

Diagram of c.1834 Summer Beam in Attic Floor

When the two houses which existed on the site were combined into a single structure after 1834, a new roof was constructed over a shallow attic. As the earliest historic photos show, this roof was a simple gabled roof with the ridge running parallel to Germantown Avenue. As can be seen on some of the photos, the southern side of the house had a saltbox profile. This was caused by the difference in depth of the two early houses. The c.1834 roof was centered over the 21' depth of Section 1. Since Section 2 was almost 28' deep, the rear roof over this section had to continue down to a lower top plate at the rear wall.

Investigation of the attic floor framing of the house revealed the existence of a summer beam which supported the east-west floor joists and rafters at the south end of the attic, the space over Section 2 of the house. This summer beam was required because the floor joists could not rest on the western exterior wall. When the house was again renovated in c.1895, the attic floor area was extended to the west and the roof structure was removed and replaced with the gambrel roof which still survives. The c.1834 floor framing, floor boards and stairway remained in place.

DETAIL OF SUMMER BEAM IN ATTIC FLOOR FRAMING (Section 2, c.1834)

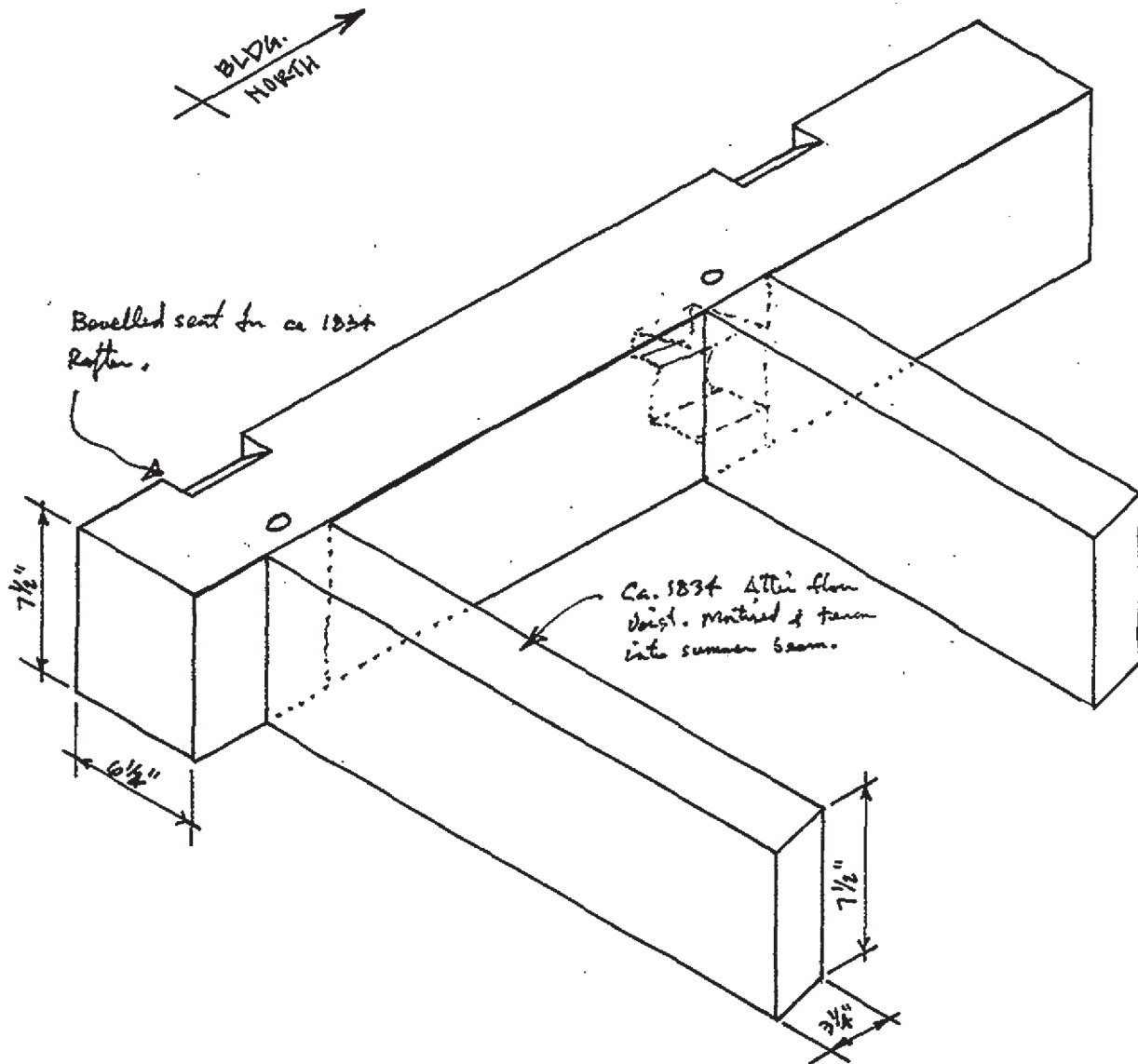


Figure 15.

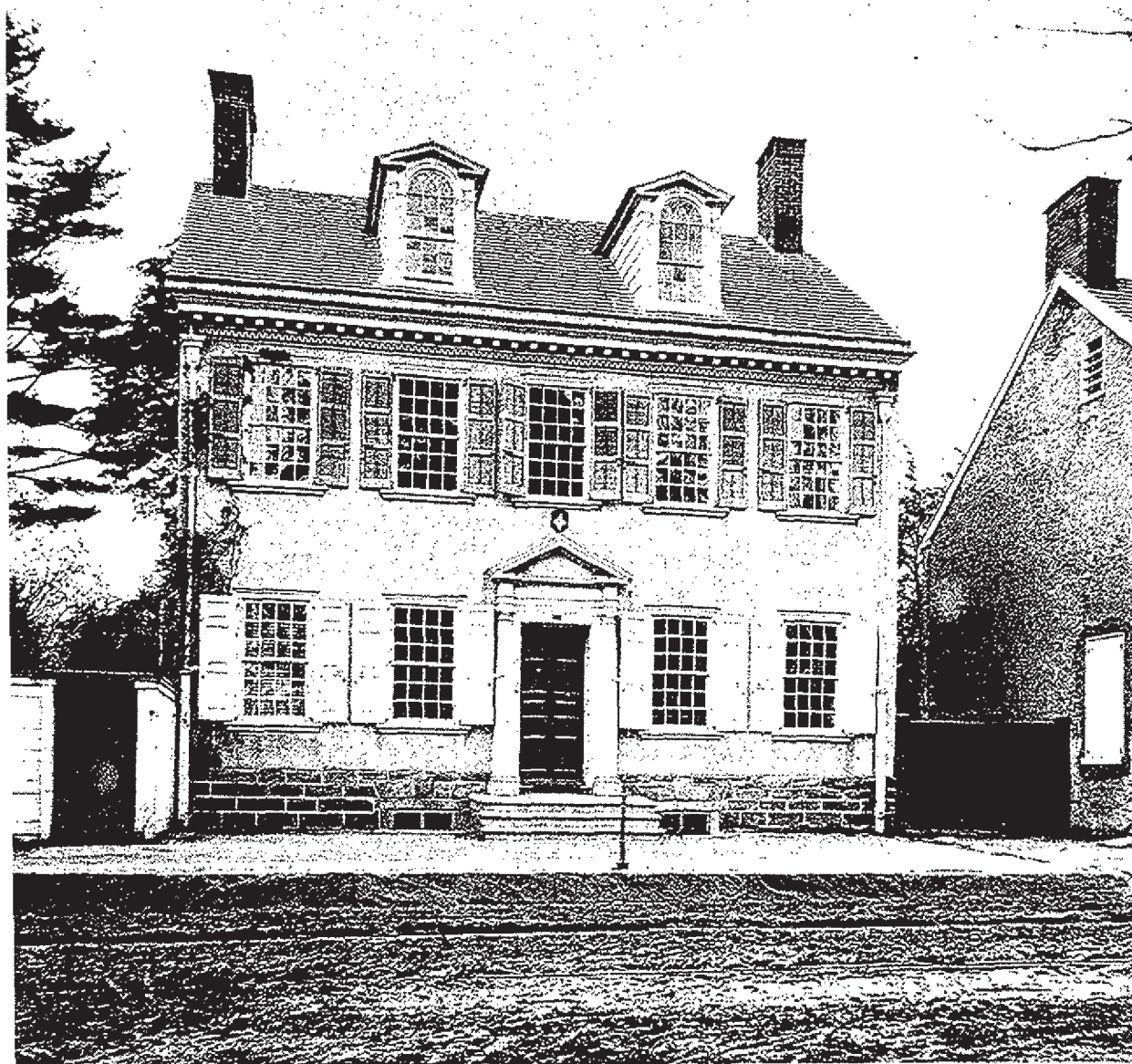


Plate 1. Historic photo of the Deshler-Morris house c.1861 showing the southern end of the Bringham House. Note the deteriorated condition of the chimney and patching around the ground floor window.

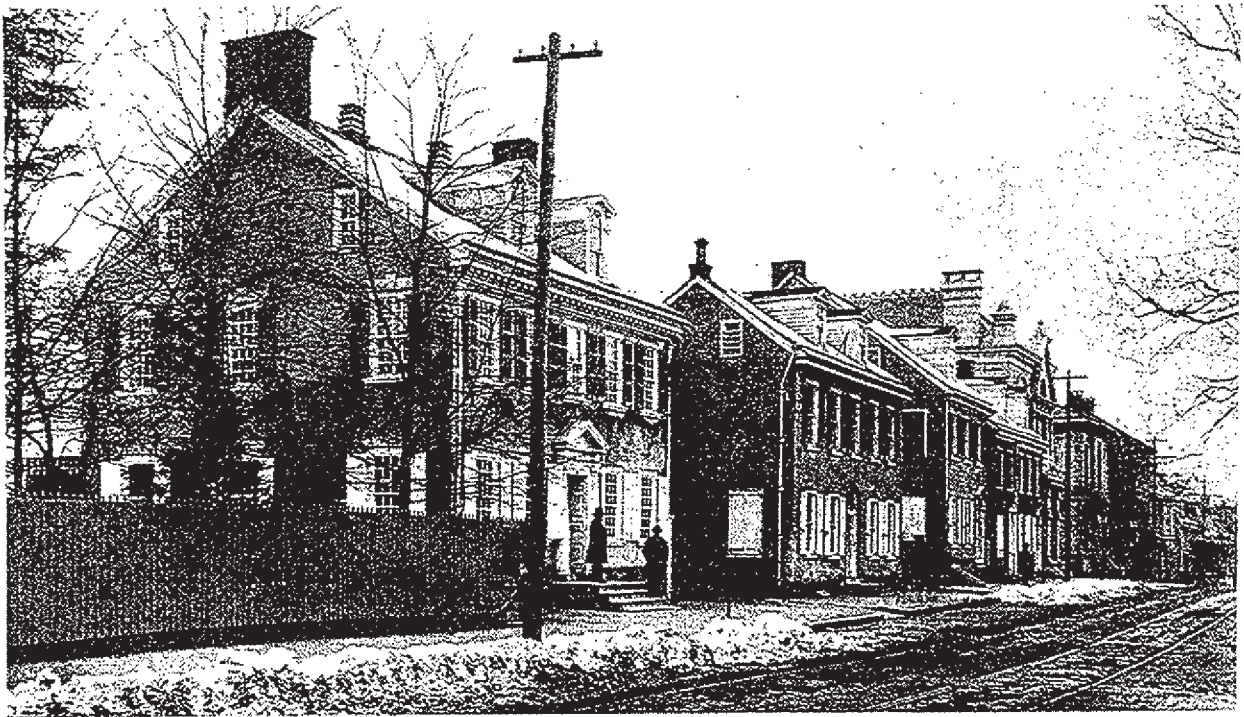


Plate 2. Historic photo showing the Bringham House as it looked c.1887. To its left is the Deschler-Morris House. To its right is the early 19th century Armat House.

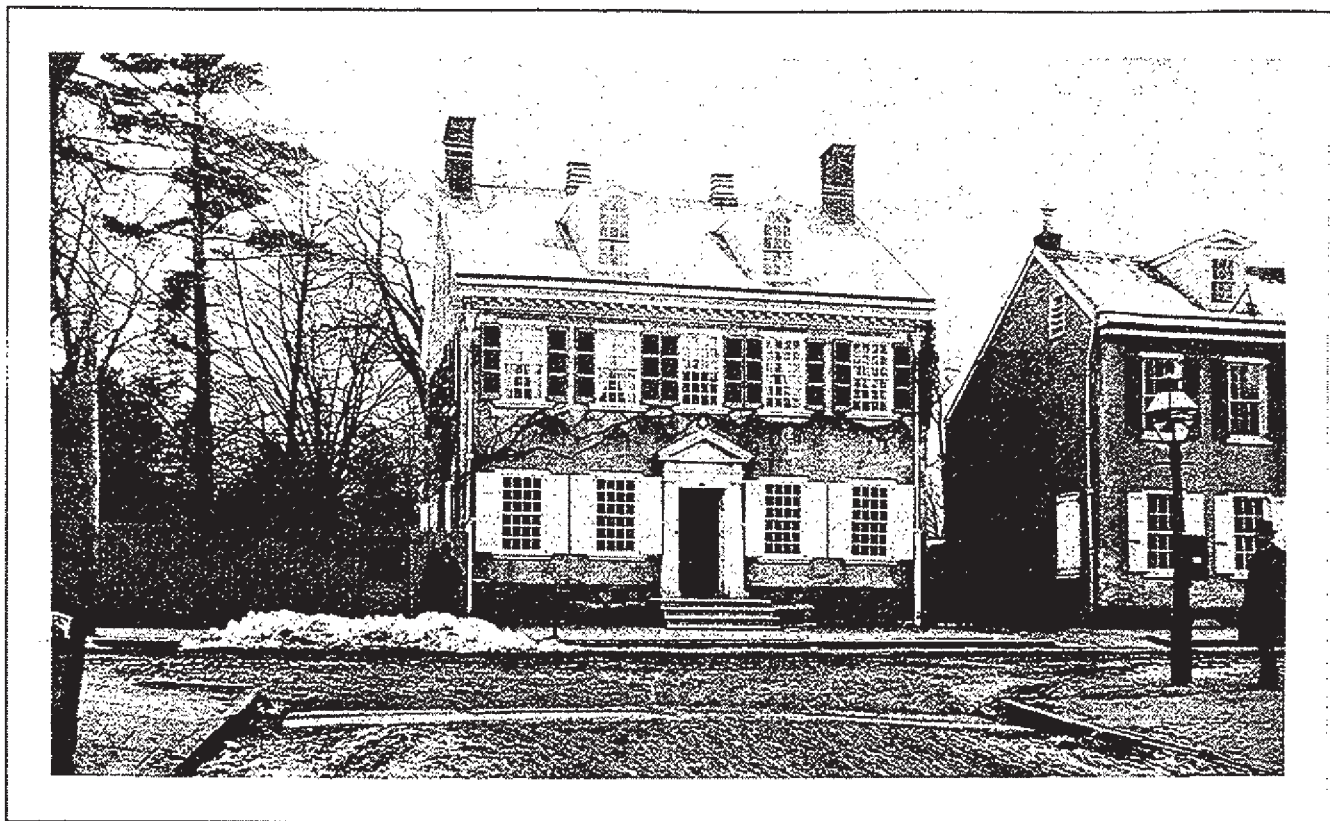


Plate 3. Historic photo showing the south gable end of the Bringhurst House c.1887. Note the definite salt-box shape of this gable. Also note the simple pedimented dormer window on the east side of the main roof.

