Proceedings of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia

A Data Set from the Minute Books, 1797

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Research data set for the Washington proto-lodge series

Transcribed from the author's photographs of National Archives Record Group 42.
Edition of October 28, 2026.

Cover Letter

October 28, 2026

To the reader, and to the editors of the Washington proto-lodge series:

This volume presents the Proceedings of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia as a data set. The minute book was photographed page by page at the National Archives, and every entry has been read from those photographs and set down here as a line in a table: each meeting, each order on the Treasurer, each contract for brick, stone, timber and lime, each lot sold and square divided, each licence to live and trade in the new city, and each order about the men who did the work.

The aim is a faithful reproduction. Names, sums and terms are given as the clerk wrote them. Where the book itself is unclear, a word inked over or a figure faded, the table says so in plain words rather than guess. Where a page has not yet been photographed, or the photograph is blurred, the page is listed under Pages Still to Photograph, so that the gap is visible and can be filled without disturbing the rest.

The tables are the evidence; the summary of findings and the conclusion draw out the story they tell. That story runs through the whole series: how a stretch of farms and tobacco landings on the Potomac became first a village of labourers and craftsmen, then a city of legislators and executives, and at last the seat of American justice, and how the brickmakers, stone cutters, carpenters, smiths and labourers who built it gathered in the lodges of George-Town and Washington.

Each year is a separate data file, added as it is transcribed. The spreadsheet and CSV files carry the same rows as the printed tables, for anyone who wishes to count, sort or test them.

Thomas M. Saharsky, author and archivist

About This Data Set

The three commissioners named by President Washington in January 1791 kept a minute book of every meeting: who attended, what they ordered, whom they paid, what land they divided and sold, and what stone, timber and lime they bought. This data set turns those minutes into tables, one line per event, so that men, money and materials can be counted, sorted and traced from year to year.

Record group. Record Group 42: Records of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, 1790-1951
42.2.2 Records of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia, 1791-1802 (NARA Guide to Federal Records)
Series: Proceedings, with index, and letters sent, 1791-1802 (Entry 21); box label 'Proceedings and Letters Sent'
Proceedings volumes: Apr. 1791-July 1795; Oct. 1796-June 1802 (Box No. 2, 1797-1798; Box No. 3, 1798-1802)
National Archives Building (Archives I), Washington, DC

How to cite. Cite the minute book page, then the volume, series, record group and repository, in the order the National Archives recommends. For example: Proceedings, vol. 3 (Oct. 24, 1796-Sept. 26, 1797; original numbering; the photo folder is labelled 'Volume 2 of 5'), Box 2, MS pp. 58-228 (Jan. 2-Sept. 26, 1797). Proceedings, with index, and letters sent, 1791-1802 (Entry 21), Records of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia, 1791-1802 (42.2.2), Record Group 42: Records of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, National Archives Building, Washington, DC.

What each table holds. A, the calendar of meetings; B, officers and agents; C, lot sales; D, the division of squares between the public and the original proprietors; E, contracts and offers for materials; F, orders on the Treasurer; G, orders about labour and the workmen, with the licences to live and trade in the city; H, men who also appear on the lodge rolls; I, the Estimate for the Treasury Office.

Conventions. Dates are given as year-month-day. Names keep the spelling of the minute book, except that a person's settled series spelling is used where the book varies. Money is given as written: pounds, shillings and pence of Maryland currency (7s 6d to the dollar, so £1 = $2.67) or dollars. MS pages are the folio numbers written in the minute book.

Adding years. Each year is a separate data file. As the photographs for later years are transcribed, each year is added and this edition is rebuilt, with all tables and counts carried forward. The spreadsheet and CSV files carry the same rows as the printed tables.

Citation for 1797. Proceedings, vol. 3 (Oct. 24, 1796-Sept. 26, 1797; original numbering; the photo folder is labelled 'Volume 2 of 5'), Box 2, MS pp. 58-228 (Jan. 2-Sept. 26, 1797). Proceedings, with index, and letters sent, 1791-1802 (Entry 21), Records of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia, 1791-1802 (42.2.2), Record Group 42: Records of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, National Archives Building, Washington, DC. Photographed by Thomas M. Saharsky, Feb. 22, 2023.

Coverage of the 1797 photographs. Pages 58 to 228 (January 2 to September 26, 1797) of original volume 3 are read in full; page 228 is the last page of the Proceedings in that volume, which ends with its own alphabetical index. Pages 58-159 were read by the author's assistant from the photographs; pages 160-228 were transcribed on the author's computer from reduced reading copies of the same photographs, with the originals checked where unclear. The long schedules of squares (Morris and Nicholson's selection, MS 72-83; Law's certificate, MS 183-184; the advertisements of

May 31 and June 8) are summarized rather than copied lot by lot. October to December 1797 is in original volume 4.

Pages Still to Photograph

These minute-book pages are missing or unreadable in the present photographs. Each is marked here so that a later photograph can be read and added to its year without changing the rest of the data set.

MS pages	Dates	Status
MS [216]	Sept. 9-12, 1797	Page number cut off in the photograph; text complete
MS 166-214	June-Sept. 1797	Some cents figures at the page edge or in the gutter are lost and shown as [illegible]
After MS 228	Oct.-Dec. 1797	In original volume 4 (catalogued volume 4 of 5); not yet added

The Year at a Glance

Measure	1797
Meetings recorded	142
Attendance	Scott 131, Thornton 127, White 124
Squares divided with proprietors	30
Lot certificates entered	54 certificates for 139 lots
Value of sales priced in pounds	£124 Md. (about $331) for 1 certificates
Contracts and supply offers	18
Orders on the Treasurer	180
Licences to build or trade	3

Summary of Findings

Theme	Year	What the minutes show
Land	1797	Cranch's statement shows Morris, Nicholson and Greenleaf bound to 294 houses; Dermott delivers their selection of 15,584,666 sq. ft (January 19); Law's 306 lots settled (April 10); squares divided with Notley Young; defaulted lots advertised for May; forfeited lots sold at auction Aug. 28-29; Law's certificate for 1,142,068¼ sq. ft (July 20).
Buildings	1797	Plans for the Treasury, State, War and Post Office buildings 'on the Presidents Square' go to the President (January 31; approved March 3); Hoban reports the lead wanted for the President's house roof; Blagden reports 475 tons of free stone still wanted for the Capitol; 50,000 slates for the President's house contracted (May 5).
Materials	1797	Belt's 500,000 bricks (January 20) and Fenwick's 200,000 (January 25); Cooke and Brent's 625 tons of stone; Gridley's eight tons of bar iron; shingles from Portsmouth and Norfolk; timber rafted from Bladensburg; 100 barrels of pork from Baltimore; Belt and Fenwick 200,000 bricks each (July 21); 15 tons of lead from Jos. Clarke (May 12).
Jobs and trades	1797	Allen Wyley contracts for all the Capitol brick-work (March 24); the stone carvers under Edwards are raised to 12s 6d a day; the carpenters ask for a rise; Munroe takes on the Treasurer's and Pay-master's duties; quarter salaries set April 3; Gridley's smith work at ten per cent below the late Collin Reed's prices (Sept. 4); Robert King surveyor (Sept. 12).
Labour	1797	Bell ringers at each public building for a dollar a month; Waterstone boards up to twenty labourers at twenty shillings a week; Hollingshead oversees the labourers getting timber; Smallwood asks more pay as overseer; Dr Frederick May physician to the hospital (May 3); Belt's beef for about 180 labourers (Sept. 13).
Lodge men	1797	Belt contracts for brick with Hoban as surety; Gridley the smith buys iron and a lot in Sq. 143; O'Neale builds in Sq. 78; Nicholas King surveys; David Cummins carves stone; the Ralph lots in Sq. 400 pass to Wm P. Matthews; Purcell buys lots in Sq. 222 at the August auction.

What the 1797 Minutes Show

The year opens with money. On January 9 the clerk, Thomas Munroe, was told to deliver the commissioners' two bonds to Benjamin Harwood, trustee for Maryland, and take a transfer of $100,000 in six per cent stock; by January 24 he had sold $20,000 of it to William Marbury, the State's agent, at 16s 7d in the pound, and in March the remaining stock was put in the hands of the Bank of Columbia, whose president, Benjamin Stoddert, offered to sell it as the board needed cash. A power to transfer it was given to 'Charles Weyman' (March 6). On April 3 the quarter's salaries were set down: each commissioner $400, Munroe $250, William Brent assistant clerk $175, Elisha O. Williams principal overseer $212.50, and 'James Hoban Architect Presidt House' and 'George Hadfield Ditto Capitol' $350 each. With the offices of Treasurer and Pay-master abolished, Munroe took on their duties and was given $250 a year more.

The building contracts of the season were let in January and March. Middleton Belt contracted (January 20) to make 'Five hundred thousand good, sound hard bricks' at $6 a thousand in the brick-yards of the Capitol, the President's house 'or any other place', 150,000 to be ready by June 1; James Hoban and William Deakins junior bound themselves with him. Bennett Fenwick contracted for 200,000 more (January 25), with Marsham Waring as surety. On March 24 Allen Wyley agreed 'to do all the brick-work at the Capitol, for the present season' at fourteen shillings a thousand for straight work, seventeen and six for circular work and eleven and three for every arch, the commissioners to find labourers and lay all materials on the spot. Cooke and Brent agreed to furnish 625 tons of stone; Blagden reported 475 tons of free stone still wanted; Hoban reported the lead wanted for the roof of the President's house; shingles came by the tens of thousands from Portsmouth and Norfolk; timber was cut near Bladensburg and rafted down by Belt.

