted:

Inclosed in this please find copies of letters which will show that we have consistently protested against certain innovations at Fort McHenry that would minimize its antique setting, which is one of its most interesting assets.

As for the resolutions that I left with George you will please note that one continues the protest against the extension of living quarters for attendants within the star fort and the proposed comfort station in Barrack D, which would necessitate tearing up the original brick floor therein; and further it requests that the garage that is in Barrack D for the convenience of the caretaker be also removed and the building be restored to its original condition.

The other resolution is intended to establish the personal rights of members of our society who have or may hereafter deposit articles in the museum.

Apropos of your talk over the phone with Mr. Demaray, in which you report that he said I told him that the cannon balls were not 1812 relics, I cannot recall such conversation with him, although his comments are entirely in keeping with several talks that I had with Mr. Chatelaine on the matter. On one occasion after I had refused to buy these balls back for something over \$800, when the department had only received about \$200 for them; I told Mr. Chatelaine that the balls that were then offered were Civil War relics and therefore not interesting to the Society of the War of 1812 and it is probable that Mr. Chatelaine reported this to Mr. Demaray. Nevertheless these balls were sold by an authorized agent of the Bureau and is cited in the resolution as a precedent, which might happen again, if such things are left to the unrestricted discretion of people who do not know the traditions of the fort. However if this is objectionable it can be expunged.

Very truly yours,

DIRECTORS

C. WM. SCHNEIDERREITH - - - PRESIDENT  
ROBERT O. BONNELL - - - FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
J. MALLORY TAYLOR, JR. - - - SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT  
THOMAS S. HAUCK - - - SECRETARY  
EDWARD W. PIPER - - - TREASURER  
JAMES T. VERNAY  
CHARLES W. BROWN  
WILLIAM E. LAMBLE  
JOSEPH RUZICKA



EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
HOTEL RENNERT  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

TELEPHONE  
CALVERT 3664



September 26, 1934

Mr. Thomas Foley Hisky  
215 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Foley:

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors held after the luncheon on Tuesday, September 25th, the resolution as proposed by you regarding Fort McHenry was unanimously carried.

There is an organization here in Baltimore known as the Gavel Club, consisting of the presidents and secretaries of a great many of the service clubs in the city. The secretary of this Club is Mr. J. R. Kinsey, c/o the Baltimore News. This Club meets on the second Monday of each month at Miller Bros.

Might I suggest that you write the Gavel Club, giving them a form of resolution to be passed by them and then by their constituent members. Thus considerable more weight could be added to the plea to protect Fort McHenry.

This is merely a suggestion on my part and I hope that you will understand it as such.

Very cordially yours,

*Tom*  
Thos. S. Hauck  
Secretary

**GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE**  
**Democratic Candidate for U. S. Senator**

Headquarters: 919 FIDELITY BUILDING  
Charles and Lexington Streets  
Baltimore, Md.

Telephone, Plaza 0080



September 26th, 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock,  
521 W. Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Jim:

I was keenly disappointed that I did not get to Fort McHenry on the 12th, but I was caught in a jam with the primary in such a way that it was not possible for me to be loose.

Since receipt of your note several matters have been pending, as you know, in Washington and I hope you can work out satisfactory arrangements with the Department of Parks. If you do not, be sure to let me know and I will get busy.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE L. RADCLIFFE

GLR/Y

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 7943

CABLE ADDRESS  
"HINKLEY"

JOHN HINKLEY  
THOS. FOLEY HISKY  
LOUIS J. BURGER  
FREDERICK J. SINGLEY

HINKLEY, HISKY & BURGER  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
215 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE, MD.

ASSOCIATES:  
THOMAS N. COPENHAVER  
JAMES P. WALSH  
JOHN HUBNER RICE  
HERBERT F. KUENNE  
JOHN GUIDO HISKY

September 27th. 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock, President

Society War 1812 in Maryland,

521 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore.

Dear Mr. Hancock:-

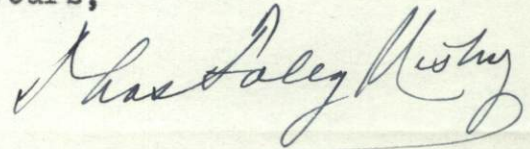
The Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Baltimore yielded to my earnest solicitation and passed the resolution proposed in regard to Fort McHenry and sent a copy thereof to the Secretary of the Interior.

