

BEAUREGARD'S HEADQUARTERS

1861-1864

1861 107 MEETING STREET - west side, one door north of Horlbeck Alley.

155
or
157 From March 1, 1861 until "some time after the fall of Fort Sumter, April 13, 1861".

1862 27 MEETING STREET - west side, one door north of Ladson Street.

37 From September 22, 1862 through (presumably) August, 1863, when Federal troops began shelling the city.

1863 74 BROAD STREET - north side, two doors west of King Street (now

for 114 residence of the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church). From (presumably) end of August, 1863 to December, 1863.

1863 ELIZABETH STREET - Governor Aiken's house. From December, 1863

58 to April 20, 1864, on which date Gen. Beauregard left the city.

The above street numbering was used in 1861-1865

THE WICKENBERG HOUSE

This house, now #192 Ashley Avenue, may have been used for living quarters by General Beauregard after December 1st, 1863, by which time both the Mills House and the Charleston Hotel were closed, by Ordinance and other officers may have used it prior to that time, and probably after Beauregard left. But up to that date, December 1st, 1863 Beauregard and staff lived at the Mills House. This house, #192 Ashley Avenue was never used as CONFEDERATE HEADQUARTERS, before that date, and presumably not afterwards.

SAXON'S HEADQUARTERS.

1865 11 EAST BATTERY, one door south of Atlantic Street.

From March 20, 1865.

BEAUREGARD'S HEADQUARTERS

1861 107 MEETING STREET, west side, one door north of Horlbeck's Alley.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT)
January 7, 1871)

ALL THE BUREAUS OF THIS DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE HOUSE 107 MEETING STREET. Persons having business with the Governor, or at the Office of the Adjutant-General, or any of the Secretaries in the Executive Department will find the respective Offices open daily at 11 o'clock A. M., at the place above named.--Official announcement in the CHARLESTON DAILY COURIER (hereafter cited as Courier), Jan. 8, 1861, and repeated January 9, 10, 11, 12.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD arrived in Charleston on the 1st of March, 1861, and immediately repaired to Governor Pickens Headquarters... Alfred Roman--Military Operations of General Beauregard, 1861-1865. Vol. I, p. 25.

The office of Brigadier-General Beauregard, commanding the Confederate forces and volunteers, here, is in the "Executive Headquarters", House on Meeting-street--Courier, March 4, 1861.

Charles Fraser gave to his nephew Henry Winthrop all that Lot of Land with the buildings thereon situate on the West side of Meeting Street being the next Lot but one on the Northwest corner of Horlbeck Alley & Meeting Street...January 9th, 1858. Plat made and signed by Charles Parker, City Surveyor, January 9, 1858, attached, shows location and a two-story house on the lot, one door north of "Horlbeck Alley formerly called Moore Street".--Register Mesne Conveyance Office, (cited hereafter as R.M.C.O.) Book E-14, p. 175.

WINTHROP, HENRY, physician, res. Tradd, office 107 Meeting Street. Directory, 1859, p. 227. [By checking other numbers in the Directory it was found this was the approximate location, the exact being confirmed by the deed noted above.]

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This property was still owned by Dr. Henry Winthrop on April 5, 1879, at which time he added to it a strip of land 5 ft. 6 in. wide, by 36 feet deep, on the north side to straighten his north line.--- R.M.C.O., Book O-17, p. 284.

Beauregard was ordered away from Charleston soon after the fall of Sumter.--Wallace, History of South Carolina, Vol. III, p. 178.

Beauregard was ordered back to Charleston in September, 1862. 1862 27 MEETING STREET, west side, one door north of Ladson Street.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD arrived here on Saturday and took rooms at the MILLS HOUSE, accompanied by the following members of his staff: Gen. Thos. Jordon, Col. A. R. Chisolm, Col. A. Roman, Capt. Terry, Captain A. T. Beauregard.--Courier, September 15, 1862.

Headquarters Department S.C. and Ga.)
Charleston, September 24, 1862.)