The men at the works appear by name. The stone carvers 'who work under the immediate Direction of Mr Edwards', David Cummins, Joseph Huddleston, James Jack, Frederick Gibson, Patrick McCarty, Francis Cochran and Archibald Burns, petitioned for more pay and were allowed twelve shillings and sixpence a day from April 1. The carpenters applied for a rise on April 11. Hadfield was allowed ten monthly hands; Samuel Smallwood asked for higher wages as overseer; James Hollingshead was overseer of the labourers getting timber; and on January 30 the overseers at the Capitol and the President's house were each told to employ a labourer 'to ring the Bell' at the public buildings for a dollar a month. David Waterstone took a public house for the year on condition he 'will board any number of Labourers in the public Works … not exceeding twenty, at twenty shillings per week', and was licensed to retail spirits in April. Richard Gridley, smith, was sold eight tons of bar iron; Dr Cartwright and the hospital accounts were paid.

Two larger matters ran through the spring. The first was the Morris, Nicholson and Greenleaf contract: William Cranch's statement (entered January 18) showed the speculators had bound their buyers to 294 houses, 82 more than the contract required, and on January 19 J. R. Dermott delivered their selection of 15,584,666 square feet; Thomas Law's titles were argued before the Attorney General and the President, and on April 10 the board agreed to give Law title to his 306 lots once Morris and Nicholson gave bond for his buildings. The second was the plan of government: on January 31 the board sent the President 'Plans of the Offices for the Treasury, Depart of State, Department of War & post Office intended to be erected on the Presidents Square', which he approved (letter of March 3), and a coloured map of the city went to Amsterdam to pledge the public property for a loan. On April 21 the board asked P. B. Key to defend it in 'a suit brought agt them by Collin Williamson.'

From late April the minutes run on without a break to September 26. James Hoban bought six lots at the public auction of May 1 (John Travers, auctioneer), most of them 'for the use of the public'; on

May 5 he and Edward O. Williams of Berkeley County contracted for 50,000 slates for the President's house at $24 a thousand, and Dr Frederick May was made physician to the hospital (May 3) at ten shillings a head for the labourers hired by the year. On May 12 the board paid $1,707.50 to 'Jos. Clarke' for fifteen tons of lead for the use of the City. Collen Williamson carried his quarrel to the President by petition (May 11), and J. T. Mason was paid $50 to appear in his suit (June 7). On May 26 Hadfield complained of 'misconduct & Disobedience to orders' by Patrick Farrall; on May 30 the board found 'the said complaint is unfounded'.

The summer was a season of bricks and forfeited lots. On July 21 Middleton Belt and Bennet Fenwick each contracted for 200,000 more bricks at $6.50 a thousand at their kilns on Capitol hill; Fenwick's contract was fulfilled by September 14 and Belt's original half million by September 26. Belt also contracted (September 13) to deliver beef three days a week for every labourer in public employment, 'estimated to be about 180'. Richard Gridley agreed (September 4) to do the smith's work at ten per cent below the prices of the late Collin Reed. On August 28 and 29 the lots of defaulting buyers were sold at auction, Hoban, the Rev. Mr Breckenridge, Dr May, Pierce Purcell and Robert Sutton among the buyers; Thomas Law took his certificate for 1,142,068¼ square feet in some thirty squares; and carpenters such as Thomas Watkins and Willson Bryan bought lots in Sq. 728 to be paid out of their wages. On September 12 Nicholas King resigned as surveyor and Robert King was appointed in his place. The volume ends with the meeting of September 26, 1797.

Table A. Calendar of Meetings

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-01-02		GS, WT, AW	58	Quarterly salaries; Williams to advertise for 100 labourers.
1797-01-04		GS, WT, AW	59	President's approval of the Maryland loan; Law's certificate; Sq. 105 lots.
1797-01-09		GS, WT, AW	60-61	Letters from Blodget and 'the revd Mr Ralph'; Stoddert offers for $30,000 stock; instructions to Munroe on the Maryland bonds and stock.
1797-01-10		GS, WT, AW	60	Nicholson asks Sq. 467 lots for Wm Prentis; letter to Marbury, agent for Maryland.
1797-01-12		GS, WT, AW	62	Hadfield's estimate of stone wanted for the Capitol and Blagden's for the President's house; Hamburgh lots exchanged.
1797-01-13		GS, WT, AW	63	Gantt's opinions; Squares 6 and 11 divided with Robert Peter.
1797-01-14		GS, AW	63	Proceedings read.
1797-01-16		GS, WT, AW	64-65	Lots in Sq. 27 to George French; Squares 100 and 117 settled between Lingan and Peter; Key's opinion on Law's titles.
1797-01-17		GS, WT, AW	65-66	Scott's Annapolis expenses; Lingan, Blodget and Holmead divisions; Sweeny certificate (Charles Jones's lot).
1797-01-18		GS, WT, AW	67-70	Cranch's statement of Morris, Nicholson and Greenleaf's sales entered; Blagden on the deficiency of free stone; Waterstone's lease.
1797-01-19		GS, WT, AW	71-83	Forrest's certificates; $2,200 to Cooke & Brent; Morris and Nicholson's selection of 15,584,666 sq. ft entered; Elizabeth Henderson licensed.
1797-01-21		WT, AW	84-85	Belt's contract for 500,000 bricks entered; Blagden's report of stone wanted.
1797-01-23		GS, WT, AW	86-87	Certificate to Dunlop and Carleton for 1,240,922 1/2 sq. ft of Morris and Nicholson's selection.
1797-01-24		GS, WT, AW	87-88	Munroe reports the Maryland stock sold and transferred; checks to Cooke & Brent and Munroe.
1797-01-25		GS, WT, AW	88-89	Lot 9, Sq. 78 to William O'Neale on building terms; accounts; Sq. 678 divided.

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-01-27		GS, WT, AW	90-91	Fenwick's contract for 200,000 bricks; Law's certificate of Dec. 5, 1796 cancelled.
1797-01-28		GS, WT, AW	92	Nicholson accepts the board's proposition on his selection; accounts.
1797-01-30		GS, WT, AW	93	Iron from Snowden; bell ringers at the public buildings; Burnes divisions.
1797-01-31		GS, WT, AW	94-95	Plan of the city to the Willinks; plans of the executive offices sent to the President; Peter and Carroll certificates.
1797-02-01		GS, WT, AW	95	Shingles from Portsmouth; Nicholson's certificates and squares.
1797-02-02		GS, WT, AW	96	Sq. 161 divided; Snowden's iron accepted; forms of deeds from Nicholson.
1797-02-03		GS, WT, AW	97-98	Sq. 161 lots to Thomas S. Lee; Davidson's memorial to the President; letter to the Willinks.
1797-02-04		GS, WT, AW	98-99	Walker's letter to the President; conditional sale to the Rev. Mr Ralph; Dermott to copy the President's appropriation for Davidson.
1797-02-06		GS, WT, AW	99-100	Law's claim to titles laid before the President; King to examine the clay ground in the Capitol Square; Blagden on the stone contracts.
1797-02-07		GS, WT, AW	100-101	Walker's paragraph sent to Forrest; scaffold poles for the Capitol; Gantt and Morsell paid.
1797-02-14		GS, WT	102-103	Nicholson and Law letters entered; level for O'Neale's house; 475 tons of free stone wanted; stock sold to Marbury.
1797-02-15		GS, WT	104	Certificate to Dr Snively; O'Neale paid.
1797-02-20		GS, WT	104-105	Letters from the President, Carroll, Young, Morris, Lowndes, Blodget and Key; Blagden's return of materials.
1797-02-21		GS, WT	106-107	Defaulted lots advertised for sale on the first Monday in May; lime to be paid on the overseers' certificate; Hoban and O'Neale certificates.
1797-02-25		GS, WT	108	Delany's list of pledged lots; Dermott's reports.
1797-02-27		GS, WT	109	Certificate to Richard Gridley; Ringgold and Law contracts; Blagden paid $1,160.
1797-03-02		GS, WT	109-110	Fenwick advanced $300; eight tons of bar iron to Gridley.
1797-03-03		GS, WT	110	$200 to Robert Sutton for scaffold poles.
1797-03-06		GS, WT, AW	111-112	Bank of Columbia to act as agent for the six per cent stock; power to Charles Weyman.
1797-03-07		GS, WT, AW	112-113	Attorney General's opinion on Law's titles; the President approves the plans of the public offices; Smallwood asks for higher wages. (MS date overwritten.)
1797-03-08		GS, WT, AW	113	Nesmith intends to resign; letter to Hadfield.
1797-03-09		GS, WT, AW	113-114	King's plan of a Water Street; lead for the President's house roof; Cooke & Brent to furnish 625 tons of stone.
1797-03-10		WT, AW	114	Hadfield to employ ten hands for a month.
1797-03-13		WT, AW	115	Sq. 38 to Isaac Pollock; Gridley and Hollingshead accounts.
1797-03-14		WT, AW	115-116	Greenleaf's bond and warning.
1797-03-15		WT, AW	116	Munroe's accounts approved; timber cut near Bladensburg.
1797-03-16		WT, AW	116-117	Belt rafts timber; certificates in Squares 216 and 372 cancelled.
1797-03-20		WT, AW	117-118	Jardella's travel from Philadelphia; stone carvers petition for wages; map to Amsterdam via Pickering and Vans Murray.
1797-03-21		GS, WT, AW	119	Snowden's receipt for Matthews's note; Langley's proposal.

