Archeological Recommendations for the Netherland Inn Site Kingsport, Tennessee

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ARCHEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
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KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE

by

Stanley South
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Prepared by the
INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
October, 1980
ARCHEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NETHERLAND INN SITE  
KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE

At the request of Mr. Hal T. Spoden, President of the Netherland Inn Association, Inc. of Kingsport, Tennessee, a visit was made to the Netherland Inn site on May 14 and 15, 1973, to make recommendations for a planned archeological examination of the site. The recommendations resulting from this study are presented here.

The archeological work is planned for several weeks beginning around July 1, 1973, and is to be conducted by Mr. Joe Benthal of the office of the State Archeologist. Mr. Benthal was on the site during my visit of May 15, and the recommendations reported here were gone over in detail with Mr. Benthal during our visit. The plan to have the archeological consultant and the archeologist who is to execute the work on the site before work begins was an excellent one that should result in a close coordination of archeological planning with the actual excavation carried out on the site.

Historical Research

Excellent background research has been carried out by Mrs. Muriel C. Spoden, and this has been presented in manuscript form as "Historical References Regarding the Netherland Inn Restoration Project", and was prepared in 1970, with revisions added in 1973. An excellent brochure has also been prepared by Mrs. Spoden which deals with the history of the Netherland Inn complex as well as with the broader historical setting of the area and the history of the Netherland Inn Association.

From Mrs. Spoden's research it is clear that there were buildings on the property in June 1818, when 3½ acres of the William King property was offered for sale by the sheriff (Spoden 1970: 3; Rogersville Gazette and East Tennessee Republican, July 13, 1818). In fact, "an elegant dwelling house" was said to have been on the property, as well as "a good kitchen, smoke house and stable" and a warehouse "sufficient to contain four or five thousand barrels of salt" (Rogersville Gazette and East Tennessee Republican, July 13, 1818). The 3½ acres advertised at this time included 2½ acres on which was located "The Gaines Mansion House", located on the west side of Granby Road, and 1½ acres on the east side of Cranby Road, the site of the Netherland Inn (Spoden 1970: 3; DB #7: 360). Lot #1 of 1½ acres was sold to the highest bidder, Richard Netherland, on July 24, 1818 for $400, a price indicating that buildings were on the lot (Spoden 1970: 3; Sull. Co. DB #8: 92).
In the same year he purchased the 1½ acres of the William King property, Richard Netherland was said by F. A. Ross to have been "building in the Christianville Boat Yard". This writer believes that the structure Netherland was "building" with the intention of moving to the boat yard property, was what was referred to in 1830 as "Richard Netherland's Tavern" (Spoden 1970: 3; DB #10: 336; #11: 64).

Mrs. Spoden believes that references to George Hale's renting of Lot #1 in 1814 from the William King heirs, and of his making repairs to a dwelling house, are in reference to the Netherland Inn building (Spoden 1970: 3). If it can be demonstrated that Hale was not renting both the 2½ acre King property west of Granby Road as well as the 1½ acre lot #1 east of Granby Road, then this is a very good point. However, I can see no separation of lot #1 from the 2½ acres of the "Gaines Mansion House" tract until Netherland purchased it in 1818 and began "building" so as to move to the boat yard property. If the Netherland Inn building was already standing on the boat yard property of lot #1 at the time he bought the property there would hardly have been the necessity for him to build first before he could carry out his intention of moving to the property. If the reference to his "building" was to a minor dependency or anything other than to a dwelling, it is unlikely he would have had to wait until it was completed before he moved to the boat yard. Therefore, it appears that The Netherland Inn was built by Richard Netherland in 1818, and by 1830 it was known as "Richard Netherland's Tavern".

Architectural Research

Mr. Henry A. Judd, Chief Historic Architect of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior visited the Netherland Inn site in 1967 and provided a statement regarding the Netherland Inn structure. His estimate for the period of construction for the Netherland Inn was between 1810 and 1820, a period certainly in keeping with the 1818 date during which Richard Netherland was "building". The present study is not designed to discuss the various aspects of The Netherland Inn building except in those areas relating to the proposed archeology.

Previous Explorations on the Site

In 1931 the Kingsport Times reported on June 17, on a reporter's exploration of the cellar at The Netherland Inn (Spoden 1970: 10). River silt was reported to be in the cellar from various floods, and as digging proceeded relics in the form of whiskey bottles, fruit jars, etc. were found, all sounding from their description like types of the nineteenth century or later. This digging activity no doubt disturbed considerably the contents of the cellar, making an archeological search here less likely to produce significant results.
A further damaging foray was made into the cellar in January 1971 by Grady Hill and members of the Kingsport Archaeology Society (Spoden 1970: 10a). These diggings produced no usable information, and destroyed any evidence that may have been of interest to an archaelogist since the digging proceeded to solid rock. The relics this group were after all dated from the nineteenth century apparently, judging from their report, with the exception of a doorknob which is of the type of the eighteenth century. This group also dug in the area in front of the house, possibly destroying any evidence for footings or scaffold holes. The stone shaft of the well was located by this group of diggers and found to be presently serving as a septic tank for the Cloud residence on the hill above the Netherland Inn. Evidence for footings for the well house and associated walks and other features may well have been destroyed by this group of amateur diggers.