I assume command of the Department, pursuant to Paragraph XV, special orders No. 202, Adjutant's and Inspector General's Office, Richmond, August 29, 1862.--G. T. Beauregard, General Commanding. Official: Thomas Jordan, Chief of Staff and A.A.G.--Courier, September 26, 1862, and repeated.

General Beauregard and Staff will remain as guests at the MILLS HOUSE. The private mansion of Otis Mills, Esq., which has been generously tendered for the purpose, will be fitted up as the official headquarters.--Courier, Saturday, October 4, 1862.

The officers of the Charleston Battalion paid their respects to General Beauregard at the MILLS HOUSE on Saturday.--Courier, October 6, 1862.

24 Meeting-street. Mrs. D. E. Huger. Directory, 1859, p. 101.

25 Meeting-street (Cor. Ladson). Miss Mary Hayne. Ibid., p. 100.

27 Meeting-street, Otis Mills. Ibid., p. 144. Misses Julia

and Caroline Connor, daughters of Gen. James Connor, recent owners of that property, state their family "have always known Beauregard had his headquarters here."

Immediately opposite to the Huger house on Meeting Street, is a Bull residence, old and quaint [at the N.W. corner Meeting & Ladson streets]. Smith: Dwelling Houses of Charleston, p. 85.

This house passed through many hands "until 1834, when it was sold to Mrs. Elizabeth Hayne, born Peronneau, and to three of her daughters...With the death of Miss Susan Hayne in 1895 the house became the property of its present owner, Mr. Henry H. Ficken. [The house is now 1949 owned and occupied by his widow.] Ibid. p. 68.

The house next north of Mr. Ficken's is today (1916) the residence of the widow of Gen. James Connor...It was owned for about thirty-seven years by William Brisbane, and later by Mr. Otis Mills. Ibid., p. 89.

OFFICIAL ORDERS

Headquarters Dep't of S.C., Ga., and Fla.
Charleston, S.C., February 17, 1863.

TO CITIZENS OF CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH:...movements of enemy's fleet, indicate an early land and naval attack on one or both of these cities. ...Urge...all persons unable to take an active part in the defence retire...G.T. Beauregard, General Commanding. Official: Jno. M. Otey, A.A.G.--Courier, February 18, 1863.

The battle, so long threatened, was begun on Tuesday afternoon. Courier, Wednesday, April 8, 1863.

"Between one and two o'clock...Saturday morning [August 22] the enemy commenced firing on the city, arousing our people from their slumbers. Twelve eight-inch shells fell into the city, thirteen in all having been fired. Several shells flew in the direction of

St. Michael's steeple...Another shot entered the warehouse of G. W. Williams & Co., at the corner of Hayne and Church-street...Courier, August 24, 1863.

It was after the Federals began shelling the city that offices were removed from proximity to the waterfront, according to notices appearing in the newspapers, e.g.:

The Enrolling Office for conscripts has been removed to Dr. Wescott's in Hanover street, rear of the Citadel.--Courier, August 24, 1863. [Other issues of the Courier give the former location of this office in the State Court House (Second Floor), cor. Meeting and Broad Street, Jacob Williman, Enrolling Officer.]

The Post Office will be closed at eleven o'clock A.M., this day in order to remove to corner of King and Ann-streets. It will be re-opened there at 10 A.M. tomorrow.--Courier, August 26, 1863.

Assistant-Treasurer's Office, Charleston, August 26, 1863. The business of this office will be transacted for the present, at the corner of Meeting-street and Wragg Square. Entrance on Wragg Square. W. Y. Leitch, Assistant-Treasurer.--Ibid., August 27, 1863. [This office formerly at Accommodation Wharf, one Wharf above Queen-street.--SOLDIERS' DIRECTORY in Courier, March 27, 1862.

The British Consulate is removed to 40 Warren St., near St. Paul's Church--Ibid., August 29, 1863.