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-03-22		GS, WT, AW	119-121	Shingles; Schooner 'Experience'; Peter, Bailey and Davidson divisions.
1797-03-23		GS, WT, AW	121	Sq. 977 divided; level for Barry's lot; Davidson heirs' squares.
1797-03-24		GS, AW	122-124	Allen Wyley's contract for the Capitol brick-work; Sq. 650 redivided; Greenleaf squares signed.
1797-03-27		GS, AW	125	Accounts of Wiley, Blagden and Richardson.
1797-03-28		GS, WT, AW	125-126	Letter from the Governor of Virginia; letter from Hadfield.
1797-03-29		GS, AW	126	Stone carvers allowed 12s 6d a day from April 1.
1797-03-30		GS, AW	127	Munroe asks a higher salary.
1797-03-31		GS, AW	127-128	$400 advance to Belt; Marbury paid a quarter's interest.
1797-04-03		GS, WT, AW	128-129	Quarter's salaries; Munroe given $250 more for the Treasurer's and Pay-master's duties; Law's sugar house on Sq. 744.
1797-04-04		GS, WT, AW	130	Waterston licensed; Belt, Boucher paid.
1797-04-05		GS, WT, AW	130-131	Accounts.
1797-04-06		GS, WT, AW	131	Checks to Barnet White, baker, Munroe and Blagden.
1797-04-07		GS, WT, AW	131-133	Shingles; William Brent's salary raised; Carroll and Prout divisions.
1797-04-10		GS, WT, AW	133-134	Titles to be granted to Law for 306 lots.
1797-04-11		GS, WT, AW	135	Certificate to Wm P. Matthews for Sq. 400; carpenters ask higher wages; Squares 740, 741, 744 public.
1797-04-12		GS, WT, AW	136-137	Dermott excused in the afternoons; Sq. 771 redivided for the canal.
1797-04-17		GS, WT	137-138	Davidson, Oden, Young and Carroll divisions.
1797-04-21		GS, WT	139	100 barrels of pork from Baltimore; Key to defend Collin Williamson's suit; check to Chs Jones.
1797-04-22		GS, WT	140	Two letters from the President; Robert Morris sends George Ludlam's certificate of the prices of lead work at Philadelphia.
1797-04-25		GS, WT	140-141	Letters from Willink, Wm Prentis, W. V. Murray, Jas H. Blake; Graham & Haskins acknowledge Wm Deakins's note for $2,100.
1797-04-26		GS, WT	141	Andrew Estave's account; Dermott agrees for Wm O'Neale to buy lot 10 in Sq. 78.
1797-04-28		GS, WT	142	Accounts of Michael Shanks, Mitchell & Belt, Peter Howard, Geo. Frank.
1797-05-02		GS, WT, AW	142-144	Auction of May 1 (John Travers, auctioneer); four applicants for physician to the hospital; Joseph Dove to haul free stone; defaulting purchasers given thirty days.
1797-05-03		GS, WT, AW	144-145	Letters to the British, Dutch and Portuguese ministers; Smallwood's wages raised; Dr Frederick May appointed physician to the hospital.
1797-05-04		GS, WT, AW	146	Barnard Crook's application to raise his wages rejected; certificate to Phillips, Grout and West for Sq. 407.
1797-05-05		GS, WT, AW	146-148	Nails bought of John Dorsey of Baltimore; slate contract with Edward O. Williams and James Hoban.
1797-05-08		GS, WT, AW	148-149	Certificate to Tobias Lear (Sq. 9); Squares 217 and 214 divided with Samuel Davidson and John Davidson's heirs.
1797-05-09		GS, WT, AW	149	Accounts; $140 advanced to Allen Wyley.

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-05-10		GS, WT, AW	150-151	Lear & Co.'s payments on Sq. 664 declared forfeited, then the forfeiture revoked on their second letter; letters to Willink and to W. V. Murray at the Hague.
1797-05-11		GS, WT, AW	151-152	Collen Williamson's petition to the President, with counsel's opinion, received through S. B. Malcom and returned to the President.
1797-05-12		GS, WT, AW	152	$1,707.50 paid to Jos. Clarke for 15 tons of lead delivered to Mr Scott.
1797-05-16		GS, WT, AW	153-154	30 coils of rope from Baltimore; Gridley's account of $1,064.67 and his iron note given up.
1797-05-17		GS, WT, AW	154	Small accounts.
1797-05-18		GS, WT, AW	154-155	Sq. 225 resurveyed and signed (Hoban's lots 4 and 5); Burns's account.
1797-05-19		GS, WT, AW	156	Superintendents of the Capitol and President's house to report the work done since Nov. 18.
1797-05-26		GS, WT	157-158	Hadfield's and Hoban's reports received and entered in the Abstract Book; Hadfield complains of Patrick Farrall.
1797-05-29		GS, WT, AW	158-159	Lots in Sq. 101 sold to S. Wilson; semiannual returns sent to the Secretary of the Treasury.
1797-05-30		GS, WT, AW	159	Hadfield's complaint against Ferrell found 'unfounded'.
1797-05-31		GS, WT, AW	160-164	Sale of Morris and Nicholson's lots advertised for Aug. 7 at the Little Hotel to raise $60,000 due; Hadfield and Edwards summoned; Sq. 183 divided with Blodget and Davidson.
1797-06-01		GS, WT, AW	164-165	Covachichi complains of the Clerk of the District; lot 10 in Sq. 78 sold to Wm Oneale for $200.
1797-06-03		GS, AW	165	Dermott $869.33; certificates to Lund Washington (Sq. 705) and Dermott (Sq. 720).
1797-06-06		GS, WT, AW	166	Letters; cheque to Munroe $1,000.
1797-06-07		GS, WT, AW	166-167	J. T. Mason paid $50 to appear in Collen Williamson's suit; certificates to Wm Oneale (Sq. 78).
1797-06-08		GS, WT, AW	167-168	Lee & Deakins bond; forfeited lots advertised for sale on the fourth Monday in August.
1797-06-12		GS, AW	169	Deakins and Lee accept terms for their bond; King to give Isaac Pollock the level for building on Sq. 38.
1797-06-13		GS, WT, AW	170	Law's building contract assigned to the commissioners; Gridley, Atkins, Belt and others paid.
1797-06-14		GS, WT, AW	171	James Browne given more time to build on lot 21, Sq. 169.
1797-06-15		WT, AW	171	Shingles by Capt. Johnson from Conway, Whittle & Co.
1797-06-16		GS, AW	172-173	Robert Sutton sent to Mattox bridge and Machodack Creek for General Lee's and Carbury's timber.
1797-06-17		GS, AW	173	Entered as 'July 17'. Gridley given an order for two tons of iron at Bladensburg; Sutton paid.
1797-06-19		WT, AW	174	Letters to the Willinks, W. V. Murray and John Marshall, envoy to France.
1797-06-20		GS, WT, AW	174-175	Barnard Crooke's wages raised; Thornton's dissent on flues for the Senate gallery.
1797-06-21		GS, WT, AW	175-176	William Young's land claim ($2,223.33) assigned to Abiel Jennings; Lenox and Warrington ask more wages; flooring plank sought in New England.
1797-06-22		GS, WT, AW	176-177	Dermott's report on the squares; Beall and Gantt to execute a deed for the public appropriations.
1797-06-23		GS, WT, AW	177-178	Licence to James Spalding; $6,000 to Munroe; Maryland interest; Dr Williams paid for his kitchen. Board adjourned two weeks.

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-07-15		GS, WT	179-180	Letters received during the adjournment; Pollock to be paid for Cooke & Brent; accounts.
1797-07-17		GS, WT, AW	180-181	Returns from the Capitol and President's house; Pollock's certificate for Sq. 74.
1797-07-18		GS, WT, AW	181-182	Sutton's report on Carberry's timber; Fenwick, McPherson, Harper paid.
1797-07-19		GS, WT, AW	182-183	Carbury's timber and rafting; Sutton advanced $120; Phillip Fitzhugh $350.
1797-07-20		GS, WT, AW	183-184	Certificate to Thomas Law for 1,142,068¼ sq. ft in some thirty squares; Gridley, Wyley paid.
1797-07-21		WT, AW	185	New brick contracts with Middleton Belt and Bennet Fenwick, 200,000 each; Hadfield's return of bricks wanted.
1797-07-22		GS, AW	186	Certificate to Isaac Pollock (Sq. 74).
1797-07-25		GS, WT, AW	186	Capt. Williams to buy 18 coils of rope for the Capitol.
1797-07-26		GS, WT, AW	187	Blodget's division of Sept. 1796 entered.
1797-07-28		GS, WT, AW	188	Defaulting contractors' bonds to be put in suit after Aug. 15 'without Respect to Persons'.
1797-08-01		GS, AW	189	O. McDermot Roe's bills in Chancery against the board.
1797-08-02		GS, WT, AW	189-191	Lingan's power to Dermott to divide; Barry certificate; a Capitol labourer's wages raised; King to survey squares.
1797-08-03		GS, WT, AW	191-192	Herrings and shad for the labourers; Greenleaf's trustees.
1797-08-04		GS, WT, AW	192	$5,000 to Munroe; Harper paid.
1797-08-05		WT, AW	193	Lime wanted at the Capitol; letter from Pierce Purcell; Boone paid for Belt's bricks; Gantt for plank.
1797-08-07		GS, WT, AW	193-195	Sale of Aug. 7 postponed to Oct. 18 on W. H. Dorsey's $10,000 draft on Pratt, Francis, Miller, Ashley and Baker.
1797-08-08		GS, WT, AW	195-196	Pierce Purcell given time to the 22nd; Wyley paid $359.10.
1797-08-09		GS, WT, AW	196-197	Munroe's accounts March 1 - Aug. 1 passed; squares divided with Holmead and Lingan.
1797-08-10		GS, WT, AW	197-198	King's returns; Thornton's dissent on McDermot Roe's open cellar and drain.
1797-08-11		GS, AW	199	Josias Faxon paid for lime; Nesmith sent to Zachariah Vowles and McCarty Fitzhugh.
1797-08-14		GS, AW	199-200	Letters.
1797-08-15		GS, WT, AW	200-201	£205 Virginia currency to Thompson Franks & Co; Law's certificate renewed.
1797-08-16		GS, WT, AW	201	Brent to advance $200 to Belt for bricks at the Capitol.
1797-08-17		GS, AW	202	Crawford certificate (Sq. 5); Parrott's contract given up on Beall and Blake's note.
1797-08-22		GS, WT	203	Letters to the Bank of the U.S. and the Secretary of the Treasury.
1797-08-23		GS, WT	203-204	Squares 313, 272, 280 and 339 divided with Blodget and John Davidson's heirs.
1797-08-28		GS, WT, AW	205-207	Auction of forfeited lots at noon (Squares 2, 4, 7, 10, 75, 119); Abraham Young's squares divided.
1797-08-29		GS, WT, AW	208-210	Sales of Thomas Johnson's lots cancelled; auction continued (Squares 222, 978, 979, 728, S. of 667).

