H30

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

November 7, 1960

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Independence

From: Regional Director

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, on Old City Hall

In response to your inquiry of October 27, this office sees no reason why completion of the subject report cannot be deferred from November 1 until December 1, for the reasons outlined in your memorandum.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Chief, EODC, w/copy of incoming

MHNelligan/cp

General
Daily
Area

IN REPLY REFER TO:

~~H22~~
H-30

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Independence National Historical Park
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

October 27, 1960

REGION FIVE — INITIAL AND DATE
OCT 31 1960
REG. DIRECTOR
ASST. REG. DIR.
OPERATIONS
INTERPRETATION
ADM.
REC. RES. PLAN.
RANGER ACT'S

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region V

From: Acting Superintendent, Independence

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, on Old City Hall

Most of the research recommended in the Historic Structures Report, Part I, on Old City Hall has been done. However, no vouchers, plans or correspondence relating to the appearance of the building when the Supreme Court was in session there have come to light. The types of records being sought have been found for other buildings and it is hoped that further intensive research in the records of the City Treasurer and the City Archives will produce corresponding records for Old City Hall.

Accordingly, we request that the target date for completion of the Historic Structures Report, Part II, on Old City Hall be extended from November 1 until December 1. It is felt that this will allow us adequate time to exhaust all municipal and court records before the report is developed further.

Dennis C. Kurjack
Acting Superintendent

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

H30

September 14, 1960

Nelligan 9/14

Nelligan 9/14

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC

From: Regional Director

Subject: Congress Hall, Doors to Former "Portico"

We gather from your memorandum of August 30 to this office that some evidence of a doorway, additional to that already proposed, approved and tentatively scheduled for restoration in the second phase of the rehabilitation of Congress Hall, has been uncovered.

If this is so, we suggest that such evidence be presented in the Revised Architectural Data Section, Part II, Historic Structures Report, Congress Hall, which was scheduled for submission no later than July 1, 1960. You will recall that it was agreed at our March conference that the decision as to restoration of the first floor doorway to the Portico would be deferred pending submission of the revised report, although funds would be reserved for its restoration if so decided.

We would appreciate being informed, too, when this report may be expected.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Director
Supt., Independence

MHNelligan/cp

General ✓
Daily
Area

SM

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

H30

August 26, 1960

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Independence

From: Acting Regional Chief of Interpretation

Subject: Rehabilitation of Congress Hall, Independence NHP

Attached for your consideration is a copy of a self-explanatory memorandum dated August 11 from Chief, Branch of Museums Lewis.

Frank Barnes
Acting Regional Chief of Interpretation

In duplicate

Attachment

HWillcox/cp

General
Daily
Area

H30

Eastern Office
Division of Design and Construction
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

August 24, 1960

REGION FIVE	INITIAL AND DATE
AUG 25 1960	
REG. DIRECTOR	
ASST. REG. DIR.	
OPERATIONS	mse 8/25
INTERPRETATION	
ADM.	
REC. RES. PLAN.	
RANGER ACT'S	

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Independence

From: Acting Chief, EODC

Subject: Transmittal, Working Drawings and Addendum No. 2, Congress Hall, Independence

Attached herewith is one set of black and white prints of the Working Drawings NHP-Ind-3120A (17 sheets), as revised by Addendum No. 1 to the Specifications for the Rehabilitation of Congress Hall. You will receive today, by special messenger, twenty (20) sets of blueprints of the above to be sent to the bidders.

Also attached are 21 copies of Addendum No. 2 to the Specifications which contains revisions to the listing of Minimum Wage Rates to conform to Decision No. Y-2,946 effective after September 3.

(Sgd.) Eugene R. De Silets
Eugene R. DeSilets
Acting Chief

Attachments

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Five, w/attachments—
Chief of Design and Construction 2, "

Info	OPERATIONS	Act	Initial and Date
	Lands		
	Engineer		
	Architect		
	Land Archt		
	Programs		

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

H30

July 29, 1960

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC

From: Regional Director

Subject: Restoration of Congress Hall, Independence

We delayed reply to your memo of June 16 pending review of the working drawings of Phase 1 of the restoration and rehabilitation of Congress Hall.

Regarding item (1) in your memo, restoration of the "Representatives' doorway" on the east side of Congress Hall, this office agrees that restoration of this feature should not be included in the general contract for the rehabilitation of Congress Hall, as proposed by Superintendent M. O. Anderson in his memorandum of May 31; instead we suggest that the architectural investigation for the doorway be done in connection with Phase 1 and design and restoration accomplished as an addition to the general rehabilitation contract. The results of the architectural investigation should be submitted as a supplement to the Architectural Data Section, Part II of the Historic Structures Report for Congress Hall.

Regarding item (2), we are inclined to agree that the historical evidence as to what kind of stones the steps were made of is less than definitive. Therefore, we suggest that the existing steps be retained until further historical and architectural research indicate otherwise.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Director
Supt., Independence
MHNelligan/lh

General
Daily
Area

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Eastern Office
Division of Design and Construction
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30

June 16, 1960

REGION FIVE
JUN 17 1960
INITIAL AND DATE
REG. DIRECTOR
ASST. REG. DIR.
OPERATIONS
INTERPRETATION
ADM.
REC. RES. PLAN.
RANGER ACT'S.

(1) X

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Chief, EODC

Subject: Restoration of Congress Hall, Independence

Reference is made to your memorandum of June 1 to the Superintendent of Independence, commenting on the Historic Structures Report, Part II, for Congress Hall, and to the memorandum of the Superintendent to us of May 31, regarding the advance plans and specifications for this project.

We wish to again state our position in regard to two recommendations you endorse, made in the Administrative Section of this report, which, for reasons stated below, cannot be included in the first phase of the rehabilitation of Congress Hall.

These recommendations concern: (1) The reconstruction at this time of the additional doorway in the east wall opening into the Portico (scheduled for future reconstruction); and (2) the replacement of the present granite steps with marble steps, at the Chestnut Street and east entrances.

Regarding Item (1): The decision was finally made in the March 9-10 conference that, because of the inadvisability of making a conjectural reconstruction of the doorway in advance of constructing the Portico it opened into, the construction of the doorway would not be included at this time in the general contract for the building's rehabilitation.

In his memorandum to us of May 31, the Superintendent suggests that, due to the postponement of the completion date for the plans and specifications, the reconstruction of the doorway to the Portico should be included in the specifications for the General Contract.

Since it is not known how much more architectural investigation is required before firm plans and specifications could be prepared for this doorway, this reconstruction, if so desired, must be accomplished

as an addition to the contract, or under separate contract during the second phase of the project.

Regarding Item (2): We do not concur with the recommendation to replace the present granite steps at the front and east entrances by marble steps. The assumption that these steps were marble in the historic period has not been substantiated to date by any conclusive evidence. In the opinion of our architects, there is much more probability that the flight of stone steps were of the same material as the steps at the two rear entrances and similar to the base course of the building against which the steps are set. The present granite steps closely resemble this stone. Marble steps present a hazard to the public as they are slippery and wear down in a short time, making it necessary to resort to wood step-covers and rails. We, therefore, do not intend to include this item in the contract now being prepared.

Edward S. Zimmer
Chief

Copy to: Supt., Independence
Chief of Design and Construction 2

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

H30

June 1, 1960

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park

From: Regional Director

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall

You will recall that this office deferred commenting on the several sections of this report submitted for review with your memorandum of February 19, pending preparation of the Architectural Data Section. This has now been received (and presumably reviewed by all offices concerned). Our comments, therefore, apply to all sections and, unless otherwise noted, refer to the recommendations made by you in the Administrative Data Section of the report.

Except as noted below, this office concurs with your recommendations presented in the Administrative Data Sections, Parts I and II of the report.

We concur in the restoration of the "House Doorway" on the east wall, because of its important associations with the history of the structure and the need for using it for visitor circulation. However, we recommend the reconstruction of the Portico itself be considered, not in relation to the Congress Hall rehabilitation project, but with the rehabilitation of Independence Hall and presented in the Historic Structures Report, Part II, for the Hall, which will cover the East and West Wing Buildings, as well. In the meantime we recommend that you consider a simple and inconspicuous marking of the foundations of the Portico to be accomplished at the same time the door is put in.

We agree that final determination of the interior paint color be deferred until a thorough study has been made and reviewed as an addendum to this report. We recommend that this study be undertaken in the near future, while the assistance of Museum Conservator Anne Clapp is available. If this can be done, we would appreciate being so informed.

Marble Medallion over North Entrance. This is an important historic feature of Congress Hall; therefore, we recommend that it be preserved in place, and by copy of this memorandum are requesting the assistance of the Museum Branch, Washington Office, in consulting with the Bureau of Standards as to how this best may be done.

Wrought Iron Balcony over North Entrance. This, too, we recommend be given conservation treatment and preserved in place with such additional, unobtrusive structural support as may be needed. Again by copy of this memorandum we are requesting the technical advice and assistance of the Museum Branch, Washington Office, in determining, if possible, the age of the balcony and how it can be preserved.

Steps, North and West Entrances. We concur with your recommendation that the existing granite steps be replaced with marble steps appropriate to the structure and historic period.

Lighting Fixture. We concur with your recommendation that historic period lighting be limited to candlesticks as in the Assembly Room of Independence Hall, and that unobtrusively installed modern lighting be used where it is essential for the safety of visitors.

In the event that other important questions arise before or during the rehabilitation of Congress Hall, we suggest that they be presented for review, as has already been suggested for the interior paint color, as addenda to this report.

We wish to commend all those who participated in the preparation of several sections of this report - Historical, Architectural, Archeological, and Museum - for their very fine presentations. Congress Hall, we all realize, is one of the Nation's greatest historic structures, and the thoroughness of the studies ensure, we are confident, that its rehabilitation and restoration will be done so well as to enhance the reputation of the Service in the field of historic structure conservation.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee
Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Director
Chief, Branch of Museums, WASO
Chief, EODC

MHNelligan/cp

General ✓
Daily
Area
Programs

May 21, 1960

Dear Murray,

Sorry if I was more emotional than rational last Friday when I talked with you about air-control. Actually I do feel very strongly about it. We, in Leopold's report, have the opinion of a man experienced, knowing and well-known in his particular field. It seems to me that it would be disastrous to allow prejudice and not thoroughly informed opinion to decide the issues. And the impressive thing is that we now have the chance to do the proper thing for the buildings, which could easily be the last chance for another generation. You certainly have the right ideas on the problem, so I hope that you can carry the ball.

Enclosed is a sheet on the effects on materials by extremes of relative humidity. You understand that these effects are slow and often cannot be appreciated visibly from year to year. But it is now a proven fact that materials kept in controled atmospheres can expect, everything else being equal, an indefinite lifetime. Whereas the same materials kept in extremes of humidity and in changing humidities, age rapidly. The Peale portraits, for example, are 150 years old, but they look like and have had to be treated like paintings many times their age.

Anne

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Regional Chief of Interpretation DATE: May21, 1960

FROM : Preservation specialist, I. H. H. P.

SUBJECT: Effects of dryness and dampness on materials

MATERIALS	DRYNESS	WETNESS
WOOD	Shrinks, splits, warps	Swells, splits, warps, prone to insects and fungi, biological and chemical action causes decay.
LEATHER & PARCHMENT	Shrinks, hardens, looses plasticity.	Swells, cockles, subject to mold & bacteria, stains, erodes, breaks down by hydrolysis.
CLOTH	Embrittles, discolors, desiccates.	Shrinks, discolors, stains, molds, prone to insects.
PAPER	Embrittles, discolors, desicaates.	Swells, cockles, molds and mildews, water stains, "foxes" due to rotting size.
GLUE	Dries and hardens, looses adhesiveness.	Swells and hardens, looses adhesiveness, rots, prone to bacteria.
METAL		Erodes
VARNISH & PAINT	Dries, shrinks, hardens, desiccates, looses plasticity, flakes.	Blooms and blanches, swells, distorts.
INKS	Desiccates and flakes	Runs and blurs. Iron ink fades.
BONE & IVORY	Splits, discolors, embrittles.	Splits and warps, decomposes by hydrolysis, stains.
COMPOUND MATERIALS	Shrinks or swells at different rates and degrees, exerting a mechanical action one material on another. This in addition to individual deterioration.	

Frequent changes in atmospheric humidity greatly weakens any organic, especially any porous material, and thus hastens its deterioration.

A. Clapp.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Museum Curator, L. N. H. P. DATE: May 16, 1960

FROM : Preservation specialist

SUBJECT: The Leopold report on heating and air-conditioning for Congress Hall

Mr. Leopold's report seems to answer all our problems of interior air-control. To accept his recommendations, at least in my opinion, would be to give the buildings and their furnishings the best treatment present-day know-how can offer. If his system functions as his experience assures him it will, all the difficulties and inadequacies which we have experienced and recorded in the existing system at Independence Hall will be solved.

The information given by Mr. Leopold should be considered most seriously by anyone who is intent on the well-being of the buildings. If his plans are based, as Mr. Cabot seems to think they are, on easily achieved and generally known information, why does not the system at Independence Hall work better than it does? In place of uncertain and too arbitrary control of relative humidity, his system works largely automatically. That is to say, it offers the advantages to a greater degree of a more automatic adjustment, backed by an easy monitoring system, that should prevent the serious lags in R. H. control of the existing system--lags caused by its more manual aspects, by its too frequent breakdowns and their slow detection, by the sudden changes in outside conditions. The heat and moisture outlets, according to the Leopold system, are so placed that dissemination should avoid dangerous areas of concentration as now exists in the Supreme Court Room. Best and most important of all, it will control and clean the air throughout the entire year.

Also he has presented a system which seems to me to be most sympathetic with the problem of controling air in a historic structure. The air-intakes are in the basement and attic, quite concealable, the needed outlets in the rooms are as inconspicuous as possible, being shallow floor grills on the first floor and painted-out ceiling distributors on the second.

His stand on double glazing seems clear. He highly recommends its use. But he gives an alterhative, an automatic control which will reduce interior R. H. should excessive condensation take place on single-glazed windows. This means that the interior R. H. will be low when outside temperatures fall below 37° F, that is, during the better part of the winter. Should we not face this issue courageously, which has been causing us trouble for years, and consider storm sashes? Storm windows are not inconsistant with the 18th century. Further they could be so installed that they meed be in place only during the winter months.

Mr. Cabot states that he is sympathetic to a system which will clean the air of dust and fumes. Yet such a benefit can be achieved only through the use of the same "visible" intakes and outlets that all the benefits offered by Mr. Leopold require.

Enclosed are a few further bibliographical referenced to R. H., research on and maintenance of.

Anne F. Rapp

Additional Bibliography on Relative Humidity and Temperature

MUSEUM JOURNAL, 50 (1950. pp. 153-54
National Gallery, Washington, maintains temperature at 65° and R. H. at 58%.

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM NEWS BULLETIN, 17 (1952). pp. 29-31.
Storage for panels, furniture and other wood items maintained at 52% R. H.
" " textiles, drawings and prints maintained at 40%.

MUSEUM JOURNAL, 57 (1957) pp. 159-166
General museum climate about 50% R. H. at 65° F.

Block, S. S. "Humidity Requirements for Mold Growth", APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY 1 (1959) pp. 287-293
Tests over year show that leather and cheese susceptible to growth of mildew at 76% R. H., wood and wool at 85%, cotton cloth and glass wool at 96%.

Rere, C. D., and Turner, J. N. "Mold Growth on Leather as Affected by Hunidity Changes", Journal of the Society of Leather Trades Chemists 35 (1951) p. 37.
Authors conclude that mold growth is not likely at relative humidities below 85%.

INDEPENDENCE - CONGRESS HALL PART II REPORT

Architectural Data Section

INTERPRETATION

	History
	Nat. His.
✓	Archeo.
	Publ.
	Museum
	Soc'y.

I think we should reconstruct the door for the Portico

Letter 4-28

Good Report – Portico should be restored – archeology necessary

OPERATIONS

J. C. Couch 7/1/60

Eng. Corps Cobb 5/2 none

Arch. 432 – Good Rept.

Landscape 305 / none

Interpretive 513

Portico Door removed 1824

Good Report. 1960.

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR

7/6/6 I still not get to work this

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

DR. NELLIGAN - LAST

COMMENTS DUE MAY 10

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Regional Chief of Interpretation DATE: April 28, 1960

FROM : Regional Archeologist

SUBJECT: Congress Hall Part II Report

Door of the Portico should be reconstructed.

Also--I note the basement floor of Congress Hall has never had an archeological search. "We have made no attempt to investigate this as the restoration is not scheduled to include the basement." (Chapter III, Sec. II, page 8, pa[illegible] 1).

I believe that it is necessary to be informed as to all portions of the structure and its physical history and evidence, regardless of whether or not that portion is to be restored. An archeological inspection and, if necessary, tests, should be carried out in the basement to determine if significant structural or artifact evidence lies beneath the apparent floor.

John L. Cotter
Regional Archeologist

Passarelli
4/25

Nelly
4/25

H30

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

April 25, 1960

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Assistant Regional Director

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall - Independence National Historical Park

Attached for review and comment are two copies of the Architectural Data Section for the above report prepared by Architect Hartshorne, EODC. The other sections (Administrative, Historical, Archeological, and Furnishings and Exhibition Data) were prepared by the Park and distributed on February 24. Comments to the Superintendent should be submitted by May 10.

(Sgd.) George A. Palmer

Assistant Regional Director

In duplicate

Attachments

Copy to: Chief, EODC
Supt., Independence, w/report

CPassarelli

General
Daily
Area
Programs

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Eastern Office
Division of Design and Construction
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30

April 22, 1960

REGION FIVE — APR 25 1960 — INITIAL AND DATE

REG. DIRECTOR	
ASST. REG. DIR	
OPERATIONS	
INTERPRETATION	MW
ADM	
REC. RES. PLAN	
RANGER ACT'S	

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Chief, EODC

Subject: Historic Structures Report Part II, Congress Hall - Independence National Historical Park

Attached for review and distribution are four copies of Chapter III, the Architectural Data Section prepared by Architect Penelope Hartshorne, of the subject report. This completes the Part II report for Congress Hall.

Edward S. Zimmer
Chief

Attachments

Copy to: Superintendent, Independence NHP
Chief of Design and Construction - 2

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30-DCA

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 7, 1960

REGION FIVE
MAR 14 1960

	INITIAL AND DATE
REG. DIRECTOR	
ASST. REG. DIR.	
OPERATIONS	
INTERPRETATION	
ADM.	
REC. RES. PLAN	
RANGER ACT'S	

Posted 17

History
Nat. His.
Archeo.
Pub.
Museum

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Acting Chief Architect

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall, Independence

The Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall, Independence National Historical Park has been reviewed by the interested Divisions in the Washington Office and is recommended for approval.

Robert E. Smith
Acting Chief Architect

Copy to: Chief, EODC (2)
Supt., Independence

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Eastern Office
Division of Design and Construction
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30

March 14, 1960

H-30

REGION FIVE
MAR 15 1960

	INITIAL AND DATE
[illegible]	3/14
[illegible]	3/14
OPERATIONS	
INTERPRETATION	3/29
ADM.	
REC. RES. PLAN	
RANGER ACT'S	

X

no action needed MM

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Chief, EODC

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall, ~~Independence~~ National Historical Park

In order to get the rehabilitation of Congress Hall under contract before the end of this fiscal year, it is necessary to resolve at the earliest possible moment any difference of opinion involving the plans for this project. We, therefore, want to point out in advance of the distribution of the Architectural Data Section of the Report an important conflict in the recommendation that will appear in this section and that contained in the Historical Data Section regarding the reconstruction of the so-called "Portico", which once connected Congress Hall with the West Wing Building of Independence Hall.

We do not agree with the proposal that the reconstruction of the Portico should be accomplished at this time for the following reasons:

1. In our opinion there is still not sufficient evidence upon which to base an authentic reconstruction.

2. A correct rebuilding of the Portico in plan would also require corrective alterations in plan to the faulty 1898 reconstruction of the West Wing adjoining it.

3. The development of acceptable working drawings and specifications for this conjectural reconstruction would set back the awarding of the contract for this project by at least three months.

Rather than undertake a considerable expenditure for a hurriedly planned reconstruction at this time which later may prove to be faulty, we strongly urge this reconstruction await the discovery

of more conclusive architectural evidence than now is available. Furthermore, it is our considered opinion that placing a second doorway, which led to this Portico, in the east wall without reconstructing the Portico itself would create an anomalous, distracting feature.

We believe it was the decision of the Development conference of March 9 and 10 that any reconstruction of the Portico be considered as a portion of the Reconstruction of the West Wing and that no action is contemplated under the presently conceived restoration of Congress Hall.

Edward S. Zimmer
Chief

Copy to: Superintendent, Independence NHP
Chief of D & C - 2

INTERPRETATION

✓	History
	Nat. His.
✓	[illegible]
	Publ.
	Museum
	Secy.

OPERATIONS 3/1/60

Info	OPERATIONS	Act	Initial and Date
	Lands		
	Engineer		
✓	Architect		3/3/60
			J.L.C. 4/2
	Land Archt		
	Programs		

We should be very careful with useable fireplaces & stoves. The vertical joint better be made more apparent than real. See

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR ✓

4/11 Suggest we have an hist. arch. hired in region 2 office

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

REGIONAL CHIEF OF INTERPRETATION (LAST)

H30

Sarles 2/24

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

February 24, 1960

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Regional Director

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part II, Congress Hall, Independence National Historical Park

Attached in duplicate for your review and comment is the subject Historic Structures Report. A copy is also being forwarded to EODC for review. Comments should be submitted by March 7, 1960.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Ronald F. Lee
Regional Director

In duplicate

Attachments

Copy to: Chief, EODC, w/attachment
Supt., Independence

CPassarelli
General
Daily
Area
Operations Division (Programs)

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Independence National Historical Park
Old Custom House
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

February 19, 1960

REGION FIVE
FEB 19 1960
INITIAL AND DATE

REG. DIRECTOR	
ASST. REG. DIR.	
OPERATIONS	
INTERPRETATION	CP
ADM.	
REC. RES. PLAN	
RANGER ACT'S.	

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region V

From: Acting Superintendent, Independence NHP

Subject: Historic Structures Report Part II on Congress Hall

Enclosed in quadruplicate for your review and distribution is the Historic Structures Report, Part II, on Congress Hall.

Dennis C. Kurjack
Acting Superintendent

Enclosures (4)

H30

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Independence National Historical Park
Old Custom House
420 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

February 19, 1960

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region V

From: Acting Superintendent, Independence NHP

Subject: Historic Structures Report Part II on Congress Hall

Enclosed in quadruplicate for your review and distribution is the Historic Structures Report, Part II, on Congress Hall.

Dennis C. Kurjack
Acting Superintendent

Enclosures (4)

SIGNATURE SHEET

RECOMMENDED

_____ Date _____
Director

_____ Date _____
Regional Director

_____ Date _____
Chief, Eastern Office, Div. of Design & Construction

APPROVED

_____ Date _____
Superintendent

Historic Structures Report Part II

on

Congress Hall

Independence National Historical Park

*

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*

Prepared by

Staff

Independence National Historical Park

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*

*

*

February 1960

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Section 3. Provision for Operating the Building

Section 4. Estimate of Cost for Rehabilitation

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Section 2. Historical Associations

Section 3. Evaluation of Historical Importance

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CHAPTER I

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Prepared by Superintendent M. O. Anderson

NAME AND NUMBER
OF BUILDING

Congress Hall, Independence Square, Building No. 2

PROPOSED USE OF STRUCTURE
AND JUSTIFICATION

Congress Hall is proposed for use as a historic house museum.

As the capitol of the United States from 1790 to 1800, Congress Hall is among the most historic structures in the United States, exceeded in importance only by Independence Hall, the present Capitol in Washington, and the White House. It is the oldest building relating to the Federal Government in operation still in existence.

To enable visitors the better to visualize the many critical events associated with Congress Hall, we propose that it be completely restored and the entire first floor and the Senate Chamber and two adjoining rooms on the second floor be refurnished with utmost fidelity to their appearance during the 1793-1800 period. We concur in the recommendation set forth in Section 4 of Chapter V that the remaining rooms on the second floor on whose use and appearance there is little evidence be developed as a Focal Point Museum, in which the significant events and personalities of the Congress Hall story will be presented.

We also concur in the recommendation outlined in Chapter II, Section 3, pages 1-3.

PROVISION FOR OPERATING
BUILDING

To be operated by the Service under the cooperative agreement with the City of Philadelphia executed on July 14, 1950.

ESTIMATE OF COST
FOR REHABILITATION

$828,700.00

CHAPTER II

HISTORICAL DATA

Prepared by Historians David A. Kimball & John D. R. Platt

STRUCTURAL HISTORY

[On December 6, 1790, the Congress of the United States convened for the first time in the Philadelphia county court house. In 1793, this building, now known as Congress Hall, was remodelled to accommodate an enlarged Congress. Seven years later, Congress departed for Washington and for nearly a century afterwards Congress Hall was occupied by courts and offices. During this interval it was altered periodically to answer the needs of its occupants. In 1912-1913 it was restored to its 1793 appearance. Today, forty-seven years later, the building is virtually unchanged. The more detailed history of Congress Hall can be found in Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall.]

When, around the turn of the century, an eminent committee of the Philadelphia Chapter A.I.A. undertook the study which led to the restoration of Congress Hall, knowledge about the building was at best imperfect. Strong interest about the decade of congressional occupancy had been generated only recently with the abandonment by courts and the principal agencies of the city government of their quarters in the State House, Old City Hall, and Congress Hall itself. Patriotic societies had set about returning the broken buildings to their days of glory. In this the city cooperated handsomely at the start. Enthusiasm to do something worthy of the founding fathers and a venturesome spirit of improvisation more than made up for the absence of definite information, with

staggering results in several instances. George Mason, the architect "restoring" the Senate Chamber in 1895, though methodical in his search for architectural evidence, neglected documentary evidence and misinterpreted much of what he found, installing hybridized versions of the important original fittings. In his article "An Account of the Restoration of the Senate Chamber of Congress Hall Philadelphia" published in the American Historical Register during 1896, he left a record of his mishandling of the evidence. This article and earlier accounts by Judge Pennypacker, James T. Mitchell, and Charles Keyser were the only available works about the building when members of the A.I.A. committee began their study.[1]

The committee, showing remarkable professional competence and zeal, not only recovered essential evidence, but after a dozen years of persistent effort goaded and cajoled the city administration into backing an accurate and near-complete restoration of Congress Hall. The committee's achievement was the more remarkable because they commanded a minimum of historical documentation and relied rather more heavily on physical evidence than would be the case today. Piercing the obscurity of a century, they righted the building's chronology and established, not without error here and there, its appearance and arrangement of rooms through the several periods of use.

During the course of its work, the committee successfully negotiated the bar to understanding posed by several differences between the congressional scene before enlargement of the house in 1793 and the

congressional scene after 1793. In effect, during the 1790's, two differently constituted Congresses had met in two differently constituted buildings--the less numerous House and Senate before 1793 in the refitted county court building and the more numerous House and Senate in the remodelled Congress Hall after 1793. Earlier historians of the building, ignoring or knowing nothing about the effect of congressional re-apportionment and admission of new states on the numbers of congressmen and thus on the appearance and arrangement of Congress Hall, had concluded that the building was enlarged before arrival of the federal government in December 1790 and that the first Congress and subsequent Congresses until 1800 had met in the same setting. The A.I.A. committee, taking a more enlightened view of the subject, restored the Congress Hall of the 1793-1800 period. That the committee in planning and superintending the restoration returned the building to the appearance of that period was to be expected.

As far as it went, this restoration was accurate, exceptions notwithstanding. The committee members chose not to attempt restoration of certain features, notably the Portico, for which there was only limited evidence, research not having been advanced to the point where they could interpret them confidently. As the building was to be used for a museum and no effort was made to recreate the historic scene, this extent of restoration was satisfactory to an earlier generation. A later attempt by Wilfred Jordan, long-time curator under the City of Philadelphia, to uncover materials which would contribute to the refurnishing of

Congress Hall produced surprisingly little additional data about the building itself.

The more intensive research undertaken since the National Park Service received custody of the Independence Hall group of buildings has been productive of much evidence from sources not tapped in earlier investigations. Personal papers have provided a few scraps of applicable information. Public records of the state have yielded complete sets of vouchers for the enlargement of the building in 1793, the construction of the Portico in 1793-1794, the construction of the Senate gallery in 1795, and the rebuilding of the Senate Chamber floor in 1796. The most meaningful of these vouchers appear as Appendix A, B, and C to this chapter. Federal records have yielded many items about furnishings of the chambers. In spite of all this, when the Part I report on Congress Hall was prepared, there were gaps in the evidence--none of the original plans had come to light, and no vouchers for the original construction and the work done during 1790 in preparation for Congress' arrival had been recovered--and recommendations were made for a program of research which it was hoped would fill them.

The first of the two phases of that program has recovered key material relating to Congress Hall's interior and a respectable quantity of peripheral data. It has not, however, produced the data which would complete the record of early construction, nor has it encouraged the belief that they will be found in time. Associated architectural and archeological research has been more productive and the results have tended to confirm the conclusions of the A.I.A. committee.

The Building's Structure and Exterior

The exterior and structural elements of today's Congress Hall are essentially those of the 1793 building. The brick walls bear the marks of nineteenth century alterations--the disturbances around several of the windows in the east and west walls--which resulted from the changing pattern of interior use and subsequent restoration. But they are in other ways untouched. Variations here and there in the stonework attest to wall openings, replacement of steps, and restoration of areaways, and other such minor changes. The woodwork is patched but in considerable part dates to 1793. Many years ago, it is true, a vitally important structural element of the 1793 building, the Portico through which congressmen and officials entered the House Chamber or communicated between the House and offices in the West Wing building, was removed, not to be replaced. This is, however, the only exterior feature of the first rank not accounted for by the 1912-1913 restoration.

The several stages through which the building's exterior and structure have passed before arriving at their present state are discussed on pages 4-13, Chapter II, Section 1 of Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall, and are amplified and re-interpreted at length in Chapter III of this report.[2] The "elegant courthouse" of 1789 was a two-story, rectangular brick structure, the principal other identifying features of the exterior being the cupola, arched windows of the first floor, the bay on the south end, the projecting central pavilion of the facade, and the embellishments of cornice, balcony and marble trim.

These are still present in the exterior of the larger Congress Hall which has come down to the present.

A number of the points covered in the Part I report require supplementary treatment, are in need of re-evaluation and correction, or are still not fully developed, despite intensive research undertaken for that purpose. They include the judge's "retiring room," which was not satisfactorily explained; the seal over the front door which was incorrectly attributed and dated; the composition of the brick columns and arch of the side door, concerning which a recommendation was made; and statements about the Portico, the dimensions of which are now definitely established.

The first of these, the so-called judge's "retiring room," was a late addition to the bay on the south end of Congress Hall, and was at one time of a single level and later of three levels. The topmost level was removed when the Senate Chamber was restored by George Mason in 1895. The rest was not removed until after the turn of the century (see Illustration No. 3).

The second, the seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania over the front door, in the absence of vouchers for the original construction and knowledge about the craftsman who executed it, was credited to William Stiles to whom payment was made in 1790 for "stonecutters work."[3] More recent research has shown this to be in error. A newspaper account of the seal's appearance in 1913 revealed that it was fashioned by a Richard North (Illustrations No. 8 and 9).[4] Later research also has established

North's identity as a stonecutter who had arrived in Philadelphia from London in 1785 and opened a shop on Market Street.[5]

The next, the brick columns and arch of the side door, shown in the 1799 Birch print (Frontispiece, Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall) as white stone, presumably marble, are supported as original in Chapter III of this report. There are no other early views of these features and documentary evidence about them has not been found. Later nineteenth century views are not in agreement, some showing large windows, some small windows, others doors of varying size. However, among the tell-tale clues which remain in the entranceway are marble plinth stones, obviously of great age, stone caps of recent vintage, and evidence of disturbance to the bricks in the arch (Illustration No. 1, Chapter IV). Research in city records which was expected to throw further light on these features has proved unavailing. The city, as a first step in the restoration of the Independence Hall group of buildings, had on June 24, 1896, begun tearing down the structure (Illustration No. 4) which then occupied the ground once the site of the Portico. The work here and elsewhere on the square lasted for two months. The Philadelphia Record for this date explained the arrangements as follows: "An appropriation of $5,000 was made by councils for the purpose, and the work will be done by the regular contractors of the Bureau of City Property, and no contracts advertised. Plans and specifications have been prepared by T. Mellon Rogers, the architect in charge,..." These specifications would have explained the restorations of several window openings in the

east wall of Congress Hall and, it is believed, the caps and other entranceway features. Unfortunately, however, no known Rogers papers contain them.[6]

Finally, there is the Portico, now given even more definite form by the archeological and architectural research presented in this report. With the discovery of the foundations for the north and south walls and the front steps, the dimensions of this important addition are now known.[7] This information and the different view of the balusters shown in Illustration No. 1 complete our knowledge of the structure's exterior, the details of roof framing alone excepted.

The Building's Interior

In contrast to the exterior of Congress Hall, the interior arrangement which the committee viewed when it began investigation of the fabric bore virtually no resemblance to the room inhabited by Congress in the decade of the 1790's. A century of hard use by courts, county officials and the public had produced many changes. Where in the 1790's the House met in a large open room which covered the entire first floor, except for a vestibule with staircases, and the Senate in a smaller chamber and two committee rooms on the floor above, by the 1890's four large courtrooms, two on each floor, separated by hallways and antechambers had appeared.

Relying heavily upon evidences found in the fabric of the building, the A.I.A. achieved a remarkably accurate restoration. Their well reasoned evaluations of architectural evidence, confirmed by documentary

evidence such as the master list of work done in 1790 and the virtually complete vouchers for work done in 1793, 1795 and 1796 which were not available to them, were for the most part accepted in Part I of this report. Additional data provided by the research recommended in Part I has indicated only a few errors and omissions in the 1912-1913 restoration.

The Vestibule

A 10 foot wide vestibule containing a double staircase extended across the front of the building. In 1790, access to the new gallery erected in the House Chamber was provided by breaking a door through the vestibule partition at one of the stair landings, and in December 1793, Jacob Souder was paid £1.15..0 "for breaking doorway in a stairway to Senate Chamber," probably a door to the gallery at the other stair landing. The subsequent changes in the vestibule were as stated in Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall (Chapter II, Section 1, pages 15-16), except that 1818 has since been established as the date at which the staircases were removed and the vestibule merged with the rooms adjacent to it to form a large courtroom.[8]

House of Representatives Chamber

The space on the first floor south of the vestibule was in one large, high-ceilinged room which, in 1790, became the House of Representatives Chamber. The original appearance of this room and the history of the changes made in it after 1790 are set forth in Historic Structures

Report Part I on Congress Hall (Chapter II, Section 1, pages 17-22). However, further research has provided additional information on several points.

The architectural investigation undertaken since completion of Part I has produced evidence that originally the first floor was heated by only two fireplaces, one on each side of the room between the second and third window openings from Chestnut Street, and that the two fireplaces found by the A.I.A. on each side of the room between the fourth and fifth window openings were added in the autumn of 1790. None of the documentary evidence so far found bears on this point unless it is the payment in 1790 of £24.6..4 "To Souder and Robins, for Bricklayers Work & Materials" and £22.18..11 "To William Stiles, for Stone Cutters Work" was for the installation of these fireplaces.[9] The architectural investigation has also revealed the presence of joist holes let into the east and west walls between the fifth window opening from Chestnut Street and the point at which the 1793 extension begins. The documentary evidence of galleries in this room at any period is limited to mere mention of the word "gallery." We know that in 1789 this room contained a gallery capable of accommodating, together with the space beneath it, five hundred people,[10] and that in 1790 a gallery capable of seating three hundred persons was erected.[11] Perhaps the joist holes are, as is suggested in Chapter III, the remains of the 1789 gallery, removed when the chamber was rearranged for use by the House of Representatives.

Further historical research has revealed that in January 1791 the Clerk of the House "paid Workmen for alterations in the Representatives Chamber. by order of the House-------$166.85,"[12] and that included in the payment were sums of $13.58 paid David Price for ventilators, $20 paid Henry and Joseph Ingle for presses, and $124.47 paid house carpenter Daniel Knight for unspecified "work done."[13] The ventilators soon attracted the attention of a visitor, who described them as follows:

> "The Germans have invented a shifting pane of glass in the upper sash, which having an unusual appearance is apt to excite a laconic enquiry into its use 'what is that?' or in German, 'Was ist das?' Now sir, I doubt not but many of the audience, and perhaps even some of the new members of Congress, on first entering the Congressional department, have exclaimed, on seeing the ventilators, 'was ist das?' perhaps they are unwittingly informed, that these whirl-abouts are merely designed to sweeten and condense the rarified air."[14]

The recommended research has also established that the pair of fireplaces between the fourth and fifth window openings from Chestnut Street, whether they were installed in 1787-1789 or in 1790, were retained after the enlargement of 1793, and that there were two fireplaces in the addition where the A.I.A. restored niches. Much of the evidence is in the form of depositions from congressmen who witnessed the sensational incidents of January 30 and February 15, 1798, involving Representatives Griswold and Lyon. These depositions prove that the members entered by way of a door in the east wall of the building at the fifth opening from Chestnut Street (see Illustration No. 9), and that from this entrance a passage led through the center of the raised rows of desks to the Speaker's dais at

its position along the west wall directly opposite the entrance. That the southeast fireplace of the old House Chamber (now the middle fireplace) was retained after 1793 is established by the testimony of Representative Dana that "while the tellers were counting the ballots I stept from my seat and stood at the fire behind me"[15] and the deposition of Representative Gillespie that "whilst he was warming himself at the fire next on the right of the door he saw Mr. Lyons."[16] That the southwest (now middle) fireplace was retained is established by the testimony of Representative Claiborne that "the combatants fell upon the floor near the stove, to the left of the Speaker's chair,"[17] and that of Representative Imlay that "Mr Lyon appeared now to desist from attempting to close in with Mr Griswold, and endeavored to gain the north west side or corner of the speaker's seat....Mr Lyon now being near the stove, on the same side of the chair as just mentioned, seized the tongs standing by the stove."[18] That the pair of fireplaces in the extension were similar to the others on the first floor is indicated by architectural evidence and by the voucher for payment of £1.15..0 to Charles and Jacob Souder for "Setting two Stove jams and Mantles" in 1793 (see also Illustration No. 7).[19]

Close analysis of individual vouchers has shed light on the painting of Congress Hall's interior. Included in the vouchers for the enlargement of Congress Hall is one of Haydock and Collins for painting (see Appendix A, voucher No. 191). The reference in this voucher to "703 yds of Painting 3 coats" and "704 yds of painting 2 coats" seems

conclusive evidence that all the interior and exterior woodwork, old and new, was painted, but as yet no documentary evidence of paint colors has been found. The voucher for plastering in the extension (Appendix A, voucher No. 155) includes an item of £7.10..0 for "white Washing ditto" [old plaster], and on November 17, 1795, John Beckley "paid Herbert & Wilson for whitewashing $111.50."[20] The latter work could have been done only in the House Chamber, the Portico, or the adjoining House offices, and the amount paid indicates that it was extensive. Apparently the plaster surfaces were whitewashed.[21]

In 1818 a transverse hall was extended across the building at the fourth opening from Chestnut Street and the two rooms to the north which had been installed between 1800 and 1818 were removed. The resulting large rooms, one on either side of the transverse hall, were redecorated from time to time,[22] and on at least one occasion their ceilings were replaced.[23]

North Committee Rooms

To the south of the vestibule on the second floor were two rooms separated by a broad entry which in 1790 became Senate committee rooms. The architectural investigation has shown that there were never pilasters below the windows in this room as was suggested in the Part I report (see Chapter III). Additional research has revealed only the fact that, after these rooms were merged into the large north second floor courtroom, the ceiling collapsed and had to be replaced, and that original ceiling elements disappeared in a cloud of plaster dust.[24]

The Senate Chamber

The south room second floor of the building became, in 1790, the chamber of the United States Senate. In 1793 the Senate moved into the new room formed from the southern 4 feet 6 inches of the old Senate Chamber together with the space in the extension.

Architectural investigation has confirmed the statement made in Part I that the wooden mantles installed in the Senate Chamber fireplaces in 1912-1913 are incorrect, and strongly indicates that the marble mantles removed during the restoration were original (see Chapter III). Additional research has revealed that in 1873 a doorway was broken through the east wall of the Senate Chamber just inside of its north partition to communicate with a staircase in the building erected at that time to join Congress Hall with the west Mills Building (see drawings, Chapter III).

The Haydock and Collins painting voucher (see Appendix A, voucher No. 155) indicates that the woodwork of the Senate Chamber was painted. This is confirmed by the payments made to Haydock and Company for painting of the gallery installed in 1795 (see Appendix B, page 2). Also, included in the voucher for plastering done during installation of the gallery is an item for "Colouring of Sennet Chamber walls" (see Appendix B, page 3).[25] None of these vouchers give an indication of the particular color or colors employed.

Middle Committee Rooms

During the progress of the 1793 construction, two committee rooms separated by an extension of the cross hall were created in what

for nearly three years had been the Senate Chamber. The architectural investigation has confirmed that the chair rail and baseboards of the east middle committee room were changed during or after 1793, and that the pilaster under its windows were removed as suggested in the Part I report (see Chapter III). No documentary evidence as to the appearance of these rooms has been discovered since completion of Part I.

The Portico

Archeological investigation has revealed the Portico foundations and established it as a rather larger structure than had been represented in the Part I report (see Illustration No. 10 and Chapter IV), and additional historical research has added to our knowledge of its interior arrangement. Since there were only two openings in the area of wall covered by the Portico, the reference of Representative Gillespie to the "fire next on the right of the door," cited above, places the door in the fifth window opening from Chestnut Street (for perspective views of the Portico's interior, see Illustration No. 10). This is confirmed by a reference in the testimony of Representative Shepard on the events of February 15 that "Mr. Griswold came across the floor of the hall, and went through the passage by the door at which we enter the hall, and went without the bar to the south east end of the hall,...."[26] The location of this door was the key to the arrangement of the House Chamber. The discovery during the architectural investigation of evidences suggesting the presence at one time of a fan transom and transom bar similar to those of the existing east door, coupled with the Souder voucher entry for "Taking out

a Window & altering for a door,"* suggesting something more than simple treatment of the jambs, leaves little for doubt about the character of the entranceway leading from the Portico to the House Chamber. Two additional voucher items which may relate to the Portico door are the entry of January 4, 1794, for "4 knobs for the Lobby Doors & a large hold fast" and the entry of January 16 "easing 4 pairs of large hinges for the Doors" (Appendix A, page 9). Although these may be interpreted as references to the entrances in the south end of the chamber, it is unlikely that exterior doors would have been hung in January with Congress in session in the building. The term "lobby," as employed elsewhere, meant the area behind the bar to the east and south sides of the chamber.[27]

Further, the payment of fifteen shillings to John Cornish for turning five newell posts in January 1794, when the fact that Congress was in session would preclude major alterations within Congress Hall, furnishes strong indication that the Portico contained a staircase (see Appendix A, voucher No. 203). It is also possible that two of the "6 Key Stones & Imposts for the Doors" for which John Gullon was paid £4 on January 11, 1794, were for entranceways leading from the Portico into the offices of the House of Representatives in the West Wing building (Appendix A, page 9).

* Italics inserted by the author.

NOTES

Chapter II
Section 1
Notes

1. The Honorable Samuel W. Pennypacker, in an address at the last session of the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 held in the Senate Chamber on September 16, 1895, outlined the history of the building as he understood it. Extracts from the address are on pages 29-32 of Appendix O, Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall.

2. For an early view of Congress Hall discovered since preparation of the Part I report, see Illustration No. 2.

3. Chapter II, Section 1, p. 6, Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall.

4. "Beneath this carved date on Old Congress Hall appears an oval of Pennsylvania marble bearing in bas relief the arms of Pennsylvania as it was in 1787. During the restoration this marble was inspected and it was found that the sculptor had left his name on this meritorious work. It is plain, but too small to be read from the pavement, and conveys to posterity that 'R. North, fecit'." Public Ledger, October 5, 1913.

5. Pa. Gazette, September 14, 1785, 2.

6. "A corps of workmen under the supervision of Contractor Henry Franks began tearing down the little two story connecting buildings on either side of the wings of the old State House yesterday morning." - Philadelphia Times, June 26, 1896. The building adjacent to Congress Hall was an addition to the office of the prothonotary.

7. See Chapter IV, Sections 2 and 3.

8. "County Commissioners, Auditor's Report - County Court-House
For payment of bills for workmanship and materials in the alteration of the County Court House, at the corner of Sixth and Chestnut Street. - 9,264.39." - American Daily Advertiser, February 22, 1819, quoted in Sarah Cresson to H. W. Sellers, July 25, 1912, A.I.A. Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The amount of this payment is strong evidence that it covered removal of the vestibule stairs and partition.

9. Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall, Appendix B, items 124 and 125. The architectural evidence is presented in detail in Chapter III of this report.

10. "A correspondent informs us,...that the Great Hall in the new Court House...is capable of accommodating 100 members, and near 500 auditors in the gallery and beyond the bar" - Pa. Gazette, March 18, 1789.

11. "In the Hall, appropriated for the Representatives, a very capacious gallery for the auditors of the debates, is built, which will, it is supposed,...hold about 300 persons." - Pa. Packet, December 6, 1790.

12. A Statement of the...Salaries of the House of Representatives..., 1 Oct. 1791-30 Sept. 1792 in Reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, Records of the United States Senate (2A-F2), R. G. 46, National Archives.

13. The United States in Account with John Beckley, Account 2039, R. G. 217, National Archives.

14. American Daily Advertiser, May 7, 1792.

15. [Philadelphia] Aurora, February 7, 1798. Other testimony places Mr. Dana's seat at the end seat of the third row north of and immediately adjoining the center passage.

16. Aurora, February 23, 1798.

17. Ibid.

18. Ibid.

19. Account of Charles and Jacob Souder for Stone and Brickwork, 1793. Part I, Chapter II, Appendix G. Since this source also specifies that payment was made for "Setting 2 Setts of Marbel jams & mantels in Senate Chamber," the stone jams and mantels must have been set in the first floor fireplaces. Chapter III of this report contains a thorough discussion of the architectural evidence bearing on this point.

20. The United States in Account with John Beckley, Account 7687, R. G. 217, National Archives.

21. This interpretation hinges on how painting was measured. If "yards" meant square yards, the "703 yds of Painting done 3 coats" and the "704 yds of painting two coats" would cover far more woodwork than is at present in Congress Hall, and would indicate that at least some of the plaster surfaces of the interior were painted. The vouchers for this work should be re-interpreted using the Carpenters' Company 1787 rule book.

22. Public Ledger and Daily Transcript, April 1, 1841; Public Ledger, January 5, 1843; and Public Ledger, August 8, 1844.

23. "The improvements on the old Quarter Sessions Room [south room, first floor] have been nearly finished. The ceiling, which was greatly in need of repairing, has been scraped, and a portion of it renewed, while the entire ceiling has been calcimined. All the woodwork has been painted, and portions of it have been grained....The walls of the court-room have also been repapered." - Public Ledger, August 28, 1873.

"The ceiling was found to be settled four inches, and it is providential that it did not drop down, joist, plaster and all...." - Inquirer, July 24, 1873.

24. "On the 16th of February, 1893, the case of Lukens vs The City, which had been on trial in room D [north room, second floor] for four days was given to the jury shortly after 3 o'clock in the afternoon....A short time afterward, a mass of plaster and lath, eight inches in thickness and weighing hundreds of pounds, fell upon the bench and chair,...so filling the room with debris that for some days the court was held in the lower story." - Samuel W. Pennypacker, Congress Hall (Philadelphia, 1895), 33.

25. Included in this voucher is an item for £3 for whitewashing, probably of the ceiling.

26. Aurora, February 23, 1798.

27. "Mr. Bayard observed that the gentlemen from Pennsylvania had told the House a number of things he did not know; amongst these was the ground upon which the Speaker had a right to turn out Strangers from the floor of the House. Mr. B. was surprized that gentlemen who knew so much, should be ignorant of this. There was scarcely a member in the House he thought, who did not know that the House was divided into different parts; one of which was for the members, and another for strangers. The part assigned to the members was the floor and the lobby; and the galleries for those who choose to attend their proceedings. With respect to the lobby, the Speaker, as the general conservator of peace and order in the House, had the same charge over it, as over other parts of the house...." - Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser, March 23, 1798.

"A member of the Pennsylvania Legislature" to Jonathan Dayton printed in the Aurora, March 13, 1798, "As usual I went into the south end of the lobby which I always understood was a place allotted for the members of the State Legislature."

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Congress Hall is the building occupied by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States during the new government's formative years--from 1790 until 1800. The third session of the First Congress, convening in Congress Hall on December 6, 1790, ushered in a decade of remarkable legislative achievement. The first session of the Sixth Congress, adjourning on May 14, 1800, brought this decade to a close. The second inauguration of George Washington took place in the Senate Chamber on March 4, 1793. The inauguration of John Adams took place in the House of Representatives Chamber on March 4, 1797. The remainder of Congress Hall's service as a public building was by comparison uneventful. Since completion of the restoration of 1912-1913, Congress Hall has been a museum, its unique importance lost to view amidst a welter of statuary, furniture, coins, and curiosities.

The origins of Congress Hall stretch back far into the eighteenth century. As early as 1736 the provincial assembly set aside a lot 50 feet wide and 73 feet deep on the corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets on which to erect a public building for the County of Philadelphia. The conception of such a building as part of a governmental center has been credited to Andrew Hamilton, and it was he who first acquired the property and later transferred it to the province in furtherance of this design. It was not until 1785 that the County of Philadelphia acquired title to the property and construction of the county building was not begun until the spring of

1787. As a preliminary the property had been lengthened to 88 feet by the Assembly.

The building was completed in time for the meeting on March 27, 1789, of freeholders to nominate candidates for the office of alderman. The following month the mayor and aldermen started meeting in the room on the second floor which was to become the Senate Chamber. In June the county commissioners first used the building. In November Chief Justice Thomas McKean of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court heard a case involving land title in one of its rooms, perhaps because the State House was undergoing extensive repairs at the time. In December the Mayor's Court met there. In March of the following year the federal district court with Francis Hopkinson presiding met in the second floor courtroom for the first time.

The Congress which convened in the building late in 1790 was concerned with the business of giving body and character to the new government: establishing the executive department, defining the spheres of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, gaining a sound financial footing, providing for the nation's defense, regulating Indian affairs, evolving a policy for the public lands, taking a part in foreign affairs, adjusting the relationship of federal and state governments, regulating commerce, admitting new states, and upholding federal power. The most important Congressional acts during this period were those chartering the Bank of the United States, imposing excise taxes, admitting Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee to the Union, ratifying the Jay Treaty, establishing the Navy Department, and passing the Alien and Sedition Laws.

In giving the nascent government body and character, Congress set many precedents and adopted practices and customs which have since become cherished traditions. Thus, while in Philadelphia, the Senate for the first time opened its sessions to the public; the House established the Ways and Means Committee; Congress instituted impeachment proceedings for the first time, added new stars to the flag for the first time, passed the first laws respecting slavery, repealed the French alliance (and so embarked on the policy of isolationism), and launched the observance of Washington's birthday as a national holiday.

On the rolls of the Congresses which sat in Philadelphia during the 1790's were the most famous names of our early history, among them Richard Henry Lee, Robert Morris, Roger Sherman, Elbridge Gerry, and seven other signers of the Declaration of Independence, Patrick Henry, and Anthony Wayne. On the same rolls were the names of men whose greater fame lay in the future: James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, William Henry Harrison, John Marshall, Aaron Burr, Albert Gallatin, and John Randolph.

After Congress left, the building reverted to its earlier uses. During the nineteenth century, it served from time to time as the meeting place of various county, state, and federal courts; as a customs house; as a county and city office building, and as the University of Pennsylvania law school. In 1900 the building was abandoned to patriotic societies. In 1913 the restored Congress Hall was again the scene of a gathering of notables as President Wilson, Speaker Champ Clark, and other leading Americans rededicated the building. It has been a part of Independence National Historical Park since 1951.

EVALUATION OF
HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

Congress Hall is surpassed in importance only by Independence Hall, the National Capitol, and the White House. For the ten years from 1790 until 1800 it was the home of the Congress of the United States, the scene of presidential inaugurations, and setting for a galaxy of statesmen unmatched in any later period of the nation's history. It is the oldest remaining capitol building of the United States under the Constitution. As stated in the Part I report substantial portions of the building are original and most of the remainder has been accurately restored. Recommendations for the protection of these original and accurately restored portions were made in the Part I report and, looking to the extensive rehabilitation about to be undertaken, are hereby reaffirmed.

It was also recognized in the Part I report that a few of the original elements had neither survived nor been accurately restored and recommendations were made concerning them. These recommendations, subject to the revisions set forth below, are also hereby reaffirmed.

Pending completion of a thorough architectural investigation of the brickwork behind the casing of the side door to determine the authenticity of the present columns and arch, the recommendation that they be replaced by columns and an arch of marble is suspended.

The fireplaces between the fourth and fifth window openings in the House of Representatives chamber should be restored.

The false backs of the fireplaces under the gallery should be removed to expose the original backs.

The niches should be replaced by fireplaces identical to those under the gallery.

As is recommended in the furnishings report, stoves should be placed in all fireplaces where they can be shown to have been located during the 1793-1800 period.

The Portico, built in 1793-1794 and razed in 1812, has not been restored. The general restoration of Congress Hall will lack integrity until this essential structure, through which members of the House of Representatives entered their chamber and John Adams passed on the way to his inauguration in 1797, has been restored. Its restoration should be undertaken at the earliest possible moment. Sufficient evidence is now at hand for an accurate restoration, but a small section of the ground originally occupied by the Portico is now covered by the inaccurately restored West Wing. As restoration of the wing building will not be undertaken for some time to come, it is recommended that a method be found for restoring the Portico in advance of the West Wing.

Restoration of the door as recommended in the Part I report should be made independent of the restoration of the Portico. Evidence for a strictly controlled restoration, which would leave little room for error, is now available and should be put to use while structural rehabilitation of Congress Hall is in progress.

The vertical joint of the east and west walls of Congress Hall is of historic interest and interpretive value, providing as it does tangible evidence of the first congressional re-apportionment and enlargement of the building. Whatever system of construction is used in rebuilding the walls, the appearance of the vertical joint should be maintained.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

Vouchers for 1793 Enlargement of Congress Hall [from manuscripts at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Vouchers for labor, hauling, advances, comestibles, general supplies have been omitted. The complete list of vouchers is contained in Appendix E, Part I, of this report and copies of the omitted vouchers are in the files of Independence National Historical Park.]

Voucher #2

The Commissioners of the City & County of Philada.
To John Dickinson Dr.

1793)		
May) 13th	To 750 feet of White Pine butting boards for the Use of Congress Hall @ 7/6 p H ft.	2.16.3
	To 2056 feet of Common do for do @ 100/6 H ft.	10. 5.9-1/2
	To 3493 feet of [clear ?] do for do @ 140/6 p H ft.	24.9-
		£37.11. 1/2

The above for the repairs at Congress Hall-
Joseph Rakestraw

Voucher #53

Philadelphia County Commissioners to Caleb Emlen
D[r] for the use of the Congress Hall

1793				
April	29	750 ft. pine sconty	at 10/	3-15- 0
		----------Hauling----------		3- 9
May	21	711 ft. pine & hemlock Ditto	10/	3-11- 1
		Hauling		5- 0
	22	1 Log 28 ft 20 by 22 = 1062 ft.	10/	6- 2- 6
		2 ditto 30 ft. 14 by 13 = 910 ft.	10/	4-11- 0
		1 ditto 29 ft. 14 by 14 = 473 ft.	10/	2- 7- 2
		1 ditto 28 ft. 14 by 16 = 522 ft.	10/	2-12- 2
		1 ditto 30 ft. 14 by 16 = 560 ft.	10/	2-16- 0
		4 ps. wt. pine 16 ft. Dr 8 by 12 = 528 ft	10/	2-12- 9 1/2
		2 do 19 ft. 8 by 12 = 304 ft.	10/	1-10- 4 1/2
	24	1 Do 28 ft. 14 by 14 = 437 ft.	10/	2- 5- 8
		1 King post. 14 ft 18 by 8 = 168 ft.	10/	- 16- 9 1/2
		1 ditto - - 11 ft 16 by 8 = 117 ft.	10/	- 11- 8
		1 wt pine log 48 ft 12 by 15 = 720 ft.	10/	3-12- 0
		1 ditto -- 52 ft 14 x 15 = 910 ft.	10/	4-11- 0
		Paid Dry for Hauling		2-13- 0
Ditto	31	516 ft. wt. pine Sconty -	10/	2-11- 7
		Hauling		3- 9

June 8	1 Guirder 33 ft 14 by 14 = 539 ft.	10/	2-13-10 3/4
	1 ditto - 37 ft 14 by 15 = 647 ft.	10/	3- 4- 8
10	1 ditto - 33 ft 14 by 14 = 539 ft.	10/	2-13-10 3/4
3/3 overcharged	2 Rafters 31 ft 12 & 9 by 8 = 466 ft	10/	2- 6- 7
	2 Ditto - 31 ft 16 & 9 by 8 = 516 ft	10/	£2-11- 7
	Paid Day for Hauling		1- 2- 6
13	1 pine Log 50 ft 8 by 14 = 466 ft	10/	2- 6- 7
	Hauling		5- 0
21	2 Hammerbeams 28 ft 8 by 14 = 522 ft	10/	2-12- 2
	1 ditto 32 ft. 8 by 14 = 298 ft.	10/	1- 9- 9 1/2
	2 Ships Rafters 37 ft. 14 & 9 by 8=597 ft	10/	2-19- 8
	1 ditto 32 ft. 14 & 9 by 8=245 ft	10/	1- 4- 6
	Paid Day for Hauling This above		1-10- 0
July 4	1 ps. wt. pine 22 ft 9 by 18 = 264 ft	10/	1- 6- 4 1/2
	Hauling		3- 0
			£75- 4- 6

Examined
Wm - Evans

Voucher #71

The Commissioners of the City & County of Philadelphia
For the Accommodation of Congress

July 20, 1793 To Wm George

				Dr	Dr
68 pieces of Scantling	13 ft long	3 by 12		2652	
12 Do	21 Do	3 by 12		756	
24 Do	18 Do	3 by 5		540	
48 Do	16 Do	3 by 5		960	
40 Do	10 Do	3 by 5		500	
40 Do	11 Do	3 by 5		550	
20 Do	22 Do	3 by 6		660	
26 Do	14 Do	3 by 5		455	
		at £6-5-0		7073	

3760 ft of Lathe at £3-01.0
amounting in the whole to £55.9.-
Philada August 3d 1793

Voucher #84

Philadelphia September 17th 1793
The County Commissioners to Joseph Sherrett Dr. for
Work Done at the Congress Hall six street

1793		£ s d
August 5th	to 14 1/2 pound of spikes & spike Brads at 10d pr.	0.11. 8
	to one punch & Drawing two Bolts 8 in each .	0. 2. 6

6	to altering two sterrups	. . .	0. 3. 9
	to 20 1/2 pound of spikes & spike Brads at 10 d p	.	0.16. 7
	to altering 4 straps	. . .	0. 4. 0
7	to altering a sterrup & a strap	. . .	0. 2. 6
	to 3 new straps & nails 34 1b. at 10 d pr	. .	1. 8. 4
	to 15 pound of spikes & Brads at 10d pr	. .	0.12. 6
	to makeing 5 Bar spikes of your iron	. .	0. 7. 6
Septr 5	to 121 pound of spikes & Brads at	. . .	0.17. 6
6	to makeing ten set Bolts at 1/ apiece	. . .	0.10. 0
9	to 3 new punches & a pick Drest both ends	. . .	0. 2. 6
10	to one spade Cut & Drest	. . .	0. 1. 0
17	to one new key to Dore lock	. . .	0. 3. 9
		£	6. 4. 1

Voucher #86

Commissinors of the City & County of Philladelphia
To Edward Roberts Dr.

1793	For Iron work for Congress hall		
May 7th	To a large Brick Chisel	£	0. 2. 6
9th	To 2 small picks		0.15. 0
16th	To tacking down the lightening rod)		
"	& puting a piece in And puting up)		0. 7. 6
June 10th	To sharpening a pick at both ends		0. 1. 6
"	To a Claw hamer		0. 3. 9
"	To a small Crow Bar 12 1/2 lbs. at 8 d		0. 8. 4
"	To 2 Clamps & plates for wall 15 lbs.) at 8 1/2)		0.10. 7 1/2
13th	To 9 Clamps for wall to 43 1/2 1b. at 8 1/2d		1.10. 9 1/2
July 10th	To 4 Clamps for wall 19 1b at 8 1/2d		0.13. 0
26th	To 4 Clamps for wall 23 1/2 1b at 8 1/2d		0.16. 7 1/2
		£	5. 9. 7 1/2

Septemr 21st 1793

Voucher #104

The Commissr for the City & County of Phia Dr.

Septr	To John McElevee	
25th	To 2 Boxes Glass 16 by 12 @ 130p pr	13. 0. 0
27th	To 1 Do Do Do	6.10. 0
		£19.10. 0

October 28th 1793.

Voucher #111

The Commisss. for the City & County of Philad.
Bal. of John Shirke

Novr 6th)
1793) a large Stock Lock £ 1. 2. 6

Novemr. 6th 1793

Voucher #133

Philadelphia November 19th 1793

The Commissioners of the Citty & County of Philadelphia
To Joseph Sherratt Dr for work Done at Congress Hall six street

			£	S	D
september	21	to one ring & staple for a weelbarrow & putting on	0.	2.	6
	25	to Cuting & riviting 12 Bolts in the girder straps	0.	15.	0
	26	to one new Brick Chissell	0.	4.	6
	27	to takeing a hinge & a Bar of a gate & puting on	0.	7.	6
October	15	to three pair of hinges & a pair of hooks 57 lbs. at 1/ pr	2.	17.	0
		to two hand rings & a turn button	0.	4.	6
	25	to Bending the straps against the girders	0.	3.	9
		to two hinge hooks 6 lb at 1/ pr	0.	6.	0
		to one joint hasp 7 1/2 lb. at 1/6 pr	0.	11.	3
November	6	to two Cramps & a rivit & 2 Bars	0.	2.	0
			5.	14.	0

Voucher #151

The Commissrs. of the City & County of Philada.
To John Fisher Dr

1793
Decemr 28 To hauling 6 Loads Stone to the)
New Court House at 2/pr) £ 0.12.0

Decr. 28th 1793

Voucher #155

The Commissioners of the City and County of Philada
To Thackra and Johns Dr.