More recent damage to archeological data was done when restoration of the Netherland Inn was underway and the contractor removed a considerable quantity of soil from the rear of the house, including large stones that were apparently from ruins of one or more structures. A stone foundation wall was found, and a corner revealed by the laborers working under the constructor. A deep ditch was dug against the rear and sides of the stone foundation wall of the Netherland Inn in order to allow access to the wall to treat it with waterproofing material. This digging destroyed any construction ditch information that could have been used by the archaelogist to help date the construction date of the house. During this digging a stone walk and brick chimney base were uncovered by the contractor's laborers behind the west end of the Netherland Inn, which was thought by those involved to be a fireplace with hearth stones for a kitchen wing attached to the rear west area of the Inn. These features will be discussed later and recommendations made as to their further examination.

Archeological Needs and Planning

Mr. Hal T. Spoden, Restoration Coordinator for The Netherland Inn Association, Inc. has drawn up a list of questions which he sees as possibly to be answered through archeological research. These needs are listed as follows in order of priority as outlined by Mr. Spoden.

NEEDS FOR ARCHEOLOGICAL "DIGS" AND SEARCHERS
AT THE NETHERLAND INN COMPLEX

In order of priority

1. LOCATION OF FOUNDATIONS OF THE NETHERLAND INN BACK WING
   Need Size of Wing
   Number of Stories
   Number of Fireplaces
   Number of Rooms
   Date of Back Wing (Estimate)
   Artifacts from the Area Evaluated and Dated
2. AT REAR OF INN
Walls and foundations for porches and placement of stones
found from this area which were thrown over toward
Granby Road

3. FOUNDATION OF BANK BARN
Size - and actual location
Artifacts from site - evaluated and dated

4. FOUNDATION OF SMOKEHOUSE
Location and size
Artifacts from area

5. SEARCH FOR FOUNDATION OF WAREHOUSE AND WHARF
Location and size
Artifacts from site - evaluated and dated

6. WELL-HOUSE
Size and artifacts

7. NETHERLAND INN FRONT PORCHES
Size and artifacts (has been dug once)

8. LOCATION OF NETHERLAND GRAVES
Found and dug to see if any pieces of stones are left

9. SEARCH FOR STAKE ON N.E. BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY

10. WORK IN AREA ON WEST SIDE OF GRANBY ROAD TO DETERMINE WHAT IS THERE

ARTIFACTS FROM ALL SITES KEPT - GRADED AND DATED AND IDENTIFIED

From this outline it is apparent that Mr. Spoden has a grasp of many of the problems about which archeology may be able to offer some solution. In some instances archeology may well not be able to provide satisfactory answers, particularly when the data has already been destroyed by non-archeological digging, or when the question does not relate to the kind of data archeology is capable of producing. The following revised outline of areas of archeological interest will be followed in this report, and includes those areas outlined by Mr. Spoden as well as some not mentioned in his outline, such as the slave quarters, root cellar, etc.
AREAS OF ARCHEOLOGICAL INTEREST AT THE NETHERLAND INN COMPLEX

1. THE NETHERLAND INN
   The cellar
   The porch footings
   The walls
   Scaffold holes
   The construction ditches
   The walk to the slave quarters

2. THE KITCHEN
   The foundation wall for the original kitchen
   The chimney base
   The footings
   The floor levels
   The midden
   The walks
   The later kitchen wing additions

3. THE WELL
   Footings for the well house
   Drains
   Walks

4. THE ROOT CELLAR
   Walks
   Parallel examples

5. THE SMOKEHOUSE
   Location of footings
   Firebox
   Paths and walks

6. THE SLAVE QUARTERS
   Row house (not cabins)
   Location
   Footings
   Chimney base
   Artifacts
   Walk of stone from Inn to quarters

7. THE BARN
   Footings
   Stalls
   Walks and roads

8. THE WAREHOUSES
   Foundation walls and footings

9. THE NETHERLAND FAMILY GRAVES
   Some moved from yard of Cloud residence
   Some perhaps still remaining
   Locate position

10. THE CHIMNEY RUIN ACROSS GRANBY ROAD
The Method of Conducting the Study of the Netherland Inn Site

The site was visited on May 14, 1973, with Mr. and Mrs. Hal T. Stoden as guide. The documentary data and other information gathered by Mrs. Spoden was discussed and various areas of the site examined. A visit was made to other houses in the vicinity for parallel construction information. An interview was held with Mr. V. L. (Red) Cloud, who lives on the property at present, and who has lived there in what is to be the caretakers house since he was a boy, early in this century. Mr. Cloud provided several very interesting details, and the interview was recorded by means of a Craig Electronic Notebook, the means also for taking notes and observations throughout the study. The interview with Red Cloud is included in this report as an appendix.

On the 15th of May I met with Mr. Joe Benthal, archeologist with the office of the State Archeologist for Tennessee, who will be carrying out the excavation of the Netherland Inn site beginning in July. We went over the site and discussed various approaches to recovering the most data in the shortest amount of time, with emphasis on those areas where we felt most data could be recovered. Two exploratory trenches were dug east of the well, near the barn site in order to reveal a profile of the amount of topsoil fill over the old ground surfaces. The probe was used to feel beneath the surface for footings and walls, so as to aid in the evaluation of the archeological potential in various areas. We also cleaned the area of the chimney base found to the rear of the Netherland Inn where an old wing had been removed. This chimney base had been found by workers digging under the direction of the contractor, who recognized it as possibly of value in interpreting the development of the Netherland Inn. He ordered a fence built around this chimney base and a roof placed over it to protect it from the elements. We gained access to this fenced-in area and troweled clean enough to allow us to make a preliminary interpretation of the relationship of this feature to the Netherland Inn. This report is the result of the examination undertaken on the 14th and 15th of May, 1973. Each of the features in the outline will be discussed in terms of the findings from interviews as well as from personal examination, and from the research provided by Mr. and Mrs. Spoden. This discussion of each feature will be followed by a summary of the Netherland Inn Complex as seen from this study, and by an outline of specific recommendations for the archeology to be carried out on the site by Mr. Benthal.