Date	Place	Present	MS pages	Business
1797-08-30		GS, WT, AW	211	Purchasers to comply by Friday noon or lose their purchases.
1797-09-01		GS, WT, AW	212	Hadfield and Blagden's estimates of lime for the Capitol; Cooke & Brent advanced $1,000.
1797-09-04		GS, WT, AW	213	Gridley agrees to work at ten per cent below the late Collin Reed's prices.
1797-09-05		GS, WT, AW	214	Gridley's four accounts $979; Sutton for hauling timber.
1797-09-06		GS, WT, AW	214-215	Power for a Holland loan sent to the President; beef proposals.
1797-09-08		GS, WT, AW	215	Deakins's note discounted at the bank.
1797-09-09		GS, WT, AW	[216]	Letters; accounts.
1797-09-12		GS, WT, AW	[216]-217	Nicholas King resigns as surveyor; Robert King appointed.
1797-09-13		GS, WT, AW	217-219	Beef contract with Middleton Belt; Thornton's statement on the Morris and Nicholson security.
1797-09-14		GS, WT, AW	220	Fenwick's brick contract fulfilled; proprietors called to divide squares.
1797-09-19		GS, WT, AW	221-222	Lot to Thomas Watkins, carpenter, paid from wages; contracts of the McGruders, Forrest and Carberry put in suit; Deblois lot; Robert Peter's squares; Sq. 707.
1797-09-20		GS, WT, AW	223	Gridley certificate (Sq. 253); Deblois paid.
1797-09-21		GS, WT, AW	223	Dunbar advanced $200.
1797-09-22		GS, WT, AW	224-227	Lots to Willson Bryan, carpenter, and to Walker and Thompson; declarations of trust by E. O. Williams and Hoban; Young and Burnes divisions.
1797-09-26		GS, WT, AW	228	Belt's 500,000-brick contract fulfilled; free stone by the schooners Quarrier and Experience. Last entry in this volume.

Table B. Officers and Agents

Name	Office	From	Note
Gustavus Scott, William Thornton, Alexander White	Commissioners	(continuing)	$400 a quarter each
Thomas Munroe	Clerk to the commissioners	(continuing)	Takes the Treasurer's and Pay-master's duties; $250 a year more from April 1797
William Brent	Assistant clerk	(continuing)	$700 a year, raised by $100 from April 1797
Capt. Elisha O. Williams	Principal overseer	(continuing)	$212.50 a quarter
James Hoban	Architect of the President's house	(continuing)	$350 a quarter
George Hadfield	Architect of the Capitol	(continuing)	$350 a quarter
Nicholas King	Surveyor	(continuing)	Levels, water street, Capitol clay ground
James R. Dermott	Surveying office	(continuing)	Allowed afternoons off for his health (Apr. 12)
Samuel Smallwood	Overseer	(by Mar. 1797)	Asks higher wages
Isaac Nesmith	Weigher of free stone at Hamburgh	(by Mar. 1797)	Intends to resign (Mar. 8)

Name	Office	From	Note
Dr Frederick May	Physician to the hospital	May 3, 1797	In the room of Dr Brown, resigned; ten shillings a head for all labourers engaged by the year
Robert King	Surveyor in the City of Washington	Sept. 12, 1797	In the place of Nicholas King, resigned, on the same terms

Table C. Lot Sales

Certificate date	Purchaser	Residence	Square	Lots	Price (£ Md. or $)	Note	MS page
1797-01-16	George French (at request of Morris's attorney)		27	4-9		certificate in fee	64
1797-01-17	George and Sarah Sweeny, assignees of Charles Jones		290	13		certificate in fee	65
1797-01-23	James Dunlop and Joseph Carleton (Morris & Nicholson selection)		various	1,240,9 22½ sq. ft		certificate in fee	86-87
1797-01-25	William O'Neale		78	9	124	£100 in full if a two story brick or stone dwelling house is built within two years	88
1797-01-31	Robert Peter (Morris & Nicholson selection)		1, 31, 170	1, 3, 17, 18, 20; 4-7; 15, 16		certificate in fee	94
1797-02-03	Thomas S. Lee (Morris & Nicholson)		161	1, 3, 4, 6, 7		60,932 sq. ft; $80 a standard lot	97
1797-02-04	The Rev. Mr Ralph		400	2, 3		conditional sale; bill for $604.62 by Wm P. Matthews	98
1797-02-15	Dr Henry Snively		83	1		certificate in fee	104
1797-02-21	James Hoban		729	8, 9, 26		certificate in fee	107
1797-02-21	William O'Neale		78	1, 30		certificate in fee	107
1797-02-27	Richard Gridley		143	10		certificate in fee	109
1797-03-13	Isaac Pollock (order of Gen. Forrest)		38	whole square		awarded to Forrest and Campbell in lieu of property west of Sq. 4	115
1797-03-20	Sebert Scott, assignee of Richard Bland Lee		4	2		certificate in fee	118
1797-04-11	Wm P. Matthews		400	2, 3		certificate in fee (the Ralph lots)	135
1797-05-01	James Hoban (auction, John Travers auctioneer)		33	3, 4		$255 'for the use of the public'; 60 days' credit	142
1797-05-01	James Hoban		127	17		$260 for the use of the public	142
1797-05-01	James Hoban		200	12, 13		$665 for the use of the public	142
1797-05-01	James Hoban		225	4, 5		$595 'for his use bona fide'	142

Certificate date	Purchaser	Residence	Square	Lots	Price (£ Md. or $)	Note	MS page
1797-05-01	Thomas Munroe for Wm Whetcroft		729	18, 19		$510; $150 to the commissioners, $360 to Wm Deakins junr., assignee of Greenleaf	142-143
1797-05-01	James Hoban		989	14		$145 for use of the public	142
1797-05-02	John Crocker, assignee of Morris and Nicholson		377	1		certificate in fee	143
1797-05-03	Richard Harrison, assignee of Francis Cabot		165	3		certificate in fee	144
1797-05-04	Isaac Phillips, Paul Grout and Joel West, assignees of Wm Prentis		407	12, 13		certificate in fee	146
1797-05-08	Tobias Lear		9	3		certificate in fee	148
1797-05-11	Tobias Lear (Tristram Dalton and James Greenleaf as tenants in common)		664	4, 5		certificate in fee after forfeiture revoked	151-152
1797-05-29	S. Wilson		101	16, 17		10 cents a sq. ft; 8½ cents if a good two story brick or stone house is built in two years	158-159
1797-06-01	William Oneale		78	10		$200, paid immediately	165
1797-06-03	Lund Washington, assignee of James R. Dermott		705	2		certificate in fee	165
1797-06-03	James R. Dermott		720	16		certificate in fee	165
1797-06-07	William Oneale		78	9, 10		certificate in fee	167
1797-07-22	Isaac Pollock, assignee of Morris and Nicholson		74	6, 9, 10 and parts of 5, 12, 13		certificate in fee; 19,437 sq. ft; $295.32 paid	181, 186
1797-07-20	Thomas Law, assignee of Morris and Nicholson		225, 228, 229, 254, 260 and some 25 more	many		certificate in fee; 1,142,068¼ sq. ft in all	183-184
1797-08-02	James Barry		708 and E. of 708	10, 11; 4, 5		certificate in fee	190
1797-08-07	Gen. Uriah Forrest		168	21		new certificate (deed of Dec. 28, 1796 not recorded in time)	193
1797-08-15	Thomas Law		[?]02	4, 5, 6		certificate renewed (that of Jan. 4 not recorded in time)	201
1797-08-17	David Crawford, assignee of Richard A. Contee		5	11, 17		certificate in fee	202

Certificate date	Purchaser	Residence	Square	Lots	Price (£ Md. or $)	Note	MS page
1797-08-28	Elisha O. Williams (in trust for the public)		7, 2, 4, 75, 119	7: 1, 3; 2: 2; 4: 18, 19; 75: 6-8, 10-12, 15; 119: 4-6, 11		auction of forfeited lots; $725.50 for Sq. 7/2 and $175.50-$280.50 a lot	206-207, 225
1797-08-28	W. H. Dorsey; Richard Gridley (assigned to Thomas Cooke, Aug. 29)		4	3; 15, 16, 17		$203; $161, $115, $142.50; sales cancelled Aug. 29 on Thomas Johnson's note for $1,150.50	206, 208-209
1797-08-28	James Hoban		10	1, 3		$501	206
1797-08-28	Rev. Mr Breckenridge		75, 119	9; 12		$180.50; $236	206-207
1797-08-28	Joseph Hodgson		75	13, 14		$271; $221	206
1797-08-28	Dr Fredk May		119	13		$170	207
1797-08-29	Elisha O. Williams (in trust for the public)		222, 979	222: 1, 9, 11, 12, 15; 979: 1-5		$168-$390 a lot	209-210, 225
1797-08-29	Pierce Purcell		222	2, 3		$200; $220	210
1797-08-29	Robert Sutton		222	10		$150	210
1797-08-29	Washington Boyd		978	1, 2		$100; $95	210
1797-08-29	James R. Dermott		728	10		$1,300	210
1797-08-29	William Cranch		S. of 667	7, 8, 9, 12, 13		$351-$481 a lot	210
1797-09-14	Samuel Griffin (?), assignee of George Howell		456, 728, 200	6; 9; 6		certificate in fee	220
1797-09-19	Thomas Watkins, carpenter		728	27		2,739½ sq. ft at 8 cents; to build a dwelling house in twelve months; paid from his wages at $10 a month	221
1797-09-19	Lewis Deblois		706	1		29,923 sq. ft at 4 cents; $880.93 paid, two years' credit for $307.99	221-222
1797-09-20	Richard Gridley, assignee of John Templeman		253	9		certificate in fee	223
1797-09-22	Willson Bryan, carpenter		728	2		4,316 sq. ft at 8 cents; to build a dwelling house in twelve months; paid from his wages at $16 a month	224
1797-09-22	Nathan Walker and James Thompson		759	5		5,349 sq. ft on Bryan's terms; $15 a month from Nov. 1	224-225

Terms of sale: one quarter down; the rest in three equal yearly payments with interest; deed on full payment. No bid under twenty shillings (three dollars in 1792). The 1791 rows are the public sale of October 17–19, 1791. The 1792 and 1793 rows are the sales entered in the minutes; the lists of the public sales of October 1792 and September 17–19, 1793 were kept apart from the minutes (in 1793, in the separate Sale Book). The 1793 Morris and Greenleaf row is one contract for 6,000 lots.