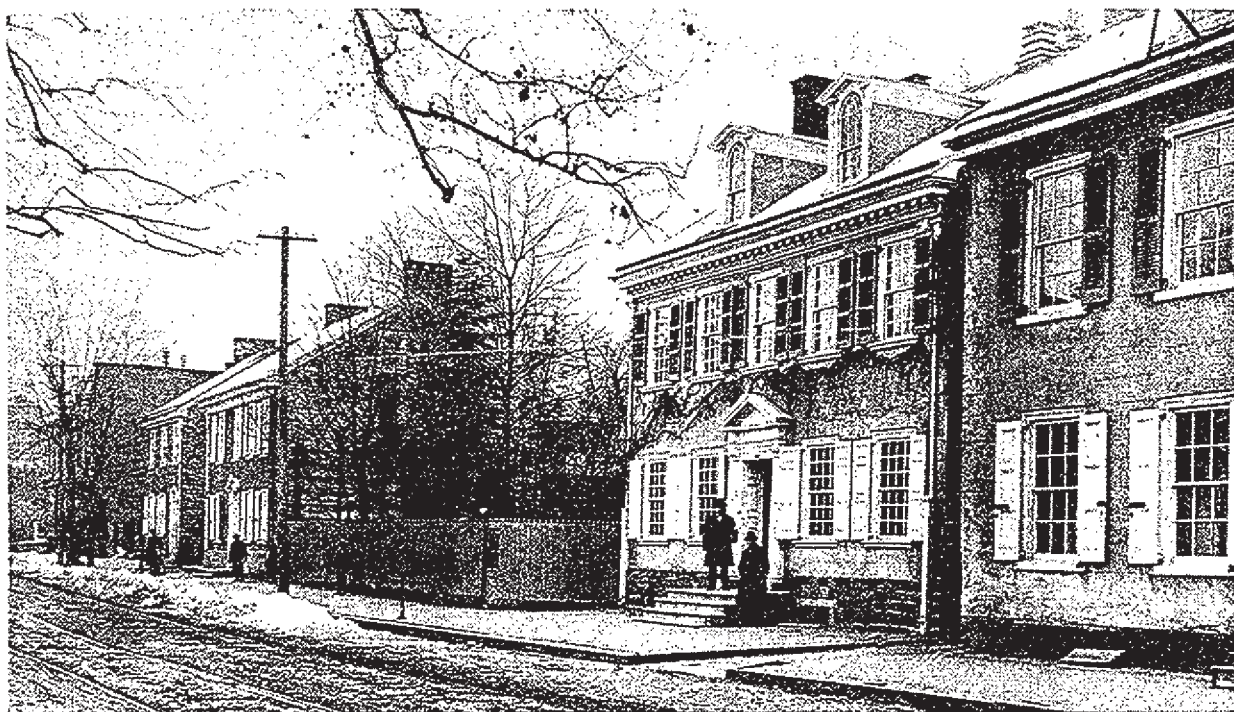


Plate 4. Historic photo showing a portion of the east facade of the Bringhurst House as it looked c.1887.
Note the scored stucco on the east wall and the six over six window sash.



Plate 5. Historic photo showing the full east facade of the Bringhurst House as it looked in the early 20th century. This view clearly shows the full impact of the c.1895 renovation.

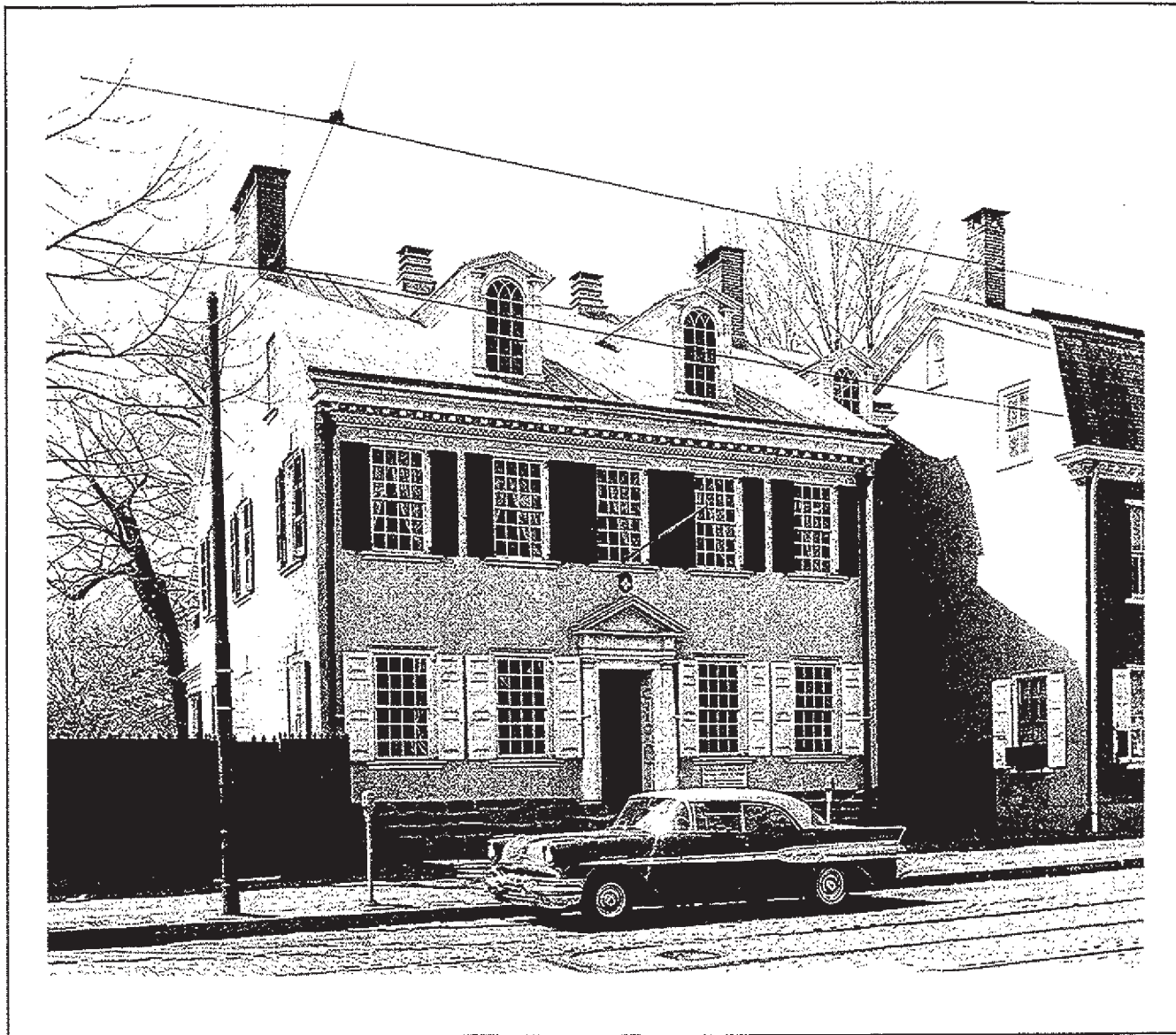


Plate 6. Historic photo showing the southeast corner of the Bringhurst House as it looked around 1960. The decorative roofing shingles have been replaced; otherwise little has been altered.

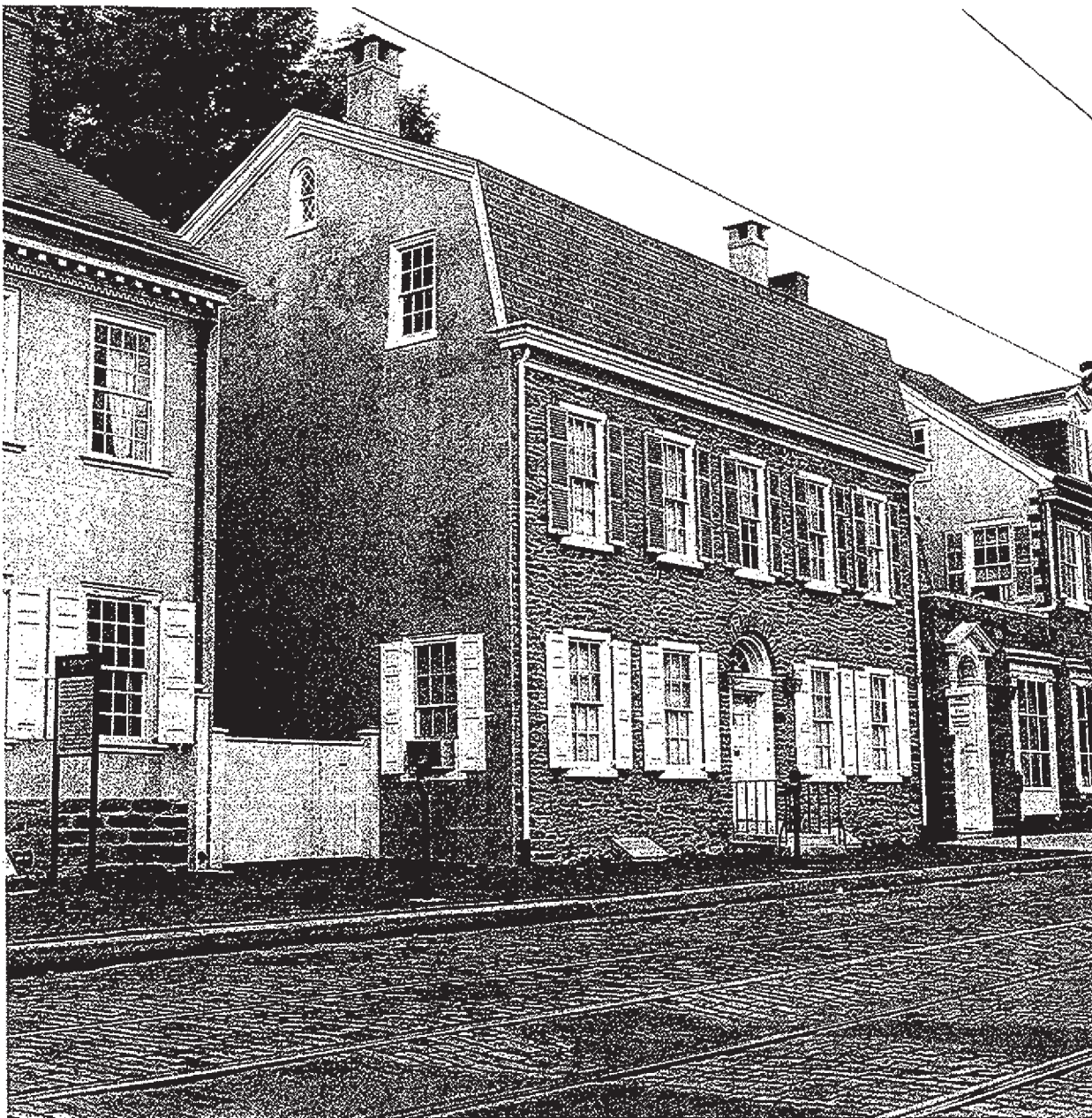


Plate 7. Historic photo showing the Bringhurst House from the southeast in 1979. The Victorian dormers, cornice, rakes and windows have been removed or replaced and the stucco has been removed from the east facade.

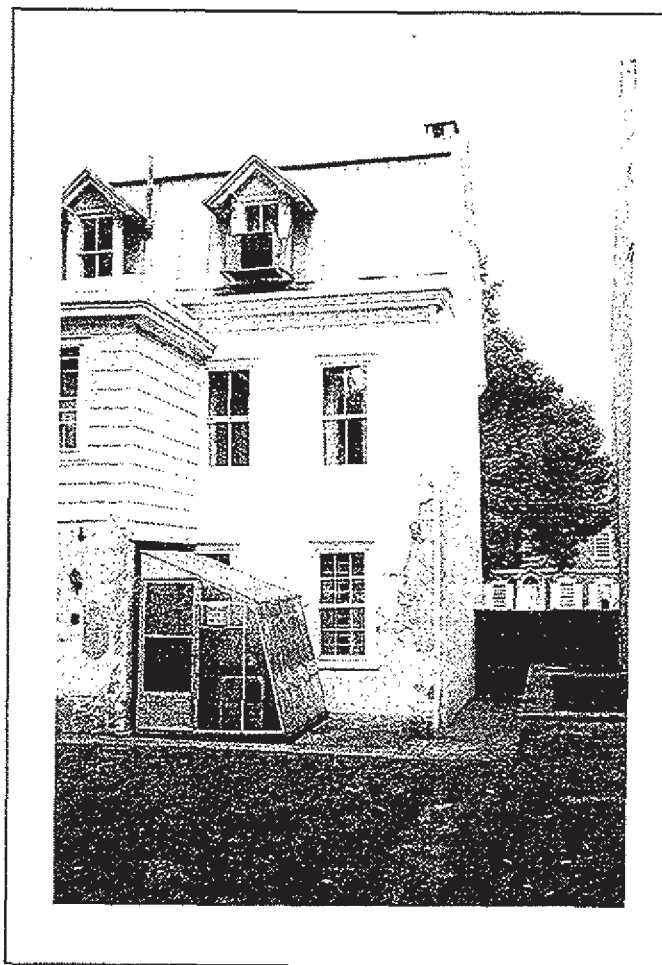


Plate 8. West side of Section 2. Lower windows retain c.1834 sash. The c.1895 two over two sash remain above.



Plate 9. A detail of the c.1895 dormer windows surviving on the rear of the main roof.



Plate 10. View of the rear extension showing Section 4 at the left of the downspout, Section 3 is to the right.
Note the difference in the brick bonding patterns.

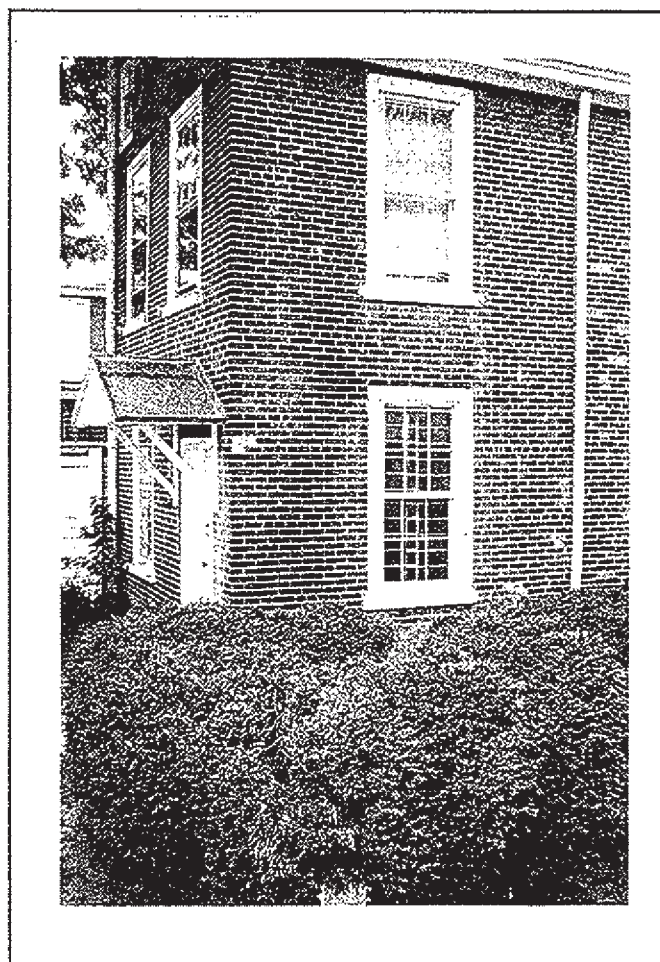


Plate 11. View of Section 4 from the southwest.



Plate 12. View of the Bringhurst House from the west. Most of the rear yard has been paved for parking.

