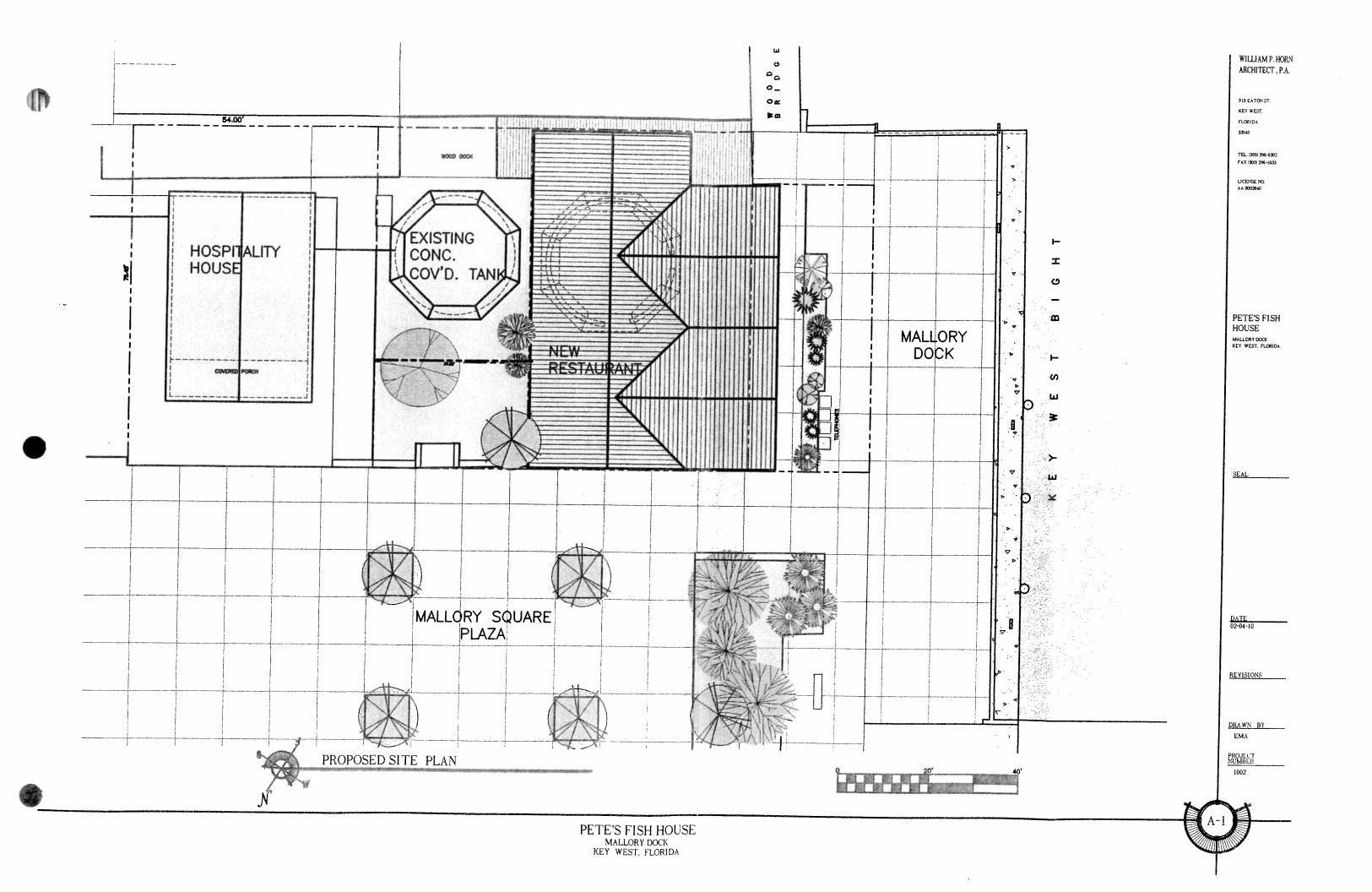


PETE'S FISH HOUSE MALLORY DOCK KEY WEST, FLORIDA



The Schooner Western Union The Frahmen Capster of Bester Marie होता पारता का स्थाप होते हैं है जिल्हा के स्थाप के स्था स्थाप के स्थाप के स्थाप के स्थाप के स्थाप के स्थाप के स्थाप के

The schooner WESTERN UNION was constituted by Herber & Loyley Arch of the Cayman Islands and i feam of local couch craftonen. They chose Madeira material angles of the trunks for each rib of the but frame and Georgia bing feat yell wi pine for the keel decks, planking and beams.