I am enclosing the letter from the Secretary in order to pass on to you his suggestion as to the Gavel Club.

Very truly yours,

TFH/C

Enc.



Thos. Foley Hisky

September 28, 1934.

Mr. George L. Radcliffe  
Fidelity Bldg.,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear George:

I had hoped to see you yesterday to acknowledge your letter of September 26th and report the results of the interview that Mr. Strouse had arranged with Mr. Cammerer, but other things intervened and prevented it.

Both Mr. Cammerer and Dr. Bryant expressed a very pleasing interest in Fort McHenry and promised that the garage and the apartments in Barrack D would be vacated as soon as practicable and I hope that this may soon be arranged and the garage reconverted so that it can be used, with the adjoining room, for the arms collection that is to be placed there.

Unfortunately the contract for the comfort station had been signed and the work started, so that it did not seem discreet to push that particular matter for fear of holding up the general program, but if the garage is restored, we will get rid of it with its gasoline as a fire hazard to the rest of the building, and I believe that this fact will help to placate the criticism about the comfort station.

In the last analysis, the interview was quite satisfactory and I feel that Mr. Cammerer and Dr. Bryant have the right angle and are disposed to satisfy the local sentiment for those traditions of Baltimore which are so intimately connected with Fort McHenry.

Very truly yours,

C O P Y

The Secretary of the Interior

S e a l

October 5, 1934.

Mr. J. Albert Van Horn,  
Secretary General,  
The General Society of the War of 1812,  
56 Overlook Road,  
Upper Montclair, N. J.

My dear Mr. Van Horn:

I have received your letter of September 23 with reference to Fort McHenry National Park.

It appears that the General Society of the War of 1812 has been misinformed with regard to the plans of the National Park Service for the Star Fort. Nothing is being done to expand employees' quarters within the fort, and steps are now being taken to remove the garage and equipment room to other quarters. It is hoped that eventually funds may be obtained for erecting new housing facilities for employees thus making it possible to devote the fort entirely to historic purposes.


I feel that the Department and the General Society are equally interested in preserving Fort McHenry as nearly as possible in its original state, and your cooperation to that end is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Harold L. Ickes

Secretary of the Interior.

Comrade Hancock: Do you wish me to reply to the above letter in any way? If so send me copy.



October 9, 1934.

Mr. J. Albert Van Horn  
56 Overlook Road,  
Upper Montclair, N. J.

Dear Van Horn:

Many thanks for your enclosure of the copy of letter that was received by you from Secretary Ickes, which is particularly interesting because it acknowledges the promises that were made by Mr. Cammerer, the Undersecretary in charge of National Parks, during my conference with him on September 26th, when I submitted, with other resolutions, a copy of the one that had been passed by the General Society of the War of 1812 on September 22nd.

Under the circumstances, it would not be wise to suggest to him that these promises were made after the passage of your resolutions, but I would suggest the following as a proper acknowledgment of his interest.

Very truly yours,

Hon. Harold L. Ickes  
Secretary of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have your letter of October 5th in which you state that "the Department and the General Society are equally interested in preserving Fort McHenry as nearly as possible in its original shape" and that "Nothing is being done to expand employees quarters within the fort, and steps are now being taken to remove the garage and the equipment room to other quarters!"

The General Society of the War of 1812, will appreciate this outline of policy which will preserve the historical character of Fort McHenry as the Birthplace of our National Anthem - The Star Spangled Banner, and a memorial to the War of 1812.

Very Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

October 13, 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock,  
521 West Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

My dear Mr. Hancock:

Reference is made to our conference of September 26, regarding matters at Fort McHenry.

The National Park Service desires to assure you of our deep appreciation of the work of the Society of the War of 1812 and other local groups in Baltimore devoted to historical activity, and also of your personal efforts which have contributed so much to the program at Fort McHenry.

As you know, we have inherited certain conditions of personnel and physical interpretation of the site of the Fort, which can be remedied only by patient and long-continued effort. I believe an excellent beginning has been made. To date, \$35,900 has been made available under Public Works and an Acting Superintendent has been appointed. Some beginnings also are being made in preparing plans for the museum and historical-educational program and for the organization of an administrative set-up adequate to deal with the tremendous public contact program which exists in a city of the size of Baltimore. These items are clear gain over preceding years.

In the rapid development of a large emergency program, some mistakes may have been made. I wish to assure you that we will do everything in our power to rectify them.