1. THE NETHERLAND INN

The Cellar:
Due to the extensive digging that has apparently gone on here it is extremely doubtful that any archeological work here would be warranted.

The Porch Footings:
The area in front of the house should be stripped as far as the row of bushes beside the present road, and in some areas the bushes may have to be moved where there is reason to believe a footing may lie beneath this hedge. The area should be stripped
to the edge of the hedge first, and then, based on what is revealed at that point, the decision as to whether it will be necessary to move the hedge can be made. The footings for the original porch should be found here provided they have not been destroyed by Grady Hill's crew of diggers. Once found they should be carefully cleaned and photographed to reveal the outline of their relationship to the house and to each other. Photographs taken from the upper floor of the house might be a good vantage point for such recording of data.

The Walls:
At the northeast corner of the Netherland Inn the contractor found a large footing stone at the corner of the house, that was removed in the process of applying the waterproofing material to the walls of the foundation. This area might be explored to determine if a below ground wall once extended toward the north from this northeast corner. Such a wall may well have served as a retaining wall to maintain a ground level behind the house.

Similar retaining walls may be found to the east of this corner, between the corner of the house and the large tree to the north of the well. A trench up the bank at this point may reveal retaining walls long buried that may have been part of the early landscaping plan for the control of this steep bank immediately behind the house. Such a trench, even if it did not locate retaining walls, would give a good profile on the bank and would aid in understanding the various levels of soil as it washed or was filled into the area of the yard near the well. The profile could be located between the well and the house, extending across the yard and up the bank toward the north.

An early photograph reveals a stone wall extending from the northwest corner of the house toward the west. This wall may have been a later addition to the original house, or it may have been a retaining wall. Some work in the area of this corner might well be in order, particularly since it is said that the soil accumulation to the west is the result of garbage being thrown there through the years. A trench toward Granby Road at this corner might well reveal not only the wall, but a profile of any midden deposit that may have been thrown out toward Granby Road from the direction of the house. I would expect most of this deposit would be from the use in the later nineteenth century and twentieth century of the two kitchen wings known to have been attached to the house at this northwest rear corner. Beneath such a deposit, however, might well be an earlier accumulation of debris from the earliest use of the property by the Netherland family.

The Construction Ditches:
The area against the house on the southeast end I believe has not been disturbed by the ditches cut to apply waterproofing to the stones. If this is so then this might be an area where a trench against the house itself would reveal an original construction ditch.
There also appears to be a chance for some accumulation of soil in this area also, which might produce some stratigraphic data of value in interpreting the early use of this area of the house.

The Walk to the Slave Quarters:
A flagstone walk was uncovered by the contractor's workmen to the rear of the Inn behind the northwest corner. This walk is five feet wide and is made of large flat limestone, showing the polish of leather from many feet who once traveled over this surface from the direction of the Netherland Inn toward the slave quarters up the bank on the hill to the north. This walk should be carefully plotted by the archeologist, and the area around the walk carefully examined with the most careful archeological techniques.

At the south end of this walk the junction between the walk and the present level of the area between the Inn and the walk has been obliterated by the digging of the contractor's men who likely destroyed any steps that may have been still in place as well as the original surface of the ground immediately behind the Netherland Inn. Some excavation in this area between the end of the wall and the Netherland Inn might well be done, but I am afraid this will prove to be fruitless since I think the diggers have lowered the level below the original level established here when the house was first built. However, some testing should be done here to check for sure on these points. There were probably two or three steps joining the level of the area behind the Inn with the level of the walk.

Sitting on this walk is the chimney base for the kitchen wing that was added to the northwest rear of the house. When the original Netherland kitchen to the east of the walk was abandoned a new wing was built running at a right angle to the original one, and further to the west, in alignment with the west end of the Netherland Inn. By probing to the north of this chimney sitting on the walk the stones of the walk could be located, extending beyond the chimney. Just behind this chimney the bank has been cut away to allow room for the new kitchen wing. The walk ended at a set of stone steps extending up the bank, but when the new kitchen wing was built these steps were destroyed and the opening was cut into the bank to accommodate the kitchen wing. A trench at the north side of the new kitchen chimney on the walk should reveal the walk and a good profile of the subsoil and kitchen hole excavation in relation to the original walk.

The end of the walk may reveal remains of the bottom step or the footing seat where the bottom step once was located. Some of these steps are still nearby, having been used at the time of the construction of the new chimney as stones for a retaining wall above the newly excavated hole for the new kitchen. These leather shoe polished steps could be recovered and once again used as steps as they originally were used in conjunction with the stone walk. The area above this new kitchen hole should be excavated to reveal the location of the walk or path that continued from the top of
the steps. Such a path or walk, in conjunction with the stone walk beneath the later kitchen chimney, and the stone steps provide enough data for a reconstruction of this set of original steps leading up the bank from the level of the Inn to the level of the slave quarters on the top of the hill along Granby Road.

With this walk occupying the position previously planned for the reconstruction of a kitchen wing, the plans for a kitchen wing here should now be abandoned since the only kitchen wings ever located here were later than the original period of the Netherland Inn.

