

PH000 1988

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 14 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON: Quarters A, Washington Navy Yard

AND/OR HISTORIC: Tingey House Commandant's House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: East of Main Gate and South of M Street, S.E. in the Navy Yard

CITY OR TOWN: Washington (Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy, District of Columbia)

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 type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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 checked="" 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: United States of America (Jurisdiction, U.S. Navy)

STREET AND NUMBER: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE: 33

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

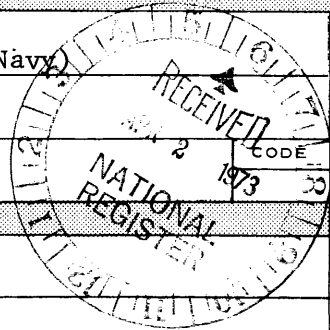
DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: National Capital Planning Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 1326 G Street, N.W.

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER:

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

HAB

AUG 14 1973

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

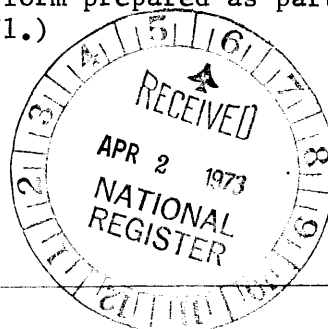
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Quarters A is a 2-1/2 story Flemish bond brick structure situated on the crest of a hill in the Washington Navy Yard. It is east of the Main Gate at 8th and M Streets, S.E. and faces Leutze Park in the direction of the Anacostia River. The original house, of late Georgian design with a symmetrical five-bay front, has been substantially Victorianized by additions and lengthening of the windows.

The original rectangular main block of the house is 48'2" (five bays) wide by 32' 2-1/2" (three bays) deep. "The three central bays project slightly forward and carry a pedimented cross gable with a semicircular lunette. The house has a molded brick water table, a belt course, and a modillion cornice with paired brackets. The entrance door has a semicircular glazed fanlight transom and sidelights. The central bay on the second floor is a palladian window. The windows have splayed vousoirs or flat arch lintels with keystones. The cornice continues uninterrupted across the East and West ends of the house creating pedimented end gables. An elaborate late 19th... century enclosed porch and advanced porte-cochere completely envelop a small pedimented wooden entrance porch, possibly original, and mask the entire South and East side of the ground floor. To the North are two-story service wings and later additions. The original window sash and dormer windows of the main house have been replaced. The two interior end chimneys each carry four flues.

The house has a central hall plan. On the first floor there is a large parlor on the West side with two fireplaces, and on the East side another parlor with a small cross hall behind it. The dining room, library, and kitchen are in the wing and additions to the North. The second floor has four bedrooms and the attic, two chambers. The house was extensively renovated and retrimmed in the mid-19th century. The marble mantel pieces date from that period. The double fireplaces in the West parlor have modern "colonial" mantels. The stairway is a two-run stair with abnormally steep risers. It is also a mid-century replacement. The basement has a concrete floor. The brick foundation walls have been substantially rebuilt or replaced as have the floor joists and subflooring for the first floor. The grounds around the house have also been relandscaped and enriched on numerous occasions. The present garden to the South and to the East of the house has concrete walkways, cast iron lamp standards, and an enclosing iron fence. On the North side of the garden is the high North wall that encloses the Navy Yard. The many additions to the exterior of the house have for the most part covered up, but not destroyed, the original fabric. Very little remains of the original interior except on the attic floor. The exterior should receive a sensitive restoration, whereas the interior is better left to retain its late-19th century appearance."

(Quoted passage from nomination form prepared as part of the national historic landmark program, 1971.)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

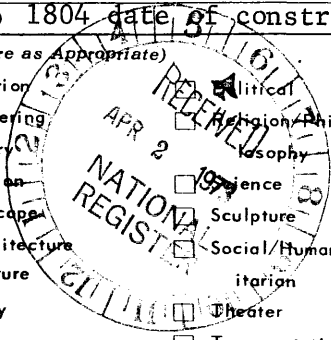
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1804 date of construction

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) <u>District history</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated Quarters A of the Washington Navy Yard, popularly known as the Tingey House, a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Constructed in 1804, Tingey House was one of the earliest buildings erected at the Washington Navy Yard, our foremost early navy yard. It was one of the few public buildings not seriously damaged in the British invasion of the Capital in 1814. It has served as the residence for all of the Washington Yard's commandants, including its first, Captain Thomas Tingey, an important figure in the early history of Washington. The original 2-1/2 story Georgian style townhouse has been enlarged and remodelled several times. It still retains much of its original character and could be successfully restored on the exterior.