Apparently it was at this time HEADQUARTERS was moved from the lower part of Meeting Street to 74 Broad Street.

74 BROAD STREET, north side, two doors west of King Street.

The first notice in the local newspapers of the new location of Confederate Headquarters is found in the Charleston Daily Courier as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, 74 BROAD-STREET

Charleston, September 18, 1863.

I will receive companies of not less than 64 nor more than 100 men (...for the 16th and 19th Regiments, S.C.M.)...for SIX MONTHS TROOPS for local defense. (Signed) W.H. EVANS, A.D.C.--Courier, September 22, 1863.

118 St. Andrew's Society Hall, 78 Broad street.--Directory, 1859, page 276.

Frederick Geddings, M. D., 70 Broad Street, p. 274, 1859 Directory

Trott, William G., druggist, King cor. Broad. Ibid., p. 210

Schwettman, C.F. druggist, 169 King, h. do. corner King & Broad. Ibid., p. 186.

Bredenberg, J. H. Grocer, Broad, cor. King. h. do. Ibid., p. 21.

[The 1859 Directory does not specify which corners of Broad and King were occupied by the above, but the Directory for 1867-1868 does.]

BREDENBERG, J. P. (Grocer, Family, Wholesale and Retail), N.E. cor. King and Broad Streets. Directory, 1867-1868, p. 40, 72.

Trott, W. G. (Drugs), N. W. cor. Broad & King Streets. Ibid. page 31. It has been established beyond a doubt that Schwettmann's was at the North West corner of King and Broad from 1781. Trott, either was in partnership or succeeded to the business, carrying on the same name ^{conducted} and/at the same location until within the last twenty-five years.

At this time, and until the numbering of the city was changed houses apparently were enumerated according to the number ^{of houses} in the block, and not according to the number of feet in each lot. The houses at the corners of King and Broad Streets were not included in the numbering of houses on Broad Street.

Dr. Frederick Geddings' house, was one door east of King Street, and remained in the possession of his family and descendants until sometime after 1930. That was then, 1859, No. 70 Broad Street.

St. Andrew's Society Hall site is well known, and has a marker to identify it. It was numbered in 1859, No. 78 Broad Street. The houses and property between these two places (St. Andrew's Hall was burned in 1861), are exactly the same today as they were then. D.E. Huger Smith, in his Dwelling Houses of Charleston says on page 249: "Of the long street of fine houses on the north side of Broad, west of King, only three remained [after the fire of 1861]. These are today (1917) the residences of Mr. George D. Bryan [now, 1949, owned and lived in by his daughters], of the Roman Catholic Bishop, and of Mr. R. Goodwyn Rhett [now, 1949, residence of Dr. H. Lindsay]."

Mr. Bryan's house is mention in the will of Ralph Izard, September 13, 1757, who owned it.--Smith: p. 249. The house...now the residence of the Bishop of Charleston, stands on a part of the same lot, having been begun by Ralph Izard, son of the one just mentioned. In the division of this gentlemen's real estate this house, then unfinished fell to a daughter who died unmarried, when it was sold in 1829 to Col. Thomas Pinckney, a son of Gen. Thomas Pinckney, who had married her sister Elizabeth Izard and who finished the building of the house. In 1866 it was sold by his daughter, Mrs. Rosetta Ella Izard, the widow of Ralph Stead Izard, to the Right Rev. Patrick N. Lynch, Bishop of Charleston.--Ibid., p. 250.

Dr. Geddings' house was No. 70; Mr. Bryan's house, next to the N. W. corner of King and Broad Street, was No. 72; the house west of it, the Bishop's house was No. 74 Broac Street; the house beyond

that, "Mr. R. Goodwyn Rhett", now residence of Dr. Lindsay, and known as John Rutledge's house, was #76 Broad, and next to that was St. Andrew's Society Hall, then No. 78 Broad Street.