3. THE KITCHENS

The Foundation Wall for the Original Kitchen:

At a distance of 8'6" from the rear wall of the Netherland Inn there is a stone wall that was revealed by workers digging for the contractor. This wall was revealed only after a large quantity of soil had been removed from the area above it, and around it. The wall parallels the north wall of the Inn and a corner can be seen on the west end of the wall at a distance of 16'4" from the northwest corner of the Netherland Inn. The wall extends a distance of 15'3" toward the east from this corner, where a portion of the wall was removed by the contractor's crew. If this wall was centrally positioned behind the Netherland Inn, as I suspect it was, then the building represented by this wall would have been around 18 feet long. This wall is the foundation of the original kitchen for the Netherland Inn. No width for the building has been determined as yet, but archeological work along this bank should be done in order to search for the footings or foundation wall ditch for the up-hill wall of this structure. Stripping of the topsoil zone here at the area near both ends of the structure may reveal evidence for the chimney base that should have been here. However, the workmen who uncovered this ruin may well have thrown out any evidence for a chimney base in their removal of the thick deposit of soil from over the ruin wall.

The mortar holding this foundation wall together matches the mortar found between the stones in the Netherland Inn, indicating that they were apparently constructed at the same time. The floor level of the kitchen was the same as the second floor level in the Netherland Inn, so that access to the Inn from the kitchen was by means of a walk or porch from the kitchen to the Inn. From a second floor garret above the kitchen there would have been direct access to the third floor of the Netherland Inn, from the house-servant's quarters over the kitchen to the top floor of the Inn. Such an arrangement would have allowed direct access to the third floor, by means of the kitchen structure, to the level of the cold storage cellar in the bank behind the kitchen.

The architect involved in drafting plans for the restoration of the Netherland Inn should work with the elevations of the bank
behind the Inn in relation to the kitchen floor levels above the revealed foundation wall, keeping in mind a kitchen with servant's quarters in a garret over the kitchen (a frequently used arrangement). The advantages of such a kitchen with a garret at this point on the sloping bank behind the Inn, and in relation to the smokehouse and cold storage bank cellar and the slave quarters on the crest of the hill, are numerous. Parallel examples of similar kitchens or wings on banks in the area may well be found to help guide the architect in rebuilding the kitchen on the foundation. Hopefully archeology will reveal more details as to the size of the kitchen structure and the chimney base evidence, and perhaps footings or foundation stones against the bank in such a position that the floor levels can be definitely determined. Careful excavation along this bank may reveal remains of paths that could also be helpful in determining the floor level for access to the north side of the kitchen. Such an arrangement would overcome much of the disadvantage afforded by the location of the bank so close to the rear of the Netherland Inn. In any case the floor levels were do doubt the same as those in the Netherland Inn.

So much soil was removed by the contractor's men from around the kitchen foundation that the midden or garbage deposit thrown from the kitchen during its use has likely been removed. However, some fragments may remain in undisturbed corners, so the area should be carefully examined around the kitchen foundation ruin to locate such data if possible.

With the foundation wall extending to the height of the second floor of the Netherland Inn, there may have been room for storage beneath the kitchen, a possibility that should not be overlooked in planning the reconstruction of the kitchen.

If the kitchen chimney was located at the west end of the kitchen there was likely a door opening toward the east end, with steps extending down to a point near the large bed rock at the east end of the kitchen foundation wall. Some archeological work above this bed rock may reveal footing holes or other evidence for such steps, or perhaps the depression of a walk extending from the east end of the kitchen toward the well. A good search here between the well and the east end of the kitchen should be made for such a walkway or pathway, hopefully buried beneath soil washed from the bank above. Again, however, this evidence may have been destroyed by the enthusiasm of the contractor's workmen, who removed the mass of accumulated soil from the area between the Inn and the kitchen.

The archeological ruins reflect a walk and the original kitchen foundation in the rear center of the Inn, paralleling the Inn, and not as a wing at right angle to the Inn. The first such wing for a new kitchen to replace the original one was torn down by the Cloud family, who erected a newer kitchen wing to replace the earlier one. The first kitchen wing chimney was built directly on the original
stone path at the west end of the original kitchen, and was revealed when the contractor's workmen removed the soil from the area around this chimney base sitting on the original walk. The central kitchen with connecting porches to both the second and third floors of the Netherland Inn, where there are exterior doors, is a much more understandable situation than a kitchen wing from which there was no direct entrance into the Inn. Now that we know there was a central rear kitchen connected by walkways to the Inn, there should be a concerted effort through archeology to reveal more details surviving from the digging of the contractor in this important area particularly between the walk and the kitchen foundation, where the kitchen chimney base may well have been positioned. Clues to the foundation ditch for the chimney may well be all that survives to reveal the position of the chimney and thereby the width of the kitchen itself. This area is most important and should be carefully examined and all clues thoroughly plotted both in plan and profile, as well as obtaining a complete photographic record of the data recovered in this area. Any disturbance into the red, round pebble-filled subsoil in this area should be carefully revealed and recorded. Only through such careful work can this area reveal the details we need to determine the size of the original Netherland Inn kitchen and chimney.

While this archeological evidence is being sought the researchers should concentrate on looking for parallel examples of similar separate kitchens connected to the main house by covered walkways or porches, something like double-decked doctrots, so that this information can be used by the architect in reconstructing the kitchen on the original foundation.