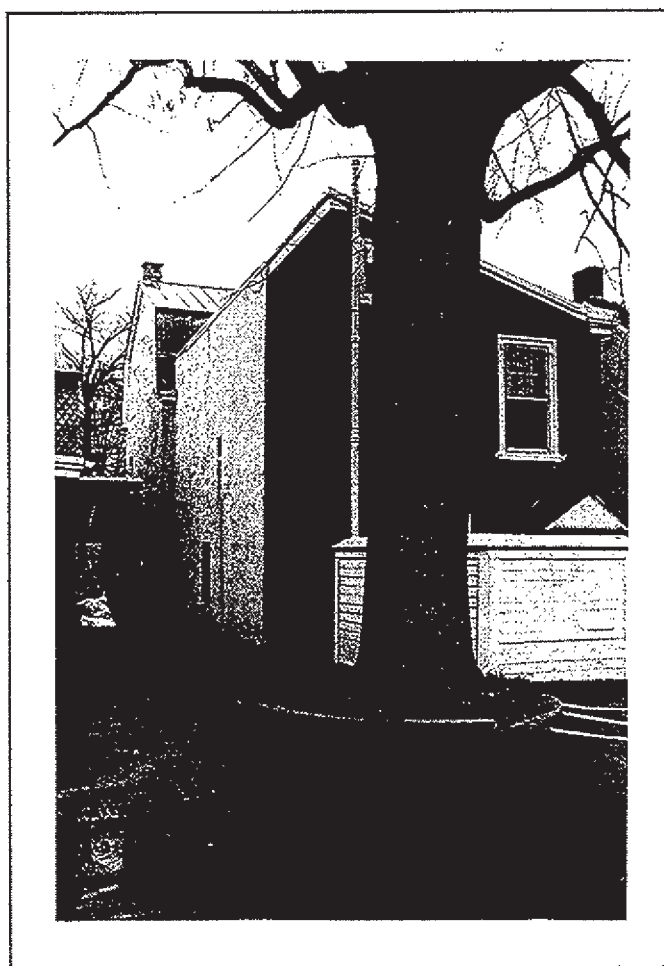


Plate 13. Rear of the house from the northwest. Note the off-set in the north wall.

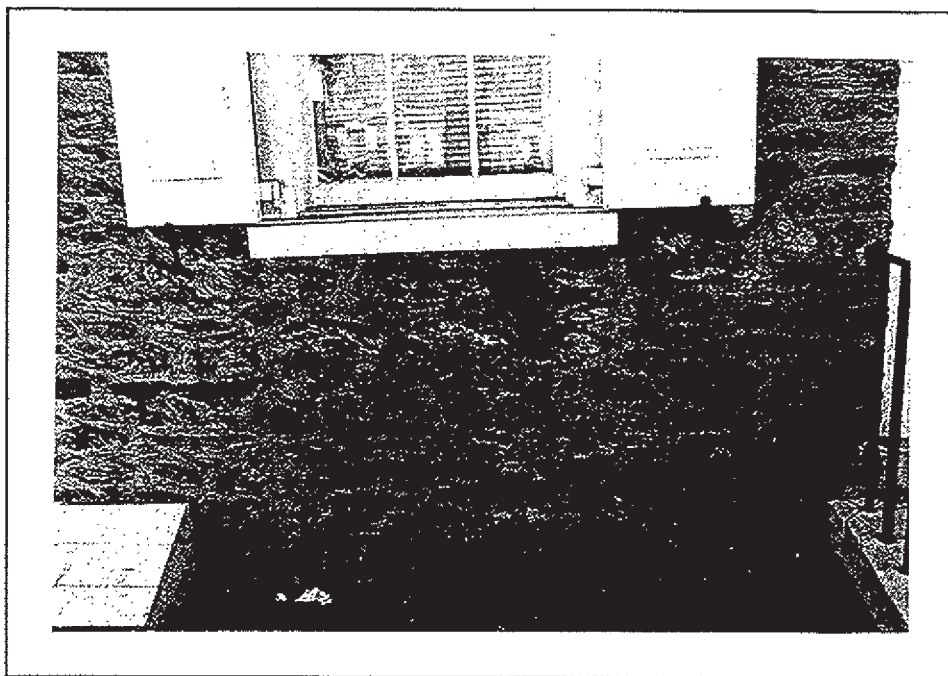


Plate 14. Detail of the east facade. Note the infill below the window at the location of an early doorway in Section 2.

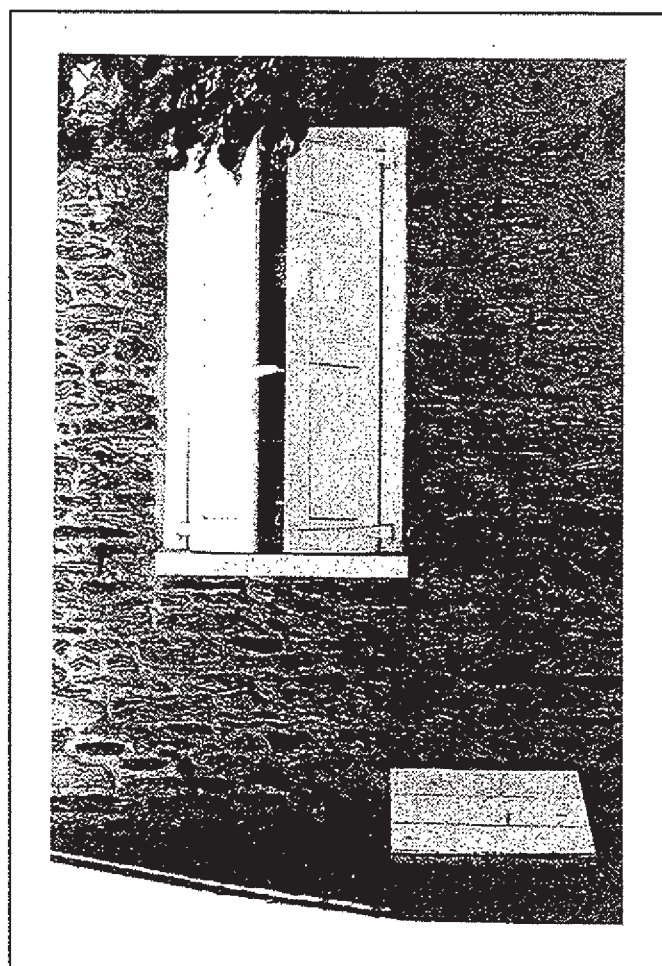


Plate 15. Detail of the east facade. Note the infilled stone below the raised window opening.

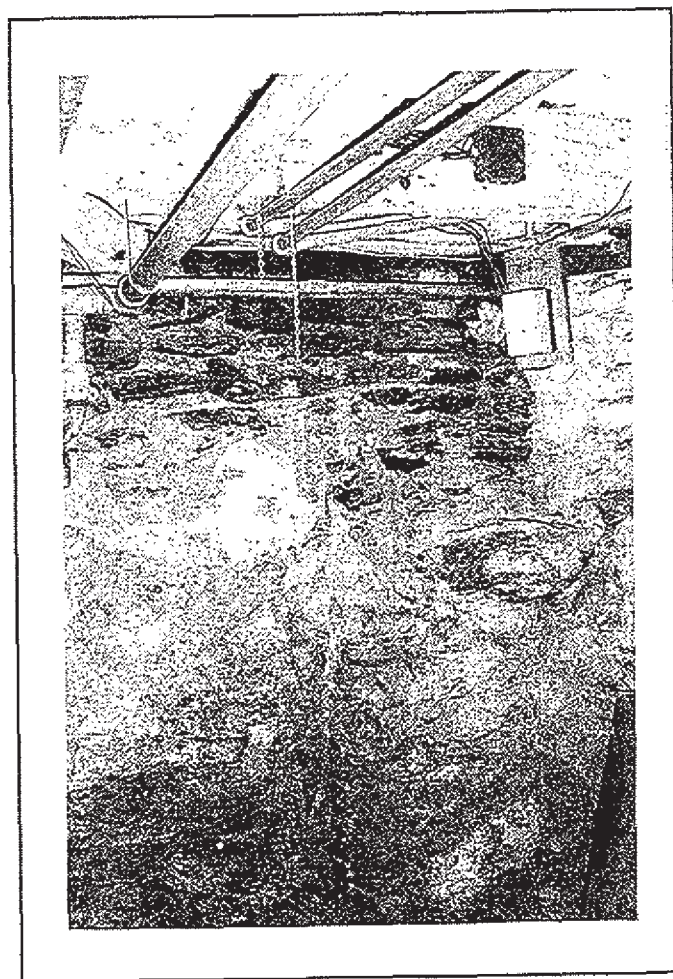


Plate 16. Cellar of Section 1. Detail of infilled doorway in the east wall. Note the corbel stone at the right.

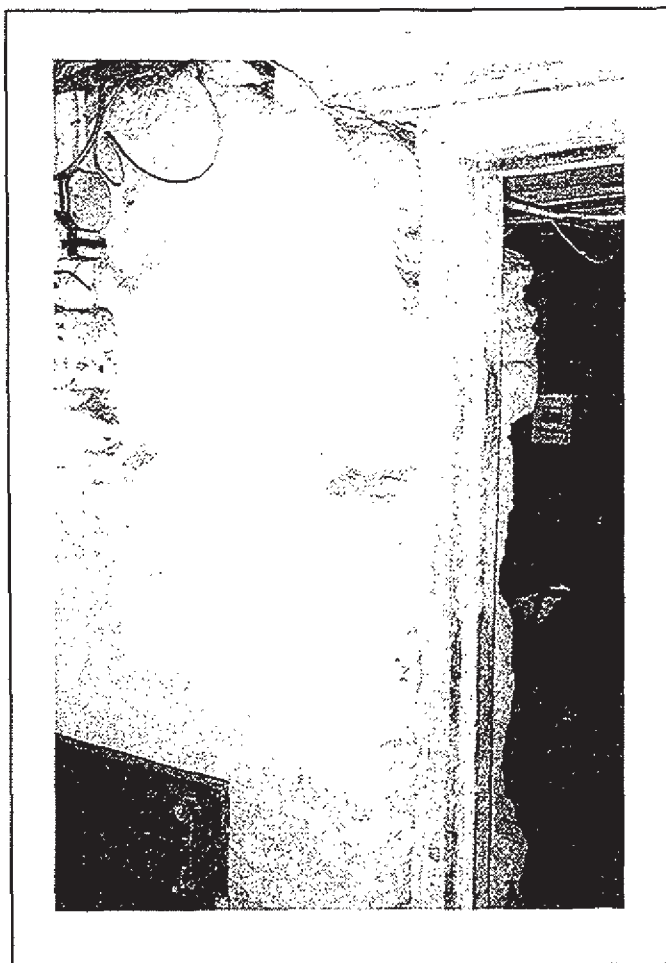


Plate 18. Cellar, Section 1. Detail of the doorway into Section 3. Note the scar from the corbel stone removed when the door was cut into masonry.

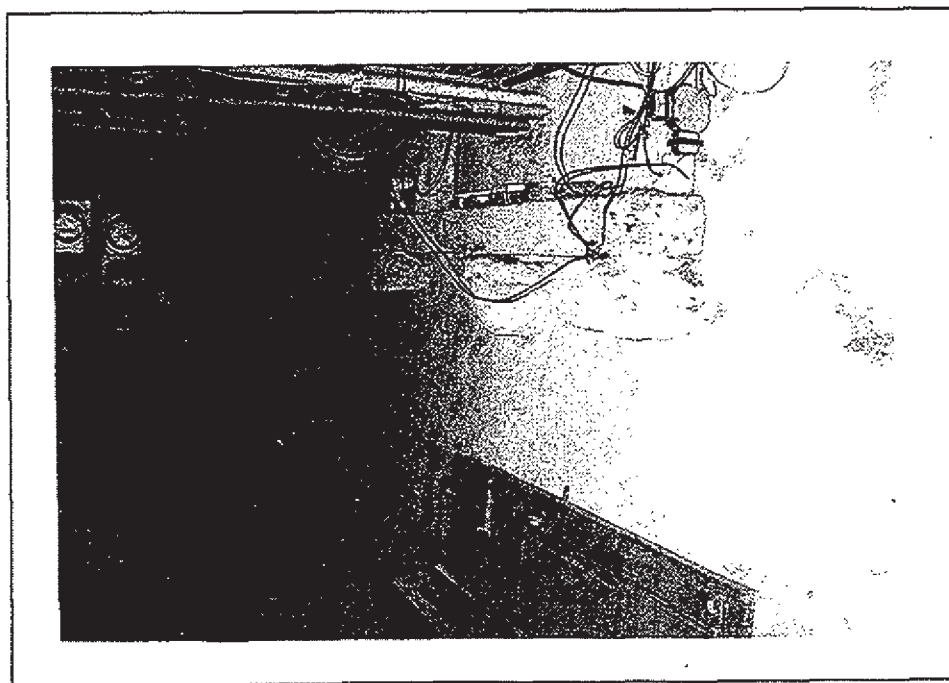


Plate 19. Cellar, Section 1. View of the corbel stones surviving on the west wall. Wooden timbers are presumed to be later fabric than the corbels.

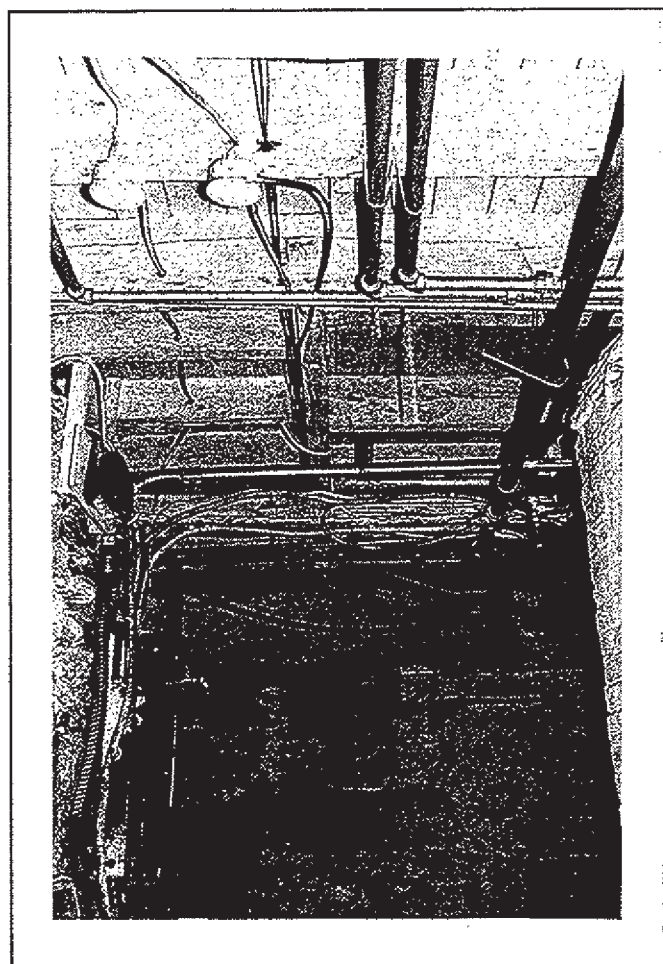


Plate 17. Cellar of Section 1. Detail of infilled opening for the stair in framing above. The stair was at the right of the header in the center of the photo. Note the corbels in the west wall beyond.