The next mention of Headquarters being in Broad Street, is in the COURIER of November 3, 1863: PRESIDENT DAVIS IN CHARLESTON. About ten o'clock, it being rumored that the President was at the General Commanding's HEADQUARTERS, in Broad Street, a large crowd gathered to catch a glimpse of him as he passed out to the carriage. Ibid. November 4, 1863.

The President and Aides, Colonels Johnson and Lee...visited James's Island on Wednesday accompanied by Generals Beauregard, Gilmer...etc., etc., ...The party started from HEADQUARTERS IN BROAD-STREET, and proceeded to the headquarters of Colonel Rhett on Commercial Wharf...Ibid., November 5, 1863.

At the end of November, 1863 Headquarters was moved again, and General Beauregard this time also had to move his residence.

1863 GOVERNOR AIKEN'S HOUSE, Elizabeth Street.

The Mills House has been closed, and the Charleston Hotel has given notice of closing from and after this day.--Courier, November 30, 1863.

After a suspension of a week we again present the Courier and resume our intercourse with the public. We deferred...the measures which have been forced upon us. We decided and intended to remain at our old site (No. 111 East Bay, Directory, 1859) as long as conveniently possible. We found ourselves, however, left alone---offices, Confederate, State, and Municipal, were removed, and many private offices were also removed from places of no greater danger than was incurred by the Courier. Under these circumstances and

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in the general removal of the elements and resources of business which made our former site eligible - the Post Office, the Banks, Insurance offices, &c. to have resisted the tide longer would have been foolish and culpably reckless. The Courier office will be found at No. 252 Meeting-street, Southeast corner of Meeting and Read Streets.--Charleston Daily Courier, November 30, 1863.

The information giving the fourth and last location of General Beauregard's Headquarters is in a letter, copy attached, from Major F. L. Childs, Ordnance Officer, C.S.A., to his cousin, Mrs. St. Julien Ravenel (Harriet Horry Rutledge Ravenel), author, Charleston, The Place And The People, and now in possession of Mrs. St. Julien Childs, 73 King Street, Charleston, S. C.

A letter addressed to Richard Yeadon, Esq. (Editor, The Courier) is headed: CHARLESTON ARSENAL, S.C., March 31, 1862, and ends "Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, F. L. Childs, Captain C.A., Commanding Charleston Arsenal.--Courier, April 2, 1862. The Captain was promoted, for the next notice states: ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, C.S.A. Arsenal, Charleston, September 6, 1862.--Proposals for the delivery at this Arsenal of FIFTEEN HUNDRED CORDS OF YELLOW PINE FIRE WOOD will be received until the 17th day of September, instant...Proposals must state the rate of delivery, and be indorsed "Proposals for Wood". --F.L.Childs, Major C.S.A., Commanding Arsenal.--Courier, September 8, 1862, et. seq.

Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, Second Military District, South Carolina, Charleston: HEADQUARTERS, Southern Wharf.--SOLDIERS' DIRECTORY. Courier, March 27, 1862.

Governor Aiken's house, now numbered 58 Elizabeth Street, is owned and occupied by a descendant, I'on L. Rhett.

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Letter from Major F. L. Childs, C.S.A., Ordnance Officer, Commanding Arsenal, Charleston, S. C., 1862--to Mrs. St. Julien Ravenel (nee Harriot Horry Rutledge). Original in possession of Mrs. St. Julien Childs, 73 King Street, Charleston, S. C. Mr. Childs is a grandson of Mrs. Ravenel.

Dear Cousin Hal,

I find that as I am situated here it is impracticable to write a connected account of the shelling of Chast'n. I have no access to records of any kind no opportunity to confer with others who remember, and dates & events get mixed in the mind.

I may mention a few incidents for your information.

I was Ordnance Officer of the District at the time - on Gen. Ripley's Staff. I had been several nights at some of the outlying batteries, and arrived at home (Dr. Memminger's in Wentworth St. * where I was staying alone) about midnight, very weary & expecting to "make up" on lost sleep.