Table D. Division of Squares

Square	Original proprietors	Lots kept by proprietors	Lots for public sale	Witnesses
6, 11	Robert Peter	6: lots 2-6; 11: lot 2	6: 1, 7, 8; 11: 1, 3	Jan. 13
100, 117	James M. Lingan and Robert Peter	100 to Peter; 117 to Lingan	as before	Jan. 16
154, 134, 137, 133	Lingan, Blodget, Holmead	154 and 133 to Lingan	134, 137	Jan. 17
96-153 (Lingan)	James M. Lingan	whole squares 151, 111, 113, 96, 114, 115, 138, 99; parts of 116, 139	whole squares 152, 153, 135, 112, 94, 95, 97; parts of 116, 139	MS 66
150, 177	Lingan and Peter	150: 4-8; 177: 1-3, 10-16	150: 1-3, 9-13; 177: 4-9	MS 66
678	Daniel Carroll of Duddington and Benjamin Oden	even lots	odd lots	Jan. 25
453, 454, S of 572	David Burnes	453: 1-4, 15-20; 454: 5-17; S of 572: 2	453: 5-14; 454: 1-4, 18-26; S of 572: 1	Jan. 30
161	Samuel Davidson and Samuel Blodget (by Daniel Reintzel)	2, 9, 10 Davidson; 8 Blodget	1, 3-7	Feb. 2
W of 23, 13	Robert Peter and Wm Bailey	23: 1, 3; 13: 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14	23: 2; 13: 3-5, 8, 10, 12, 13	Mar. 22
216, 222, 220, 218	Samuel Davidson; heirs of John Davidson	216 to Samuel Davidson; 222: 4-8, 13, 14; 220 whole	222: 1-3, 9-12, 15; 218 whole	Mar. 22-23
977	D. Carroll, Wm Prout, Wm King	3-16	1, 2, 17-28 (subject to be sold)	Mar. 23
650	Daniel Carroll of Duddington	5-25 (outside Carrollsburgh); 1-4 in lieu of Carrollsburgh lots 103-106		Mar. 24 (erroneously divided Sept. 14, 1796)
953, 789-792, 1000	Carroll, Prout (and Wm King for 1000)	953: 10-23; 1000: 3-16; parts of 790-792	953: 1-9, 24-28; 789 whole; 1000: 1, 2, 17-28	Apr. 7
826, 853, 946, 955	Daniel Carroll of Duddington	826: 3-15; 853: 1, 3; 946: 2; 955 whole	826: 1, 2, 16-26; 853: 2, 4; 946: 1	Apr. 7
879, 880, 881	William Prout	879 whole; 881: 3-9	880 whole; 881: 1, 2, 10-14	Apr. 7
740, 741, 744	Daniel Carroll of Duddington		whole squares	Apr. 11
771	D. Carroll and James Barry	1 Barry; 5-7 Carroll	2-4	Apr. 12 (redivided to run the canal)
164	Samuel Davidson		whole square	Apr. 17 (Dec. 23, 1796)
565, 673-675, 620, 621	Benjamin Oden, Notley Young, D. Carroll	675: 7-13, 21-27; 674, 673: 6-11, 18-23; 620, 621: 1-5, 12-17, 24	565 whole; remaining lots	Apr. 17
217, 214	Samuel Davidson; heirs of John Davidson	217 whole; 214: 2-7, 12-18	214: 1, 8-11, 19, 20	May 8
225	David Burns (divided Oct. 8, 1792)	resurveyed and limits defined	Hoban buyer of lots 4, 5	May 18
183, 162	Samuel Blodget and Samuel Davidson	183: Davidson 1-4, 13-16, 19, 20, 29-32; Blodget 18	183: 5-12, 17, 21-28; 162 whole	May 31
208-478 (Blodget)	Samuel Blodget (divided Sept. 17, 1796; signed Oct. 4, 1796)	208, 210, 239, S. of 241, 277, 310, 308, 334, 336-338, 365, 366, 395, N. of 396, 396, 397, 417, 442, 445, 476, 478	209, 211, 240, 243, 276, 307, 309, 311, 312, 335, 362, 364, 394, 419, N. of 420, 420, 421, 441, 444, 475, S. of 475, 477, 160	entered July 26

Square	Original proprietors	Lots kept by proprietors	Lots for public sale	Witnesses
132, 65, 90, 91-93, 110, 131	Anthony Holmead and James M. Lingan	132, 65, 90 to Holmead; 110 to Lingan	91, 92, 93, 131	Aug. 9
313, 272, 280, 339	Samuel Blodget (by Daniel Reintzel); John Davidson's heirs (by John M. Gantt)	Blodget and heirs as listed	313: 2-6; 272: 1, 2, 11-16; 280: 1, 2, 12-18; 339: 2-6	Aug. 18 (entered Aug. 23)
1031-1033, 1055, 1056, 1068, 1082	Abraham Young	1031: 6-10; 1032: 1, 3, 4; 1033: 1-3, 8, 9, 13; 1055 whole; 1068: 2; 1082: 1, 2, 8-12	1031: 1-5; 1032: 2, 5; 1033: 4-7, 10-12; 1056 whole; 1068: 1; 1082: 3-7	Aug. 28
175, N. of 177, 174, 176, 149, 26	Robert Peter (by Thomas Peter)	174, 176, 149 whole; 26: 1	175, N. of 177 whole; 26: 2	Sept. 19
707	Daniel Carroll (Carrollsburgh)	lot 1 in lieu of Carrollsburgh lot 37	lot 2	Sept. 19
983, 1008, 982, 1027, 1026, 1052, 1004-1007, 1028-1030, 1053, 1054	Abraham Young; George Walker; Notley Young	983, 982, 1053, 1054 (rest), S. of 1027, 1028, 1030 to A. Young; 1027 to N. and A. Young	1008, 1026, 1052, 1004-1007, 1029	Sept. 22
223	John Davidson's heirs, David Burnes, Samuel Davidson	Burnes 2, 5; heirs 3, 4, 6	1, 7	Sept. 20 (entered Sept. 22)

Under the deeds in trust each square was split between the original proprietor and the public, whose half was sold to raise money for the public buildings.

Table E. Contracts and Supply of Materials

Date	Party	Residence	Goods or work	Terms	MS page
1797-01-18	David Waterstone		Lease of a public house for the year	$60 by Jan. 1, 1798; to board up to twenty labourers in the public works at twenty shillings a week	67-68
1797-01-20	Middleton Belt		500,000 good, sound hard bricks in the brick-yards of the Capitol, the President's house or elsewhere; 150,000 by June 1	$6 a thousand; $600 and $100 advanced; sureties James Hoban and William Deakins junr.	84-85
1797-01-25	Bennett Fenwick		200,000 bricks at the Capitol brick-yards; 50,000 by June 1	$6 a thousand; $300 advanced; surety Marsham Waring	90-91
1797-02-02	Thomas Snowden		Iron	his proposition accepted	96
1797-03-02	Richard Gridley		Eight tons of bar iron	security given for payment	110
1797-03-03	Robert Sutton		Scaffold poles	$200 advanced; Wm H. Dorsey security	110
1797-03-09	Cooke and Brent		625 tons of stone	$1,400 advanced on the new contract	114
1797-03-24	Allen Wyley		All the brick-work at the Capitol for the season	14s Md. a thousand straight, 17s 6d circular, 11s 3d an arch; bond $10,000	122-123

Date	Party	Residence	Goods or work	Terms	MS page
1797-04-21	Graham and Haskins, Baltimore	Baltimore	100 barrels of pork for the city	$2,100, paid by Deakins's note at sixty days	139
1797-05-02	Joseph Dove		Hauling of free stone	proposition accepted	143
1797-05-05	John Dorsey	Baltimore	Nails, 12d to 30d, about 120 M	11d a lb; delivered at Baltimore	146
1797-05-05	Edward O. Williams (Berkeley County, Va.) and James Hoban		50,000 good sound merchantable slates for the President's house, a third each in May ('May next'), June and July 1798	$24 a thousand; $647.70 in advance; penal sum $2,400; witnesses Will Deakins Jr, Wm H. Dorsey	147-148
1797-05-30	McCarty Fitzhugh	King George County, Va.	250 pieces of yellow poplar or white oak scantling 36 ft long and 375 pieces 24 ft, delivered at Hamburgh wharf in six and ten weeks	$5 a hundred feet, scantling measure; witnesses W. Brent, P. Sim junr.	160
1797-07-21	Middleton Belt		200,000 hard bricks at the kiln on Capitol hill: 75,000 Sept. 1, 75,000 Oct. 1, 50,000 Oct. 15	$6.50 a thousand; $150 advanced on security	185
1797-07-21	Bennet Fenwick		200,000 bricks at his kiln on Capitol hill: 75,000 Aug. 20, 75,000 Sept. 20, 50,000 Oct. 5	same terms and advance as Belt	185
1797-08-07	William H. Dorsey (for Henry Pratt, Thomas W. Francis, John Miller junr., John Ashley and Jacob Baker of Philadelphia)		Postponement of the $60,000 sale to Oct. 18	$10,000 draft at 75 days, applied to scripts for lots	194-195
1797-09-04	Richard Gridley		Smith's work	ten per cent below the prices charged by the late Collin Reed	213
1797-09-13	Middleton Belt	City of Washington	1¼ lb of beef for each labourer in public employment (about 180) three days a week, Sept. 15 - Nov. 20	five pence a pound, paid monthly; $100 advanced; witness W. Brent	217-218