A good deal of uncertainty has surrounded the construction date of Quarters A, but it can now be stated with assurance that the house was constructed in 1804. The major source of confusion has been due to the discussion in the pre-1814 period of three different houses for the head of the Washington Navy Yard. The first mention of such a building is in an October 10, 1801, order from Secretary of the Navy Smith for the construction of "a house to accommodate the officer of Marines and the Superintendent of the Navy Yard." This house, the present Quarters B, was erected late in 1801, but the Yard's Superintendent, Thomas Tingey, remained in a rented house on the corner of 11th and G Streets, S.E. When Captain John Cassin was temporarily appointed the Yard's commander on April 7, 1803, he was also assigned other quarters, a cabin on the frigate United States.

On March 28, 1804, Secretary of the Navy Smith again ordered that plans and a cost estimate be prepared for a house for the Washington Navy Yard's Superintendent, "a Brick House...to be constructed in a substantial and durable manner and on the most suitable spot in the yard." This house was soon constructed and it is cited in Benjamin Latrobe's 1804 plan of the Yard, a sketch of the Main Gate section of the Yard in a July 10, 1805 Latrobe letter to Shadrach Davis, and an August 1812 letter from Latrobe to Tingey. Confusion arises from the fact that Captain Cassin remained quartered in the building even after Tingey reassumed command of the Yard on November 23, 1804. Thus the building is denoted as Captain Cassin's house in Latrobe's 1804 plan of the Washington Yard, and Latrobe discusses the construction of a new house for the "first officer of the yard."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Kane, James. Captain Tingey. M.A. Thesis American University, 1956. "The Papers of Benjamin Latrobe," Maryland Historical Society. National Archives Record Group 45. Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library. a) "Miscellaneous Records Received by the Sec. of Navy 1798-1868." Microcopy, 124 Roll 53 Letter 79. b) "Miscellaneous Letters Sent by the Sec. of Navy, 1801-1884" Microcopy 149 Roll 6 p. 45. Tingey House. Naval District Washington, D.C. 1966. Historic American Buildings Survey (DC-12) photos, plans, and data pages. National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, 1970 1971.

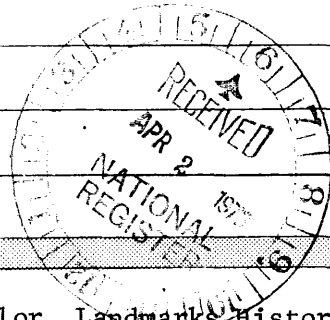
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	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
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	38°	52'	34"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	76°	59'	41"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

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



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **Leonard Gerson, Urban Historian; Nancy C. Taylor, Landmarks Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **National Capital Planning Commission** DATE: **Jan. 2, 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**

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:

National  State  Local

Name: James M. Banks

Title: Assistant to the Mayor Housing Programs

Date: MAR 30 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert V. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/14/73

ATTEST: [Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 8 8 73

18/206900 450-1700  
UTM Ref  
1-7-76

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 14 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance--Quarters A

This notion of quarters for the Commandant in the Washington Navy Yard was again proposed in a February 7, 1807, letter from Tingey to Secretary of the Navy Smith in which he asks that "Mr. Latrobe be directed to furnish a plan" for such a house. This building, however, was never constructed, and only after Cassin was ordered to assume command of the Navy Yard at Gosport was Tingey able to move into Quarters A, in August of 1812.

While Quarters A's construction date is now known, its architect remains a mystery. The house was constructed before Benjamin Latrobe completed his master plan of the Yard, and in a February 2, 1813, letter to Secretary of the Navy William Jones, he states that he is not responsible for the house's design. The only other architect known to have worked in the Yard during that early period was the firm of Lovering and Dyer. Another house in the vicinity of Lovering's design--The Maples erected in 1795-96--does resemble Quarters A in its principal elements. It is possible that Lovering designed Quarters A, but no documentary evidence to support this attribution has yet been found.

Tingey House derives its name from the Washington Navy Yard's first Commandant, Thomas Tingey, who lived in the house from 1812 until his death in 1829. In the small town society of an infant city, the head of one of its major institutions had a major role to play. Tingey was a member of the 1802 committee which successfully petitioned Congress to authorize a local government for the city, and he was later an organizer of the city's first publicly-supported school and Congressional Cemetery.

Captain Tingey took an active part in Washington's economic activities beyond his role as Commandant of the Yard. He served as an agent for the trustees for Morris, Greenleaf and Nicholson, the most ambitious of the city's early real estate speculators, and "bought and sold lots in the Navy Yard Section." He purchased stock in the local canal and bridge companies and was a director of the Commercial Company. Tingey was also prominent in the Washington social world. He was an organizer of Madison's first Inaugural Ball in 1809 and included James and Dolly Madison, John Quincy Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Latrobe and Dr. and Mrs. William Thornton among his friends.

The Tingey House has served as the residence of all of the Navy Yard's Commandant's from Tingey to the present time, including in its list of inhabitants such illustrious figures as Captain John Dahlgren, the renowned naval gun designer. A master plan done for the Washington Navy Yard in 1966 proposes that the house continue to play this historic role.

