THE DERMOTT OR TIN CASE MAP

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 05-12F/03-13F
EXHIBIT NO. 320

UNITED STATES COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY OFFICE.
Washington, May 4, 1888.

r. F. M. THORN,
Superintendent United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: In laying before you for approval before publication the tracing of the Dermott Map of the ty of Washington, in the District of Columbia, I submit a brief reference to the correspondence which l to the work being undertaken by this Bureau, and extracts from certain other old official correspondence, together with some very important papers in full that were at one time attached to the Dermott Map:

First. A letter from Hugh T. Taggart, Esq., Special Assistant United States Attorney, &c., dated ril 22, 1887, addressed to A. S. Worthington, Esq., United States Attorney, District of Columbia.

Second. A letter from A. S. Worthington, United States Attorney, District of Columbia, dated April 1887, and addressed to the Honorable C. S. Fairchild, Secretary Treasury, which letter was referred the Superintendent United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Third. A letter from Mr. F. M. Thorn, Superintendent United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, ted May 24, 1887, to Honorable C. S. Fairchild, Secretary Treasury.

Fourth. A letter from the Honorable Hugh S. Thompson, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, dated y 25, 1887, to the Honorable The Secretary of War.

Fifth. A letter from the Honorable William C. Endicott, Secretary of War, dated June 10, 1887, to Honorable Secretary of the Treasury.

Sixth. A letter from the Honorable I. H. Maynard, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, dated June 1887, and addressed to the Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, transmitting the letter of the Honorable Secretary of War, dated June 10, 1887.

Seventh. A letter from Colonel John M. Wilson, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, dated ne 13, 1887, and addressed to Mr. B. A. Colonna, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washing- , D. C.

Eighth. A letter from Mr. F. M. Thorn, Superintendent, dated June 13, 1887, to Mr. B. A. Colonna, sistant in charge Coast and Geodetic Survey Office.

On the presentation of this last-named letter to Colonel John M. Wilson, the Dermott Map, and also King Plats, both of the City of Washington, were delivered to me.

The letters to which I have here alluded will, as they referred to both the King Plats and the Dermott s, be found published in full in the volume of the King Plats published by the United States Coast and detic Survey.

The tracings of the Dermott Map being ready for photolithographing, I deemed it advisable to secure publication of the same time, along with the maps, all that was known of its early history and of Mr. mott's connection with it.

Therefore, on April 18, 1888, I addressed a letter to the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, ng that Colonel John M. Wilson be requested to send me an abstract from the old records of the Dis- of Columbia in his charge, giving an account of James R. Dermott's connection with District affairs d led to his preparing the Dermott Map of the City of Washington, in reply to which I received the wing:

OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Room 17, Basement, West Wing, War Department,
Washington, D. C., April 27, 1888.

B. A. COLONNA,
Assistant in Charge United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: In compliance with request contained in your letter of the 18th instant, I transmit herewith a ment in reference to the Dermott map, prepared by Mr. John Stewart, draughtsman, in charge of records.

Very respectfully,
JOHN M. WILSON,
Colonel United States Army.

EXTRACTS FROM OLD RECORDS IN OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, SHOWING THE AUTHORITY AND BY WHOM THE DERMOTT MAP OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON WAS PRODUCED, WITH THE EXECUTIVE ACTIONS CONFIRMING IT AS THE OFFICIAL MAP OF SAID CITY.

FIRST.—*Commissioners' Letters, Vol. 1, p. 66, March 14, 1792.*

(Letter to Andrew Ellicott, City Surveyor.)

* * * Mr. Dermott, who was formerly an Assistant at the Alexandria Academy, has offered us his services at two Dollars. We will engage him immediately for you. * * *

(Signed) D'D STUART.
DAN'L CARROLL,
Commissioners.

SECOND.—*Commissioners' Proceedings, Vol. 1791-5, p. 186, April 16, 1793.*

James R. Dermott was appointed to lay off Squares into Lots, and the following regulations established respecting his department:

James R. Dermott is to apply, from time to time, to the Clerk of the Comm'rs & take minutes of the Squares from the Candidates of survey returned into that office: from thence plot the squares. * * * He is also desired to perfect, as soon as he can, his plot of Hamburgh, with that part of the City which it covers. * * *

Present: THOMAS JOHNSON,
DAVID STUART,
DANIEL CARROLL,
Commissioners.