Table F. Orders on the Treasurer

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-01-24	Cooke and Brent	$2,200; $450 (Feb. 25); $1,400 (Mar. 9); $700 (Mar. 31)	stone	88, 108, 114, 128
1797-01-25	Lewis Clephan (Glazier)	$217.28	glazing	89
1797-01-25	James Hoban	$21.26 expenses; $132.96 house rent		89
1797-01-25	Richard Gridley	$237.50 (four accounts); $64.90, $72.35 (Feb. 21); $94.66 Capitol, $38.21 President's house (Mar. 13)	smith's work	89, 107, 115
1797-01-27	Elisha O. Williams	$212.50	principal overseer	90

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-01-28	Alexr McCormick	$10.84 (2 accounts); $3.50 (Feb. 20)		92, 105
1797-01-31	Mitchell & Belt	$2.25	account	94
1797-02-04	Nicholas King	$147.33; $133.33 (Apr. 3)	surveying	99, 128
1797-02-27	George Blagden	$1,160; $951.36 (Mar. 7); $700.07 with Richardson (Mar. 27)	stone and articles bought in Baltimore	109, 113, 125
1797-03-13	James Hollingshead	$2.55; $6.51	overseer of the labourers getting timber	115
1797-03-15	Timber cutters near Bladensburg	$54.27	cutting timber for the Capitol	116
1797-03-16	Middleton Belt	$17.87; $15.12 (Apr. 4); $400 advance (Mar. 31)	rafting timber from near Bladensburg; brick contract	116, 127, 130
1797-03-20	Andrew Jardella	$53.50	travel from Philadelphia and back (to be paid by Robert Morris)	117
1797-03-22	John White	$454.50	75,750 shingles at $6	120
1797-03-24	Allen Wyley	$300; $200.22 (Mar. 27); $8.33	brick-work at the Capitol	122-125
1797-04-03	Commissioners, clerks, overseer, architects	$400 each; Munroe $250; Brent $175; Williams $212.50; Hoban $350; Hadfield $350	quarter's salary	128
1797-04-06	Barnet White, Baker	$90		131
1797-04-07	Capt. Savenne	$193.20	32,200 shingles	131
1797-04-21	Chs Jones	$200		139
1797-04-22	Thomas Munroe	$500; $134.19 (May 2); $5,000 (May 5); $141.67 (May 16); $500 (May 19, May 26)	cheques	140, 143, 147, 153, 156, 157
1797-04-26	Andrew Estave	$31.55	account	141
1797-04-28	Michael Shanks	$97.24	account	142
1797-05-02	Thomas Williams	$202.07	account	143
1797-05-02	John Brakenbridge	$133.10	account	143
1797-05-02	James Hoban, paid to Owen Don Levy	$1.50		143
1797-05-05	Richard Gridley	$199.19; $202.11; $1,064.67 (May 16)	work done for the public buildings	147, 154
1797-05-05	Thomas Snowden	$1,195.36	iron	147
1797-05-09	Allen Wyley	$140 advanced on account	brick-work	149
1797-05-10	Lear & Dalton	$540.94	account	151

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-05-12	Jos. Clarke (clerk 'Jos. Clark', partly struck)	$1,707.50 (Campbell's letter of June 1 gives Scott's note for $1,767.50)	15 tons of lead bought for the use of the City	152, 164
1797-05-16	Isaac Nesmith	$19.87	account	153
1797-05-16	David Waterstone (clerk 'Waltestone')	$7.53	account	153
1797-05-19	Robert Sutton	$290.31 and $50 advanced	account	156
1797-05-26	John Suter and Co	$60.66	account	157
1797-05-26	Henry Knowles	$300	account and cheque	157
1797-05-26	John Emery	$60	account	157
1797-05-30	James S. Morsell	$376.80	account	159
1797-05-31	Richd Bowen	$3.50	account allowed	163
1797-06-01	Wm Oneale	$440	account allowed ('Acct [struck: balance]'; a second '$ 440' at the margin is written over other figures)	165
1797-06-03	James R. Dermott	$869.33; $1.33 (Sept. 12)	surveying	165, [216]
1797-06-03	Nicholas King	$50.66; $50.66 (Sept. 4); $25.33 (Sept. 26)	surveying	165, 213, 228
1797-06-03	Wm Boyd	101.33	account allowed	165
1797-06-03	Leonard Hurdle	33.12	account allowed	165
1797-06-03	Benjamin Buch	11.71	account allowed (reading of surname uncertain)	165
1797-06-03	John Phillips	27.53	account allowed	165
1797-06-03	Thos Munroe	5000 –	check drawn (the data file's Munroe row has a $5,000 cheque of May 5, p. 147, not this one)	165
1797-06-06	Thos Munroe	$1,000	check drawn (mentioned in the data file's MEETINGS summary but not in PAYMENTS)	166
1797-06-06	Geo. King	40.2[illegible]	account allowed (last figure cut at page edge)	166
1797-06-06	Warren & Millard	19.7[illegible]	account allowed (last figure cut at page edge)	166
1797-06-07	J. T. Mason	$50	fee for appearing in Collen Williamson's suit	166
1797-06-07	George Kleber	$3.55	account allowed	167
1797-06-08	Peter Howard	$17.29	account allowed	167
1797-06-08	Jeremiah Williams	54.13	account allowed (3 Accts)	167
1797-06-08	Allen Wyley	260.0	account allowed 'on Acct' (payment on account, brick-work)	167
1797-06-12	Ignatius Manning	$28.0	account allowed	169
1797-06-13	Richard Gridley	$221.33 President's House; $138.50 Capitol; $150.38 and $138.1- (July 20); $979.0- four accounts (Sept. 5)	smith's work	170, 184, 214
1797-06-13	John Atkins	$678.11	cheque	170
1797-06-13	Reed & Deiks	$5.91	account allowed (reading of names uncertain)	170
1797-06-13	Joseph Dove	38.33	account allowed	170

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-06-13	Saml McPherson	6.67	account allowed	170
1797-06-13	George Frank	.88	account allowed	170
1797-06-13	Post Office	5.70	account allowed ('Post Office acct')	170
1797-06-13	Mr Belt	80.0	'To Mr Belt on Acct' (payment on account; the index has 'Belt Middleton – adva on a/c ... 170'). This is separate from the $80 advance ordered June 21. The data file's Middleton Belt row has only one $80, cited to pp. 174-175	170
1797-06-14	Wm Brent	$2.0	account allowed	171
1797-06-16	Robt Pekins	95[illegible]	check drawn (reading of surname uncertain; figures crowded at margin)	172
1797-06-16	Thos Munroe	$200	check drawn	172
1797-06-16	John Emory	100	check drawn on Account	172
1797-06-16	Reuben Johnson	$53.53	account allowed	172
1797-06-19	Captn Williams	$0.40	account allowed	174
1797-06-20	Lewis Clephen	7.61	account allowed	174
1797-06-21	Abiel Jennings for Ruth Ann Young, admx of Wm Young	$2,223.33, half now and half in six months	Wm Young's land taken for the United States (33 a. 1 r. 16 p.)	175-176
1797-06-21	Middleton Belt	$109.50 (June 20, 94,750 bricks); $80; $150 (Aug. 2); $115 (Aug. 5); $450 1/7 to Joseph Boone & Brother (Aug. 5); $200 (Aug. 16); $100 (Sept. 13); $20 (Sept. 26)	bricks delivered at the Capitol; beef	174-175, 190, 193, 201, 218, 228
1797-06-21	Thos Munroe	$300	check drawn	175
1797-06-21	Abiel Jennings	1111.66	check drawn ('Do in favor'; reading of surname uncertain, index has 'Jenners [i.e. Jennings] Abiel check ... 175'). This is the first half of Wm Young's claim, per the order accepted the same day. The data file row records $2,223.33 'half now' but not this check figure	175
1797-06-22	Thos Munroe	$2500	check drawn	177
1797-06-23	Agent of the State of Maryland	$1,500	quarter's interest	177
1797-06-23	Dr Williams	$1 66⅔/100 a month from May 3	use of his kitchen by the board's servant	178
1797-06-23	Thos Munroe	$6,000.	check drawn, payable 8 days after date	177
1797-06-23	David Davenport	$4.30	account allowed, for freight	178
1797-06-23	Alexander McCormick	4.50	account allowed (2 Accounts)	178
1797-06-24	Conway, Whittle & Co (freight paid by Thornton)	$40.33⅓; $603.3- (Aug. 2); $683.33 to Thompson Franks & Co (Aug. 15)	30,275 shingles landed at Barry's wharf	178, 190, 200
1797-07-15	John Dorsey	$700.32	nails	179
1797-07-15	Thos Munroe	$390.	check drawn	179
1797-07-15	Samuel Willson	$125.83	account allowed (three Accts)	180