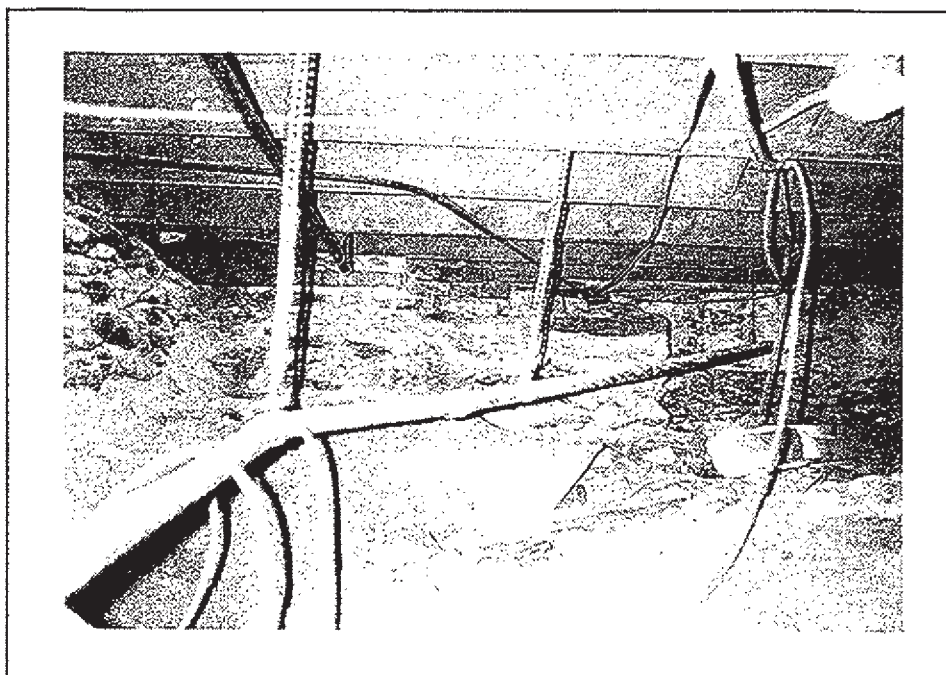


Plate 20. Crawl space, section 2. View looking south showing c.1834 stub wall at left and chimney base at center. Note the pre-1834 wall plaster at center right covered up by the 1834 chimney.

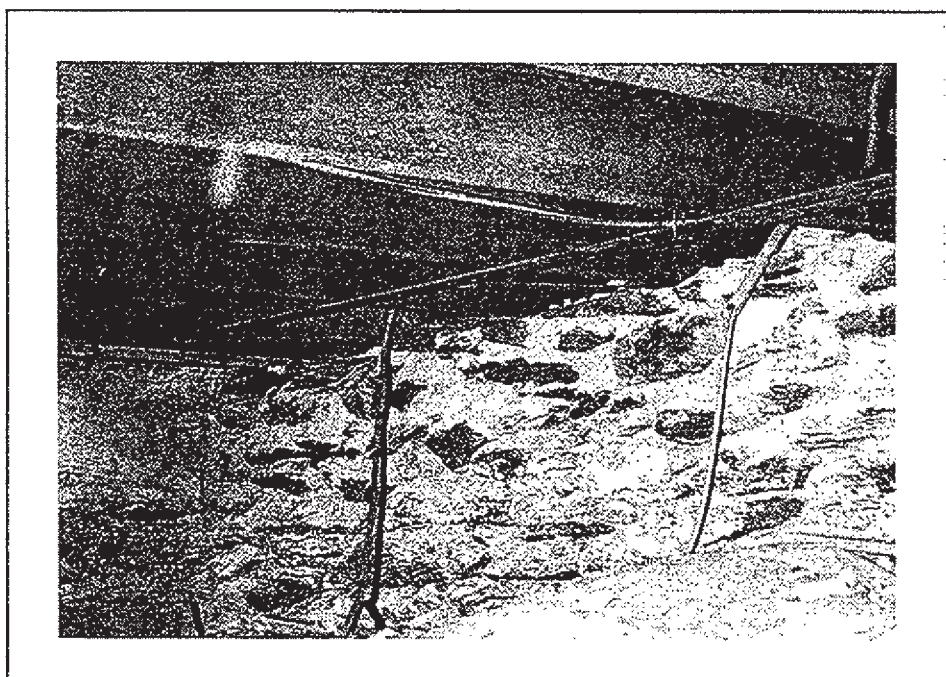


Plate 21. Crawl space, Section 2. View looking southwest showing c.1895 floor joists resting on c.1834 stonework built up against an earlier wall. Note the pre-1834 plaster on the south wall, covered up by c.1834 stonework.

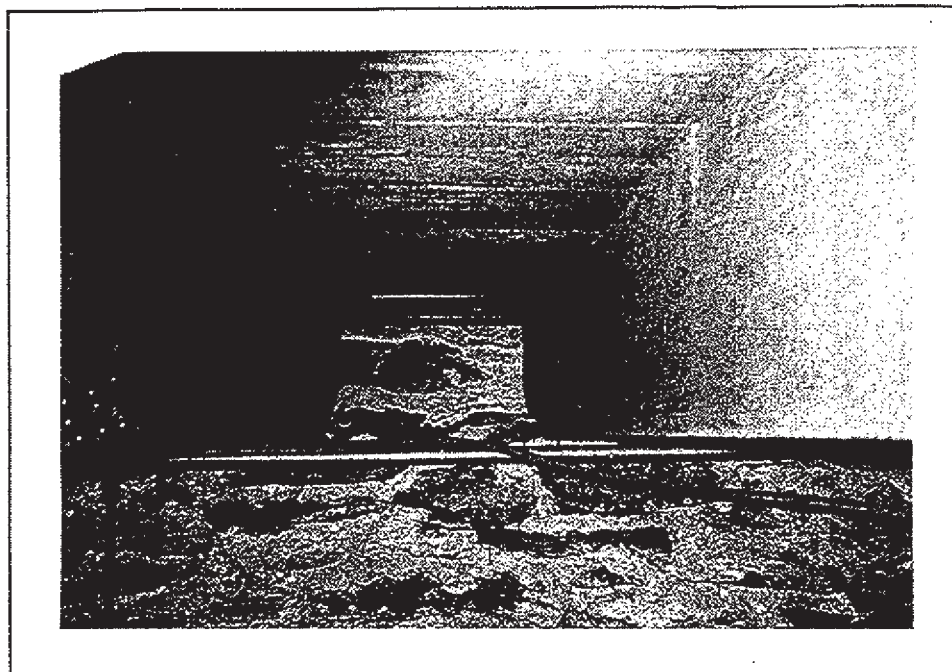


Plate 22. Crawl space, Section 2. View looking west showing the c.1895 floor joists bearing on c.1834 stonework. Note pre-1834 wall plaster at center, showing that the floor level has been raised.



Plate 23. Crawl space, northwest corner of Section 2. View looking north. Stonework at right is the southeast corner of building Section 1, to the left of the joint is later infill probably dating to c.1834

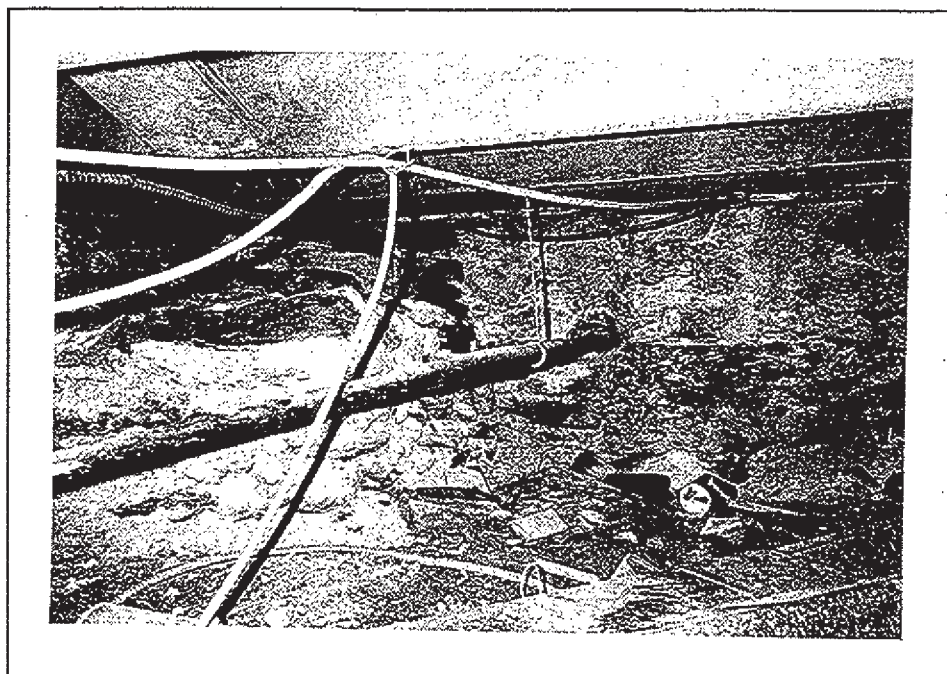


Plate 24. Crawl space, Section 2. View looking south toward chimney foundation. Note wall plaster at right continuing behind c. 1834 chimney.

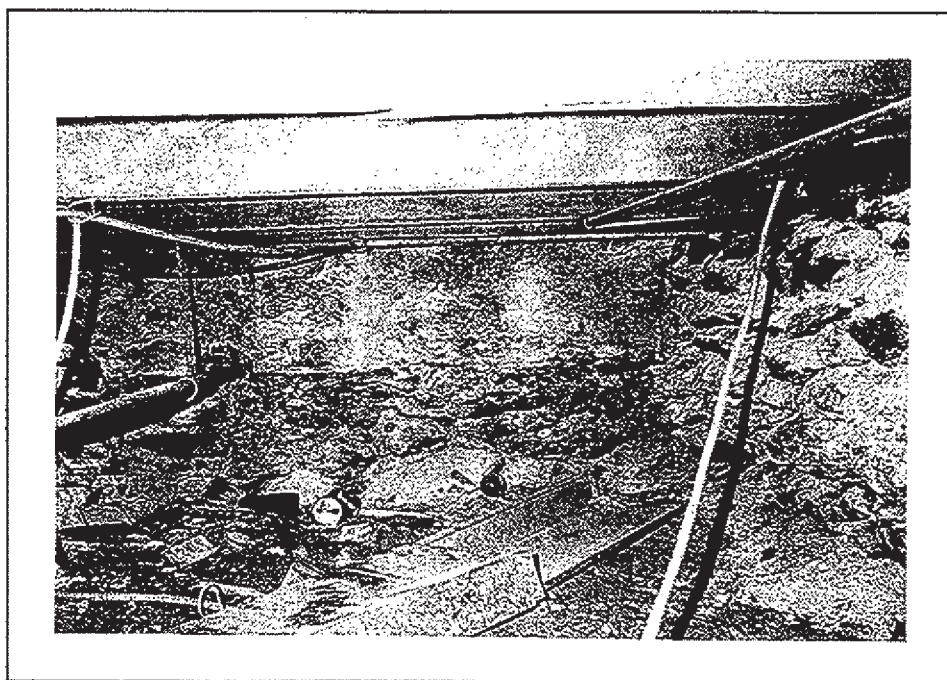


Plate 25. Crawl space, southwest corner of Section 2. Pre-1834 wall plaster on the south wall continues behind c. 1834 stonework at right, built up against the west wall to support the floor joists when the floor was raised.

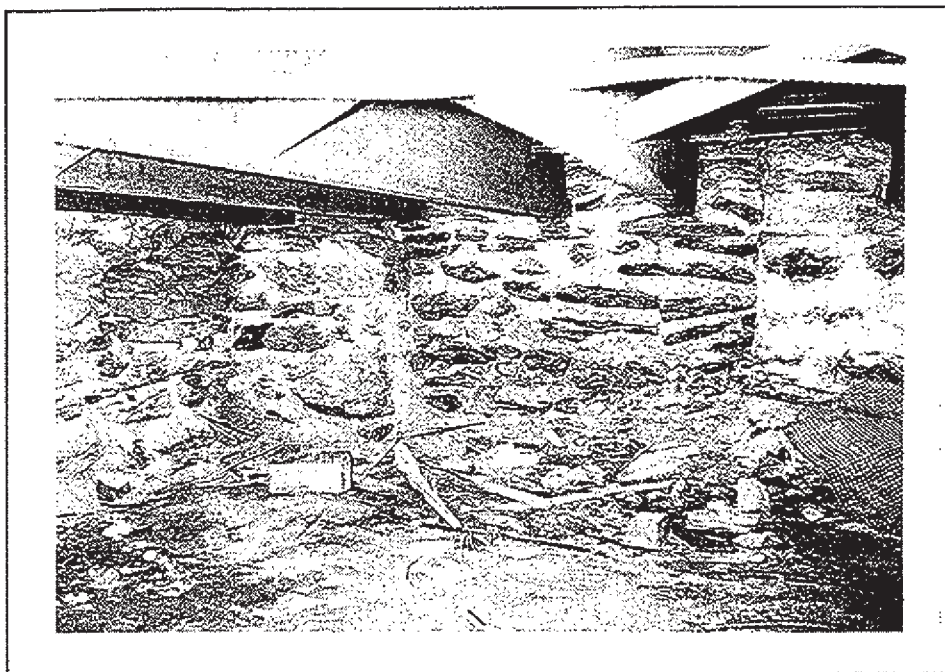


Plate 26. Crawl space, east end of Section 2. View looking east showing c.1834 masonry infill in the original doorway. Plate 14 shows this condition from the exterior.

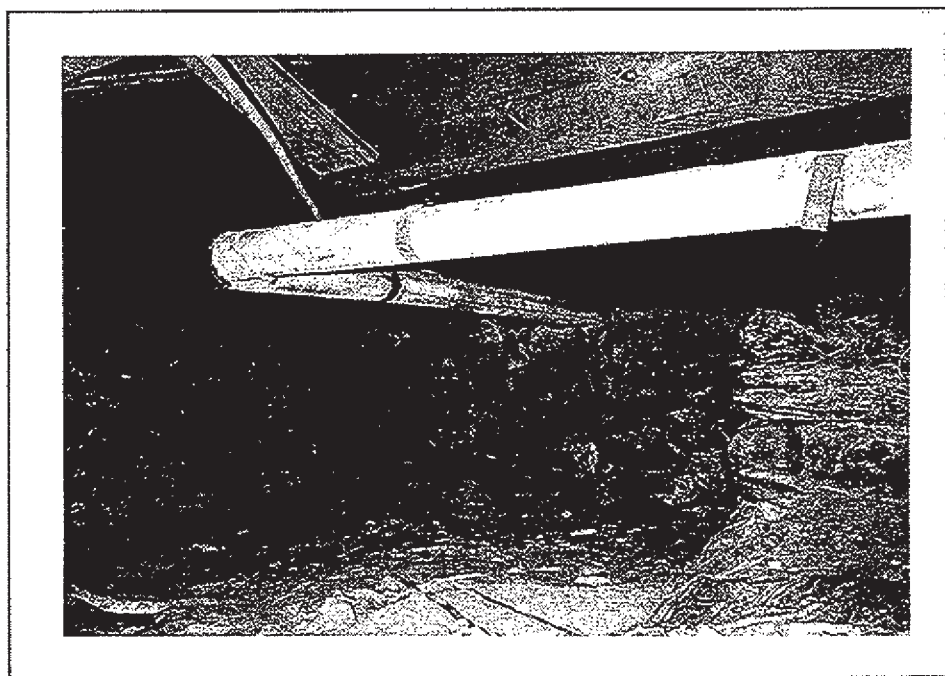


Plate 27. Crawl space, eastern end of Section 2. View looking south showing joist pockets close to soil level and chimney foundation to the right.