To plaistering at the New Addition to the City Hall
for the Accommodation of Congress 1292 yards
at 10d £ 53.16. 8

To 124 ft. 10. of Stockoe Cornice enriched @ 3/9 pr foot		23. 8. 0
To 112 feet of plain Moulding @ 1/		5.12. 0
To 168 feet of Bead @ 2d		1. 8. 0
Measuring Charge £2.8.9 One half		1. 4. 4-1/2
		£85. 9. 1/2

Philadelphia Decr 14th 1793

Thos. Shoemaker
Philada. Decemr. 30th 1793

Voucher #156

City & County Commissioners)
For Congress Hall)

Bout of Jn Pinkerton &

Nov. 20 2 pair HL hinges @ 15/ £1.10.0

Philada. Nov. 20th 1793

Voucher #159

Commissinors of the City & County of Philladlia
To Edward Roberts Dr.
For Iron Work for Congress Hall
1793

November	2nd	To 2 pair of hinges 51 1b at 12d	£ 2.11. 0
	"	To 2 large Bolts with hasps	0.12. 6
	15th	To a Bar of Iron for Chimney 25 1b at 7d	0.14. 7
	"	To 2 sturrops for girder 195 1b at 9d	7. 6. 3
	"	To altering 6 Bolts for Do	0.10. 0
	"	To 8 weges to drive in wall 20 1/2 1b at 7d	0.12. 0
	18th	To 2 sturrops & Bolts 210 1b at 9d	7.17. 6
	"	To cutting & pointing 4 Bolts	0. 3. 0
	21	To 4 sturrops 219 1b at 9d pr 1b	8. 4. 3
	22	To 2 plates for doore cases 6 1b at 7d	0. 3. 6
	"	To 2 plates to nail on trimer 3 1/2 1b	0. 2. 0
	"	To 2 spikes at 6 1/2 1b at 9d	0. 4. 1 1/2
			£29. 0. 8 1/2
			2. 7. 4 1/2
		Ballance	£26.13. 4

Cn by C 1-1-20 1b of Iron at 33/0 pr Cnt £2.7.4 1/2

Philada. Decemr. 30th 1793.

Voucher #160

The Commissioners of County of _____
To David Rose Dr

1793 for Bricks Delivered to the County Court house

June	19	- to	1500	Comon Bricks	
	24	- to	3000	and 750	Stretcher
	25	- to	3000	750	Do
	26	- to	1500		
	27	- to	3000		
July	5	- to	4500		
	6	- to	4500	1500	Do
	8	- to	8250	and	(760 for bowwindow
	9	- to	2250	1500	Do (and [arches?]
	10	- to	1500	3000	Do and 300 [robing or rubbing?]
	11	- to	3600		
	12	- to	2250	3000	Do
	13	- to	2200	2250	Do
	15	- to	3000	1500	Do
	16	- to	4500		
	17	- to	750		
	18	- to	750		
	19	- to		3000	and (500 paving bow)
	22	- to		3000	do (window)
	23	- to	5000	3000	do
	24	- to	4500	3000	do and Robing
	25	- to	4500	3000	do
August	1	- to	64 100	Camon	& 300 Stock
	13	- to		1500	Do 2200
				30750	Stretcher

1793	Brot forward		64000	Comon @ 35/	£	112. 2. 6
	to		30750	Stretckers		
Septembr	19th	- to	1500	Do		
	20	- to	750	do paving		
October	5	- to	1500	do		
November	12	- to	1500	do Stre [stretchers]		
	13	- to	750	do paving		
	14	- to	2250	do Stre		
	15	- to	1500	do		
	19	- to	1500	do		
	20	- to	750	do		
	21	- to	1500	do		
	23	- to	1500	do		
	26	- to		200 stock		
	27	- to	750	dō		

December 10	- to	750 do paving		
11	- to	750 do		
		48000 @ 52/6	£	126
Stock Robing and bow		2410 @ £6.16		15.13.3
			£	252.15.9

Cr.

July	16	By Cash	£75
Augt	13	By Do	75
October	28	By Do	15
			£165

Ballance to David Rose £88.15.9

Voucher #166

Philadelphia 17th December 1793

The Commissioners of the City and County of Philada.

Bought of And. Geyer

1793				
Novr. 27th	2 eight inch iron rimd 3 bolted Locks with Rings @ 16/6		£ 1.13. 0	
	2 seven inch ditto do with Rings @ 12/6		1. 5. 0	2.18. 0
28th	1 Long bolt		6. 0	
	2 seven inch 3 Bolted iron rimd) Locks with rings @ 12/6		1. 5. 0	1.12. 2 1/2
	30 Screws		0. 1. 1/2	
29th	1 Brass Case lock with Knobs			1. 2. 6
	4 Ten inch round bolts @ 3/		12. 0	
	7 pairs Hooks & eyes @ 1/2		8. 4	
	3 doz. 1 1/4 Inch Screws		1. 6	
	1 1/2 doz. 1 Inch do		. 6	1. 2. 4
	2 doz Brass knobs @ 2/6		5. 0	
	5 yards Sash Cord		1. 3	6. 3
				£7. 1. 3 1/2

Voucher #177

1793 Philada County Commissioners to C. Emlen for the use of Congress hall

July 29	For 1352 feet hemlock Scantling at 1 1/2	6.15. 2
	hauling it	0. 7. 6
	1 White pine Log 21 feet 6 Inchis 16 by 18 is 516 feet at 10/	2.11. 7

	1 piece White pine Scantling 31 feet 7 by 7 is 126 feet at 10/		0.12. 7
August 3	1 pine Log 30 feet 16 by 18 is 720 feet at 10/		0.12. 7
	1 piece White pine Scantling 47 feet 5 by 5 is 98 feet		
	1 piece do do do 22 feet 6 by 6 is 66		
	1 piece do do do 21 feet 6 by 6 63		
	1 piece do do do 16 feet 7 by 5 46		
	273 feet at 10/		1. 7. 2
	hauling them		0. 3. 9
Novr 3	2 Wt Oak fliches 240 @ 2d		2. 0. 0
	hauling them to Congress hall		0. 3. 9
	Cr.		17.13. 6
	By a Log Returned 21 feet 6 Inches 16 by 18 at above Charges is 516 feet @ 10		2.11. 7
			15. 1.11

Voucher #185

January 18th 1794

To the Commissioners of the City and County of Philadelphia

To John Miller Dr.

	£	S	d
For Iron Work Delivered to Congress Hall			
To Two Fenders weight 35 pounds at 1/6 per pound	2	12	6
Two Do for Do weight 30 pound	2	5	0
To Three pair of Stove Rods at 3/9 per pair		11	3
To Drilling four holes throu the tops of the Stove		7	6
To two Spring bolts four foot four inches each at 25/ each	2	10	0
To two Sets of handles and latches at 12/6 per Set	1	5	0
To one bolt for Back Door two foot Long		15	0
To one ten plate Stove & Seven foot pipe	8	10	0
Addional pipe weight Nine pounds at 1/6 per pound		13	6
To two round bolts fourteen inches Long each at 10/ per Bolt	1	0	0
	£20	9	9

Voucher #186

By Request the Subscribers have measured and ~~Valued~~ all the Carpenters [work?] at the New Addition at of Congress Hall Including Portico And Devers Repairs Done in of old Hall Done by Joseph Rakestraw & Col. Williams for the City and County Commissioners And find the Workmanship Amount to the Sum of One thousand And thirteen pounds two shillings and two pence.

£1013.2.2

Jany 11th 1794

1/2 Measuring Charge £12.10.0

Robert Allison

S [illegible]

Voucher #188

The Commissioners of the Citty & County of Philadelphia to Joseph Sherrett Dr for Done Congress Hall

			£	s	d
1793					
December	2nd	to two Bars for a stove 15 1b at 7 pr	0.	8.	9
	24	to one pair stove rods	0.	5.	0
January	4	to 4 knobs for the Lobby Doors & a 1arge hold fast	0.	9.	0
	16	to easeing 4 pair of 1arge hinges for the Doors	0.	10.	0
		to 4 pound fine Drawn spike Brads at 11d pr	0.	3.	8
	25	to two plates &c	0.	3.	9
february	4	to mending two Bolts	0.	2.	0
		to one Bar 91b at 7d pr	0.	5.	3
	5	to three pound five Drawn spike Brads @11d pr	0.	2.	9
	8	to nine pound Ditto at 11d pr	0.	8.	3
	10	to three hold fasts at 7d	0.	1.	9
March	7	to reaming a pair of hinges & 4 Box springs	0.	2.	6.
			£3.	2.	4

Voucher #190

The Commissrs of the City & County of Philada.
To John Gullon Dr.

1794		
Jany. 11	To 580 ft. 3 Inches of Cut Stone, for the) use of Congress Hall - at 4/ pr ft.)	116. 1. 0
	To 10 1/2 days Work 10/	5. 5. 0
	To Cutting 55 holes for Window Barrs 4d	18. 4
	To 7 Key Stones & Imposts for ye Windows	1.15. 0
	To 4 Hooks for the Cellar Jams	7. 6
	To 6 Key Stones & Imposts for the Doors	4. 0. 0
	To 5 Loads haul'd to Congress Hall 2/9	13. 9
	To Clamps & Lead for the Chimney tops	10. 0
	Cr.	129.10. 7
	By Cash rec'd from the Treasr. at Sundry times	99. 7. 6
	Ballance due	£ 30. 3. 1

Philada. Jany. 14th 1794.

Voucher #191

1793 City & County Commissioners for Congress Hall
To Haydock & Collins Dr

1 mo 9th	To 1 Sash Light	3/9	£ 0. 3. 4
5 mo 22	6 1b of White Lead	1/	0. 6. 0

8 mo 16	10 lb of Ditto Do	1/		0.10. 0
9 mo 30	178 Sash Lights Painted & Glazed	1/		8.18. 0
11 mo 20	26 Ditto Do Glazed	3/9		4.17. 6
12 mo 15	4 Ditto Do Do	3/9		0.15. 0
	1258 Ditto [cleand?] with whiting	3/		15.14. 6
28	1 Ditto Glazed	3/9		0. 3. 9
	703 yards of Painting 3 Coats	1/4/1/2		48. 6. 7 1/2
	704 Ditto Do 2 Coats	11		32. 5. 0
	34 Ditto Mahogany	2/6		3. 8. 0
	718 Sash Lights Painted	3		8.19. 6
				124. 7. 7 1/2
	By Cash			22.10. 0
				£101.17. 7 1/2

Voucher #192

1793 City & County Commissioners for Congras Hall

To Robt. Haydock Dr.

8 mo 23	To 220 lb of Sheet Copper	3/9		£41. 5. 0
27	36 lb of Ditto Do	3/9		6.15. 0
	32 lb of Ditto Lead	8d		1. 1. 4
	Making & fixing 2 Pipes	5/		0.10. 0
9 mo 16	9 lb of Copper Pipes	4/6		2. 0. 6
	2 Heads for Pipes	25/		2.10. 0
	Repairing & Fixing Pipes	60/		3. 0. 0
10 mo 4th	546 lb of Lead weights	8 1/2		19. 6. 9
17th	31 lb of Copper Pipes	4/6		6.15. 0
12 mo 3	13 lb of Sheet Copper	3/9		2. 8. 9
6	178 lb of Patten Copper	4/		35.12. 0
	Laying 6 Harths	3/		0.18. 0
11th	16 lb of Lead Weight	8 1/2		0.11. 4
12th	40 lb of Patten Copper	4/		8. 0. 0
	Laying 1 Harth	3/		0. 3. 0
17th	18 lb of Patten Copper	4/		3.12. 0
12 mo 24	68 lb of Copper Pipes [6f under]	4/6		15. 0. 0
	56 lb of Patten Copper	4/		11. 4. 0
1794				
1 mo 4	Laying 3 Harths	3/		0. 9. 0
	By 209 lb of sheet Copper 3/ £31. 7. 0			161. 1. 8
	By 204 lb of Ditto Do 1/ 11. 4. 0			
	By 218 lb of Old Lead 6 1/2 5.18. 1			47. 9. 1
				£113.12. 7

Voucher #197

Philada 6 mo 13th 1793.

County Commissioners for Congress Hall
To John & James Poultney

		12 lb 10d Nails	1/	0.12. 0
	14	18 lb Do	1/	0.18. 0
		6 lb Do	1/	0. 6. 0
	17	12 lb fine 10d Do	1/	0.13. 0
7th mo	30	3 lb ea 10d & 20d Nails		0. 6. 3
8 mo	3	6 lb ea 10d & 20d Do		0.12. 0
	6	6 lb 30d Nails	10d	0. 5. 0
	9	8 lb Do Do	10d	0. 6. 8
		12 lb Do Do	10d	0.10. 0
	12	12 lb Do Do	10d	0.10. 0
	13	12 lb fine 10d Do	1/1	0.13. 0
	16	12 lb Do Do Do	1/1	0.13. 0
		1 M 6d Spriggs		0. 8. 0
	19	2 M 4d Do	5/9	0.11. 6
		2 M 6d Do	8/	0.16. 0
		30 lb 12d Nails	11d	1. 7. 6
	22	25 lb fine 10d Do	1/1	1. 7. 1
		12 lb 20d Do	11d	0.11. 0
	23	6 lb fine 6d Do	1/4/1/2	0. 8. 3
	24	25 Do 8d Do	1/2	1. 9. 2
		25 lb Nails	1/2	1. 9. 2
	26	6 lb fine 10d Do	1/1	0. 6. 6
		28 Do 8d Do	1/3	1.15. 0
	27	26 3/4 lb Do Do Do	1/2	1.11. 2 1/2
	28	29 1/2 Do Do Do	1/2	1.14. 5
		12 lb fine 10d Do	1/1	0.13. 0
	30	1 lb Glue		0. 1.10 1/2
		6 lb 30d Nails	10d	0. 5. 0
	31	12 lb 8d fine Do	1/2	0.14. 0
9th mo	2	6 lb Do Do Do	1/2	0. 7. 0
		4 lb 12d Do	11d	0. 3. 8
		6 lb 8d Do	1/2	0. 7. 0
	3	24 lb Do Do	1/2	1. 8. 0
	4	1 Doz Screws		0. 0. 8 1/2
		6 lb 30d	10d	0. 5. 0
	18	12 lb fine 8d Nails	1/2	0.14. 0
10th mo	2	24 lb 20d Do	11d	1. 2. 0
		6 pr Brass Frame Pullies with Brass Fronts		
			2/	0.12. 0
	11	18 Doz. Screws	7d	0.10. 6

		16 Brass Pullies	7d	0. 9. 4
		4 Pr Do Fram'd	1/6	0. 6. 0
12th mo	21	30 1b fine 8d Nails	1/3	1.17. 6
				£29.16. 3 1/2
9th mo	27th	6 prs Sarsh Lines	2/4	0.14. 0
				£30.10. 3 1/2

Voucher #198

1793		City & County Commissioners to Danl Drinker		
9 mo	26	20 " fine 2d Nails for Lathing	@ 2/6	£ 2.10. 0
		6 " English Glue		0.13. 6
	27	6 " fine 10d Nails @ 14d & 6" Common	@ 1/	0.13. 0
10 mo	9	37" Nails @ 1/ 5" @ 11d & 12" fine 8d	@1/3	2.16. 7
	16	two 11 inch Iron rim Locks @ 27/	.	2.14. 0
		one padlock 11/3 & one @ 8/9		1. 0. 0
		1 ditto		0. 3. 9
	18	12" Nails	1/	0.12. 0
	22	12" Do	1/	0.12. 0
	24	24" Do		1. 4. 0
		1 M Sprige each 4/9 & 5/9		0.10. 6
	29	100 Nails	@10 1/2	4. 7. 6
		1 M 2 inch Sprigs		0. 8. 0
11 mo	4	12" Nails	11d	0.11. 0
	9	6 Doz. Screws @ 8d 1 Double puller	4/6	0. 8. 6
	11	4" Glue	2/3	0. 9. 0
	14	15" Nails	@11	0.13. 9
	15	15" Do 11d & 6" fine Clasp	@ 1/6	1. 2. 9
	18	1 m Sprigs		0. 4. 0
	19	40" Nails @ 11d		1.16. 8
	21	1 Asemblee 11d 2 m. Sprigs 7/9		0. 8. 8
	25	1/2 gro Screws 3/ 2" Clasps [?]		0. 6. 0
		20" Nails @ 11d		0.18. 4
		4 ps 4 in Butts 2/9 5 1/2 Doz Screws	1/	0.16. 6
	26	6 Doz Screws 11d 4 ps Sash puttle	@ 2/6	0.15. 6
	27	71 3/4 Doz Screws 5/8 & 1 pr Butts	2/9	0. 8. 5
	30th	3 pullies & 6 Sheets Sand paper		0. 2.10
		1 Brass Knob Latch 13/11 & 1 1/2 Doz Screws	10d	0.14. 9
		1" English Glue		0. 2. 3
				28. 5. 9
	Recd	May 19 1794 in full Danl Drinker		
12 mo	4th	3 [?] Sash line	@2d	0. 0. 6
	10	2" Glue	@2/3	0. 4. 6

		6" Nails	@11d	0. 5. 6
	11	22" Nails	11	0. 0.12
	15	12" Do	11d	0.11. 0
	16	1 pr H hinges		0. 4. 6
		6" fine 8d Nails @ 1/3 & 6" 5d Do	1/5	0.16. 0
		2 large Bolts & Screws		0.11. 8
	20	24" 8d Nails	1/2	1. 8. 0
1794				
1 mo	2d	3" Nails @ 1/ & 2" fine @ 1/2		0. 5. 4
		200 Sprigs 11d & 200 1/4 d		0. 2. 3
	4th	1 M Do		0. 5. 9
	11	1 1/2 m Sprigs	0	0. 5. 9
	11	1 [?] board Lock [illegible] Screws		[illegible]
	15	[?] Glue [illegible]		["]
	16	1 1 Dore Lock 22/2 & 4 Doz Screws @ 10 3/4		1. 5. 6
				35.11.15

Errors Excepted
Danl Drinker
Philada. Jany. 18th 1794.

Voucher #201

The Commissioners for the City)
& County of Philadelphia)

1793 Bot of Morgan & Price
Decem 24 2 large open stoves £10

January 10th 1794.

Voucher #203

The Commissioners of the County of Philada
Dr To John Cornish

1794
Jany 12 To Turning 4 Newell Posts £0.12.0
Feby 1 To 1 do 0. 3.0
£0.15.0

Philada. April 26th 1794.

Voucher #204

1793 City & County Comitioners
to Saml Benge
Decembr 18th Line waights & Pullys to the 2 Doors)
in Congress) 0.10. 0

		Dp to the Gallery Doors & 2 Lead wts	0.12. 6
		2 Padds over the Doors &c	0. 7. 6
	21th	fixing up 5 Green Stuff binds at the back of the Venetion blinds	0. 9. 6
1794			
Jany	7	a Chair for Sennet Cover Red Leather) 2 Skins Brass Nails &c	1.14. 6
		Cone Pullys, Iron Screws &c to the Privey	0. 7. 6
		for removing and fixing one to Congress Door	0. 2. 6
		a new line to front Door	0. 1. 0
		a line Pulley Iron & Screws &c to Hall Door	0. 7. 6
		Do to the Sennet Staircase Door	0. 7. 6
		tacking on Carpet Tacks &c to Mr.) Clártons Pedestal	0. 1. 6
			5. 1. 6

Voucher #206

1794 Commissionars of City & County of Philada

To John Miller Dr.

Feby 4	To 2 swivl caps for stove pipes @ State House @ 15/	£ 1.10. 0
"	1 thumb latch for upper door of senate chamb	0.12. 6
"	1 Bolt for do	0. 7. 6
"	altering a latch on lower door	0. 2. 0
"	takeing off two thum latches & Splicing them	0. 3. 9
		£ 2.15. 9

Philada. April 26th 1794.

No Voucher Number

Philadelphia County Commissioners

To Thackara & Jones Dr

for work done at the portico of Congress' Hall

To 437 Yards of Plastering @ 1/3		£ 27. 6. 3
To 67 feet of Cornice	@ 8/	26.16. 0
To a Cieling piece		12. 5. 0
To 50 feet of Beads	@ 2d	0. 8. 4
Measuring Charges £2.0.8 one half say		1. 0. 0
		£ 67.15. 7
1794 Novr. 29 By Cash in part		22.10. 0
	Ballance	£ 45. 5. 7

Philada 11th mo 15th 1795

Saml Shoemaker
Philada

No Voucher Number

Philadelphia City & County Commissioners for Work Done at Congress Hall

To Jacob Souder Dr

To Laying 156 yards of paving @ 1/3	£ 9.15. 0
To pulling down and Setting 8 Stoves @ 10/	4. 0. 0
To Raiseing 3 Cellar Windows and Setting Kerb Stones	0.11. 3
To Laying foundation & Setting Steps in front of Portico	2. 5. 0
To Underpinning Steps at Side Door	2. 5. 0
To Laying Steps at the Office Door	0. 5. 0
To Laying harth	0. 5. 0
To Repairing Backs & Jams	0. 3. 9
To Cutting hole in Wall and fixing gutter Stone	0. 7. 6
Septr 26 - 1794	£19.17. 6

Philada. Jany. 8th 1795.

No Voucher Number

1794 City & County Cominishenors for Congress Hall

To Robt Haydock Dr.

2 mo 11	To 91 1b of Sheet Lead	9/9 under	9	£ 3. 8. 3
11	30 1b of Putten Copper		4/9	8.15. 6
13	35 1b of Sheet Copper		3/9	6.11. 3
	9 1b of Lead Wights		9	0. 6. 9
14	77 1b of Sheet Copper		4/6	17. 6. 6
	19 1b of Copper Pipes		4/6	4. 5. 6
15	15 1b of Sheet Copper		4/	3. 0. 0
	Covring 2 Pediments		3/9	0. 7. 6
	Repairing Eve Pipe		15/	0.15. 0
	To Coppering 7 Harths		2/9	1. 6. 3
			9/9 under	£46. 2. 6

Philada. Feby 27th

APPENDIX B

Vouchers for Erection of the Senate Gallery [from manuscripts at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Vouchers for labor, hauling, advances, comestibles, general supplies have been omitted. The complete list of vouchers is contained in Appendix H, Part I, of this report and copies of the omitted vouchers are in the files of Independence National Historical Park.]

Commissioners for City & County Philada.
To David Price Dr

1795	To Work done for Congress Hall	
July 7th	To 2 days work in Senate Chamber	£ 1. 5. 0
Decem 1	To 722 lb Sheet Lead for heaths 2/8d	24. 1. 4
	2 Laying 2 heaths [hearths] in Senate Chamber	1. 5. 0
	2 Laying 3 heaths in Commity Rooms	1. 2. 6
	To Nailes	0. 3. 9
		£ 27.17. 7

Philada. Decr 14th 1795.

The Commissioners for the City & County of Philada. for the use of the Gallery in the Senate Chamber of the United States
to Caleb Emlen Dr

1795	for 1 ps pine timber 51 feet 8 x 12 is 408 feet at 2d[?]		4. 5.0
July 25	hauling it to Mr. George Forepaughs Shop		0. 3.9
	hauling the above from Mr Forepaughs Shop to the Hall		0. 5.0
October 18	4 ps pine 8 feet 6 Inches long 9 by 6 is 250 feet at [?]		2.12.0
	2 ps do 13 feet 9 by 9 is 175 feet	[?]	1. 9.2
	hauling		0. 3.9
			8.18.8

Philada. Novemr. 12th 1795.

The Commissioners for the) Philada 11 mo 23d 1795
County of Philadelphia) To Hopkins & Howell
For the Use of the Gallery in the Senate Chamber of the United States

10 mo 1	To 6 lb Nails 6/.6 lb 10d ditto 6/.2 lb eng: Glue 5/.	£ 0.17. 0
13	To 12 lb do 12/.12 lb 10d do 12/.12 lb fine 10d ditto 11/.	1.18. 0
	To 500: 5ny Trunk Nails 4/6. 500: Ea 1.1 1/2 In Sprigs) [above "1" 2/10; above "1 1/2" 3/9] 6/7)	0.11. 1
17	To 12 lb 24d Nails. 11/3 24th 1/2 lb 10d Nails 12/. 51b 20d) do 5/.)	1. 8. 3

26	To 12 1b 10d ditto 12/. 12 1b 20d do 12/.	1. 4. 0
11 mo 13	To 6 1b 10d do 6/. 61b 20d Nails 6/. 6 1b 24d do 5/7 1/2	0.17. 7 1/2
	To 6 sheets fine sand paper 2/6 14th 4 1b 18d Nails 4/8	0. 7. 2
16	To 2 1b fine 8d Nails 2/6. 300 4d Trunk Nails 2/6	0. 5. 0
	To 3 gimblets 1/4 1/2: 100: 3/4 Sprigs 6d. 200: In sprigs 1/2	0. 3. 0 1/2
17	To 4 1b fine 8d Nails 5/. a00: 1 1/2 In sperigs 1/6	0. 6. 6
18	To 3 pr In patent butts 4/6: 2: 4 In spring Latches 7/6	0.12. 0
	To 1 screw driver 1/. 8 screws 4d. 4 doz: strong screws 3/4	0. 4. 8
19	To 1: 6 In dead Lock & Escrutchn 6/6. 1 ps Sash Cord 3/.	0. 9. 6
		£ 9. 3.10

Philada. Novemr. 24th 1795.

The City and County Commissioners

1795 To Robert Haydock & Co. Dr.

For Painting Done at the Congress House for Cenet

December 4th	To 63 1/2 yards of Painting done three Coats 1/9 pr	£ 5.11.1
Novem 7	To 19 Do of do done twice 1/2 pr 7/0 under	0.15.2
	To 167 Do of do once done 2/6 pr	5.11.4
	To 6 1/2 Do of Mahogany @ 3 1/2 p	1. 5.6
	To 240 Sash lights done once ./2 pr	2. 0.0
	To 3 Harths Painted @ 3/9 pr	0.11.3
	To 7 Lights of 16 & 12 & glass Glazed 5/pr	1.15.0
	To 3 Do of 8 & 10 & Do 1/2 pr	0. 2.4
		£71.11.8

46.89
.93 add error 7/0 Balance of Errors 91 Cents over
47.82

Philada. Decr. 15th 1795.

Bot of Zane & Chapman

4 pcs Collumn Caps	20/	4. 0.0
2 pcs pillaster Drops	7/6	15.0
		£4.15.0

Philada. 11th mo 19th 1795

Philada. Novr. 20th 1795

The Commissioners for City and County of Philada.

Novr 30	To Thackara & Jones	Dr.	
1795	To 130 yards of Lathing & plastering @ 1/6		£ 9.15. 0
	To Repiaring of Plastring		4.10. 0
	To Whitewashing		3. 0. 0
	To Colouring of Sennet Chamber walls		26. 5. 0
	To 80 Busels of Lime @ 2/9		11. 0. 0
	To 30 lb of 4d Nails @ 14d		1.15. 0
			£56. 5. 0

Philada. Decemr. 3d 1795

The Subscriber having Measured & Valued the Carpenters Work done by George Forepaugh for the Commissioners for for [sic] the City & County of Philada at a Gallery Stairs & Ct Judge the Same worth one hundred & fourteen pounds Six Shillings & three pence

Philada. December 3d 1795 £ 114.6.3

Measuring 57/-

G. [? undecipherable]
Philadelphia Decr. 9th 1795.

APPENDIX C

Vouchers for Repairing the Senate Chamber Floor [from manuscripts at the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Vouchers for labor, hauling, advances, comestibles, general supplies have been omitted. The complete list of vouchers is contained in Appendix J, Part I of this report and copies of the omitted vouchers are in the files of Independence National Historical Park.]

August ye 3rd 1796
the Commisioners for the City & County of Philadelphia
to Henry Brusstar Dr
For 1 Large pine Logg 60 Dollars
Philada August 9th 1796.

Phila County Commissioners
1796 To Anthy Cuthbert Dr.

Augt 10th	To 2 logs for Girders @ 18/15	37.10.0
"	1 do for do	26. 5.0
	Recd for Anthony Cuthbert	£53.15.0

Thos Cuthbert, junior
Philada. Octr. 17th 1796.

Kensington August 15th 1796
Philada County Commissioners
Bout of Manuel Eyre
One white pine log 80 feet long Dolls 50
...

1796	County Commissioners	Dr. to Pancoast & Walker	
Augt. 20	To 20 lbs 2/6 Nails	11 1/6	£ 0.19. 4-1/2
Septr 7	To 6 lbs D	11 1/6	0. 5. 7-1/2
9	To 24 lbs 20d D	1/	1. 4. 0
16	To 12 lbs 2/6 D	11 1/6	0.11. 3
21	To 20 lbs Brads	1/	1. 0. 0
22	To 30 lbs D	1/	1.10. 0
28	To 20 lbs D	1/	1. 0. 0
29	To 12 lbs D	1/	0.12. 0

	30	To 10 lbs fine drawn 10 D 1/2	0.11. 8
		4 lbs Glue 1/10 1/2	0. 7. 6
		500 1 In sprigs 7d	0. 2.11
		2 doz. large Screws 1/	0. 2. 0
		2 doz. 3/4 In D 6d	0. 1. 0
Octobr	3	To 1 doz Screws 9d 30 lb 2/6 Nails 28/1 1/2	1. 8.10-1/2
	4	To 12 lbs fine drawn 10d Nails 1/2	0.14. 0
	7	To 3 doz Screws 9d	0. 2. 3
	10	To 6 lbs fine drawn 10d Nails 1/2	0. 7. 0
		1 in sprigs	0. 4. 9
		6 lbs 8d Nails 1/3	0. 7. 6
	13	To 1 Lock of Escutition	0. 5. 5
	22	To 6 lbs fine drawn Nails 1/4 1/2	0. 8. 3
	31	To 1 10 In bolt 3/4 1/2 doz Screws 4d	0. 3. 8
Nov	1	To 6 lbs 8d Nails 1/3	0. 7. 6
	11	To 100 Clout Nails	0. 0.10
	14	To 2 doz Screws 1/	0. 2. 0
			£12.19. 4-1/2

The above for Congress Hall
Philada. Decr. 29th 1796.

City & County Commissioners Dr. to Samuel Williams
For Congress Hall

1796 Sept. 1st	To 1316 feet Poplar Planks @ 37d		£19. 3.10
	Sawing 72 feet @ 2d		0.12. 0
	Carting		5. 7-1/2
Octob 4th	9 feet mahoy 1/		9. 6
	50 feet Poplar Joint 2d		8. 4
	30 feet Ash 2 1/2		6. 3
			£21. 5. 0-1/2

Philada. Decr. 28th 1796.

The Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia
To Jacob Evans Dr

To Tareing up The Old floores in the Senate Chamber,) at Congress Hall)	£ 3.15. 0
To paying One Labourer	1. 6. 3
To Tairing Down The plaster And Takeing off the Bridging	4.10. 0
To Paying Tow Labouring Men	1.10. 0
To Takeing Down the Girders	13.10. 0

To paying Carters at Sundreys Times	1.13. 6
To helping Coberen puting up The Girders	7.10. 0
To Makeing Scafling	18. 0. 0
As October 10th 1796	43.13. 9

The Commissioners for City and County of Philada
To Robert Stiles for work done at Congress Hall

1796	To Myself 6 days		@ 20/p day	£ 6. 0. 0
Octor 15	To John Gighe workt 2 days		@ 15/	1.10. 0
	To Mortan Conners	3 days	@ 15/	2. 5. 0
	To Samuel Ludlin	6 days	@ 7/6	2. 5. 0
	To Samuel Whatson	3 days	@ 11/3	1.13. 9
	To 200 paving Bricks		@ 9/	0.18. 0
	To 5 Bushel of Lime		@ 3/6	0.17. 6
	To 7 Clamps			0. 1. 0
	To 1 Load of Sand			0. 3. 9
				£15.14. 0

Philada. October 20th 1796.

At the request of the Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia and of Jacob Evans, The Subscribers have Measured and Valued the Carpenters work done by S^{d} Evans at the frameing a new floor of Joist with large Girders, laying a new floor, fixing anew the pedestals under the windows, and the Ballustrade, steps and Pilasters to the Presidents seat; new Plinths and coping to the Continued pedestal round the room, rehanging &c the windows, &c in the Senate Chamber of Congress in the Court House of the County of Philadelphia, and Judge the said work worth One hundred forty pounds six shillings.

£140. 6 ---
2. 2
£138. 4

Measuring and Valuing 84S-- half 42/

Philad^{a} October 20th 1796 --- James Pearson
William Gamigues [somewhat illegible]

Measure the Painting Done by Mr William Skinner
at Congress Hall and find

	240 yards Done once @ 9d	£ 9. 0. 0
	192 Lighte Sash @ 2d	1.12. 0
	Glass & Glazing 9 Lights @ 5/6	2. 9. 6
	half ye measaring Charg	4. 6
1796 November 30	Jacob Strumback	13. 6. 0

Philada. Decemr. 6th 1796.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Chapter II
Illustration No. 1



Engraving made in 1793 of Independence Hall group of buildings shows another view of Congress Hall and Portico. Note turned balusters atop latter structure. Courtesy Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 2



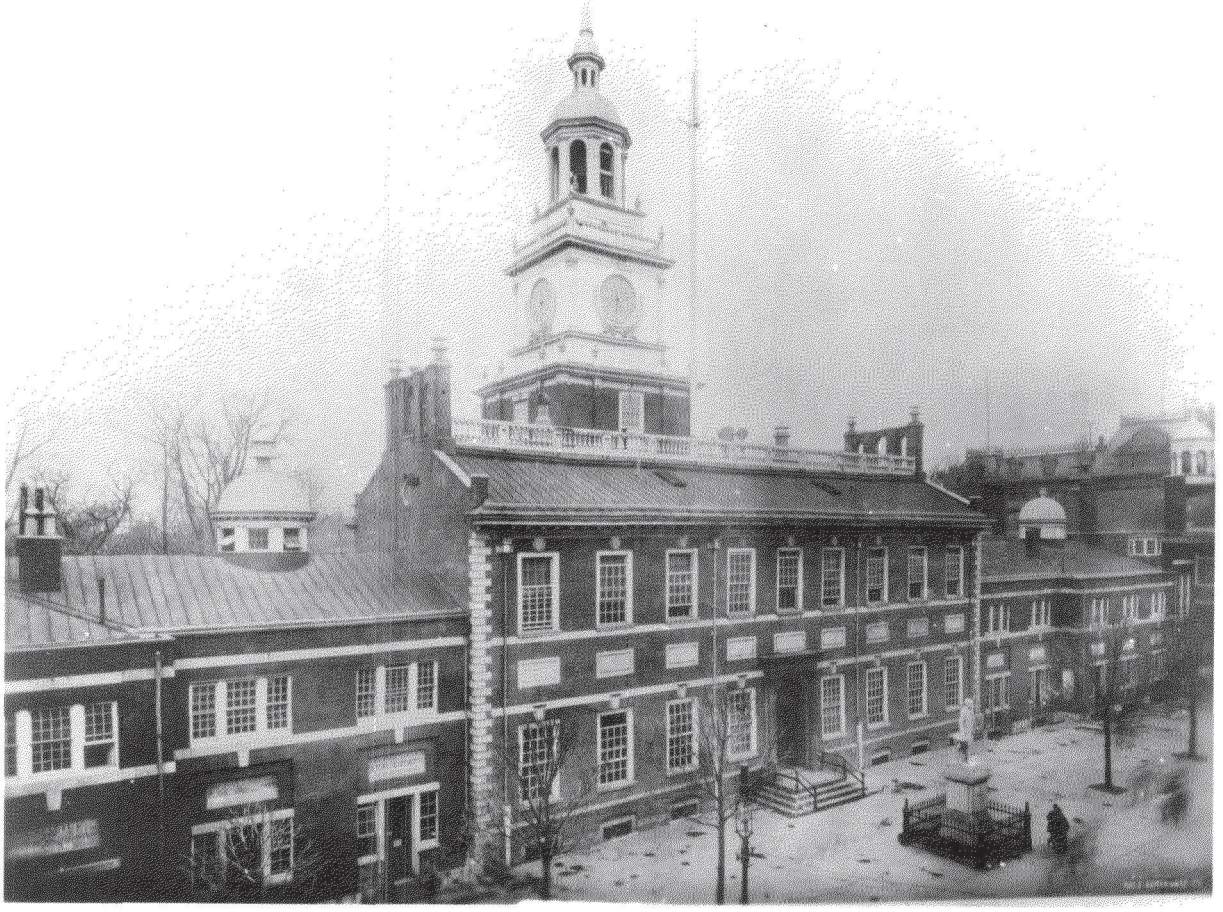
Congress Hall as seen looking east on Chestnut Street. Birch print from 1804 edition shows front steps at variance with present dark-stained granite ones.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 3



Watercolor by D. J. Kennedy shows south end of Congress Hall around 1866 with original single level judge's "retiring room." Courtesy Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 4



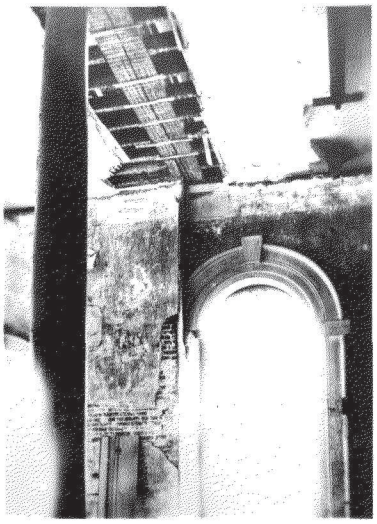
Photograph of Independence Hall and Congress Hall taken around 1878 by the F. Gutekunst Co. shows two story addition to Prothonotary's office (adjacent to Congress Hall) which was removed during the summer of 1896.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 5



E. H. Yardley photograph of elevation outline of steps at front door to Congress Hall made in 1912.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 6



View of section of east wall of House of Representatives Chamber taken during investigation of building fabric by A.I.A. committee shows profile of gallery (left of window), remains of cornice, girder in ceiling, and built-up window casing.



Caricature of Lyon-Griswold incident gives details of House Chamber in 1798. Note open fireplace at right. Courtesy Essex Institute.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 7

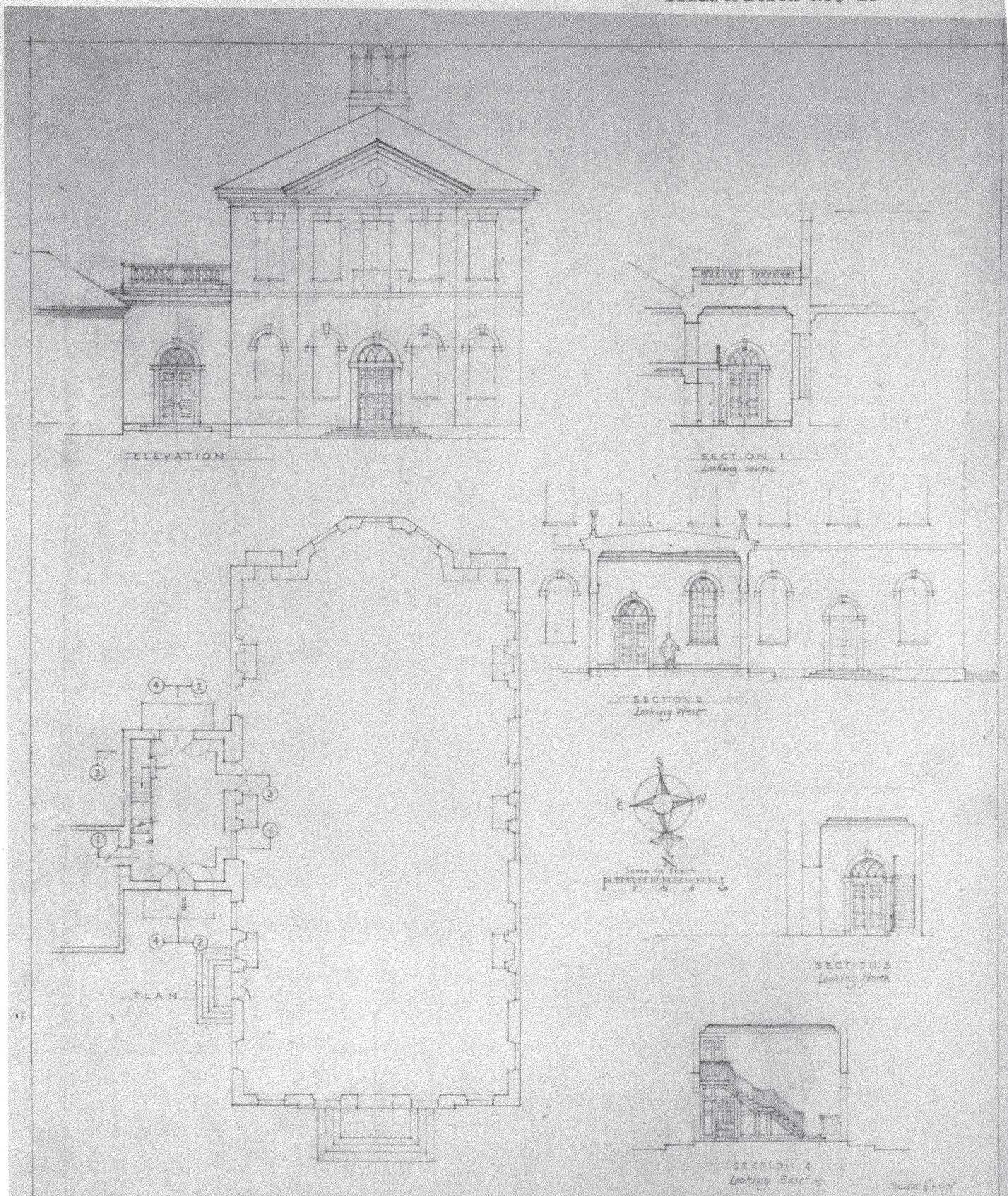


Photograph of Congress Hall, taken in 1913 before cleaning of stonework, shows protective layer of soot and grime which obscured but protected seal above front entranceway. See next illustration for seal after cleaning.

Chapter II
Illustration No. 9



Photograph of Congress Hall facade taken immediately after cleaning of stonework in 1913. Note high relief and sharpness of detail. In the forty-six years since this photograph was taken, the seal has lost both of these characteristics.



POSSIBLE APPEARANCE of PORTICO between the WEST WING and CONGRESS HALL
Based on available historical evidence.

on

Congress Hall

Independence National Historical Park

Chapter III

Architectural Data Section

April 1960

by

Penelope Hartshorne, Architect

Architectural Data

RECOMMENDED

Thomas C. Vint, Jr. Date 4/20/60
Supervising Architect, Historic Structures

Edward L. Zimmer Date 4/22/60
Chief, EODC

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose and Design of the Report

The immediate purpose of this report is to document the building's details, to evaluate previous restorations, and to justify the recommendations and forthcoming drawings and specifications for the rehabilitation of the building and its restoration to the period 1793 - 1800.

A supplement to this report will be forthcoming at the completion of the work, explaining what we will have done and why.

The material in this report has been organized in a chronological presentation of the evolution of the fabric, with an introductory brief physical history as a guide for the detailed analysis to follow. The recommendations, placed at the end of the written report, include, for each, references to their corresponding sections in the text.

Because Congress Hall has undergone two previous restorations, which have removed much "primary source" evidence, the research done in preparation for this report relied heavily upon documentary evidence.

Much, however, was learned during the recent structural investigations. Thereby the fabric could be examined and re-analyzed in the light of the recently discovered documentary evidence.

B. Acknowledgments

The only published work on Congress Hall has been the brief general article by E. M. Riley, "The Independence Hall Group" in Historic Philadelphia, Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc., Volume 43, Part 1, 1953, pp. 27-30.

After much documentary evidence had been gathered, a detailed study of the building began in 1959 and is reflected in the following mimeographed reports:

Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall,
Independence National Historical Park, May, 1959.
Chapter II, Historical Data by Historians David A. Kimball and John D. R. Platt
Chapter III, Architectural Data by Architect Charles E. Peterson
Chapter IV, Archeological Data by Archeologists B. Bruce Powell and Jackson W. Moore, Jr.
Chapter V, Furnishings and Exhibition Data by Museum Curator, David H. Wallace.

Furnishing Plan for the First Floor of Congress Hall
Independence National Historical Park, July, 1959,
by David A. Kimball.

As aid in the preparation of this Part II Architectural Data Section, we are extremely grateful for: the ground work covered by the above studies; the enormous job done by the whole History Staff of Independence National Historical Park in accumulating the documentary evidence and helping to evaluate the evidence; the generous interest and time devoted to the study of paint evidence on the part of Preservation Specialist Anne F. Clapp of Independence National Historical Park; the information supplied by Archeologist Moore of Independence National Historical Park on the foundations of the Portico of Congress Hall; the study prepared by Museum Curator Wallace of Independence National Historical Park on the Senate Chamber

Ceiling Painting; and the endless advice on terminology and 18th century building methods given by the Maintenance Staff of Independence National Historical Park. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Free Library of Philadelphia were very helpful in making their material available. And to Dr. Robert C. Smith of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Charles Montgomery of the Winterthur Museum, and Mr. Harold Watts of Wm. H. Watts & Co. we are very much indebted for their consideration and opinions on the Senate Chamber marble mantelpieces.

To Mr. Samuel Y. Edgerton we are extremely grateful for a special study on the manufacture and use of 18th century stoves and ventilating fixtures and his preliminary study of their application in Congress Hall during the historic period drafts of which are on file at the Historic Structures office of EODC. We have extracted from these studies throughout this report.

Architect Thomas Wistar, Jr. has written SECTION II, M., describing work on the building during the period 1957 - 1960, the present structural condition and utility installations, and certain portions of SECTION III, including the recommendations for structural rehabilitation and air conditioning of the building.

To the staff of the Historic Structures Section goes much credit: the Summer Student Measuring Team made the huge set of measured drawings (Drawing No. 4, sheets 2 - 48); Photographer Jack E. Boucher made a thorough record of the existing conditions of Congress Hall, Architect James C. Massey gathered material on 18th century marble

mantelpieces, and the secretarial staff compiled the finished product.

To Mr. Charles E. Peterson, Supervising Architect, Historic Structures, I am indebted for general direction and advice in preparing this report, and to Architect Henry A. Judd I am extremely grateful for his detailed check of the conclusions drawn.

C. Physical History in Brief

Congress Hall, when first built in 1787-89, was to be a Court House for Philadelphia County. Its exterior character has changed very little except for the addition of 28 feet in length.

The Congress of the United States occupied the building from 1790-1800, during which time the structure was lengthened to accommodate the growing representation, a vestibule and galleries were added and structural repairs were made.

In 1800, Congress removed to Washington, and the building reverted to its original purposes. Until 1895 it housed county, state and federal courts, various county and city offices and even the University of Pennsylvania's law school. During this period, extensive changes were made to the floor plans, and further additions were attached at the exterior.

In the last decade of the 19th century, historically-minded persons focused attention on the building and it took on again its 18th-century known name, "Congress Hall." The Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames restored the Senate Chamber in 1895. And by 1912 the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects had succeeded in promoting a restoration of the whole

building. Congress Hall remained open to the public as a city museum from 1913-1951 when the National Park Service was given custody.

During the 1912-13 restoration the structure was reinforced. Despite this work certain portions of the roof framing have recently failed and caused alarm. This instigated the immediate programing of structural and architectural investigation for the rehabilitation and final restoration of the building.

SECTION II

EVOLUTION OF THE FABRIC

II. EVOLUTION OF THE FABRIC

A. 1787 - 1790

A-1. Origin of the Building

The idea for the County Court House (now known as Congress Hall) was thought of fifty-one years before ground was broken. In 1736 the site for the scheme, the State House Square, was a statement of symmetry.[1] The main body of the State House had just been built and the office wings on either side were almost completed.[2]

Upon land acquired by Andrew Hamilton "contiguous to the publick ground...of the state-house" it was planned that "...two publick Buildings are to be erected, of the like outward From /form/, Structure and Dimensions, the one for the Use of the County, and the other for the Use of the City of Philadelphia and are to be for the Holding of Courts, or Common Halls, and not for Private Dwellings."[3]

The fifty-one year delay did not upset the plan that the two public buildings be alike, but the lapse of time was long enough for their architectural styles to have changed from the original conception. The State House and its wings were built in what is now called the "Early Georgian" period while the County Buildings are of the "Federal" period.

The same combination of materials, and the common classic

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1. E. M. Riley, "The Independence Hall Group", Historic Philadelphia, Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc., Vol. 43, Pt. 1, 1953, hereafter cited as Riley, "Ind. Hall Group."

2. Ibid.

3. Pa. Archives, Ser. VIII, v. III, 2355-56.

origins of the Georgian and Federal styles have created a completely harmonious group. Precedent in the symmetrical arrangement of the State House group is found in monumental English structures starting with the works of Inigo Jones in the 1600's and continuing through the 18th century.[4]

The scale of the State House group, however, is related not to these large structures but to the countless manor houses in England and their American counterparts, such as the Governor's House in Williamsburg, 1705; Carter's Grove on the James River and Mount Airy in Richmond County, Virginia, 1755-58.

In 1787 one or more schemes were submitted for the design of the County Court House.

> "Resolved, that No. 2 of the plans of a Court House for the city and county of Philadelphia, presented, according to law, by the Commissioners of the said city and county, has been approved by Council."[5]

If these were architectural plans we don't know who executed them, perhaps the County Commissioners themselves.[6]

The County Court House, the first to be built of the outer appendages of the State House row,[7] was started some time between

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4. J. Summerson, Architecture in Britain 1530 to 1830, Baltimore, Md., 1955. Inigo Jones Whitehall, c. 1638; Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 1682-9, and Greenwich Hospital, 1695; Robert Hooke's Bethlem Hospital, 1674-6; Sir John Vangrugh's Castle Howard, Yorks, 1699-1712, and Blenheim Palace, Oxon, 1705-24; and William Kent's Holkham Hall, Norfolk, 1734.

5. Col. Rec., Min. Sup. Exec. Coun., XV, 175, March 8, 1787.

6. Pa. Mag. Hist. Biog., XVI p. 174, Hiftzheimer's Diary, On Oct. 3, 1787, the County Commissioners were listed as George Gray, Hugh Roberts and Peter Brown. No papers of these men have as yet been found.

7. Old City Hall, the balancing structure at the east end of the row, was not built until 1790-91, Riley, "Ind. Hall Group" p. 26.

March, 1787, when its boundaries were set[8], and July 1787, when the foundation was laid for an "elegant courthouse."[9] It was described as "lately finished" on March 27, 1789.[10]

A-2. Size and Mass of the Building

No papers have as yet been located which cover the erection of the structure. But the fabric itself and one contemporary view testify to the work done (see Illustration No. 1). This view of the County Court House is that from the Columbian Magazine of January 1790, showing the South and West elevations. Crude though this engraving is, it shows the mass of the building as we believe it was first built; measuring ±65 feet long instead of the ±93 feet as it stands today. (Reference to Drawing No. 13 will aid in understanding these discussions.)

In the building itself several physical indications of the extent of the 1787 built structure remain.

Illustration No. 23 and Drawing No. 10 shows the vertical joint at the west wall between the end of the 1787 building and the addition

8. A petition was brought before the Assembly by the Commissioners of the city and county of Philadelphia "...that the front of the said building should fall back from the line on Chestnut-street about fifteen feet; therefore, praying an act may be passed enabling them to extend the said building twelve or fifteen feet further southward..." Minutes of Assembly of Pa., 1786-1789, "2nd Session, 11th /Assembly/", p. 136; This report was adopted March 15, 1787, Ibid., p. 151; "...there are now preparations making for building on one of the aforesaid lots, and it...that the front of building should fall back fifteen feet from the line of Chestnut-street, and a regard to symmetry in appearance requires that the corresponding building should front on the same line..." Ibid., March 21, 1787, p.172; The speaker signed the engroosed act on March 27, 1787, Ibid., p. 192.

9. Columbian Magazine, January 1790, p. 513.

10. Stat. at Large of Pa., XIII, 277.

to come in 1793. (This vertical joint is also to be found on both east and west exterior facades). The 16" wide area of broken headers in the same illustration is the scar of the torn-down south wall of the 1787 building.

In the cellar the eastern and western ends of the 1787 south stone foundation wall stand free as partitions.

The Columbian Magazine engraving also shows a bay extending out to the south. Without doubt, the walls of this bay rested upon cellar walls connected with what remains today of the 1787 south foundation walls.

From this contemporary view we also see that the roof of this bay was flat while the roof of the whole building was hipped with a dormer window at the south end. The south hip rafters of this shorter 1787 structure are still in their place, to be seen in Drawing No. 4, sheet 8.

Judging from the Columbian Magazine view, the position of the cupola has not been changed. A comparison between this view and the present cupola (see the Drawing No. 4, sheets 10a and 30) shows their general appearance is the same, but we know its fabric was rebuilt after a fire c. 1821 (see SECTION II, G-4), and at present it also contains alterations made in 1912.

At the north end of the building a large gable with fan light window (not to be seen in the Columbia Mag. engraving, but to be seen in the 1794 Davis map, Illustration No. 3) extends from the north hip roof out over a central pay projection in the north wall, the very arrangement of today.

The whole building from the Columbian Magazine view seems to

have had the same relationship to the Sixth Street grade then as it does now. And in the 1794 Davis map view the north and east grades also appear at about the same level at which they are today.

A-3. Structural System and Materials

a. Structural System

Originally the building was constructed with masonry bearing walls.

The first floor was supported on joists spanning between cellar cross walls.

The second floor had a frame work of wood timber girders running east-west with mortised and tenoned joists spanning between. These girders in turn rested on the exterior brick walls and also on columns.[11]

The roof structure was a series of timber, mortised, tenoned and pinned Queen-post trusses spanning east-west, with hip rafters

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11. We know that the southernmost 1787 girder, after 1793, was supported by hangers from the roof trusses introduced in the second floor hall partitions leading to the new Senate Chamber. Prior to 1793 this girder supported the floor of the large south room on the second floor (see A-7.) i.e. it could not have been hung from the roof trusses before 1793. Instead, it must have been supported from below, by columns.

Upon inspection of the underside of the girder there are, in line with the breaking in the south wall for the bay, areas where the stain from the old lath and plaster is not consistent with the rest, implying that the columns supported the girders at these points.

In 1912, they also noted the possibility of there having been four columns in the building before 1793 (see Appendix D).

Thus, there were probably columns at the north end of the first floor large room as well. The four columns would have stood atop the basement stone walls which today are in a line below the girders in questio (See Drawing No. 13.) (See photograph INHP, CN-5203, taken 2/13/1912, which includes notes made by the Clerk of the Works pointing out the "Suspended girder" and "Hangers for 2nd floor girder...")

extending to the corners of the building forming a hipped roof.

Drawing No. 4, sheets 3, 6, 8, 9 and 15 show the existing framing system and have recorded which members are left from the original structure. The framing system was restored in 1912, keeping what old members could be used and adding new members where needed but within the same general arrangement as was first used.

b. Foundations

A cellar was excavated and continuous stone footings were laid. They are from 20" - 24" deep below the basement floor,[12] and about the same width as the stone cellar walls above.

c. Walls

The cellar walls continue up to the level of the water table, having a dressed exterior face above grade.

The walls 1'-8"± thick, above the water table were of brick, with their exterior face of flemish bond. A specimen of the original pointing of these walls is still to be seen at the SE corner of the 1787 building. This area has been covered since 1793 by the walls of the extension. The mortar was of fine sand and appears fairly light in color. The joints were struck, slightly lower than centered, with a square ended tool 3/64"+ wide.

A cut stone belt course circled the building at approximately the first floor ceiling level and a wood bracketed and fretted cornice finished the facades at the edge of the roof.

The wall interiors, with exception of the dado in the first floor "Great Hall" (see SECTION II, A-6.c.) were finished with plaster

12. Engineering report of George M. Ewing Co., 1959, p. 8, Independence NHP files.

applied directly to the brickwork.

The original finish of the basement walls may be seen in Illustration No. 9 where without whitewash the original galleted stonework is exposed. That is, stone walls having mortar joints with small pieces of stone inserted in them.

The interior partition at the first floor was of brick.[13] At the second floor, with exception of the south wall of the stairhall, partitions were probably frame[14] with lath and plaster, supported by the second floor framing system.

d. Floors

Probably the only original flooring in place is that of the Attic, within the bounds of the 1787 building. This is of wide pine boards, unfinished and nailed with hand wrought nails to the 1787 joists supporting it.

One floor board which may have been from the 1787 building and was re-used in the framing of the Senate Chamber ceiling in 1793 was recently investigated for the treatment of its finish surface. From a cross-section of the wood we find an oil penetration which may mean the floors in 1787 were finished with linseed oil.

No other flooring in the building is original except perhaps a section in the House of Representatives which was saved in the 1912 restoration. As this section of flooring includes an area added in 1793 a discussion of this floor will come in SECTION II, C - 1793-1795.

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13. Congress Hall Historic Structures Report, Part I, /hereafter cited as Cong. Hall, Part I/ Appendix O.

14. "Daily Reports," Restoration of Congress Hall, American Institute of Architects, MSS, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Feb. 10, 16, 19, 1912. These papers are on microfilm at Ind. Nat'l. Hist. Park, and hereafter are cited "AIA Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa.

The cellar floors may have been brick or a hard-packed lime mixture as was found in the cellar of the Bishop White House, Independence NHP, at 309 Walnut Street (built 1787), or they may have been of tamped dirt. We have made no attempt to investigate this as the restoration is not scheduled to include the basement.

e. Ceilings

The ceilings were of plaster on hand-split lath, none of the 1787 ceilings are left however.

The cellar ceiling was of plaster and lath applied to the underside of the first floor flooring (see SECTION II, C-5.a). This finish was customary as insulation and/or fire proofing.[15]

f. Roof

We have no original roof material, but spanning the roof trusses were no doubt purlins supporting rafters with shingle lath and hand dressed wood shingles[16] atop all.

A-4. Exterior Details

a. Doors

We assume the main entrance to the County Court House in 1787 was the arched opening in the north wall, with cut stone keystone, imposts and architraves, with fan light and transom bar and double doors such as are in place today. The earliest view of this door (1794 Davis map, Illustration No. 3) shows all of these elements. We do know that the

15. INHP Historic Structures Reports of 316 and 318 Market Street, Philadelphia. B. Franklin prescribed this sort of plasterwork for fireproofing.

16. "Drest Indian Eiver Shingles" were supplied for the 1793 extension implying that dressed wood shingles were on the rest of the roof. "Cong. Hall, Phila., 1790's, Vouchers, Dec. 1793--Jan. 1794, and State Records Office, Harrisburg, Dec. 20-21, 1793--These vouchers are on microfilm at Independence NHP and are hereafter cited "Vouchers, 1793-94

original stone steps were removed at some time and in 1912 were replaced with granite reproductions. The type of stone used originally was probably like the cut stone of the present south door steps, or the cut stone used throughout the exterior details of the building.

The 1912 architects also believed the splayed jambs they found and kept are the originals.[17] But they reconstructed the present doors apparently using the corresponding doors of Old City Hall as models;[18] doors which we presume matched the jamb paneling they found at Congress Hall. These doors have four leaves which should fold open. Iron pieces have been inserted to prevent this. If the description of 1795-96 is applicable to these exterior doors and not those between the stairhall and the House, "Two folding-doors, accessible to everybody, led me at once into the Hall of the National Representatives,..."[19] then we should restore the separate four leaves. We recommend that the origin of the Old City Hall doors be established first, before any conclusions are fixed.

Again, from the 1794 view we see the east door with a keystone but without imposts. Since the imposts were omitted by the engraver at the windows of the east wall, we can safely assume that he neglected

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17. "Found at door No. 101 /Chestnut St./ that jamb and face casings were modern, had them removed and found original jambs with panels formed by applied beads. The panels of new doors /these found in place in 1912-13/ do not align with jamb panelling." "AIA Restoration, Daily Reports, May 8, 1913, Hist. Soc. Pa.

18. App. Q. Illustration 1, Cong. Hall, Part I, and in "AIA Restoration", Hist. Soc. Pa., /INHP film #XCII/measured drawings of the Chestnut Street doors of Old City Hall imply that the Congress Hall doors were copied from these.

19. Reminiscences by Thos. Twining /Nov. 1795-1796/, Cong. Hall, Part I, App. o, p. 20, Extract #3.

them at the door.

Even though the engraving by William Birch & Son (see cover of Congress Hall Report, Part I) shows cut stone architrave at the east door of Congress Hall and Krimmel's illustration (Illustration No. 4) made in 1815 shows cut stone in the corresponding location on Old City Hall, evidence at the structures indicate that the architrave was not stone but probably brick. A photo in Harper's Weekly, Nov. 5, 1898, (INHP file) (a view prior to any restoration work done at or around this door) shows no cut stone architraves; and a restoration drawing made on August 26, 1902, shows bricks as the existing material, not to be touched in that restoration.[20] Unless evidence of an early 19th century major alteration can be supplied as an explanation for the removal of stone architraves, we suggest that the brick architraves be left in place.[21]

The south facade of Congress Hall was probably similar to the south facade of Old City Hall. In this case, it would have had small doors with dog-eared architraves, not seen in the Columbian Magazine view because of the high State House Yard wall.

b. Windows

The Columbian Magazine view shows the first floor windows

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20. "AIA Restoration" 1901 Drawings, "Detail of Entrances," K-3, Aug. 26, 1902, Hist. Soc. Pa. See also INHP photograph #CN-25796, taken in 1878 which shows brick pilasters at either side of this east opening.

21. Chap. II of this report suggests another viewpoint, that the above illustrations coupled with what appears to be reproduction stone capitals in contrast to old bases indicates that original stone architraves have been replaced by brick ones.

with arched openings while the second floor had flat arches. There were at each level five windows along the west wall and probably five windows along the south including the bay.

If in 1787 there were doors at the south wall, then the windows shown in the 1790 view would have been above these doors and would, as they appear, have been shorter than the others. This is the condition at the matching building, Old City Hall (see Illustration No. 2).

Again, a comparison between the Columbian Magazine view and Old City Hall shows a similarity in the treatment of the windows in the bay. In both cases the bay window sills are higher than the west wall windows, but in only one window of Congress Hall is the arch as high as those at Old City Hall.

Could it not be that the south end of the County Court House and Old City Hall were treated alike as it was intended they should be?

There were plainly dressed cut stone keystones and sills at all the windows in the building except the north, second floor center window and the north fan light window, which had moulded keystones as at the north and east doors. At the first floor level there were plainly dressed imposts.

The fan light window at the north gable has a removable sash. The 1787-9 south dormer window probably was similar in size to the present dormer (see SECTION II, C-3.b). All the other windows, we feel sure, had single or double hung sash (see SECTION II, C-3.b.: and Drawing No. 4, sheets 24 and 25). The first floor windows have a lower sash 3 lights high and an upper sash 3 lights high plus a fan. The second floor windows have 3 and 3. All the sash at the first and

second floor are 4 lights wide except the north central second floor window. To match in width the door below is five lights wide, and has double doors under it leading to the wrought-iron balcony. (See Drawing No. 4, sheets 20 and 21.)

We doubt that any of the sash in the 1787-9 section of the building are original, except perhaps the north dormer sash. From Illustration No. 11, Chapter II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, of 1900, we know that the first floor north window sash plus the sash of the three northern ones of the west facade have been replaced, and possibly the northern window of the east facade suffered the same fate.