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-07-15	Joseph Dove	61.8[illegible]	account allowed (2 Accts; last figure at page edge)	180
1797-07-15	Matthew Kennedy	6.66	account allowed	180
1797-07-15	Leonard Hurdle	24.30	account allowed	180
1797-07-15	John L. Naylor	100.0	account allowed	180
1797-07-15	Peter Howard	24.92	account allowed	180
1797-07-15	Wm Jackson	29.33	account allowed	180
1797-07-15	John Lovejoy	19.75	account allowed	180
1797-07-17	Isaac Pollock, by order of Cooke & Brent	$1,054.60	stone contract	181
1797-07-18	Joseph and Samuel Harper	$73.95; $312.5- (Aug. 2, 4); $296.84 (Sept. 4)	account	182, 190, 192, 213
1797-07-18	Samuel Macpherson	33.33	account allowed and ordered to be paid (two Accounts)	182
1797-07-18	Thos Munroe	500.0	check drawn (the data file's Munroe row has $500 cheques of Apr. 22, May 19 and May 26, not this one)	182
1797-07-19	Thomas Carbury	$187.39 credited; rafting	timber	182
1797-07-19	Robert Sutton	$207.63 (June 17); $120 advance; $96.50 and $200.01 (Sept. 5)	timber and hauling	173, 182, 214
1797-07-19	Thomas Carbury	[illegible]3.65	account for rafting the timber ordered to be paid (first figure unclear: 6 or 9). The data file row mentions 'rafting' but gives no amount	182
1797-07-19	James Sweeny	31.10	account (entered without the word 'allowed')	182
1797-07-19	Phillip Fitzhugh	$350.	check drawn, on account	183
1797-07-19	John Phillips	19.60.	account	183
1797-07-20	Allen Wyley	$320 advance; $59.10 day work and $300 advance (Aug. 8)	brick-work at the Capitol	184, 196
1797-07-20	John Dunlap	$20.20	account allowed	184
1797-07-20	Thomas McPherson	9.0	account allowed	184
1797-07-20	John Brackenridge	101.75	account allowed (data has only 'John Brakenbridge' $133.10, May 2)	184
1797-07-21	Edward Ramsey for Rezin Gambrel	$11.. 26	account (the word 'allowed' struck) for the freight of Shingles	185
1797-07-21	Zachh Mann	$10.. 0	account allowed	185
1797-07-22	Samuel Wilson	$17.50.	account allowed	186
1797-07-25	Nathl Gage	$63.67.	account allowed (squeezed in)	186
1797-08-01	Thos Munroe	$500.	check drawn (data Munroe row lists $500 only for Apr. 22, May 19, May 26)	189
1797-08-02	Charles Jones	$150 advance; $150 (Sept. 26)		190, 228
1797-08-02	John Phillips	$27.4[illegible]	account allowed and ordered to be paid	190
1797-08-02	Peter Howard	29.3[illegible]	account allowed and ordered to be paid	190
1797-08-02	Thomas Machan	10.[illegible]	account allowed and ordered to be paid	190
1797-08-02	Leonard Hurdle	30.[illegible]	account allowed and ordered to be paid	190

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-08-03	James S. Morsell	$74.80.	account allowed (data has only $376.80, May 30)	191
1797-08-04	Thos Munroe	$5000	check drawn (data Munroe row lists $5,000 only for May 5)	192
1797-08-04	Anthony Reintzell	$162.5[illegible]	2 accounts allowed	192
1797-08-04	George Kleber	4.3[illegible]	account allowed, check drawn	192
1797-08-05	William S. Gantt	$100 (June 23); $225; $345 (Aug. 23)	plank for the President's House	178, 193, 203
1797-08-08	Wm Prout	$7.61.	account allowed	195
1797-08-08	Joseph Dove	69.67	account allowed	195
1797-08-08	Samuel McPherson	202.8.	account allowed (figure written twice); the check drawn the same day reads $202.9[illegible] (p. 196); data row gives only '$202.9- (Aug. 8)' citing pp. 195-196	195
1797-08-08	Benjn Burch	21.75	account allowed	196
1797-08-08	Allen Wyley	$359.10	check drawn for the two Wyley items above (59.10 + 300); data lists the two parts but not this total	196
1797-08-09	Bennett Fenwick	$346.20 (July 18); $150 (Aug. 2); $554.93; $100 (Sept. 14)	bricks	182, 191, 197, 220
1797-08-09	Thos Munroe	$500.	check drawn (data Munroe row lists $500 only for Apr. 22, May 19, May 26)	196
1797-08-09	Bennett Fenwick	$45.23	account allowed (part of the $554.93 check; data gives only the total)	197
1797-08-09	Bennett Fenwick	509.70	advance for Brick account (part of the $554.93 check; data gives only the total)	197
1797-08-11	Josias Faxon	$356	lime	199
1797-08-11	Mr Nesmith	20 Dollars	Munroe ordered to let him have it on account (Isaac Nesmith, sent to Zachs Vowles)	199
1797-08-15	Thomas Quarde [reading uncertain]	$2.40	account allowed	201
1797-08-16	Wm Brent	$250.	check drawn	201
1797-08-16	Ninian McGruder	49.42.	2 accounts allowed	201
1797-08-17	Wm Brent	$250	check drawn	202
1797-08-22	Isaac Nesmith	$19.50.	account allowed (data has only $19.87, May 16)	203
1797-08-22	Phill. Fitzhugh	60.0.	on account (accounts allowed list)	203
1797-08-22	John Gibson	120.0.	check drawn for Rent	203
1797-08-22	Samuel Wilson	17.49.	two accounts allowed	203
1797-08-22	Samuel Wilson	6.67	account allowed (entered as 'Do' under Samuel Wilson)	203
1797-08-29	Samuel Willson	$20.	account allowed	208
1797-08-29	Samuel Willson	17.0	account allowed (entered as 'Do', i.e. Samuel Willson)	208
1797-08-30	Samuel McPherson	$202.9- (Aug. 8); $424.67	account	195-196, 211
1797-08-30	Thos Munroe	$220.0	check	211
1797-09-01	Cooke & Brent	$1,000 advance	stone	212
1797-09-01	James Hoban	$12 (June 23); $21	account	178, 212
1797-09-01	Phillip Fitzhugh	$252.7[illegible]	account allowed, balance (cents run into the gutter)	212

Date	Payee	Amount	For	MS page
1797-09-01	Thos Munroe	1500	check	212
1797-09-01	Thos Munroe	1000	check (entered as 'Do')	212
1797-09-01	John Brakenridge	112.8[illegible]	account allowed	212
1797-09-01	Walter Hellen	11.50	account allowed	212
1797-09-04	James Dante	$7.8	account allowed (reading of surname uncertain)	213
1797-09-04	John Phillips	22.05	account allowed	213
1797-09-04	Joseph Dove	80.67	account allowed (two accounts)	213
1797-09-04	Joseph Johnson	20.39	account allowed	213
1797-09-04	J. T. Frost	10.0	account allowed	213
1797-09-04	Benjn Lowndes	12.17	account allowed	213
1797-09-04	John Caile	1.67	account allowed (reading of name uncertain)	213
1797-09-05	Leonard Hurdle	$12.07	account allowed (last figure uncertain)	214
1797-09-05	Alexr McCormick	9.2[illegible]	account allowed (2 accounts)	214
1797-09-05	Edward Eno	11.27	account allowed (reading of surname uncertain)	214
1797-09-05	Peter Howard	13.9[illegible]	account allowed	214
1797-09-05	Thos Machen	17.33	account allowed	214
1797-09-06	John Dunlop	$2.27	account allowed	214
1797-09-08	Lewis Clephen	$30.72	account allowed	215
1797-09-08	Thos Munroe	5,500.00	check	215
1797-09-09	Thos Quade	$2.50	account allowed (reading of surname uncertain)	[216]
1797-09-12	Benjamin Burch	$21.41	account allowed	[216]
1797-09-12	George Frank	.88	account allowed	[216]
1797-09-12	George Frank	8.46	account allowed (entered as 'Do Do'; reading of amount uncertain)	[216]
1797-09-12	James Hollingshead	1.0	account allowed	[216]
1797-09-14	Joseph Boon	100	on account (advance)	220
1797-09-19	John Emory	$200.	on account	221
1797-09-19	Benjamin More	10.2	his account	221
1797-09-20	Lewis De Blois	$331.61; $750; $28.31	account	223
1797-09-21	John Dunbar	$200	on account	223
1797-09-21	Thomas Quade	2.37	account (reading of surname uncertain)	223
1797-09-22	George Rice	$15.	account allowed	224
1797-09-22	Elisha O. Williams	5.40	account allowed (first figure uncertain)	224
1797-09-26	Charles Worthington	$30	account	228

Table G. Labour and the Workmen

Date	Order	MS page
1797-01-02	Capt. Williams to advertise for 100 labourers at up to $70 a year, or $60 from March 1 to Dec. 20.	58
1797-01-18	Waterstone to board up to twenty labourers in the public works at twenty shillings a week.	68
1797-01-30	The overseers at the Capitol and the President's house each to employ a labourer 'to ring the Bell' at the public buildings, at no more than a dollar a month.	93
1797-02-06	King to examine the ground in the Capitol Square where 'the Brick makers in public Employment propose to dig for Clay'.	100
1797-03-07	Samuel Smallwood asks to have his wages as overseer raised.	112
1797-03-10	Hadfield to employ ten hands for a month at the lowest price he can obtain them.	114
1797-03-29	Stone carvers under Mr Edwards (David Cummins, Joseph Huddleston, James Jack, Frederick Gibson, Patrick McCarty, Francis Cochran, Archibald Burns) allowed 12s 6d a day from April 1.	126
1797-04-11	'Application received from the Carpenters to raise their Wages.'	135

Date	Order	MS page
1797-05-02	Return of provisions and the number of labourers at the Capitol and President's house received from Samuel Smallwood and Isaac Nesmith.	143
1797-05-03	S. N. Smallwood allowed three dollars a month additional wages from May 1.	145
1797-05-04	Barnard Crook's application to raise his wages rejected.	146
1797-05-19	Superintendents of the Capitol and President's house to report the progress and work done from Nov. 18 to May 18, with materials prepared, by May 25.	156
1797-05-26	Hadfield complains of 'misconduct & Disobedience to orders' by Patrick Farrall; on May 30 the board finds 'the said complaint is unfounded'.	158-159
1797-06-20	Barnard Crooke's wages raised from $2 to $2.33⅓ a day from July 1.	174
1797-06-21	Peter Lenox and William Warrington petition for an increase of their wages.	175
1797-07-28	'The Contractors for Brick, Timber, Provisions and other Articles' who have failed to comply to settle by Aug. 15 or have their bonds 'put in Suit without Respect to Persons.'	188
1797-08-02	A labourer at the Capitol named Gibson (Hadfield's letter) has his wages raised two dollars a month from July 1.	190-191
1797-08-03	Capt. Williams to buy twenty five barrels of herrings and five of shad 'for the use of the Labourers.'	191
1797-09-13	Belt to deliver beef for each labourer in public employment, 'estimated to be about 180'.	217
1797-09-19	Thomas Watkins, carpenter in public employment, buys a lot to build a dwelling house, paying from his wages; Willson Bryan the same on Sept. 22.	221, 224

Licences to Live and Trade in the City

Under article 5 of the President's terms, no one could put up even a temporary building without the commissioners' leave. These licences show who first lived and worked on the ground of the city.