The Later Kitchen Wing Additions:

As was mentioned above, sometime after the original Netherland Inn kitchen became in need of repair or replacement, perhaps through rot or fire, a new kitchen wing was built onto the rear of the house, at the northwest corner, forming an "L" behind the house parallel with Granby Road. This new kitchen wing was probably built about the time of the Civil War. A close examination of the documents of the mid-nineteenth century may reveal clues to a time when this major alteration at the Netherland Inn kitchen took place. At this time the chimney for the new kitchen was placed directly on the original walk, and the bank to the north of the walk was dug out to make room for the kitchen wing, thus destroying the steps up the bank at this point. This kitchen stood until the Cloud family occupied the property in this century, when they tore down the remaining parts of the delapidated kitchen and built a newer one. This last kitchen was recently torn down then the restoration of the Netherland Inn was undertaken by the Netherland Inn Association, Inc., at which time the contractor's workmen did their extensive digging on the site of this kitchen, thus revealing the chimney base and the original walk, as well as the original kitchen foundation at the rear center of the house. An archeological date for the construction of the chimney base for the second kitchen may be
able to be recovered when Joe Benthal excavates in the area of this chimney base. Removing this clay-mortared chimney base after thorough recording, photographing, profiling, and documentation of this feature may well reveal fragments of china or other datable artifacts either in or under the chimney base on the original walk. Care should be taken to recover such data for possible use in dating this chimney base. Although the chimney post-dates the period of interest in terms of reconstruction of the kitchen is concerned, the date of this chimney base should be determined if possible to help determine the date of this second kitchen for use in telling the story of the developmental use of the Netherland Inn property. The footing and other data for the third kitchen, built by the Clouds, are so recent as to be or little archeological concern.

3. THE WELL
The area around the stone lined well should be excavated to determine if any archeological data can be salvaged from the digging done by Grady Hill and his group. The footings for the well house, or postholes should be located to determine the size of the well house, as well as any drains extending away from the well, or any walks or other associated features of value in re-developing the site in something of the manner it once was. The area between the well and the original east end of the kitchen should be especially examined for remains of walks or paths connecting the well with the kitchen.

4. THE ROOT CELLAR
The stone walled root cellar dug into the bank behind the original kitchen is apparently an original structure that served for storage of vegetables, fruits, and other kitchen supplies, for protection from cold in winter and to keep goods cool in summer. The roof has probably been replaced many times, but clues to an original roof may be found by examining surviving examples of such bank cellars in the area. There may have been a layer of sod placed over the original cellar to help with the insulation afforded by this building. As far as could be determined in this survey there is no evidence for a central firepit, or evidence of fires such as would have been present had the building been used as a smoakhouse. The present concrete floor appears to have been poured on subsoil, though some small amount of archeological profiling might be done inside to check for sure on these observations.

The elevation of the doorway of this cellar in relation to the elevation of the third floor of the Netherland Inn should be studied carefully to understand the relationship of the access from this cellar to the kitchen and to the third floor of the main house, and this information integrated into the architectural plan for the re-building of the kitchen on the original foundation. Early walks or paths may be located by excavation in front of the door and down the hill from the cellar, and this can be done in conjunction with the relatively extensive excavation between the cellar and the kitchen foundation that will be done to locate more evidence for the size of the kitchen.
5. THE SMOKEHOUSE

The smokehouse was probably located on the hill either to the east or to the west of the cellar, where depressions can be seen in the surface of the ground today. The ground cover of weeds, poison ivy and other bushes and grass should be removed so as to study these depressions more fully. Archeological excavation in both areas might well reveal footings and perhaps the firebox for the smokehouse probably located in one of these two sites. Chloride tests in any suspicious area may reveal the presence of a high percentage of salts in the soil that may offer additional data to go with any archeological clues recovered through excavation. If paths can be located, or old steps leading away from the cellar toward the top of the hill, these may well lead to the smokehouse area.

6. THE SLAVE QUARTERS

The original walk discovered behind the northeast end of the Netherland Inn apparently led to the area of the slave quarters by means of a set of steps leading up the bank from the walk. The plans for the development of the Netherland Inn site, the drawings of what it may look like in the future, etc. all indicate "slave cabins", yet no mention of excavation of these before rebuilding them out of whole unknown cloth is mentioned in the plans. Archeology to locate the ruins of any such structures before they are built should most definitely be done. The concept of "slave cabins" should be abandoned if we are to believe the information of a living informant, Mr. Red Cloud, who was interviewed, and who stated that the "thing caught fire and they got it out to where the old kitchen was. Well the old kitchen was scorched on the back. The old slave place was a long continuous house just like the old kitchen..." (Cloud 1973: Appendix of this report). This would indicate that there were no "slave cabins" in the classic stereotype, such as already planned for rebuilding on the site. Any rebuilding should be prefaced by archeological work so as to have as much data as possible before constructing what may prove to be an entirely fanciful creation. "Slave cabins" and other buildings typical "of the period" are not within the rules of good restoration guidelines.