The sash in general seem appropriate in composition for the period and for this building, but in the opinion of Architect Henry A. Judd of the Historic Structures Section, the meeting rails are too thin and the bottom rails too thick. We suggest that as the sash need replacement that they be reconstructed more correctly.

c. Rainwater Conductors

A Robert Haydock supplied sheet copper, copper pipes, and charged for "Making & fixing 2 Pipes" and "Repairing & Fixing Pipes" and "2 Heads for Pipes."[22] These were for rain water conductors and heads. In the Birch print of 1800 (see Cover of Cong. Hall Report, Part I) round drain pipes are shown with a sheet metal head and at least 10 straps to fasten the pipes to the wall. The pipes do not enter a wood shoe as they do at present, but for lack of sewer connections, (with an outward turn of the pipe) these emptied directly on a gutter stone flush with the ground.[23] To restore the exterior appearance of Congress Hall the present shoes should be removed, and if not in fact, in effect, the drain

22. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #192.

23. "Vouchers 1793-94," Jacob Sonder bill, Sept. 26, 1794, "fixing gutter Stone".

pipes should be ended this way. The present conductor heads should be examined carefully to see if any originals still exist. They were maintained by the 1912 restoration,[24] and are very similar to those of the Birch print.

d. Wrought-Iron Balcony

As early as the 1794 Davis map (Illustration No. 3) a balcony is shown in position at the north facade, second floor central window. Illustration No. 4, the excellent engraving by Krimmel in 1815, shows a balcony in this position of exactly the same detail as the present one. It is therefore very likely that this balcony was erected in 1787 as a focal feature in the protruding central bay of the north facade.

The floor members of the balcony appear in such good condition in contrast to the railings that we suspect they may be replacements. Illustration No. 20 shows the balcony circa 1920, and Illustration No. 21 shows it today. The amount of deterioration evident, particularly in the top rails shows the results of neglect. It is recommended that the still structurally strong members be stabilized and the members that have disintegrated beyond the hope of restoration should be replaced.

e. Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

This seal above the north door is present in the 1794 Davis map view, and because of its subject matter it is more than likely that it was inserted in the wall in 1787 honoring the body of government to which the county courts answered.

Furthermore, a newspaper article of 1913, recently turned up by the History Division of Independence NHP, said that an inscription

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24. Congress Hall, Part I, App. Q, p. 24, "Flashings"

was found in the stone, "R. North, fecit." Furthermore, the Park Historians have found that R. North was listed in the City Directories of 1787-89 as a stone carver.[25] As pointed out in Chapter II, this seal has been eroding over the years and steps should be taken to arrest this condition.

f. Carved Date "1787" in North Belt Course

This date appears in the Krimmel print of 1815, our earliest known reference. We do not know how long it existed before this.

g. Exterior Paint Color

We have no record of the exterior paint color used when the building was first built, nor do we know what colors were used at later periods, as all the exterior paint was removed during the 1912 Restoration.[26]

A-5. Basement Plan

Because at present the restoration objective does not include the basement, no emphasis was put on research there.

Drawing No. 13 shows the approximate plan of the basement in 1787. This plan is derived from the existing basement walls and/or partitions. For a possible explanation of the use of these stone partitions, read SECTION II, A-3.a.

A-6. First Floor Plan

When the County Court House was first built it was described in a newspaper account:

"...the Great Hall in the new Court House of the county of

25. Public Ledger, Oct. 5, 1913.

26. "All old paint on exterior woodwork...will be burned off...", Cong. Hall, Part I, App. Q, p. 26.

> Philadelphia, just finished at a cost of 16000 (exclusive of the value of the lot) is capable of accommodating 100 members, and near 500 auditors in the gallery and beyond the bar."[27]

The emphasis on "the Great Hall" in comparison to any other room in the same building not mentioned must mean that it was larger than any of the others.

The first floor plan probably included an entrance and stair-hall to the north and "the Great Hall" to its south (See Drawing No. 13).

a. Stairhall

We believe the stairhall, where first built, was as it is today, a narrow space the full height of the interior of the building, containing two steep staircases to the east and west of the front door running from the basement to the second floor. The west of the present staircases to the second floor dates from 1787 (see "Congress Hall, Part I," App. O, p. 4, Chapter II, Illustration No. 36), while the east one and the basement stairs were restored in 1912 (see APPENDIX E). Certainly, the steepness of the stairs is confirmed by a 1791 description saying "that the Senators have to climb up a stair something like an Indian ladder."[28] The investigation of the 1901 Restoration Committee[29] was so accurate that no further investigations have had to be made concerning the stairs and their position.

The explanation for the lower level of the stairhall floor we do not know. In 1912 this level was determined by the "line of old step"

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27. Penna. Gazette, March 18, 1789.

28. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. C, p.1.

29. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O.

at the Chestnut Street door.[30]

The door frame leading from the stairhall to "the Great Hall" as it is today probably dates from 1787 as shown by architectural investigation in 1901 (see Congress Hall, Part I, App. O, p. 12). The present set of green baize doors we have no documentation for except that they were installed in 1912 (see APPENDIX E).

The rest of the trim restored in 1912 is either filled out from existing trim in the Stairhall itself or copied from adjacent spaces (see APPENDIX E), and can be considered accurate restorations.

b. Gallery of "Great Hall"

The gallery in which some of the "500 auditors" sat, we believe, was in the south end of this room. And the raised portion was attached to the east and west walls and possibly projected into the bay.

Drawing No. 10 shows evidence of a gallery found on both the east and west walls just north of the juncture of the 1787 and 1793 buildings. In the plaster of these walls at 7'-5 1/2"± and 8'-11"± above the floor two horizontal cracks were found. At the east wall the plaster between these cracks, and bounded also by the 1793 plaster to its south, was chased away from the wall and its surrounding plaster areas. Sharp smooth edges were found in the 1787-89 plaster below and above this patch--an indication that some woodwork was in place prior to the plastering of 1787-89. Three filled joist holes, 10" high, were found behind the patch, and one more such hole was found at the same level at the north jamb of the window immediately north of the other three holes.

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30. "Stone sill at No. 101 /Chestnut St. door/ removed and shows line of old step, this mark will govern position of floor in Vestibule 'A' which will be about 7 3/4" below main floor level." "AIA Restoration", Hist. Soc. Pa., Oct. 12, 1912 /INHP film No. XCII/.

At the west wall the patch has not been touched for fear of losing evidence of the 1793 use of this area in association with the Speaker's dais. But at the north jamb of the next window to the north of this patch another such hole also turned up, more than implying that the evidence is identical at both walls.

Unfortunately, both east and west walls have been altered directly north of these points so that it is impossible to tell if any other holes ever existed farther north. We have established that the gallery did not run the length of the east and west walls, for no evidence appears in the 1787-89 plaster to be found in the piers just south of the north chimney breasts.

It is very likely therefore that these holes supported the gallery mentioned in the above account, and that the gallery was confined to the south end of the room.

As pointed out in SECTION II, A-4.b. it is possible that the windows of the south wall and bay had an arrangement similar to that at Old City Hall. The gallery floor in this case would fit directly between the top of the south doors and the bottom of the smaller windows above.

And if the gallery penetrated the bay, the higher windows, although intersected by the gallery floor,[31] would have thrown light far beyond the gallery, (however, it is possible that the gallery was not in the bay, and that these higher bay windows

31. An entry in "Excerpts from the Day-Book of David Evans" for Dec. 9, 1790, mentions supplying venetian blinds when the building was being renovated for Congress. He also mentions, "Lengthening 5 Blinds". He could have been referring to five shorter windows at the south wall and bay which were interrupted by a gallery and whose blinds needed lengthening when the gallery was removed for another arrangement for Congress. Pa. Mag. Hist. Biog., XXVII (1903)51.

were so only because raised seats were placed at the floor in the bay).

Obviously the 10" joists, which were supported at one end by the holes found, did not span very far. Instead, they probably spanned out only far enough to be supported by a framework in turn supported by the columns at each side of the room (see SECTION II, A-3.a. and Drawing No. 13).

c. Architectural Finish of "Great Hall"

The present plaster cornice seems of a transition style. In William Pain's The Practical House Carpenter of London, 1794, plate 52, shows similarly treated triglyph motifs which differed only in that they were incised instead of raised as in the case of the House of Representatives cornice.

The only documentary evidence that this cornice was applied in 1787-89 is a voucher for the 1793 extension reading:

"To 124 ft. 10. of Stockoe Cornice enriched @ 3/9 pr foot 23.8.0" [32]

Within the extension itself this voucher must apply to the added length of cornice needed in the House of Representatives (the Senate Chamber has a wood freize, and the Portico cornice is billed elsewhere, see SECTION II, C-9.b.). The length actually measures 108'-2"±, but the discrepancy may be due to variations in standards of measure or the lapping of the new work over the old to even out the break. The 1901 investigation showed that the cornice was at least pre 1818. [33] It seems, therefore, more than likely that despite its unusual design,

32. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #155, Dec. 14, 1793.

33. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, "The Present South Room of the First Story" and "The Transverse Hallway."

it is the original.

Some of the window and door architraves within the 1787 building area are original and were copied by the 1912 restoration in fitting out the rest of the room (APPENDIX E). Thus, the finish in 1787-90 must have appeared in detail as it does today.

A-7. Second Floor Plan

In 1789 the second floor had one large room at the south end used by the Aldermen of the City of Philadelphia.[34] This room included two fireplaces[35] -- one at the east and one at the west wall.

This would leave a space to the north which was undoubtedly divided into two smaller rooms, each with its own fireplace, and a central passageway leading from the stairhall south to the larger room.

a. Large South Room

The south room was probably treated more elaborately than the two smaller rooms to the north. In addition to a wood modillioned cornice,[36] door and window architraves with dog-eared corners, wooden mantels (see SECTION II, A-8), chair rail and baseboard, there was under each window architrave a pedestal, around which the chair rail and

34. Min. City Council, Phila., Vol. 1, p. 35, MSS, HSP. City Council ordered 6 venetian blinds for the south room of the second floor. David Evans Day Book, MSS, HSP, lists the bill for 6 venetian blinds for the Alderman's Room in the new court house. The Aldermen represented the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia; the room was therefore also called the Corporation Room.

35. For this room furnishings for two fireplaces were ordered: "The following list of articles wanted for the Corporation Room was presented and the Messenger directed to furnish the same...to wit two pair of Andirons...Shovels and Tongs two tenders and two fire bars..." Min. of the City Council, 1789-1793, MSS/City Hall, 2nd Bank U.S./ p. 173, Nov. 16, 1789.

36. In 1895 it is described as "a richly designed cornice," Appendix C. It will be necessary to remove wooden cornice in west room second floor to allow for inserting steel grillage." "AIA Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., Feb. 6, 1912 /INHP film #XCII/, see Appendix E also.

baseboard returned.

All of these details, except the original baseboards, can still be seen in their largely original states within the present west middle room. The original baseboards were not as high as the present ones, 5"-6" instead of 8 3/4". But this is the extent of the evidence found so far. It is therefore recommended that we retain the present baseboard of the west middle room, but that of the east middle room, which also was a part of the 1789-93 south room, should be changed to match it. The later appears of 19th century origin (see Drawing No. 6), having been copied from those found in the 19th century renovated north room, see SECTION II, G-3. The pedestals of the present east middle room have been removed, leaving only evidence that they once were there (see Illustration No. 26). These also should be restored to match those of the west middle room, the 1912 Restoration having overlooked it. The chair rail of the east middle room must be changed to match that of the west middle room as well. This will co-ordinate the details of these two rooms which once were combined as one.

b. Small North Rooms

Whether these north rooms had wood cornices such as they have now, duplicates of that of the 1787-1793 large south room, we at present cannot verify. The 1912 Restoration architects copied for the north rooms what was left of the south room cornice (in the present middle west room).[37]

The window and door architraves, doors and chair rail details appear to have been filled out from existing trim at that

37. See Appendix E. Also, the only statement which implies that evidence was found for cornices in the north rooms is, "that there were, prior to the now existing division in the north part of the second story, rooms of the same width as B and C /two middle rooms/ is shown by the course of the cornice in the little entries or "cut-offs" north of these two rooms B and C," Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, p.27 Extract #10.

floor level,[38] as also were the baseboards. As stated in A-7.a., the latter (see Drawing No. 6) we believe must date from the 19th century. We, therefore, must recommend that its moulding be changed to match the one being retained in the present southwest room.

c. Stairhall and Passageway

The stairhall at the second floor level, being connected with the first floor probably had the same details, window trim, etc. from 1787 on. What its cornice definitely was we cannot say, but shall accept as conjecture what has been restored by the 1912 restoration. The same should be said of the cornice in the central passageway. The other passage details have been filled in where missing by copying existing trim (see Appendix E), and we feel should remain as they are.

There may have been a double door dividing this passageway from the stairhall. In 1794, when the Senate used the second floor, there is reference to supplying "a line Pulley Iron and Screws" for the "Sennet /sic./ Staircase door."[39] If there was such a door, it must have had a transom. Otherwise, the second floor passage would have been impossibly dark. This door reference may have applied elsewhere, as will be discussed in SECTION II, C-6, but the possibility of this location should be kept in mind for further study.

A-8 Fireplaces

The original building was served by four chimneys, two

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38. See Appendix E. Restoration of the trim in the north rooms was necessary as the rooms were found with, "Much if not all of the finish of this room is of a date later than the structure." Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O.

39. "Cong. Hall, Phila., 1790's Vouchers, 1794, State Records Office, Hrsbg., Jan. 7, 1794, hereafter cited as "Vouchers 1794."

in the east and two in the west wall. The two north chimneys had fireplaces on each floor. Their chimney breasts protruded some nine inches from the wall surface, standing almost completely on the additional thickness of the cellar wall. The flue of the first floor fireplaces bypassed the off-center openings on the second floor and the two flues extended the height of the chimney top parallel and separate from each other. The hearths of the first floor fireplaces appear to have been supported on the protruding stone foundations to be seen in the cellar.

The two south chimneys had a curious construction. The second floor fireplaces were centered in a protruding chimney breast and, if there were first floor openings, they were built within the normal wall thickness, their flues running up directly behind the openings at the second floor and forming a common flue just above the level of the mantels.

This is a system sometimes heard of in small row houses in Philadelphia, but it is relatively unique, especially so in a structure of this size and import. In SECTION II, B-5 an explanation is offered that this curious arrangement was introduced in 1790.

a. Mantels

The two north first floor fireplaces are presently finished with structural dressed stone jambs and a lintel (see Illustration No. 11). In no way does the brickwork adjacent look altered. The same type of tool marks can be seen at the stone window sills, imposts and keystones, and at the band course of the exterior walls. We, therefore, conclude that these stone jambs and lintels are original.

The two south first floor fireplaces of the 1787 building we will discuss in B-5.

The four fireplaces on the second floor appear probably as they did originally. Wooden mantels have been recorded in the present middle rooms, i.e. the 1787-1793 south room, at least since 1851 (see Appendix B) and were probably intended in the 1823 survey notation: "two plain mantels and single architraves." (Appendix A). The eastern of these two mantels was found in place in 1912.[40] It, in style, is very much in harmony with the woodwork of the period. The western of these two mantels was reproduced in 1912[41] (see Illustration No. 28 and Drawing No. 4, sheet 43). When the original disappeared, we do not know.

The present two north room mantels (see Drawing No. 4, sheet 43) are 1912 composites of pediments found in 1912 over doors in the 1793 Senate Chamber (see Drawing No. 1 and SECTION II, C-6.b. and K-2), and pieces filled out with the present southeast room wood mantel as a model. Thus, the four mantels of the 1787 second floor are interpreted alike and probably correctly so.

A-9. Interior Paint Colors

We shall probably never know from physical evidence what the interior paint colors were in this early period. In 1912 it was specified that all the "Old paint and paper on the walls to be scraped and washed off..."(Congress Hall, Part I, App. Q, p. 27), and for the woodwork "All old paint on woodwork of entire interior of building to be removed with an approved paint remover (no burning off will be allowed)" (Interior Finish Specifications, INHP, Hist. Div., Card File).

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40. "Cong. Hall, Part I", App. P, Illust. No. 4

41. "Cong. Hall, Part I", App. Q, Illust. No. 1

B. 1790-1793

In preparation for the convening of Congress in Philadelphia in December, 1790, a committee was chosen on August 20, "to consider which of the public Buildings will be most proper for the reception and accommodation of Congress, and if they shall be of opinion that the County Court House is the most suitable, then to confer with the County Commissioners on the Subject, and report a plan of such alterations and additions as shall be thought necessary..."[42]

One of the members of this Committee, Miers Fisher, during the previous July, had received a suggestion that Major L'Enfant would be available and a good choice "to give plans or superintend the improvements..." He was recommended as "well acquainted with the present taste in Europe..." A further suggestion was made by the same source that "the alteration of the old /building/ is more difficult than the entire erection of a New one at any rate the two Rooms for the Senate & house of Representatives might be got ready by December--& if you are to Erect a New building it will save expence to do it without providing a temporary one..."[43]

As far as we know today, Major L'Enfant was not called in by the committee. Perhaps his services were not needed as the committee chose merely to alter the old building, a task for which elaborate plans were not needed.

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42. Common Council Minutes, Aug. 30, 1790, Miers Fisher Papers, Hist. Soc. Pa.

43. Letter from Thomas Fitzsimmons to Miers Fisher, Esqr. N.Y., July 16, 1790, Miers Fisher Papers, Historical Soc. of Pa.

B-1. Exterior Alterations

Unfortunately we only have for this period a list of the "Amount of Disbursements...for the Accomodation of Congress" which includes only a few items relating to exterior work.

> "117 To Jacob Eckfelatt, for 4 Shoe Scrapers 4.10.0....
> 120 to Robert Haydock, for Pluming 75.15.-1/2 /Pluming in the 18th century was what we call today flashing/....
> 124 To Souder & Robins, for Bricklayers Work & Materials 24.6.4 .... 128 To William Stiles, for Stone Cutters Work 22.18.11"[44]

For lack of comparative material between the 1787 erection of the building and this alteration, we cannot be definite about its extent.

The four footscrapers could have been two each for the front and east doors. Footscrapers were an absolute necessity in the 18th century, and an early 19th century photograph of Old City Hall (INHP photograph file) shows a footscraper on each side of the Chestnut Street door. We recommend that unless further evidence develops, this condition be reproduced at Congress Hall as shown in Drawing No. 5.

The large sum for flashing, in the above list of work, implies that repairs may have been made at the roof. Other than these items we cannot be sure where this work was done.

B-2. Basement Plan

We have no evidence that the basement plan was altered in any way.

B-3. First Floor Alterations

The list of disbursements mentioned above gives the workers' names and general categories of work done. Other than those already

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44. Cong. Hall, Part I., App. B.

mentioned the categories are: furnishings, structural timber, structural iron, flooring, plastering, wood trim and ornamentation, painting and stoves. (See Cong. Hall Historic Structures Report, Part I, App. B). With the exception of stoves (see B-5.b.) it is not possible to interpret from this document exactly what alterations were made. But from other documentary and physical evidence, certain work can be compared to this list.

a. Gallery and Bar

A newspaper announced in 1790:

> "The public building assigned for holding the Session is now ready for the reception of both Houses, and fully competent to the object. In the Hall, appropriated for the Representatives, a very capacious gallery for the auditors of the debates, is built, which with, it is supposed, independent of the accomodations on the floor, without the bar, hold about 300 persons."[45]

This gallery was restored in 1912 (see Appendix E) in the north end of the House. We feel this is the correct position. In 1795 it was described: "At one end of it is a gallery, open to every person that chuses to enter it; the staircase leading to which runs directly from the public street,"[46] or in other words Chestnut Street.

The restored gallery has two doors leading to the stair landing and the steep stairs in the north. This placement seems correct from the following accounts: "The doors of the gallery had been two days shut,"[47] and in 1793 "Line waights & Pullys...for the

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45. Pa. Packet, Dec., 6, 1790, p. 3, col. 1.

46. Isaac Weld, Travels Through...North America, I, p. 9, Nov. 1795

47. Gales & Seaton, Writings of Washington, Cols. 1095-1096, Annals, Jan. 13, 1790.

gallery Doors & 2 Lead Wts 2 Padds over the Doors etc..."[48]

We assume columns were either already in place (see SECTION II, A-3.a) or were possibly installed as intermediary supports. An eye witness in telling of Washington's exit from the inauguration of Adams in 1795 said, "At the close of the ceremony...as the venerable hero [Washington] moved towards the door, there was a rush from the gallery that threatened the lives of those who were most eager to catch a last look of him...some of us effected an escape by slipping down the pillars..."[49]

The 1912 architects themselves admitted that architectural details they used for their reconstructed gallery were largely conjectural.[50] It may be that the following recently found bill of 1790 applied to these details: "for 4 setts of Pilaster Ornaments 3.0.0... for Colums & Bannisters 8.5.3..."[51] in which case the gallery would have had an open railing. If the present column shafts are the originals, there is evidence on them which could relate to such a gallery treatment. The present shafts appear to have been rotated 90° so that the new gallery would not bear on already weakened portions of them. This has exposed to our view on their south faces two wood dutchmen, covering areas large enough to have received mortices from structural members of the gallery and a railing. This evidence also shows that the railing

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48. "Vouchers, 1794", Dec. 18, 1793.

49. Rufus Griswold, The Republican Court, (D. Appleton, 1854) p.363-64.

50. Letter from H. W. Sellers to T. L. Montgomery, "we have found the profile of it on the walls after removing the modern plaster...nor have we any data as to its details other than might be inferred from the general character of the building." "AIA Restoration," vol. 1, 1911-12, Feb. 9, 1912, Hist. Soc. Pa. [INHP film #XCI].

51. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. B, p.1, No. 14 and 107.

abutted the columns on center and not near their north face as they do now. We recommend at this time however, that the present gallery be maintained. The above evidence is not enough conclusive to warrant another reconstruction.

What was meant above by "the accomodations on the floor, without the bar" we can only define in terms of the 1793-1800 period. In 1793-1800 (see C-5), "with out the bar" meant any space back of the seating area of the members. Congress in 1790 may have had the same type of seating arrangement, though smaller in capacity. Thus any area of the room except that including and in front of the member's desks was open to the public and referred to as "without the bar." We have no evidence that there was any other type of partition to separate the areas of the room during 1790-93.

b. Speaker's Dais

Our only reference to there having been a Speaker's dais between 1790-93 was in a bill for dismantling the room prior to the extension of the building in 1793.[52] The dais probably stood against some other wall than the west one as in 1793 (see SECTION II, C-5.b.) we know that it was "removed to the west side of the House."

B-4. Second Floor Alterations

Unless more documentary evidence is found, we shall probably never know the distinction between the work done on the second floor in 1787-89 and that done in 1790. The plan remained the same (see Drawing No. 13), but for the purpose of the proposed restoration, this is an academic question.

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52. "Vouchers, 1793-1794," #165, April 29, 1793.

a. Senate Chamber

From 1790-93 the Senate met in the second floor South room.[53]

An eye witness recorded "The Senate was well crowded by the time I arrived at the top of the stairs, but I got near the door..."[54] From this source we learn that the room was closed off by at least one door. If only one, the door seems to have had two leaves, or perhaps there were more than one, for another account reported annoyance at the "opening & slamming of doors."[55]

We cannot say with certainty what part of the decor of this room was first added in 1787-89 and what part of the room was embellished for the arrival of Congress in 1790. Although it may have been exclusively for furnishings, that some work was done to the room is implied in the contemporary comment: "Visited the 2 rooms fitted up for Congress to meet in next Monday...and think them unnecessarily fine..."[56]

b. North Rooms

One of the two north rooms was used as a committee room for the Senate.[57] Which of the two we do not know, nor do we know if any alterations or additions (other than to the fireplaces, see B-5) were made at this time to these rooms.

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53. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. C, p. 1.

54. Samuel Kelly, 18th Cent. Seaman, 183-4 [1790-91?].

55. McClay's Journal, March 3, 1791.

56. Entry for Dec. 3, 1790, Journal of Jacob Hiltzheimer, Pa. Mag. Hist. Biog., XVI, p. 414.

57. "I went to the door of the Committee Room", McClay's Journal, Feb. 5, 1791.

c. Hallway and Stairhall

These two spaces probably remained the same as when first built in 1787-89.

B-5. Fireplaces.

In 1790 the present two first floor middle fireplaces were built. At that time they would then have been the two south fireplaces (see Drawing No. 13). That they were used in the historic period is obvious as their flues are thoroughly charred, and we know they were closed up from 1818-1912 (see SECTION II, G-2).[58]

With the members of Congress using the south end of the room and needing the heat, openings and flues may have been cut into the normal pier, iron lintels used to support the new masonry above the opening and the flue connected to that of the second floor chimney (see Drawings No. 4, sheet 42 and and No. 7).

Small bits of evidence support this theory. The backs of the second floor fireplaces are iron plates, the first floor flue running up immediately behind them. To ease the first floor flue up to connect with the other in the small amount of space allowed, it must have been necessary from the outset to use the iron chimney backs as the separation at the second floor opening level. Coincidentally, a voucher exists for the payment in 1791 "to Hilary Baker, for stoves and Chimney

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58. Furthermore, in 1798 when the speaker's chair was at the middle of the west side of the house (see Section II, C-5) we know that there was a stove "behind" it--i.e. the middle west fireplace was in use. Aurora General Advertiser Feb. 23, 1798, Mr. Sprague's Testimony. Another description notes that a fire was burning at the east middle opening, "I...was standing before the fire, near the eastern door of the hall..." /the portico door, see SECTION II, C-9/ Annals of Congress, Fifth Congress, First Session, 1013-24, Feb. 12, 1798.

backs.....18.15.2".[59] Could Hilary Baker have supplied circa 1790 these very chimney backs? Furthermore, E. H. Yardley, Clerk of the Works of the 1912 Restoration of Congress Hall, reported about the west of these two opening at the first floor, "All work over top of original opening appears to have been altered at some time after erection of building."[60] Could Mr. Yardley have been seeing the patch work in the wall resulting from the installation of the flues in 1790, for which the items "124 To Souder & Robins, for Bricklayers Work & Materials 24.6.4... 128 To William Stiles, for Stone Cutters Work 22.18.11"[61] may have applied? The masonry of the east chimney opening is so irregularly built to make it inconceivable that it was done this way in 1787-89 (the west one has been restored and its original evidence removed).

If this theory is proven correct, that these fireplaces were not built until 1790, it would explain the discrepancies of: no protruding chimney breast, the unusual flue construction, the lack of either flat brick arches over the openings or structural stone lintels, and instead the use of flat iron bar lintels.

In restoring these middle fireplaces the trimmer arches and hearths must be rebuilt. We don't know what materials were used for the hearths laid in 1787 or 1790, but the nearest example to be copied is the 1793 built southeast brick hearth, which was found in place, intact in 1912.[62] The bricks in the 1793 hearths were probably laid in a mixture

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59. "Cong. Hall, Part I", App. B, p. 1, #104.

60. "AIA Restoration", Jan. 30, 1912, Daily Report, Hist. Soc. Pa.

61. "Cong. Hall", Part I, App. B., page 2.

62. "AIA Restoration", March 25, 1912, Daily Report, Hist. Soc. Pa.

of sand and salt.[63] The latter was no doubt added for fireproofing.

a. Mantels

The finish for these fireplaces was necessarily different from the north ones whose jambs and lintels were structural and therefore heavy stone flush with the wall.

We believe that these two fireplaces instead had wood mantels with marble trim similar to that found at the second floor fireplaces immediately above them (see SECTION II, A-8.a. and Drawing No. 4, sheet 43).

Physical evidence leading to this conclusion is to be seen at the eastern fireplace. To the right of the opening within an 8" dimension is a patch of bed mortar. Along the 8" dimension the mortar stops in a sharp smooth line as though it were applied while wood trim was in place. Furthermore, without the 8" line a wrought nail was driven into the mortar joint--a nail which may have fastened the above trim (see Drawing No. 7). This bed mortar would be that upon which the marble slab trim was set, and the wood trim would be an architrave of a wood mantel.

Drawings for the proposed reconstruction of this mantel and trim will be forthcoming.

b. Stoves

In 1791 the following stoves were paid for:

"...To Potts & Hobart for 2 large Franklin Stoves 8.16.6

. . .

to John Kaighn, for a stove 4.3.0
to Hilary Baker, for stoves and Chimney backs 18.15.2"[64]

63. "To 1/2 Busshel Salt for the hearths in the Senate Chamber," Vouchers 1793-94, #172, Oct. 26, 1793.

64. "Cong. Hall, Part I, App. B, p. 1, #74, #96, #104.

After 1790 there were eight fireplaces among which to distribute these items. The "Chimney backs" we decided were in the second floor two south room fireplaces. It would seem therefore superfluous to put an iron stove in front of them. This leaves six fireplaces which could have had stoves.

Undoubtedly, the room hardest to heat was the "Great Hall" at the first floor. The two large Franklin stoves may have been installed in the newly built south first floor fireplaces. The east of these two fireplaces, when recently opened by the removal of modern brick fill, contained a small iron bar imbedded in the jambs slightly behind and below the iron lintel. Further evidence shows that a 4" apron of bricks was carried on this small bar. This apron may have been that which sealed the opening around the stove.

If an average size stove cost 4.3.0, and chimney backs certainly cost less, then the Hilary Baker bill for stoves and chimney backs could have been broken down as follows:

3 stoves	@ 4.3.0	=	12.9.0
2 chimney backs	@ 3.3.2	=	6.6.2
			18.15.2

This then would supply, including John Kaighn's stove, four more stoves for the two north second floor rooms and the two first floor north fireplaces (see Drawing No. 13).

We know from the same above account that the Stoves were blackened. "To James Tully, for blacking stoves ... 0.18.9." This was done to give the caste plates a luster as well as to increase the heat retention of the plates.[65]

65. Extract from a study made during the summer of 1959 of stoves and ventilators used in Congress Hall, by Samuel Y. Edgerton. The draft of the study is on file at Historic Structures Section, EODC, National Park Service, hereafter cited, "Edgerton Stove Report, Draft."

And part of another item on the same account "To Robert Haydock, for Pluming ... 74.15.-1/2" could be for laying copper or lead sheets over the hearth and surrounding area below the stoves. See a discussion of this process in Section II, C-10.b.

B-6. Ventilators

"In 1792 January 3 paid David Price, for Ventilators, etc. 13.58"[66]

The following May 7 a bit appeared in Dunlap's American Daily Advertiser:

"A Was Ist Das for Congress"

> "The Germans have invented a shifting pane of glass, in the upper sash, which having an unusual appearance, is apt to excite a laconic enquiry into its use 'What is that?' or in German, 'Was ist das?' Now sir, I doubt not but many of the audience, and perhaps even some of the new members of Congress, on first entering the Congressional department, have exclaimed, on seeing the ventilators, 'was ist das?' perhaps they are unwittingly informed, that those whirl-abouts are merely designed to sweeten and condense the rarified air, I do verily believe, that nothing more was intended by the gentlemen, who gave orders for fixing them. But Sir, I ... can find four more important uses, for the was ist das of Congress, than simply to purify the heated air."

According to a study made by Samuel Y. Edgerton in 1959, this article is referring to both an 18th century German and English type of ventilator. The German was constructed by setting the top glass window panes in frames, hinged below and controlled so that upon opening, the fresh air would be thrown against the ceiling and set in rotation around the room. The English method was to cut five-inch holes in the window panes and insert in them spinning louvered discs.[67] The theory was that fresh air passed in and bad air out simultaneously.

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66. Misc. Treasury Accounts of G.O.A., 1790-1894 (MSS, Microfilm N.A.R.G. 217, #2039) Aug. 10, 1794.

67. "Edgerton Stove Report, Draft."

Both these methods were mentioned in the above article; but the English type, the rotating disc, was in use in the "Congressional department" or the House of Representatives.

In Illustration No. 6, Chapter II, Congr. Hall Report, Part II, such an English type ventilator can faintly be seen in one of the "gothic" lights of the window to the south of the northeast chimney.

And in Illustration No. 5 an 1880 view of Congress Hall, another ventilator is shown in a window of the first floor south bay. Obviously, this is not one of the ventilators of the 1792 period as this window was not in existence until 1793. But the coincidence of such a ventilator being in what appears in design to be 18th century sash is important.

An 1874 example of such a ventilator has been found in the east round window of the brick tower of Independence Hall. It may well be that the photographs of Congress Hall show only ones of such a late manufacture. The illustrations, however, should be used as guides in setting ventilators as part of the restoration.

Illustration No. 30 shows a ventilator in place now on a late 18th century house in Philadelphia,[68] one which may well be the type we are looking for. We have not as yet gained entry to the house to see the inner side and ascertain its manufacture date, but this is a project under way.

B-7. Interior Paint Colors and Wallpaper

The following items were included in work done to ready

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68. At 344 N. Third Street, Philadelphia /owner, Albert Friedlander, 4831 N. Eighth Street, DAvenport 9-3356/.

the building for Congress in 1790:

"....

81 to Samuel Shoemaker, for Plaistg. & Whitewashing 19.18.6

.....

318 to Robert Haydock for Painting 21.1.6"[69]

The implications of these items is that some plaster walls and probably also the ceilings were whitewashed and the woodwork painted.

No physical evidence that we know of remains so we shall probably never know what colors were used in this 1790-93 period.

Although we do not know in which rooms wall paper was hung, £2.0.0 worth was bought from a paperstainer John Ashmead; amounting to a little over 1,000 sq.ft.[70] Every effort will be made to find more evidence of wall paper used in Congress Hall in this period.

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69. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. B, No. 81 and 318.

70. John Ashmead is listed as a papermaker & paperstainer in 1785, "River & Ashmead" at 3rd St. between South and Lombard Street; as a paperstainer in 1791 at South 3rd St. and in 1793 at 282 S. 2nd St., Mrs. Phoebe Coxe Prime manuscript of a Directory of Craftsmen. For the evaluation of £ 2.0.0 = ± 1000 sq.ft. we are grateful to Mr. Willman Spawn of the Am. Phil. Soc.

C. 1793-1795

The County Court House took on its present dimensions in 1793 when it was enlarged to accommodate the increased numbers of Congress.

A choice had been given to either enlarge this building or to authorize the "surrendering for the use of the general government the State-House and adjacent offices."[71] To avoid the interruption of any other governmental bodies it was probably decided to enlarge the Congress' own building while they were in recess.

The job was managed by the Commissioners of the City and County. They authorized payment and applied to the Governor of the State for the funds.[72] Who superintended the actual work is debatable. That William Williams and Joseph Rakestraw, Jr. were paid £1013.2.2[73] for carpenters work, a greater sum than any of the other trades were paid, may show that they were the ones who co-ordinated the job.

Because so little time was allotted to this project the workmanship suffered. One can almost follow the temper of the job by viewing mistakes made such as at the first floor south windows of the east and west walls. Here, it seems, the masons began to lay the brick between and under the windows only to find after many brick courses had been laid that their windows were several inches too far to the

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71. Journal of Hse of Rep. of Pa., 1791-2, p. 44, (second part).

72. "Vouchers, 1793-1794", Samuel Church, Thomas Hopkins, Isaac Howell served until Oct. 1793, when George Forepaugh supplanted Church, and then in Feb. 1795, Hopkins was replaced by Richard Price.

73. Ibid., Jan. 11, 1794, Robert Allison measured this work. A Robt. Hopkins was paid £3.6.8 "for Superintinding", but this sum is too insignificant to apply to any more than a small portion of the job. Cong. Hall, App. E, p. 1

north. The work next done was shifted by corbelling the north splayed jambs southward and by cutting the south splays even with the corrected alignment.

The masons neglected to bond the extension walls into the 1787 walls. And the two surfaces of the new walls themselves were found, upon recent tests,[73] to have been intermittently and loosely bonded. The second floor framework was adjudged failing no more than three years after it was erected see SECTION II, E.). And the roof truss over the new extension began to fail by the early 20th century (see sag in roof in Illustration No. 7).

The bills and vouchers for this entire work, which were recently found by the History Division of Independence NHP, provide material for an extensive study of the building techniques and terms of the 18th century. References to lime houses, 90 Perch of Stone, 2 Hammar beams, 2 ships Rafters, scantling, 2 wt oak fliches, not to speak of bread, cheese, limes, Brandy, sugar and spirit, give one a feeling for the enterprise.

For our purposes however, the bills and vouchers will be referred to only where they aid in proving a point about the appearance of Congress Hall from 1793 on.

C-1. Size and Form of the Building's Extension

From May 11, 1793, through May 24, 1793, men were hired for "labouring work at pulling down Court House",[74] that is the south wall.

The cellar was extended 27'-7"± with an 8'-0"± bay beyond the main building.[75] This addition was carried up two stories high, the old

73. See Report of George M. Ewing Co., Phila., 1959, INHP files.

74. "Vouchers 1793-94", May 1793, #1 - #24.

75. "May 16 to diging & Hauling 462 yds. of Cellar," "Vouchers 1793-94", #42

hip roof extended to meet the new south wall and pierced with a duplicate of the earlier dormer. A slightly sloped roof was stretched over the new bay.

A vestibule or "Portico", as it was called, was added to the east wall fitting in the space between the County Court House and the West wing of the State House, its height reaching a little more than the first floor height of the County Court House. (This addition is treated separately in SECTION II, C-9.).

C-2. Structural System and Materials

Even though there were errors in workmanship, care was taken that the new extension carry out the architectural features of the existing building. The stone foundation walls, flemish bond brick walls, cut stone belt course and the wood bracketed and fretted cornice were continued round the extension, and dressed wood shingles were laid on the new roof (see footnote 16).

The walls continued to be wall bearing and the floors were supported by joists framed into girders. The spanning of the girders was treated differently, however.

Two of the columns which probably supported the second floor girders before 1793 (see SECTION II, A-3.a. and B-3.a.) were maintained at the north end. And the next two columns to the south were replaced in effect by hangers from the roof truss above. The intention obviously was to create an unobstructed space in the enlarged House of Representatives at the first floor. To do this, the second floor over the House of Representatives had to span from wall to wall.

The north girder of the new extension to clear this span was incorporated as the bottom chord of a truss that formed the core of a

partition in the second floor plan. This truss in turn was probably connected to the roof truss directly above it.

The new girder next to the south spanned freely itself the full 46'-4" width of the building, providing free space in the room below and in the room above. This over taxed the girder and it failed within three years after it was erected.

The roof structure of the extension took on a different system from that used at the 1787 building. The truss at this end of the building could not have the ends of its bottom chord rest on the exterior walls as a coved ceiling was planned to extend into the roof area. The new truss allowed for the cove by being made an A-truss.

The combination of this problem with the hip roof created a framing system of one transverse(east-west) A-truss, backed to the south by a king-post with two hip rafters and one common rafter strengthened by truss construction. (See Drawing No. 4, sheets 8, 9, 13 and 15 and and Cong. Hall, Part I, Chap. II, Illustration No. 51).

All of the above roof structure exists today, including the interesting framing of the cove ceiling (see Cong. Hall, Part I, Chapter II, Illustration No. 52 and Drawing No. 4, sheet 27).

C-3. Exterior Details

a. Doors

Two doors were built in the 1793 south wall facing the State House yard. We have the mason's bill for "Laying Foundations & setting 2 sets of steps at back doors 45/4.10.0."[76] Whether the steps in place now are the originals cannot be said, although they appear of the age and period. In fact, if there had been doors in similar positions

76. "Vouchers 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

positions built in the 1787 building, these steps may have originated there and were morely moved forward to the new openings of the 1793 extension. As yet we have no explanation why the west step is so much larger than the east one. There are holes in these steps which may have once held two footscrapers per door. These holes may also have been used with the makeshift closed entries added in the late 19th century (see Drawing No. 2). As the holes are in groups of three, footscrapers of three legs must first be encountered before any recommendations are made to install them.

We have no record for the building of the present Doric frontispieces, but the roughly constructed brick arch beneath the frontispieces (see Illustration No. 8), in comparison to the finish archwork of the other openings in the building, testifies that these door arches were intentionally structural and not to be seen.[77] Such frontispieces would therefore have been necessary in 1793 to cover the arches.[78] And a bill for "Plumbing" for "Covring 2 Pediments" would then apply to flashing them. The style of these frontispieces was perhaps purposely reminiscent of the south door of the State House tower.

If doors like those at Old City Hall (see Illustration No. 2) were built in 1787, there is a possibility that the doors themselves and their soffits and jamb paneling were incorporated in the 1793 frontispieces (Illustration No. 8).

In 1793 the bill from the masons included "Walling cellar door in Sixth Street."[79] Walling in this case must mean building a

77. Ibid., #176. The mason's bill to "Walling up 2 arches over doors" must refer to the brick fill to be seen under the arches in Illustration No. 8.

78. "Vouchers 1793-94," Robert Haydock bill, Feb. 11-15, 1794

79. "Vouchers 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

new cellar door areaway. It does not mean closing an existing doorway as within the same list of work done, this meaning is expressed as "stoping up" an opening. Thus, we can assume that the present sixth street cellar doorway is the one put in with the 1793 extension.

The doors which were used in conjunction with the Portico will be discussed in SECTION II, C-9.

b. Windows

In the extension at the first floor level seven windows were added having the established detail of "Common Round" [80] arches, while at the second floor level nine flat arched windows were added. The latter had "Rub'd Arches" [81] which either meant the bricks were tapered or their finish surface given a smoother texture than the normal wall surface.

From the same source we know that in all sixteen windows stone sills were set. It is very possible that time and money were saved by replacing in the nex extension the window sills, frames and sash of the 1787 south facade.

For all the added windows new "Brass frame pullies with Brass Fronts" and "Sarsh Lines" [82] and 344 lbs. of lead weight [83] were supplied. Thus the present hung sash had an 18th century forerunner if not origin. The second floor sash of the 1793 extension we know

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80. Ibid.

81. Ibid., "Robing" is included as a description of a brick type supplied. "Vouchers 1793-94", #160.

82. "Vouchers 1793-94", #197.

83. "Vouchers 1793-94", #192.

were replaced in 1895-96 during the Restoration of the Senate Chamber.[84] From inspection we believe that the first floor sash of this extension are not original. The masons were billed for "Walling 2 cellar windows."[85] In the new extension, if one cellar door was put in, then there were three spaces left for cellar windows. Which two of these were built in 1793, we cannot say.

From its appearance in detail (Drawing No. 4, sheet 29) and condition, we assume the south dormer dates from the 1793 extension. Many alterations have been made since, however. The casement sash are not original and it is possible they do not even belong. More study will be made of the details of this dormer and the results incorporated in the reconstruction drawings.

c. Exterior Paint

As mentioned in SECTION II, A-4.g., all the paint has been removed from the exterior woodwork of the building. The chance of finding physical evidence of the original color is negligible.

White lead was mentioned in vouchers for May 22, 1793, and August 16, 1793, when the window sash were being primed.[86] Probably this was the basic pigment used in the finish coats as well. Independence Hall was found to have been consistently painted with white lead.[87]

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84. See APPENDIX C, p. 45-46.

85. "vouchers, 1793-94", #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

86. "Vouchers, 1793-94", #191, Jan. 9 - Dec. 28, 1793.

87. The National Lead Co. tested cross-sections of Independence Hall original paint from the exterior cornices. White lead tested positive up until the more recent layers when zinc and titanium took its place.

No doubt the Independence Sqare buildings were all painted the same throughout the historic period, a color we found to be basically white lead with other pigments added to warm it.

The above voucher, in addition to listing the sash painted, included five finish coats for 704 yards of painting, probably covering the exterior woodwork of the whole building.[88]

Also in this voucher was noted 34 yards of mahogany. This amount coupled with a voucher for 18 yards of mahogany in January 31, 1795,[89] would more than amply cover both sides of the Chestnut Street, East and two Portico exterior doors. These would be the only exterior details which could have been treated in this fashion (we assume the mahogany applies to exterior details as the rest of the items in both vouchers in which it is listed are for the exterior). The doors to the south in the 1793 extension are not considered here at present, for it is believed that encased doors with frontispieces, such as these are, were usually kept in one tone.

The Krimmel engraving, Illustration No. 4, shows the Chestnut Street doors in a darker tone than the wood trim. This is not conclusive. It is, therefore, recommended that further research be done on this point before any changes are made from the present treatment of these doors.

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88. There are vouchers for subsequent paintings of what probably was the exterior woodwork: 381 1/2 yards, 3 coats in Jan. 31, 1795, "Vouchers, 1794"; 240 yards, 1 coat in Nov. 30, 1796, "Vouchers, 1796"; and $18.49 worth of painting and glazing in Jan. 19, 1799, Misc. Treas. Accts. of G.A.O. 1790-1894, R.G. 217, N.A. (microfilm) No. 10460.

89. "Vouchers, 1794" Haydock and Collins, Jan. 14, 1794, - Jan. 31, 1795. This also included for Jan. 31, 1795, a total of 381 1/2 yards of 3 coats of paint which we again must assume was for the exterior woodwork as it was coupled with exterior sash work.

d. Lightning Rods

In extending the building the old lightning rod was removed, an additional length of wire inserted and the whole re-erected.[90]

If a descriptive 18th century specification for erecting lightning rods can be found and if it would be feasible to use, then this will be evidence for reconstructing the original one at the 1793 end of the building, and one which we assume would have been at the north end and run up the height of the cupola.

C-4. Basement Alterations

The extension of the cellar, as well as adding more space, left the 1787 south foundation wall standing free as a bearing partition. Drawing No. 13 shows the possible cellar plan at this period.

A cellar door and one cellar window were probably added at Sixth Street and two cellar windows at the east (see SECTION II, C-3.a. and C-3.b). An ash hole was built[91] and undoubtedly placed in the basement near the new door to Sixth Street to ease the removal of the ashes.

C-5. House of Representatives Alterations

The first floor space of the 1793 building extension was added to the "Great Hall" provided for Congress in 1790. The architectural finish of the 1790 room was continued around the extended walls, and two more fireplaces were built with the new east and west walls (see SECTION II, C-10). Otherwise, the arrangement of the public gallery in the north and remained generally the same.

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90. "To tacking /taking/down the lightening rod & puting a piece in And puting up", "Vouchers, 1793-94" #86, May 16, 1793.

91. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

a. Flooring

We are informed from the 1912 Restoration that a portion of the original flooring was saved along the west wall.[92] Our inspection has verified this. On its underside, plainly visible, are the stains of plaster and lath and a few handwrought lathing nails. In the masons' bill of 1793 they charged for "Floring Congress Room & Cellar with Mortar."[93] We can interpret this bill in no other way than that it meant the customary insulation of lath and plaster applied to the underside of the flooring, thereby showing that the boards saved are very likely those of 1793 and possibly in part 1787.

b. Speaker's Dais

A description of the arrangements made for the enlarged House of Representatives said that "...the Speaker's chair is to be removed to the west side of the House..."[94]

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92. Phila. Press, Sept. 29, 1913, clipping in Sellers Papers, A. P. S. /H. W. Sellers' byline/ "...The removal of the modern flooring disclosed the original floor of the House of Representatives with indications of the exact position of the railings, platforms, etc. which had originally existed, but this floor was so badly decayed by dampness and time as to render it unfit for use with the exception, fortunately, of a small area on the Sixth Street side on which is clearly indicated the position of the Speaker's platform, and its enclosing rail, which section of floor has been preserved intact. Before removing the flooring elsewhere a careful survey was made of the surfaces to locate the mortise holes so that a record might be kept of the original plan showing the lines of a railing which separated the space occupied by the members of the House from that set apart for visitors."

93. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

94. Columbian Centinel (Boston), May 22, 1793. Other memoir accounts concur that the speaker's chair was at the west side and one of John McAllister to S. W. Wallace, Feb. 19, 1872, /quoted in Wallace's Discourses/ substantiates that the speaker's chair was not always in the same position. "There was, I believe, a movable wooden rostrom for the Speaker and Clerks, which I think, was at some time near the west end or side of the Chamber, probably eight or ten feet from the West wall,....but I think this wooden stage or rostrom was at one time at or near the south end of the Chamber, and again I think I have seen it near the east end."

In analyzing the testimonies given for the Lyon-Griswold fight of February 15, 1798, we know that the dais was in front of the pier between the southern-most and the middle fireplaces of the west wall.[95]

The dais was also described in 1798 as being away from the wall: They went into the narrow passage which is between the wall of the House and the Speaker's chair..."[96] At one time we thought the dais must have been connected to the west wall, its platform supports resting in five holes in the wall (see Illustration No. 23 and Drawing No. 10). We have no proof whether or not these holes were used during the stay of Congress in the building. And as the description of the dais in the 1798 period is so definite we strongly advise that the dais be placed according to this description.

The dais itself was described in 1798 as having a partition behind the chair: "Mr. Lyon turned and fled behind the partition in the rear of the Speaker's chair..."[97] Illustration No. 7 of Chapter II, a contemporary cartoon, gives a very good view of this feature.

The speaker arrived at his seat by mounting steps, for during the Lyon-Griswold fight a deponent said, "The speaker /~~was~~/ standing on the steps of his desk,..."[98]

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95. No. IV Mr. Imlay's Testimony, "Mr. Griswold...walked to the recess under the window on the north side of the speaker's chair..." implying that the speaker's chair was in front of the pier to the south of this window. Nor could this pier have been one with a fireplace as "the combatants" were described as having fallen on the floor near the stove, to the left of the Speaker's chair..."; No. III Mr. Wm. C. C. Claiborne's Testimony. Furthermore, the last testimony implies that there was also a stove to the right of the Speaker's chair, thus placing the Speaker's chair centered between the two fireplaces & stoves on the west wall of the House of Representatives, Aurora, General Advertiser, Feb. 23, 1798.

96. Ibid., No. VII Mr. Haven's Testimony.

97. Ibid., No. I, Mr. Sitreave's Testimony.

98. Ibid., No. X, Mr. Stanford's Testimony.

In the original flooring saved are four square mortise holes (see Illustration No. 22) which could possibly have been for newel posts of step railings. Furthermore, a bill "To Turning 4 Newell Posts £ 0.12.0....To /turning/ 1 d° 0.3.0" may be for the very newels in question.[99]

The present dais does not relate to the above evidence and it is therefore recommended that a reconstruction be made.

c. Member's Seating Arrangements

"The seats /of the members'/ will preserve the oval form... and the principal entrance to the hall of the House of Representatives will be to the east and immediately opposite the speaker's seat."[100]

The 1912 Restoration architects reported having found indications of the "railings, platforms, etc." on the original flooring, but their records of this evidence have not been found.[101]

Between the east entrance mentioned above (see SECTION II, C-9, for a description of this entrance to the Portico) and the Speaker's chair there was a passage which divided the members' seats into two groups. Two testimonies contribute this information: "I was in the passage leading from the eastern door of the hall to the Speaker's table..."[102] and Mr. Lyon was seen to "go to his seat, which is the fourth from the end of that front row of seats which is on the left side of the passage leading up to the Speaker's chair."[103]

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99. "Vouchers, 1794," Jan. 12 and Feb. 1, 1794. The Historical Data section of this report, CHAPTER II, SECTION I, p. 16, attributes this voucher to details of a possible stairway in the "Portico."

100. Columbia Centinel, May 22, 1793 (Boston).

101. Phila. Press /H. W. Sellers, byline/, Sept. 29, 1913, clipping in Sellers Papers, A.P.S.

102. Annals of Congress, Fifth Congress, First Session, 1013-24, Feb. 12, 1798, Samuel W. Dana's Testimony.

103. Aurora, General Advertiser, Feb. 23, 1798, Mr. Haven's Testimony No. VII.

As intimated in the above quote, there were several rows of seats in each group, south and north of the passage. The following testimonies elaborate on the arrangement: "Mr. Lyon when assaulted, was sitting in his place, having a long circular desk, which is screwed to the floor, before him, and a similar one behind...He had therefore to fly off edgeway through the narrow passage between the two desks..."[104] "From my seat, which is the second in the third row, almost directly behind his /Lyon's/, which is the middle seat in the front row...Mr. Lyon, in a defenceless way, made out of his seat side way, being hemmed in before and behind by the desks and seats..."[105]

The Henry Wansey description of 1794 concurs: "the seats in three rows formed semi-circles behind each other, facing the speaker, who was in a kind of pulpit near the centre of the radii..."[106]

This establishes that there were three "oval" or "circular" rows of desks screwed to the floor from at least 1794-1798.

Theophilus Bradbury described the desks in 1795 (see Cong. Hall Report, Part I, App. I), "The Speaker's platform is elevated about 2 feet...The members' seats are 3 rows of desks, rising one above another in the form of a semi-circle," and Illustration No. 7 of Chapter II of Cong. Hall Report, Part II, a contemporary cartoon, appears to indicate several levels for the desks. However, the cartoon also shows a figure resting his elbow on a partition at the rear of the seats. If the partition cleared the heads of the members in the

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104. Ibid., Feb. 22, 1798, p. 3, col. 2.

105. Ibid., Feb. 23, 1798, No. IX, Mr. Elmendorph's Testimony.

106. Henry Wansey, An Excursion to the U.S. of North America, in the Summer of 1794. (2nd Ed. Salisbury, 1798) /U. of P. Lib. 917.3 W187, pp. 97-99/.

last row, then the combination of tiered seats and the habit of onlookers leaning on this partition raises contradictions. A partition must be at least 55" to be above the head of a man seated on a chair on the floor, and a partition to be comfortably leaned upon can be no higher than 55". Thus, if the seats were tiered there must have been steps behind the partition to raise the onlookers to within 55" of the height of the partition. The other possibility is that the partition may not have been higher than the heads of the members in the last row, rising only 55" from the main floor level.

This seems the most likely answer, if the seats were tiered, for a visitor in 1795-96 commented that he "had an uninterrupted view of every part of the hall...one of the advantages of this handsome room is, that the whole of it is visible from every part" (see SECTION II, C-5.d.). Thus, a visitor walking around the room must have been able to see over the partition.

The following testimony suggests that the partition behind the seats was called "the bar": "I heard Mr. Lyon directing his conversation to the Speaker, who sat in the seat behind me, generally occupied by Mr. Dana; Mr. Griswold in that of Mr. Harper...Mr. Lyon leaning on the outside of the bar, seemed to be giving the Speaker an account of..."[107] The bar referred to in this testimony is undoubtedly the same as that described by Theophilus Bradbury: "There is a good deal of room outside the semi-circle, or, as we speak, 'without the bar'."[108]

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107. Annals of Congress, Feb. 12, 1798, Samuel Smith's Testimony.

108. Pa. Mag. Hist. Biog., Vol. VIII, p. 226, Dec. 26, 1795.

A specific study will be made for a new layout for these rows of desks and partition--one that conforms to the above requirements and one that would accommodate the correct number of Representatives for the historic period. The present arrangement does not fulfill any of these requirements.

d. Low Partition at the North End

We believe that at least after 1793 there was a low partition across the north end of the room, much as it exists today below the gallery front. An account of a visitor to the House of Representatives said:

> "Two folding-doors, accessible to everybody, led me at once into the Hall of the National Representatives.... I stood in a space reserved for strangers, between the entrance and the low partition which separates it from the part occupied by the members. This space was small, and without seats. I was surprised to find so little accomodation for the public....There might possibly be more room allotted to strangers in another part of the hall, but I did not observe any visitors, excepting such as stood near me. These being but few, I was able to advance at once to the partition. From this point I had an uninterrupted view of every part of the hall....I may say of every member of the Assembly, for one of the advantages of this handsome room is, that the whole of it is visible from every part."109

The distinction of the space outside the partition being small and confined suggests that the visitor referred to a low partition at the north end of the room and not just the partition behind the members' desks.

This north partition was not impenetrable, as often the visitors walked "without the bar," even to the extent that they interfered

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109. Reminiscenses by Thos. Twining [Nov. 1795-1796], Extracts from Travels in North America, New York, Harper & Bros. 1894; see Cong. Hall Report, Part I, App. O, p. 20, Extract #3.

with the proceedings and were reminded that "there was a very respectable place reserved for them under the gallery..."[110] Thus the partition should probably have hinged doors as the present reconstruction has.

The placement of the partition should be reconsidered after the needed space has been allotted to the members' seating. As no evidence of a butting partition is visible on the columns, the partition may have stood free of the columns, either immediately to their north or south.

e. Doors

Practically every door leading to the Stairhall or House of Representatives and its gallery (possibly including the new Portico door and the two new doors in the extension) was supplied with a line pully and weight to automatically keep them closed.[111] Along with a

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110. Dunlap & Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser, Feb. 2, 1795.

111. 1793
...to Saml Benge
December 18th Line waights & Pullys to the 2 Doors in Congress 0.10.0
D/o for the gallery Doors & 2 lead wts 0.12.6
2 Padds over the Doors &c 0. 7.6
....
1794
Jany 7 ....
line Pullys, Iron Screws &c to the Privey 0. 7.6
for removing and fixing one to Congress Door 0. 2.6
a new line to front Door 0. 1.0
a line Pulley Iron & Screws &c to Hall Door 0. 7.6
Do to the Sennet Staircase Door 0. 7.6
....
"Vouchers, 1794," Dec. 18, 1793 - Jan. 7, 1794. State Rec. Off. Hrsbg.

study of hardware, these arrangements should be studied and eventually restored.

f. Paint Colors

As pointed out in SECTION II, A-9, all interior paint evidence has been removed from the exposed surfaces in the building. One piece of loose chair rail was found (while the wainscoting was being removed in 1959) under the window sill of the central 1793 bay window. This piece had wrought nails in it and had been painted only one coat of water soluble paint while it was in position. The color was a greyish white. It is possible that a workman had placed this piece under the sill for safekeeping during the 1912 restoration;[112] but what its origin was (It fits on the jamb to the east of this window) to have received only one coat of paint, we cannot say at this time.

Further work is necessary with the fragmentary evidence we have left (see also SECTION II, C-6.f.), and our conclusions will be presented as an addenda to this report.

That the walls and probably the ceilings were whitewashed, we established in SECTION II, B-7 and can further verify in a voucher "To White Washing [the old plastering] 7.10.0" for Dec. 30, 1793,[113] and by an item for $111.50 for whitewashing in 1795.[114] But again for this period no color evidence is available for the walls of the House of Representatives.

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112. This opening had been used as the door leading to the Judge's retiring room in the 19th century and was restored as a window in 1912.

113. "Vouchers 1793-94," No. 152, Dec. 30, 1793.

114. Misc. Treas. Accts. of G.A.O. 1790-1894 (MSS [microfilm] N.A. R.G. 217) No. 7689, 6 April 1795 - 11 Jan. 1796, Nov. 17, 1795.

C-6. The Senate Chamber

A new Senate Chamber was created in 1793 atop the extension of the House of Representatives--the room as it is today.

a. Woodwork

The present flooring is not from 1793 but was laid in the 1912 Restoration.[115]

The trim of the room is largely original, with decayed "portions...removed /in 1895/ and replaced with new of the same sections" (SECTION IV, APPENDIX C).

Of this trim the chair rails and pedestals under the window architraves are mostly original and match the west middle room, part of the 1790-93 Senate Chamber. The baseboards of the Senate Chamber were completely replaced in 1912, copying one found in the central passageway.[116] For lack of any evidence of the original baseboard's appearance, we recommend that the present one be maintained.

The present relationship of the floor and baseboard to the chair rail is not as it was in 1793 (the floor is ± 7" higher). This will be explained in SECTION II, E, describing the alterations to the floor in 1796.

The dog-eared and single architraves and paneled slayed jambs and heads of the windows are almost all original. However, the

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115. Letter from Dir. of Dept. of Safety, Phila., to Phila. Chap. A.I.A., confirming contract execution to "lay the finished flooring throughout the entire first and second floors...(except only that portion ...to be preserved...in the House of Representatives," Dec. 2, 1912, "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa. /INHP Roll No. XCI/.

116. SECTION IV, APPENDIX E. See also INHP Photograph No. 3695, which shows the baseboard used preceding the present one, which appears to be 19th century and like that added to the north room. See INHP Photograph No. 5943.

original piece which closes the weight box of the frame has been covered by a thin veneer since either 1912 or 1895. Drawing No. 9 shows the position of this piece and the resulting longer stop strip. We are fortunate that this piece was added--probably done so as to cover the joint with the splayed jambs--for it has preserved, for our research, areas of original paint (see SECTION II, C-6.f). We know these pieces are not original, but because they visually do not interfere with the details of the windows and because they protect the valuable evidence of the original paint colors, we recommend that the pieces remain in place.

b. Doors

The main entrance from the passage today has two sets of double doors. Documentary evidence points to only one set on the room side of the frame. A doorway of this kind existed prior to the 1895-96 restoration of the Senate Chamber (see Drawing No. 1). The second set, covered with green baize, on the passage side was added in 1918 and should be removed.[117] The frame and doors to be kept were reconstructions of the 1912 restoration.[118]

Although not conclusive, the following discussion presents other doors which may have entered the new Senate Chamber in 1793 (Chapter II of the report gives still another interpretation). In anticipation of a gallery which they were unable to construct for the

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117. "A.I.A. Restoration," Jordan to Sellers, Feb. 20, 1918--doors were supplied to obstruct light at doorway & stop reflection on paintings hung in the bay when the doors were closed.

118. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. Q, Illust. No. 1, note on drawing said, "Old transom remove Head lowered, new doors."

Senate right away,[119] a doorway was cut in the wall which would eventually connect the gallery and stairway to be built in the east middle room; "To breaking doorway in stairway to Senate Chamber..."[120] This door was restored in 1895-96 (see Drawing No. 1), and it may have been the one referred to as "the Sennet Staircase Door" instead of the one suggested in SECTION II, A-6.c. In which case "a line Pulley Iron and Screws,"[121] combined to make an automatic door closer, were supplied. This seems unlikely, as we know neither the gallery nor the stairway was as yet built and no traffic requiring such gadgetry would have been using the door. But perhaps they were only supplying the weights and pulleys in advance of the soon-to-be built gallery. It must have been the gallery door, however, that was later supplied with a thumb latch and called "upper door of senate chamb."[122]

The distinction of an upper door implies that there was a lower door in the Senate Chamber. The next item on the bill "to altering a latch on lower door"[123] could have meant a lower Senate Chamber door, implying only one lower door--the double doorway to the passage.

This could well be, but there is also a possibility that doors led from the Senate Chamber to the east and west middle rooms.

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119. "The Accomodations for Congress will be ready in time, except the gallery, which on Account of the Disorder /Yellow fever epidemic/, and Scarcity of Carpenters, we could not compleat, and thought it best to finish the move Immediately accomodating parts." "Vouchers, 1795," Nov. 14, 1793.

120. State Archives, Hrsbg., Public Improvements File, Phila. Bldgs., Dec. 1793.

121. "Vouchers, 1794," Saml Benge, Jan. 7, 1794.

122. "Vouchers, 1794," John Miller, Feb. 4, 1794.

123. Ibid.

These doors appear in the existing conditions plan of Drawing No. 1 and were believed to be original until 1912 when they were removed.[124] The Restoration Committee felt that when the jambs of these doors were introduced "a portion of the east strut of the trussed partition had been removed, showing that this /these/ door must have been introduced at a later period..."[125] Upon recent brief examination and in studying Illustration No. 18, we do not see such evidence and therefore question the 1912 decision. It is recommended that a study be made of this point while the structural rehabilitation of the building is being carried out and the truss structure of this wall is exposed.

c. Cove Cornice and Eagle Painting

The plaster cove cornice with wood freize that circles the Senate Chamber today was part of the 1793 construction.

