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Fleetwood was built on a portion of the Brent share of the Brent Town Tract.

The traditional date for Fleetwood's construction is given in several sources as 1823, when John Gibson purchased 438 acres of land on the south side of Slaty Run and east of Park Gate (q.v.). According to Historic American Buildings Surveys of the house done in 1936 and 1959, the frame and log, one-story east wing was built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, perhaps c.1775. The frame wing on the west is said to have been the location of "Dr." Gibson's office.

John Gibson purchased the land on Slaty Run when the third Prince William Courthouse was being constructed <sup>at Brentsville,</sup> a few miles northeast of Fleetwood between Broad Run and Cedar Run. Gibson, a lawyer by training, had practiced law in Dumfries until the county seat moved to Brentsville. Gibson was a grandson of Col. Thomas Harrison who was sheriff, justice, and burgess of Prince William County, and a justice and burgess for Fauquier County.

Fleetwood was supposedly damaged heavily during the Civil War. Upon John Gibson's

death, the property passed to his widow,  
Frances B. Gibson. The two are  
buried in the brick-walled graveyard  
near the house.