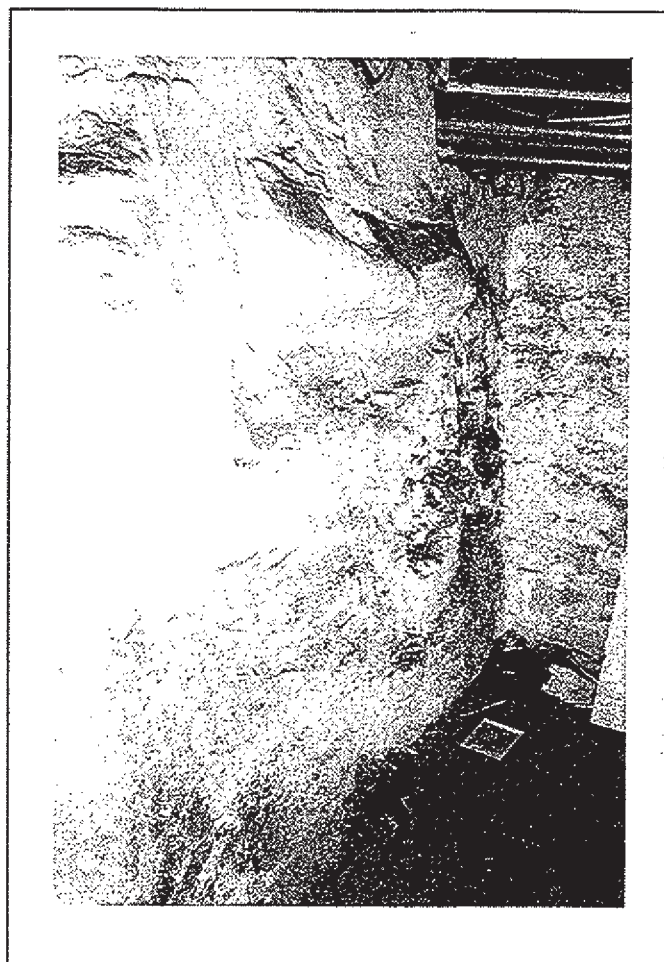


Plate 28. Cellar of Section 3. Detail of the east wall showing the possible springing of early hearth.



Plate 29. Cellar of Section 3, northwest corner. Detail of c.1850 stair tread in plaster of the north wall.

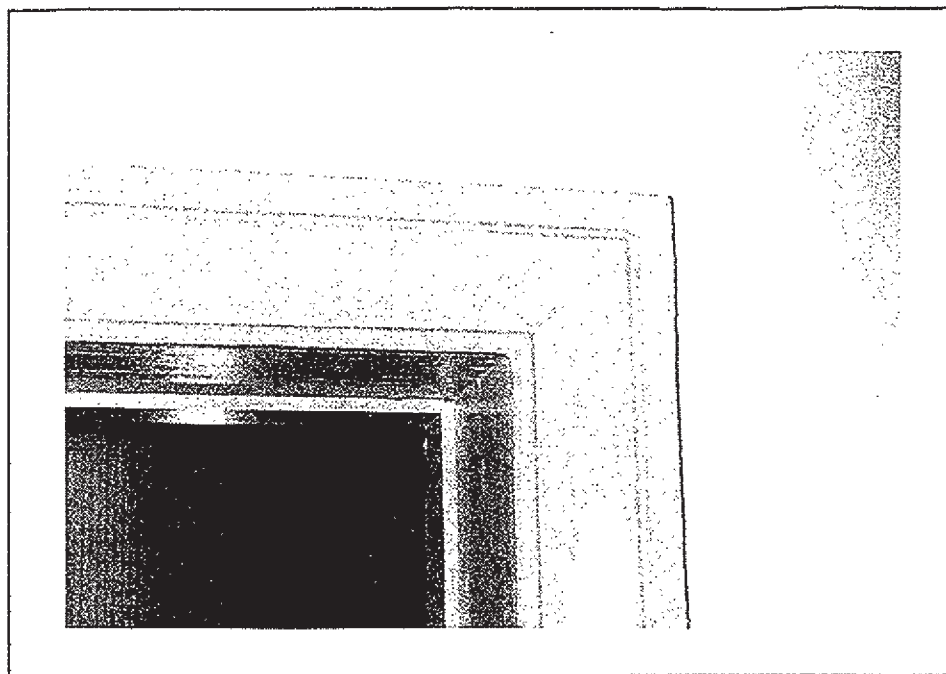


Plate 30. Detail of the door casing found only in the upper floors of Section 1.
This casing is common from the 1820's through the 1840's.

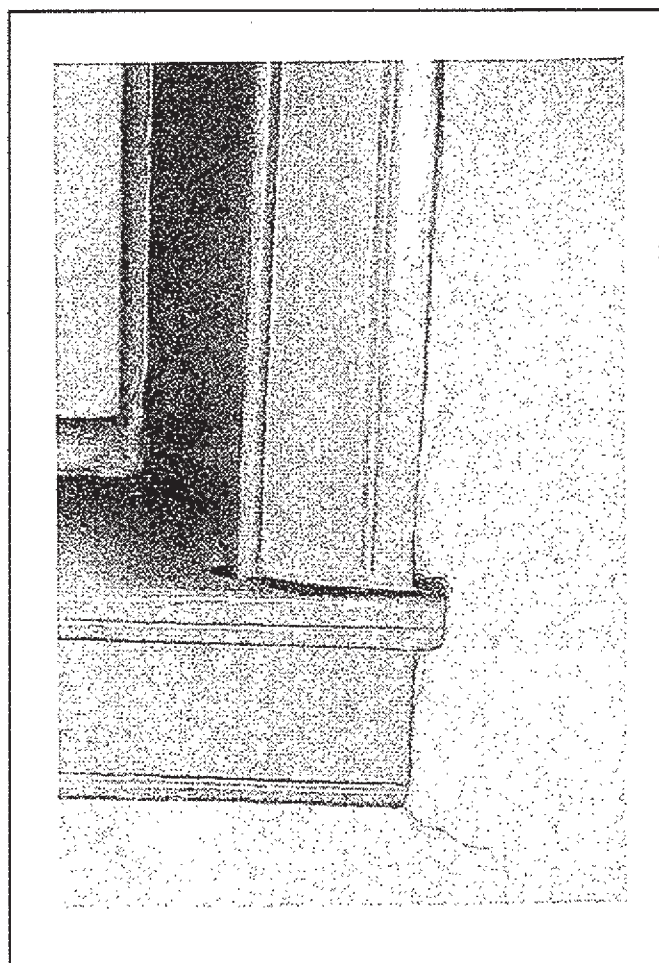


Plate 31. Detail of window casing and sill found in Section 1, corresponding to the door casing in Plate 30.

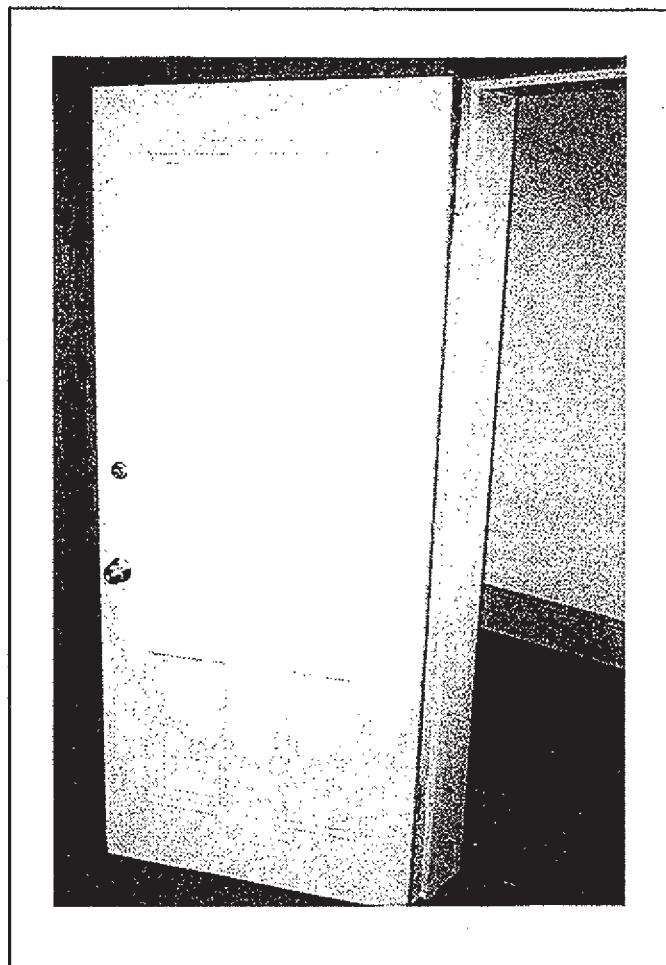


Plate 32. Detail of the door from the first floor hall into the southeast room.
This door probably dates from c. 1834 renovation.

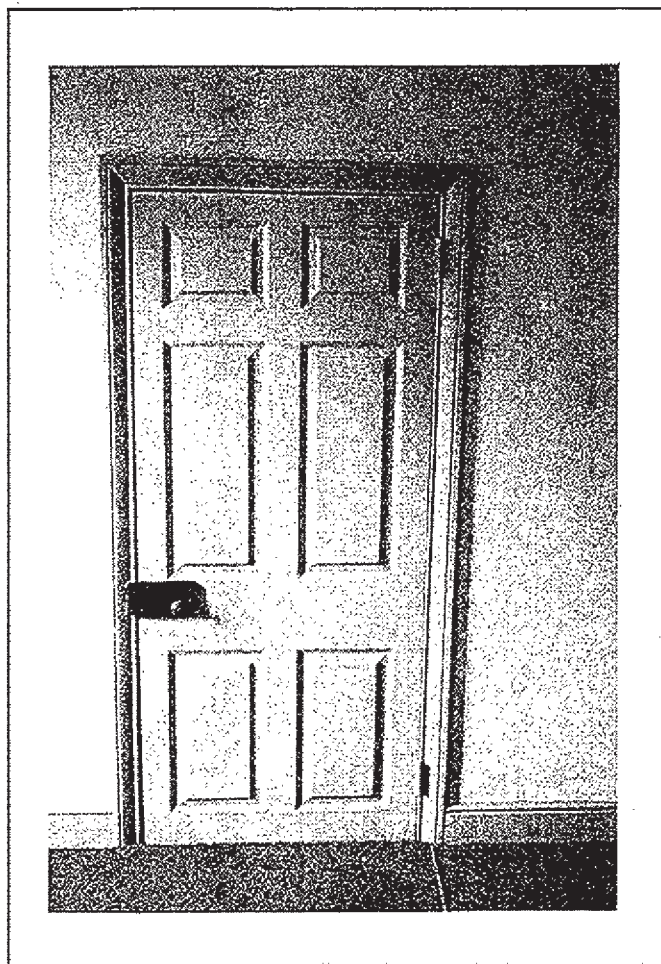


Plate 33. Detail of the door from the second floor hall into the southeast room. This raised panel door was probably reused in this location in c.1834.

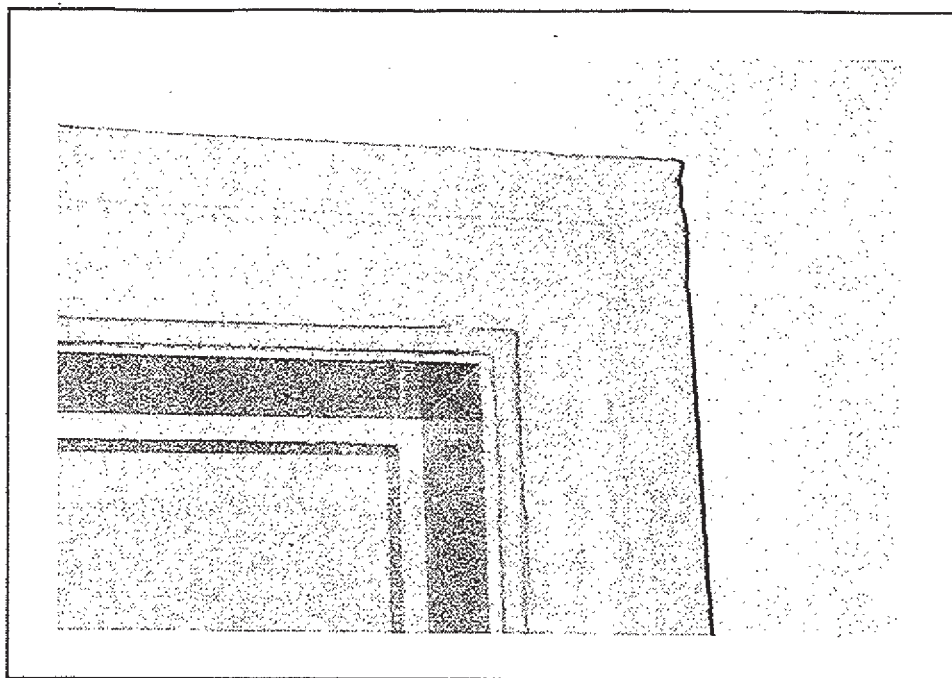


Plate 34. Detail of a mid-19th century door casing found throughout Section 3 and in some areas of Sections 1 and 2.

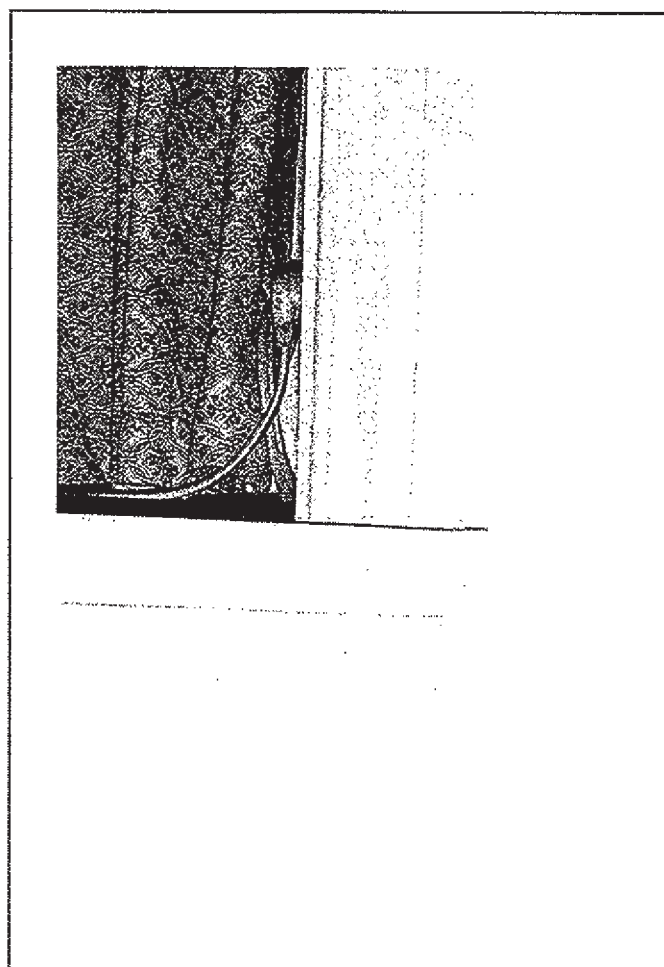


Plate 35. Detail of window casing and sill found in section 3, corresponding to the door casing in Plate 34.