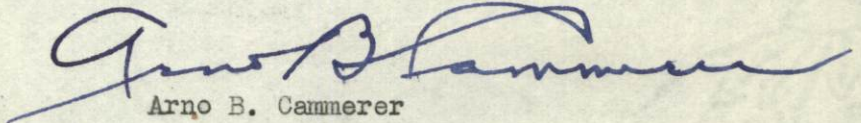
As to the development of the Fort, we wish to withdraw gradually every element not properly justified upon an historical basis. Our program at Fort McHenry should be an historical program in which many tangible evidences are at hand for the reconstruction of the story of the past. We are planning to have a skillful historical personnel to give a proper educational interpretation to the visitor. I have recommended that such steps as are possible to remove the garage and tool shed from Building D be taken at once. I trust that you will work with Acting Superintendent Jones to bring this about.

We can then renovate that part of Building D for museum purposes. The Society of the War of 1812 no doubt will have suggestions and we will be glad to consider them.

I trust you can organize a local committee representing outstanding patriotic groups to which we can go for advice upon matters pertaining to the Fort and the grounds. I believe such an organization would have distinct benefit in acquainting the citizens of Baltimore with our program and in allaying a suspicion of motives and intentions which I have come to feel very often is due to a lack of knowledge of the ideals and objectives of the National Park Service.

It will be possible, whenever the local people wish it, for members of this Service to appear before interested patriotic groups at Baltimore and to explain our program further. Meanwhile, I am sure we can count upon your cooperation and continued sympathetic understanding of our problems and our genuine desire to bring about a truly fine program at Fort McHenry.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arno B. Cammerer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arno B. Cammerer  
Director

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1934.

Mr. Daniel S. Neill,  
Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Baltimore,  
1702 Emerson Hotel,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

My dear Mr. Neill:

I have received your letter of September 27, by reference from Secretary Ickes, in which you quote a resolution passed by the Kiwanis Club of Baltimore in regard to the development of Fort McHenry National Park.

I am glad to report to you that no plans have been made, and none is contemplated, to increase the housing conveniences of the employees in the historic Star Fort. On the contrary, steps are now being taken to remove the garage and equipment room which were in the Fort when this Department assumed jurisdiction over it on August 10, 1933. Perhaps later we can also remove such employees' quarters as now exist, but this step must wait until we obtain funds to erect new quarters.

Your interest in Fort McHenry is appreciated and the National Park Service is sympathetic to the idea of keeping this famous historic shrine as nearly as possible in its original state of preservation.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Arno B. Cammerer  
Director

COPY

*Dear Jim:-  
I know you will  
be glad to see this  
Yours  
Merron*

October 16, 1934.

Hon. Arno B. Cammerer  
Director, National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

Your letter of October 15th has been received and is appreciated.

I was very much impressed with your sympathetic ideas for the maintenance of Fort McHenry, as expressed during the interview on September 26th; and would assure you that the Society of the War of 1812 is ready at all times to cooperate with you in this effort.

We feel that this society saved an object of particular patriotic interest to the nation, when Fort McHenry was made a national Shrine. Apart from those traditions of Baltimore which have been inseparably connected with Fort McHenry for over 150 years, we are proud of the fact that its defense in 1814 by our forbears, inspired Francis Scott Key to write the National Anthem; and you can depend upon us to help in promoting the facts of this contribution of American deeds and character to the world.

I will be very pleased to read your letter at the next meeting of the Society on October 25th at the Rennert Hotel and am glad to inform you that Dr. Jones, the Acting Superintendent at Fort McHenry has already promised to be present at this meeting.

Thanking you for your encouraging letter, I am,

Very truly yours,

October 16, 1934.

Hon. Arno B. Cammerer  
Director, National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

Your letter of October 15th has been received and is appreciated.

I was very much impressed with your sympathetic ideas for the maintenance of Fort McHenry, as expressed during the interview on September 26th; and would assure you that the Society of the War of 1812 is ready at all times to cooperate with you in this effort.

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I will be very pleased to read your letter at the next meeting of the Society on October 25th at the Rennert Hotel and am glad to inform you that Dr. Jones, the Acting Superintendent at Fort McHenry has already promised to be present at this meeting.