I knew nothing more till roused by the negro boy with the grievous words "Gen. Ripley send for you". What? "Gen. Ripley send for you sir." well - - - saddle the horse. The boy remained motionless, in spite of repetition of the order. "Boy, what is the matter?" "Someting fly ober de house, Sir", "& run in de stable, Sir!" The boy seemed dazed, & would not leave the room, until a boot-jack was brought into the argument, his master not appreciating his state of mind, and not being in an amiable mood.

I rode down Smith St. about 2 o'clock A.M. - the streets were entirely deserted, yet every house was lighted up. What does it

* Home of C. G. Memminger, Confederate Secretary of the Treasury is on Wentworth Street. North West corner Smith Street

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mean? Have the Yankees slipped in and taken the town while I was asleep? I urged the horse, & reached Headquarters: What is it? "They are shelling the city". "Shelling the city! From where?" "Nobody knows". Shelling the city! Without notice, a city full of sleeping women & children - a bombardment without military significance, and simply an ebullition of spleen at the repeated failure of their attacks.

"Ah! then & there was hungry to & fro, And gathering tears,
& tremblings of distress, and cheeks all pale"

There was no other result of this barbarous procedure. The gun from which these first missiles came, placed in the marsh with infinite labor, burst after a few discharges. Later on, when Morris Island was evacuated, they shelled the city spasmodically for an indefinite time. We used to sit on the battery at night and see the burning fuses coming across the harbor. I remember that one old negro woman, selling groundnuts in the market was knocked to pieces, but the casualties were few, and the damages inconsiderable. The bombardment was absolutely, without effect on the progress of the siege, and was clearly & purely spite!

The shells that failed to burst were gathered up in numb break A party of boys were bl break upon Southern Wharf by p9king red hot wires into one of them. And for some time after the war, they furnished iron for the foundries in the city.

*The women & children left Charleston or moved up town, & the Headquarters were moved to Gov. Aiken's House, & then everything went on as usual.

A party of Yankee officers, prisoners, were kept "under fire" at the corner of Broad Rutledge Sts. in retaliation for similar exposure of ours - but none were hurt.

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SAXON'S HEADQUARTERS.

1865 11 EAST BATTERY, one door south of Atlantic Street.

From March 20, 1865.

Major General Saxton [sic] arrived in town Saturday and has established his Headquarters at the Alston House, No. 11 East Battery.--The Daily Courier, Monday, March 20, 1865.

21 East Battery (now, 1949), one door south of Atlantic Street. Edmondston-Alston House. This is Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, 1944. p. 38.

Compiled by

Mary A. Sparkman, Secretary
Historical Commission of
Charleston, South Carolina

BEAUREGARD'S HEADQUARTERS

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The Wickenberg family, who in 1859 purchased the property, now numbered 192 Ashley Avenue, and built the house there, completing it in 1861, claim that General Beauregard had his headquarters there during his service in Charleston. They also claim that Major-General Saxon, U.S.A., established his headquarters there in 1865.

Both claims seems to be disproved by the above notes. It seems not only possible, however, but probable, that General Beauregard and staff moved their living quarters there after the Mills House closed (November, 1863), and after "offices - Confederate, State, Municipal, as well as many private businesses" removed to the upper part of the city after the Federals began shelling it, in August, 1863.

It also seems probable that, as the basement of this house, the carriage-house and other out-buildings on this property provided abundant storage space, they were used by the Commissary Department, C.S.A., as is also claimed.

The owners of the house, the Wickenberg family, refugeed in the upper part of the State, so that their house was unoccupied when the Federals moved into the city. Undoubtedly therefore, it was commandeered by the authorities for living accommodations. The newspapers which had been taken over by the Federal authorities soon after they reached the city, and announced daily the location and heads of all offices, do not list this house, now #192 Ashley Avenue, at any time as being used for an office building. The Wickenberg family appear to have no documentary or other evidence to substantiate their claims; and as far as can be determined from other sources, this house has no outstanding historical significance.