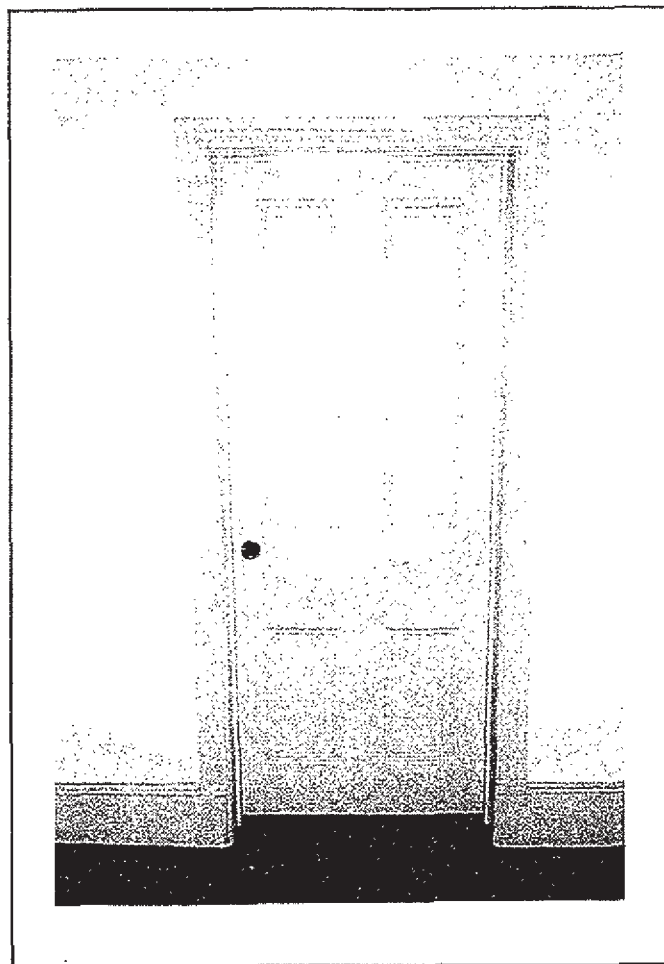


Plate 36. Detail of door from the first floor hall into a southwest room. This four panel door was inserted into this wall during the c.1850 renovation.

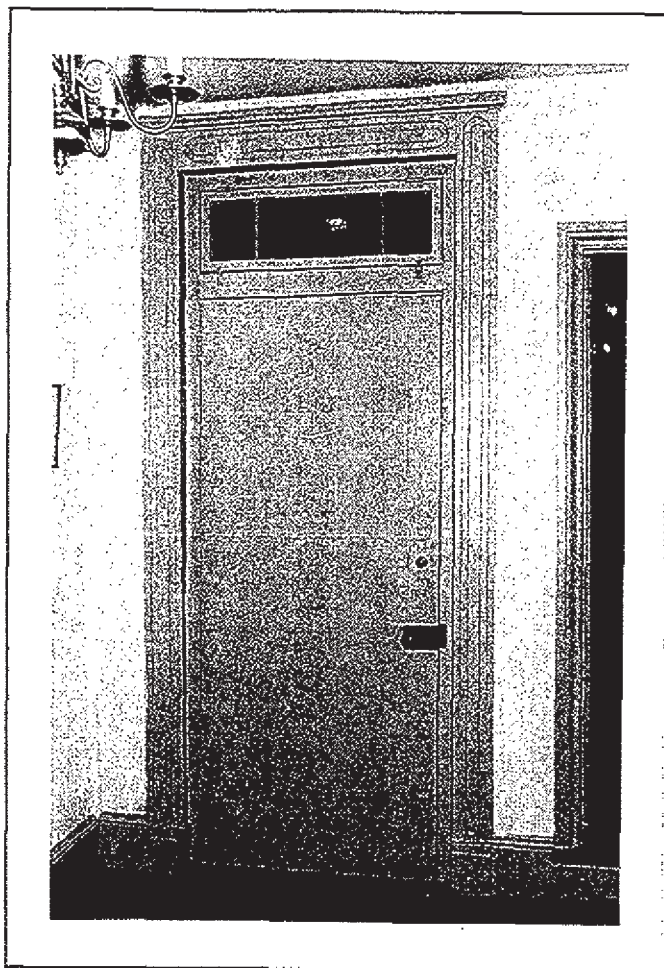


Plate 37. Detail of exterior doorway at the rear of the first floor hall. This door was installed in this location during the c.1850 renovation.

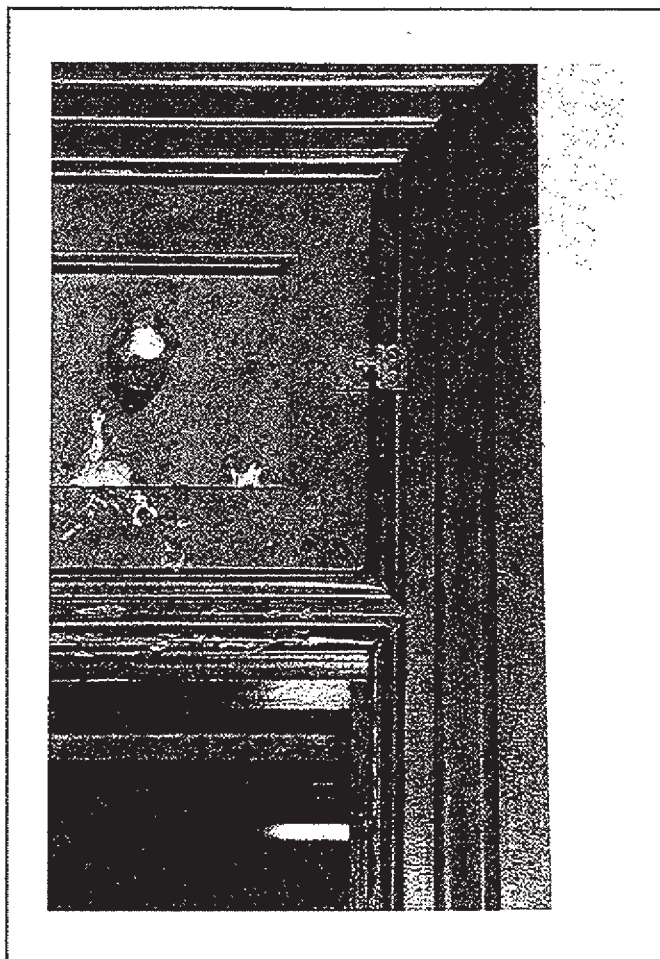


Plate 38. Typical door trim found in the third floor of the house dating from c.1895 renovation.

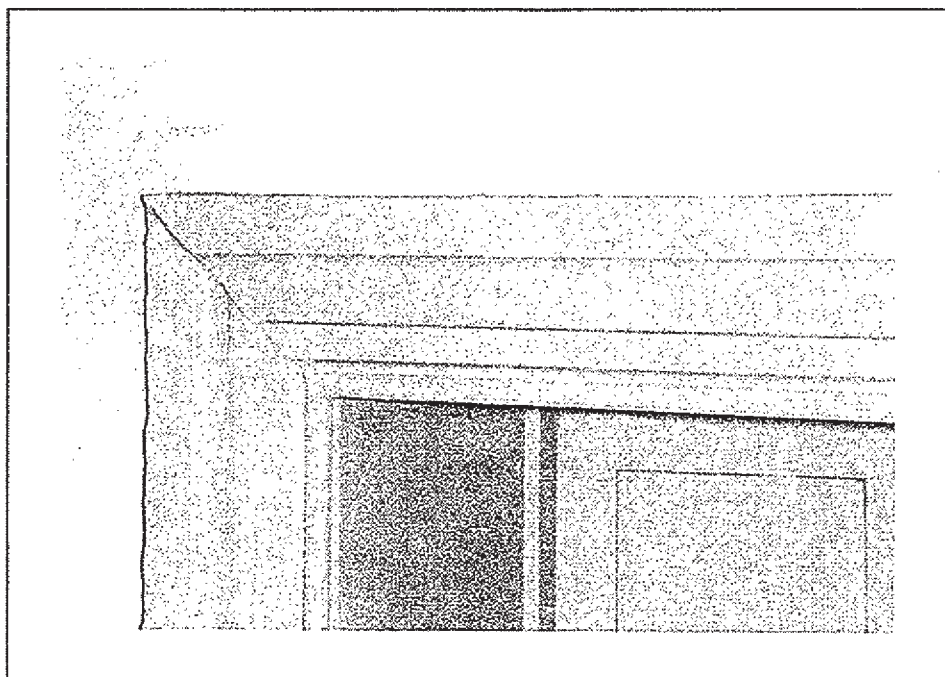


Plate 39. Detail of door casing found at the head of the stair leading into the northeast room of the second floor. This casing is typical of a c.1895 renovation.

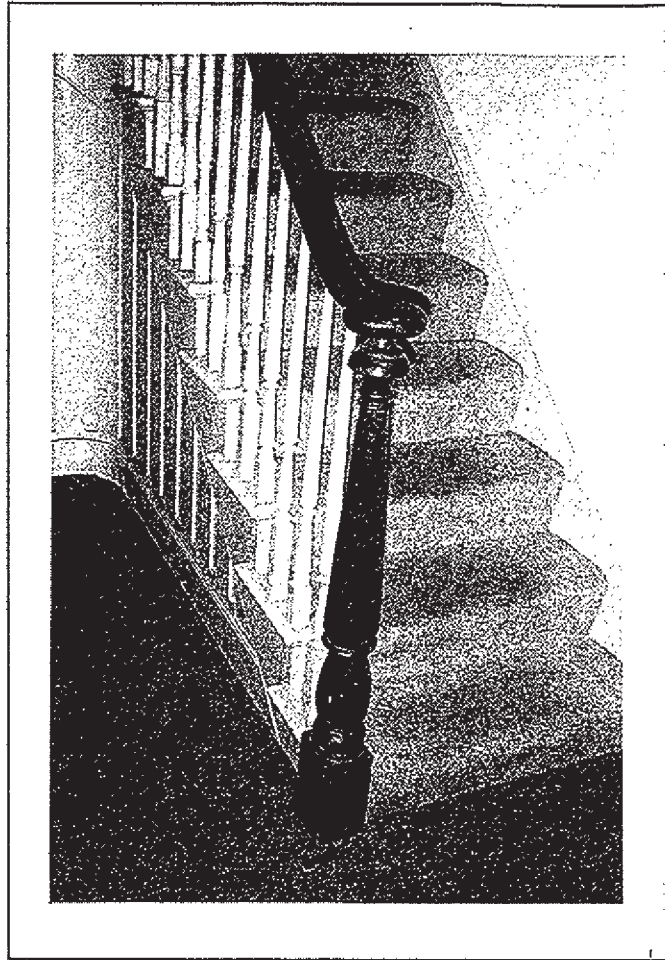


Plate 40. Detail of newell and stair on the 1st floor at the east end of Section 3.

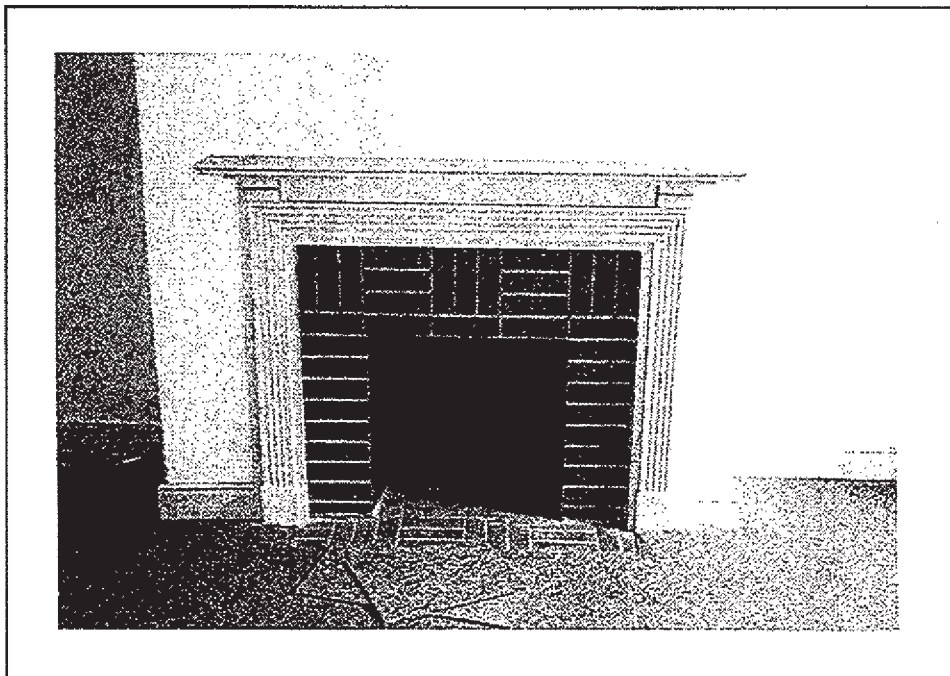


Plate 41. Detail of a mantel in the 2nd floor northeast room. This is the only mantel surviving in the house and probably dates from c.1834.

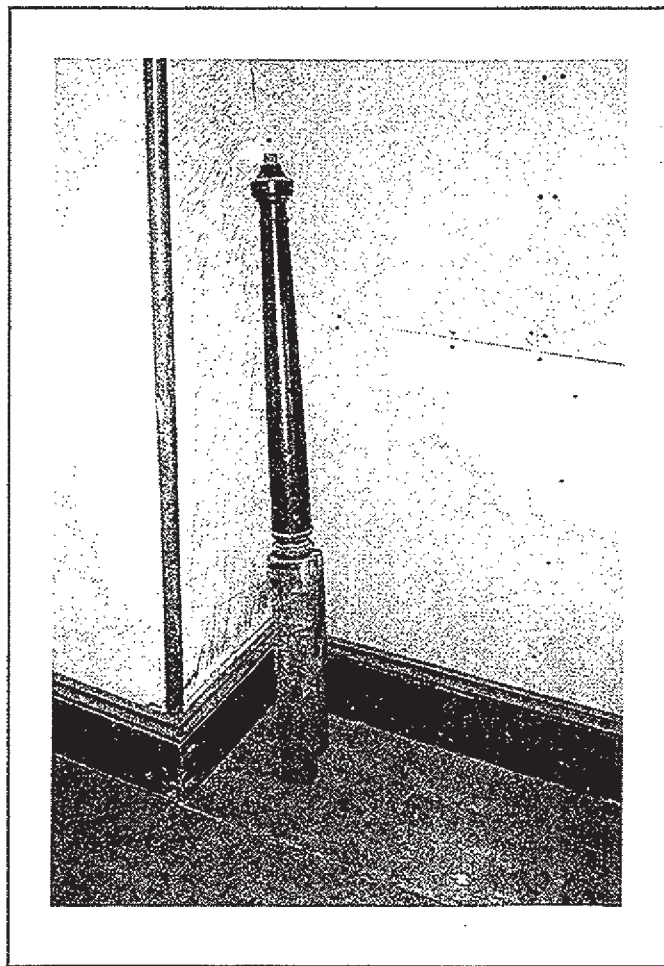


Plate 42. Detail of newell post from the stair that ran from the 2nd floor into the attic.
This stair probably dates from c.1834.