Thanking you for your encouraging letter, I am,

Very truly yours,

DIRECTORS

C. WM. SCHNEIDEREITH - - - PRESIDENT  
ROBERT O. BONNELL - - - FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
J. MALLORY TAYLOR, JR. - - - SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT  
THOMAS S. HAUCK - - - SECRETARY  
EDWARD W. PIPER - - - TREASURER  
JAMES T. VERNAY  
CHARLES W. BROWN  
WILLIAM E. LAMBLE  
JOSEPH RUZICKA

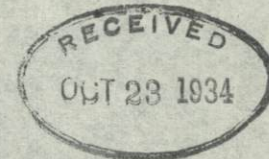


EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
HOTEL RENNERT  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

TELEPHONE  
CALVERT 3664

October 20, 1934

Mr. Thomas S. Hauck  
Secretary, Rotary Club of Baltimore  
Hotel Rennert  
Baltimore, Maryland



My dear Mr. Hauck:

I have received your letter of September 26, in which you raise certain questions regarding plans for the development of Fort McHenry National Park.

No plans have been made, and no action is contemplated, to increase the housing conveniences of the employees in the historic Star Fort. On the contrary, the National Park Service is taking steps to remove the garage and equipment room which were in the Fort when this Department assumed jurisdiction over it on August 10, 1933. Perhaps we can also remove later such employees' quarters as now exist, but this step must wait until we obtain funds to erect new quarters.

Your interest in Fort McHenry is appreciated, and the National Park Service of this Department is sympathetic to the idea of keeping this famous historic shrine as nearly as possible in its original state of preservation.

Sincerely yours,

Signed T. A. Walters  
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

cc

Mr. Thomas Foley Hisky.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1934.

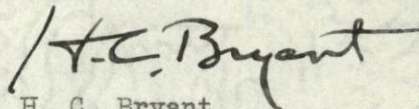
Mr. James E. Hancock,  
521 West Lombard Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

My dear Mr. Hancock:

The National Park Service has received your fine letter of October 16, regarding the administration of matters at Fort McHenry.

Needless to say, we greatly appreciate your words of encouragement. You may be assured that the National Park Service will be as zealous for the welfare of Fort McHenry as is possible.

Sincerely yours,



H. C. Bryant  
Acting Director

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Fort McHenry, Md.

October 26, 1934

Mr. James E. Hancock  
521 West Lombard Street  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Mr. Hancock:

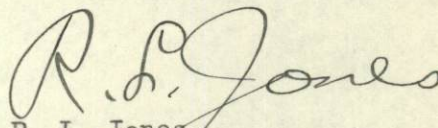
Permit me to thank you personally and through you to extend my thanks to the Society of the Sons of the War of 1812, for the opportunity to attend your meeting on October 25th.

The enthusiasm and sincere interest displayed by the members of the Society, in the restoration and preservation of Fort McHenry, was most gratifying to me and will be to the National Park Service when they learn of it.

The interest of such a substantial and right-thinking group is highly beneficial to any concern or undertaking, and when it applies to a National Shrine as sacred to the Nation as Fort McHenry, it is doubly significant.

Again thanking you for the opportunity to enjoy the splendid fellowship, I am,

Yours sincerely,

  
R. L. Jones,  
ACTING SUPERINTENDENT.

RLJ:S

TELEPHONE  
PLAZA 7943

CABLE ADDRESS  
"HINKLEY"

JOHN HINKLEY  
THOS. FOLEY HISKY  
LOUIS J. BURGER  
FREDERICK J. SINGLEY

HINKLEY, HISKY & BURGER  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
215 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE, MD.

ASSOCIATES:  
THOMAS N. COPENHAVER  
JAMES P. WALSH  
HERBERT F. KUENNE  
JOHN GUIDO HISKY

October 26th. 1934.

Mr. James E. Hancock,  
521 W. Lombard Street,  
Baltimore.

Dear Mr. Hancock:-

Upon my return I find the enclosed  
copy of a letter received by the Rotary Club from  
Mr. T. A. Walters, Acting Secretary of the Interior,  
and hasten to forward it to you.

I regret that I could not be with you last night.

Very truly yours,

TFH/C

Enc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thos. Foley Hisky". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Very truly yours,". A long, sweeping horizontal line extends from the bottom of the signature across the page.

November 14, 1934.

Dr. L. H. Van Buskirk  
683 E. Broad St.,  
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Van Buskirk:

A recent letter from our mutual friend Col. Alvin K. Baskette advises me that you possess certain materials that belonged to Lt. Daniel Van Buskirk - 8th Md. regiment, who served in the defense of Baltimore September 12th - 14th, 1814.