The location pointed out by Mr. Red Cloud for the slave quarters building was in the area where a large quantity of logs are not stored, in the depression at the edge of the high ground, in the field above Granby Road. This depression may well be the result of the large, long slave quarters building mentioned by Mr. Cloud. If the building scorched the kitchen wing, the slave quarters may well have been located not far above the steps at the end of the original stone walk, so this area should be carefully examined archeologically to determine if any evidence of the slave quarters can be seen, or any path from the top of the now destroyed stone steps to the quarters. Evidence would be in the form of footings, foundations, chimney base or possibly walks. Since the structure burned, the burned posts may well be found in place, provided any posts extended into the ground. Burned debris in the area of the slave quarters building should be an excellent clue to the location of the general
5. THE SMOKEHOUSE

The smokehouse was probably located on the hill either to the east or to the west of the cellar, where depressions can be seen in the surface of the ground today. The ground cover of weeds, poison ivy and other bushes and grass should be removed so as to study these depressions more fully. Archeological excavation in both areas might well reveal footings and perhaps the firebox for the smokehouse probably located in one of these two sites. Chloride tests in any suspicious area may reveal the presence of a high percentage of salts in the soil that may offer additional data to go with any archeological clues recovered through excavation. If paths can be located, or old steps leading away from the cellar toward the top of the hill, these may well lead to the smokehouse area.

6. THE SLAVE QUARTERS

The original walk discovered behind the northeast end of the Netherland Inn apparently led to the area of the slave quarters by means of a set of steps leading up the bank from the walk. The plans for the development of the Netherland Inn site, the drawings of what it may look like in the future, etc. all indicate "slave cabins", yet no mention of excavation of these before rebuilding them out of whole unknown cloth is mentioned in the plans. Archeology to locate the ruins of any such structures before they are built should most definitely be done. The concept of "slave cabins" should be abandoned if we are to believe the information of a living informant, Mr. Red Cloud, who was interviewed, and who stated that the "thing caught fire and they got it out to where the old kitchen was. Well the old kitchen was scorched on the back. The old slave place was a long continuous house just like the old kitchen..." (Cloud 1973: Appendix of this report). This would indicate that there were no "slave cabins" in the classic stereotype, such as already planned for rebuilding on the site. Any rebuilding should be prefaced by archeological work so as to have as much data as possible before constructing what may prove to be an entirely fanciful creation. "Slave cabins" and other buildings typical "of the period" are not within the rules of good restoration guidelines.

The location pointed out by Mr. Red Cloud for the slave quarters building was in the area where a large quantity of logs are not stored, in the depression at the edge of the high ground, in the field above Granby Road. This depression may well be the result of the large, long slave quarters building mentioned by Mr. Cloud. If the building scorched the kitchen wing, the slave quarters may well have been located not far above the steps at the end of the original stone walk, so this area should be carefully examined archeologically to determine if any evidence of the slave quarters can be seen, or any path from the top of the now destroyed stone steps to the quarters. Evidence would be in the form of footings, foundations, chimney base or possibly walks. Since the structure burned, the burned posts may well be found in place, provided any posts extended into the ground. Burned debris in the area of the slave quarters building should be an excellent clue to the location of the general
area of this structure, and careful archeology should reveal more details of an architectural nature.

7. THE BARN

Two exploratory trenches were cut in the area east of the well near the edge of the present loop road in order to examine the slope of the soil at this point, and to check on the location of old surfaces. A slope covered with stones was found that appeared to be in line with the edge of the Netherland Inn. However, more exposure of this feature of stones will need to be done using hand labor before any definite conclusions can be reached. Once more testing is done in this area to locate definitely the well and associated features, then after this a machine carefully used may help in stripping the topsoil from the area to reveal the older underlying surface, but such machinery should be used with extreme care.

In the area of the loop, a road to the east of the well is the traditional site of the barn, and a photograph reveals a large barn in line with, or slightly in front of, the front line of the Netherland Inn. Mr. Red Cloud provides some interesting details for the appearance of this barn and of the arrangement of the stalls, which he says led from one to another and did not open into a central hallway (Cloud 1973: Appendix). From Mr. Cloud we learned that the access to the second floor of the barn was by means of a ramp behind the barn, and that the bank was not actually dug out to accommodate the barn. The photograph would also tend to indicate this. The term "bank barn" is an unfortunate term I believe, unless through archeology we can determine that the barn was actually of the type known from Pennsylvania known as a "bank barn". This term should be abandoned unless there is documentation or archeological documentation for continuing its use. It implies a style of architecture not consistent with the evidence in relation to the barn at the Netherland Inn. It is true that the road for access to the second floor of the barn ran around the base of the bank, but the barn itself was not set into the bank, as bank barns are. Mr. Cloud said that there was less than twenty feet separating the barn from the well, just enough to get a stage through, he said, which means that in the area of the present loop road would be the place for locating footing, etc. for the barn. However, the loop is now the repository for a great quantity of stones and logs brought in to begin rebuilding a "bank barn" on the site, and since these were dumped on the site of the barn itself, it will be impossible to do any archeological work here until this pile of stones and logs is removed. A small exploratory hole just north of the pile of logs revealed a recent sewage drain line running from the direction of the well toward the east, as well as black, humus filled soil, apparently the type of soil resulting from the use of the area by horses, and revealing that this loop road area is the site where archeology should be done to locate the size of the barn, partitions, footings, etc.

Along the present highway to the south of the pile of logs a stone wall was located beneath the surface of the ground. This wall
was shown in some photographs of the area, and probably post-dates the date of the barn, though it may have been made of stones salvaged from the barn footings. Archeological work in the area (provided the logs and stones are moved) should reveal part of this wall for examination in relation to the barn foundations or footings that will be revealed through archeology. Detailed archeology should be done here before any rebuilding of any barn is undertaken. All work necessary to reveal the size of the barn and its accompanying roads, stalls, etc. may not be able to be revealed in the project this summer, but such work should by all means be planned for the future, after preliminary work is done this season on the barn site. If the logs and stones cannot be moved this season there is still plenty to be done otherwise, but the archeology on the barn site should not be neglected in the rush to get new buildings built on the site. Nothing is more deadly dull than a non-authentic new barn (meaning non-verified, non-researched, non-archeologically examined), so there should be no rush to get the barn built on the basis of a few verbal remembrances from informants who saw the late nineteenth or early twentieth century relic of what was once the barn for the Netherland Inn.

