

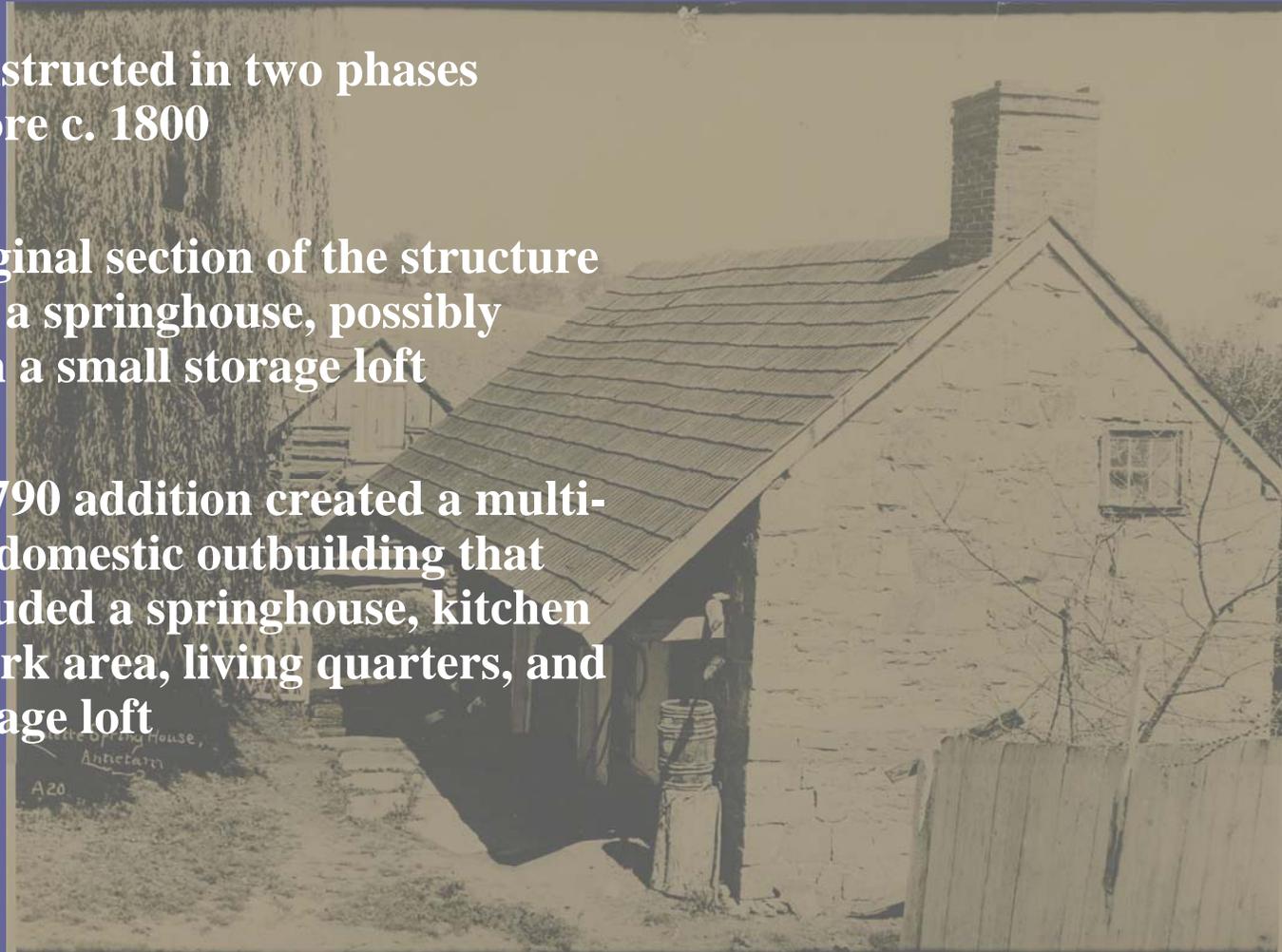
The Roulette Springhouse HSR:

An “In House” Approach to Completing
Historic Structure Reports



The Roulette Springhouse

- **Constructed in two phases before c. 1800**
- **Original section of the structure was a springhouse, possibly with a small storage loft**
- **C.1790 addition created a multi-use domestic outbuilding that included a springhouse, kitchen / work area, living quarters, and storage loft**



“I ran down to the Springhouse . . . to fill the canteens”

-George C. McGuire, traveling with 5th MD Infantry during the Battle of Antietam

- **Fighting erupted around the structure as Union battle lines pushed Confederate Skirmishers toward the Sunken Road**
- **15 to 20 Confederate soldiers were captured within the structure**
- **The Springhouse was used to shelter and treat the wounded. Lieut. Crosby of the 14th Connecticut Infantry and others were operated on in the building**



NPS

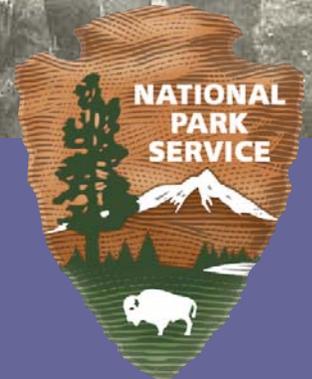
Acquisition & Management

- **The National Park Service acquired the property in 1998**
- **In 2004 Antietam Received funding for the completion of an HSR to guide the preservation, restoration and maintenance of the Structure**



Can we write our own HSR?

- The First HSR prepared in the United States was written by Charles E. Peterson of the National Park Service in the early 1930's
- Until the 1970's the vast majority of HSR's produced by the NPS were written by preservation professionals within the service.
- Antietam's structures have been surveyed and studied to varying extents by Park Service staff since 1934 and several notable HSR's have been produced for the park by NPS professionals from both WASO and the Region.
- Since 1980 Antietam has looked to outside contractors to produce our Historic Structure Reports



“We’ll give it a try . . . And see how it goes”