The original hand split lath of the cove and its interesting framing held together with hand-wrought nails can be seen from the attic level. The freize is made up of a board with hand carved husks in swags and bows applied with small hand-wrought finishing nails.

Despite the extensive bills and vouchers of the 1793 work, we have no clue of whose hands did the carving. Perhaps it was done by one of the master carpenters, Joseph Rakestraw, junior, or William Williams.

Some of the freize has had carvings replaced, especially along the north wall where so much work has taken place in the restorations of the gallery in 1895 and 1912. But much of the freize has never been touched. As will be discussed in SECTION II, C-6.f., the original

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124. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. Q, Illustration No. 1.

125. Appendix E, p. 8.

paint color of the wood trim is to be found on the carvings of this freize as they have not been touched by paint removers.

At the south cove of the cornice, centered over the bay is a painting of an eagle done in paint directly on the plaster. Several times the eagle has been overpainted, but it has been suggested by inference only, for no documentation has been found, that the first painting was done between 1794-1796; there being fifteen stars in the field denoting the fifteen states of the Union between these years.[126] (See SECTION II, M-4., concerning the present status of the painting).

d. Ceiling Medallion

Illustration No. 24 and Drawing No. 4, sheet 48 is a full view of the raised plaster ceiling decoration of the Senate Chamber, an oval sun burst design honoring the thirteen original colonies with as many stars, and surrounded by a grape vine laden with fruit which is tied at its east and west points with bows.

On December 30, 1793, the firm of Thacakara and Jones were paid £ 15.0.0 for "Ornamenting the Senate Chamber Ceiling."[127] The Adams style and the hand-split lath upon which the ceiling plaster has been applied establish that Thackara and Jones' ornamentation has remained all these years.[128]

Illustration No. 47, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, the medallion is shown in 1913 multicolored after having had "All loose portions on centerpiece to be scraped, missing parts of ornamental plaster

126. D. H. Wallace, "Preliminary Report. Ceiling Decoration, Senate Chamber, Congress Hall," Nov. 21, 1958, INHP.

127. "Vouchers, 1793-94," No. 152, Dec. 30, 1793.

128. See Also D. H. Wallace, "Preliminary Report Ceiling Decorations, Senate Chamber, Congress Hall," Nov. 21, 1958, INHP.

to be replaced and centerpiece to be tinted to match the colors now on. Parts now gilded to be re-gilded."[129] This was not done until after "Decorators scraping last coats from center piece in Room "G" /Senate Chamber/."[130] It is therefore impossible at this time for us to say what the original color treatment would have been. But a study of the paint colors is planned after the structural rehabilitation is complete and there is no longer need for the protective covering at present hiding the medallion. (See SECTION II, M-2.b. for a description of the present treatment of the ceiling).

e. Dais

The best documentation of there being a dais for the Vice-President in the Senate Chamber is the contemporary description which says, "He was seated in a raised recess on the one side of the hall."[131] The only other description mentioned the recess but neglected to say whether or not the chair was raised.[132]

From the physical evidence to be seen beneath the floor of the existing dais restoration, we know that when the 1793 Senate Chamber was first being finished, a dais was not installed in type as it is construction today. The plastered areas extend, as normally, between chair rail, baseboard and pedestals, disregarding any dais platform (see Illustration No. 25). Had there been a platform built against

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129. Estimate of Chapman Decorative Co., April 2, 1913, "A.I.A. Restoration" Hist. Soc. Pa., INHP files No. XCII.

130. Ibid., May 6, 1913.

131. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, p. 20, Extract #3, Twining 1795-1796.

132. Theophilus Bradbury letter, Cong. Hall, Part I, App. I.

the wall in the beginning, there would be bare brick marking the area of wall covered by it.

The dais may have been smaller and standing free of the walls of the recess. Or it may have been supplied as an afterthought backed against the already finished trim of the room. The latter is most likely the case for the following reasons. We know that the dais prior to 1796 had the component parts of a "Ballustrade" "steps and Pilasters."[133] And in the 1823 Insurance Survey[134] it was described with similar details, "platform in Octagon raised two steps & circular railing in front." In 1895, when the architect, George C. Mason, removed a Judge's platform of the 19th century he described finding "the original platform...or rather the ruins of it, up to the line D /see Drawing No. 1/. It had been sawn up at that line to admit the placing over it the modern platform. It was so broken up, however, that nothing could be saved. The pieces gave the full details, the curve of front, the steps, the position of every baluster, the paneling in centre and remains of the paper-maché ornaments were found and probed the basis for an accurate restoration."[135]

It sounds very much as though G. C. Mason found the right elements but his interpretation (See Drawing No. 1) was considered stylistically incorrect by the 1912 Restoration. In fact, the 1912 architects found Mason's restoration inaccurate as they had at hand:

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133. These were the details of "the Presidents seat" they were "fixing anew" when the Senate Chamber floor was being raised in 1796. Measuring and Valuing /the Carpenters' Work/Oct. 20th 1796, Pennsylvania State Archives, Congress Hall Box.

134. Appendix A.

135. Appendix C.

> "A portion of one of the original posts /of the dais/ having been obtained from a carpenter who was employed on the work in 1896 gives the original mouldings, mitres and position of the composition ornament so with this data it was possible to reconstruct these details of the rostrom with accuracy."[136]

The present dais shape is Mason's but the balusters, panels and composition ornaments are the construction of the 1912 architects. (See Drawing No. 4, sheet 36, Illustration No. 17 and Appendix E of this report).

Thus, the dais we have today probably is as accurate a restoration as can be achieved.

f. Paint Colors

In SECTION II, C-6.a. and 6.c. it was shown that both at the window jambs and on the wood freize of the cove cornice paint evidence was found. Having established the likelihood that this paint had been hidden to the 1912 paint removals, samples were taken and examined in cross-section and color comparison. The bottom paint layers of both sources showed the same color, a buff.

It is possible that this color is original to all woodwork, but fragments of a leaf green have recently been found on a pedestal return making essential a re-evaluation of available evidence.

This same leaf green as well as a rust (water soluble colors) was found on the areas of the plaster walls which have been covered by baseboards since 1796 when the Senate floor was raised (see Drawing No. 4, sheet 36 and SECTION II-E). These colors, we feel, are related to the 1793-96 period. Due to the present floor level being that of 1796 we must restore the room to this period. But it is interesting

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136. Appendix D.

to note that with the green venetian blinds, red leather chairs and black and green carpeted floors the picture of the Senate Chamber in 1793-96 changes considerably from the 1912 interpretation.[137] We are not able to say as yet how these colors were distributed over all the wall surfaces. Evidence, other than behind the baseboards, was wiped out with recent paint removals. But while the rehabilitation of the building is in progress, we intend to make every effort to look for more evidence no matter how fragmentary it is. We, therefore, must recommend that no more paint removal take place in the building anywhere.

C-7 The Forming of Middle Rooms

The middle rooms were formed from what remained of the 1787-1793 south room bisected by a continuation of the passage to their north and cut off to the south by the new Senate Chamber.

The eastern room possibly contained a door leading through its south window opening to the roof of the Portico (see SECTION II, C-9). Despite this 1793 intrusion, it undoubtedly maintained the finish trim that was left from its role as the 1790-93 Senate Chamber. As referred to in SECTION II, A-6.b., the present cornice, chair rail, window and door trim, in small part original, have been accurately filled out by the 1912 restoration; the only missing elements of the original trim being the pedestals under the window architraves, and the correct baseboard moulding. Both should be restored.

The position of the present doorway from the east middle room to the passageway seems to have been derived from the doorway found in the opposite room (see Drawing No. 1 and Drawing No. 3). In

137. "Vouchers, 1793-1794," Saml Benge, Dec. 18, 1793 - Jan. 7, 1794, and "Vouchers, 1793-1794," No. 180, Dec. 2, 1793.

Illustration No. 19 the pre-1912 door appears to have been part of the original construction of this wall; the plaster was applied after the trim was already in place. The 1912 architects may have had some evidence unknown to us. For this reason, we must accept their placement until further evidence on this point arises.

The western middle room retains its original cornice, window trim pedestals and chair rail on its outside wall. The rest of the finish having been copied from these. This room is therefore complete as it stands.

The placement of the doors leading to the north in both rooms is based on evidence found in these walls in the late 19th century--the west room wall undoubtedly having been the original and maintained through both the 1895-96 and 1912 Restorations (see Drawing No. 1 and No. 3). Whether these doors originated in 1793 or as early as 1787, we shall probably never know.

For a discussion of doors possibly leading to the Senate Chamber see SECTION II, C-6.b.

C-8. Extension of Passageway

The passageway from the stairhall to the new Senate Chamber was extended between the new middle rooms. It is understandable that the trim of this new space was a continuation of that used to its north. Appendix E shows that portions of this trim were found in 1912 and used as a basis for the restoration. We consider acceptable what exists today.

C-9. Portico Addition

a. Exterior

Illustration No. 1 of Chapter II and Illustration No. 3 of this chapter are the best known views of the Portico. (Illustration

No. 6 of Cong. Hall Report, Part I, Chapter II is less distinct). This small building between the County Court House and the west wing was added as a vestibule outside the door described by a member of Congress as that "at which we enter the hall..."[138] In the memory of a man in 1872, it was also described: "That the members of Congress might have access to their hall without the use of the door on Chestnut Street, there was a small vestibule erected in the eastern passage...A view of it is introduced on an engraving [The Davis map view] of the State House..."[139]

In 1959 Archaeologist Moore of Independence National Historical Park uncovered the stone foundations of the Portico (see Archaeological Data, Chapter IV of the Congress Hall Historic Structures Report, Part II). This evidence agreed in placement with the above illustrations.

In these contemporary views the walls of the Portico appear to have been brick, probably a continuation of the flemish bond used in the County Court House.

The roof type seems similar to that of the State House--a flat area surrounded by a balustrade (although only one side of a balustrade shows in the view) and a sloped shingle roof beyond finishing in a wood cornice. The alignment of this roof and cornice in relation to the band course of the County Court House is interpreted differently in the two illustrations. But it may be that the County Court House band course intersected the slope of the roof, that is above the cornice level.

The balustrade in the 1793 view is shown with turned ballusters

138. Aurora, General Advertiser, Feb. 17, 1798, p. 2, col. 5, No. VI of Shepard's Testimony.

139. J. McAllister to S. W. Wallace, Feb. 19, 1872, quoted in Wallace's Discourses.

and only two piers, one at each end of the facade. The 1794 view, however, shows a central pier as well and, although crudely drawn, its balusters could be interpreted as turned. The railing intercepts the County Court House at different levels in the two views, the 1794 view up almost as high as the meeting rail of the windows and the 1793 view much lower in the bottom sash.

To give meaning to the balustrade the roof of the Portico could have been used, with access to it through a County Court House second floor window. The Portico overlapped the two windows at the first floor. The two windows above these were those of the second floor middle room. The southern of these two upon investigation revealed that the brickwork under the window sill had at one time been removed down to the floor level (see Illustration No. 27). This window was used as a door once and the only possible time was with the Portico.[140] Thus, for reasons of waterproofing, the flat roof of the portico must have been a step down from the second floor level of the County Court House.

The first floor doorway shown in the two views of the Portico had the same elements as the Chestnut Street door of the County Court House--keystone imposts, stone architraves, one stone step and a gransom bar, but of what dimensions or moulding profiles, we do not know.

The transom implies that the doorway was not an open archway but that doors closed against the stop of the transom bar.

140. The only structure to which this opening might have led would have been that built in 1872 (see G-5.b.) and the known access between the two at this level was a small vestibule in the Senate Chamber with a stairway going down to the lower level second floor of the office buildings. To enter this vestibule there was a door from the Senate Chamber and a door from the east middle room. (See Drawing No. 1 and INHP photograph No. CN-25796).

This establishes that the Portico was a closed vestibule.[141]

Either the south or east wall of the Portico had another door. The masons Charles and Jacob Souder charged for "2 Door Arches in Portico."[142] And one or both of these doors was approached by a step or steps. The same bill included the item "Laying foundation for Steps of Portico." The second door also had a keystone and imposts, for a stone mason bill was submitted for "6 key Stones & Imposts for the Doors."[143] There were no other doors built at this time which had these details, so the breakdown of the bill must have been two keystones and four imposts meant for the two doors of the Portico.

b. Interior of Portico

The Portico may have served not only the purpose of a vestibule through which to enter the House of Representatives, but also that of a closed access to the West Wing of the State House. This could be so, as Congress had offices in the wing, making it only logical for the adjacent buildings to be connected.[144]

The Portico caused the "stoping up" of two cellar windows.

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141. There are two references to a gateway and gates. "Building Peers for gateway & Setting Steps 7.0.0", "Vouchers 1793-4" voucher No. 176 and "to takeing a hinge & a Bar of a gate & puting on 0.7.6" Ibid., Nov. 19, 1793. It has been suggested that the Portico was an open structure with gates in its doorways. This seems unlikely. If the Portico were open it would serve only the purpose of a shelter from rain. In addition, we know it had two arched doorways, while these references are for only one gateway.

142. "Vouchers, 1793-94," No. 176, Jan. 3, 1794

143. "Vouchers, 1793-94," Jan. 11, 1794

144. The Historical Data section of this report, Chapter II, Sec. I, p. 16, presents the possibility that the "Portico" included a stairway to the second floor of the west wing, and that voucher No. 203 of Jan. 12, 1794 (Chap. II, App. A) for the turning of five newell posts applied to its railing.

Above these at one of the two first floor windows overlapped, the bill charged for "Takeing out a Window & Aultering for a door."[145]

We have concluded from the evidence presented in the following paragraphs that it was the southern most of these two windows which was changed into the main entrance door for the representatives. (Coincidentally, this door is directly below the door believed to have opened out onto the Portico roof.)

The areas of brick under the two first floor windows were examined to find that they both have been renoved and doorways set in them.[146] The southern of the two has been renoved and replaced twice however, (see Drawing No. 10).

The earliest doorway made through this window had square jambs, the splays having been cut away to make a rough opening 6'-0" ± wide. The mortar used to patch this first alteration is distinctly yellowish, and can be traced up the jambs as well as in large patches on both jambs at a height of 8-10 feet. These patches may be covering the holes which supported the door transom bar.

Documentary evidence corroborates that this window, the one south of the middle fireplace, was the one altered for the door. From a testimony of the fight between the members of Congress, Lyon and Griswold on February 15, 1798, Mr. Griswold "went through the passage by the door at which we enter the hall."[147] In SECTION II, C-5.c. we established that this "passage" ran east-west in front of the

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145. "Vouchers, 1793-1794," No. 176, Jan. 3, 1794.

146. It must be noted that all the brick walls under the windows on the east side of the House of Representatives except one (that immediately north of the south fireplace) have been removed and replaced at some time.

147. Aurora, General Advertiser, Mr. Shepard's Testimony No. VI.

Speaker's Dais in the center of the area of the House. Another witness said, "I was in the passage leading from the eastern door of the hall to the Speaker's table."[148] The door spoken of is therefore without doubt the Portico door, and to be "by" it would mean it was relatively close. The closest of the two windows overlapped by the Portico is the one to the south of the middle fireplace.

The extent of the window alteration is not known. It requires further investigation. Perhaps the upper sash was left in place and only the lower sash and brickwork altered for the door, although a more pleasing arrangement would have been to fill in the area of the upper sash and lower the fan light down to the transom, (see Drawing No. 12 for these two interpretations).

How this door and the interior faces of the other two doors of the Portico were detailed can at this time only be derived through conjecture.

Naturally the best source for designing any of the elements of the missing Portico would be Congress Hall itself.

But even when we have very specific documentation for such details as the Portico's plaster ceiling, as follows, the actual restoration of the ceiling would rely heavily on conjecture.

"for work done at the portico of Congress' Hall

To 437 Yards of Plastering	@ 1/3	£ 27.6.3
To 67 feet of Cornice	@ 8/	26.16.0
To a Cieling piece		12.5.0
To 50 feet of Beads	@ 2d	0.8.4" [149]

148. Annals of Congress, Fifth Congress, First Session, 1013-24, Feb. 12, 1798, Samuel Smith's Testimony.

149. "Vouchers, 1793-94," Nov. 15, 1794.

This bill can be compared to the price for the Senate Chamber ceiling piece. The Senate Chamber piece cost £ 15.0.0, whereas the Portico one cost only £ 12.5.0. This could and probably does indicate a smaller size, but how are we to know that it didn't mean a less elaborate design?

The original dimensions of the Portico have been encroached upon 3'-6" ± by the 1898 West Wing (see Drawing No. 11), a glaring fact which would prevent a proportionately accurate reconstruction. This is the basic reason why we do not recommend rebuilding this prominent structure at this time.

If the Portico is to be reconstructed, we recommend that this be done when the arcades and State House wings are corrected.[150]

C-10. Fireplaces

The 1793 extension added two more chimneys to the southern end, two fireplaces at the first floor and two at the second in the new Senate Chamber, bringing the number of fireplaces in the building to twelve. These two new chimneys had protruding chimney breasts at both floors, bearing almost entirely on the cellar stone walls. The openings at the second floor level were off center to allow the flues[151] from the first floor to pass independently to the top of the chimney.

Presently, niches over twelve feet high stand in lieu of fireplaces in these two chimneys at the first floor. (See Illustration No. 43, Chapter II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I). These niches, as will

150. See drawing INHP #2477 showing the comparative dimensions of the original buildings (from a Survey of State House Yard 11/6/1783, INHP photostat 10016) and their present reconstruction dimensions.

151. The flues were parged with a mixture of lime and salt--the salt was for fireproofing. "Cong. Hall, Philadelphia, 1790's Vouchers, Oct., Nov. 1793, #100-#124, State Records Office, Hrsbg., #105.

be discussed in G-6, were not original to the building. Instead, fireplaces probably similar in size and finish to those at the north end were there.[152]

Evidence of the original flue line to the western of these two south fireplaces is very clear, see Drawing No. 8.

We have no explanation for the switchback of the flue. As shown on the drawing, this flue line is periodically surrounded by broken headers, establishing that a chimney breast tied into the main wall every few brick courses. The eastern chimney was probably treated alike, but the intervening renovations have well obliterated signs of its original flue except for several areas of broken headers which tied in the chimney breast.

For these four new fireplaces a mason's bill was submitted for "Turning 4 trimers" /trimmer arches/ and "Laying 4 Hearths."[153]

a. Mantels

The finish treatment of these two first floor 1793 fireplaces must have been the same as those presently at the north end. A bill was presented for "Setting 2 stone jams and mantels 17/6....1.15.0" and for "Setting 2 sets of marble jams and mantels in Senate Chamber ..... 2.50."[154] The definite distinction between "stone" for the two

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152. According to an eye-witness, Thomas Sumter, in an open fire was used in this location: "Mr. Lyon did come to the fire, on the right of the Speaker's chair, where I was,..." Annals of Congress, Fifth Congress, First Session, 1013-24, Feb. 12, 1798. The fact that the designation "on the right" was necessary implies that there were open fires on both sides of the Speaker's chair, in this case open stoves of Franklin type, see (C-10.b.).

153. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

154. "Vouchers, 1793-1794," #176, Jan. 3, 1794.

fireplaces at the first floor and "2 sets of marble" for the two fireplaces in the Senate Chamber is our greatest evidence that the first floor "jams and mantels" were dressed stone jambs and lintels as at the north end (see A-8.a. and Illustration No. 11).

We, therefore, recommend that the chimney breasts be rebuilt to match those at the north end of the House of Representatives.

For the Senate Chamber fireplaces we have quoted the bill "Setting 2 sets of marble jams and mantels..." There is a voucher which we assume is a companion to this: for John B. Sartori, Nov. 13, 1793 "2 chimney pieces of marble @ Eighteen Dollars each £ 13.10.0".[155]

The 1851 Insurance survey, Appendix B, mentions marble mantels in place here. And in 1895 the restoration of the Senate Chamber revealed marble mentels from "under many coats of paint," Appendix C. These mantels are shown in Illustration No. 13.

In the opinion of Dr. Robert C. Smith[156] of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Charles Montgomery of Winterthur Museum and Mr. Harold Watts, of Wm. H. Watts & Co., who has set many marble mantels through his business, the illustrated mantels could very likely be those supplied by John B. Sartori in 1793.[157]

155. "Vouchers, 1793-1794," #100-#124, Nov. 12, 1793.

156. Dr. Robert Smith has told us of a number of marble mantels of the period which have the same or simlar panel treatment: a mantel in the painting of an interior of 1780-90, "La Lettre" by J. B. Mallet, 1759-1835, Museum of Decorative Arts, Paris; a mantel in the 1797 addition to the Moses Myers House in Norfolk, Virginia; a mantel from Robert Morris' house (circa 1794) on Chestnut Street between 7th and 8th Sts. which now is at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; and that at Lemon Hill (see text).

157. Sartori is listed as a sculptor working in Italy from about 1774 to 1793 and in Philadelphia about 1794, The New York Historical Society's Dictionary of Artists in America 1564-1860, Wallace and Groce Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, 1957; and Sartori's descendants in Philadelphia claim that their family were marble importers. Thus Sartori may have made the mantels himself with imported marble. We must note here that Mr. Watts gave the opinion that the marble does not appear to be of Pennsylvania origin.

Illustration No. 14 shows a mantel from Lemon Hill in Fairmount Park. This house was built in 1785 and its interiors finished in the 1790's.[158] There is a marked similarity in the size and paneling composition of the two mantels. The fact that the Lemon Hill mantel is so highly carved in relief is the only aspect in which they differ greatly. Remembering the speed with which the 1793 extension was erected, perhaps the Senate Chamber mantels were less decorative for lack of time to fulfill the orders, Sartori having made them himself of imported marble.

It is hoped that we may locate these original Senate Chamber marble mantels as they were only removed in 1912.[159] We recommend that they be reconstructed if not found.

To reset them in the present chimney breasts the fireplace openings must be rebuilt. (The present openings were changed to suit the proportions of the wood mantels constructed in 1912, see Illustration No. 16 and K-2). The lintel of the opening and the clean-out door must be lowered again.

The mantel should be placed as it appears in Illustration No. 13 but the opening should not be this small. An extra lining was added to the interior of this opening in 1895-96 (Appendix C). The splayed jambs of the fireplace should instead finish flush with the mantel as in Illustration No. 14.

For the building's record we must point out that the mantel, if restored today at the level shown in Illustration No. 13, will be in its 1796 position (the floor was raised in that year, see E.) and not its 1793 position.

158. Lemon Hill was built sometime after 1770 by Robert Morris. Morris sold it in 1797. Watson's Annals, Vol. III, p. 261, Mannasseh Cutler described it in 1787 "...is not yet completed but it will be superb," Penna. Mag. Hist. Biog. Vol. 12, p. 105.

159. Letter H. W. Sellers to A. S. Eisenhower, June 28, 1912. "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa.

b. Stoves

During the 1793 extension, a total of five stoves were purchased. From the firm of Morgan & Price "2 large open stoves... £ 10 /$26.75/"[160] were supplied. And from Andrew Douglas 2 stoves were bought for £ 8.8.9.[161] The price difference between these sets was probably due to size; and the large open stoves were no doubt the Franklin type. The fifth stove was bought from John Mitten (Miller), "one ten plate Stove & Seven foot pipe" 8.10.0, and "Additional pipe weight Nine pounds at 1/6 per pound" 13.6.[162]

We have shown that the two northern and two middle fireplaces of the House of Representatives were fitted out with stoves prior to 1793.[163] We know that the middle ones had stoves as late as 1798. It seems only logical that the two new chimneys at the south be supplied stoves also.

An eye witness account said "There are two fireplaces, on each side of the hall with stoves."[164] "Each side of the hall" in

160. "Vouchers, 1793-94," Dec. 24, 1793.

161. "Vouchers, 1793-94," voucher No. 202 /missing/ Jan., 1794. paid for May 31, 1794. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. E., p. 6.

162. "Vouchers, 1793-94," Jan. 18, 1794. At these amounts one foot of pipe would have cost 24+ shillings, i.e. the additional 9 pounds of weight costing 13.6 shillings would have been less than a foot long, making the total 7'-9"± long.

163. The middle west stove is spoken of in Mr. Claiborne's Testimony: "near the stove, to the left of the Speaker's chair..." No. III and in Testimony No. IV they "endeavored to gain the northwest side or corner of the speaker's seat. This he did, ...Mr. Lyon being now near the stove, on the same side of the chair just mentioned,..." This same stove was referred to as a "fire place, behind the Speaker's chair," Testimony No. II, showing synonymity derived from the open type Franklin stove. The east middle fireplace is not referred to except as "at the fire next on the right of the door," No. V, Aurora, General Advertiser, Feb. 23, 1798, and "the fire, near the eastern door of the hall," Annals of Congress, Fifth Congress, Fifth Session, 1013-24, Feb. 12, 1798, Samuel Smith's Testimony. There is every reason to believe that these deponents also meant an open stove.

164. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. I.

this instance meant within the area of the room used by the members of the House. The two north fireplaces with stoves were not included in this count as they were within the area of the room allotted to the public (see C-5.d.).

The new Senate Chamber fireplaces no doubt received two of the other stoves bought in 1793. This made a total of 10 stoves in 12 fireplaces, the extra two fireplaces probably being the second floor middle committee rooms where firebacks performed in lieu of stoves. One of these middle Committee Room fireplaces must have been supplied with a stove by 1795, however. As will be discussed in SECTION II, C-10.c., its hearth was provided with a covering which usually was laid below a stove. We do not have an account which covers this stove, but as the stoves were portable it could have been moved here from another location in that year.

Possibly the ten-plate stove was put in the gallery of the House of Representatives. Set at either chimney as today both have visible stove pipe holes above the gallery level. This is not conclusive as these holes may date only from the period 1800-1818 when the gallery was removed and small offices occupied this end of the room (see SECTION II, F-2.).

There are some inconsistencies in the evidence which are unexplainable and furthermore, we have no sure proof that any of these items might not have been supplied to the offices of Congress in the

West Wing.[165]

For the sake of this restoration, we recommend, based on the evidence of 1793-4 that Franklin type stoves be restored to all the fireplaces except the middle Committee rooms, and that a ten-plate stove be placed in the gallery of the House of Representatives.

The museum branch, in supplying the stoves for the restoration, must determine if possible from which manufacturers the above merchants obtained their stoves. This will help determine the specific size, shape and decor of the particular stoves used.

In assembling this restoration this open stove type should, as was customary, be built into the fireplaces with masonry tightly closing the space between the stove plates and the fireplace openings.[166] These brick surfaces were covered with plaster and possibly painted black.[167]

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165. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #176, Jan. 3, 1794, includes "Setting 8 stoves," and a later voucher for Sept. 26, 1794, includes "To pulling Down and Setting 8 stoves." This quantity is less than the quantity of stoves purchased. Perhaps the seasonal dismanteling of stoves, to which the latter bill no doubt applies, was not compulsory and only those stoves needing cleaning and repair were removed for the summer. It is further possible that some stoves were left in place for occasional use on chilly days.

The same voucher includes an item for "Walling up a fireplace in Representative Chamber." This could be interpreted two ways--that of closing up the opening, or relining an opening. Since within the bill "Walling up" and "Stopping up" are both used they could well be of different meaning, thus the interpretation of relining could be correct.

166. "Edgerton Stove Report, Draft" as well, this explains the mason's billing for "pulling down and Setting 8 stoves." "Vouchers 1793-94," Sept. 26, 1794.

167. Evidence of this enclosing brickwork with a blackened plaster surface can be seen at the first floor east middle fireplace. There was a bill which may apply to this "To plastering 4 chimney pieces 0.10.0," "Vouchers, 1793-94," Dec. 30, 1793.

c. Hearth Covering

Under all the stoves, covering the hearths and possibly extending beyond were sheets of copper or lead.[168] On December 6, 1793, Robert Haydock, the painter and sheet metal worker, charged for "178 lb of Patten Copper...Laying 6 Harths," and on December 12, 1793, "40 lb of Patten Copper...Laying 1 Harth," and on January 1, 1794, for "Laying 3 Harths."[169] And the same man billed in February 15 "To Coppering 7 Harths."[170] This may have meant that some of the hearths needed redoing, or else it applied to other offices as well.

We recommend that atop all the hearths sheets of copper be nailed fast. The exceptions should be the hearths of the Senate Chamber and three of the Committee Rooms which should be laid with lead, as on July 7, 1795, a David Price billed "To 722 lb. Sheet Lead for Heaths... 2 Laying 2 Heaths in Senate Chamber...2 Laying 3 heaths in Commity Rooms."[171] The lead hearths seem to have been painted to avert their own color. On November 7, 1795, work charged to the erecting of a gallery in the Senate Chamber included "To 3 Harths Painted."

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168. Lead sheets were also used. The following quotations show how these sheets were used: "To 47 pound of sheet lead for the floors...To fixing the lead & nails," War Department Officer Vouchers, Dec. 14, 1792; and "fixing the Stoves in the chimnies....208 lb. sheet lead to stand the Stoves on....," Contingent Expenses of Auditor's office 1 Oct. 1791--30 Sept. 1792, Rec'ds of U. S. Senate N.A., R.G. 46, 2A-F2, /INHP microfilm/.

169. "Vouchers, 1793-94," #192.

170. "Vouchers, 1793-94," Feb. 11-15, 1794.

171. "Congress Hall, Philadelphia, 1790's Vouchers, Senate Gallery 1795" State Records Office, Harrisburg, hereafter cited "Vouchers, 1795."

D. 1795-1796

D-1. Senate Chamber Gallery Addition

The gallery was not erected when first intended in 1793, but because "of the Disorder /Yellow fever epidemic/ and Scarcity of Carpenters"[172] its building was postponed until October 1795.[173]

All we know from documents is that "4 pcs Collumn Caps"[174] were supplied and "Turners Work" was done to produce "four beautiful Doric columns of wood, which supported the gallery..."[175] And that "2 pcs pillaster Drops"[176] were used for some "of the wood work which adorned the chamber...a number of small pilasters ornamented with stucco work..."[177]

The present gallery is a 1912 reconstruction correcting an 1895 reconstruction.[178]

We shall have to rely upon the 1912 work as we have no further evidence which would allow any greater accuracy.

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172. "Vouchers, 1795," Nov. 14, 1793.

173. "Vouchers, 1795," Zane & Chapman, Nov. 19, 1795.

174. "Vouchers, 1795," List of Expenditures...in erecting a Gallery, Oct. 12 - Dec. 15, 1795.

175. Poulson's Amer. Daily Adv., July 28, 1835.

176. "Vouchers, 1795," Zane & Chapman, Nov. 19, 1795.

177. Poulson's Amer. Daily Adv., July 28, 1835.

178. Both restorations had the same physical and documentary evidence (Doric columns etc.) and their comparison shows how widely divergent architectural interpretations can be (see Drawing No. 1 and Drawing No. 4, sheet 35, the present gallery). See also Appendices C and D. See also letter of G. C. Mason to H. W. Sellers, April 21, 1912, for Mason's own explanation of his restoration method, for instance "the filling in with balusters was simply my own idea" "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., also in INHP film #XCI.

The stairway leading to this gallery was either completely built or finished in 1795, too.[179]

The present stairway to the Senate Gallery was reconstructed in 1912, after having discarded the 1895 reconstruction of the same stairway.[180] (It is difficult to see how in 1912 they arrived at the conclusion in place today--see Illustration No. 46, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, and Drawing #4, sheet 34.) The room stripped as the 1912 architects were making their investigation is shown in Illustration No. 19. If the plaster on the passageway wall is original, then the only breaks in it which are smooth, i.e. the plastering having been done after the woodwork was in place, are the outlines of what was obviously a shelf in the corner and the dog-eared architrave of the door to the passageway. What may have been interpreted as the winding stair looks as though the investigator dug away the plaster in this shape. Of course, since the stairway to the gallery was erected after the 1793 passageway was fully completed--the stairway did not tie into the wall[181] but instead was superimposed upon the plaster. In this case the investigator may have erred in digging away the plaster which was only marked only on its surface. But it is confusing to note that no lines appear on the plaster back toward the corner.

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179. "The Subscriber having measured & Valued the Carpenters Work done by George Forepaugh...at a Gallery Stairs etc.....Dec. 3, 1795," "Vouchers, 1795."

180. The 1895 and 1912 reconstructions of the stairway to the Senate gallery are so different in comparison that they are an example of individual influence in conjectural reconstructions.

181. "Vouchers, 1795," Dec. 3, 1795, the carpenter work was measured and valued"...at a Gallery Stairs."

We are forced to accept the 1912 reconstruction of these stairs as there is little chance of our finding further evidence and it is not possible to discern exactly what happened from this photograph alone.

D-2 Senate Chamber Paint Colors

In 1795 when the gallery was erected in the Senate Chamber the whole room was redecorated. The plasterers were paid for "Colouring of Senate Chamber walls[182] and Robert Haydock & Co. were paid a total of $46.89 for their share of the work, only part of which we have found to be itemized.

December 4th	To 63 1/2 yards of Painting done three coats 1/9 pr		£5..11..1
		7/0 under	
Novem 7/	To 19 Do .. of .. do done twice	1/2 pr	0..15..2
"	To 167 Do .. of .. do once done	2/6 pr	5..11..4
"	To 6 1/2 Do of Mohogany @	3 1/2 pr	1..5..6
"	To 240 Sash Lights done once	1/2 pr	2..0..0
"	To 3 Harths Painted a	3/9 pr	0..11..3
"	To 7 lights of 16 x 12 & glass glazed	5 1/2 pr	1..15..0
"	To 2 Do of 8 x 10 & Do	1/2 pr	0..2..4
			£17..11..8[183]

SECTION II, C-6.f. describes the color evidence found so far in the room, evidence which could be dated anywhere from 1793-1796, and therefore, may date from the above applications.

Perhaps it was the gallery rail which was painted to resemble mahogany. Or, if we were mistaken in SECTION II, C-3.c., and the previous mahogany items referred to inside doors, then this 6 1/2 yards possibly applied to the Senate Chamber doors.

This subject we hope can be resolved along with the paint color study still to be completed while the rehabilitation is in progress.

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182. "Vouchers, 1795," Thackera & Jones, Nov. 30, 1795.

183. "Vouchers, 1795," Robert Haydock & Co., Nov. 7, Dec. 4, 1795.

E. 1796-1800

E-1. Senate Chamber Floor Level Change

> "The undersigned House Carpenters of the City of Philadelphia, being requested by the Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia to give our opinion, whether, the Floor of the Senate Chamber in the County Court House, is of sufficient Strength to support the weight of a considerable number of Persons assembled therein--and haveing View'd the frameing of the said floor, (now striped of boarding) and attentively considered the situation thereof, do unanimously determine the said framing, insufficient in strength, to sustain the Senators (only) assembled, without great danger.
>
> June 21st 1796 — James Pearson, Robert Allison, John Rugan "[184]

By October 10, 1796, a bill had been submitted for work done: "To tareing up the Old floores in the Senate Chamber, at Congress Hall...To tairing Down The plaster And Takeing off the Bridgeing...To Takeing Down the Girders...To helping...puting up The Girders"[185] using "Ropes Guise Lashings falls & Blocks and hands raising Guirders."[186]

The new framing, according to what was found in 1895 by the restoration architect George C. Mason was "Two great beams or summer-breasts, run east and west, each made of two 22-inch by 12-inch timbers with a 3-inch by 9-inch timber on each side to receive the 4-inch by 9 1/2 inch cross timbers which in turn support the 3-inch by 5-inch floor timbers, the latter notched down and fastened with wooden pins...The summer-breasts have 3-inch by 18-inch splines

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184. Cong. Hall, Phila., 1790's, Senate Chamber 1796, State Records Office, Harrisburg, hereafter cited as "Vouchers, 1796."

185. "Vouchers, 1796," October 10, 1796.

186. "Vouchers, 1796," Sept. 9, 1796.

cut into them throughout their entire length of 46 feet, while three wooden keys were driven in to make...some sort of a truss, the whole mass...fastened together with iron bolts."[187]

This framework was all removed in 1912 (see SECTION II, K).

In raising the floor the 8"± from the level of the rest of the second floor it was necessary to"/fix/ anew the pedestals under the windows, and the Ballustrade, steps and Pilasters to the Presidents seat; new Plinths and coping to the Continued pedestal round the room";[188] to raise the doors and gallery column bases and to raise the hearths and fireplace openings (see SECTION II, E-2).

The effect of these changes is seen today in that the present chair rail and window sills are comparatively near to the floor.

The new floor was treated with a linseed oil finish as one gallon and three quarts was ordered "for the use of repairing the Floor of the Senate Chamber..."[189] This is the recommended treatment for the restoration of the floors in the building. (See also SECTION II, A-3.d.).

E-2. Fireplaces

Along with the strengthening of the Senate Chamber floor, there is no mention of hearths or fireplaces. We know the hearths must have been either completely rebuilt or a layer of hearth bricks added to bring it to the new floor level. Either the fireplace openings were rebuilt or shorter openings were allowed to remain. Evidence

187. Appendix C.

188. "Vouchers, 1796," Oct. 20th 1796.

189. "Vouchers, 1796," Sept. 16, 1796.

of any vertical rise of the opening will not be forthcoming now, for the present openings themselves were heightened further in 1912 (see K-2).

We doubt that a shorter opening would have remained as this would mean cutting off the pilasters of the marble chimney pieces. From Illustration No. 13 this does not appear to have happened. The mantels and openings were therefore raised together.

The present Senate Chamber restoration should be treated with the fireplace evidence described in C-10., but upon the 1796 floor level.

E-3. Senate Chamber Paint Colors

Per force of the floor level the restoration of the Senate Chamber must be to the 1796-1800 period. The paint evidence from this period is therefore that which must be followed.

The color of the walls presently believed to be from 1796 is a deep cream. Evidence of an oil paint, one coat thick, was found under the present baseboard moulding, and atop the leaf green and rust tempera layers of the 1793-96 period (C-6.f.). This evidence has been preserved because the original 1796 baseboard, which had been raised with the new floor height, was not as high as the present one, a moulding having been added probably early in the 19th century. Thus, when the paint was generally removed in 1912 or earlier, this moulding preserved the evidence by hiding the paint.

Further study of this paint evidence in the Senate Chamber will be made to both verify this preliminary conclusion, to relate it to the evidence found in the wood trim (see C-6.f.), and present samples of the colors to be used in an addenda to this report.

F. 1800-1818's

F-1. Removal of Portico

The wing buildings and arcades of the State House were removed in 1812 in preparation for erecting new office buildings designed by the Architect, Robert Mills.[190] We assume that the Portico which connected the west wing with Congress Hall was removed in 1812 too.

A memoir of 1872 is the only reference we have to the Portico's removal: "It was removed or taken down after Congress went away...When the building was altered, this was removed, the wall of the county building was disfigured, and it was plastered over, and the plastering seems to have been carried up to the eaves. This plastering is now to be seen."[191]

F-2. First Floor Alterations

Sometime after 1800 and before 1818, the gallery of the House of Representatives was removed. In its stead an office was created on either side of a central passage leading from the stairhall to the large south room. (See Drawing No. 13.)

In 1872, a letter to the "Sunday Dispatch" described this situation, "Apassage ran from the door on Chestnut Street to the room of the House of Representatives, now the Court of Quarter Sessions. The late Thomas Bradford Esq., occupied a room on the west side of this passage as a law office about the year 1818."[192]

190. Riley, "Independence Hall Group," p. 31.

191. J. W. McAllister to S. W. Wallace, Feb. 19, 1872, quoted in Wallace's 'Discourses."

192. Latter to Sunday Dispatch, Jan. 25, 1872, signed "Sexagenary," Cong. Hall, App. O, p. 12 & 23. Bradford is said to have been paying rent for space in the County Court House in 1818. Poulson's American Daily Advertiser, Feb. 22, 1819, "Auditor's Accounts of County Treasurer, for year 1818."

When the gallery was removed the columns upon which it hung and which had always supported the upper floor must have remained in place, one column in each office.

The south wall of these offices was found to be frame,[193] and when all its plaster was removed in 1912, the sheathing was thought to have been "old floor boards or wide steps to raised platform. All have tongues grooves and some nosed edge, occasionally cut at angles." "...note square holes...as if to receive balusters."[194] They were correct, these boards could have come from either the Speaker's dais, members' platforms or the gallery. It is only unfortunate that they were not saved for our inspection.

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193. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, p. 12. See also INHP photographs CN-5200 & CN 5202.

194. Photo. captions Feb. 13, 1912, "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., INHP film #LXXXVII.

G. 1818 - 1895

To suit the use of the building now that Congress had removed to Washington it was radically changed in 1818.[195]

G-1. Basement Alterations

As will be described in G-2, the stairhall of the County Court House in 1818 was shifted to the center of the building (see Drawing No. 13). The basement stairs which had been in the north stairhall were also moved to the new location. In their stead, at some time in the 19th century a brick vault was built using the full dimensions of the front basement room, stopping up the two doors which originally led through this room to the stairs to the first floor.[196]

In the south basement area four piers were built to support columns above (see G-2).

Many minor 19th century alterations were made in the installations of heating systems, etc. We have made no attempt to study these as they have no bearing on the restoration of the upper floors.

G-2. First Floor Alterations

The 1823 insurance survey described the first floor: "The lower Story is divided into two Court rooms & a hall and stair case in the middle[197] (see Drawing No. 13).

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195. "County Commissioners, Auditors Report-County Court House. For payment of bills for workmanship and materials in the alteration alteration /sic./of the County Court House, at the corner of of /sic/ Sixth and Chestnut Street....9,264.34.

The Auditors further report in relation to the Commissioners accounts, that in the course of the year 1818, a quantity of old Bricks, the property of the County, were sold by their orders, amounting to thirty-six dollars and fifty cents;" Poulson's American Daily Advertiser, Feb. 22, 1819

196. See INHP photograph, CN-6078

197. Appendix A.

The pre-1818 frame wall (with its center doorway closed) (see F-2) became the north wall of the stairhall. The south wall was built of brick (resting on the stone cellar wall below) with a center door leading to the south room. The trim of this door as said in A-6A, is believed to have come from the door leading to the original north stairhall.[198]

An entrance door was opened at the Sixth Street end of this hall for the use of the south room. At first the north room maintained the old Chestnut Street door, but in 1843 this was closed and a small door was put through the stairhall north wall for inside access between the two rooms.[199] A door was put through the east wall of the stairhall to the adjacent office building (see G-5.b.) after 1873.

Both original stairs were removed. The northwest one with its slope decreased was installed in the new stairhall. (See App. O and Illustration 36, Chapter II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I).

In the two large rooms the insurance survey said plainly "2 large Columns in the South room & 4 d° in the North to support the 2nd floor." The north pair in the north room were erected to supplant the original brick stairhall wall. The next two were those which had been supporting the floor above (from points further apart--see A-3.a.) since the building was first erected in 1787; having in the meantime been supporting the gallery as well.

In the south room only two columns at first were installed, but sometime between 1851 and 1895 two more were added.[200] The south

198. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, Description of the various elements of doors, ceiling type etc. of this stairhall.

199. Public Ledger, Feb. 24, 1843.

200. The Contributionship Survey #8403, Feb. 14, 1851, (Appendix B) mentioned having only two columns in the south room, while in 1895 G. C. Mason drew four in place (see Drawing No. 1).

pair was built first to support the freely spanning girder above. The north pair was installed sometime between 1887-1891.[201] It is understandable that this was the order in which they were installed as the south girder would be more apt to need this support than that next to its north, which was the bottom chord of a truss (C-2).

For the general appearance of these rooms in the 19th century, a comparison can be made between the insurance surveys of 1823 (App. A) and 1851 (App. B) and the Illustrations in the Cong. Hall Report, Part I, Chapter II, No. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27.

The Chestnut Street door, meanwhile, had in the early 19th century an inside vestibule, approximately 9 feet square, with a marble floor laid directly over the cellar vault. This floor was 7 3/4± inches below the rest of the first floor.Later in the 19th century the vestibule was removed and the main floor extended toward the door leaving only space for the door to swing at its normal lower floor level. The marble floor is only as old as the vault, but the lower level of the vestibule floor seems to be original to the 18th century building (see A-5.a.).

G-3. Second Floor Alterations

Along with the 1818 alterations at the first floor the north end of the second floor was made into one large room by the removal of the original stairhall and north small rooms(see Drawing No. 13). At this room's south side a new wall was built containing three fine examples of early 19th century fan-light doorways. These doorways lead to a cloak room at the east, what was left of the 1793 passageway in the center, and a false door to the west (behind the latter were two toilet

201. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. O, p. 13, A contractor remembered installing the two north columns during the administration of Mayor Fitler, i.e. 1887-1891.

rooms reached from the passageway and the west middle room, (see Drawing No. 1). The same 19th century trim was used in blanking out the north window at the balcony.

A comparison between the insurance surveys of 1823 and 1851 and photographs will explain the general appearance of this room which seems to have been largely "modernized" in the early 19th century--baseboards, cornice, mantels, etc. (Cong. Hall Report, Part I, Appendix K and M, Chapter II, Illustrations 29, 30, 31, 32, 33).

The east middle room was changed by the interruption of the upper half of the new stairway.

Both the east and west middle rooms may have had doors put through to the court room to their south (see C-6.b.) and in 1872 or shortly after, a door was placed in the southeast corner of the east room opening into a small vestibule in, and opening to the south room. This vestibule in turn lead to a flight of stairs going down to the adjacent office building (see G-5.b. and Drawing No. 1).

In 1835 the gallery of the Senate Chamber was removed.[202] And no doubt, also the gallery stairway in the east middle room, as in 1851, in its place, a ladder is descibed as access to the attic.[203]

Drawing No. 1 shows a vestibule in the passageway outside the south court room. We do not know when this was added.

G-4. Roof Structures Replacements

In 1821, a fire "destroyed...a portion of the roof and the cupola...It is said that the rafters have been so much injured as to require an entire new roof for the building. The fire is reported to have originated from the bursting of one of the chimneys."[204]

202. Poulson's American Daily Advertiser, July 28, 1835.

203. Appendix B.

204. Daily Advertiser, Dec. 27, 1821

It is believed as a result of this fire that the northern five roof trusses were replaced, leaving the 1787 bottom chords, joists and flooring. At the same time the cupola must have been replaced, its supporting structure having been rebuilt.

G-5. Exterior Alterations

a. Sixth Street Door

Illustration No. 12 Cong. Hall Report, Part I, Chapter II, shows the Sixth Street entrance installed in 1818. The door itself was indented in the building to prevent the many needed steps from projecting into the sidewalk.

b. Addition Between the County Court House and the "Mills Buildings"

Illustration No. 4 of Chapter II shows the "Mills Buildings" and their 1873[205] addition from the north, and Illustration No. 5 of Chapter III shows them from the south. Drawing No. 1 shows the addition's connection with the County Court House as of 1895.

c. Addition of Judge's Retiring Room

In 1862 or before a small building was appended and connected to the first floor level of the south bay of the County Court House.[206] Before 1880 a second story had been added to this structure, connected to the second floor of the main building (see Illustration No. 5 and Drawing No. 1). The doors into the room were at the level of the Judges' dais on each floor, set within the original window openings.

d. Addition of Slatted Blinds to Cupola.

Illustration No. 5 made in 1880, and a photograph (INHP No. 5856) made in 1866, show the eight arches of the cupola closed by slatted blinds.

205. Journal of the Common Council, 1873, I, app. 118

206. Journal of the Select Council, 1862, App. 331

At no other time do the exterior views of the building show the arches filled in.

e. Storm Sash Additions

At least two of the west windows in the first floor south court room, all the windows in the first floor north court room, all the windows in the second floor north room and five of the windows in the second floor south room had "a dbl /double/ Sett of Sash" (see App. A). These sash when removed in 1912 were described "Found that part of trim, box for inside sash and jamb were securely fastened together and erected as one piece."[207] They were undoubtedly erected as storm sash--especially when placed largely at the north and west of the building.

G-6. Fireplaces.

The south wall of the stairhall moved to the center of the building abutted and closed the two middle first floor fireplaces in 1818.

Before they were hidden in this fashion these fireplaces had been closed with brickwork four inches back of the finish wall surface and covered with wallpaper.[208] This probably occurred during the period 1800-1818.

There is no mention in the 1823 Insurance Survey (Appendix A) of fireplaces in either the large south or north rooms. This survey does mention a change at the second floor, however. In the north room were "two plain marble mantels and hearths," see Illustrations 29, 30 and 33, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I.

There is no mention of mantelpieces in the south room, but

207. "A.I.A. Restoration," Daily Report, Jan. 27, 1912.

208. "A.I.A. Restoration," Daily Reports, Jan. 30, 1912.

the middle committee rooms were said to have "two plain mantels" which we must assume were the original wood mantels.

The 1851 Insurance Survey (Appendix B) mentions only the second floor fireplace mantels. At the large court rooms were "two plain marble mantels" in each, and in the middle rooms (as we suspected was meant in 1823) there were "wooden" mantels.

Why the first floor fireplaces were not referred to is significant. Their use had changed--the north ones were blocked up with brick work (see Illustration No. 20, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I,) and the two south ones had undergone considerable alteration: the present niches were installed.

To do this, they had broken away the chimney breasts to a level even with the spring points of the window arches. New piers were built from the top of the cellar walls up, to support the remaining chimney breasts. And between these piers a brick arch was formed (see Drawing No. 8). From inspection this evidence is obvious, the broken tieing headers of the old chimney breasts and the vertical joints between the walls and piers are very clear.

These niches could not have been installed earlier than 1798 (see C-10). It is possible that they were built in the 1800-1818 period, or they may be dated March 1832 by the following contract "for Brickwork & Masonry at the County Court Rooms for

423$
15 extra allowed for cutting down
438

Est. 15,000 Brick 10 3/4 .150
1 1/2 . 75
1614 . 25

209

209. Undated account, possibly 30 Mr. 1832, John Hariland MSS, vol. II, U. of P. Rare Book Rm

The intended use of the niche form probably was for a free standing stove with its flue penetrating the top and leading to the original flue above.[210] But Illustration No. 12 of this report and Illustration No. 28 and 38, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, show that later at least three hot-air vertical flues were run up within the niche form, filling it to oblivion.

These flues probably came from early furnace arrangements in the cellar and fed up and opened into the first and second floors through grates. This is the state in which these niches were found, also the north fireplaces where the original flue wythes had been cut away and cast iron pipe heating ducts run up the chimney breasts to the second floor level.[211]

At the second floor north end, black marble mantels, consistent in design with the 1818 door architraves of the same room (see Cong. Hall Report, Part I, Chap. II, Illustrations 29, 30 and 31), were probably installed at that date.

The cornices and friezes of the original mantels may then, in an attempt to save decorative detail, have been moved to the heads of

210. "Edgerton Stove Report, Draft," Edgerton found that this type of stove in a niche was presented to the American Philosophical Society as a new invention in 1796-1797 (see Advertisement, Transactions (A.P.S.), vol. IV, 1799 p. V). The late introduction of such a stove idea confirms the physical evidence that the niches were not built in 1793 and were not installed earlier than 1798. Mrs. Beatrice H. Kirkbride of the Philadelphia Historical Commission has reported that in Philadelphia fire insurance surveys no mention or references to stove niches is made until about 1840 or after. At this time there seem to have been a number of normal fireplaces converted to a stove niche arrangement.

211. "...old cast iron pipe was removed. This pipe did not appear to have been put in originally. Part of similar pipe in fireplace x /west, north fireplace/ is now being removed." "A.I.A. Restoration," Daily Reports, Feb. 29, 1912. See INHP negative #CN 5233 and 5943.

the two doors leading from the Senate Chamber to the rooms to its north as shown on Drawing No. 1.

G-7. Ventilators

The present ventilators in the Senate Chamber ceiling, and those shown in the second floor north room in Illustration No. 31, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, and those shown at the roof in Illustrations No. 10 & 11, Chap. II, Cong. Hall Report, Part I, may well be the system installed in 1854. "The flues are being remodelled so as to furnish a plentiful supply of fresh air, which is the peculiar property of the furnaces and Emerson caps to force down into the building."[212]

The present ventilators are so constructed that they interrupt the Senate ceiling framing and were obviously not original. It is, therefore, recommended that they be carefully removed and replaced with a plain ceiling surface.

212. Public Ledger, Sept. 29, 1854, p. 1, col. 6.

H. 1895 - 1900

Frank M. Etting served on the committee for the restoration of Independence Hall for the Centennial of the Independence of the United States[213] and was still involved in the buildings of Independence Square in 1889. Reference to Etting having erected a commemorative arch over the Sixth Street door of Congress Hall is the first instance of an historical interpretation of this building for the public.[214]

In 1895-96 the interpretation was carried further. The Committee of Thirteen of the Pennsylvania Society of the Colonial Dames of America undertook the architectural restoration of the Senate Chamber and in part its neighboring rooms.[215]

H-1. Restoration of the Senate Chamber

The judges' retiring room at the second floor was removed on the exterior of the south bay, and the door leading to it restored to its original condition as a window by setting a new sill and sash.

The vestibule and connection to the Mills office buildings was removed (see Drawing No. 2), and its door to the east middle room closed up.

A vestibule without the Senate Chamber in the passageway was removed and the step up to the 1796 floor level set immediately at the central doors.

The restoration maintained the then existing marble mantels (see H-3); the original window trim; 19th century baseboards[216] and of

213. Riley "Ind. Hall Group", p. 38.

214. Sunday Press, May 1889.

215. Pa. Mag. Hist. Biog., Vol. XXII, p. 252

216. See INHP photograph No. 3695.

course, all the ceiling and cornice details. They replaced pieces in bad condition, and no doubt filled out missing pieces of the cornice frieze.

The additions to the room of a reconstructed gallery, Vice-President's platform, and new flooring and window sash are best described in an article by the architect-in-charge, George C. Mason, quoted in Appendix C of this report, and with reference to Drawing No. 1 and Illustration No. 6. For evaluations of these reconstructions in terms of the original evidence recently acquired see SECTION II, D-1 and C-6.e.

H-2. Restorations in the Middle Rooms

The architect said (see Appendix C) that one committee room was undergoing restoration. This must have been the west middle room, as in the same article he implies the presence of "a richly designed cornice," and we know that the west room cornice was reset in the 1912 restoration while it was necessary to provide new cornices for the other rooms.[217]

The extent of restoration in this room was negligible. No attempt was made to restore a mantelpiece (see H-3), and there was little else to do except perhaps to paint.

The middle room to the east, however, had in its southeast corner a winding stairway installed leading up to a door to the newly restored Senate Gallery (see Drawing No. 1). For a description of the evidence upon which it was derived see Appendix C. We are so removed from the evidence and result of this restoration that we must accept the 1912 evaluation of it. They replaced it with their own interpretation (see K-1.).

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217. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. Q, Illust. No. 1.

H-3. Fireplaces in Senate Chamber and Middle Rooms

"The fireplaces /as found in the Senate Chamber by the restoration architect/ had been filled up in the course of time; they have been opened, relined and the simple mantelpieces of white marble hidden under many coats of paint, were cleaned and restored" (Appendix C). These were the mantelpieces we also believe to be original, see Illustration No. 13. The relining done by this restoration must be the extra thickness of brickwork seen within the outline of the mantel.

If this restoration also touched the west middle Committee room, it remains a mystery why a mantelpiece was not restored. Probably the architect made no attempt to find any fireplace evidence, overlooking the detail. He reported "The Committee Room, apart from a richly designed cornice, has no particular detail that requires a description," (Appendix C).

J. 1900 - 1911

In 1900, a committee was formed of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to "examine the County Building commonly called Congress Hall...and to assist the Commission of Independence Hall in the restoration of the County Building."[218]

This committee surveyed the building as found (see Drawing No. 2) and undertook the physical examination of the structure and its finish. The accumulated physical evidence was combined with available documents and a report was issued in March 1901 (see Congress Hall Report, Part I, App. O). Many photographs were taken to record the evidence uncovered in the building (see Congress Hall Report, Part I, Chapter II, Illustrations 12-33, and 36).

The committee's recommendations for the structural rehabilitation were presented in their report and in more detail in two known drawings.[219] The essential problem was to support the second floor structure and at the same time preserve the original framing members.[220] They recommended hanging two of the second floor girders (that under the north wall of the Senate Chamber and the next one to its north) from two new steel plate girders spanning the attic. These plate girders in turn would be supported on I-beams seated in the exterior walls and they would bear on columns chased into these walls and

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218. The committee consisted of the architects Walter Cope, Frank Miles Day, Wilson Eyre, Jr., Edgar V. Seeler, and George C. Mason.

219. Drawing K-2, Restoration of Congress Hall, Plans & Sections Showing the Position of Steel Work, Com. 586, Sheet 2, April 11, 1901, and Drawing K-6, Rest. of Cong. Hall Details of Steel Construction, Com. 586, sheet 3, April 11, 1901, MSS, Hist. Soc. Pa.

220. Committee Report to the Phila. Chapt. A.I.A., in re. The Restoration of Congress Hall, March 1, 1901, Ind. Nat'l. Hist. Park, Resident Architect's file.

extending down to the cellar. The old girder spanning under the center of the Senate Chamber they proposed to reinforce with steel sections and introduce at its bearing points the same system of I-beams and columns extending part way down the cellar walls.

Although on January 20, 1910, a resolution of the American Institute of Architects made known to the City of Philadelphia their desire to aid in the restoration of Congress Hall, (see Appendix D) the restoration and rehabilitation of the building as a whole did not begin until 1911. Illustration No. 35, Chapter II, Congress Hall Report, Part I, shows, however, that prior to 1910, a partial attempt was made to restore the exterior. The Sixth Street entrance had been removed and the 19th century sash of the first floor windows to be seen in Illust. 11, Chapter II, Congress Hall Report, Part I, had been replaced with copies of those found in the south of the building and thought to be original.

K. 1911 - 1934

K-1. Restoration and Rehabilitation

In the Spring of 1911, the Committee on the Preservation of Historic Monuments of the American Institute of Architects was informed by the City of Philadelphia that funds were forthcoming for the restoration of Congress Hall. Appendix D gives in detail the background for, and description of, this restoration. A volunteer Sub-Committee was in charge of the job. It consisted of C. A. Ziegler, E. L. Stewardson, G. C. Mason, T. M. Kellog, H. W. Sellers, Secretary, and F. M. Day, Chairman.

The restoration, based on the research of the last eleven years, was organized in three consecutive contracts. The first contract for structural steel[221] was purposely set apart from the rest of the work to allow further physical research to go on while the structure was laid bare.

After deliberations on the part of the Committee, the 1901 recommendations for structural steel were modified. The walls were not to be chased for columns. Instead, steel grillage (I-beams laid horizontally in the walls at the bearing points) distributed the loads. Again the primary motive was to retain as much original framework as possible by supplementing it with steel girders. The specifications and drawings for this work are in Congress Hall Report, Part I, App. Q.

The next contract let was for stone masonry and brickwork. The specifications[222] for this phase of the work were a result of all

221. "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., award of contract made to Wayne Construction Co., Oct. 10, 1912.

222. Cong. Hall, Part I, App. Q.

the accumulated research on the part of the Sub-Committee and the additional evidence uncovered on the job by the Clerk of the Works, E. H. Yardley.[223] Illustration No. 4, App. Q of Congress Hall Report, Part I, shows the work done under this contract.

The third contract was for the Interior Finish (see Appendix E). Under this contract the interior woodwork was completed and the whole of the building painted. Hardware,[224] flooring,[225] and lighting fixtures[226] were supplied by separate sub-contractors.

Reference should be made to all the above specifications and drawings for the detail work done in the 1912 restoration. Drawing No. 13 shows in general the restored room disposition.

In previous sections of this report the 1912 restoration details (except Fireplaces, see K-2.) have been evaluated by comparing them with the evidence accumulated for each period in the building's history.

K-2. Fireplace Restoration

a. Fireplaces and Mantels

At the House of Representatives the two north fireplaces with

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223. "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., INHP microfilm No. XCI and XCII. Yardley kept a daily record of evidence discovered. Regretably, when the author met with Mr. Yardley on July 31, 1956, the architectural research project had not begun; and it was therefore impossible to ask knowledgeable questions. And because Mr. Yardley died in 1958, we have missed the chance completely for his explanations of work done in 1912.

224. Contract with Murta, Appleton & Co. for furnishing Hardware for Restoration of Congress Hall, April 2, 1913, Hist. Division file, INHP.

225. "A.I.A. Restoration," Hist. Soc. Pa., letter awarding sub-contract to Heaton & Wood Co. to furnish finish flooring, Dec. 2, 1912.

226. Contract with Sterling Bronze Co. for furnishing and installing Electric Light fixtures in Congress Hall, Aug. 9, 1913, Hist. Div. files, INHP.

their soot-covered backs and jambs, and dressed stone jambs and lintels were rightly considered original, as pointed out in SECTION II, A-8. (See Illustration No. 11).

The middle two fireplaces were opened, and these and the south two were at first to be restored with dressed stone jambs and mantels as were found at the north. This plan was abandoned.[227] Because the committee believed there were only four fireplaces in use in the room originally they did not restore the middle fireplaces.[228] (However, the west middle fireplace which was at first ignored in the 1910 reconstruction of windows to its north, /see Illustration No. 39, Chapter II, Congress Hall Report, Part I/ was entirely rebuilt in 1912 before being closed and hidden by wainscoting).

The south two fireplaces were not restored to match the north two as evidence was not found of such a finish.[229] It was missing as we know now (see C-10.a. and G-6.) because the original chimney breasts were removed and replaced by niches in the 19th century. The concern for the

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227. "...By allowance for four stone mantel facings specified but omitted..." "A.I.A. Restoration," "Bill of E. Fay & Son," April 18, 1912.

228. "In regard to the fireplace problem, if we find positive evidence to show that they existed at the south end of the building where alcoves now appear, could it be possible that when the building was extended the use of the central fireplaces was abandoned or at least not fitted with stoves one of which on the west wall coming directly behind the speaker's platform? If these central fireplaces were not used the statements of the various authorities as to the existance of four stoves would be explained. Bradbury says there are two fireplaces on each side of the hall with stoves but he does not state that two other fireplaces existed but not so used." "A.I.A. Restoration," Sellers to Day, March 5, 1912.

229. "Old work shows no evidence of stone being used structurally." "A.I.A. Restoration," Daily Reports, Feb. 22, 1912.

uniqueness of these niches seems to have blinded the Clerk of the Works to the obvious evidence that these niches were not original. And pressure for a decision and an apparent hesitancy on the part of the architectural committee forced the Chairman on his own initiative to have the niches rebuilt.[230]

All that was done was to rebuild the northern piers at each niche (see Illustration No. 12). Terra-cotta flues were set in the back corners and angled together at the top to meet the common flue above. Covering all this was a layer of rubble and plaster, forming a finish coved niche. (This first finish later discolored and cracked and was itself covered by a layer of plaster on furring.) We are fortunate that no more serious reconstruction was done leaving enough original evidence for our re-evaluation (C-10.a. and G-6.).

