

PH0022136

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
JUL 23 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Wheat Row

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1315, 1317, 1319, and 1321 Fourth Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Congressman  
Walter E. Fauntroy, D.C.

STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 11      COUNTY: District of Columbia      CODE: 001

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Harbour Square Owners, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
500 N Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 11

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:  
6th and D Streets, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 11

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: Proposed District of Columbia Additions to the National Register of Historic Places recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
National Capital Planning Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1325 G Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Wheat Row consists of four attached, three-story brick houses built as a unit in the late eighteenth century. They are located in Southwest Washington in an area which was almost totally cleared in the late 1950's and early 1960's during urban renewal. Today the row is a part of Harbour Square Co-Operative Apartments, a complex of townhouses and highrise buildings erected in 1964-66. The Duncanson-Cranch House and the Edward Simon Lewis House are the other historic buildings which are part of Harbour Square.

The building has a full basement with stone walls. The rest of the walls are brick laid in Flemish bond, except the north wall. This wall is unusual as it is partially laid in English bond and is believed to be the only instance of such bonding in an older building in Washington.

The rectangular building with low hipped roof is approximately 102-1/2' by 34'. The longer sides have twelve bays. Each of the four houses is three bays wide and the two central houses are slightly narrower than the corner houses. The main (east) facade has a four bay wide, slightly projecting central pavilion. This symmetrical, late Georgian facade does not reflect the internal arrangement of space. The pediment of the pavilion crosses party walls as the pavilion contains two bays of two houses. The standing seam metal roof carries two double chimneys. Originally the south facade of the building had three bays and the north end had no openings. Today three story townhouses erected in 1964-66 are attached at the north and south ends.

On the east and west facades (and originally on the south facade) belt courses of four rows of headers separate the first and second stories and the second and third stories. There is a wooden fretwork cornice. On the main facade a stone band separates the pediment from the third story. Two large chimneys mark the location of the party walls between the end houses and the two center houses.

Windows, except those of the basement, have stone sills and stone lintels with voussoirs and keystones. The elliptical window in the pediment of the main facade has stone facing. The window sash dates from the 1964-66 rehabilitation. Basement windows, which are not visible from the street as they open on to a trench bound by a simple metal fence, have 6/6-lights and brick arches. First and second story windows have 9/9-lights. The lower third story has 6/3-light windows.

There are four doorways on the east facade, two located in the corner bays and two located in the center bays. These doorways have semicircular fan-lights under brick arches. Sometime prior to the 1964-66 rehabilitation the entrance at 1317 Fourth Street was altered so that it had a flat, brick, jack arch imitating the stone arches of the windows. This arch was removed and replaced by a semicircular brick arch during the rehabilitation. Beside each entrance are modern, globe lighting fixtures.

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1794

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Early Development</u>                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>of the Federal City</u>                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  | _____   |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated Wheat Row at 1315-1321 Fourth Street, S.W., a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. The four attached houses are probably the first speculative housing erected after Washington was chosen as the seat of government. They were built by the Greenleaf Syndicate about 1794 and their design is attributed to the architect-builder, William Lovering.

Daniel Reiff, an architectural historian, believes that Wheat Row's design is similar to that of earlier Georgian buildings with central pedimented pavilions, such as Hollis Hall at Harvard University built in 1762-63, and that in 1794 this was "a somewhat backward style." The building is an important example of conservative, vernacular domestic architecture constructed in Washington in the Federal Period.

James Greenleaf was the United States Consul in Amsterdam when he visited Washington in 1793. He purchased 3,000 lots in the new city, but later in the year relinquished his lots and with Robert Morris and John Nicholson purchased 6,000 lots. These three men, known as the Greenleaf Syndicate, controlled one-third of the saleable land in Washington. They were required by the Commissioners to build twenty houses a year for seven years in order to receive title to the property. Wheat Row, the Thomas Law House, and the Duncanson-Cranch House were among the first houses built by the syndicate.