- Jane Custer, Cultural Resources Chief, Antietam

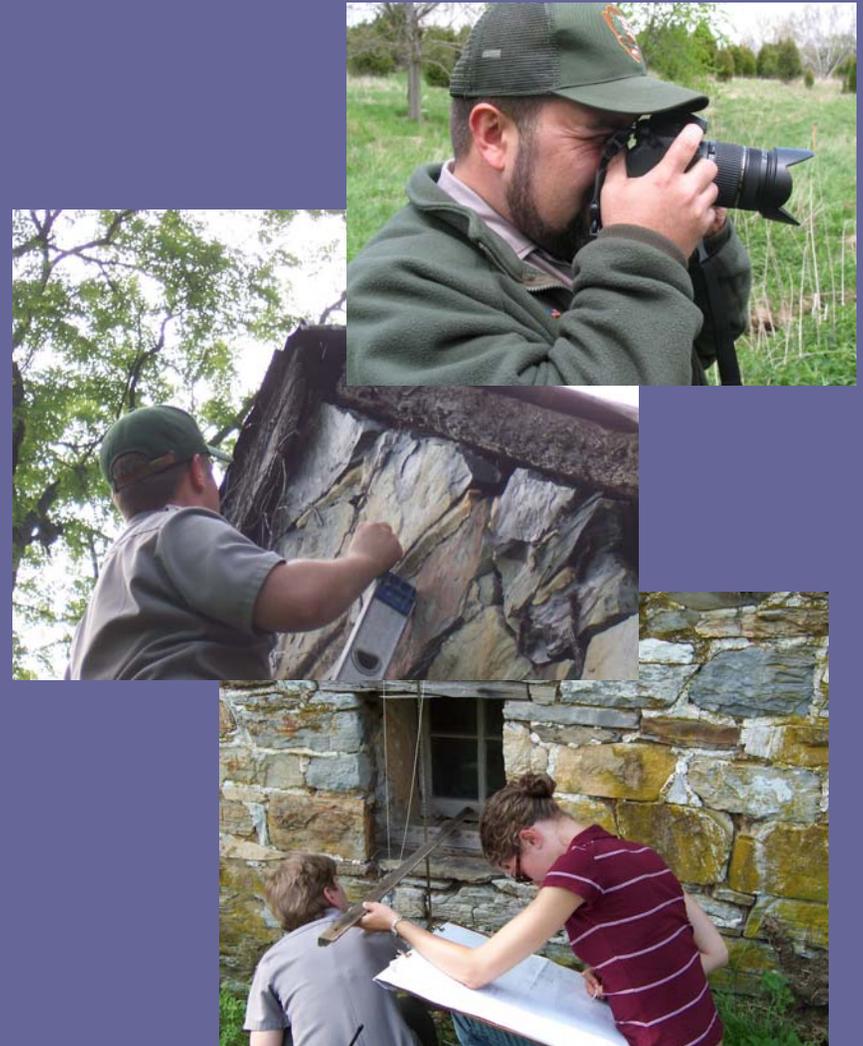
A Multi-Disciplinary Approach

- Initial project planning resulted in the adoption of a multi disciplinary approach to completing the report
 - Architects
 - Architectural Historians
 - Structural Engineers
 - Archeologists
 - Dendrochronology experts
 - Architectural Conservators
 - Natural Resource Specialists
- Park staff complete as much of the project as possible; conducting research and onsite surveys, compiling the findings, producing the final document and managing the overall completion of the report



Putting the Plan into Action

- Park staff conducted in depth research of primary and secondary documents archival resources and historic photographs and conducted materials investigation and testing
- An intern was hired to produce measured drawings that met the *Secretary's Standards* and were produced in HABS format.
- Antietam entered into a project agreement with HPTC to complete the existing condition assessment and Recommendations for treatment and maintenance



Putting the Plan into Action

- Archeological investigations were conducted under the direction of Joy Beasley of Monocacy National Battlefield



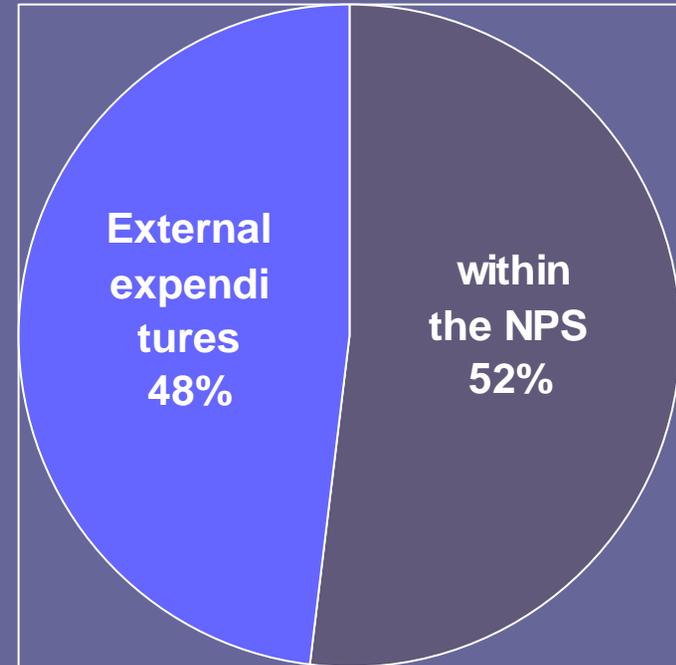
Putting the Plan into Action

- Mortar, paint, and finish samples were analyzed
- Dendrochronology experts at Cornell and Columbia Universities were consulted in an attempt to more accurately date the construction of the building.