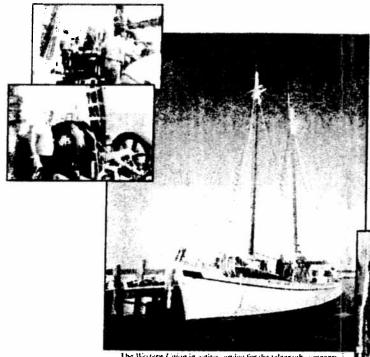
built in none months and launched on April 7 of 1939. Fac man in the tereground is a young Dick Steadman?, who skipped tunch. He later became he

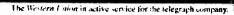
The WESTERN UNION w.



Land Charles of a contract of the contract of

"WESTERN UNION" Key West's Flagship Schooner





1939-1974

The WESTERN UNION spent 35 years in active service for Western Union felegraph Co. maintaining and laying more than 30 000 miles of undersea telegriph cable from Key West to Havanna, Caba: Punta Rassa, FL. Meimi, FL: Gidveston, TX, Europeo, Piterto Rico: Mexico and

Burbados.

只是这是^这一定了那就是那些自然的性格的的情况是可能的现在,他们就是这些一种的一种的一种的一种的一种,我们就是一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个

1974-1984

In 1974, the WESTERN UNION was converted from a cable shift to a charter vessel. From 197 to 1981 the WESTERN UNION was engaged in a variety of events including America Bicentennial in 1976 In 1984 the WESTERN UNION was sold to Vision Quest, resume from Key West and used to help troubled youths learn exponed dity and descipting.

The schooner WESTERN UNION AGE first commanded by Capt. G. R. Steadman (laset below), In 1953 his son. Dick (pictured below), took over having served alongside his father for the previous 19 years, blck Stordman safet the WESTERN UNION watth over efficient from cable service in 1974.

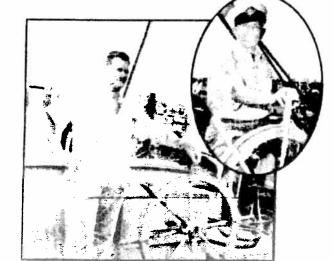
designated the flagship of Ker West and the Conch Republic The Captains Steadman Ioday under the ownership a Historic Tours of America, this historic vessel delights thousands of visitors to the Island h sharing with them this important part of Key West's rich maritim

1997

In 1997, due to the efforts of Key

West business men aid womer the WESTERN UNION wa

SAIL into HISTORY



"Western Union"

T. Built in the great tridition of the wiecking vessels that were used in Key West in the 1800's, the 130 ft, schooner Western Union has three distinctions.

> THE LAST EXAMPLE OF A TRADITIONAL AMERICAN COASTING SCHOONER MADE IN THE U.S. IL THE LAST SAILING CABLE SHIP ON EARTH. HE THE EAST TALL SHIP CONSTRUCTED IN KEY WEST

- I Launched here in 1939, she served the Western Umon Telegraph Co. reliably for 35 years, had a high stakes espionage run-in with Cuban gan boats. survived a hurricane, efforts to dismantle her, helped bring Cubans to freedom during the Mariel Boatlift, redirected troubled youths in the Vision Quest program and now under the care of Historic Tours of America, is finally back home as Flagship of Key West, The Conch Republic, and The State of Florida.
- The Western Union was originally built for Thompson Enterprises to lease to the Western Union Telegraph Co. to repair and maintain the company's telegraph cables throughout the Cambbean.
- I After many years of faithful service, she did her last cable work in November 1973. She was about to be converted into a barge when Capt. John Krause, head of World Life Explorations bought her and saved her from destruction. She was then chartered for trips in Chesapeake Bay, the Virgin Islands and Florida.
- T She finally returned home to Key West in early 1980 and was locally chartered for sunset cruises. She arrived home just in time for the Mariel Boatlift in 1980, the exodus of almost 100,000 Cubans from their country, and was called into action successfully bringing back over 300 Cuban refugees for a new life of freedom in the United States.
- From 1982 to 1984 she was the focus of a grass-roots effort to keep her in Key West, but the cost to keep her was too great and she was sold.
- I local businessmen brought her back to Key West to much fanfare on February 9, 1997, under the command of her ailing former Captain. Dick Steadman, Captain Steadman passed away on May 23, 1997.
- I Purchased by locally headquartered national historic entertainment company, "Historic Tours of America, Inc.", she was redesignated Hagship of Key West. The Conch Republic, and proudly sails from her old home port, the Key West Bight.