Col. Baskette suggests that you might be willing to place these on exhibit in the museum at Fort McHenry. Col. Baskette is so familiar with what we are doing at Fort McHenry that I am going to depend upon him to give you the story, but if you should so decide, I would assure you that the gift would be appreciated and that every care would be taken of them and proper credit for such given to you.

Very truly yours,

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

In reply

Refer to A.G. 619.3 Ft. McHenry  
(5-29-35) (Misc.)

July 3, 1935.

Mr. R. L. Jones,  
Acting Superintendent,  
Fort McHenry National Park,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of May 29, 1935, transmitted to this office by The Quartermaster General, in which you request information concerning the kind of furniture used in the barracks of Ft. McHenry at the time of the bombardment, September 13, 1814.

An examination of the records of this office has disclosed no information on the subject. However, The Quartermaster General has reported heretofore in connection with a similar request that "In an endeavor to reply as accurately as possible to the question asked in letter from the United States Daughters of 1812, dated November 4, 1933, regarding the kind of furniture used at Fort McHenry during the War of 1812, all available records, both in this office and in the historical files of the Corps of Engineers, have been searched without the discovery of any data that can be quoted as authoritative.

"However, the use for which the buildings were designed and constructed is accurately known. Data as to their occupancy at the time of the bombardment is fairly accurate, although the use of buildings in Army Posts varies with the strength and character of the military units assigned to the Post and is determined by the Post Commander.

"The buildings in the old Star Fort were constructed for the following uses - naming the buildings from right to left as one enters the Sally Port:

Building A - Quarters for the Commanding Officer and his aides.  
Building B - Powder Magazine.  
Building C - Quarters for Commissioned Officers.  
Buildings D & E - Barracks for Enlisted Men (Approximately sixty men in each building).

"It is understood that Building "D" is the one in which it is proposed to place furniture suitable to the period of the War of 1812. This

was one of the barracks for enlisted men as was Building "E".

"Each one of these buildings was originally divided into three sections by interior brick partitions with no doors between them on either the first or second floors. Each section had a ground or first floor room with brick floor and a large fireplace with crane for cooking, and a room of the same dimensions above it with a fireplace for heating purposes. Each section had its own staircase with steep winding steps in the corner next to the fireplace.

"The construction of these two buildings with six such entirely separate sections plainly indicates that each section was intended for the use of one detachment or battery, each such detachment with its own kitchen and mess room on the ground floor and its dormitory for sleeping on the second floor. Later in the century, each building was used for housing a single company with one ground floor room used for the kitchen, one for the mess, and one for company stores, and the second floor used for sleeping quarters for the entire company.

"In 1904, all of the buildings in the Star Fort were completely changed. Buildings "A" and "E" had the fine old porches removed, and the interiors were gutted and used for shop and storage purposes. Building "C" was cut down to one story in height and used as a bakery. Building "D" was entirely changed on the interior for Officers' Quarters, and on this building only was the original two story porch left in place.

"Building "D" as it now exists is completely restored as to its exterior, and in general as to its interior. It was, however, necessary to provide quarters for an assistant caretaker and the entire right section was used for this purpose. This also takes in an addition that was placed on the end of this building at practically the same time that the original building was completed. Also a storeroom for tools, etc. was necessary, and this occupies the ground floor of the left hand section of this building. The second floor room over this storeroom now opens from the second floor of the center section. This center section has been restored exactly as it was originally constructed and is at present used as a museum.

"Building "E" is completely restored, both on the exterior and interior, except that for the purpose of permitting visitors to pass through the building, openings have been left between the sections on the second floor and also for purposes for safety, posts and beams have been left supporting the old second floor joists. This building is unoccupied, except for the model of the Fort and a part of Old Baltimore, which is on view on the ground floor of the right hand section.

"In 1814, barracks furniture was of the simplest character. On

the ground floor each fireplace would have had its crane with hooks for cooking utensils. One of the original cranes was found in this restoration, bricked up in a closed fireplace. There would have been one or more boiling kettles, tea kettle, trivets, dutch (sheet iron) oven, a spit and numerous ladles, etc., a cupboard and plate rack, one or more heavy tables, probably one along the end of the room opposite the fireplace which would be long enough for from 16 to 18 men, and another smaller one for the Non-Commissioned Officers in charge, the tables built of heavy pine lumber by a carpenter - the long table with benches of the same heavy character, and the smaller table oak with simple hickory or oak chairs, and a line of wood pegs for hats and coats similar to those in the public room in Building "C" which reproduce some found during the restoration.