8. THE WAREHOUSES

The revealing of the warehouses between the present road and the river poses a problem in that this would be the area most damaged by flooding of the river, or most buried by flooding. Also there are large major storm and sewer drains apparently located in the low ground that would have caused a major disturbance to the area when they were installed. A first step would be to get a map of these drain lines from the city maintenance office, if possible, so as to know where not to dig. Probing here would probably be of little use since stones from flooding of the river may well be everywhere. I would suggest the use of a backhoe to cut slots from the river toward the road in an exploratory manner to reveal any major foundation walls that may have been supporting any warehouse structures. Once these are located then more careful work of studying the profiles and revealing the foundation walls could be undertaken. This would be quite an undertaking from an expense point of view, but one that should be attempted before any restoration of any wharves and other such structures is undertaken. This could await until the present road is moved, and the project is moving nearer toward realizing the goal of development of the waterfront area.

9. THE NETHERLAND FAMILY GRAVES

Mr. Cloud pointed out in the yard of the maintenance house the spot where graves were found and relocated when a pipe line was run through the edge of the yard some years ago. He recovered a tombstone fragment, and other stones were moved with the remains, which were apparently the graves of the Netherland family. Archeology in this area could reveal the exact location of these graves and possibly others not seen when the pipeline was run. The site could then be
marked appropriately. A search for the original tombstones moved to another graveyard should be made to determine who the graves actually belonged to if possible.

10. THE CHIMNEY RUIN ACROSS GRANBY ROAD

Examination of the stones and mortar across the road from the Netherland Inn revealed that this structure was more recent than the Netherland Inn, and Mr. Cloud indicated that this was the case also. There is no evidence, therefore, that this was of the same period as the buildings of the Netherland Inn. At present there seems to be no justification to archeologically examine this ruin.

Conclusion

The Netherland Inn Association, Inc. is extremely fortunate to have the leadership it now has in Mr. and Mrs. Hal T. Spoden as Restoration Coordinator and Researcher for the Netherland Inn Project. Although some unfortunate false starts have been made, and some damage done to archeological values on the site, the positive moves now underway to insure that archeological data will be recorded through Mr. Joe Benthal's planned work is encouraging, and speaks well for the direction the Association is now moving. It is not enough, however, to undertake to record archeological data, those in decision making positions must see that the research data from the archives and from archeological excavation is utilized in any reconstructions undertaken in the process of developing this historic site.

In this report I have tried to indicate the areas where archeological work needs to be carried out, and the fact that Mr. Benthal and I both were on hand to go over and examine the site together was a fine move to insure that he and I agreed on a plan of action for the archeology to be carried out under his supervision. It is always difficult when one archeologist makes the plans and another is presented with an outline of approach that he may or may not agree with. In our meeting at the Netherland Inn there was always agreement between Joe and myself on what we thought the best approach to recovering the most data should be, and this should help toward insuring that the recommendations of the consultant are actually carried out on the site.

In carrying out the archeology I am sure Joe is well aware of the procedures necessary to reveal and record archeological data. I would like to emphasize, however, the taking of many photographs of features and soil discolorations revealing important data of interpretive value. A spray can for water, or a water hose should be on hand at all times to insure that the ground is wet enough to allow for the maximum moist conditions for proper reading of the soil pages revealed by the careful shovel and trowel work to be used in the exposing of the archeological data. The pebbles in the subsoil will make the cleaning and examination
of areas a difficult task at times, but I am sure this difficulty will
not deter Joe Benthal from tenaciously going after the data regardless
of difficulty of terrain and hard, pebble filled subsoil conditions.

I have worked with Joe Benthal before, and find that he is a careful,
meticulous worker, and a person who is very easy to get along with. I
am sure the relationship with Joe at the Netherland Inn will be a plea­
sant one. The only reservation I have about Joe’s work is that he is
such a good craftsman at close work that he may tend to emphasize detail
at the expense of the more general, broader project goals. On a project
such as this where a broad scope approach is necessary to carry out
archaeology and gather useful data from a variety of areas, Joe may have
to concentrate on keeping these several goals in mind and not become
bogged down on the too detailed examination of one area at the expense
of others. With good crew chiefs to help record data, with a good transit,
a good 4 by 5 type camera, a good single-lens reflex camera, a good grid
system or base line reference system established for the site, there
should be no problem in recording the data revealed through the efforts
of Joe and his crew. His detailed drawings of each significant area,
showing archaeological features in plan and in profile views, carefully
measured and drawn, as well as their relationship to each other, to the
Netherland Inn, and to the root cellar, kitchen, and other existing
features of the site, should allow him to produce a master archaeological
plan drawing accompanied by smaller detailed drawings to record the data
the site has to reveal. His report will no doubt include photographs,
drawings, the master plan drawing showing all features, archaeological
and otherwise, illustrations and analysis of any significant artifacts
recovered, and a carefully provenanced record of features, artifacts
and excavation units, as well as a daily log of progress and events as
they happen on the site. All of this is standard archaeological procedure,
and I should think Joe would be able to furnish such records within the
time limit of the project, before he leaves and his attention and energies
are directed elsewhere on other sites. This means spending fifteen
hours a day almost every day during the contract period on the project,
but this is something I am sure Joe is familiar with, having had many
years of archeological field experience.

