

That Mr. Anderson was building houses in 1772 is attested by suits brought against him in the Anne Arundel County courts by two men who sold him building material, Michael Kripps, a brickmaker, and James Maccubbin, merchant.⁸ In each of these cases he is called "Architect, late of Anne Arundel County." A workman named O'Neal also sued him about this time.⁹ Anderson employed Thomas Johnson, Jr., an eminent lawyer, later to become the first elected governor of Maryland, to defend him. Since the cases were postponed for over a year and George Gordon was to pay up as his proxy if the cases went against Anderson, it can be assumed that the defendant was out of town. It can be assumed, also, that Mr. Anderson like many builders and contractors of his time, was slow in being paid and slower still in settling his debts.

The eminent Thomas Johnson, Jr. was once again to defend his client in a suit brought against Anderson by his servant, William Hardy, a baker. Hardy engaged Samuel Chase, a future Supreme Court Justice, and contended that Anderson "by force of arms did beat, wound and villy treat so that his Life was greatly despaired of and other Harms to him."¹⁰ After a jury-trial each man was fined 15 shillings and costs. Life at home must have been constantly controversial, for again in March 1774 Anderson was sued for assault by the same servant, William Hardy. This time the case was abated.¹¹

There is only one house in Annapolis that can be proved by documentary evidence to have been built by Joseph Horatio Anderson and that house was long ago swallowed up in the expansion of the Naval Academy grounds. In 1773 an Act of Assembly authorized the sale of property belonging to John Morton Jordan, Esq., deceased. Jordan was personal agent and Receiver General for Lord Baltimore, owning large estates in both Virginia and Maryland. He died in Annapolis but left a widow and infant son in England. The Act stipulated that the brick dwelling on the two acre lot "was not to be sold for less than £1500 sterling over and above such sums as Jordan in his Life time had or his Executors should Pay and advance Joseph Horatio Anderson"

⁸ Anne Arundel County Judgments, 1773, p. 30, H. of R.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 1772-1773, DG #1, p. 230, H. of R.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 1772-1773, DG #1, p. 47, H. of R.

¹¹ Anne Arundel County Criminal Court, March 1774, H. of R.

who had built it for Jordan.¹² *The Maryland Gazette* had advertised this place for sale in January 1772, describing the house and lots as a square, one side on the Severn River and "with a large stone wharf begun." Jordan's estate was not settled until after the Revolution and then largely by confiscation. John Nesbit Jordan, the heir, being just of age came to America in 1783 to look after his interests. He was so completely unsuccessful that his only redress was to file a claim against the British Government for his losses. In the Loyalist Records he claims that his two lots in Annapolis with handsome offices, dwelling house, coach house and large warehouses were not legally confiscated but that the executors of the estate had converted it to their own use.¹³ This house we can be certain Anderson both designed and built.

Two years after old Charles Carroll leased a city lot on which Anderson was to build a house the two men were again in contact over house building. Writing from his estate, presumably Doughoregan Manor, on May 11, 1774 to his son in Annapolis, the elder Carroll says,

Mr. Anderson called here on his way to Frederick . . . and told me Mrs. People would be Here next day with a cart would call and leave the Plan of my House. I have not since seen Him or Mrs. People and He does not want ye Plan to make out a Bill of Scantling or for any other Purpose. Pray send it in the Chariot with the Child.

In another letter he repeats impatiently, "Mr. Anderson would send House plan but it has not come."¹⁴ With all the various properties owned by Charles Carroll of Annapolis, from tidewater to the Blue Ridge, the house could be anywhere, but the one most likely to have commanded the attention of a trained architect was "Doughoregan." The unknown designer of this great mansion might someday be proved to have been J. H. Anderson.

It was about this time that Anderson felt that as "Gentleman and Architect" he should have an estate. He purchased from John Hammond, the patentee, for 50 guineas, eighty-eight acres on the north side of the Severn River called "Gaither's Intent."¹⁵ This place was near Governor Sharpe's "Whitehall" for in the "Whitehall" accounts for 1773 is the item "Pork for Horatio

¹² *Arch. Md.* LXIII, 403, 404, June-July, 1773.

¹³ Loyalist Claims, Maryland. British Records film at Md. Hist. Soc.

¹⁴ Carroll Papers, A. L. S. 2 pp.; Vol. III, p. 64, Md. Hist. Soc.

¹⁵ A. A. Co. Deeds IB #4, 1773-1774, f. 122.