At the second floor, also referred to in SECTION II, C-10.a., the restoration of 1912 removed the white marble mantels found in the Senate Chamber, see Illustration No. 13. The extent of physical research done at the west fireplace after the mantel's removal is shown in Illustration No. 15. If, as we believe, the mantel was raised in the

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230. "...Mr. Yardley asked for instructions as to the treatment of the chimney breast sleeves at the south end of the building. He stated that it was important to finish the brickwork as quickly as possible in order that the scaffolding now supporting the girder could be removed as soon as the change in method of the connection with the floor beams is completed. I therefore took the responsibility myself of having the alcoves rebuilt without the fireplaces but to extend the flue from the crown of the arch to its connection with the existing flue at the second floor level...if we find later any data indicating the existance of fireplaces in these alcoves the construction of same can come within the contract for the restoration of the building." "A.I.A. Restoration," Sellers to Day, March 2, 1912.

1796 period (see SECTION II, E-2.), it may be that the makeshift lintel was not stable when probed by the investigators and it collapsed. Or the investigators, confused by their lack of knowledge of the 1796 floor raising, did not know how to interpret the makeshift lintel and removed it in their efforts to uncover "original" evidence.

An extra four-inch brick lining was removed to uncover the original parged surfaces, see Illustration No. 15. But if, as also shown in this illustration, the plaster was found to be original immediately adjacent to the marble mantel removed, then it is inconceivable why the architects of 1912 "restored" these fireplaces as they did. Illustration No. 16 shows their finish product--a wood mantel copied from that found in the east middle room[231] and standing 60"± high instead of the 48"± height of the marble mantel. This shift having forced a 12"± vertical rise of the "clean-out" doors, putting them in their present illogical relation to their flues--half on and half off (see Drawing No. 4, sheet 44).

We believe that this was the one true error on the part of the 1912 restoration.

In the west middle room a wood mantel was restored to match the profiles found on the brickwork (see Illustration 37, Chap. II, Congress Hall Report, Part I) and the existing mantel in the east middle room.

In the north rooms, there was no mention in 1912 of any evidence found of original mantel profiles behind the black marble mantels believed not to be original.

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231. See INHP photograph 3784-B.

The mantels restored to these north rooms were assembled by using the friezes and cornices found over the doors in the Senate Chamber north wall plus copies of the architraves of the original mantel found in the east middle room. Their decision for this restoration is understandable. These friezes and cornices are identical to those of the middle room mantel save the design of the fretwork.

b. Stoves

The Restoration Committee, aware that at least four stoves were used in the House of Representatives, inquired of Henry C. Mercer of Doylestown, Pennsylvania, the well-known collector of early stoves and firebacks, where good examples of stoves of the period could be obtained.[232] Mercer replied that the only example he knew was "...our wrecked specimen at the Bucks County Historical Society..."[233] The letter went on further to describe the type of stove he thought appropriate, and that it would be difficult to find, and he instead suggested a foundry could copy their specimen.

This seems to have been the last of an attempt by the 1912-13 Committee to restore stoves of the Franklin type.

In 1928 and 1929 Mr. Wilfred Jordan, then Curator of Independence Hall, considered installing the type of stoves thought to have been used with the "restored" niches. A small model of one was found in the American Philosophical Society collection.[234]

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232. "A.I.A. Restoration," Sellers to Mercer, Jan. 7, 1913.

233. "A.I.A. Restoration," Mercer to Sellers, Jan. 8, 1913.

234. The model, according to S. Y. Edgerton, is currently numbered #5 in the forthcoming catalogue of the A.P.S. collection by Dr. Robert S. Multhauf. "Edgerton, Stove Report Draft."

Mr. Jordan corresponded with Mr. Edwin Jackson, a noted New York dealer in antique fireplace equipment, with the intent of having full sized versions of the model rebuilt.[235] Dr. Henry C. Mercer was also consulted, and his negative opinion seemed to dampen the impetus of the project.[236] It fortunately was never carried out, as recent research on the part of Mr. S. Y. Edgerton has shown that the A. P. S. stove model to date from a "contest" for the best design of an economical stove held in 1797,[237] and not of an earlier origin as Mr. Jordan had hoped.

Sometime prior to 1927 the second floor east middle room, the Superintendent's office, was provided a working 19th-century coal burning grate. This has recently been removed to reveal the original iron fireback (see B-5.).

The A.I.A. restoration removed an old brick furnace of unknown date from the northeast corner of the basement, removing the conduits of this system at the north wall of the building. The new system installed used terra-cotta flues run in the old flues of the north and south chimneys.

c. Hearths

The first floor, southeast hearth was found intact. The bricks of this hearth were relaid during the restoration, and new

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235. The original correspondence between Mr. Jordan and Mr. Jackson is on file in the Museum office of Ind. Nat'l. Hist. Park, under "Congress Hall Furnishings."

236. Letter from Horace Mann of Bucks Co. Hist. Museum to W. Jordan, "Congress Hall Furnishings" file, INHP, Museum Office.

237. Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, vol. IV, 1799, p. V. See also "Edgerton, Stove Report Draft".

hearths copied from it at the north and southwest fireplaces.[238]

A rotted header was found and ordered repaired at the east middle fireplace (see Illustration 27, Chapter II, Congress Hall Report, Part I). Neither this nor the reconstruction of the hearths was done at either middle fireplace as they were left out of the restoration (see SECTION II, K-2.a.).

All the second floor hearths were reset with brick and marble modeled from the east middle committee room.[239] Whether or not related to the hearth, the floor sleepers around the northeast hearth formed a peculiar pattern, (see Illust. 33, Chap. II, Congress Hall Report, Part I). We cannot explain this, nor could the architects of 1901.[240] In 1912 this arrangement was replaced when new floors were laid.

d. "Clean-Out" Doors

Illustrations 13 and 15 show the "clean-out" doors found in the east and west chimney breasts of the Senate Chamber in 1912.

These doors, as found, opened completely into the flues of the fireplace openings under them.

At present the only explanation seems to be that they provided access for cleaning the flues while stoves closed the fireplace openings below. Flues were cleaned in public offices approximately once every two months,[241] therefore, the stoves could

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238. "A.I.A. Restoration," Daily Reports, March 25, 1912.

239. Congress Hall, App. Q, p. 9.

240. Congress Hall, App. O, p. 15.

241. Contingent Expenses of Auditor's office, Oct. 1, 1790 - 30 Sept. 1792, Records of U.S. Senate, N.A., R.G. 46, 2A-F2, /INHP microfilm/. Chimneys were swept in this office in October, December, February and April, all months when open stoves set in the fireplaces were being used.

not be removed just for this purpose. The holes also would be useful to catch the falling soot preventing it from falling into and clogging up the smoke chambers of the stoves while in place.

The wrought-iron doors themselves are reminiscent of 18th century work, thus we tend to agree with the 1912 architects that these doors were in use in the historic period.

The 1912 architects found two more such holes, with their doors missing, in the first floor north chimneys, see Illustration No. 10. They restored these, see Illustration No. 11.

Another hole was not found until recently when the paint was removed revealing the patch plaster. This was at the second floor west middle fireplace (see Illustrations No. 28 and No. 29).

We recommend that a wrought-iron door exactly like those in the Senate Chamber be restored at this location.

And at the new south, first floor chimney breasts each one of these should have a door, located just as the first floor north ones are.

The problem of dating these doors should be kept in mind when further data is being gathered on this building. If our assumptions are wrong, the above recommendations can be undone.

L. 1934 - 1957 (Furnishing Programs)

In 1934, the Mayor's committee on the civil works program launched a program to refurnish the House of Representatives including "A circular ramped platform at the rear will hold 72 desks, and a speakers' rostrom will also be built."[242] The designs were provided by members of the American Institute of Architects, but within a year even they, the designers, were in conflict over the authenticity of the high paneling at the backs of the raised platform.[243] The fixtures were installed however, and are the ones which until 1959 have stood in the room.

242. The /Philadelphia/ Evening Bulletin, Jan. 17, 1934.

243. Ind. Hall Curator's Daily Record, 1917-1946 /INHP files/, Nov. 21, 1935.

M. 1957-1960 (by Architect Thomas Wistar, Jr.)

M-1. Mechanical Equipment Work

a. Heating System

In 1957 the hot air duct system, which had been installed in the building by the City of Philadelphia many years ago, was replaced by a forced warm-air heating system, with automatic temperature and humidity controls. New steam mains were run from the central steam system outside the building. Two air handling-units were installed in the basement with supply and return ducts running from them to outlets placed in the baseboards of the first floor and by means of existing chimney flues to four of the six fireplace openings on the second floor.

b. Electrical System

In 1957, the entire electric distribution system, also installed in the building many years prior to its acquisition by the Park, was completely overhauled. All wiring was placed in the safest type of protective cable and all equipment, including service-entrance equipment switches and panel boards were replaced with units of up-to-date design. Also, at this time, flush type light fixtures, intended for emergency only, were placed in the ceiling of the stair hall and the second floor hall.

c. Sprinkler System

The present sprinkler system, which had been installed in the basement and attic, consists of a wet system in the basement and a dry system (to eliminate danger of freezing) in the attic. All

lateral mains and all sprinkler heads have recently been replaced with up-to-date equipment.

d. Vacuum System

A central air suction system for cleaning purposes had been installed, probably at the time of the 1912 rehabilitation. This was abandoned soon after installation as being impractical.

e. Fire Detection System

A temporary fire-detection alarm system was recently installed as protection while the National Park Service rehabilitation is in progress.

M-2. Emergency Stabilization of the South End of the Building

a. Reinforcement of Roof Structure and Bearing Walls

In the fall of 1957 emergency measures were found necessary to stabilize the structure of the 1793 addition at the south end of the building.

Many years prior to the National Park Service assuming the care and maintenance of Congress Hall a structural failure had occurred in the great timber truss which supports the hipped roof over the Senate Chamber. This failure of the roof truss had caused the top portion of the side walls, where the truss ends bear on them, to be pushed outward-to the extent of six inches on the east side. But the seriousness of the condition within the truss itself did not become apparent until the spring of 1957.

The exterior paint had just been removed and the carpenters, when inspecting the badly out-of-line wood cornice, were lead to investigate the cause.

To stabilize this condition two transverse steel beams, spanning the building, were placed across the Senate Chamber on the second floor. From one of these the sagging bottom cord of the truss was jacked up. A steel splint was contrived to repair the failing top cord of the truss at the east end. To stabilize the outward lean of the walls, steel channels were placed on the outside face of these walls opposite each other and tied through the building by tie rods.

In addition to the above, pressure grouting of the exterior bearing walls at this end of the building was considered and timber was ordered to temporarily shore up these walls. This was based on the supposition that the interior of the walls was loosely bonded and unsound, requiring emergency measures to strengthen them. This condition of the walls was subsequently found not to be the case. (See M-3.b.). The separation occurring within the wall thickness directly below the bearing points of the failed truss are the only two places where the bearing walls are not solid and soundly bonded throughout their thickness.

b. Preservation of Senate Chamber Ceiling

A matter of great concern in connection with this structural failure of the roof was the proglem of what should be done to save the historic decorated plaster ceiling in the Senate Chamber below it. Here there is the eagle painting in the cove above the south alcove and the intricate plaster medallion at the center of the room. These artifacts were given a protective covering of latex. The painting was eventually removed from the building, (see M-4.).

A wood framework was built upon the two steel beams which were placed across the Senate Chamber to hold a pallet under the center medallion. The intention was to float this center portion of the ceiling on the pallet, to cut it loose from the framing above, and to remove it from the building. This was considered necessary at a time when it was assumed that the attic floor framing above it would have to be replaced. It was later decided the floor framing would remain (see M-3.b.) and that this center portion of the ceiling would be held in place and protected during the structural changes to the roof above it. It is believed this will involve less risk to the medallion than to take it down and put it back again.

M-3. Structural Investigation

a. Ewing Survey and Report

With this emergency situation taken care of, the architect-engineering firm of George M. Ewing Co. was hired to make a structural survey of the building and to submit recommendations for its rehabilitation. Because the surveyors were limited at the time of their investigation to a comparatively superficial inspection of the structure, certain false assumptions regarding structural conditions were made which lead them to propose rehabilitation of a drastic nature. The report proposed virtually a complete reconstruction and involved gutting the building, rebuilding or pressure-grouting the walls, replacing the present timber structure of roof and floors borne on the masonry walls with steel frame and reinforced concrete floors, all supported on steel wall columns and concrete footings cut into the present masonry walls.

Subsequently these recommendations advocated in the Ewing report were disapproved by the Architectural Advisory Committee for Independence National Historical Park. A member of this Committee is the Architect of the City of Philadelphia, the owners of the Independence Square Buildings. The committee's decision was based on the conviction that the structural condition of the building did not justify the extensive and drastic measures proposed in the report and that the interruption of the continuity of the present walls' foundations by the introduction of the new column footings would involve risking the stability of the walls themselves. The conclusion having been reached that such drastic measures were both unwise and unnecessary, this whole method of structural replacement was rejected on the grounds that it was not in keeping with established Park Service policy which maintains that preservation of the original structure and fabric is the paramount purpose of restoration.

b. Keast Report

Upon the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, Sheldon A. Keast, consulting engineer, was retained to make an independent study of structural conditions and make recommendations for rehabilitation. Excavations were made in the brick walls to determine their condition. The plaster ceiling was stripped from beneath the second floor joists to examine the floor structure. With the benefit of this more extensive architectural investigation, Mr. Keast was able to confirm the belief that the structure of the building was basically sound and susceptible to adequate rehabilitation by the method of careful repair and judicious replacement of parts.

The recommendations contained in the Keast report for the rehabilitation of the structure were recommended for approval by the Advisory Committee, and in October 1959 Mr. Keast was retained to make the structural plans and supervise all structural rehabilitation in connection with the over-all restoration of Congress Hall. An outline of these recommendations appears in Chapter III of this report.

M-4. Removal of Eagle Ceiling Painting

It was decided to remove, before rehabilitation of the building was started, the historic eagle painting on the plaster cove over the south alcove. This was done as precaution against possible damage during the structural rehabilitation and because the painting needed to be given a new plaster backing, which could not be accomplished in place.

To do this, a section of the plaster cove upon which the eagle emblem is painted measuring about 12 feet by 6 feet and weighing about 1,200 pounds was cut loose from the attic floor framing and removed from the building in the summer of 1959. This difficult maneuver was under the immediate supervision of Mr. Frank Phillips of the Branch of Museums. The painting is now being given special treatment for its preservation by Preservation Specialist Ann Clapp. When this section of the cove is put back in the building it is planned to fasten it to the structural framing above by a system of spring hangers. In this way, building vibrations caused by vehicular traffic on Sixth Street will not be transmitted to this insulated section.

SECTION III

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION

A. Structural Rehabilitation

The scope of this part of the project should include, but not be confined to the following:

A-1. Roof Structure

The multi-spoked timber truss which supports the hipped roof at the south end of the building has failed and must be replaced. This is one of the original trusses remaining in the building. It was not replaced after the fire of 1821 and still shows the charring caused by the fire. Its replacement should be done in such a way that as much of the original truss as is possible to do so will be replaced. The dormer windows should be rebuilt, but an attempt should be made to save and reuse the face of the dormer, which is believed to be original.

The next two trusses to the north are original and show the charring of the fire. These should be relieved of the roof bearing by posting up the roof from the steel plate girders along side of them, placed in the attic in 1913 (see SECTION II, K-1). The remaining roof trusses which are replacements after the 1821 fire need to be strengthened and reinforced.

Prior to reshingling the roof (See SECTION II, B-1) the present gypsum plank sheathing should be removed around the periphera of the entire building to examine the condition of the top of the brick walls, the seating of the trusses, and also the attachment of the main cornice to the roof structure and the back of the cornice itself. Repair or replacement of roof plate, rafter

ends or outlookers should be made where necessary. Flashings at ridges, valleys, stop gutters, and around cupola, dormer, and chimneys should be replaced where necessary.

A-2. Exterior Walls

The bearing walls should be repaired where necessary, working from the inside. The outside face brick should not be disturbed. The chimney breastwhere the niches have been removed shall be rebuilt above new fireplace openings. The corners of the piers on the first floor where heating ducts are to be removed should be bricked up. Where the new roof truss placed in the south end of the building rests on the walls steel grillage beams should be placed under them. Where the wall on the east side has been pushed out six inches at the top, it should be rebuilt on the inside and an effort should be made to align its exterior face with the wall that abutts it. This should be done by tilting the whole face back rather than rebuilding if this is possible.

The outside face of the west wall along Sixth Street should be parged with waterproofing below grade down to footings.

For recommendations for repointing see SECTION III, B-2.

A-3. Second Floor Framing

The original wood girder which is the bottom chord of the old trussed partition in the north wall of the Senate Chamber is badly checked. This girder is one of two girders in the second floor framing which are held up by hanger rods from the steel girders installed in the attic in 1913 (See SECTION II, K-1). This should be reinforced.

Some of the joists are in poor condition and should be replaced. All joists not now hung by steel joist hangers should be so hung. All bolts should be tightened and bridging renailed or replaced.

This strengthening of the second floor framing should be adequate to meet the live load requirements for the intended use of the building as established by the Park Service, namely: an historic house museum. As such the second floor will not be used for public assembly but will be restricted in use to small conducted groups of visitors with occasional ceremonial meetings of a limited number of persons held in the Senate Chamber.

B. Recommendations - Architectural Restoration

Congress Hall is to be restored to its appearance when the United States Congress occupied the building. This requisite must be narrowed down to the years 1793-1800, for it was in 1793 that the building took on its present size. Within even this limitation, the Senate Chamber itself must be restored to the period 1796-1800, as it was in 1796 that its floor was raised to its present level.

Based on these requirements the following are our recommendations for the present historical restoration.

Exterior

B-1. Wood Shingle Roof over New Structural Work

SECTION II, A-3.f and C-2 establish that dressed wood shingles were used on the building. The new roof should be made of modern sawn shingles, swirled at the hips and valleys. The shingles should be painted with a "Spanish Brown" color (i.e. iron-oxide red). We have as yet found no reference to this for Congress Hall, but in 1785 the shingle roof of Independence Hall was painted with "clarefied turpentine and Spanish Brown" (Pa. Evening Herald, Dec. 3, 1785). This treatment was often done in 18th century Philadelphia.

B-2. Repairs to Woodwork, Masonry

All exterior woodwork, the cupola, dormer, cornice, opening frames, trim, sash and doors should be inspected, repaired or renewed where necessary. Specific study toward restoration of missing details should be given to the cupola and south dormer. Over and above the masonry work being done for the structural rehabilitation, the exterior brickwork should be inspected to see if any bricks

need replacing and if any of the exterior walls need repointing. There are at present several styles of pointing on these walls. Some approximate the original type (See SECTION II, A-3.c), but that to be seen at the south exterior wall is completely wrong. We recommend that at least this wall be repointed correctly. If any areas of the other walls are in need of repointing, and if the work can be accomplished without damage to the brickwork, it would be desirable for the entire building to be done to restore the original type of pointing and mortar color uniformly over the whole building.

B-3. Rehabilitation of Original Wrought-Iron Balcony

SECTION II, A-4.d, stated that the present balcony may be original. Mr. I. Marshall, however, on August 30, 1951, when he inspected the balcony with Mr. C. E. Peterson was of the opinion that the balcony was "a replacement of 50-60 years ago." (INHP files). Regardless of its age, it is in need of repair and we recommend that the still structurally strong members be stabilized from further rusting, and the members now disintegrated beyond the hope of restoration, should be replaced. To accomplish this, we recommend that a metallurgist be consulted and the work be done separately and not contracted with the rest of the rehabilitation. The possibility should also be considered to save the existing balcony as a museum specimen, and replace it in entirety.

B-4. Rehabilitation of Stone Medallion above North Entrance

SECTION II, A-4.c, shows that the existing stone seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is original. We recommend that a consultant in stone advise how the erosion taking place can be arrested. If this is an impossibility, then the museum value of the seal must determine whether it should be left in place or replaced by a reproduction. Any work to be done with this medallion is not

suitable for contract and should be carried out separately.

B-5. "Portico" and/or "Portico" Door, First and Second Floor

As discussed in SECTION II, C-9, we recommend that no attempt be made to conjecturally reconstruct the "Portico" at this time. It would be impossible to build a correct reconstruction as the present inaccurate reconstruction of the West Wing overlaps the original "Portico" area 3'-6". Construction of the "Portico" should be co-ordinated with the correct reconstructions of the Wings and Arcades.

If the "Portico" door to the House of Representatives were reconstructed alone, it would aid historical interpretation (see Drawing No. 12 for two possible treatments to be resolved with further research). But the door without the "Portico" would not present the true picture on the exterior of the building. This door as well as that to the roof deck of the "Portico" could wait to be constructed in their proper context with the rest of the "Portico" structure.

B-6. Marble Door Steps

It was recommended in the Cong. Hall Report, PART I, Historical Data Section, that the present dimensionally accurate granite reconstructions of the front and east steps be restored in their original material. As pointed out in SECTION II, A-4.a, of this Architectural Chapter we are not sure of the type of stone used originally. It may have been the same cut stone used in other details of the building. We recommend that a consultant advise whether the present two south door steps and other details were made of local stone and whether this type of stone is still available in the quantities needed to reconstruct the north and east steps. If this material is not available then we recommend that the steps be left as they are.

B-7. Four Footscrapers

In SECTION II, B-1, it is established that at least four footscrapers were supplied for Congress Hall in 1790. It was pointed out that these may have been in addition to ones already in place, and that they were probably similar to ones shown at Old City Hall in an early 19th century photograph, see Drawing #5. We recommend that unless further evidence develops to refute this, that footscrapers be supplied, two each to the north and east doors of Congress Hall, copying those used at Old City Hall.

Further evidence must be obtained before we recommend footscrapers for the south doors (See SECTION II, C-3.a).

B-8. Rain Water Conductors, Heads and Shoes

In SECTION II, A-4.c, we showed that the present treatment of the rain water conductors themselves, including their shoes, is not correct. We recommend that round copper pipes be restored, and that the boots be removed. In their stead the round pipes should run directly into the ground, with splash blocks or gutter stones in front indicating the original method of spilling water on the ground.

The present conductor heads should be examined carefully to see if any originals still exist. The decision then should be made whether to keep the present conductor heads or whether it will be necessary to design new ones.

B-9. Ventilators in Windows

SECTION II, B-6, discussed the types of ventilators installed in Congress Hall's windows. It is recommended that reproductions of these fixtures be made and installed in some of the House of Representatives windows.

B-10. Lightning Rods

SECTION II, C-3.d, establishes that lightning rods were installed in the historic period. If 18th century descriptive specifications can be found, and if they are feasible to construct and will fulfill the requirements, we recommend they be reconstructed.

B-11. North Door Leaves Re-Opened

We recommend, as discussed in SECTION II, A-4.a, that if the Old City Hall front doors, from which the Congress Hall doors apparently were copied, are original, that the four leaves of both front doors be separated so that the doors can properly fold.

B-12. Exterior Paint Color

We have no physical paint evidence left (See SECTION II, A-4.g). What color we use in the restoration of the building to its appearance while Congress was in session must be derived from evidence on neighboring buildings. In the recent painting of Old City Hall, where the same lack of evidence exists, we referred to the State House. Here the building has always been an off-white warm color. Since the two end buildings were meant to be alike and in harmony with the State House, they undoubtedly were alike in paint color as well (See SECTION II, C-3.c). We therefore recommend that the exterior woodwork be painted with the same off-white warm color as Old City Hall now has.

Interior

B-13. Repairs to Masonry, Plasterwork and Woodwork

The interior brick walls should be rebuilt where deteriorated and cut away and repointed where necessary. The original

plaster should be left absolutely intact, and only where the plaster has been cut away should new plasterwork be applied. The woodwork should be carefully repaired and replaced. It is recommended (See also Interior Paint Color recommendation) that during this process the workmen report any paint evidence not already analyzed, and that paint remaining on interior woodwork not be removed. While the rehabilitation is in progress all the original woodwork and flooring should be carefully protected and preserved.

B-14. Fireplaces, Mantels, Stoves, Hearths and Clean-Out Doors

SECTION II, A-8, B-5, and C-10 present our conclusions and recommendations. The following is a brief outline of the recommendations for each fireplace.

First floor north fireplaces

One open-type stove for each.

First floor middle fireplaces

Wood mantels with marble trim similar to those at second floor middle rooms.

One open-type stove for each.

Brick hearths to match first floor, southeast hearth.

First floor south fireplaces

Rebuild chimney brests with structural stone jambs and lintel and clean-out doors to match first floor north fireplaces.

Keep existing hearths.

One open-type stove for each.

Second floor north fireplaces

One open-type stove for each.

Second floor south fireplaces

Rebuild smaller openings to fit small marble mantels

(See Illustration No.13).

Lower clean-out doors.

One open-type stove for each.

B-15. Reconstruction of Speakers' Dais, Members' Seating Arrangements and Partition at North End of the House of Representatives

SECTION II, C-5.b, C-5.c and C-5.d describe these fixtures according to additional evidence recently found. Recognizing that this evidence is of a general nature and further study is necessary for details, it is recommended that in this restoration these fixtures be rebuilt.

B-16. Second Floor Small Room Baseboards

SECTION II, A-7.a and A-7.b establish that the mouldings of the baseboards in the two north rooms and the east middle room are not of 18th century origin. It is recommended that these be replaced to match that of the west middle room.

B-17. Second Floor Southeast Room Pedestals and Chair Rail

SECTION II, A-7.a points out that the present east middle room should have pedestals under each window architrave. We recommend these be restored to match the ones in the west middle room. The chair rail in this room must also be changed to match that in the middle west room.

B-18. Remove Green Baize Doors at Senate Chamber

SECTION II, C-6.b establishes that the second set of

doors, covered with green baize, at the Senate Chamber are not original. It is recommended that these be removed.

B-19. Removal of Ventilators in Senate Chamber Ceiling

SECTION II, G-7 establishes that these ventilators are not original. They should be removed carefully so as not to damage the surrounding original plaster ceiling.

B-20. Hardware

SECTION II, C-5.e and C-6.b establish that a system of lines, weights and pullies were used to close many of the doors automatically. It is recommended that the pneumatic fixtures be removed and replaced with reproductions of the original devices. The 1912 restored locks at all the exterior doors should be put in working order and if the cylinder locks are to be maintained, they should be made inconspicuous. We recommend that a basic study on hardware be made, similar to that made on Heating and Ventilation in the 18th century by S. Y. Edgerton (draft in Historic Structures Office, EODC). This study will be immediately helpful in evaluating the 18th century documentary (See CHAPTER II, APPENDICES A, B and C) and physical evidence and the 1912 restored hardware, and in supplying any additional hardware needed. It will be also enormously useful in the future work on the other historic structures.

B-21. Interior Paint Colors

The recommendations for interior paint colors cannot be presented with this report. An addenda will follow after a more thorough study is made of the fragmentary evidence so far turned up in the building (See SECTION II, B-7, C-5.f, C-6.f, D-2, and E-3).

If further evidence (See SECTION II, B-7) on the use of wall paper is found this subject will also be treated in an addenda to this report.

(see SECTION II, E-1)

The floor finish appears to have been linseed oil. One old method of obtaining this finish is to use equal parts of boiled linseed oil, turpentine and vinegar. To remove the present finish, power sanders should not be used.

C. Utilities

C-1. Air Conditioning

It is recommended that further effort be made to find a satisfactory solution to the problem of providing a properly controlled year-round conditioning of the air within the building suitable for the structure's use as an historic house museum. For such a purpose the conditioning of the air for the preservation of the fabric of the structure itself and the furnishings and museum objects within it is of primary importance. The comfort of the attendants and visitors in the building is a supporting but secondary consideration.

It must be kept in mind that we are dealing with an historic exhibit which cannot be altered in structure or appearance. It is, therefore, recognized that the degree of air conditioning that it will be possible to achieve is limited by the restriction this imposes on the installation of the system.

C-2. Plumbing - for public use and Park use

It is recommended that all the plumbing fixtures now located in the north end of the Congress Hall basement be retained but that the rooms be repainted and cleaned.

All exposed pipe drains and vents in basement or attic should be removed.

C-3. Electrical Work

As pointed out in the "Furnishing Plan for the First Floor of Congress Hall", July 1959, Part C, page 15, there is no documentation for lighting fixtures; but candles were purchased and obviously were

placed in some sort of fixtures. We recommend that a study be made of the lighting fixtures used in comparable public buildings. Eighteenth century fixtures should be incorporated in the restoration if precedents for them are found.

For the after dark use of the building, supplemental lighting is needed. This should be provided but must be absolutely unobtrusive both when in use and not.

In the second floor north rooms hidden outlets must be provided for the changing installation of museum exhibits.

In the House of Representatives hidden outlets must be provided for audio devices for public meetings as well as TV requirements.

In all the rooms, hidden outlets should be provided for maintenance purposes.

C-4. Telephone

It is recommended that there shall be a telephone located in the northwest corner of the first floor at the head of the stairs to the basement. This phone should be an intercommunicating phone for the Park and used by Park employees only. It is further recommended that phone jacks (concealed from view)be conveniently located in several /areas of the building.

C-5. Sprinkler System

The present wet-line sprinkler installation in the basement and the dry-line sprinkler installation in the attic should be retained. Automatic supervision of these installations will be incorporated in the permanent fire detection installation mentioned herein.

C-6. Fire Detection System

The present temporary fire detection alarm system should be replaced with a permanent installation similar to that recently installed in the other Independence Hall Group of buildings.

D. Estimate of Cost of Construction

The preliminary estimate of the total cost of the project as stated in the Administrative Data Section of the Part II report includes the cost of furnishing the building as well as the cost of the rehabilitation. This estimate included a much larger estimate for construction than is now contemplated.

It is now estimated that the construction costs for the entire restoration and rehabilitation of the building will be not more than $200,000.00.

SECTION IV

APPENDICES

Contributionship Survey Book
1795-1824, pp. 427-28
(Roll XXII, INHP file)

Congress Hall
Description

3 Feb. 1823

"I have Surveyed a House belonging to the City & County of Philad[a], commonly called the County Court house - Situate on the South east corner of Sixth & Chestnut St. Being 51 feet on Chestnut & 93 feet on Sixth St. & an Octagon at South End about 8 feet - two Stories high. The walls 22 a 18" thick. The lower Story is divided into two Court rooms & a hall and stair case in the middle. The floor of wide yellow pine. The South room finished with base round, plain Skirting from the floor to the windows, single Architraves - two windows on 6th Street with Dble Sett of sash to each - Glass 12 by 16 - Sash dble hung. - Platform in the Octagon raised about 2 feet above the level of the floor, called the Bench, with a bar in front with circular railing - pannel'd about 2 feet from the floor - & turn'd banisters above capped with mahogany - The North room finish'd with base & Subbase, Single Architraves to the windows & pilaster do to the doors. A dble Sett of Sash to each window all dble hung. - Platform on the North /possibly South, the word is not too legible/ Side - with Straight rail in front, pannel'd below turn'd bannisters & cap'd with mahogany - 2 large Columns in the South room & 4 do in the North to support the 2nd floor - all the windows in the lower Story have circular heads. - The 2[d] Story is divided into 4 rooms - 2 large Court rooms & 2 Smaller /Libraries/ the floor same as below - the North room finish'd with base & subbase - Single Architraves - all the windows have Square head & a dble Sett of Sash Dble hung - two plain Marble Mantels & hearths - Glass 12 by 16 & 13 by 17 = a platform raised 3 Steps above the floor - with pannel'd front, turned bannisters & straight rail of mahogany - 4 pilasters at the corners with plain /friese/ & cornice above - arched on 3 Sides & covered at the top about 1/2 the Story in /height/ The South room finish'd base & subbase - Single Architraves - platform in /the/ Octagon raised two steps & circular railing in front. 5 windows with a dble Sett of Sash - a Gallery on the North Side about 6 feet wide - pannel'd /front/ & 4 Small columns to the ceiling - two Libraries with base & subbase. 2 plain mantels & Single Architraves - A large Stair case into the 2nd Story, open /newell/ plain /nosings/ - turn'd banister & large ramped rail & half rail up the wall painted - & a plain winding Stairs from one of the Small rooms into the Garret - a dormer w[d] on the roof at the South end of the building - a Pediment in the front on Chestnut St. Modillion & dentil eaves & /cornice/ - roof hip'd at the 4 Corners. Copper gutter on the eave & Stacks of tin pipe. An Octagonall Cupola on the roof.-the openings finished with Single Architraves - Dentil Eave - with a Spire ball & vane on the top - two ash holes in the cellar -

2 N[o] 3[d] 1823 John G. Evans
N[o] 4118 - Feby 6, 1823
$8000 @ 5 pd. - $400
for the Commissioners of Philad[a] County
Jn[o] Tolbert Clerk"

Phila. Contributionship Survey, Policy No. 8403 — Congress Hall Insurance Survey — Feb. 14, 1851

"I have Surveyed for the Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia, the Building known as the County Court House, situate at the South East corner of Sixth & Chestnut Street, being 50 feet on Chestnut Street & 93 feet on sixth street, an Octagon at the south End about 8 feet, Two storys high, 22 & 18 inch walls,

The lower story is divided into two Court Rooms and Hall in the middle, yellow pine floors, moulded base & subbase, the walls lined from the floor to the subbase in the south room, a platform raised about two feet in the Octagon with panel'd work & railing & banisters in front, two Ionic Columns & two pilasters supporting an Entabliture acroos the Octagon, on the North side of this room is five risers & platforms raised above the floor, the north room has a raised platform on the north side with pannel'd work railing floor above, also two large Columns in the south room, glass in the windows 12 X 16, which have circular heads in this story & single architraves around,*

The second story is divided into two large Court Rooms & two small rooms, one of them on Sixth street a Library, the other a conversation room, the floors of yellow pine, moulded base and subbase, single architraves kneed at top, glass 12 X 16 & 13 X 17 a platform in the Octoagon of the south room & also in the north room raised about two feet panneled below & handrail & turned banisters in front, the two small rooms have wooden mantels, the 2 large rooms have two plain marble mantels to each, all the sashes double hung, the windows on sixth street & on Chestnut Street have double sashes to them,

Stairs in the Hall large Open newel, Ramp'd rail painted & turned banisters Leading from the lower story to the second story, straight stairs under there to the Cellar & step ladder from the conversation room to the loft above, a Dormer window in the roof at the south end, a Pediment in front on Chestnut Street & Iron Balcony at the Second Story, Modillion & dentile'd Eave all around, and the roof Hip'd at the four corners, copper gutters on the roof with Arched openings & architraves & cornices around & Ball & Vane on the top.

Contributionship No. 8403 February 14th 1851 L.R. Knight (s)"

THE RESTORATION OF CONGRESS HALL, PHILADELPHIA

By George C Mason, F.A.I.A., American Historical Register
/INHP, photostat file #17,029/

"Much interest has been evinced in the proposed gradual restoration of the buildings in "State House Row," Philadelphia, which have been placed in charge of the various patriotic hereditary societies by City Councils. So much of our national history centres around this "row" of buildings that everything relating to them is eagerly sought out and read, and they are constantly visited by travelers from all parts of the United States and from abroad. The "row" embraces "Independence Hall" in the centre, flanked by "Congress Hall" on the west and "City Hall" on the east, the three connected by low ranges of buildings of more modern date and of no special interest to the antiquarian.

The initiative in the work of restoration has been taken by the Society of Colonial Dames in Pennsylvania, that Society having received the custody of the Senate Chamber and one committee room in Congress Hall. This article is written with a view to the better understanding of the restoration therein in progress, together with a general description of the building.

In studying any ancient edifice with reference to its restoration, particularly when, as in the case of "Congress Hall," many changes have from time to time been made within it, and where but few written records remain, and those of the briefest character, we must confine ourselves principally to a careful analysis of the structure itself, taking into consideration remains of old work covered up by new, old cracks, the framing of floors and roofs, foundations and a knowledge of the methods and material resources of its builders. There are but few illustrations of "Congress Hall" and these are all of the exterior. The one published in the Columbian Magazine of January, 1790, and that of Birch of 1798 being probably the oldest and most authentic. These two prints are, moreover, of great interest to the restorer for the reason, that while Birch's print, a view from the northeast, is carefully detailed, showing the character of the old work, that from the Columbian Magazine shows the Sixth street front in a rude pencil drawing without detail, but giving a much shorter building than at present, with five windows instead of seven and with only two chimneys. It shows, moreover, the octagonal extension on the south.

The first point to investigate is the time when the extension was made, how it was made and why; the second, to restore the plan of the building when first occupied by Congress, together with the style and character of the original details, when such details were put in place and why, when and how altered. All these points can be established by internal evidences and a careful investigation of the brief records.

March 4, 1789, the day that the first Congress of the United States was to assemble in the city of New York, the following resolution was offered in the Pennsylvania House of Assembly and adopted the following day by unanimous vote:

Resolved, That the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States from this State, be authorized to make a respectful offer to Congress of the use of any or all the public buildings in Philadelphia, the property of the State and of the building lately erected on the State House square belonging to the city and county of Philadelphia, in case Congress should at any time incline to make choice of that city for the temporary residence of the Federal Government.

The bill to remove the temporary Capital to Philadelphia was signed by the President and communicated to the Senate on July 16, 1790, and Congress opened its third session in the "County Building" December 6, 1790, one year and seven months, lacking a few days from the time when the "County Building" was offered by the State of Pennsylvania, and six months, lacking a few days, from the acceptance by Congress of the offer of the building.

The erection of "Congress Hall" was commenced in 1787 and completed, probably, in conformity with the illustration from the Columbian Magazine, early in 1789. It was not planned or erected with reference to its occupancy by Congress. It was begun before the United States became a nation and was planned for occupancy by the city and county of Philadelphia as a "County Building," naturally having very different requirements and on a much smaller scale than would be required by Congress. The area of the "County Building" would not "hold out" to give the proper amount of accommodation to the United States Senate and House of Representatives, with their officials and committees, without alteration and enlargement. In fact, the well-defined lines of such extention, both external and internal, from the foundation up, including the original hip rafters of roof still in place, show that the south wall would have been only four feet and six inches south of the north wall of the Senate Chamber.

When Congress was preparing to assemble in the city of New York, Charles Pierre L'Enfant, a French engineer and architect of great ability, who had served with distinction in the Revolution and who had been commissioned by the Society of Cincinnati to procure the badges for that Society, had returned from France. He was instructed to remodel Federal Hall, New York, and prepare it for the first session of the first Congress. When Congress voted to remove the temporary Capital to Philadelphia L'Enfant was in that city engaged upon the construction of the great house of Robert Morris. He was instructed by Congress to arrange and put in order the "County Building" for its use. This, there was ample time to accomplish even to the reconstruction of the south end. Internal

evidences and some reasonable theoretical ones lead to the conclusion that the extensions were made at that time on the suggestions of L'Enfant and executed under the authority of the County Commissioners, and that Congress occupied the present rooms, that of the House of Representatives being longer than at present, and that Washington was inaugurated for his second term as President in the present Senate Chamber. It may be of interest to state, although having no bearing on the present subject, that Major L'Enfant was afterwards employed to plan and lay out the "Federal City," Washington, and that its broad streets and its avenues radiating from two centres, the Capitol and the President's house, are the results of his genius.

To establish the fact that the changes in dimensions from those indicated on the print of 1790 to those of the present building were made before the assembling of Congress in December, 1790, let us study the plans and construction. The extension begins at the line A A on plan. There seems to be no record of any such radical change having been made by order of Congress or during the occupation by that body. Such a change as the south extension could not have been made without putting Congress to great inconvenience and practically driving it out of the building; the more so, as such a change would mean not only the lengthening of the southern rooms, but a remodeling of the whole interior, as if the present cross partitions are in their original positions, and some of them undoubtedly are, the Senate Chamber would only be about four feet six inches north and south! The character of the frame, the homogeneousness of the plastering, the framing of north wall of Senate Chamber all show evidences that the work was practically continuous. In brief, the "County Building" then scarcely completed was enlarged to fit it for a new tenant, the Congress of the United States.

Judge Pennypacker, in his pamphlet on Congress Hall, states that Isaac Weld, an Englishman, described the Hall of Representatives as about sixty feet in length.* Such a room could not have been obtained in the "County Building" and at the same time have the front vestibule and loggia, together with a direct approach by stairs to the gallery of the House from the east entrance, still in place and shown on Birch's print. On the restored plan of Congress Hall, here illustrated, the Hall of Representatives has its full length of sixty feet back to the cross partition now in position and having every evidence of being about the only cross partition in the first story that is original. It also shows evidences of the archway communicating with the loggia. The gallery of the House is said to have accommodated three hundred persons--this would require a considerable area. Now add to all of the above accommodations for the two

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*"Travels Through the States of North America," at Philadelphia, November, 1795. (Editor.)

houses of Congress and the public--vestibule, loggia and stairs--two flights back to back, also four committee rooms in second story and the present area of building will contain them, but the original would not.

Another point in favor of the early extension is in connection with the gallery in the Senate Chamber. This was not erected until 1795, but on February 24, 1791, it was resolved that the Secretary of the Senate should "request the Commissioners of the City and County of Philadelphia to cause a proper gallery to be erected for the accommodation of an audience."

This only allows about two months from the first occupation of Congress and the proposition to erect a gallery. Congress was in session and that time would have been too short to erect the extension. That the proposed gallery was to be in the present room is also clear from the fact that, while it was perfectly feasible to erect it therein under the high domed ceiling, and that later it was so done, it would have been ridiculous to discuss the erection of such a gallery in any other part of the second story of building, the flat ceiling of which is too low to permit of sufficient head room for spectators, and at the same time give head room for doors and members below.

Another point may be gathered from the above resolution of the Senate. I have searched the journals of Congress and find there no description of additions and alterations of this radical character. Congress considered itself a tenant of the Commissioners. An enlargement of the then Capitol would have been of as important a character to the then members of Congress as an enlargement of the present Capitol would be to-day. The Commissioners, under the instructions of the Pennsylvania Assembly, anxious that Congress should occupy "any or all" of the public buildings, would be ready to meet any suggestion tending to meet the requirements and add to the comfort of Congress before its occupation of the building. The dates thus set forth do not in any way conflict with the print from the Columbian Magazine of January, 1790, a print published before the occupation of the building and really prepared in 1789. That the changes were made by the County Commissioners at this time may also be inferred from the letter of John Adams of December 8, 1790--two days after taking possession, to the County Commissioners--thanking them for "providing so commodious a building." This could hardly have been said of the original "County Building."

At present the only portions of Congress Hall undergoing restoration are the Senate Chamber on the second floor and one committee room connecting therewith. The small extension at the south of bay window, which for many years has served for a judge's retiring room, but which forms no part of the original building, has been removed.

Before the restoration was commenced it was supposed that the floor of the Senate Chamber, which is nine inches above the level of rest of second floor, was a false floor put in at some time with an idea of deadening sounds from the court room below. The results of an examination were of a surprising character. The high level floor proved to be the original--never having been raised and always as at present with here and there a new board inserted. The framing of the floor is of the most curious character. Two great beams or "summer-breasts," run east and west, each made of two 22-inch by 12-inch timbers with a 3-inch by 9-inch timber on each side to receive the 4-inch by 9½-inch cross timbers which in turn support the 3-inch by 5-inch floor timbers, the latter notched down and fastened with wooden pins or "tree nails," as they were called. The "summer-breasts" have 3-inch by 18-inch "splines" cut into them throughout their entire length of 46 feet, while three wooden keys were driven in to make of each "summer-breast" some sort of a truss, the whole mass of timber being fastened together with iron bolts. The ceiling joists are of 3-inch by 4-inch timber, stiffened with pieces of board of irregular width spiked to them and to the 3-inch by 5-inch floor beams. The "summer-breasts" are of pine, while all the rest of the timber is of red oak, with the exception of a few pieces which are of poplar. All sound, but so shrunken and loose that the whole frame-work had to be stiffened and secured. The framing of the floor in Committee Room and in the rest of the second story is of the same character--9 inches lower in level. The floor boards were of pine, and so broken and worn out that they were all removed and a new floor covering laid of oak which will be darkened and polished. Such a treatment will not give the original floor, that being used up: but, while all accounts of the Senate Chamber describe it as having been covered with a carpet which it would be impossible to replace, even if the pattern were known, it was deemed best to restore this feature after the spirit if not strictly to the letter of the old work.

The general wood work in the rooms was in bad condition; portions have been removed and replaced with new of the same sections, the rest has had many coats of paint burned off and restored. The window sashes were past saving, being broken, rotten, and in some instances falling to pieces--they have been replaced.

The most interesting feature of the Senate Chamber is the gallery. The original was erected in 1795 and removed in 1835. Of this gallery no illustrations could be found, and no printed descriptions, other than that it was supported on "four beautiful Doric columns," and that the pilasters had delicate ornamentation in papier-mache. At first it was thought that this gallery would have to be restored entirely by theory. The light and delicate half-spiral staircase had also disappeared and left no sign. Careful investigation showed the cracks on the wall where the entrance to gallery had been and that point and the floor level secured. On this data a gallery was designed on the strict proportions of the

Roman Doric order, as set forth in the books current at the time of its first erection. After the paint on walls was removed the whole outline of the gallery, its section, railing, carriage, etc., appeared and proved to be identical in all respects with the design evolved by theory. On removing a portion of cornice one of the delicate balusters of San Domingo mahogany belonging to the stair rail fell out, so that the whole thing worked together for a full and accurate restoration. The gallery had been fastened up originally with rows of iron spikes 5/8 inches square and 14 inches in length; these were all found behind the plastering of 1835. These spikes were found to be as bright as when first driven and the barbs on their angles appeared as if just struck up with a cold chisel. Nearly all spikes that had been driven into the mortar joints of brick work were also in good condition, emphasizing the preservative qualities of lime upon wrought iron.

The correct designing of a proper replica of the Vice-President's platform was also at first a serious question. It stood according to old writings at the south side of room in the bay window. Here again fortune favored the restorer. On removing the Judge's platform the original platform of the Senate appeared, or rather the ruins of it, up to the line D on illustration. It had been sawn up at that line to admit the placing over it the modern platform. It was so broken up, however, that nothing could be saved. The pieces gave the full details, the curve of front, the steps, the position of every baluster, the paneling in centre and remains of the papier-mache ornaments were found and proved the basis for an accurate restoration.

The fireplaces had been filled up in the course of time; they have been opened, relined and the simple mantelpieces of white marble hidden under many coats of paint, were cleaned and restored.

The ceiling of the Senate Chamber made a most interesting study. The centrepieces, surrounded by thirteen stars and a delicate wreath of grapes and leaves, are all of papier mache, the material so much used in the decoration of the time. These have all been kept intact and their beauty brought out anew. A question that early attracted my attention was the ascertaining of the date when the eagle with stars and thunderbolts was painted on the cove of ceiling over the platform of the Vice-President. It certainly is old, but how old? Above the head of the eagle were thirty-one stars--this would seem to indicate some time between 1850-59. The stars might, however, have been increased in number at some renovation of the ceiling. The shield on the breast of the eagle has thirteen stars; one large one in the centre, evidently for Pennsylvania as the Keystone State, and seventeen stripes. Down to 1818 the stars and stripes were legally increased equally until there were fifteen of each. Much irregularity of arrangement was indulged in and no fixed rule seems to have been usual. In January, 1818, Congress took up the matter and "established" the flag of the United States

as at present constituted and from that time the thirteen stripes have been regularly adhered to in the composition of national flags. To show how unsettled was the practice, even on Government flags prominently displayed, it is related by Preble in his history of the flag that at the time when Congress enacted the "establishment" there were flying over the halls of Congress two flags, one with nine and the other with eighteen stripes. From the above, and from the general ancient appearance of the painting, I am inclined to place the date of its execution as prior to 1818, but not at the time when Congress was in session, unless near the close of its occupancy of "Congress Hall" when there were sixteen States in the Union.

The Committee Room, apart from a richly designed cornice, has no particular detail that requires description.

It is the purpose of the Society of Colonial Wars in Pennsylvania to restore other portions of this historic building and, in conjunction with the Society of Colonial Dames, to restore the halls, staircases, etc. Plans for this work are not under consideration."

Report of Committee by H. W. Sellers, Sec'ry, submitted to the Phila. Chapter A.I.A. following the restoration of Congress Hall-

/Sellers Coll. INHP Coll. (APS) No. 2, folder #27/ — Congress Hall Restoration — c. 1913

The efforts of the Phila. Chapter to induce the City to undertake the restoration of Congress Hall at Sixth & Chestnut Sts. resulted finally in the Ordinances of Councils making the necessary appropriations for the purpose, through the co-operation of Mayor Reyburn at the close of his administration. While the matter was pending in Councils, the Chapter at a stated meeting held Jan. 20, 1910, adopted the following resolution which was transmitted to the Mayor by the Committee on the Preservation of Historic Monuments:--

"WHEREAS: The successful restoration of ancient monuments is best assured through careful research by those who possess architectural knowledge,

AND WHEREAS: Congress Hall forms part of the most important group of historical monuments in this country: which, indeed is venerated above all others by the American citizen,

AND WHEREAS: A selected committee of this Chapter has given extended study of the history of the group, directing an important phase of its restoration and making a careful physical examination of this building under the most favorable circumstances.

/p. 2 follows/

Be it therefore RESOLVED, That the Chapter earnestly requests the city authorities to avail themselves of the results of this study and authorizes the Committee on Preservation of Historic Monuments to confer with the Mayor and other officials in furtherance of this offer."

The appropriations under consideration contemplated in addition to the restoration of Congress Hall the lighting of Independence Square as planned by the Electrical Bureau, the desire of Mayor Reyburn being that the lamp posts of special design each /sic/ to serve as a memorial to one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The Chairman of the Committee had frequent conferences with the Mayor and with the Chief of the Electrical Bureau, and following the Chapter's action, the Committee by letter of April 6th to the Mayor confirmed its offer to prepare drawings and specifications for the restoration of Congress Hall and the design for the lamp posts. These services the Committee tendered gratuitously asking the City

to pay only the necessary expences involved for draughting, etc. understanding that the sum would not exceed $2000. In this letter, which the Mayor transmitted to Councils, the Committee called attention to the work it had accomplished since 1901 in securing historical and other data by careful surveys and investigations at the building to determine its original condition when occupied by Congress prior to the year 1800.

The funds were chiefly those included in the loan authorized by the voters of the City which was then being negotiated, and under date of April 27, 1911, the

[p. "2a" follows]

Committee was advised by the Chief of the Bureau of City Property that the item of $50,000. [sic] set apart for the purpose was then available and desired arrangements should be made to prosecute the work to an early completion.

This was followed by a letter from Mayor Reyburn dated May 4, 1911, accepting the Chapter Committee's services, and authorizing it to proceed with the drawings and specifications and to superintend the restoration.

Subsequently the provisions under the loan bill were declared illegal, but the funds for the restoration were secured by action of City Councils as follows which made the whole amount available $70,000:

Item No. 33-1/2, 1911--Ordinance dated November 21, 1908 out of loan authorized by ordinance approved October 17, 1908, "for restoration of Congress Hall," $5000.

Item No. 33-1/2, B, 1911--Ordinance dated July 29, 1910 out of loan authorized by ordinance approved July 14, 1910, "for Restoration of Congress Hall" $5000.

Item 58, 1911--"For the improvement of Congress Hall and Independence Square" ordinance dated April 21, 1911, $60,000.

The situation in regard to these appropriations was interesting in view of the fact that the larger part of the sum contemplated under the Loan Bill was designed for lighting of Independence Square. In the action of Councils which followed the repeal of these appropriations, the sum secured, $70000. [sic] did not provide explicitly for the proposed lighting scheme, but was made available for the "Restoration of Congress Hall" and for [p. "2b" follows] "improvements to Independence Square." Unless the lighting project could be carried out in a more fitting manner than proposed, the

committee advised that any balance that might remain, after the complete restoration of Congress Hall would be applied to the repair at least of the Old City Court House at 5th & Chestnut Sts. then in a neglected condition or to such improvements to Independence Square as would make it a more appropriate setting for the State House Group.

[Information follows on the organization of the Committee on Preservation of Historic Monuments, lighting of Independence Square; p. 3, more on lamps for Square, and the following on Congress Hall:]

The contract with the City for the restoration of Congress Hall was not executed by the City officials until October owing to a revision of the document and other delays. In the meantime the Committee carefully reviewed the original report and plans relating to the building and proceeded to prepare designs for the structural steel work which it was proposed to make the subject of a preliminary contract allowing the general work of restoration to follow. The purpose of this was primarily to enable the Committee during the progress of the structural details, which involved the removal of remaining modern additions [to] the building, to note any additional evidences of original construction which might thus be disclosed to supplement the data already collected.

[Note on back of p. 3 by Sellers: "Note p. 4. The plans for the steel construction based on Columns and girders were prepared by a structural engineer in Stewardsons employ who had not given attention to the possibility of utilizing the walls to avoid cutting out for columns. It was estimated also that this construction might cost $25000 (!) I therefore suggested to Mr. Day, then Chairman that the use of grillage on walls might permit the elimination of the columns and this upon investigation proved to be the case- H.W.S."]

[p. "4" follows]

The structural conditions of the building having been carefully studied by the previous Committee in connection with its report and in accordance with its survey of the building, it was decided to follow the original plans thus prepared modified in certain details. The whole subject however was very carefully reconsidered in view of the possible criticism that might arise through the extensive use of steel construction as first designed for the restoration of the building and also on account of the disturbance of the walls which the use of steel column support for the girders contemplated. Taking into consideration the fact that the existing wooden roof truss and girders (in question) were beyond repair and if replaced by timber of similar construction would have to be removed entirely, the use of supplementary steel girders as proposed seemed advisable not only on account of greater permanency and security but as retaining in the building a greater part of the original framing

although relieved of the loads that it was originally designed to carry. The Committee therefore after much deliberation decided to follow in general the original plans [with] however the omission of the steel columns substituting steel grillage at the top of the walls to support and distribute the load [of the girders]. The omission of these columns was also expedient as they would have interferred with original chimney flues essential to the restoration of the building.

[From the bottom of p. 4 to the bottom of p. 6 the report deals with the completion of plans and specifications on July 22, 1911, their delivery to the City on or about Oct. 6, selection of the Fay Co.'s bid, the selection of Mr. E. H. Yardley as a Clerk of Works, and meetings and personnel of the Committee. At the bottom of p. 6, the report continues.]

...Investigations made at the building as recorded in the daily reports and minutes of the Committee include the following details bearing directly on the original construction:-

The removal of the brick partition wall on the line of [sic] Hallway of 1820 to 6th Street disclosed original fireplaces corresponding to fireplaces on the second floor but without chimney breasts. The construction of brickwork and portions of the [p. 7] plastered backs and jambs discolored by smoke indicated that these fireplaces were a part of the original construction although it was not clear if they were in use after the building had been extended for the accomodation of Congress [see photograph].

On removal of the stud cross partition at the center of the building there was disclosed on the plaster surfaces a profile of a former plaster cornice which was found to correspond to the profile of the old cornice existing elsewhere at the south end of the room and similar also to that discovered on the west wall when the ceiling of the old 6th Street vestibule was removed. Where this profile appeared the surface of the plaster had been scored as if to key to the cast moulding. North of this point beyond the line of the partition modern plaster had been applied directly above the torus and fillet of the original cornice, this new plaster extending over the ceiling about 12" from the wall. This indication of former conditions was accepted as further confirmation of the belief that the cornice at the south end of the room was the original cornice of the House of Representatives.

On removing the lath and plaster from the framed partition already referred to, the studding was found to be sheathed with surfaced boards which showed evidence of former use as floor boards possibly of the ramped seatings of the House of Representatives or the flooring of the gallery. Some of the boards had rounded nosings and others

mortised holes apparently for balusters. [See photographs]. These boards were carefully removed and laid aside for reuse if their original location could be determined.

Over the window in the east wall on the stairway at the center of the building was found an old timber of 6" yellow pine, having cuts on one face which on measurement suggested that the timber had originally served as a stair string corresponding to the strings under the existing stairs. This timber was therefore removed and set aside for possible reuse should its original location be determined.

Removal of the modern brickwork and plaster from the chimney breasts at the south end of the building on the east and west walls of the House of Representatives disclosed evidence of traces of semi-circular niches with arched head and fragments of the original painted plaster (painted yellow) remaining as well as a portion of the brickwork similarly plastered forming the curved back of the niche at the floor level.

[p. "8"]

In the east room adjoining the Senate chamber on the ["second floor" is crossed out] modern sawed lath and plaster were removed at a point about 7' above the floor and within a distance of 5' of the east wall. Below this point was discovered the jambs of an old doorway to introduce which a portion of the east strut of the trussed partition had been removed, showing that this door must have been introduced at a later period. In this partition heavy wrought iron spikes were found at a uniform level above the floor and below the line of the timbers of the "restored" balcony floor on the opposite side of the partition in the Senate Chamber and indicating that the original balcony was framed at [a] lower level than now placed. See page 10*

On removing the plaster from the chimney breast of the west room adjoining the Senate Chamber formerly used as a law library, the old fireplace was disclosed showing the profile of [a] mantle shelf and bed mouldings on the plaster indicating a mantel piece of the exact dimensions and profile of that still existing in the east room opposite.

In the second floor construction at the north end of the building on the line of the partition of the original vestibule an old girder was found showing evidence of previous use in another location and as there could be no occasion for its [p. 9] existence if the vestibule or lobby wall was, as assumed, of brick construction. This girder was removed and laid aside until it could be determined whether it was part of the gallery or its original use identified elsewhere as of the original construction. It was further noted that the beams which framed into this girder enclosing the old stair well

at the north end of the building likewise showed evidence of former use, some faces being surfaced and painted. These also were laid aside for possible identification.

The first floor windows were found to have had originally splayed jambs extending to the floor; the jamb casings above the level of the sill still existing behind the modern boxes and below the sill the wall was plugged showing that the wainscoting was returned into the embrasure instead of being carried across on the face of the wall as in the later alterations.

[Note on back of p. 8: "Note: As mentioned in .... [on] page 10 the columns assumed to have been used at a- a- after the building was extended, in all probability never existed The trussed gurders above being considered sufficient to carry the second floor with the assistance of the strap hangers connected to roof truss. The original court room in this respect was doubtless the same as the original plan of the Old City Hall, except that in it the columns supporting the gallery do not extend to the ceiling."]

The removal of the plaster from the ceiling of the House of Representatives on the line of the original girders disclosed the location of four columns which apparently existed to support the floor above before the building was enlarged in 1793. After careful investigation the Committee arrived at the conclusion that when the building was lengthened two of these columns were retained to support the second floor and the gallery at the north end and to permit the removal of the columns at the south end the partition erected above the girder was trussed. No positive evidence on the columns was apparent to indicate which were the original shafts, although two seemed to show indication of greater age and on the painted surface could be traced the profile of hand rails which had been butted them. It was decided to use these columns at the line of the gallery and in

the position noted on the ceiling girder [p. 10] and to substitute Doric capitals in accord with the practice at the time the building was erected. Later information proved that the discarded columns were the two erected within recent times by a builder now living.

The entire ground floor was laid out [with] narrow widths of modern flooring on sleepers and the removal of this disclosed the original flooring of the House of Representatives of broad boards varying from 8" - 12" in width, but much decayed and wholly unfit for reuse. On the surface appeared mortised holes and other indications of the hand railings which separated the House of Representatives from the portion of the room reserved for visitors and then termed the lobby or gallery, and the position of the speaker's platform and enclosure was clearly indicated both on the floor as well as openings for its beam supports on the west wall of the room. The flooring being in better condition under the platform than elsewhere it was decided to preserve it within the limits of what appeared to be the original enclosure of the speaker's platform. It was interesting to note what on the original floor directly to the right of the Speakers platform there was a spot about three feet square which was worn to a hollow suggesting the spot where it would have been likely for many members of the House to have stood when addressing the Chair.

In the Senate Chamber evidence of original work and reference to documents relating to the building were found to conflict in some details with the new work introduced in the restoration of 1896.

In the east room adjoining the Senate there was indication on the original plaster of the west partition indicating that see p. 8* the spiral stairway was originally on that side of the room instead of directly under the door to the gallery alongside of the window as now constructed. There appeared also in the frame of the partition the line of spikes indicating the line of platform connecting the door to the gallery with the spiral stairway as originally constructed. As above referred to the frame of this partition forming the north wall of the Senate chamber indicated that the two doors leading to the east and west room were introduced at a later period than the original construction. The architraves of both doors are unlike in detail to the architraves of the windows and the [p. 11] central door but are found to be the same as the architraves of the doors elsewhere. It was concluded therefore that these doors and their casings were from the original door openings on the second floor corridor leading to the east and west rooms at the north end of the building.

In the Senate chamber on removal of one of the modern pilasters of the new gallery the original plaster surfaces show that no pilasters had originally existed under the gallery at the side walls but on the contrary the lines of old chair rail extended to the adjoining windows and the original base board at the floor followed in like manner. There also appeared on the original plaster

of the wall a line indicating the original position of the gallery ceiling several inches below the ceiling of the modern gallery. The description of the gallery in the Insurance surveys of 1823 describes the original gallery as having a paneled front and supported upon four small columns. An article in Poulson's Advertiser of July 28, 1835, at the time the original gallery was removed refers to a number of small pilasters ornamented with stucco work as part of the construction and it was therefore evident to the Committee that these pilasters were on the gallery front and followed the line of the columns below, thus dividing the panelled front in manner similar to what appears to have been the front of the rostrum from the information received concerning the original rostrum, which unfortunately was removed when the restoration of 1896 was made.

The insurance survey of 1823 describes the rostrom as being a platform raised two steps with a circular railing in front. A portion of one of the original posts having /p. 12/ been obtained from a carpenter who was employed on the work in 1896 gives the original mouldings, mitres and position of the composition ornament so with this data it was possible to reconstruct these details of the rostrum with accuracy. The removal of the floor of the modern platform disclosed the original painted plaster surface of the wall and showed the window casings extending to the original floor line. Evidence that there was no rostrum in place when the building was first occupied by Congress but in all probability it was introduced when the gallery was erected, which adds further weight to the evidence indicating that in detail the gallery and the rostrum were then designed with ornamental pilasters & panelling in close accord.

As the existence of capping on the east and west doors under the gallery differed from the treatment of all other doors in the building, and /upon/ examination of these caps they were found to be the same in detail as the existing mantel in the east room adjoining the Senate chamber. It was the opinion of the Committee therefore that these caps were portions of the original mantel pieces in the Senate, antidating the marble mantels in place which belong to a later period architecturally.

To confirm the Committee's conclusions based on the physical conditions at the building inquiries were made in various directions for references to the structure in original records. In its researches the Committee had the assistance of the Penna. Historical Society resulting in the discovery of the insurance survey above mentioned. The Society also had an examination made of its manuscripts and records, letters of members of Congress &c., and while these sources did not produce any additional data they at least eliminated a possible /p. 13/ source of information. Careful search was also made of the Philadelphia daily papers published during the occupancy of the building by Congress and during the period when the subsequent alterations made to readapt the building to the City's uses. This

search did not bring to light any new information bearing upon the structural conditions with the exception of the reference to the removal of the gallery already mentioned. The most important direct general information was the discovery of a letter of Theosophilus Bradbury a member of Congress to his daughter in 1796 describing the arrangement of the building at that time, and the insurance survey of the building made Feb. 3, 1823, for the Contributionship Insurance Co.