The name, "Wheat Row," is derived from a nineteenth century owner, John Wheat. Wheat lived at and owned 1315 Fourth Street as early as 1819 and in 1844 left 1315, 1319, and 1321 Fourth Street to his wife, Mary. Wheat was listed in the 1830 Washington Directory as a gardener and in 1834 he was listed as a Senate messenger. Members of the Wheat family owned part of the row until at least 1868.

Other owners of Wheat Row houses in 1819 include Robert P. Washington, owner of 1317 Fourth Street; Richmond Johnson, owner of 1319 Fourth Street; and Thomas L. Washington and Philip Stuart, owners of 1321 Fourth Street. By 1824 Stuart was sole owner of 1321 and was part owner with Johnson of 1319 Fourth Street. Stuart is not listed in the Washington directory of 1822 but in 1830 a "Gen. Philip Stewart" probably resided at Wheat Row. It is probable that "Stewart" and "Stuart" are the same person. Stuart (1760-1830)

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Assessments, Atlas, Directories, Newspaper Clippings, and Photographs. Washingtoniana Collection. D.C. Public Library.

Assessments. Corporation of Washington. 1814, 1819, and 1824. National Archives.

"The Barney Neighborhood House and Social and Industrial Settlement, 1901-1942." Pamphlet.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 52' 26"	77° 01' 05"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
T. Robins Brown, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: National Capital Planning Commission DATE: April 16, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1325 G Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u><i>James G. Banks</i></u></p> <p>Title: <u>Assistant to the Mayor for Housing Programs</u></p> <p>Date: <u>JUN 4 1973</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>Robert H. Utley</i></u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>7/23/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>Lowry Mumford</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>7 13 73</u></p>
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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(Continuation Sheet)

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7. Description - Wheat Row

Wheat Row's walls and trim are now painted light gray in order to blend in with the new townhouses. The building was a more effective design when its white stone trim contrasted with its red brick walls.

The four houses have typical Federal townhouse plans with side halls with stairs and two rooms on each floor. These plans have been slightly modified to accommodate modern conveniences.

8. Significance

served in the Revolutionary Army, but probably never obtained a rank higher than lieutenant. From 1811 to 1819 he was a congressional representative from Maryland. He died on August 14, 1830, in Washington. Richmond Johnson probably lived in the Wheat Row house he owned in 1822 when he was a receiving teller in the Branch Bank. By 1830 he had moved and had changed jobs and was a clerk in the surgeon general's office. The Washingtons are not listed in city directories for 1822, 1830, or 1834 and probably did not reside at Wheat Row. A study of George Washington's genealogy shows no relation of these men to him.

The Wheat Row houses served primarily residential functions until 1939 when John Neligh, the director of industrial crafts at Barney Neighborhood House, left 1315 Fourth Street to Barney Neighborhood House, a community service organization. The house was then used as the U.S. Service Men's Club. In 1941 Barney Neighborhood House received another Wheat Row property, 1319 Fourth Street. By 1950 the organization owned 1317 Fourth Street as well. 1317 and 1315 Fourth Street were used as residences, while 1319 Fourth Street housed a day nursery. In 1950, 1321 Fourth Street was owned by Floyd Bohman and contained apartments.

In 1964-66 Wheat Row was rehabilitated as a part of Harbour Square, an urban renewal housing project designed by Mrs. Chloethiel Smith. The 1794 building now serves its original function as four dwelling houses.

9. Bibliography

Bryan, W.B. A History of the National Capital 1790-1814. Vol. I. New York: MacMillan, 1914.

Clark, A.C. Greenleaf and Law in the Federal City. Washington: W.F. Roberts, 1901.

Columbia Real Estate Title Company. Deed Search Files. Case 24655.

D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency. A Brief History of Southwest Washington. Washington, 1957, pp. 15-16.

(Continued on Form 10-300a, page 2)

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography (continued)

H.A.B.S. D.C.-10, "Wheat Row."

Henry, R.B. Compiler. Genealogies of Families of the Presidents. Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle, 1935.

National Capital Planning Commission. Landmark Files.

Reiff, D.D. Washington Architecture, 1791-1861: Problems in Development. U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1971.

"Stuart, Philip." Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1927. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1928, p. 1583.



1