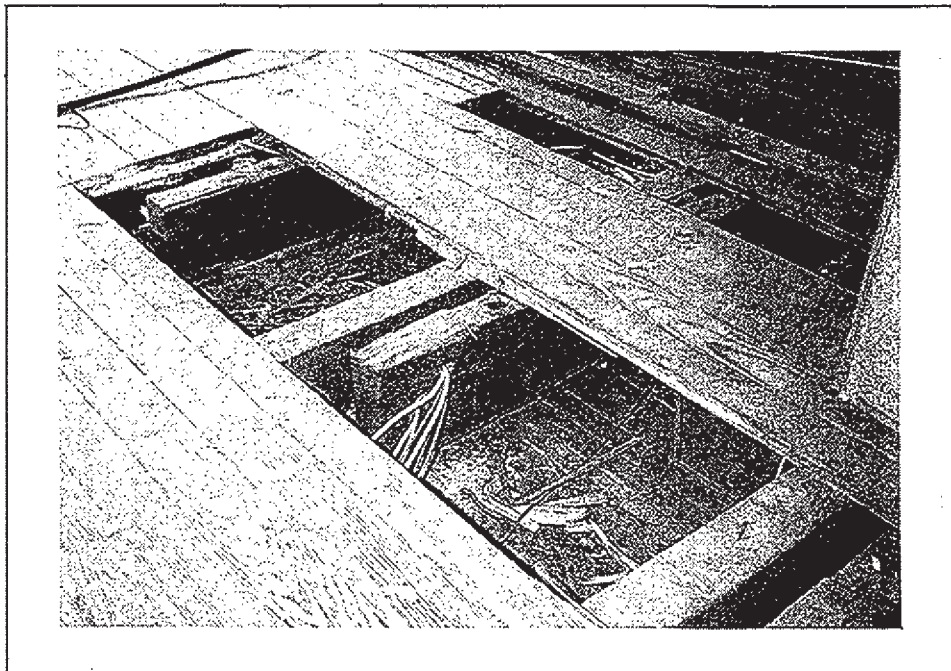


Plate 43. Detail of floor framing in the third floor, the northwest room, showing the ends of c.1834 attic floor joists. Note holes in tops of joists for attachment of false plate and rafters.

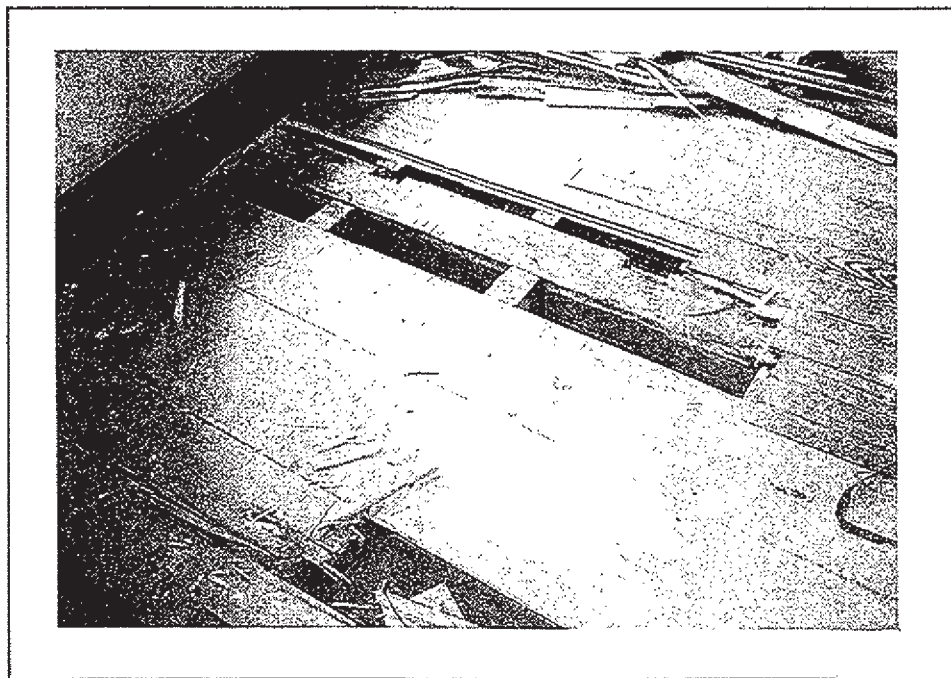


Plate 44. Detail of floor framing in the 3rd floor southwest room showing c.1834 summer beam. Note the wide floor boards of c.1834 in the foreground and the narrow boards beyond from c.1895.

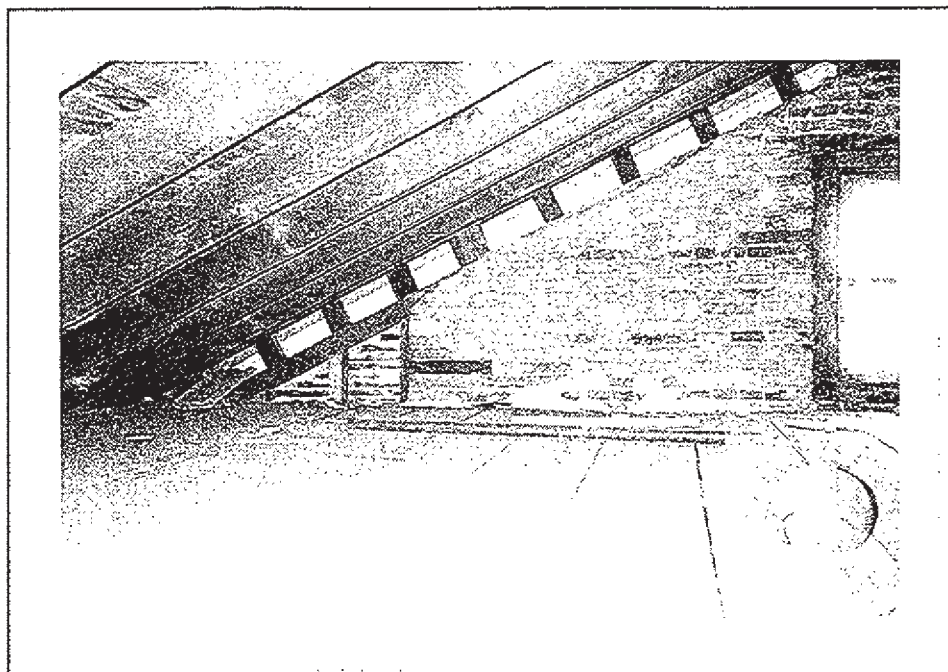


Plate 45. View of the attic looking north. Brick gable walls, window, rafters and floor system date from c.1895 renovation. Note the wood lath and plaster on the gable wall left of center.

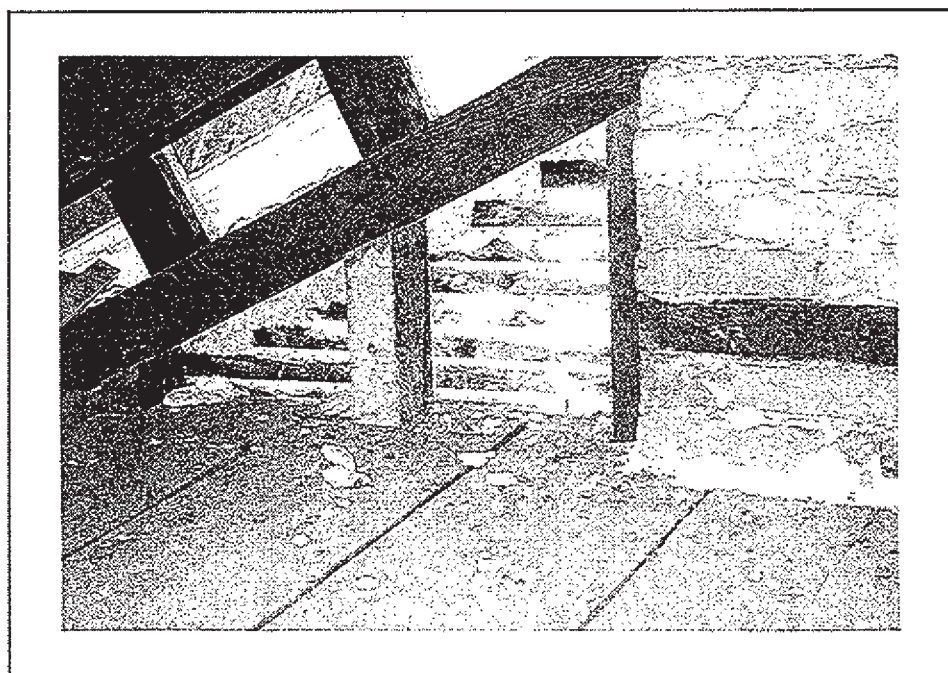


Plate 46. Close-up of Plate 45 showing exterior plaster on wood lath. This edge corresponds to the offset in the north wall of the cellar of the earliest portion of the house.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

311-313 WALNUT STREET

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19106

90

1770-1810
Celebrating 200 Years
of this century

July 17, 1990

H30(INDE)

Memorandum

To: William D. Brookover
From: P. H. Batcheler and H. KaltheGener
Subject: Brighthurst House

On 7/11/90 summer trainee Hildegard KaltheGener and I took 17 paint samples from accessible exterior window, door and cornice members. Attached is a summary of the paint history to be learned from these samples (Acc. 3698).

In addition, the paint samples indicate some construction details which may help in determining the sequence of construction of the house. These details relate to whether or not the window frames have applied back band molding or not.

Samples 1, 2, 3 and 10 were taken from mortise and tenoned window frames of the main house (see plan) which may date to the original construction. Samples 2, 3 and 10 were taken at the joint between the lower quarter round back band fillet and frame flat area. There seemed not to be a joint between the back band and frame. But another look to verify that the back bands and frames are integral is necessary. It could confirm that these are 18th c. original frames.

Samples 4 and 5 were taken at window frames on the south side of the nearest brick back building. These samples were also taken at the juncture of the quarter round back band lower fillet and frame. The back band portion was a separate piece --showing that the window frames altho also mortise tenon and pinned, had applied back band moldings --different from the 18th c. main house frames.

Samples 6, 7 and 8 were taken from the window frames of the rear end section of the back building which clearly is a later addition to the house. The back band moldings here, in addition to having a Greek Revival era profile, were definitely "applied" as paint was found having seeped into the joint between back band and frames.

The street facade windows and the centered front entrance are all clearly alterations. The window frames are not mortise and tenon with quarter round back bands. Instead the frames are simple

flats, or boxlike in section. They may date from the same alteration when the entrance was given an early 19th c. frame with half round fanlight.

Samples taken at the dormer window showed that at least one bracket is a late replacement.

The main cornice at the back of the main house looks to have replacement wood as well.

The one feature which may in part be 18th c., and have been protected from the overall paint removal which is discussed by Hildegard Kalthegener, is the main house back entrance now inside the back vestibule. This door frame needs architectural investigation to see if it has any original 18th c. portion left.

With a high lift the street facade main cornice should also be examined for its construction period and to see if by any chance some area escaped paint removal.

Paint Analysis: Bringhurst House, Exterior

Samples 1, 2, 3 and 10 come from windows which could be original to this 18th c. house. A sequence of dark brown, gray, dark brown, gray, dark brown, gray layers was found here, followed by several white 20th c. paint coats. A number of these layers contained white lead. Underneath the brown and gray colors, which probably date from the late Victorian period, was also found a moderate reddish brown (5YR 3/4). A light yellowish gray (2.5Y 8/2) was found in the pores of the wood of samples 10, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12 and 13. This may be the residue of early paint layers which have been removed. The disturbances and turbulence in the moderate reddish brown, gray and dark brown layers indicate either the possibility of paint loss or that the samples were taken from corners.

In some locations paint migrated from the exposed surface to the "back side" of samples, which led to the conclusions about the construction of the frames (see samples #5 and #6), see memo by P. H. Batcheler. Also the fact that the frame under the backband had paint on it, might cast further light on the construction and date of the window frames (#7).

The frames of the windows facing the street were identified as later additions, but nevertheless contained all but the first yellowish gray layer (2.5 Y 8/2); see sample #9. This layer (2.5 Y 8/2) definitely contains white lead (tested with sodium sulfide). The 2.5 Y 8/2 layer was also found in the pores of the wood on the sample taken from the street entrance which is probably an early 19th c. addition (#11).

The paint layering on the shutters (#12 and #13) is similar to the paint on the frames, except for the fact that here several gray and gray green paint coats follow the earlier gray/dark brown sequence. The dormer window bracket sampled and the rear

main cornice might be replacements, since their samples have only several 20th c. layers of white paint on them. Also the wood looks very clean and light here. The gable of the dormer (#16), however, contains all the layers described for sample #8, plus 2 earlier dark yellowish gray (5 Y 3/1) finishes and a weak hiding power prime coat of moderate yellowish brown. The dormer window frame has a contrasting early finish of reddish brown (2.5 YR 3/2) above the prime coat, followed by all the layers described in sample #8.

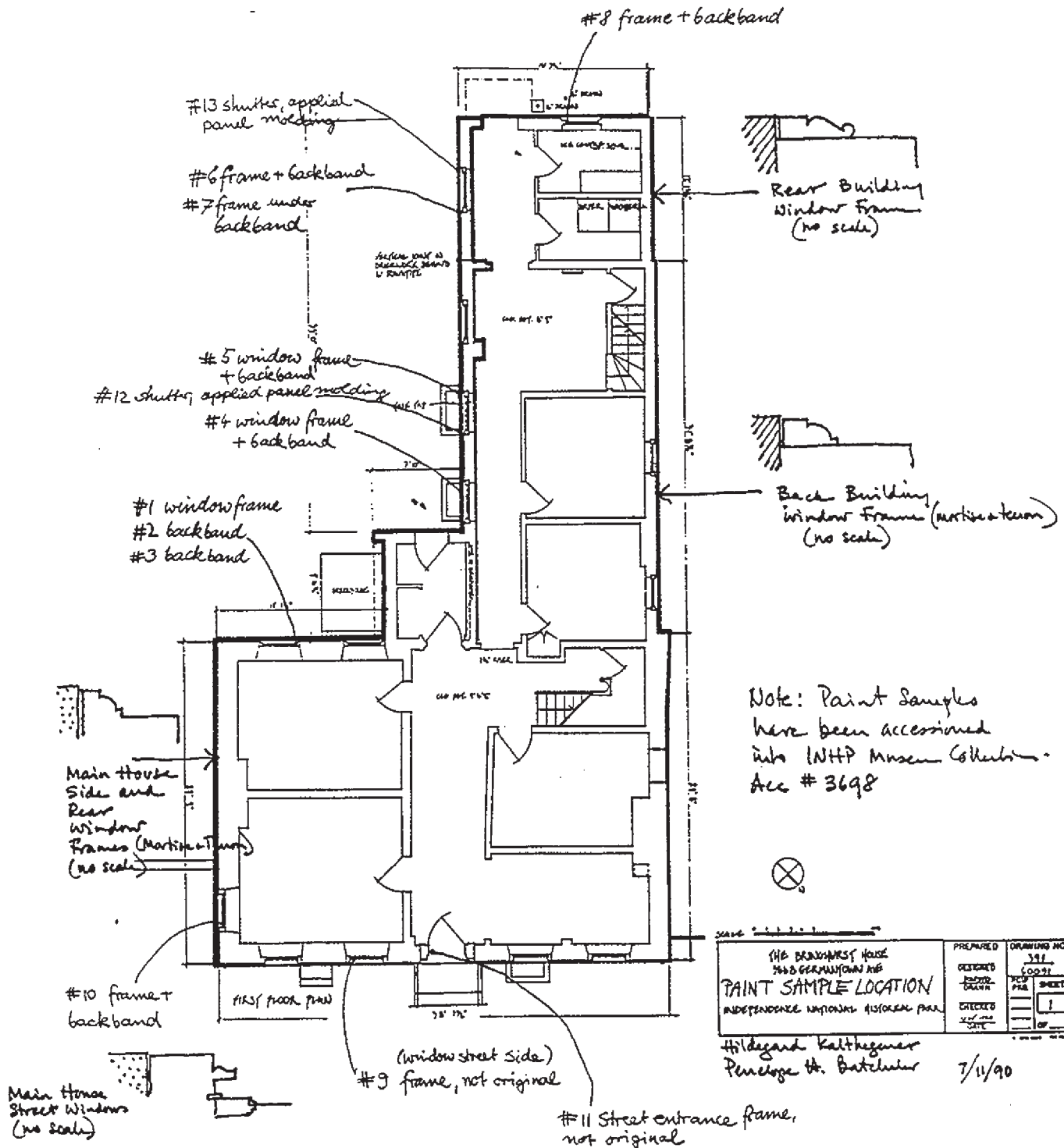
To complete this paint color study it is essential that more samples be taken at the same locations and at others as well. One sample from each architectural element is not enough. But a preliminary interpretation may be that the Bringham house was painted an off-white through the 18th and first half of the 19th century. All the early paint layers were removed, possibly at the time that the mansard roof was added with the dormer windows. After this major addition the house was apparently painted the dark colors found on the samples.