The editorial in the "American Advertiser" of 1835 had been mentioned in publications relating to the Senate chamber but not at sufficient length to give a complete or correct understanding of the gallery. In its fragmentary shape it had been used apparently as a basis for the restoration of 1896 with the result that the gallery did not accord with the more complete data discovered by the present Committee. With the insurance survey of 1823 when the Senate chamber was in its original shape, and the details referred to in Poulson's "Advertiser" taken in connection also with the architectural treatment of similar galleries in other buildings indicating the practice of the time, the Committee was able to design a gallery that would seem to be as nearly like the original as it is possible without absolute knowledge of the details of the same. In all of [sic] cases where the detail was to a great extent conjectural, the attempt has been made to follow as closely as [p. 14] possible the practice of designers and builders at the period in question keeping in mind their limitations and remembering the apparent economy that was exercised in the present case, rather than introduce any greater refinement in detail, not withstanding the opportunity with our present knowledge of design to make the work architecturally as interesting as possible. In other words the policy of the Committee has been not only to preserve the original work no matter how crude it [may] seem to be and to introduce new work where necessary that would be in strict accord with what we know of the building and the condition under which it was constructed, where the details have to be conjectured.

Since the Chapter and Committee was called upon to make the necessary documentary or historical researches to determine the architectural treatment and details of the restoration based also upon its study of physical evidence of original conditions. It had to assume [understandably] the supervision of the work of construction. The duties and responsibilities where an [sic] monument is concerned and involve certain difficulties in their performance under the methods employed in municipal work subject to unlimited competition with little or no opportunity to discriminate between contractors and painters. To insure the employment of those best qualified to execute the work the qualifications of the contractor is important since work of restoration involves the care in preserving materials and original details existing in the building and to make repairs and introduce such new work and materials as are necessary to such a restoration. To meet this difficulty and safeguard the work as far as possible it was finally decided after much discussion with the

municipal authorities to reserve certain important details /p. 15/ of the woodwork, and special fixtures by inserting in the specifications cash allowances to cover such /reserved/ work. In the City's interest the amounts of these allowances were determined by /receiving/ competitive estimates from contractors known to be thoroughly competent to execute these details in a worthy manner.

This purpose was expressed in the specifications under the heading, "Special Nature of the work and allowances for the execution of certain parts of it":- ...

/p. 16/ Besides exercising careful judgment in the selection of competent bidders on the work involved in these reservations the Committee has had to seek and consider appropriate materials. The original floors for example were laid with yellow pine boards varying in width from about 6" to 10" and it was sometime before a small but sufficient quantity of old well seasoned boards of this character could be located. The old flooring uncovered in the building was so generally decayed and disfigured by alterations and repairs that its use was not possible except in a very limited way. It was therefore decided to retain the portion where the speaker's platform stood in the House of Representatives, and to endeavour to save a sufficient quantity elsewhere to use on one of the galleries or the Senate platform or wherever it can be relaid to present a uniform surface.

It is the Committee's intention if possible to secure old hob grates or Franklin stoves for use or reproduction and the search for these is now in progress. The same may be said of the chandeliers which it is proposed to make faithful reproductions if original pieces appropriate to and contemporaneous with the building cannot be /p. 17/ discovered. The same attention is being given to the hardware and other fittings and details in order that they shall be in strict accord with the old work.

In considering such practical details as the heating and plumbing the effort has been to make them as unobtrusive as possible.

The heating called for careful consideration in view of the effect on the old woodwork and framing. It was finally decided to limit it to indirect radiation by floor registers in the House of Representatives and direct radiation in the Toilet Rooms and Basement, where the radiators would not be inappropriate or unsightly. The second floor would receive only such heat as would rise from the first floor, it being proposed to augment this by hob grates in the fireplaces of the several rooms.

To safeguard the building, the roof will be laid with shingles subjected to fireproofing treatment. The ceiling of the Basement will be covered with wire lath and plaster. /Added pencil

note: 'This changed to asbestos board and fire cut-off walls at eaves - as the fireproofed shingles were not obtainable - H.W.S.'/

In addition to these details of construction, fire hose and reels with connection to the water supply main are provided in the plumbing contract, and in the electrical work are included conduits for fire alarm service.

Summing up the activities of the Committee in connection with this important structure it may be said that every effort has been made through exhaustive research and careful study of the physical evidences at the building to make the restoration as correct historically and architecturally as possible. The historical research is far out of proportion to the actual data obtained to supplement that collected by the former Committee in its report.

/Pages 18 & 19 deal mainly with other activities of the Committee, e.g., the Market houses on Second Street, south of Pine./

From Contract made on December 18, 1912, between the City of Philadelphia and Chapman Decorative Company, for Interior Furnishing and Restoration of Congress Hall, for the Bureau of City Property:

SCOPE OF WORK

The work of this Sub-contractor will be the making, setting and erecting of all new interior wood work, including the finished portion of basement, and exterior doors Nos. 101 and 121, the restoring and resetting of all old woodwork which is to remain, the painting of all new interior wood work and doors Nos. 101 and 121 and painting of all old work which is to remain after the old paint has been removed as hereinafter specified under Painting.

The following must be submitted to the Architect for approval before commencement of the different parts of the work, in accordance with article 7 of the General Conditions of the Contract, in the General Specifications.

Shop drawings for all wood work;

Samples or models of composition ornament on pilasters for Gallery in Room "G";

Samples or models of composition ornament on pilasters or newels for Rostrum in Room "G";

Samples of all turnings.

Samples of green baize covering for doors No. 151.

Samples of mahogany.

Any other samples that may from time to time be required.

CABINET WORK

GENERAL:

All old work called for to be removed or reset will be removed, marked and stored in building by the Carpenter.

The carpenter will supply and set all grounds, rough work such as joist, studs, etc. and make ready for interior wood work.

All false grounds to be removed by cabinet maker when he erects his work.

Where new trim, washboard, chair rail, etc. are called for they must be made to match those profiles now in the different rooms; the same detail will not be used for mouldings in all rooms.

SCAFFOLDING AND LADDERS:

This Sub-contractor to supply, set and remove on completion all scaffolding, ladders, etc., which he may require.

PROTECTION OF OLD WORK:

He must see that all old work which is to remain or be reset is carefully protected at all times.

FRAMES:

Doors Nos. 57 and 58 will have frames of marble as specified under cutstone work Main Specification.

Doors Nos. 56 & 59 will have 1-3/8" jamb and head casings rabbetted on solid. Rough frames will be formed of wood bucks built by carpenter to hold plaster blocks.

Frames for Nos. 152, 153 and 263 are part of spandrels under stairs and are specified under stairs.

Doors No. 151 will have old frame now stored in building restored. The old material where sound to be used, restoring must be done by cutting out and patching.

The entire frame with transom must be braced and fitted into present opeing in brick wall.

Frames Nos. 259 and 260 will be taken from Nos. 253 and 254 which are to be studded up, casings to be cut to proper width for new partitions and patched where necessary.

No plinth block will be required. All old blocks to be removed.

TRIM:

One side of doors Nos. 51, 56 and 59 in basement to be 1-1/8" x 6" with 1-3/8" back band.

Windows and doors in 1st floor to have old trims reset where removed or not tightly fitted to wall. All missing parts to be supplied with materials of same size and detail as old.

Door No. 151 to have modern parts removed and new or old mouldings to be applied. Sawed brackets to be placed against back band, under impost.

Doors Nos. 175 and 176 to be built up with 1-3/8" jamb and head casings, moulded on solid. Face casings to be 7/8" thick

beaded and mitred with jamb and head casings.

Door No. 255 to have head lowered and old casing and trim reset.

New trim to be 1-1/8" x 8-3/4" plain with heavy bead at jamb, to have 1-1/2" x 2-1/2" moulded back band and plain spring and key blocks.

Trim for round heads to be carefully fitted and dovetailed where necessary, and form perfect semi-circle.

Interior trim for Door #101 to be restored as shown on Drawing #4. The general form of this trim can be seen on existing parts of impost. Soffit and panel mouldings on same to be restored and key block reset.

Windows #201 to have present trim, indicated by light dash lines on Drawing #4 removed, and all parts supplied to give outlines as shown by solid lines. No. 251 will have trim similar to No. 201.

Windows Nos. 202, 203, 204, 222, 223, 224, will have new moulded sill, and apron moulding in place of present chair rail.

All windows to have trims, sills, sash beads, and casing patched where necessary.

All new door openings to have casings 1-3/8" thick, rabbetted on the solid, trim to be dog eared same as old.

New doors to be of same size and panelled to match old doors which are to be reset.

CORNICE:

Rooms "E", "H" and "J" to have wood cornice to match that now stored in building or existing parts from room "F". Cornice in Room "F" to be rehung.

Hallway "D" to have cornice moulded similar to that in Room "F" except that cove will be used in place of moulded brackets.

Present cornice in Room "G" to be patched, care being taken to match carved garlands.

PILASTERS:

Pilasters under window trim in Rooms "F" and "G" to be preserved.

WASHBOARD:

Room "G" and Hallway "D" to have washboard to match old, now stored in building and taken from Hallway "D".

In all other rooms the washboard will match that now existing. Washboards in Vestibules "A" and "C" to be of same size and detail as for Room "B".

In Rooms "F" and "G" the washboard to mitre around pilasters under wood trim.

CHAIR RAILS:

Chair rails to be patched and continued on all walls of Hallway "D", and Rooms "E", "F", "G", "H", and "J" and Vestibule "A".

Chair rails in Vestibule "C" to be removed and new sill mould as above specified to be set.

TRAP DOOR:

Present hatchway in ceiling of Room "H" to have new counterbalanced 2-panel door, 2-3/8" thick. Panels to be 7/8" thick, rails to have plain moulding cut on solid.

CORNER BEADS:

At all exterior angles wood corner beads are to be set. Old beads to be used when they exist in unbroken condition.

Where new beads are to be used they must be 1-3/8" x 1-3/8" and made to exactly member with old, with cuts forming plaster grounds.

MANTELS:

New mantels for rooms "E", "F", "G", and "J" are to be of same general type as now in Room "H".

Entablature of mantels for rooms "E" and "J" to be taken from over frames of doors Nos. 253 and 254 with lower part formed of moulding similar to back band of trim of Room "G" dog eared as shown on detail drawing No. 6.

Mantel in Room "F" to be exact reproduction of that now in Room "H".

Mantel in Room "H" to be repaired where necessary.

GALLERY, ROOM "B":

The construction or rough work such as framing of front and floor will be done by carpenter, except brackets for cornice. The front will be trussed and floors will be stepped by means of 3" blocking on top of joint.

The steps leading to gallery for landing of main stair will be horsed up by carpenter.

Front of gallery to be panelled as shown on drawing No. 5. Stiles and rails to be 1-1/8" thick without panel mouldings, sections to be made full length of each span.

Cornice, cap of rail, and string across Window #105 and Door #121 to be made to fit profiles seen on jambs or according to drawings where profiles are incomplete. Top rail to be in one piece 2-3/4" thick, moulded as shown on details.

Cornice to be built up as shown with plain tongued and grooved boards 1-1/8" thick close jointed and in widths from 9" - 12".

Panelled balustrades at sides of top step near Doors Nos. 175 and 176 to be 1-3/8" thick with 5/8: plain panels and plain moulded mahogany cap as shown on detail.

Washboard to be of same detail as used elsewhere in Room "B".

Flooring in gallery is not to be included by this sub-contractor.

The steps to have half-round nosing.

Columns supporting gallery and second floor will be set and have new bases and caps supplied by carpenter.

GALLERY, ROOM "G":

All construction work will be done by carpenter except for building brackets to support cornice.

Gallery will be supported on four columns and on east and west walls back of trim of north jambs of Windows Nos. 209 and 217.

The columns to be plain turned with moulded caps and bases and to be turned from old columns now in building, with at least 2" core.

Front to have flat panels 1-1/8" thick with rails and stiles 1-3/8" thick, moulded on solid, made in sections full length of space between pilasters or pilasters and wall.

Mouldings to be mitred.

Inside of front to have plain sunken panels without mouldings.

Pilasters over columns to be panelled with mouldings according to detail, field of panels to have composition ornament, sample or model of which must be submitted to Architect for approval.

Pilasters are to be 3-1/2" x 5", cut from solid, and carried down and well spiked to double joist forming plate.

Entablature to be formed as shown on detail with carved dentil band in bed mould of cornice. Part of cornice to be returned against jambs of windows as shown.

Base of panelled front and bed moulding of top rail to be mitred around pilasters.

Top rail to be cut from solid 2-1/4" thick, moulded as shwon.

Steps are not to be included by this sub-contractor. Spandrels under two top steps at Door No. 275 to be of tongued, grooved and close jointed boards.

ROSTRUM, ROOM "G":

The rostrum in Room "G" to be similar to lines of that now existing, to have moulded base, 2-3/4 x 4-1/4" newels arranged in pairs as shown, and have panels formed on one side with fine mouldings cut on solid. Field of panels to have composition ornament, sample or model to be submitted to Architect for approval.

Moulded base to be mitred around newels.

Balusters to be 1-1/4" diameter, and turned like sample to be seen at building, to be dovetailed in to floor and let into handrail. Handrail to be moulded and cut from 3" x 3" piece, mitred around newels to form cap.

Handrail and balusters to be of clear Mexican Mahogany.

Centre bay in front of rostrum to have 3 panels in place of balusters.

Outside face of panels to be raised with moulding and to be 7/8" thick with 1-3/8" stiles and rails moulded on solid.

Steps to be of Y.P. as specified for flooring. To have

round nosing with nosing mould, lower step on each side to be returned as shown on drawings.

Floor to be raised two steps and to have round nosing with mould between pilasters.

STAIRS:

Main stairs to have some detail as present stairs, which will be removed, marked and stored in building by carpenter.

The horsing and building of landings, etc. will be done by carpenter, but this sub-contractor will do all the finished work to make a complete job.

Risers and treads to be completely new.

The risers will be 7/8" thick and treads 1-3/8" with round nosing and nosing mould.

Risers and treads to be plowed and tongued, and housed into wall string. The outside string, including that between window jambs, will be open and have nosing and mould returned as shown on drawing.

String, moulds and spandrel for stairs on West side of vestibule to be taken from old stairs with moulding patched where necessary.

Modern applied rails on spandrel to be removed. All old mouldings to be used where possible.

Old newels, handrail, wall rail and balusters are to be used on stairs at West side of Vestibule and will be duplicated for stairs on East side.

Newels to be 4-1/4" diameter turned with turned drops and cap of same section as and mitred with handrail. Caps to be of mahogany.

Balusters to be 2-1/4" diameter turned and spaced two to each tread, to be dovetailed into treads. Old balusters to have square corners patched and top pieced to give proper length and angles to support handrail.

Handrail to be 3-3/4" x 3-3/8", to be moulded and have curved ramps and easings, to be carefully bolted and matched at all joints.

Wall rail to be 3-3/4" x 2" and coped over moulded back band of trim as shown on drawings. Where stairs cross windows the rail to be of full section. On walls the rail to be let into plaster, after false grounds are removed.

Spandrel panels over and on side of doors Nos. 152 and 153 to be 7/8" thick. Stiles and rails to be 1-3/8" with mouldings cut on solid.

Trim for doors Nos. 152-153 in spandrel to be 1-7/8" x 6" including back band on Vestibule side.

Trim on stair side to be 1" x 4" doors to be 1-3/8" thick paneled as shown on drawing and as hereinafter specified.

STAIRS IN ROOM "H":

Stairs to gallery in Room "G" to have 7/8" risers, 1-1/8" treads, round nosing and nosing mould housed into strings. Closed string 1-1/8" and 7/8" thick, moulded, with 1-1/2" x 2" moulded cap to receive bottom of balusters.

Newels 3-1/2" diameter turned with turned drops and cap of same section and mitred with handrail. Caps and balusters to be of mahogany. Balusters to be 1-1/4" turned, spaced as shown.

Spandrel rails to be 1-1/8" thick, moulded on solid, panels to be flat 5/8" thick.

Handrail to be 2-1/4" x 2-3/4" moulded, with curved ramps and easings, joints to be securely bolted and carefully membered. Door #263 to have 1-3/8" moulded rails and 1/2" flat panels. Outside trim to be 1-3/8" x 2-1/4" moulded.

Inside trim to be 7/8" x 4" moulded and forming rabbett.

BASEMENT STAIRS:

Stairs leading from 1st floor to Room "K" and Women's Toilet in basement to have 7/8" risers and 1-1/8" treads with round nosing, housed into wall strings. To have 7/8" wall strings with 7/8" x 2" moulded cap.

At level of vestibule floor ledges to cover projection in basement wall on North side and on account of difference in width, from stairs to 2nd floor will be covered with round nosed boards with 7/8" facia and 7/8" x 2" moulding, to member with skirting and return on 3 sides of hatchway.

Handrail to be cut from 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" stuff and be plain moulded and be supported on metal brackets, supplied by

contractor for finished hardware as specified under Article 69 of the General Conditions of Contract in the General Specifications.

Handrail to be of clear Mexican Mahogany.

Bottom step in Room "K" to have nosing and moulding returned against longitudinal wall.

LADDER:

Ladder to reach from landing of stairs in Room "H" to loft, to be movable and made of 1-1/8" x 6" stringers and 1-1/8" x 6" treads let into stringers.

WAINSCOTTING:

Throughout Room "B" the walls, including backs and jambs of windows below sill line, to be wainscotted with veneered or solid boards, tongued and grooved, and ranging in width from 6" to 24", the average width being 11". If wainscotting is made of solid boards, narrow widths may be used to give effect of wide boards by being tongued and grooved with joints carefully matched and tightly glued to give widths called for.

The old wainscotting in every case to be made secure, same to be taken down if necessary to allow removing of any obstruction between it and wall. The old registers and slate frames to be removed and new wood work supplied.

All wainscotting is to be 1-1/8" thick and be placed in same relation to plaster above as old work.

Cap to be 1-1/8" x 2-3/4" moulded and with 7/8" x 1-1/2" bed moulding, to follow line of back and jambs of windows and returned on itself at inside face of wall.

Base to be 7/8" x 7" with 7/8" x 2" moulded cap, carried around jambs and back of window embrasures and coped over back band of trim.

If wainscotting is made of veneered boards they shall have veneer on both sides 1/4" thick on built up core.

DOORS:

New interior doors where called for on plans to be 1-5/8" thick, with panels 7/8" thick raised with mouldings on one side of doors opening into Hallway "D". Doors Nos. 255 to have 1-1/2" panels raised and moulded on both sides.

Doors No. 151 to have flush panels and be covered with heavy green baize with upholsters heavy brass headed tacks.

Stiles and rails to have mouldings cut on solid, all to match doors which are to be reset. Doors between Rooms "J" & "H" and "E" & "F" to have flat panel 1/2" thick.

Doors Nos. 56 and 59 to be 1-5/8" thick as specified for other doors, with lower part panelled and upper part divided with muntins for glazing. Loose beads to be furnished for securing of glass.

Door No. 275 to be 1-5/8" thick. Present frames removed or altered as directed.

Slat doors Nos. 57 & 58 to have plain rails 1-1/8" thick and 1/4" x 1-3/4" slats let into stiles.

All doors to have through tenons tightly wedged and glued as used in old work.

Stiles and rails of all doors to be 3-ply and to have built up core and be veneered with clear white pine of best quality.

Panels may be made of solid wood with joints tongued and grooved and carefully matched and glued.

CEILING VENTILATORS:

Ceiling vents in Rooms "E", "G" and "J" restored and reset.

EXTERIOR DOORS:

Openings Nos. 101 and 121 will have new doors as shown on drawings.

Doors at No. 101 to be made in 4 folds, with stiles and rails 1-3/4" thick, moulded on solid. Panels to be 1-1/4" thick raised with mouldings on outside. To have beaded rabbetts.

Doors at No. 121 to have stiles and rails 1-3/4" thick moulded on solid. Panels to be 1-1/4" thick raised with moulding on outside. To have beaded rabbet. Transom over door No. 121 to be restored and made stationary. Exterior doors to be solid white pine.

MATERIALS:

All wood not otherwise specified to be well seasoned best quality clear white pine.

All risers and treads of stairs to be of well seasoned best quality clear Georgia yellow pine.

All handrails and balusters in rooms "H", & "G" to be of well seasoned best quality clear Mexican Mahogany.

HARDWARE:

All finishing hardware will be supplied under Article 69 of the General Conditions of the Contract in General Specifications, but must be set by this sub-contractor.

All hardware to be fitted by cabinet maker before wood is painted, removed, and after painting is entirely finished the hardware will be reset by him.

The double hung sash will have new cords and pulleys installed by carpenter, but this contractor will supply and set all new sash beads.

PAINTING:

Back of all woodwork which is to be placed against masonry plaster or frame work and all built in parts are to be primed. Painters must use drop cloths or other protections and must in no case allow any material to be placed directly on the flooring.

All materials to be brought to the building in their original packages and no substitutes of lead, oil or turpentine of any kind to be allowed on the work. If any substitutes are discovered by the Architect, they shall be immediately removed by his order. No materials to be used until after they have been inspected and approved by the Architect.

Oiling of floors will be done by sub-contractor for flooring.

All old paint on woodwork of entire interior of building to be removed with an approved paint remover (no burning off will be allowed). Great care must be taken not to scratch or mar the wood in any way, and edges of all mouldings to be left sharp and true. After being cleaned, the wood shall be well washed with benzine and after being inspected and approved by the architect, all woodwork both old and new shall be primed with best lead and linseed oil and when dry, all holes and open joints to be puttied with pure whiting putty, mixed with one-half lead. Follow priming coat with one coat of best white shellac, cut four pounds to the gallon, grain alcohol, sand paper perfectly smooth and glaze window sills and all defects with composition. The second and third coats of paint to be Carter's coach and car lead, mixed with pure turpentine and one third hard drying enamel. Finish with one coat of

Pratt and Lambert's "Vitralite" in egg shell gloss finish, to shade as directed by the Architect. The enamel to be applied with fine bristle brushes and no brush marks, fat edges or runs to appear.

The mahogany hand rails to be stained with potash to an approved shade, given three coats of Pratt & Lambert's #38 varnish and rubbed to a dull gloss.

The mahogany balusters of rostrum in Room "G" and stairs in Room "H" to be painted same as white pine wood work.

ADDENDA.

Doors Nos. 111 and 115 to have new entablatures with sloping pediments and new column caps. The pediments are to be covered with shingles similar to those on main roof. Flashings to be laid under the shingles and run up on wall and covered with counter-flashing well cemented into wall, all as shown on drawing. The flashing will not be included by this contractor.

Columns to be patched and repaired where shown or called for.

The two-panel boxes are to have frames, doors and trims furnished and set by this contractor. To be made to fit close to marble lining and be secured to metal box. Each box to have one one-panel door 1-1/8" thick moulded on solid. Panel to be 5/8" thick. Trim to be 1-3/8" x 5" plain moulded.

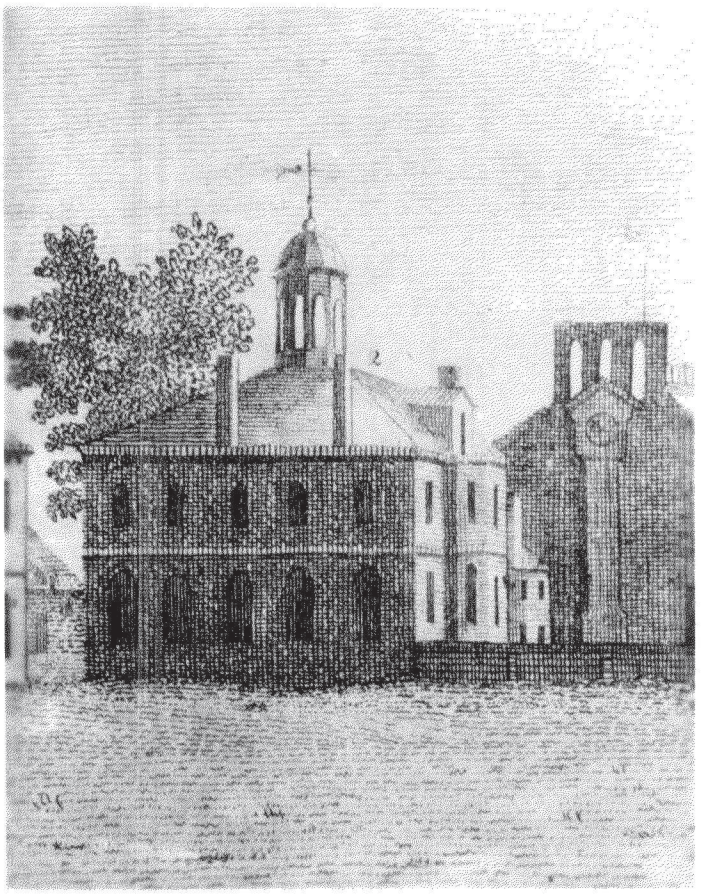
SECTION V

ILLUSTRATIONS

CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 1

"Congress Hall" from Columbian Magazine, January 1790.

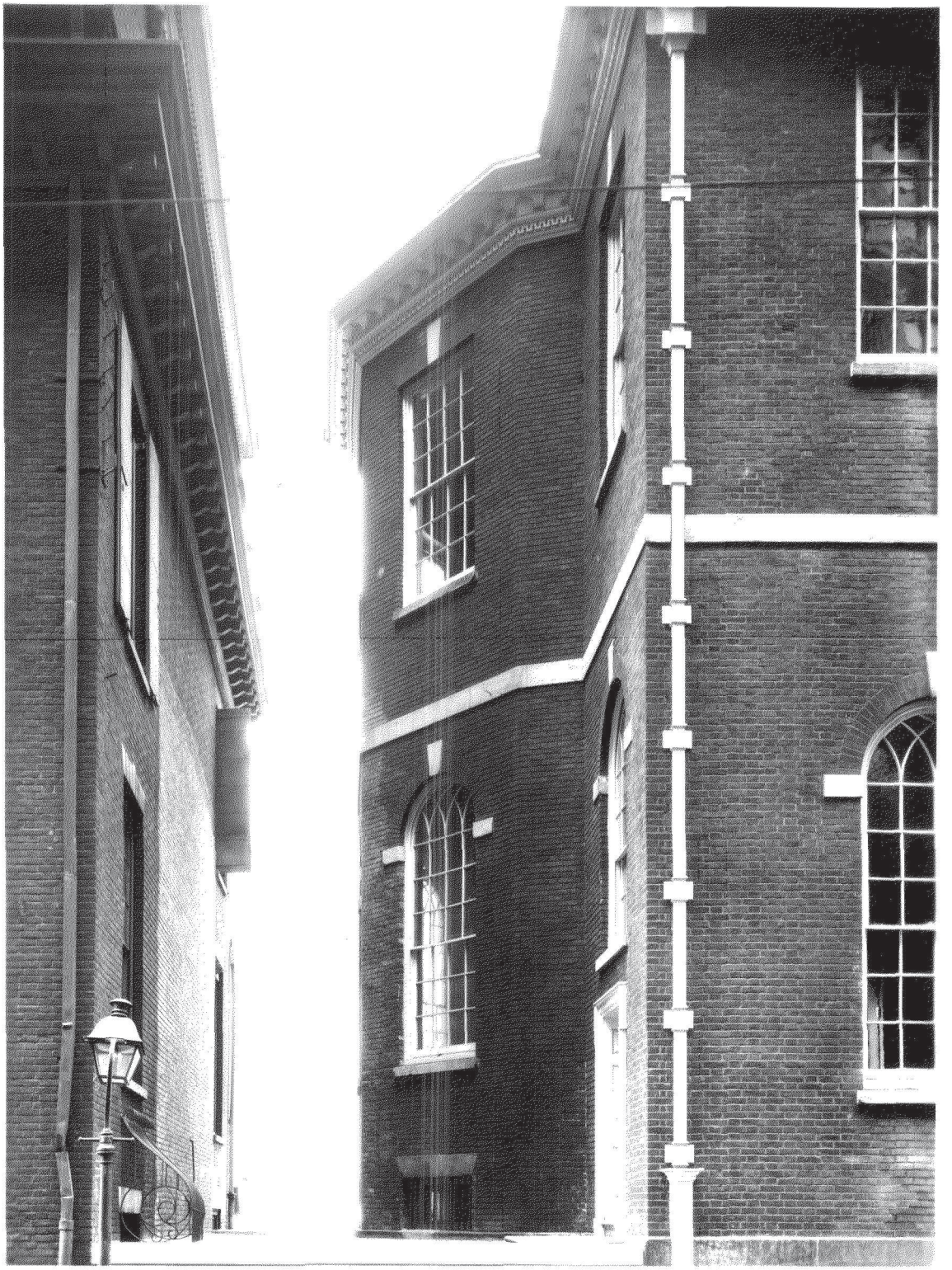
Courtesy of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania
INHP Negative No. 527
EODC Negative No. 794



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 2

Restored view of Old City Hall, south elevation. Congress Hall when first built, in 1787-1793, may have looked this way. See Illustration No. 1.

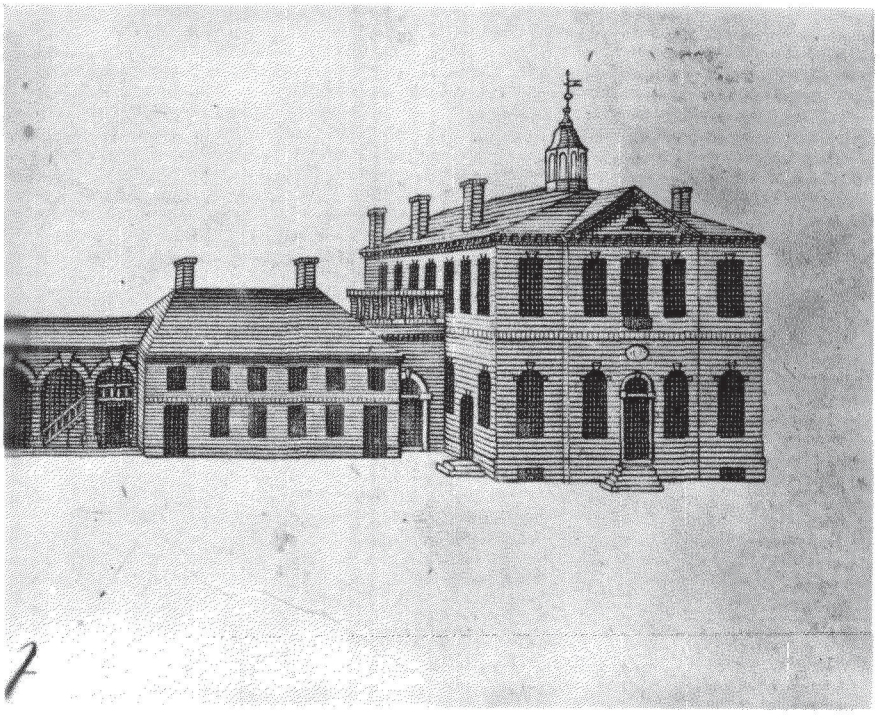
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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 3

Enlargement from view of State House group of buildings, Benjamin Davies Map of Philadelphia, 1794. Shows the north and east facades of Congress Hall, "The Portico," and the West Wing of the State House.

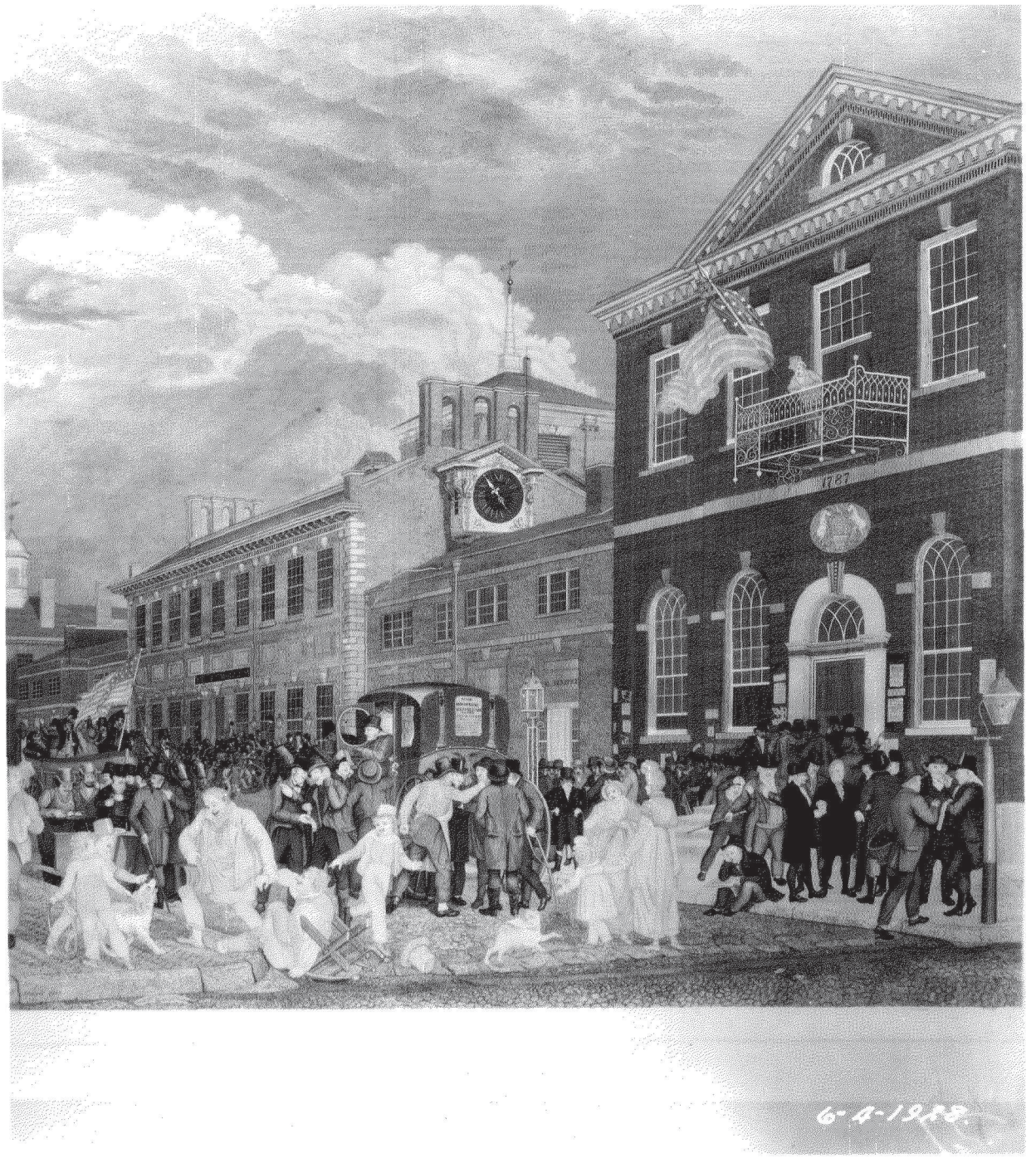
Ph: Jack E. Boucher, February 1960
EODC Negative No. 777



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 4

Section of Krimmel engraving, "Election Day - 1815." Note the details of the balcony, date stone, Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the dark tone of the wood doors.

INHP Negative No. CN-17074


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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 5

Congress Hall from the southeast - detail of an 1880 view. Note the ventilator in a first floor window. (See also Illustration No. 30.)

INHP Negative No. 265



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 6

View of the Senate Chamber, looking west, after the restoration of 1895-1896.

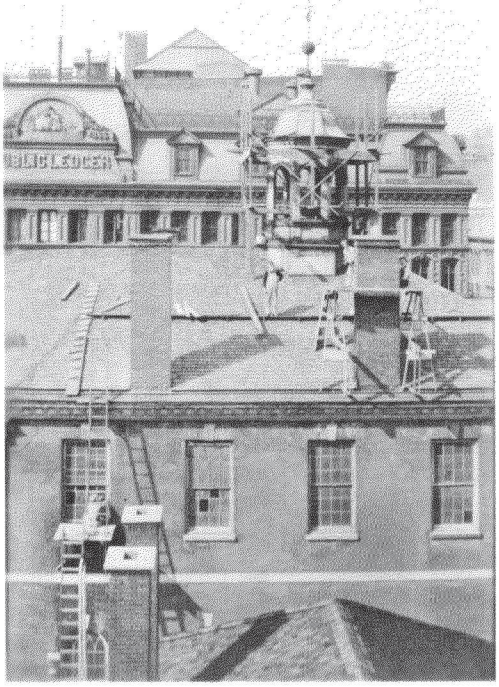
Courtesy of the New York City Public Library
EODC Negative No. 778



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 7

East facade of Congress Hall during the Restoration of 1912. Note sag in the roof at left due to the failing roof truss in the 1793 extension.

INHP Negative No. 3681


LEDGER

CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 8

Southeast door of Congress Hall during 1912 Restoration. Portions of the frontispiece are removed, showing the structural brick arch behind.

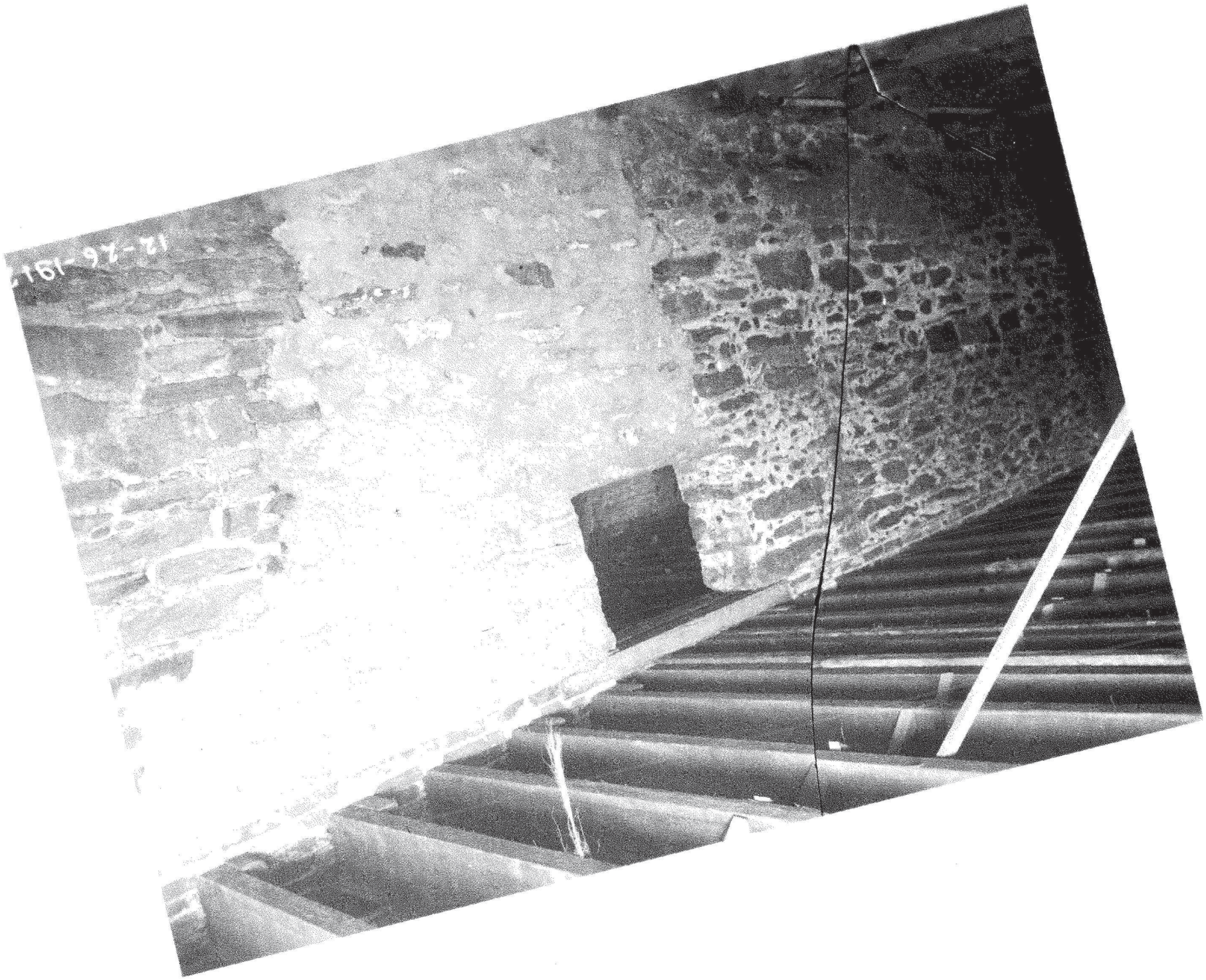
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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 9

Congress Hall Basement walls. Note original stonework with small stones inserted in mortar joints; i. e., galleted.

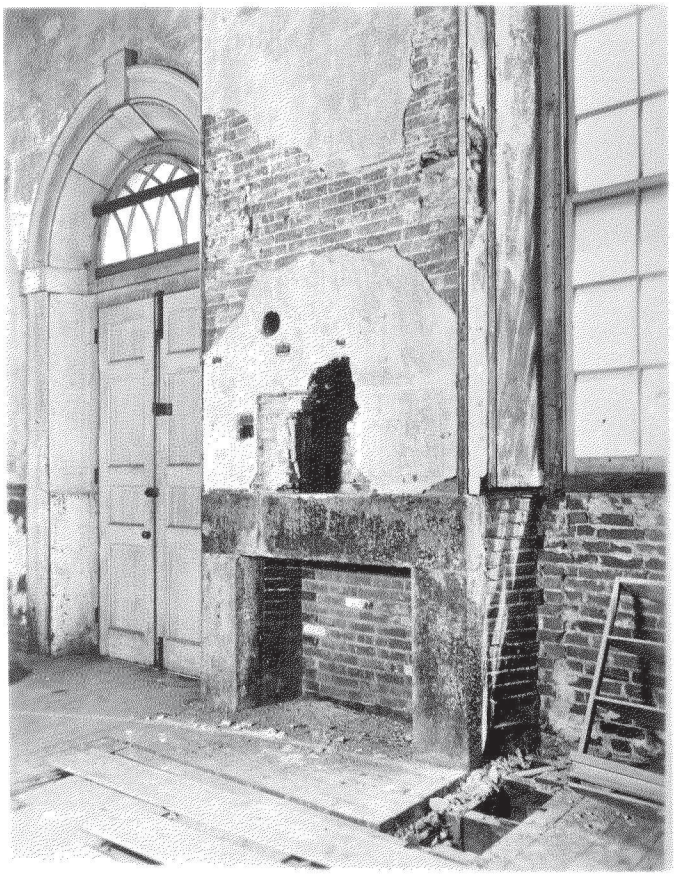
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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 10

Congress Hall, House of Representatives, northeast fireplace during architectural investigation for the 1912 Restoration. Note structural stone jambs and lintel, "clean-out" hole, and evidence above of original gallery.

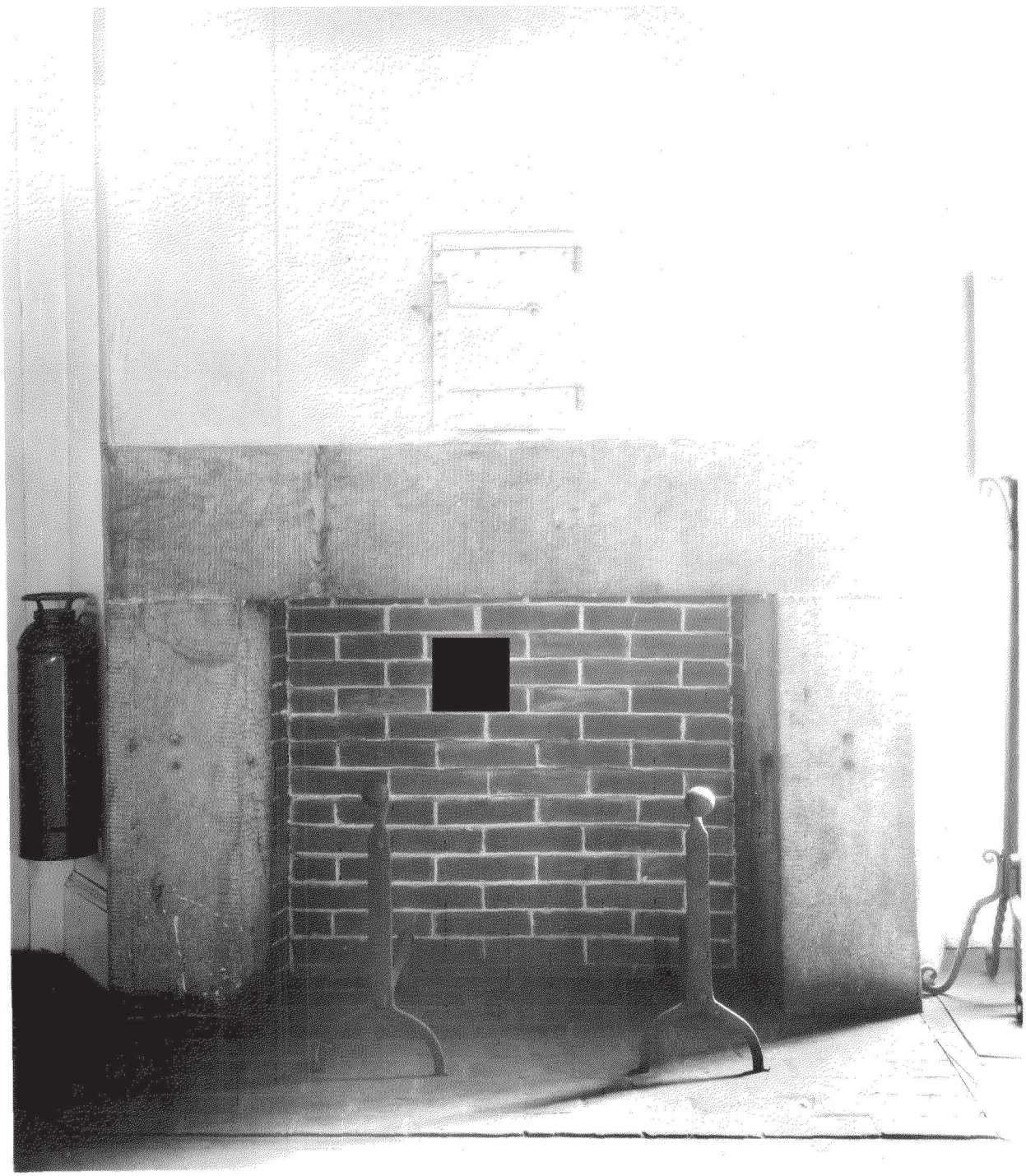
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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 11

Congress Hall, House of Representatives, northeast fireplace after 1912 Restoration.

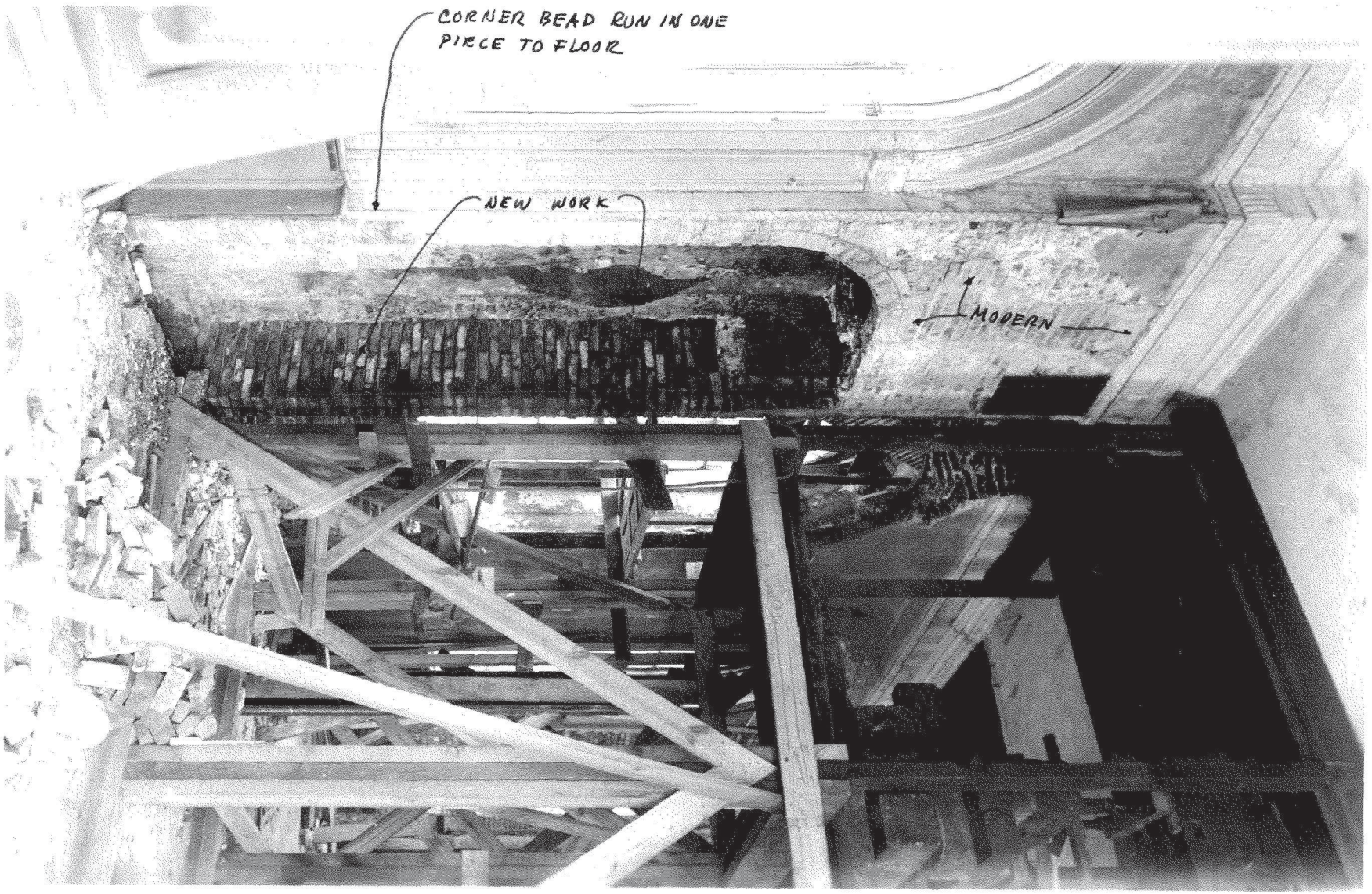
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CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 12

Congress Hall, House of Representatives, southwest chimney breast being restored as a niche in the 1912 Restoration. Originally these 1793 south chimneys were treated as the north ones; see Illustration No. 11.

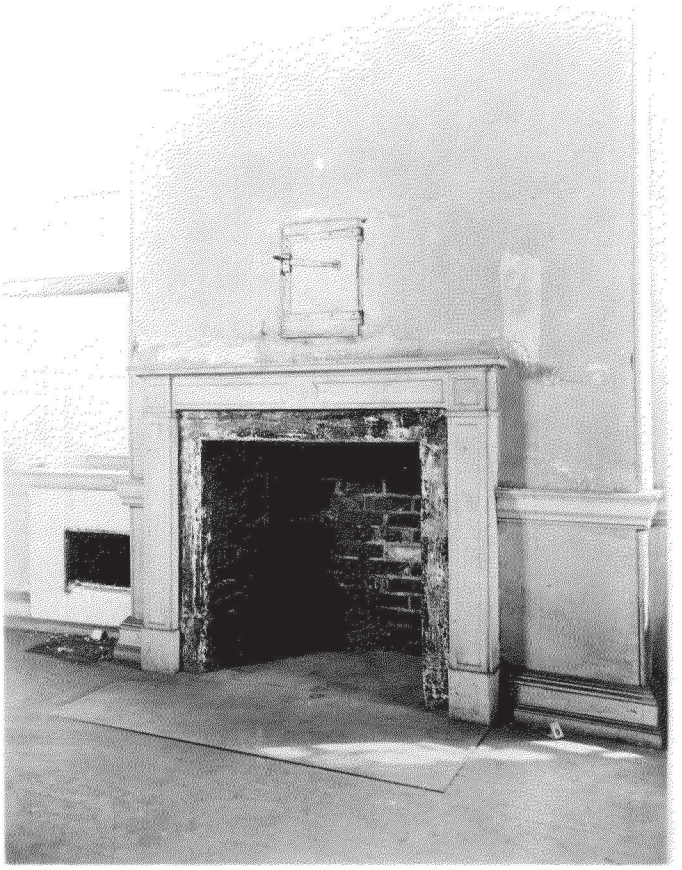
INHP Negative No. CN-5235


CORNER BEAD RUN IN ONE PIECE TO FLOOR
NEW WORK
MODERN

CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 13

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber, east fireplace, showing one of two white marble mantelpieces removed in the 1912 Restoration but now believed to be original.

INHP Negative No. 3692



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 14

Mantel from dining room of Lemon Hill (1785-1790),

Fairmount Park, Philadelphia.

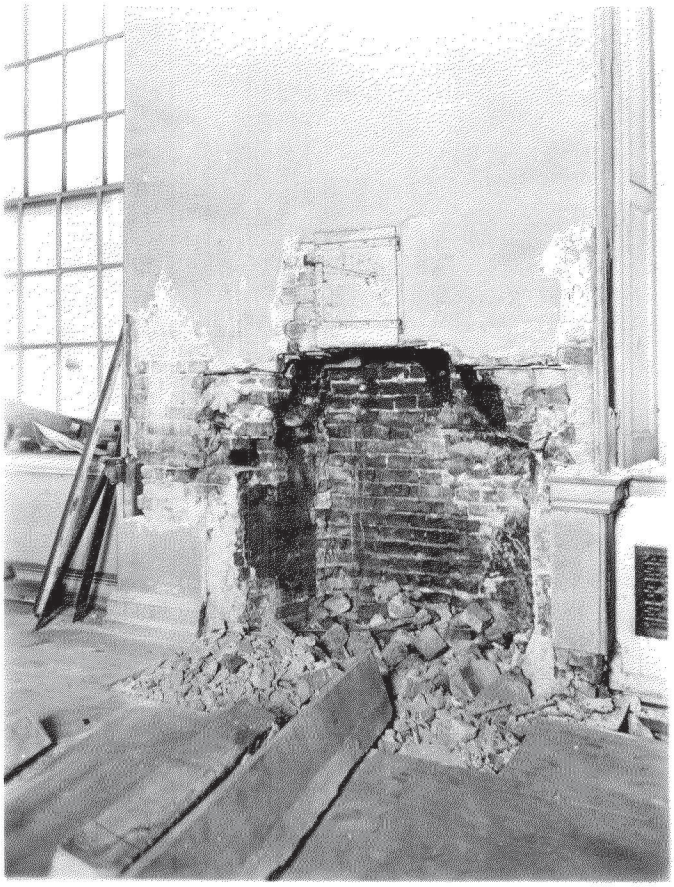
Ph: Theodore F. Dillon, February 1960
EODC Negative No. 779



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 15

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber, west fireplace after the removal of the marble mantelpiece and during the architectural investigation. See SECTION II (C-10, H-3, and K-2) for discussions of the evidence found.

INHP Negative No. 3693



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 16

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber, east fireplace after 1912 Restoration. Note the raised opening and higher position of the "clean-out" door accommodating the wood mantelpiece copied from that in the second floor, east middle room.

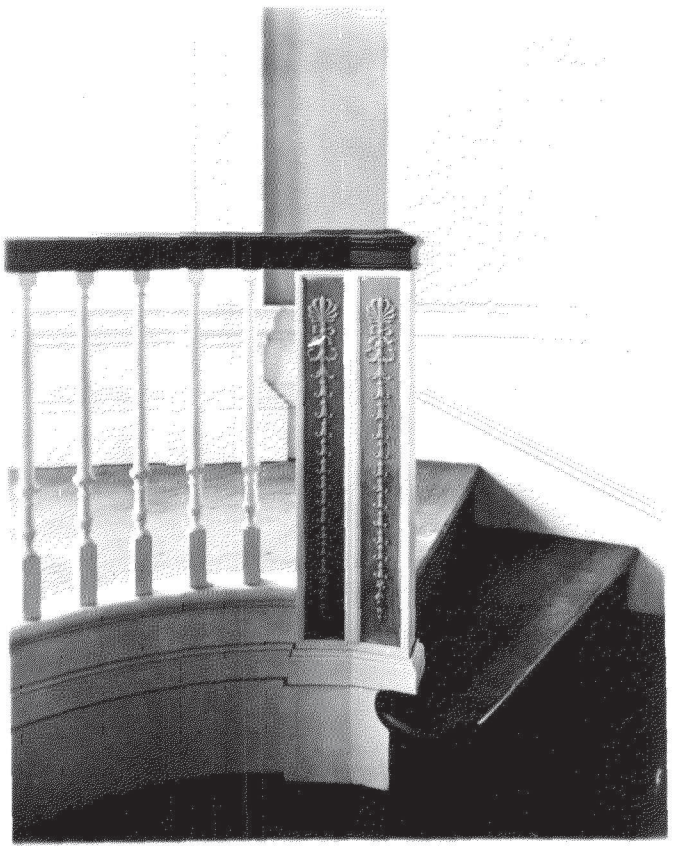
INHP Negative No. CN-26189



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 17

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber, Vice-President's dais after the Restoration of 1912. Note that the principal form of the dais was maintained from the 1895 Restoration (see Drawing No. 1), but the details have been re-evaluated and changed.

INHP Negative No. 3698



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 18

Congress Hall, second floor, east middle room, south wall during architectural investigation for the 1912 Restoration.

Courtesy of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania
EODC Negative No. 780

CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 19

Congress Hall, second floor, east middle room, west wall, during architectural investigation for the 1912 Restoration.

INHP Negative No. CN-5234



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 20

Wrought-iron balcony of Congress Hall as recorded c. 1920's. Note condition of ironwork and compare with Illustration No. 21.

INHP Negative No. 6172



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 21

Congress Hall, 1959 view of original balcony. Note deterioration of rail since 1920 period. See Illustration No. 20.

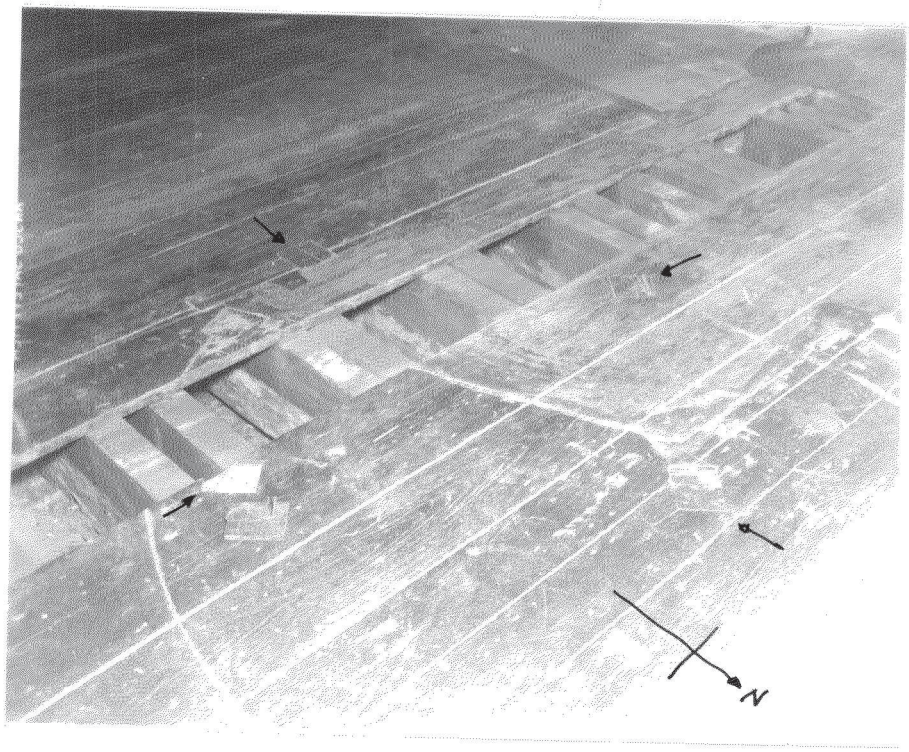
Ph: Penelope Hartshorne, August 1959
EODC Negative No. 781



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 22

Congress Hall, House of Representatives, area of original flooring showing mortise holes, which may have been used with the original speaker's platform. The other outline on the floor shows the position of the twentieth-century restored platform.

INHP Negative No. 6288


N

CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 23

Congress Hall, House of Representatives, west wall showing holes at one time thought to have supported the speaker's platform. Note also the vertical joint between the 1793 extension and the 1787 building. See Drawing No. 10 for an explanation of other evidence.

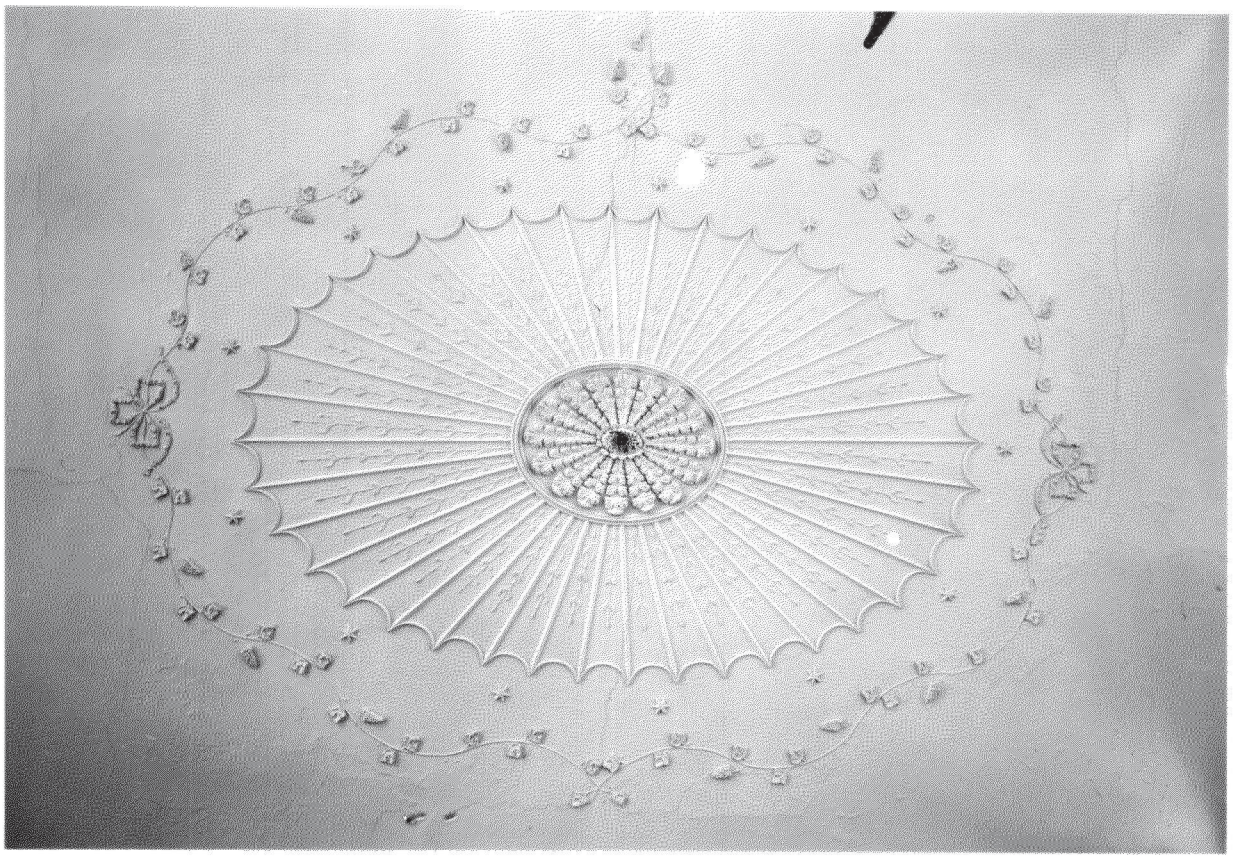
Ph: Jack E. Boucher, November 1959
EODC Negative No. 782



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 24

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber, ceiling medallion made by Thackara and Jones for £15.0.0 in 1793.