Date	Name	Leave granted	MS page
1797-01-19	Elizabeth Henderson	to retail Spirituous Liquors	72
1797-04-04	David Waterston	to retail Spirituous Liquors in the City of Washington	130
1797-06-23	James Spalding	to retail Spiritous Liquors, on Mr Munroe's recommendation	177

The President's Terms and Conditions for building, October 17, 1791

1. Outer and party walls of brick or stone. 2. Houses parallel to the street; no foundation or party wall begun until the commissioners' superintendent has set the lines. 3. No wall higher than 40 feet to the roof anywhere, and none lower than 35 feet on the avenues. 4. The superintendent sets party walls half on each lot; the next builder repays half the cost. 5. Temporary buildings for lodging workmen and storing materials by the commissioners' leave. 6. Ways into the squares kept for public use. 7. No vaults under the streets and no stoops, porches, cellar doors or leaning walls on the footway. 8. These rules bind every conveyance under the deeds in trust.

Table H. Lodge Members in the Proceedings

Every name in the minutes was checked against the corrected lodge rolls (October 21, 2026) and the 525-man cross-reference. “Same man” means the rolls and the series books identify him; “probable” and “possible” mark a shared name that the records do not yet prove.

Sources: the Proceedings, RG 42, Entry 21 (column 2); Lodge rolls as compiled in Thomas M. Saharsky, Proto Lodges of the Potomac Area, 1787-1811 (corrected rolls of Oct. 21, 2026). Not part of Record Group 42. (column 3).

Name	In the Proceedings	On the lodge rolls	Match	Note
Collen Williamson	P. B. Key engaged to defend 'a suit brought agt them by Collin Williamson' (Apr. 21)	Federal No. 15 (roll: 'Collin')	Same man	Master stonemason
James Hoban	surety for Belt's brick contract (Jan. 20); house rent $132.96 (Jan. 25); certificate for Sq. 729 lots 8, 9, 26 (Feb. 21); reports the lead wanted for the President's house roof; salary $350 a quarter as 'Architect Presidt House' (Apr. 3); buys six lots at the May 1 auction; slate contract with Edward O. Williams (May 5); reports on the President's house (May 26); buys Sq. 10 lots 1, 3 (Aug. 28)	Federal No. 15 (1794-1801)	Same man	Architect, carpenter and joiner
Middleton Belt	contracts for 500,000 bricks at $6 a thousand with James Hoban and William Deakins jr as sureties (Jan. 20); rafts timber from Bladensburg; 200,000 more bricks at $6.50 (July 21); beef for about 180 labourers (Sept. 13); 500,000-brick contract fulfilled (Sept. 26)	Federal No. 15 (brick maker, supplier)	Same man	
Pierce Purcell	letters of Aug. 5 and 8, given time to the 22nd; buys Sq. 222 lots 2, 3 at the forfeited-lot auction (Aug. 29). The 1792 Sq. 200 partner may rather be Redman/Redmond Purcell (Federal 1794-98)	Federal No. 15 (carpenter, 1796-1800)	Possible	Hoban's carpenter
Joseph Clark	'Jos. Clarke' paid $1,707.50 for 15 tons of lead for the City (May 12; MS 152, 164)	Master of Amanda Lodge No. 12, Annapolis; Junior Grand Warden (series register: not a Federal member)	Probable	Annapolis architect
Alexander McCormick	'Alexr McCormick' paid on two accounts (Jan. 28, Feb. 20)	Federal No. 15 (dry-goods merchant)	Probable	Not the Rev. Andrew T. McCormick
Charles Jones	certificate to George and Sarah Sweeny, his assignees, for Lot 13, Sq. 290 (Jan. 17); check to 'Chs Jones' (Apr. 21)	Columbia No. 35 and Federal No. 15 (W.M. of Columbia No. 35, 1802-1809)	Possible	A common name
William O'Neale	Lot 9, Sq. 78 for £100 if a two story brick or stone house is built within two years (Jan. 25); certificate for Sq. 78 lots 1, 30 (Feb. 21)	Federal No. 15 (M.M., P.M.; delegate 1806; signs the Hamburgh quarry labour rolls, Dec. 1795)	Same man	Quarry master
George Ralph	conditional sale to 'the Rev. Mr Ralph' (Feb. 4); the Sq. 400 lots certified to Wm P. Matthews (Apr. 11)	Grand Chaplain 1795-96; Federal roll: 'non Member Grand Chaplin'	Same man	Not a member of No. 15 (series register)
Nicholas King	paid $147.33 and $133.33 for surveying (Feb. 4, Apr. 3); resigns as surveyor, Robert King appointed (Sept. 12)	Federal No. 15 (Surveyor of the City; E.A. Apr. 27, 1801, F.C. Jan. 3, 1803, M.M. Feb. 7, 1803; later Secretary, S.W. and W.M.)	Same man	City surveyor; joined the lodge after these minutes

Name	In the Proceedings	On the lodge rolls	Match	Note
Richard Gridley	smith's work at the Capitol and the President's house (Jan. 25-Mar. 13); certificate for Lot 10, Sq. 143 (Feb. 27); buys eight tons of bar iron (Mar. 2); smith's work at ten per cent below the late Collin Reed's prices (Sept. 4); certificate for Sq. 253 lot 9 (Sept. 20)	Federal No. 15 (blacksmith; ledger and rolls 1797-99); charter member of Columbia No. 13	Same man	Smith
David Cumming	'David Cummins', one of the stone carvers 'under the immediate Direction of Mr Edwards', allowed 12s 6d a day from Apr. 1 (Mar. 29)	Federal No. 15 (stone carver at the President's house, 1794-95; ledger and rolls 1797-99)	Same man	Stone carver; clerk writes 'Cummins'
Owen Donlevy	account allowed (Jan. 25)	Federal No. 15 (ledger and rolls 1797-99)	Probable	

Names in the minutes that are not on the lodge rolls are listed after the conclusion.

Conclusion: The Work of 1797

The spring of 1797 is the season the board stopped arguing and started building again. Maryland's stock was turned into cash through the Bank of Columbia, and the money went at once into contracts: Belt's half million bricks, Fenwick's two hundred thousand, Wyley's brick-work for the whole Capitol at so much a thousand, and Cooke and Brent's stone. The minutes now name the men at the work, the seven carvers under Edwards who won twelve and six a day, the carpenters asking for a rise, the labourer hired to ring the bell, the tavern-keeper who boarded twenty labourers a week. Above them the plan of government took its first shape outside the two great houses, when the President approved offices for the Treasury, State, War and the Post Office on the President's Square. Through the summer the same men came back again and again: Belt and Fenwick with two hundred thousand bricks each, Belt with beef for the hundred and eighty labourers, Gridley the smith working below the old prices, and the carpenters buying lots in Sq. 728 to be paid out of their wages. The forfeited lots went to auction in August, and Robert King took over the survey from Nicholas King in September. The third volume ends on September 26, 1797.

The same names run from the minute book into the lodge rolls. The innkeeper who served the first sale, the merchant who bought at it, the baker who paid for his house out of his wages, the master stone cutter and the architect of both great buildings were, or became, members of the lodges of George-Town and Washington. The minute book records that the first corner stone of the President's house was laid in the company of 'a numerous collection of Free Masons,' and that the commissioners themselves called on 'Those of the Craft, however dispersed' to lay the Capitol's. This is the first chapter of the story that the series sets out to tell: how the village of labourers became a city of legislators and executives, and the seat of American government and justice.

Names Not on the Lodge Rolls

Thomas Johnson, David Stuart, Daniel Carroll, John Mackall Gantt, William Deakins Jr., Andrew Ellicott, Benjamin Ellicott, Isaac Roberdeau, Peter Charles L'Enfant, James McKenna, Thomas Cooke, Francis Cabot, Benjamin Stoddert, Uriah Forrest, James M. Lingan, Samuel Davidson, Robert Peter, David Burnes, Leonard Harbaugh, Anthony Hoke, William Hill, Charles Glisan, Patrick Whelan, Absalom Wroe, Elisha O. Williams, Fielder Bowie, Stephen Hallet, George Fenwick, Henry Barnes, McDermott Roe, James R. Dermott, Samuel Blodget, Jeremiah Kale (a John Kale is on the Federal roll 1800-1801), William Thornton, James Greenleaf, Robert Morris, Thomas Curtis, Isaac Briggs, Elliott Monroe, George White, Henry Lee, Abijah Bond, William Venable, Henry Edwards, Edward Burrows, Daniel Reintzel (other Reintzels are on the rolls), John Templeman, Robert T. Hooe, David Ross, Thomas Johnson Jr., George Wherley, Anthony Gozler, Stuart Williams, Notley Young, Philip Richard Fendall, Lewis Hipkins, John Mulliken, William King, Alexander Doyle, Richard Johns, Ignatius Fenwick, Archibald Orme, George French, John Gibson, George Brent, Gustavus Scott, John Dobson, John Dunbar, the Rev. Anthony Caffry, Thomas Freeman, James Maitland, John Delahunty, Christopher Richmond, Luther Martin, John Mitchell, Walter Stewart, George Blagden, Alexander Harrison, Thomas Sim Lee, Alexander White, Thomas Munroe, William Brent, George Hadfield, Thomas Carberry, William Rutherford, George Walker, Bennett Fenwick, Joseph Boon, John Nicholson, Allen Wyley, Marsham Waring, David Waterstone, Samuel Smallwood, James Hollingshead (not on these rolls; some series books call him a No. 41 man).