"The ceiling of this floor is rather low for hanging whale oil lamps, but one or two of these may have been used. It is probable lighting was mostly by tin or sheet iron candle sconces hung on the walls and set on the tables.

"The second floor rooms or dormitories were occupied by approximately twenty men each. The size of these rooms being approximately thirty two feet long by twenty feet wide would require that the men sleep in double deck bunks. As each bunk was about three feet wide by six feet six inches long, two rows set two feet apart will give just enough room at the fireplace and to clear the stairway and the chimney breast. The bunks were undoubtedly carpenter made, with heavy corner posts, foot, head and side boards, and a strip with knobs or holes for a rope lattice to support a straw filled bed tick. Wood pegs against the walls or on the bunk uprights would have been necessary. The lighting was by candles on the wall or on the mantelpiece, with possibly hanging whale oil lamps on the ceiling.

"A good example of the furnishing of barracks of very primitive character was illustrated in the restoration of Fort Dearborn at the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago, where double deck bunks were shown. At old Fort Niagra, New York, the barracks were refinished in the manner of the period. In this case, long ranges of bunks being constructed like those still used in lumber camps.

"The Officers' Quarters in Buildings "A" and "C" were undoubtedly furnished in much better fashion with simple chairs, tables, etc., such as a gentleman would use when living under military conditions, and with facilities for writing and filing administrative papers. Building "A" was designed for quarters for the Commanding Officer and his adjutant or aides. This building has been very accurately restored. Building "C" had three rooms on the first and three on the second floor; also designed for Officers' Quarters. The exterior of this building is accurately restored, but the original plan has been modified to provide on the ground floor a reception

room for the public with toilet facilities, and on the second floor quarters for the caretaker.

"Restorations of old military buildings which had quarters for Officers comparable to the buildings at Fort McHenry, but of the pre-Revolutionary period, have been made at Forts Niagara (built in 1725-1726), Ticonderoga (built in 1755) New York, and in the old barracks at Trenton, New Jersey, constructed in 1759. The work of restoration at Fort Niagara was done by the War Department, cooperating with the Old Fort Niagara Association, Youngstown, New York. The restoration of Fort Ticonderoga has been done by the owner of the property, Mr. Stephen Pell, Ticonderoga, New York.

Further information on the subject was supplied the Director of National Park Service, Department of the Interior, by this office on June 15, 1935, in connection with furnishing the Headquarters Building in the Star Fort by the National Society, United States Daughters of 1812, which information is no doubt available to you.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. T. Conley

Brigadier General  
Acting The Adjutant General.

August 13, 1935.

Honorable Howard W. Jackson, Mayor  
And the Board of Estimates  
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

Appreciating the fact that no other city in the country has anything that is more interesting to the American public than Fort McHenry - The Birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner - the undersigned petition the Mayor and the Board of Estimates of Baltimore to erect and maintain signs at certain street junctures to direct the traveling public, as well as our own residents to this historic place.

No matter what else this city may have to offer, Fort McHenry stands by itself as a national memorial and we are pleased to inclose in this a design for a marker that should be made of aluminum, with the American flag displayed in colors. We further suggest that these markers shall be erected on short uprights like the parking signs on thoroughfares and should point the way to Fort McHenry.

You may not know that more than 5000 visitors go to Fort McHenry each week to enjoy its natural and historic pleasures and yet there are thousands in Baltimore who have never been there and do not know how to get there. Under such circumstances it is unreasonable to expect strangers to find it and we feel that the municipality would be doing a public service by appropriating \$500 to erect a sufficient number of markers as per the inclosed list of street corners. This sum would be trifling compared to what would be repaid to Baltimore interests by those who pass through the city.

Respectfully yours,

James E. Hancock  
Alexander Armstrong  
Daniel R. Randall  
Mrs. Adelbert Warren Mears  
Jane G. Shankline  
Richard W. Worthington

Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland.  
Md. Society, Sons of the American Revol.  
Society of Colonial Wars in Maryland.  
U.S. Daughters War of 1812 in Maryland.  
Md. State Society Daughters American Rev.  
Baltimore Chapter #7 National Sojourners