P. H. Batcheler

H. Kalthegener

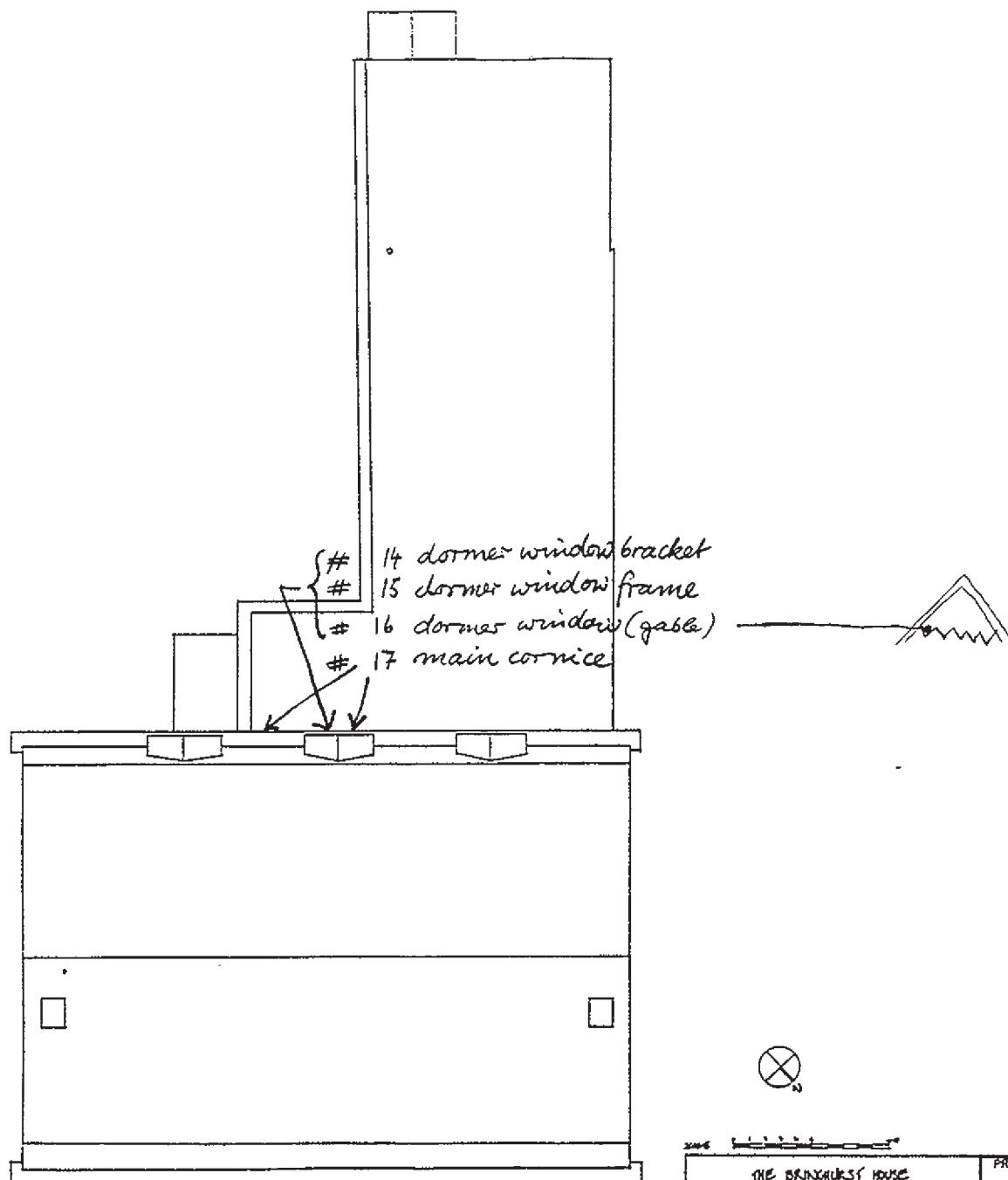
PAINT ANALYSIS SAMPLE LOCATIONS

First Floor



PAINT ANALYSIS SAMPLE LOCATIONS

Dormers and Cornice



ROOF PLAN

THE BRINCKLEY HOUSE 2416 GERMAN TOWN AVE Paint Sample Location INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK		PREPARED DESIGNED DRAWN CHECKED DATE	DRAWING NO. 241 60092 SHEET 3 OF
---	--	--	---

Last Will & Testament

The last will and testament of George Bringhurst (Senior), written January 21, 1752, as reproduced in Leach, History of the Brinkhurst Family in America.

"BE IT REMEMBERED THAT I GEORGE BRINGHURST OF GERMANTOWN in the County of Philadelphia and Province of Pennsylvania Sadler being weak and indisposed in Body, But through the Goodness of God an of Sound disposing mind and memory Calling to mind therefore the uncertainty of my time here I have thought it Convenient to settle my outward affairs by this my last Will and Testament First requesting that all and singular my just Debts funeral expences &c. be well and truly paid & discharged, and the residue of my Estate I dispose of in manner following -that is to say I give and bequeath to my beloved Wife Anna Bringhurst the following Goods & particulars Viz: my best Bead, Beading, Bedstead, Curtains and all furnature to the said Bed blonging, A Chest of drawers a looking Glass, a large Arm Chair & a dozen of my best other Chairs, a large Black Walnut Table, a Joynt stool table, a Couch , a pendelum Watch or Clock a Corner Cupboard, an Iron Stove now in Use, warming pan, a Walnut Chest with two drawers, a Cow and dung hook & fork & all the Hay & other fodder now in the Barn a Dough Trough a large Brass Kettle & a smaller one a large Iren Pot & a lesser one, a Bell Metal Pot with my Pot racks and Hooks a pair of And Irons fire shovel & Tongs & Grid Iron, a Box Iron & heaters, a frying pan & Baking Iron, a flesh fork brass Skimmer & all my Pewter a Tea Kettle two Tea Potts & all other Tea furniture A Quilting frame all my stone Jugs a Cradle & side Sadle, all our Earthen Ware & Candlesticks Snuffers and Candle Box, all our linnens and Wollens both made and unmade into wearables, a Coffee pot a Coffy mill a dressing Box, a little Trunk with a smaller one in it a gold ring a big & little Spinning wheel, a spade & wheelbarrow, all which I give & bequeath unto her my said dear Wife for her Use & to dispose of at her discretion, I give & bequeath to my son John Bringhurst all my Tools for making of Saddles or Sadlary Utensils whatsoever & in whose hand soever the same are found. I give & bequeath to my Son George Bringhurst a Cros Cut saw & all my Saws & Tools or utensils Saddletree making and a Chest to hold part of said Tools & all the wood which I have for making Saddletrees, as also a Bible my Desk & a pair of Gold Buttons-I give and bequeath to my Daughter Hester Bringhurst a Bed, Beadstead Beding, Curtains & all furniture to the said Bed belonging, a black Walnut Chamber Table, a dressing Box a looking Glass, a pair of And Irons, fire shovel & Tongs & half a dozen of Chairs, and I will that my wearing apparel be made Use of for the Clothing of my two little Sons Sammuel and William, all the remainder of my Moveables I will and require to be disposed of and sold and the same with all other my Personal Estate appropriated to the subsistence of my Wife and Younger Children, the which Younger Children I request may be kept to School untill they are capable to be put to prentice which should be at the age of fourteen Years at the longest and in order for the discharging of my Just Debts I will and require that such a part of my Real Estate as to

Last Will & Testament

my Executrix and her Assistants herein after named shall seem necessary shall be sold and disposed of in the best manner & for the best price that may be had for the same (with this Proviso that if possible my House wherein I now dwell with some part of my Land and Buildings lying Contiguous & Convenient thereunto be reserved & kept for the Use and Benefit of my Wife and Children in such manner as I shall hereinafter direct) Wherefore I empower & authorize my Executrix hereinafter named, or those whom I may appoint Executors in her room in case of her disability or the Survivor of them to Sell and dispose of part of my Real Estate in manner as is above directed and make and execute good & sufficient Deed or Deeds, Conveyance or Conveyances for the same to the Purchaser or purchasers & to his her or their Heirs and Assigns forever in fee Simple And with the Money arising by such Sale to pay and discharge all my Just Debts as aforesaid and as to the remaining part of my Real Estate to wit my dwelling House and Lot thereunto belonging I give and bequeath the Use Rents & Profits thereof to my beloved Wife aforesaid to be appropriated to the Maintaining Clothing & Schooling of our two Youngest Children until they are put out to prentice, I also give & bequeath the use Rents & Profits aforesaid to my said Wife for and during her Natural Live if she continues so long my Widow, But in Case she intermarries then and in such Case she shall have the Thirds of sd Rents and Profits during her natural life, and the other two thirds to be equally divided amongst my Surviving Children, The Use Rents and Profits of my said Real Estate is to be undrstood to be vested in my said Wife until my said two Youngest Children be put out prentice whether she marries or otherwise for her and their support as aforesaid and after my Wifes decease I give and bequeath my said remaining Real Estate unto all my Children to wit John, Sarah, George, Hester, Samuel & William and to their Heirs and Assigns forever in fee Simple to be divided amongst them in manner following that is to say my two Youngest Children Samuel & William to have Ten Pounds each lawful Money of Pennsylvania or Value thereof more or over and above the Proportion of the other four, in Consideration that my said four Eldest Children have had something more by this Will & otherwise than my said youngest Children have had, so that my said four Eldest Children shall have and equal proportion of said remaining Real Estate share and share alike-And my two youngest Children shall have such a proportion and Ten Pound each or Value thereof more than the four eldest is each to have, And if any or either of my said Children should depart this life in their Minority unmarried & withour lawful Issue, in such Case my Surviving Children & their Heirs shall have the decedents part or proportion equally share & share alike, The Heirs representative or representatives of any of my Children who may be deceased before they receive their part is to have the said part equally divided amongst them I Nominate Constitute and and appoint my beloved Wife Anna Bringhurst aforesaid Sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament and Guardian to my Younger Children aforesaid-And I appoint my Son John Bringhurst and Son in Law George Palmer my Trustees and Assistants to my said dear Wife in Case of need, and in Case of my wife's death or being otherwise

Last Will & Testament

disabled to go through & finish the affairs of her Executrix ship in such Case I appoint them my said Son John and Soninlaw George Palmer as Executors & Guardians to my said Children in her room and stead with full power to them or the Survivor of them to act & do in all things as fully & amply as she could or might hav done in case she were living and otherwise Capable of said Trust I do hereby revoke and make void all other and former Wills or Testaments by word or writing by me at any time heretofore made or expressed ratifying & Confirming this only as my last Will & Testament IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal Dated the twenty first day of January in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty two 1752.

"Signed Sealed Published and declared by the said George Bringhurst as his last Will & Testament in the presence of us

John Jones
Danl. Mackenet
Thos Rose"

Notice in Pennsylvania Gazette

August 20, 1761

TEN POUNDS Reward.

RUN away the 8th of this Instant from the Subscribers, living in Germantown, Philadelphia County, two Apprentice Lads; the one named John Collier, pretends to be something of a Sadler, but not much of a Workman, aged about 19 Years, 5 Feet 4 or 5 Inches high, well set, of a dark Complexion, down Look, broad Nose, with a black Spot on one side of it, some Freckles in his Face, and has brown Hair; Had on and took with him a brown Cloth Coat, with white Buttons; one white Nankeen Ditto, lined with Linen, with a small Cape; a black Jacket, lined with white; blue knit Breeches, Check Shirt, two Pair of Worsted Stockings, the one speckled, and the other a light blue, one Pair of Shoes, a Pair of Pumps, and a good Castor Hat, of a small Size.

The other named John Stall, about 5 Feet 5 or 6 Inches high, 18 Years old, smooth fac'd, fresh Colour, brown Hair; Had on a blue Cloth coat, almost new, lined with white, with a small Cape, and blue Mohair Buttons; a Snuff coloured Thickset Jacket, the Sleeves lately ripp'd out; a Pair of Buckskin Breeches, Thread Stockings, a Castor Hat, lately turned, and lined with Linen; one white Shirt, two Check ones, and supposed to have Plenty of Money with him. He understands something of the Sadler's Trade, and trimming of Chairs. --- Whoever takes up and secures the said Apprentices in any Goal so that their Masters may have them again, shall have the above Reward, or Five Pounds for either, and reasonable Charges, paid by JOHN BRINGHURST, OR DANIEL LUCAN.

N.B. It is supposed they are gone to New York. All Masters of Vessels are forbid to carry them off, at their Peril.

Property Survey of 1840

Survey of House Kitchen and ~~Shed~~ situated in Germantown on the North East side of the Main Street belonging to Thomas Brinkhurst late George Goersheimer - -

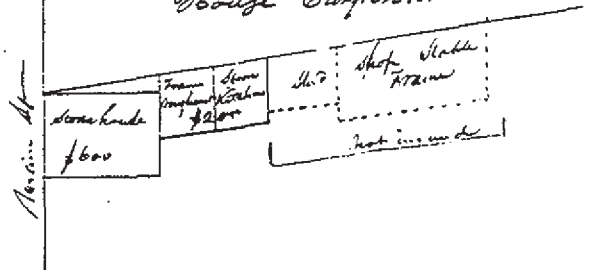
Front a 3 story stone house, ^{18 by 26 feet} first story 1 large room and Entry, 4 windows with pannel shutter, 12 lights glass 10 by 15 in, 4 pannel doors, windows and doors trimmed with Grecian moulding, wash board, wood Mantle, plane stair in entry. Second story, 2 rooms and entry, 7 windows without shutter, of 15 lights glass 8 by 10 in, pannel doors, wood mantles, Third story 2 rooms and entry, 5 windows without shutter, 12 lights glass 8 by 10 in pannel doors 2 closets, wash boards, wood mantles.

Back building adjoining the house built of frame and Range cast 15 by 18 feet 2 story high with 2 flights of stairs 4 windows of 12 lights glass 8 by 10 in 2 windows of 6 lights glass 8 by 10 in, entry and room on both floors,

Kitchen adjoining the back building built of Stone 2 story high 14 by 18 feet 7 windows of 15 lights glass 8 by 10 in. 2 Ledge shutter Ledge door, common ~~wood~~ stair wash boards, windows finished plane - -

^{Noting into} Thomas Shop and Stable adjoining the Kitchen Shed, 2 story high, 14 by 26 feet 3 windows without shutter 12 lights glass 8 by 10 in. 2 windows of 9 lights glass 8 by 10 in rough weather boarding.

Surveyed by me this day
Germantown Octr 19th 1840
apptd for Thos Brinkhurst
June 5th 1840
Jacob Orop
House Carpenter



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources

1. Manuscript Materials

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Archives of the City and County of Philadelphia.

2. Published Sources

Leach, Josiah Granville, History of the Bringham Family. Philadelphia, 1901.

The Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728-1789. Philadelphia: A Reprint Edition, Microsurance, Inc., 1968.

3. Public Documents

Toogood, Anna Coxe. "Historic Structure/Furnishing/Grounds Report, Deshler-Morris House, Bringham, Historical Data Section." June 1980. Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pa.

4. Newspapers

Germantown Telegraph and Philadelphia and Montgomery Advertiser, 1833.

The Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728-1789.