Ph: Jack E. Boucher, March 1959
INHP Negative No. 5842-A



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 25

Congress Hall, Senate Chamber. Note the extension of original plastering down behind the Vice-President's dais, showing that the platform was not erected against this wall when the room was first finished in 1793.

Ph: Jack E. Boucher, March 1960
EODC Negative No. 783



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 26

Congress Hall, second floor, east middle room. Note evidence of original pedestals under chair rail, below window architraves.

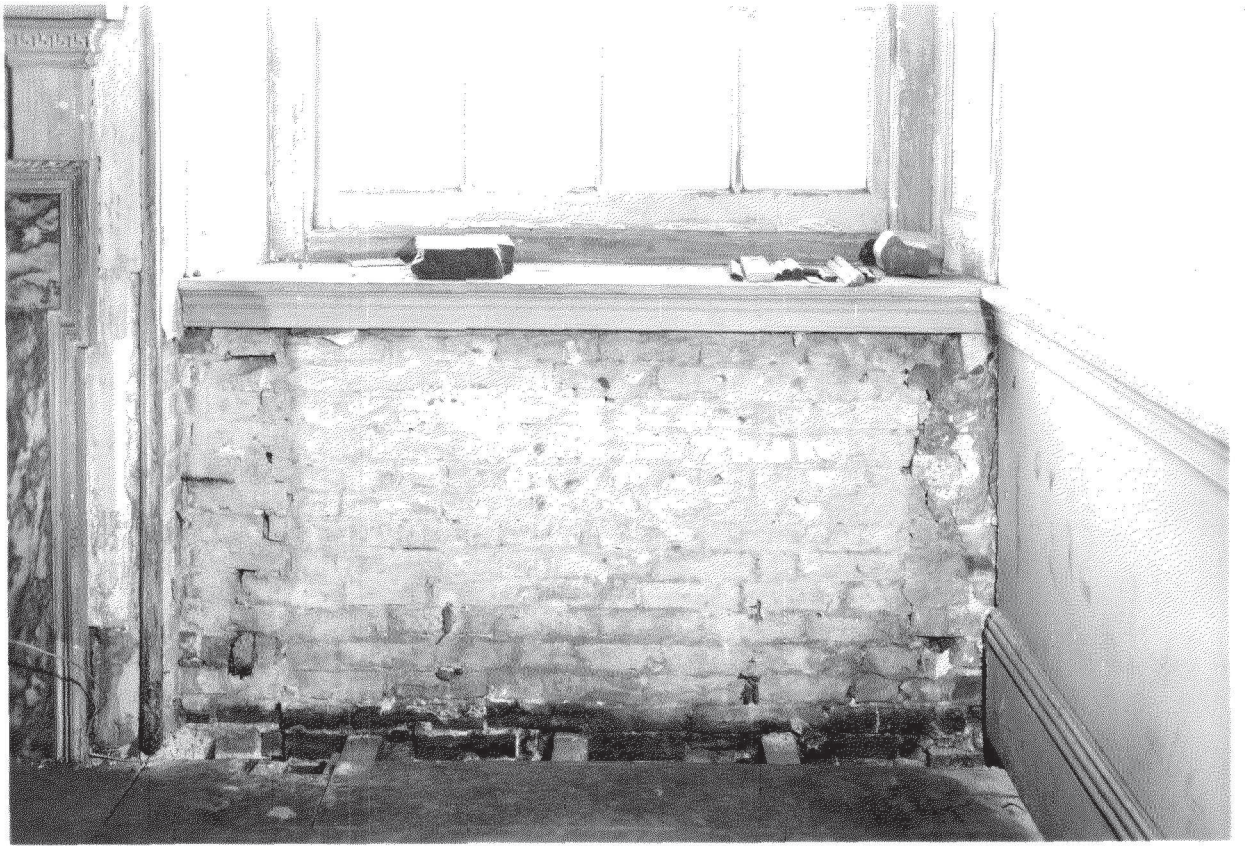
Ph: Jack E. Boucher, March 1960
EODC Negative No. 784



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 27

Congress Hall, second floor, east middle room, window to the south of the fireplace. Note vertical joints in brickwork showing that this opening was once used as a door. See SECTION II, C-9, "The Portico."

Ph: Jack E. Boucher, March 1960
EODC Negative No. 785



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 28

Congress Hall, second floor, west middle room. Note evidence of a "clean-out" door over mantelpiece. (See Illustration No. 29.)

Ph: Jack E. Boucher, April 1959
EODC Negative No. 786



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 29

Congress Hall, second floor, west middle room. "Clean-out" door over mantelpiece was uncovered in 1959. Note the broken bricks, which show that it was installed by breaking through an existing chimney breast.

Ph: Jack E. Boucher, March 1960
EODC Negative No. 787



CHAPTER III
SECTION V
Illustration No. 30

Ventilator from a house at 344 North Third Street,

Philadelphia, built c. 1790.

Ph: Penelope Hartshorne, October 1959
INHP Negative No. 6296-A



SECTION VI

DRAWINGS

Surveyed and restored by
George C. Mason, F.A.I.A.
Architect
1040 Drexel Building
Philadelphia

Plans and details of Congress Hall, Philadelphia.

Southeast corner Sixth and Chestnut Streets
Showing probable original arrangement and illustrating the restoration of the Senate Chamber in 1895-96 under the instructions of the Society of Colonial Dames in Pennsylvania.

Plans of Congress Hall.
Dec. 1st 1895.

Probable arrangement of Congress Hall as occupied by Congress Dec. 6th 1790 to May 14th 1800.

Truss.

Plan, elevation, section and details of Senate-gallery and stair-case.

Scale of feet

Sections and plans of framing in floor of Senate Chamber.

Plan elevation and details of platform in Senate Chamber.

Cornice in room C.

Plan.

Elevation of truss

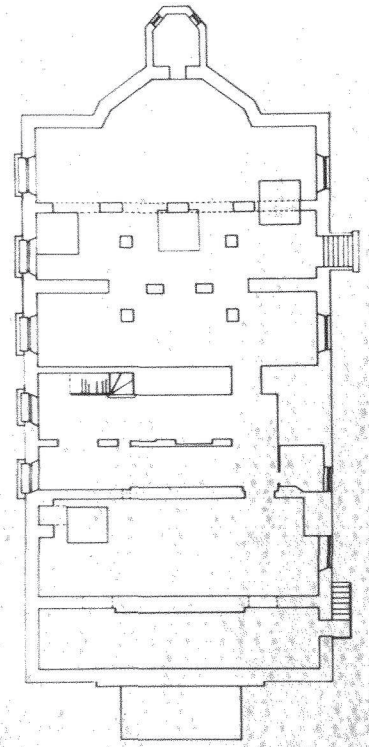
Cornice in Senate Chamber.

Plan of truss.

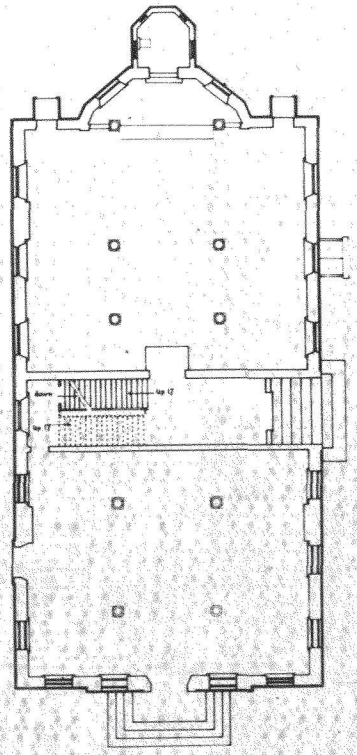
Elevation

Plan.

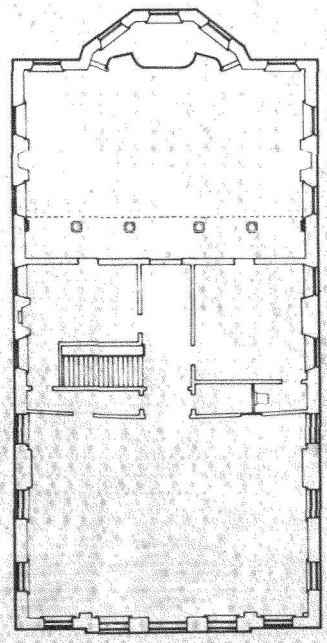
Drawing no. 1



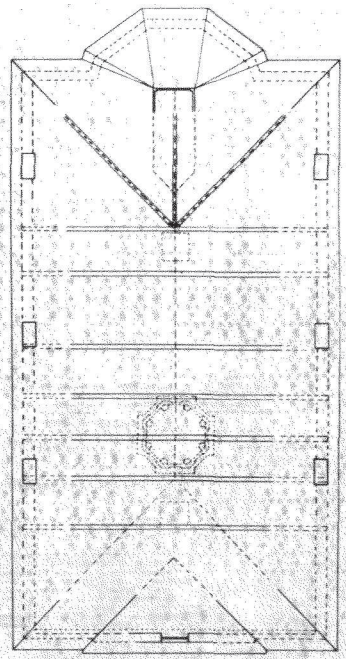
BASEMENT PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



ATTIC PLAN

RESTORATION OF CONGRESS HALL
6th & CHESTNUT STS. PHILA. PA.

GENERAL SURVEY OF BUILDING AS AT PRESENT

No. 1 SHEET No. 1
SCALE-1/8"-1'-0"
APRIL 11th-1901

WALTER COPE-GEORGE C. MASON-WILLSON EARLE JR.-EDGAR V. SEELER
FROM MILES DRG. SHEET-COMMITTEE OF PHILA. CHAPTER OF
THE AMERICAN INST. OF ARCHITECTS

F.C.B.-Th. E.S.P.-Chrm.

K-1

drawing no. 2

TEMPORARY OFFICE
CONGRESS HALL

RESTORATION OF CONGRESS HALL
INDEPENDENCE SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA.

SUB-COMMITTEE
PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS

FRANK MILTON DAY, CHAIRMAN
EDWIN L. SOTHERGREN GEORGE C. MASON
CHARLES A. ETIENNE HORACE WELLS SELLERS
THOMAS MCELROY

FLOOR PLANS
DRAWING NO 1

ROOM 'P'
ROOM 'O'
ROOM 'N'
ROOM 'M'
ROOM 'L'
ROOM 'K'
WOMENS TOILET
MENS TOILET
COLD AIR ROOM
ROOM 'H'
REPRESENTATIVES
ROOM 'F'
ROOM 'G'
SENATE CHAMBER
Old joists are spaced 16" apart - 2-8"x12" YP joist will be placed between each two old joists
ROOM 'H'
ROOM 'E'
ROOM 'J'
ROOM 'D'
VESTIBULE 'A'

Girder 'D'
Girder 'E'
Girder 'F'

BASEMENT FIRST FLOOR SECOND FLOOR

New stone work New brick work
Stud partitions Plaster block partitions
Old work to be removed
Works in line
F.E. Fire Extinguisher F.A. Fire Alarm

SCALE 1/4" = 1 foot
JULY 31st, 1912

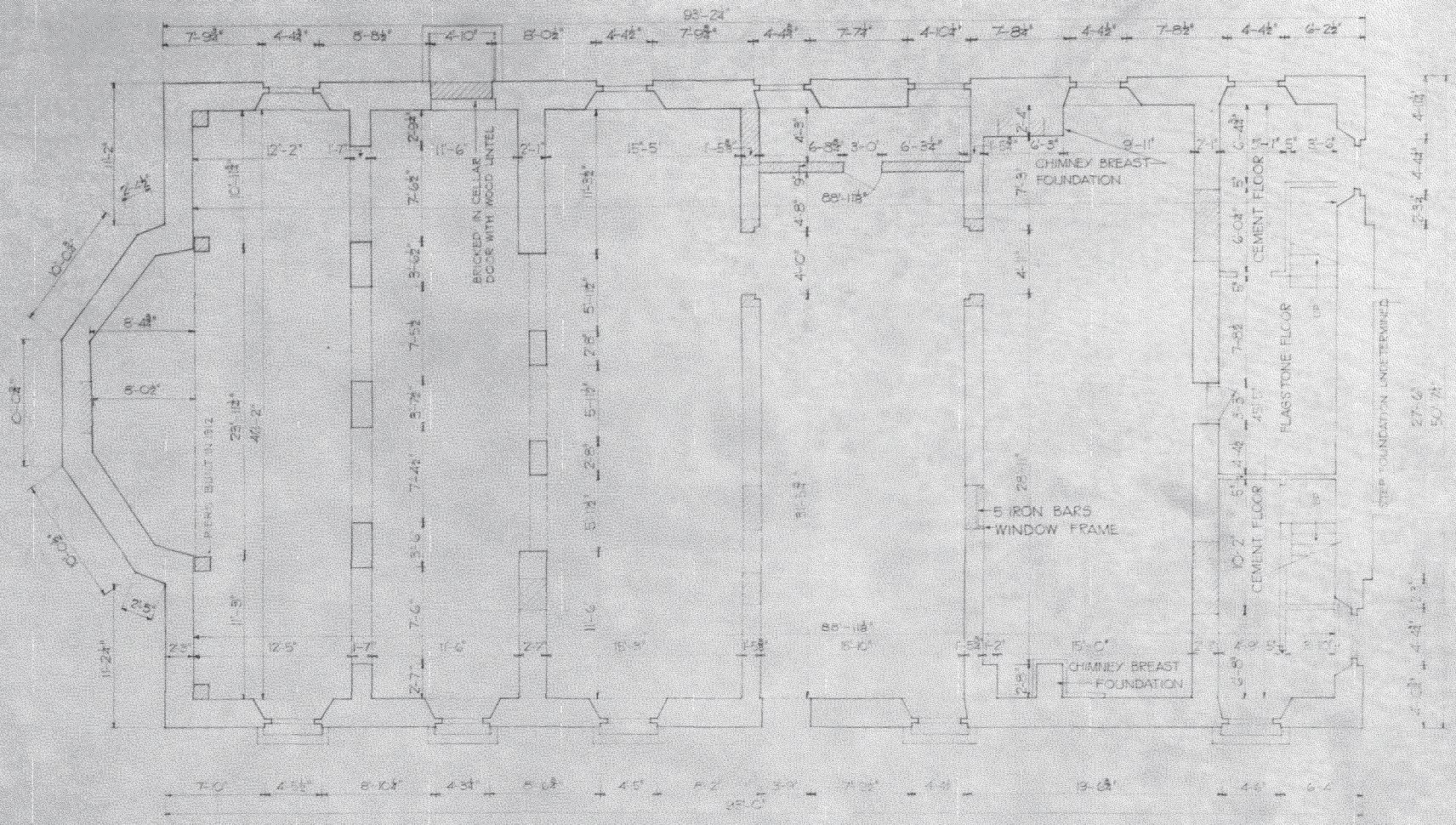
CHAPTER III
SECTION VI
Drawing No. 4

MEASURED DRAWINGS OF
CONGRESS HALL

IND-NHP 3118 sheets 2-15
HABS sheets 16-48

September 29, 1959

These drawings were made before the
physical investigation of the building began.



BASEMENT PLAN

NOTE: NO UTILITIES SHOWN

NOTE: WALLS - STONE EXCEPT WHERE BRICK IS NOTED
ALL WALLS WHITEWASHED
FLOORING - BRICK EXCEPT WHERE NOTED
CEILING - PLASTER

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED

DRAWN

CHECKED

SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
		REVISED	

RECOMMENDED

DATE

APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PREPARED BY

OFFICE

TITLE OF DRAWING
BASEMENT PLAN
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
NAME OF PARK

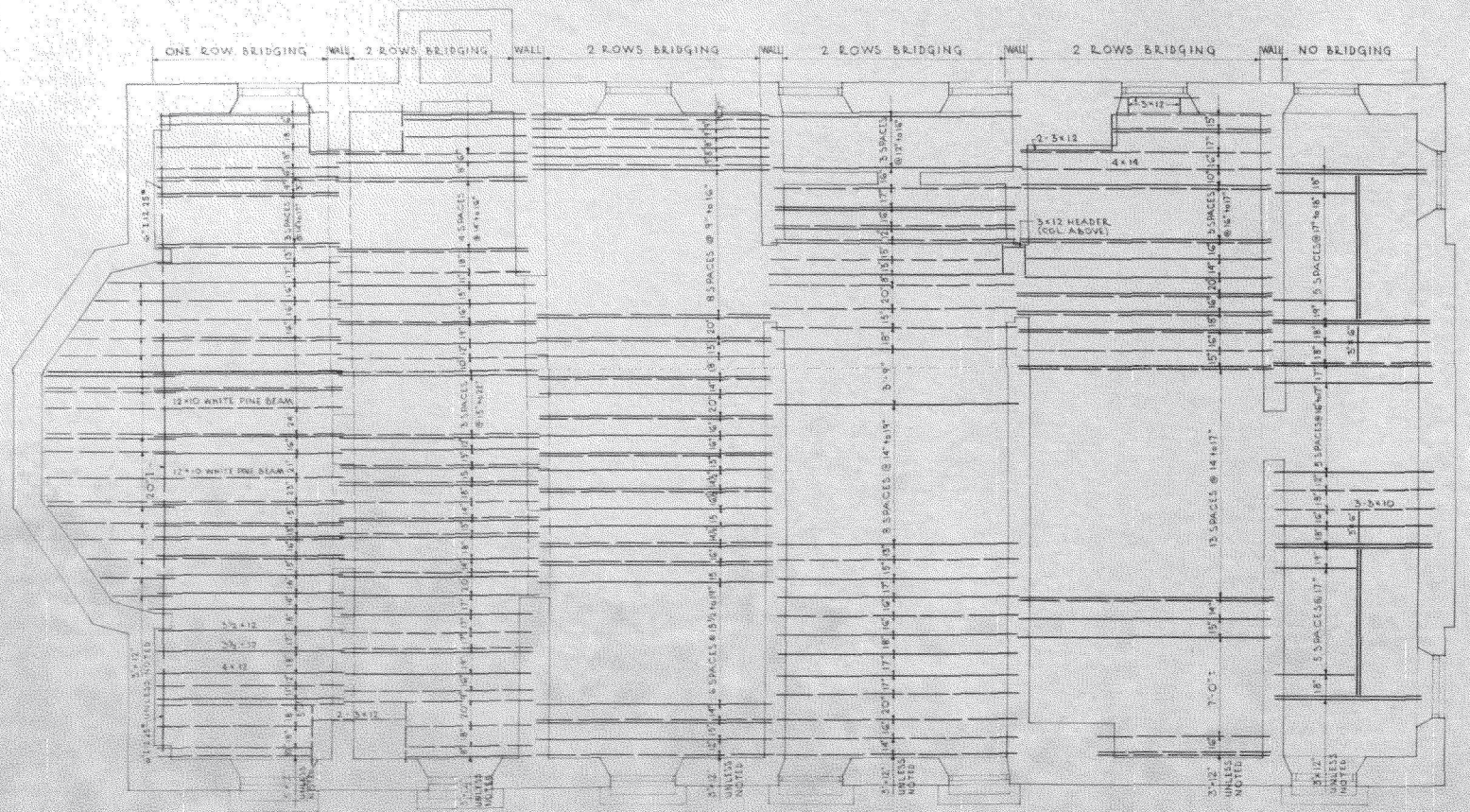
REGION

PCP NO.

SHEET 2 OF 7

DRAWING NO.

DATE



FIRST FLOOR FRAMING PLAN

GENERAL NOTES

INFORMATION FOR THIS SHEET TAKEN FROM A GEORGE V. EWING CO. SURVEY COMPLETED MARCH 16, 1959.
BOTTOM OF FIRST FLOOR FRAMING PRESENTLY COVERED WITH PLASTER & LATH.
— — — INDICATES ORIGINAL OAK
——— INDICATES YELLOW PINE INSTALLED 1912

BASIC DATA

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

RECOMMENDED
DATE
APPROVED

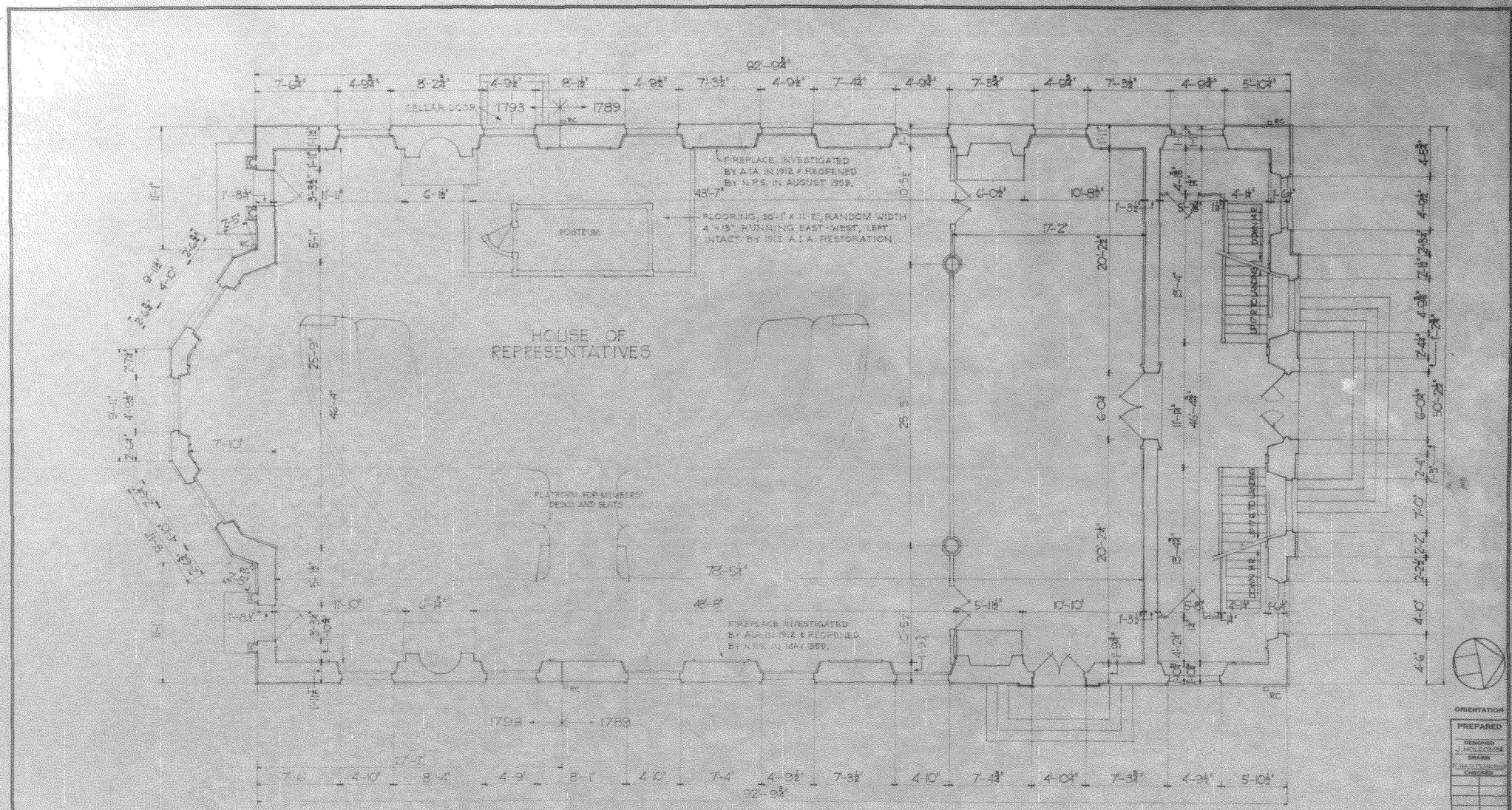
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

FIRST FLOOR FRAMING PLAN
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

ORIENTATION

PREPARED
DESIGNED
FORSTER
DRAWN
CHECKED

REVISED
REGION
FIVE
PCP NO.
SHEET 2 OF 2
DRAWING NO.
DATE 5/63



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

NOTE - WALLS - PLASTER ON BRICK
FLOORING - RANDOM WIDTH & 9"-11" RUNNING EAST - WEST EXCEPT WHERE NOTED
CEILING - PLASTER ON WIRE LATH
HEARTHS - BRICK

BASIC DATA

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

RECOMMENDED

APPROVED

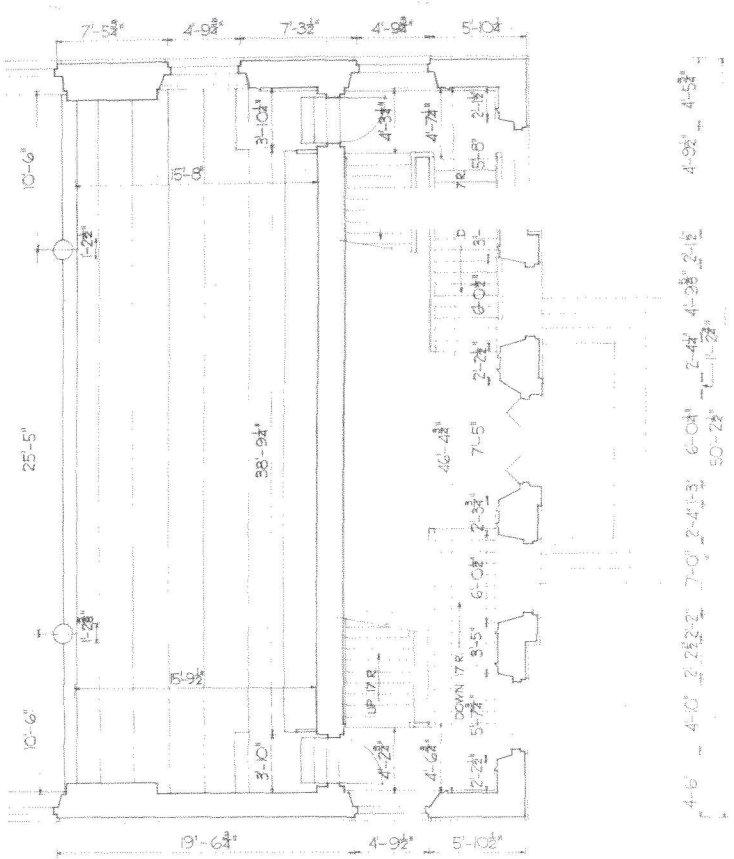
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

ORIENTATION

PREPARED
DESIGNED J. HOLCOMBE
DRAWN F. MASTRONARDI
CHECKED

REVISED
REGION FIVE
RCP NO.
SHEET 2 OF 5
DRAWING NO. HISTORIC 2115
DATE 3/29/63



FIRST FLOOR GALLERY

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED

DRAWN

CHECKED

SCALE

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
	REVISED		

RECOMMENDED

DATE

APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PREPARED BY

OFFICE

TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

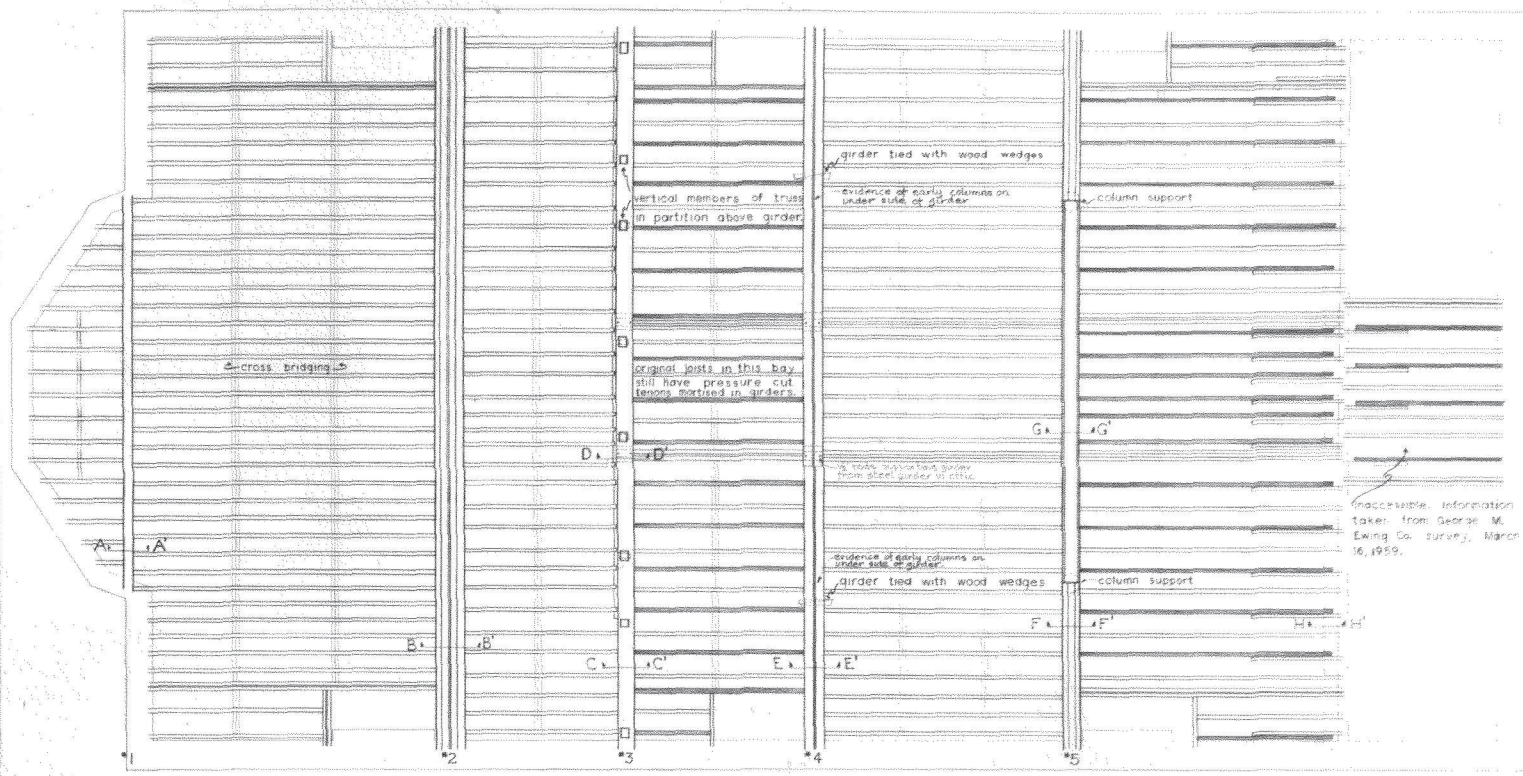
REGION

PCP NO.

SHEET 3 OF 5

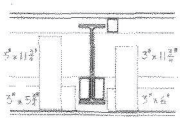
DRAWING NO.

DATE

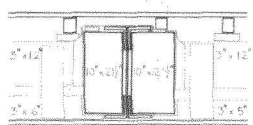


PLAN

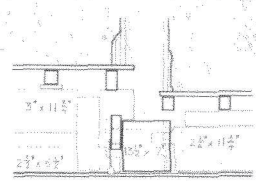
(Note: Original joists shown solid black)



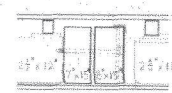
Girder #1 (A-A')



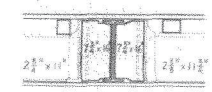
Girder #2 (B-B')



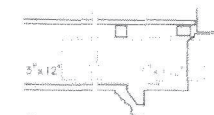
Girder #3 (C-C')



Girder #4 (E-E')

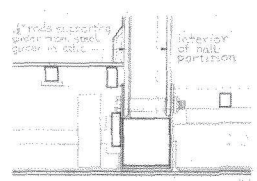


Girder #5 (F-F')



Bearing wall partition (H-H)

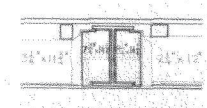
FRAMING PLAN SECOND FLOOR



Girder #3 (D-D')

SECTION DETAILS

NOTE: WOOD MEMBERS OF GIRDERS DATE FROM: #2-1796; #3-1793; #4 & #5-1789. IN 1912, #2 & #5 WERE DIVIDED TO ACCOMODATE STEEL-WORK (WHERE SHOWN). #1 ALSO DATES FROM 1912.



Girder #5 (G-G')

BASIC DATA

Drawn by: Lawrence J. Biond

ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED: L.B.

DRAWN: L.B.

CHECKED

SCALE 1/4"=1'-0" (3/8"=1'-0")

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

REVISED

RECOMMENDED

DATE

APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN OFFICE

REGION FIVE

PCP NO.

SECOND FLOOR FRAMING PLAN
TITLE OF DRAWING

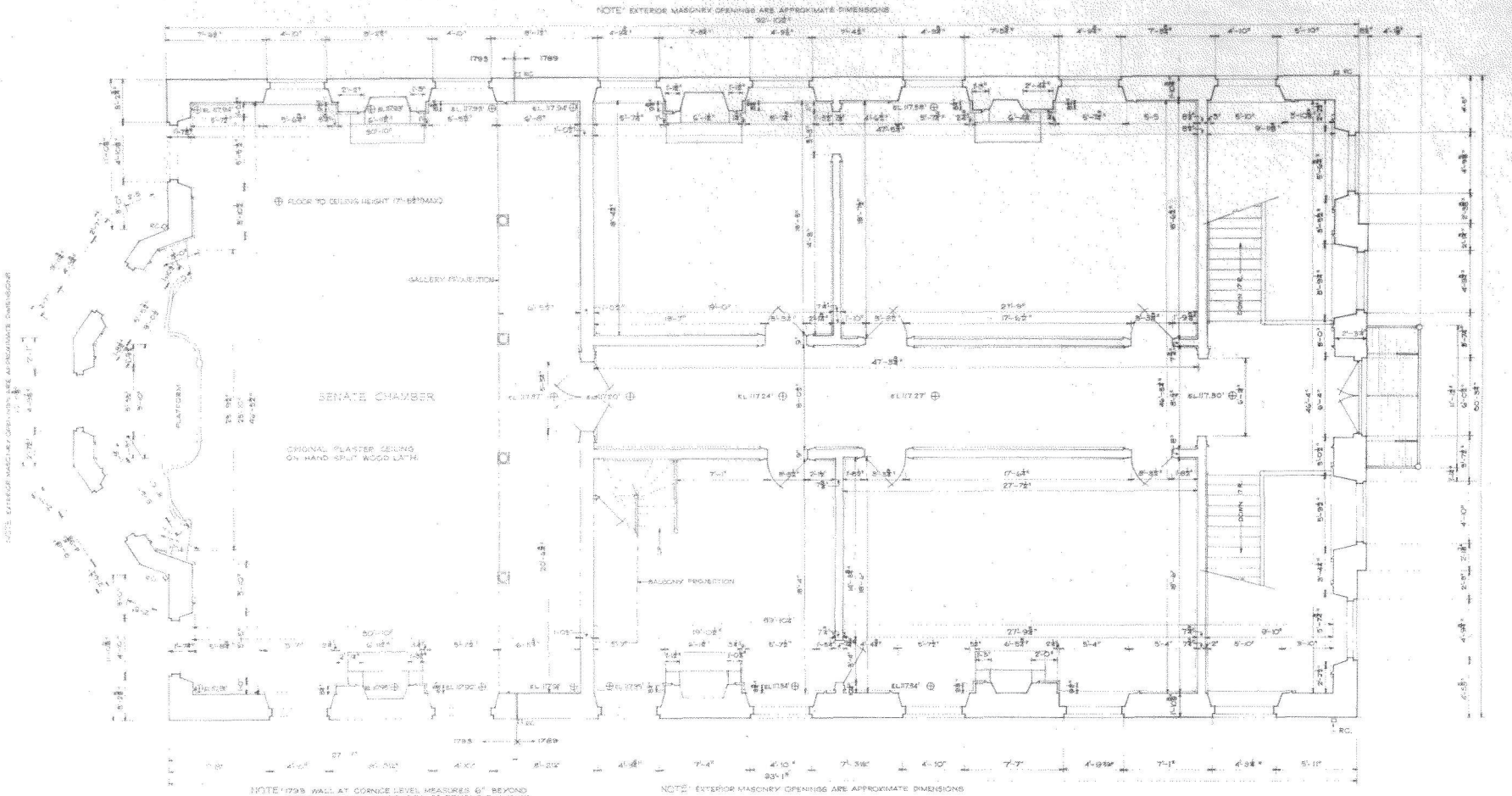
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK

INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

SHEET 4 OF 5

DRAWING NO. NCP-IND 3-18

DATE 9-20-59



NOTE: 1793 WALL AT CORNICE LEVEL MEASURES 6" BEYOND PLUMB. 1789 WALL MEASURES 3" BEYOND PLUMB AT EAST WALL JUNCTURE OF TWO STRUCTURES.

NOTE: EXTERIOR WALLS - PLASTER ON BRICK
INTERIOR WALLS - PLASTER ON WIRE LATH
FLOORING - RANDOM WIDTH 6"-11" RUNNING NORTH-SOUTH
CEILING - PLASTER ON WIRE LATH EXCEPT WHERE NOTED
FIREPLACE HEARTHS - BRICK SURROUNDED BY MARBLE

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: ¼" = 1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

AMENDED

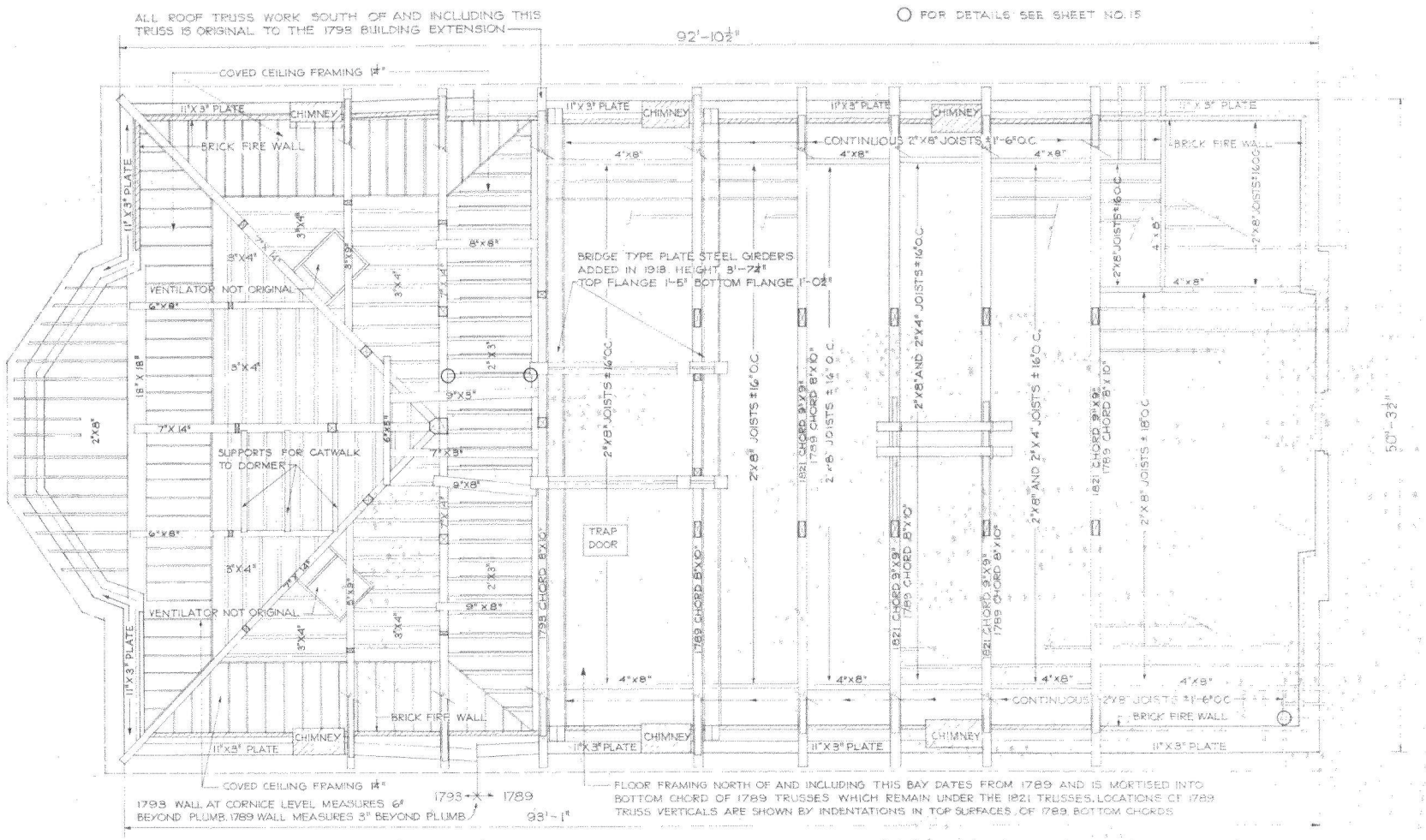
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY

IND

⊕ FLOOR LEVELS TAK
ARBITRARY BENC
BY G.W. KENT & CO.,

BASIC DATA

NTATION
PARED
SIGNED
COMBE
RAWN
TSHORN
ECKED
VISED
ISION
7/VE.
6.
7 OF 15
WING NO.
DNHP
126
/23/53



ATTIC FLOOR FRAMING PLAN

BASIC DATA

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

RECOMMENDED

APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

ATTIC FLOOR FRAMING PLAN
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

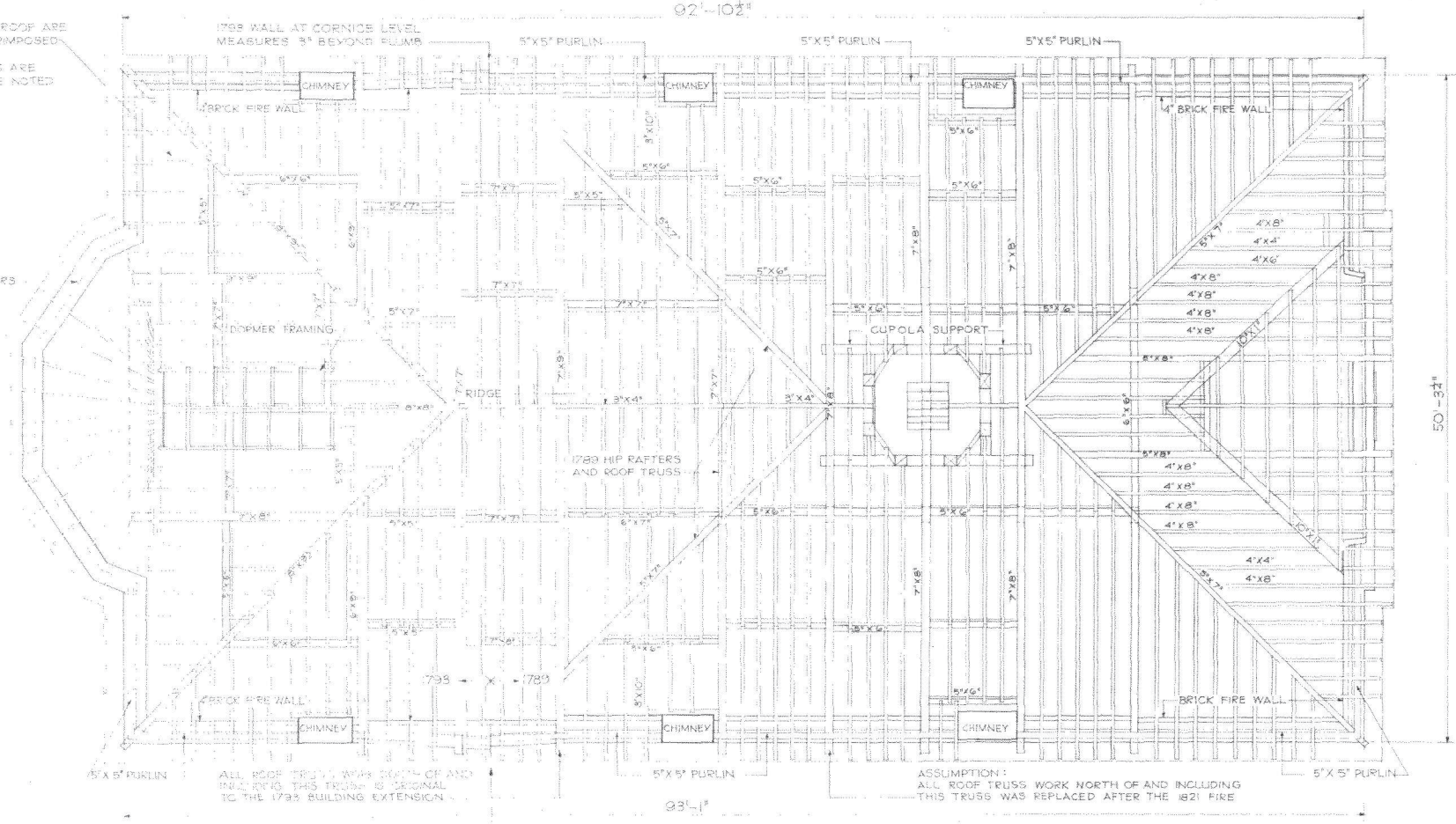
ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED J.HOLCOMBE
DRAWN
CHECKED

REVISED

REGION NINE
PCP NO.
SHEET 8 OF 15
DRAWING NO. INDEP-NHP-3118
DATE 3/29/63



ROOF FRAMING PLAN

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

PREPARED	
DESIGNED	J.HOLCOMBE
DRAWN	R.HARTSHORN
CHECKED	

SCALE : 1/4"=1'-0"

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
	REVISED		

RECOMMENDED

DATE

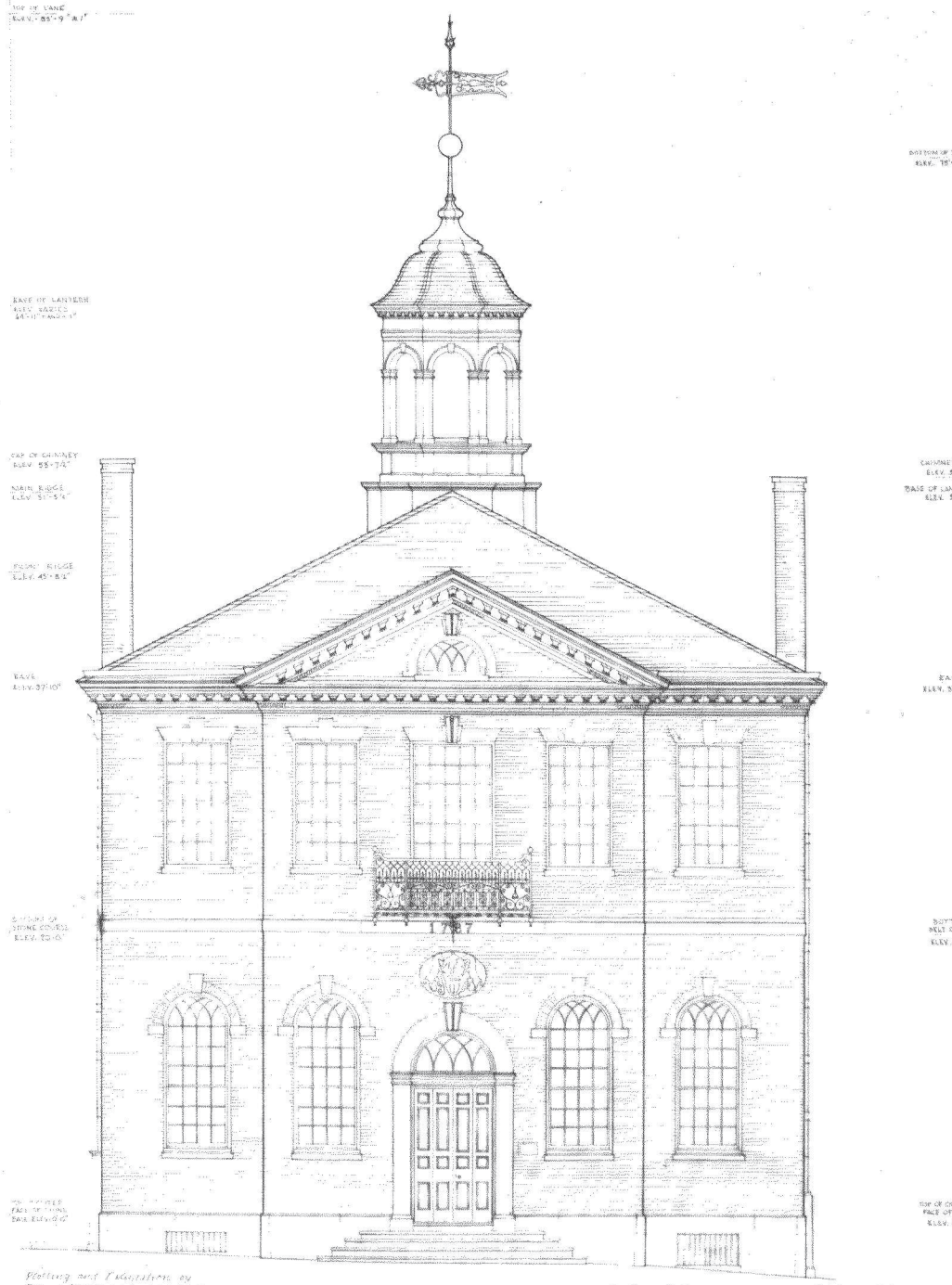
APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

ROOF FRAMING PLAN
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

REGION FIVE
PCP NO.
SHEET 9 OF 15
DRAWING NO. INDH-1P
-518-
DATE 9/29/59

BASIC DATA



Plotting and Elevations by
Floyd Bledsoe & Clifford Harden

Scale in Feet

Scale in Meters

NORTH ELEVATION - CONGRESS HALL - INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL PARK
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

[illegible] A. [illegible] 1957, FROM FIELD MEASUREMENTS, PLOTTED ON WILD A-7 AUTOGRAPH AND DRAWN AT THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, SEPT-DEC 1958

[illegible] & CLIFFORD A. HARDEN - REGISTERED [illegible]
[illegible] - RESEARCH ASSISTANT
JAMES M. [illegible] - DRAFTSMAN

APPROVED
RECOMMENDED

SCALE

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
EASTERN

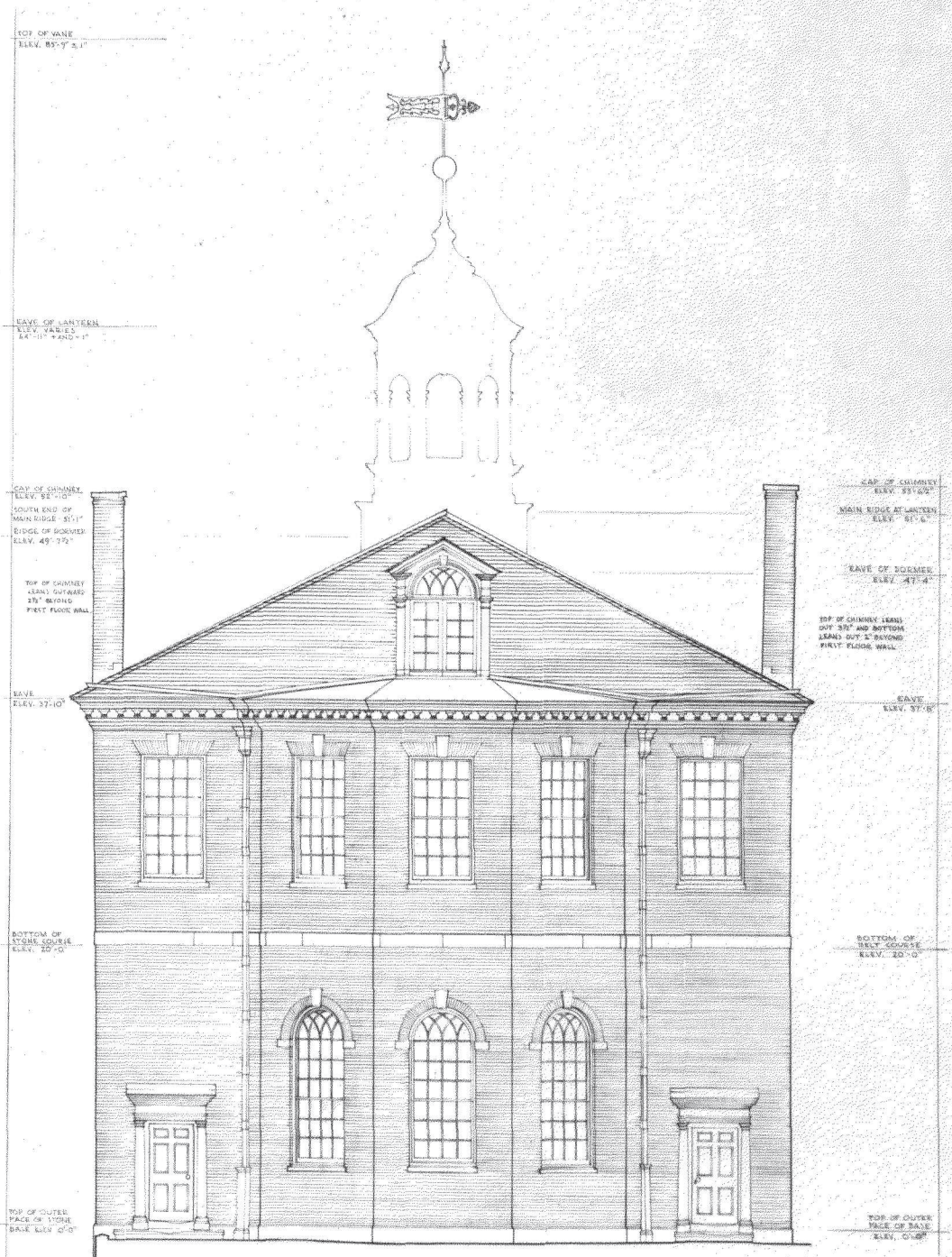
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

REGION FIVE
DRAWING NO. NHP-2000
SHEET 10 OF 15 SHEETS

DESIGNED
DRAWN
CHECKED
SUPERVISORY

PREPARED

ORIENTATION



Plotting and Delineation by
Perry E. Borchers & Dellas H. Hardee

Scale in Feet 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Scale in Meters 0 1 2

SOUTH ELEVATION - CONGRESS HALL - INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL PARK
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

PHOTOGRAPHED MARCH 21, 1959 WITH WILD T-50 PHOTOTHEODOLITE, PLOTTED ON WILD A-7 AUTOGRAPH AND DRAWN AT THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, SEPT.-OCT. 1959

PERRY E. BORCHERS - RESEARCH SUPERVISOR
DELLAS H. HARDEE - RESEARCH ASSISTANT
JAMES M. REPLOGLE - DRAFTSMAN

BASIC DATA

RECOMMENDED

APPROVED

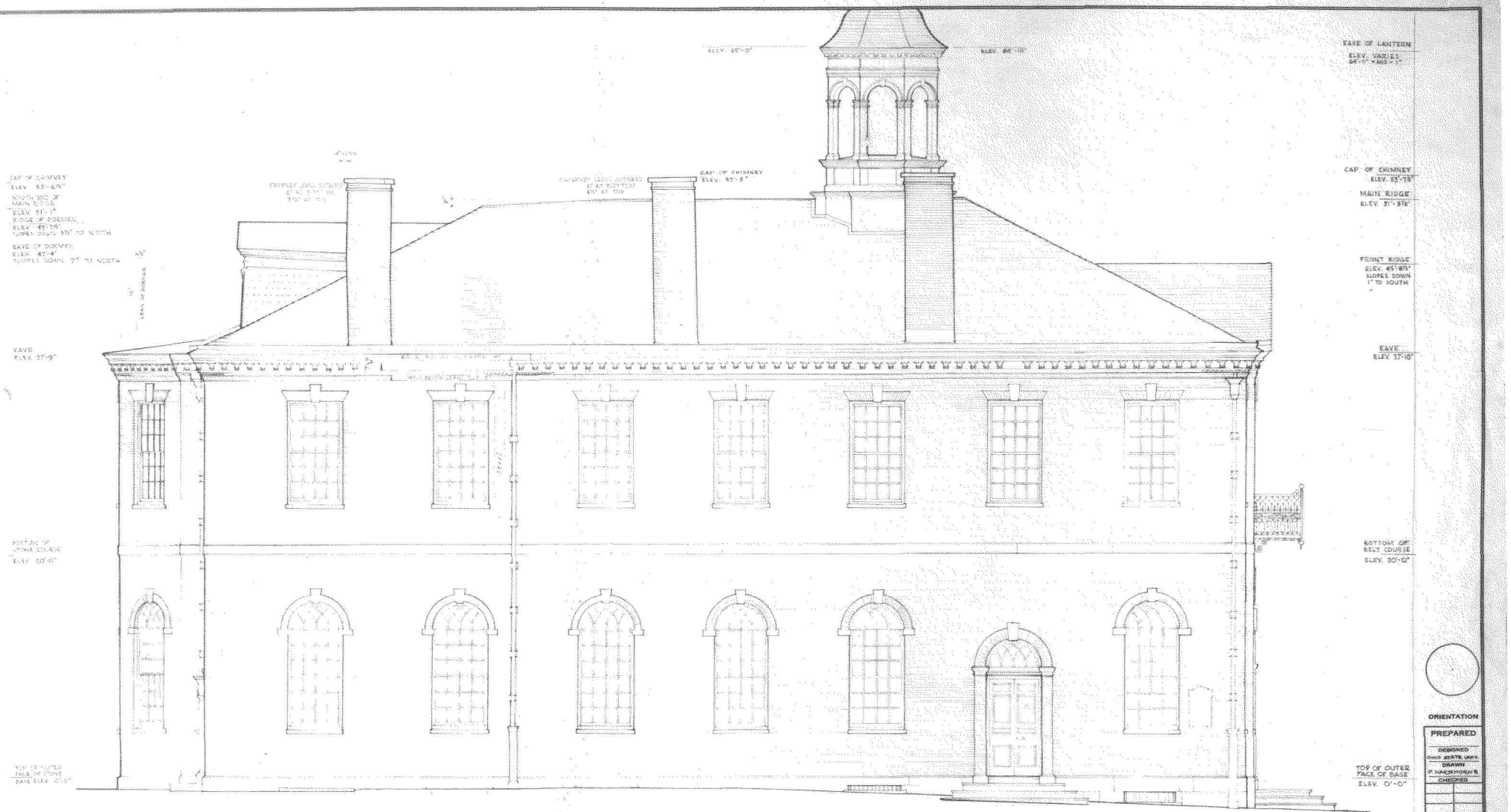
SCALE

MARK | DESCRIPTION OF REVISION | DATE | INITIAL

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN OFFICE

SOUTH ELEVATION
CONGRESS HALL
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

DRAWING NO. 3115
SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS
FILE NO. 1106
REVISED
DESIGNED
DRAWN
CHECKED
PREPARED
ORIENTATION
DATE 9/29/59



Drawing and Delineation by
Perry E. Borchers & James M. Reploglé

Scale in Feet

Scale in Meters

EAST ELEVATION - CONGRESS HALL - INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL PARK
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

PHOTOGRAPHED MARCH 31 & APRIL 25, 1959 WITH WILD T-30 PHOTOTHEODOLITE, PLOTTED ON WILD A-7 AUTOGRAPH AND DRAWN AT THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, SEPT.-OCT. 1959.