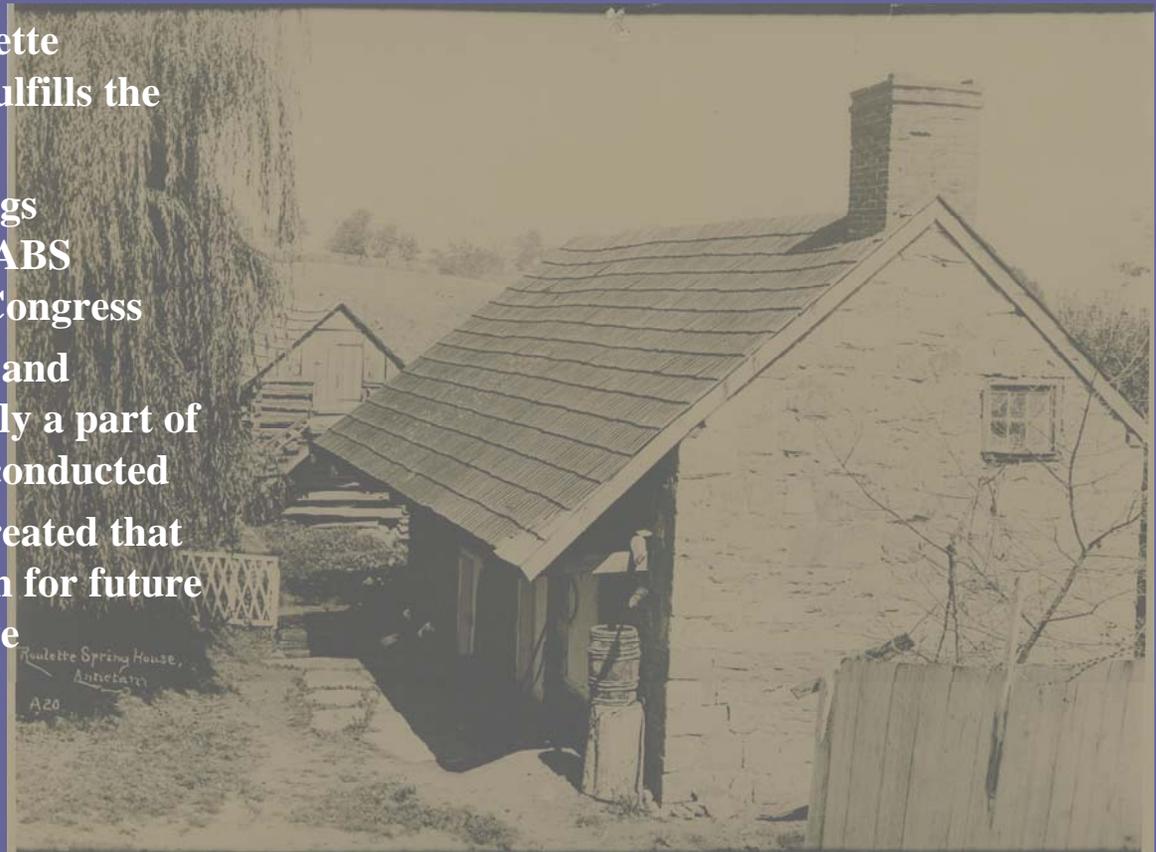
Two Years and \$18,000

- The project was completed over a two-year period at a cost of approximately \$18,218.00
- Of the total amount of funds expended approximately 52% stayed within the NPS



Project Results & Outcome

- **HSR completed for the Roulette Springhouse / Kitchen that fulfills the needs of the park**
- **One set of Measured Drawings completed and donated to HABS collection at the Library of Congress**
- **Archeological Investigations and material analysis not routinely a part of Antietam's past HSR's was conducted**
- **Intra-agency partnerships created that can be used as the foundation for future joint projects and cooperative arrangements**



Roulette Spring House,
Antietam
A20

Project Results & Outcome

- Park staff increased their knowledge of the resource and gained new professional skills, broadening the human resource potential that can be available for future park endeavors
- A better understanding was gained by park staff of the HSR process, what to expect from a complete HSR and operational considerations of completing a project of this type. All of which will help park staff better manage future contracts for like projects
- The majority of the expenditures associated with the project were paid out to other NPS offices, keeping the cost to the NPS, as a whole, to a minimum