THIRD.—*Commissioners' Proceedings, Vol. 1791-5, p. 295, June 15, 1795.*

Mr. Dermott directed to prepare a *plot of the City*, with every public appropriation plainly & distinctly delineated, together with the appropriation now made by the board for the national "University and Mint."

Present: GUSTAVUS SCOTT,
WILLIAM THORNTON,
Commissioners.

FOURTH.—*Commissioners' Letters, Vol. 3, p. 73.*

WASHINGTON, 21st *June*, 1795.

SIR: At the close of the late President's administration he executed an Act directing the Trustees of the City of Washington to convey to the Commissioners the Streets of the said City and the grounds which were appropriated to public use. In the power of business the plan referred to was not annexed; we now send it by Mr. Young, with the original Act, and the Draft of another Act, which appears to us proper to be executed by the present President, in order to remove any objection to a compliance with the late President's request, arising from the occasion above mentioned. As these Acts are the authentic Documents of the title of the public to the lands appropriated, we shall write to Mr. Craik, or some other gentleman, to take charge of their return rather than trust them to the mail.

We are, with sentiments of the highest respect, sir, &c.,

(Signed) G. SCOTT,
W. THORNTON,
A. WHITE,
Commissioners.

PRESIDENT (ADAMS) OF THE UNITED STATES.

FIFTH.—*Commissioners' Proceedings, Vol. 1797-8, p. 189, June 21, 1798.*

Letter written to the President of the U. S. enclosing an Instrument of Writing to be executed by him authorizing a Conveyance of the streets and public appropriations from the Trustees to the Commissioners, also the last plan of the City, MADE BY MR. DERMOTT, *and referred to in said Instrument of writing* forwarded by Mr. Joseph Sourse.

Present: GUST'S SCOTT,
WM. THORNTON,
ALEX'R WHITE,
Commissioners.

SIXTH.—*Commissioners' Letters, Vol. 3, p. 82.*

WASHINGTON, 25th *June*, 1798.

SIR: Some days ago we *sent the plan of the City of Washington to the President*, * * * and we request the favour of you to bring it with you when you return. * * *

(Signed) G. SCOTT,
W. THORNTON,
A. WHITE,
Commissioners.

WM. CRAIK, Esquire,
Philo.

SEVENTH.—*Commissioners' Proceedings, Vol. 1797-8, p. 191, August 31, 1798.*

Mr. Wm. Craik delivered into the office *the Plan of the City of Washington, with the Acts of the late and present Presidents annexed.*

Present: WILLIAM THORNTON,
ALEXANDER WHITE,
Commissioners.

EIGHTH AND LASTLY.—*Letter on File, No. 1568, February 28, 1799, p. 3.*

(The reply by James Reed Dermott to the Commissioners' question No. 2.)

I understand by Ellicott's plan, the printed one, all the alterations and changes, except a few blank squares, were made by the Ellicotts, Freeman, Ralston, and Nicholas King (surveyors), before my plan was made. My plan was made for the purpose of connecting the Channels of the potomak and Eastern Branch with the squares in the city. It was made from official documents returned from the surveyors in the field, agreeably to regulations made by the Commissioners at April meeting, 1793. These returns are still in your office, and can still testify my assertion. * * *

(Signed) JAMES R. DERMOTT.

The instruments of writing, or acts of the said Presidents, annexed to the plan by President John Adams, and removed therefrom for the reasons stated in writing upon the plan, are on file in this office.

I certify that the above is a true extract from the records of this office.

JOHN STEWART, C. E.,
Draughtsman in Charge of Old Records.

APRIL 27, 1888.

I then addressed a letter, April 30, 1888, to Colonel John M. Wilson, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, asking for a certified copy of the papers at one time attached to the Dermott map, as here stated by John Stewart, C. E., and received as follows:

OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,
Room 17, Basement, West Wing, War Department,
Washington, D. C., May 3, 1888.

B. A. COLONNA,
Assistant in Charge Coast Survey Office,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with request contained in your letter of the 30th ultimo, I transmit herewith for the use of your office certified copies of certain letters from George Washington, President of the United States, and John Adams, President of the United States, and of an affidavit of Joseph Elgar.