When the artifacts are recovered and Joe is to the point of needing
a detailed analysis of some of the artifacts he has recovered, I will be
glad to look at them and tell him what I know about them. He could
bring them here to our laboratory and he and I could go over them, or I
could receive them by mail and examine those puzzling ones that are
causing difficulty, and make a written statement. The time period Joe
will be dealing with at the Netherland Inn is one that lends itself more
to interpretation through bottles and other artifacts than through
ceramics, but I will be glad to provide whatever assistance I can to the
analysis of the artifacts.

I would like to say that I enjoyed my visit to the Netherland Inn,
and the companionship and hospitality afforded while I was there. The
project is a most worthy undertaking, and the progress thus far has
been remarkable. Mistakes have been made, but learning has resulted,
and there now is a policy of turning to consultants to help with specific areas of research, all of which indicates that the project is well on its way toward successfully achieving its goals. It is hoped that the suggestions and observations presented here will be helpful toward this end.
APPENDIX

Transcript of an Interview with Mr. V. L. (Red) Cloud, May 14, 1973

Talking about barn - had openings in the floor to throw straw done to each stall - he fell through one once and got hung up - sister screaming "I know he's dead". I had new britches on and I said for them not to tear my britches getting me out".

Question: Did the barn have a central hall from which the stalls opened?
Answer: They had them all around the thing. You just went in a stall and just kept going.

Question: What if you had a horse in the third stall in, how would you get him out?
Answer: You'd just bring him out past the other ones.

Question: Did they have a central hole for throwing hay down?
Answer: They had holes where you threw the hay down to each one of them.

Question: They had one for each stall below?
Answer: Yeah, that's the one I fell down.

Question: Were the holes lined like shoots?
Answer: They were just open holes in the floor.

Question: What was the size of the barn?
Answer: I guess it was about 150 by 100 feet.

Question: How many stages would go into the second floor?
Answer: They could have put two or three in there, but only one stopped at a time.

Question: Was there another loft above the stage floor?
Answer: No, just wide open up there. There was one winder way up; in the top, just a cut out place.

Question: Where were the steps on the inside, or did it have any?
Answer: No, you climbed up a ladder from the first floor up. A straight ladder against the wall, through a hole, where you'd throw the hay down.

Question: You said the old road went between the well and the barn, just barely enough room to get a stage through there?
Answer: It was just a driveway. We used to keep our buggys sitting up behind the barn.

Question: Was there about twenty feet between the well and the barn?
Answer: There wasn't that much, just barely enough room to get a stage by. There used to be a wood pile there, we used to have to chop wood after school.

Question: What kind of floor did the well house have in it?
Answer: It had a trough where you'd run water in it. I guess we musta made that, and then the rest of it was just a little old weatherboarded thing. You've seen a picture haven't you?

Question: Did the well have a windlass?
Answer: No, just an old pump.
What about the smokehouse? Where was it?

Well, it was right where that thing is (cellar) and the old rocks are still in there. I used that for bulb cellar, I used to grow bulbs. We built that thing on top of it.

What kind of roof did it have originally?

Shingles, wood shingles.

Were there vents or other features of a smokehouse originally?

Naw, we just called it a smokehouse, it wasn't really a smokehouse.

Do you remember an old log smokehouse?

Naw, I don't remember nothing like that.

What about the privy, where was it?

Along the edge of the road near those big trees back there. (North of the present privy area). Digging north of the cellar building on top of the hill in the yard was where he had a trellis he dug out for, this accounts for the depressions in the area today, as well as mounds, etc. He filled the area near the cellar with dirt from the trellis area.

When they put a pipeline here east of the house did they find some bones?

They moved them and put them up in the cemetery. I gave a piece of the tombstone to the Association. Two graves were dug up where those depressions still are. All they found were two little pieces of casket handles and nails. They put them them in new caskets. There were tombstones there so we knew the graves were here. The pipeline runs close to the hedge at the east edge of the lot. Other graves in the area could be located by trenching. Tunnel into bank cellar he had not heard of it (probably came from the cellar itself).

What happened to the dirt that came from this area to the north of your house?

It must have been taken to fill in front of the house around the Inn. We came here in 1902, and it has always been that way. There used to be an old kitchen back of that Inn that had a farplace in the end of it. I can remember that, of course we tore that old original kitchen down, to build another one just like it. The old kitchen was at the level of the first floor of the Inn, and was just one floor.

Have you heard anything about where the old slave houses used to be?

What I have always heard, that they clear back here. They run clear back up here to about that pear tree there. That's where they kept the slaves. There's one big old rock down there (I've cussed is a many a time) when I would run into it with the plow. Its right down below that lumber there, you'll see it. An the thing caught fire and they got it out to where the old kitchen was. Well the old kitchen was scorched on the back. The old slave place was a long continuous house just like the old kitchen. That's what the old folks back then used to tell me.
Chimney across the road

That wasn't such an old house. Aunt Liddy lived there. She's the one that took care of all the kids around here. She'd beat the devil out of you. She's the one that told the stories about Andy Jackson. She used to make us walk the chalk line.

The old Gaines House was right over there were the old green house is now.

That brother of mine. An old fortune teller hold him somebody buried some money down here somewhere, and he dug up everything down there trying to find it. He never did find nothing.

The main sewer line is down there in that bottom, and we hooked on to that, but they piled all those logs and rock down there where the barn was and it made it so it wouldn't drain, and so we ran it into the old Inn well.