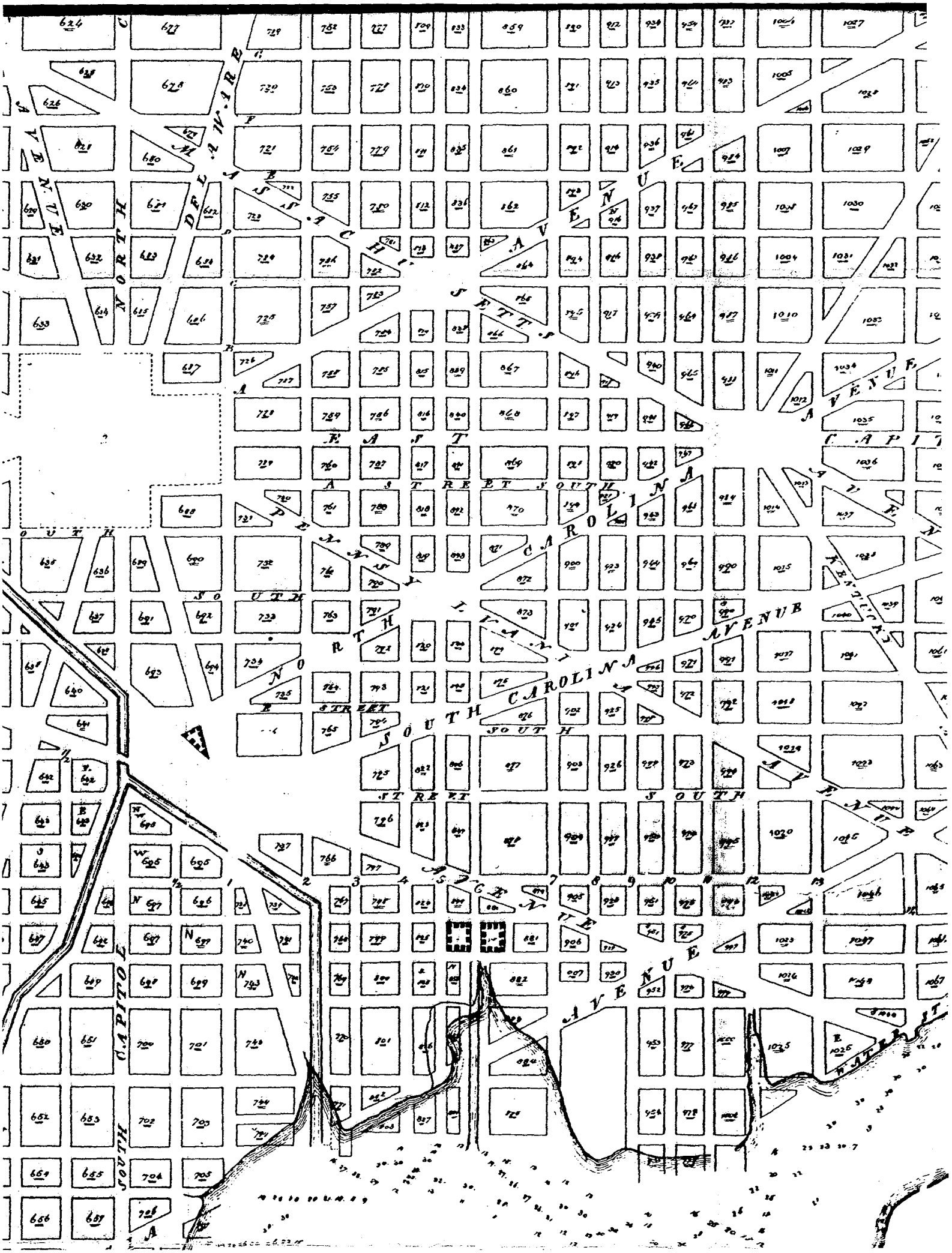
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. WILSON,
Colonel United States Army.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

TO THOMAS BEALL OF GEORGE & JOHN M. GANTT:

You are hereby requested to convey all the streets in the City of Washington, as they are laid out and delineated in the Plan of the said City hereto annexed, and also the several squares, parcels, & lots of ground following, to wit:



NORTH DELAWARE AVENUE
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
EAST
A STREET SOUTH
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
NORTH CAROLINA AVENUE
SOUTH CAROLINA AVENUE
SOUTH STREET
SOUTH CAPITOL