PERRY E. BORCHERS - RESEARCH SUPERVISOR
DOUGLAS G. WARNER - RESEARCH ASSISTANT
JAMES M. REPLOGLE AND WILLIAM R. HARRIMAN
DRAFTSMEN

BASIC DATA

SCALE	MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
RECOMMENDED ____ DATE				
APPROVED ____				

REVISED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

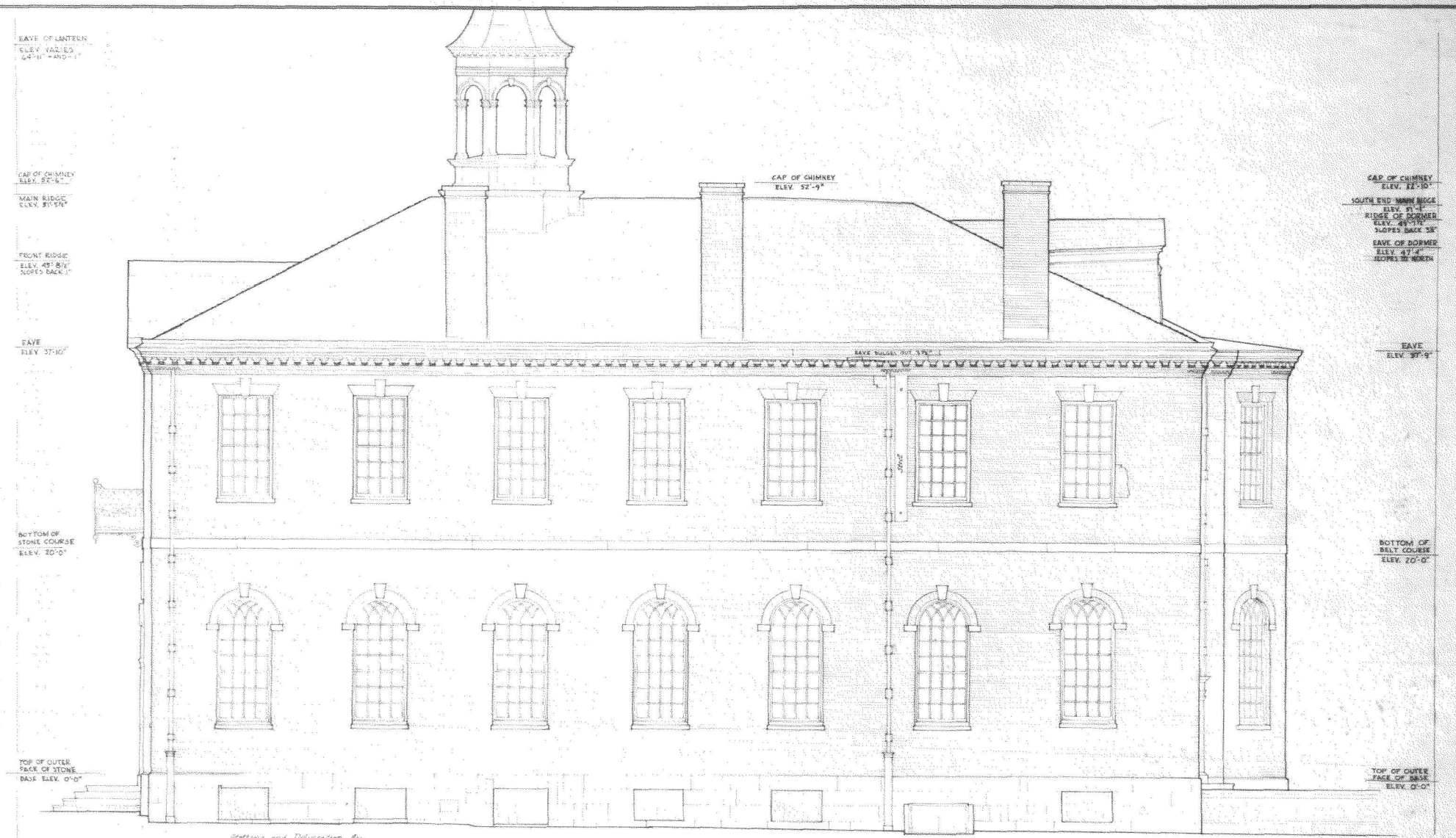
EAST ELEVATION
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED	OHIO STATE UNIV.
DRAWN	P. HANCHSHOUE'S
CHECKED	

REGION FIVE
PCP NO.
SHEET 11 OF 15
DRAWING NO. INDEP-NHP 3118
DATE 9/29/59



Plotting and Delineation By
Percy S. Bockelkie & Thomas M. Keyser

Scale in Feet
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10'

Scale in Meters
0 1 2 3

WEST ELEVATION - CONGRESS HALL - INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL PARK
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

PHOTOGRAPHED MARCH 21 & APRIL 20, 1959 WITH WILD T-30 PHOTOTHEODOLITE, PLOTTED ON WILD A-7 AUTOGRAPH AND
DRAWN AT THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, SEPT.-OCT., 1959

PERCY S. BOCKELKIE - RESEARCH SUPERVISOR
WILLIAM H. WARNER, RESEARCH ASSISTANT
JAMES M. KEYSER AND WILLIAM E. HARKIMAN
DRAFTSMEN

BASIC DATA

SCALE	MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
RECOMMENDED ____ DATE				
APPROVED ____				

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

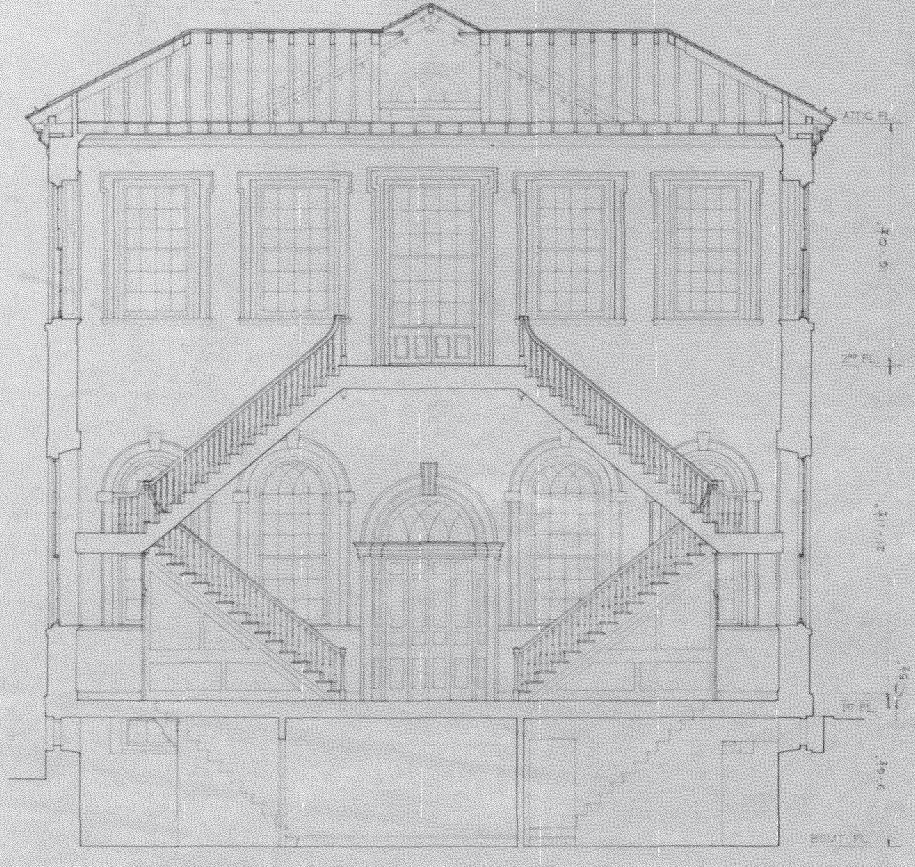
WEST ELEVATION
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

ORIENTATION

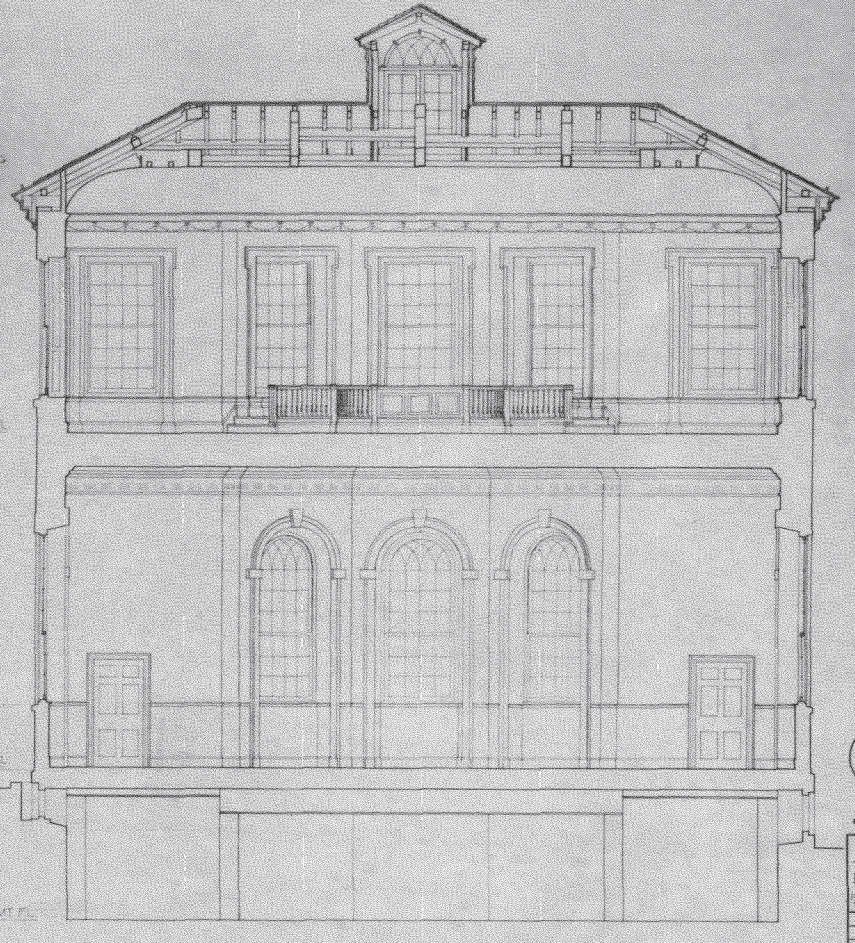
PREPARED
DESIGNED
OHIO STATE UNIV.
DRAWN
HARTMCKAIB
CHECKED

REVISED

REGION FIVE
PDP NO.
SHEET 12 OF 19
DRAWING NO. INDNHP 5138
DATE 9/29/59



SECTION AT STAIR HALL
LOOKING NORTH



SECTION AT SENATE CHAMBER
LOOKING SOUTH

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

PREPARED	
DESIGNED	D.C. NORRIS
DRAWN	P.HARTSHORNE
CHECKED	
DATE / INITIAL	
REVISED	
REGION	FIVE
PCP NO.	
SHEET 13 OF 15	
DRAWING NO.	IND-INHP 518
DATE	5/29/59

SCALE 1/4"-1'-0"

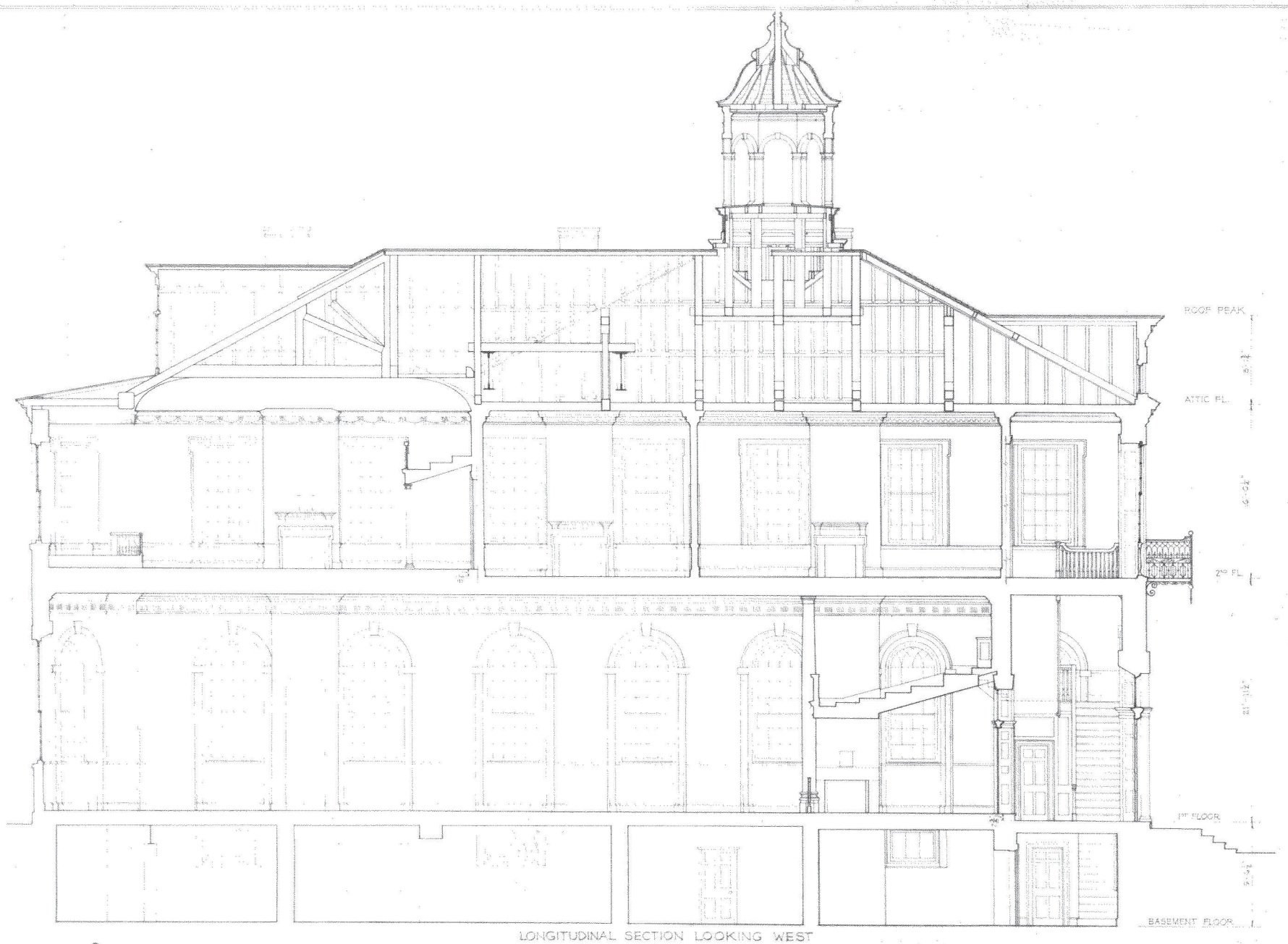
MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION

RECOMMENDED ____ DATE

APPROVED ____

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY
EASTERN
OFFICE

TRANSVERSE SECTIONS
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK



LONGITUDINAL SECTION LOOKING WEST

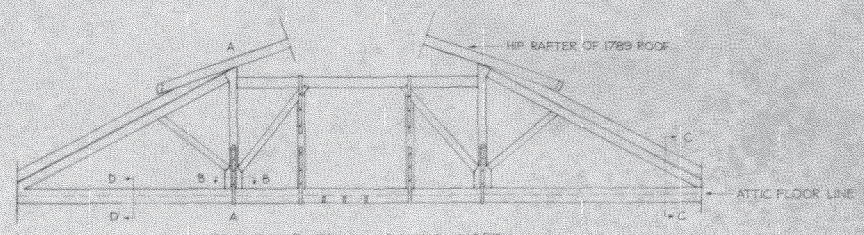
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
DENVER
EASTERN

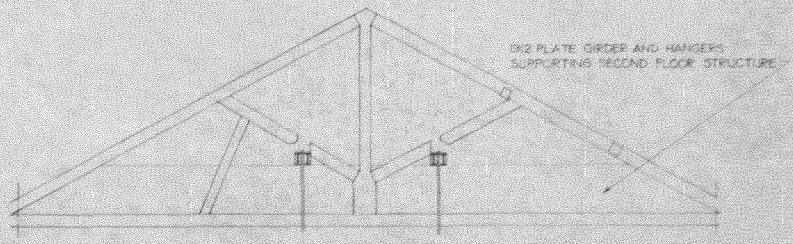
LONGITUDINAL SECTION LOOKING WEST
CHESTNUT HALL
CONGRESS HALL
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

REGION FIVE
HCP No.
sheet 14 of 15 sheets
DRAWING NO. 2460-20018
SUPERSEDES DRAWING NO.
date 9/25/59

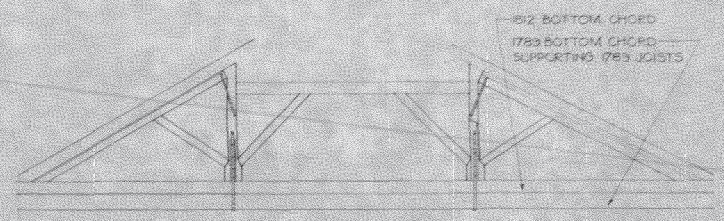
PREPARED
D. MORRIS
P. HARTSHORNE
CHECKED



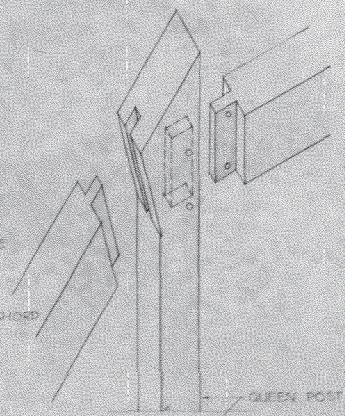
1789 ROOF TRUSS LOOKING NORTH

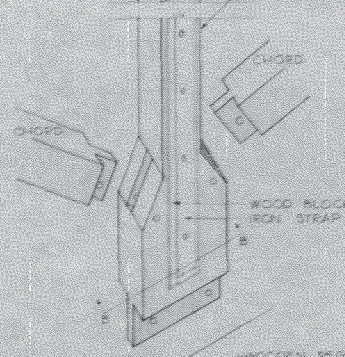


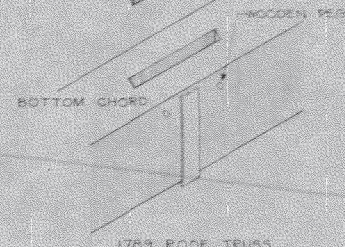
NORTHERNMOST 1793 ROOF TRUSS LOOKING NORTH



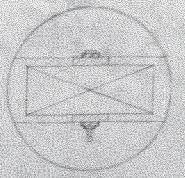
NORTHERNMOST 1821 ROOF TRUSS LOOKING NORTH



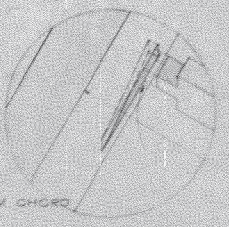




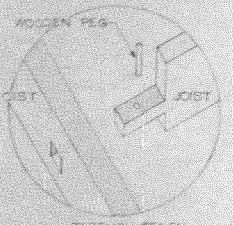
1789 ROOF TRUSS
DETAIL A-A



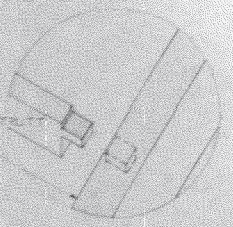
SECTION THROUGH
QUEEN POST BASE
1789 ROOF TRUSS
DETAIL B-B

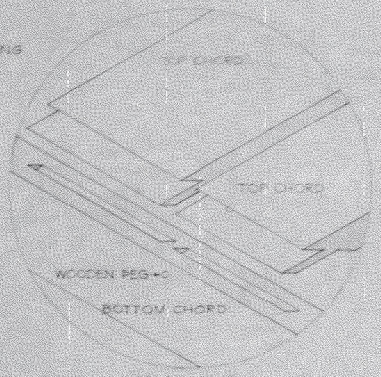


1725 SUPPORT
FOR GORE OF TRUSS
SEE ATTIC FLOOR FRAMING PLAN
SHEET 5, DETAIL LOCATION ENCIRCLED

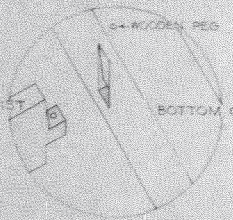


THROUGH TENON
ATTIC FLOOR CONNECTION
SEE ATTIC FLOOR FRAMING PLAN
SHEET 5, DETAIL LOCATION ENCIRCLED





1789 ROOF TRUSS
DETAIL C-C



SUP TENON
OF 1789 TRUSS
AND ATTIC FLOOR
CONNECTION
DETAIL D-D

ORIENTATION

PREPARED		
DESIGNED	HOLCOMBE	
DRAWN		
CHECKED		
DATE	INITIAL	
REVISED		

SCALE

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL

RECOMMENDED ..... DATE .....

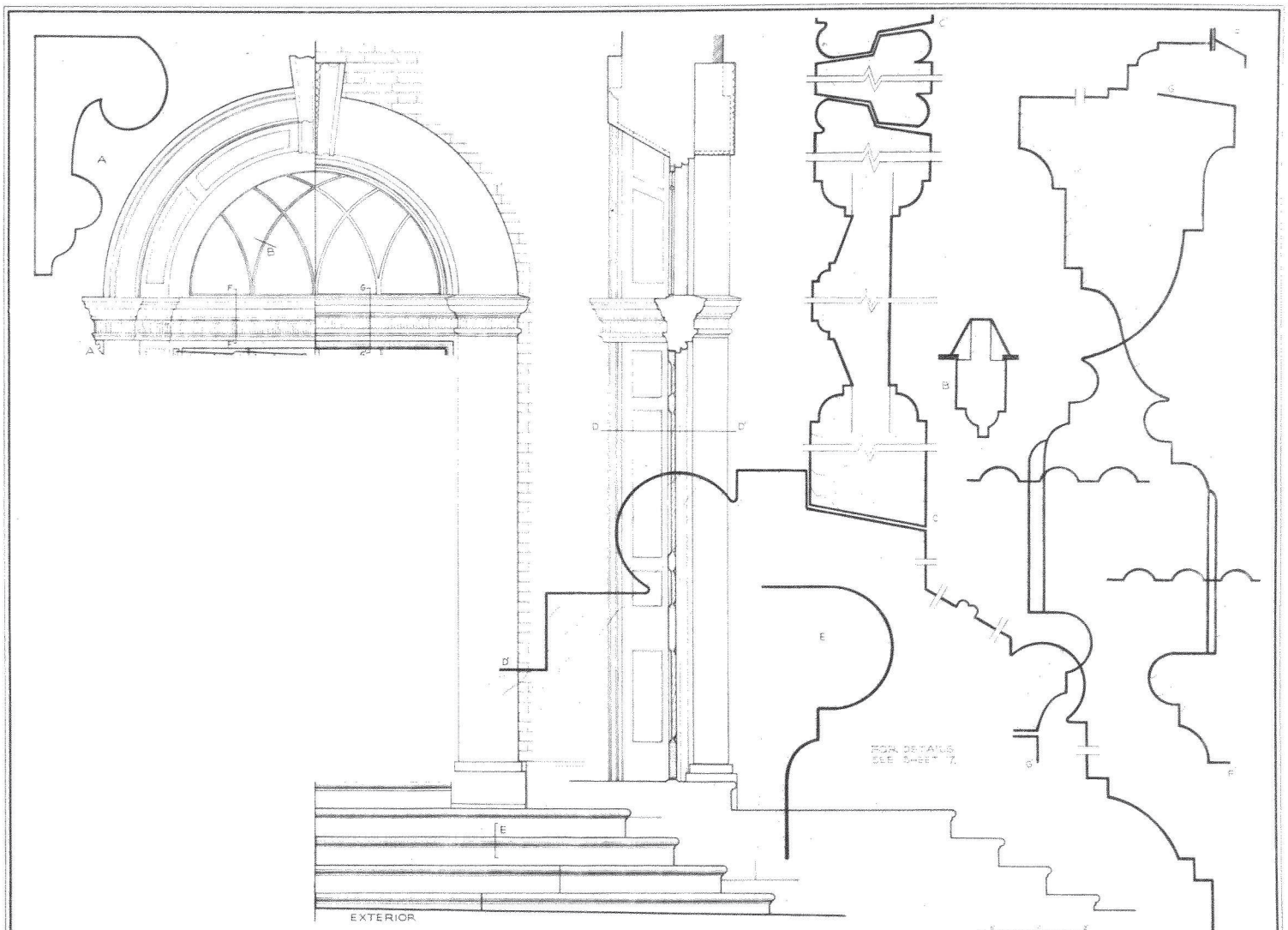
APPROVED .....

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PREPARED BY
OFFICE

TYPICAL ATTIC ROOF TRUSS AND JOINING METHODS
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

REGION
PHILA.
PCP NO.
SHEET 7 OF 17
DRAWING NO.
DATE 7-20-62



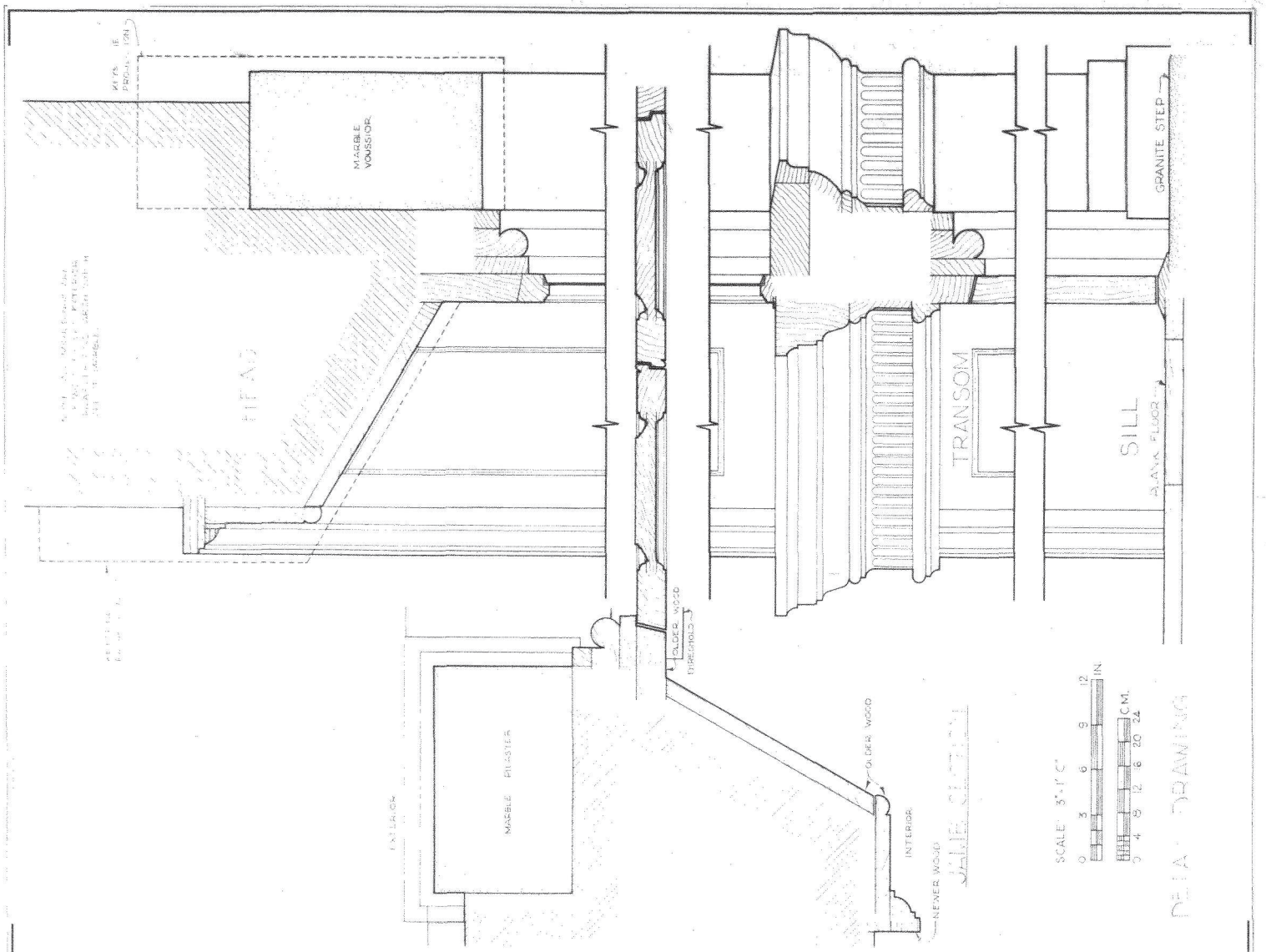
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 16 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION



NAME OF STRUCTURE

CONGRESS HALL

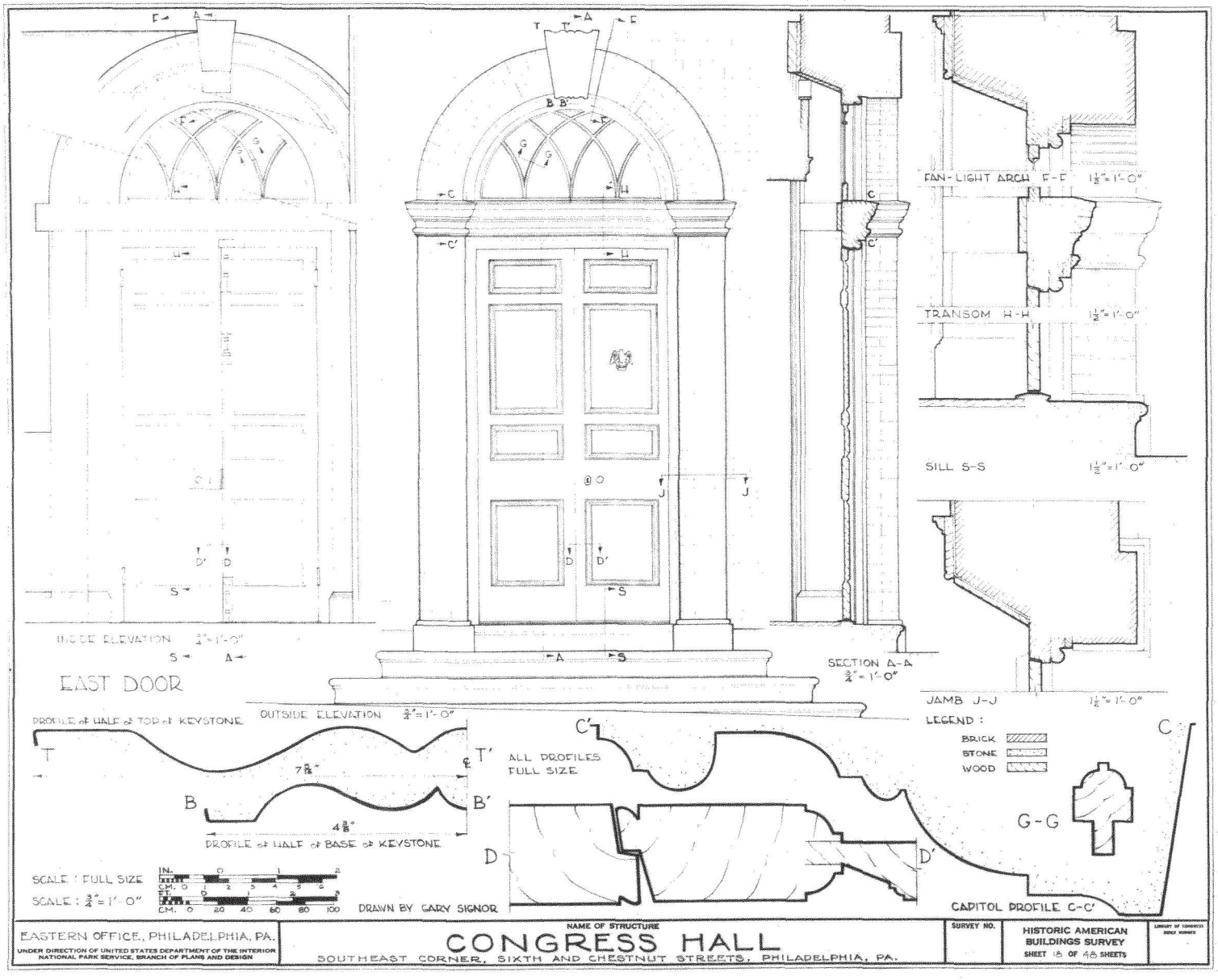
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INDEX NUMBER

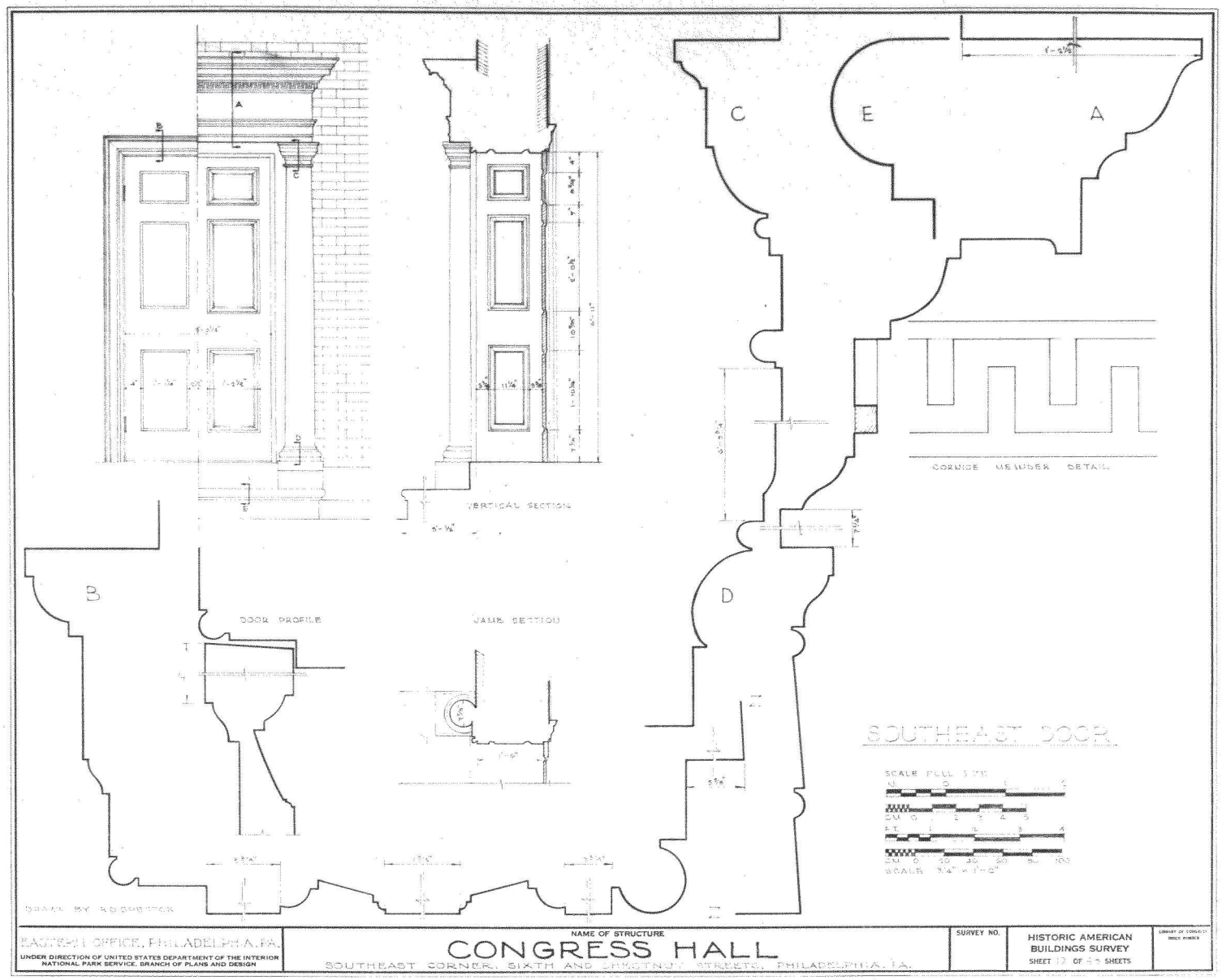


EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 18 OF 48 SHEETS



DRAWN BY R.D. PRESTON

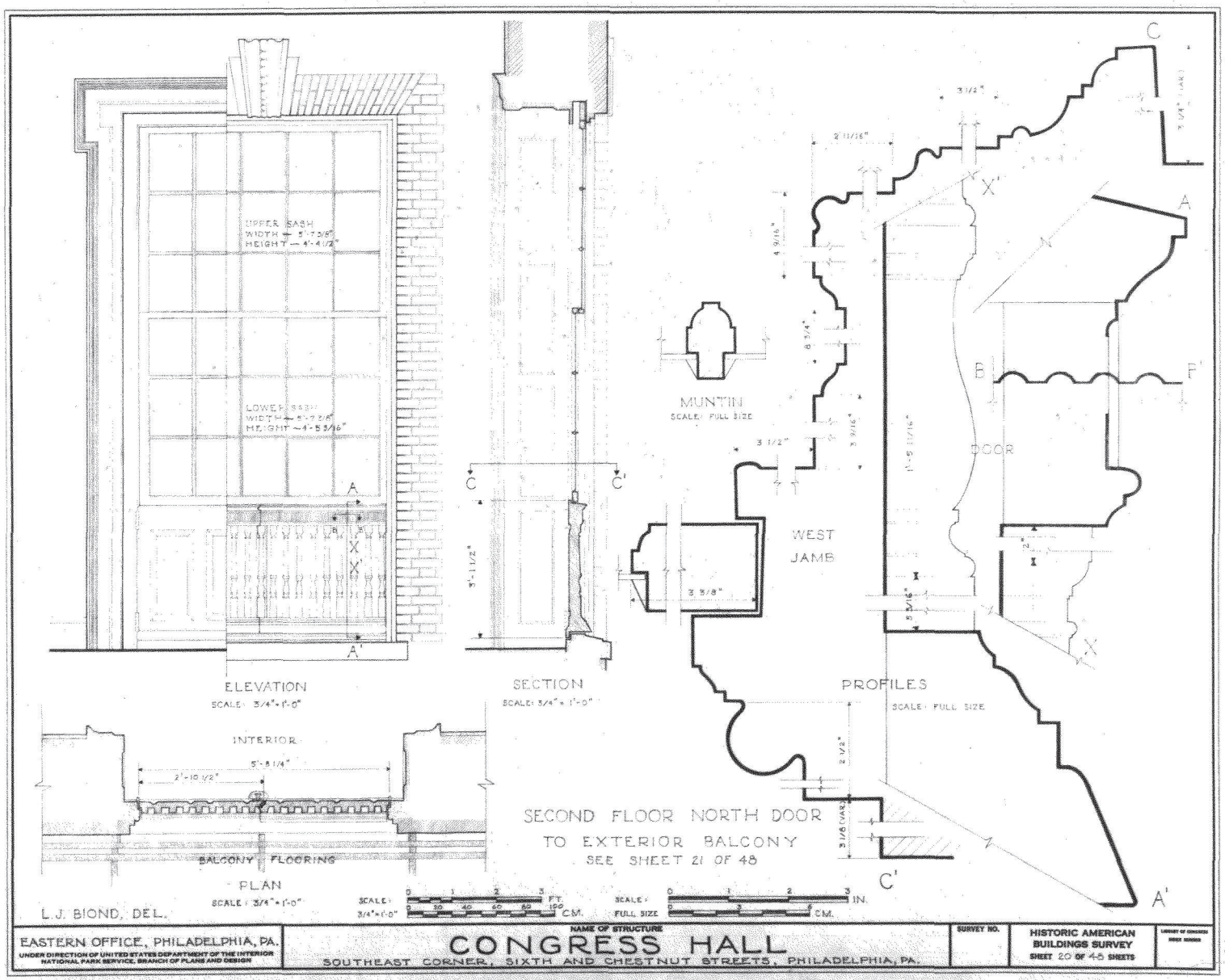
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UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

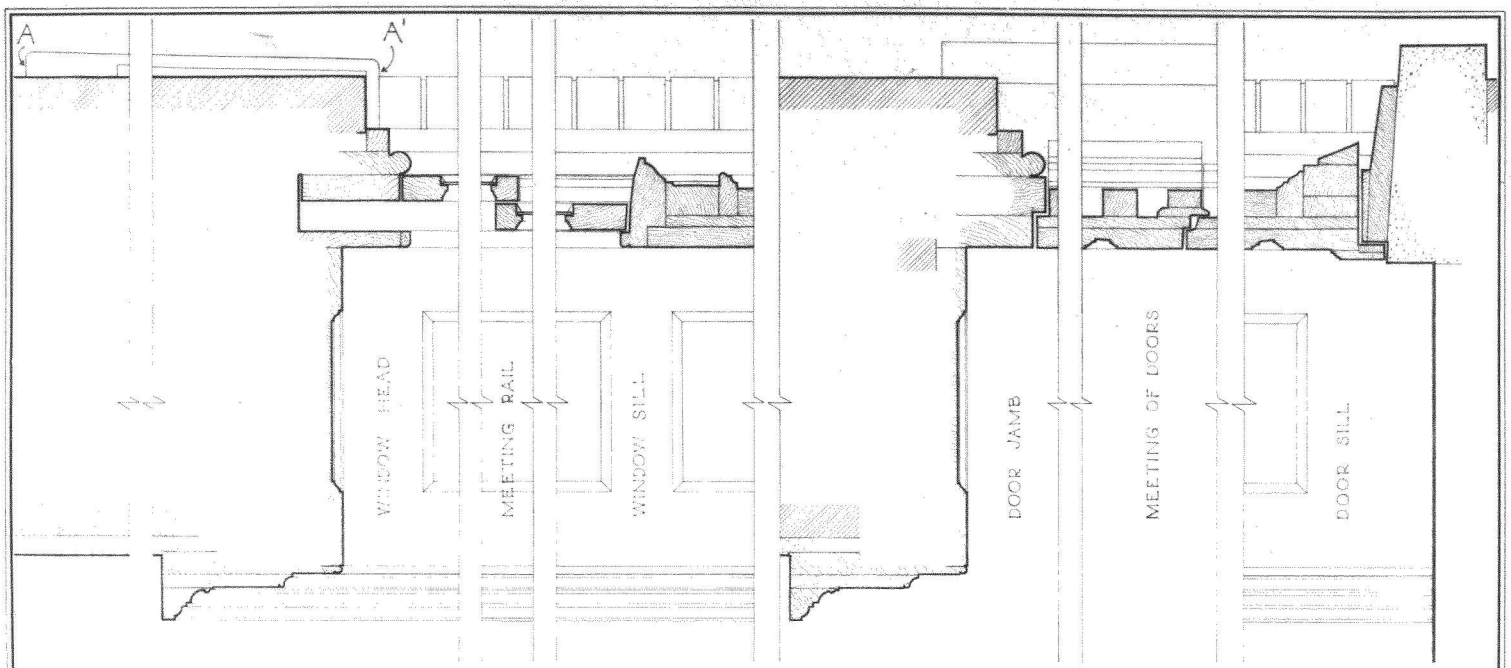
NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

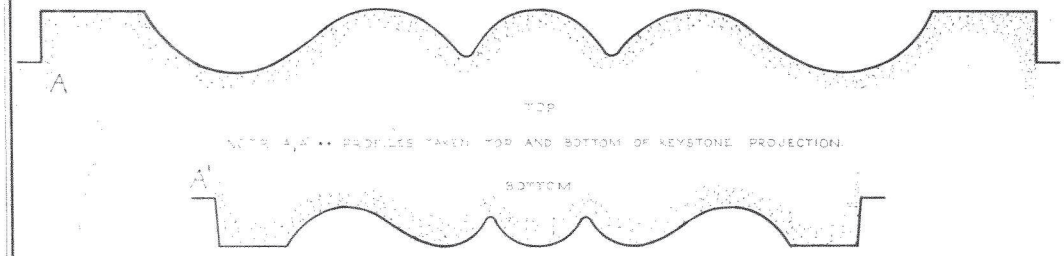
SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 12 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER


UPPER SASH
WIDTH — 5'-7 3/8"
HEIGHT — 4'-4 1/2"
LOWER SASH
WIDTH — 5'-7 3/8"
HEIGHT — 4'-5 3/16"
A
B
X
X'
A'
ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"
C
C'
3'-11 1/2"
SECTION
SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"
INTERIOR
5'-8 1/4"
2'-10 1/2"
BALCONY FLOORING
PLAN
SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"
MUNTIN
SCALE: FULL SIZE
3 1/2"
2 11/16"
4 9/16"
8 3/4"
3 9/16"
3 3/8"
WEST
JAMB
C
X'
A
B
F'
DOOR
1'-5 11/16"
2"
X
5 3/16"
PROFILES
SCALE: FULL SIZE
2 1/2"
3 1/8 (VAR.)
C'
A'
SECOND FLOOR NORTH DOOR
TO EXTERIOR BALCONY
SEE SHEET 21 OF 48
SCALE: 3/4"=1'-0"
FT.
CM.
SCALE: FULL SIZE
IN.
CM.
L.J. BIOND, DEL.
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
SURVEY NO.
HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 20 OF 48 SHEETS

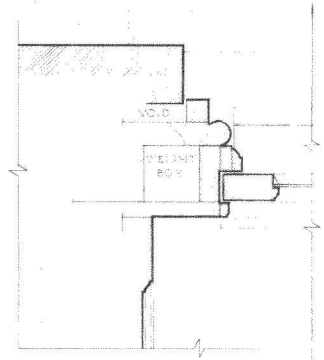




NOS. A, A' -- PROFILES TAKEN TOP AND BOTTOM OF KEYSTONE PROJECTION

MUNTIN PROFILES

SCALE: FULL SIZE



SECTION THROUGH DOOR TO EXTERIOR BALCONY

SEE SHEET 26 OF 48

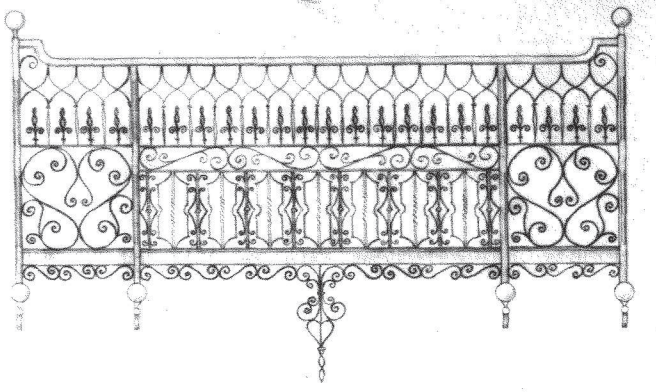
WINDOW JAMB

SECTION THROUGH LOWER SASH

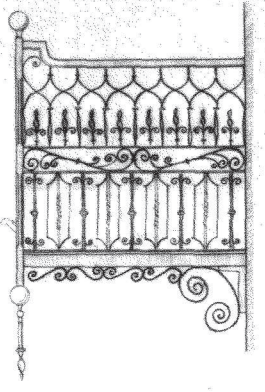
SCALE: 3"=1'-0"

LAWRENCE J. BIONDI, DEL.

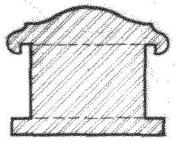
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA. UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 21 OF 48 SHEETS	LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



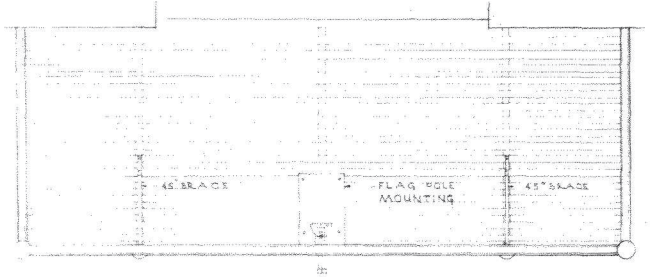
NORTH ELEVATION



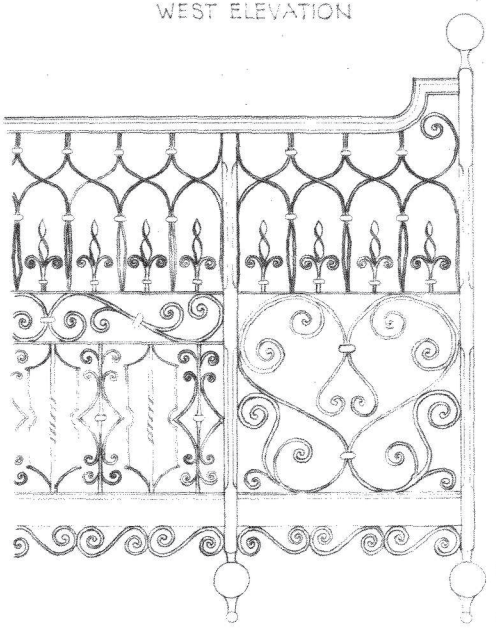
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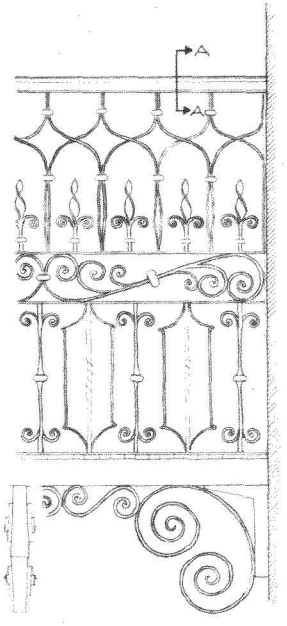


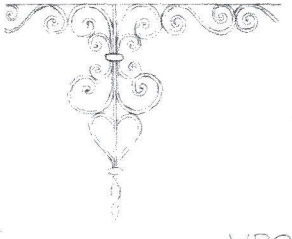
SECTION A-A
FULL SIZE



PLAN

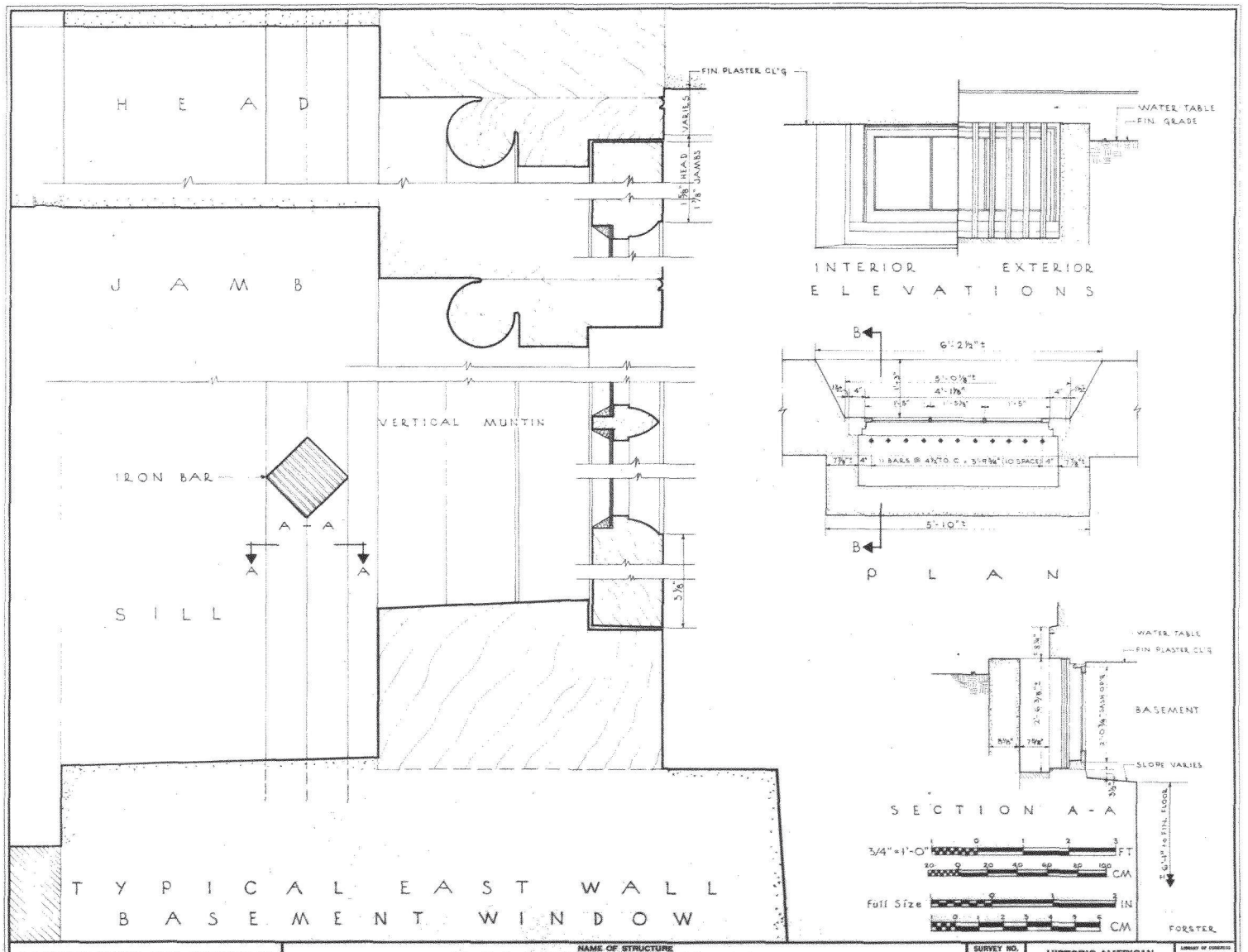






WROUGHT-IRON BALCONY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 22 OF 48 SHEETS	INDEX NO.



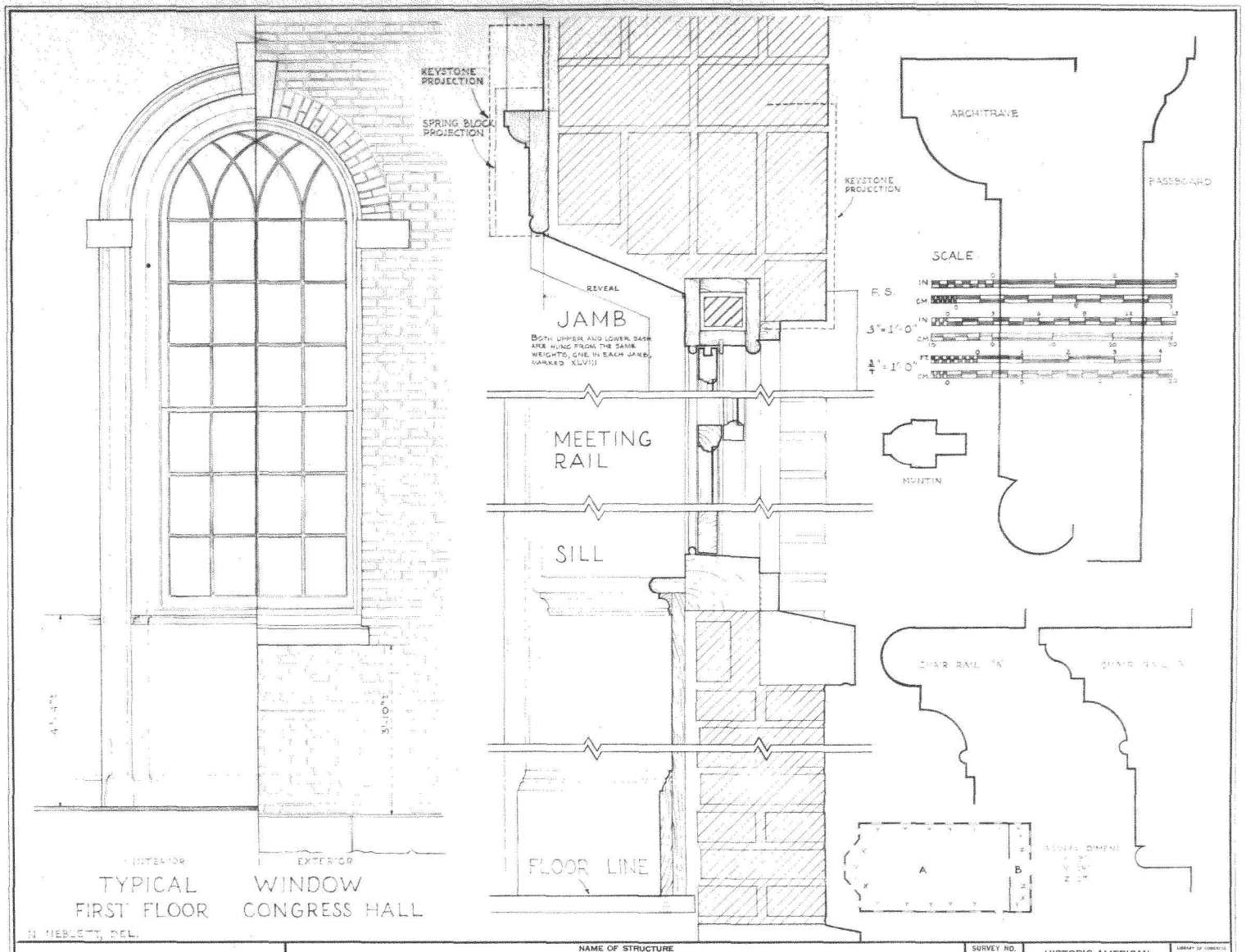
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

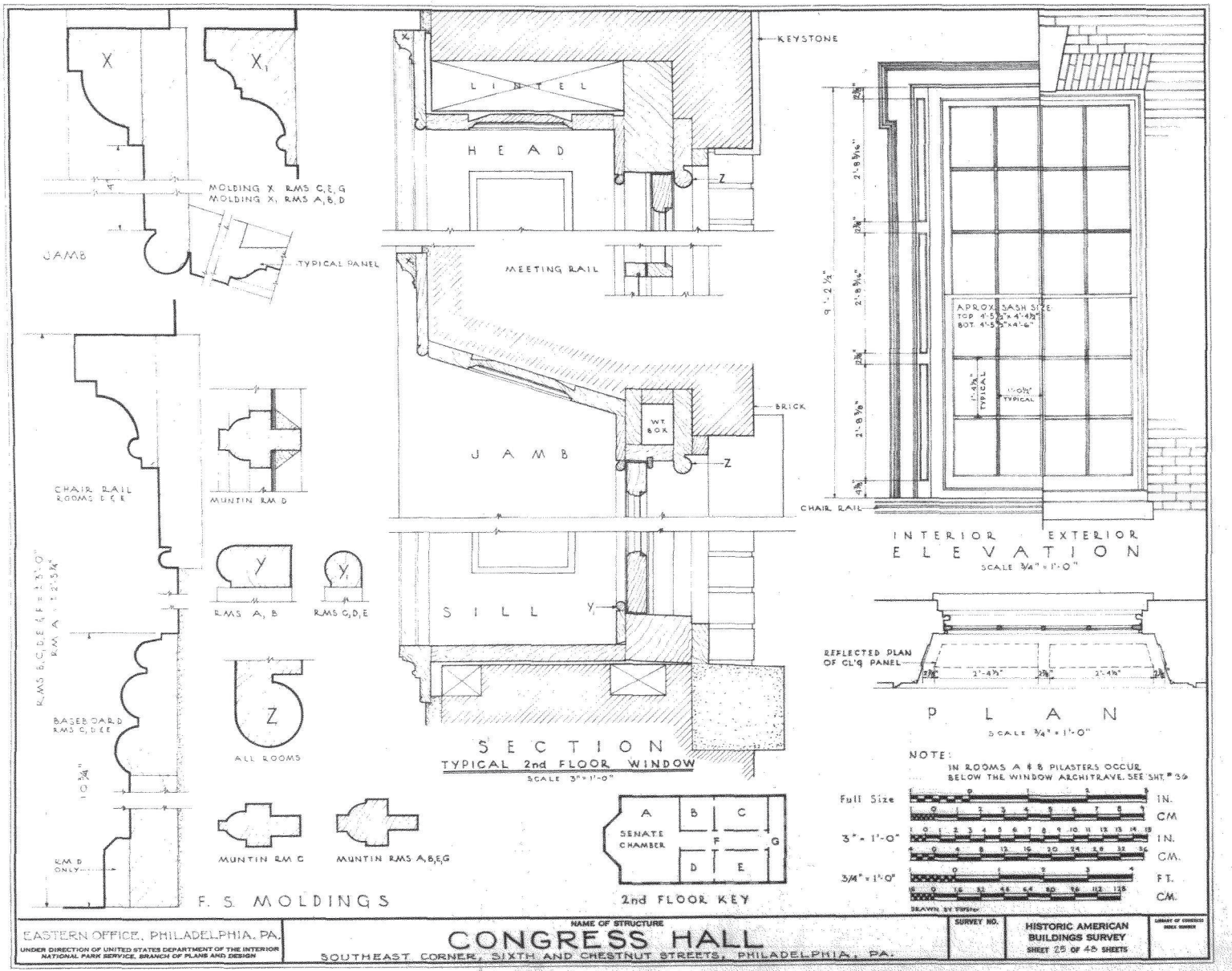
NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 23 OF 48 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS


KEYSTONE PROJECTION
SPRING BLOCK PROJECTION
KEYSTONE PROJECTION
REVEAL
JAMB
BOTH UPPER AND LOWER SASH ARE HUNG FROM THE SAME WEIGHTS, ONE IN EACH JAMB, MARKED XLVIII
MEETING RAIL
SILL
FLOOR LINE
4'-1"
3'-10½"
INTERIOR
EXTERIOR
TYPICAL FIRST FLOOR WINDOW CONGRESS HALL
ARCHITRAVE
BASEBOARD
SCALE
F. S.
3"=1'-0"
MUNTIN
SASH RAIL "A"
SASH RAIL "B"
A
B
N. WEBLETT, DEL.
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
SURVEY NO.
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 14 OF 48 SHEETS



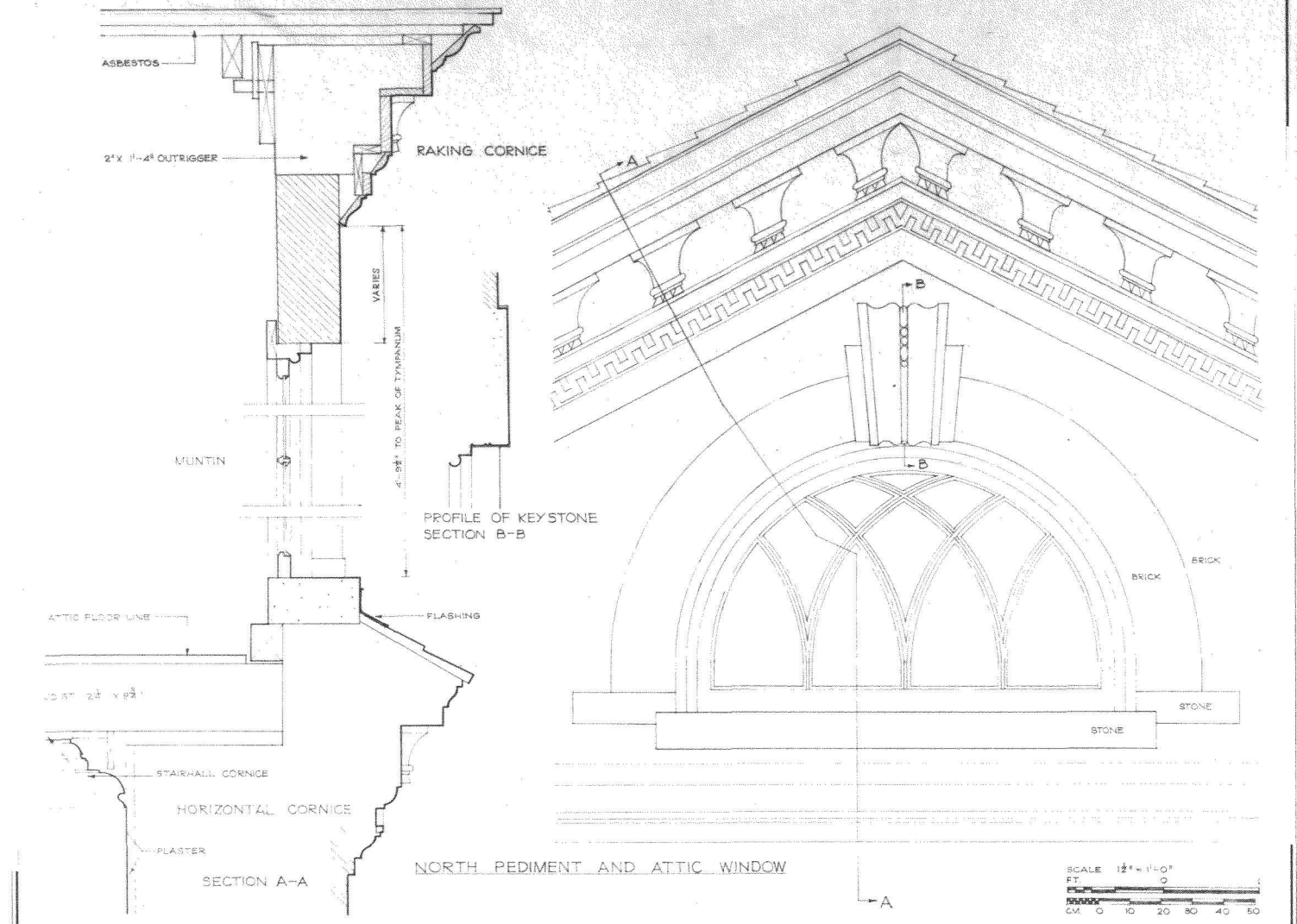
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 25 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

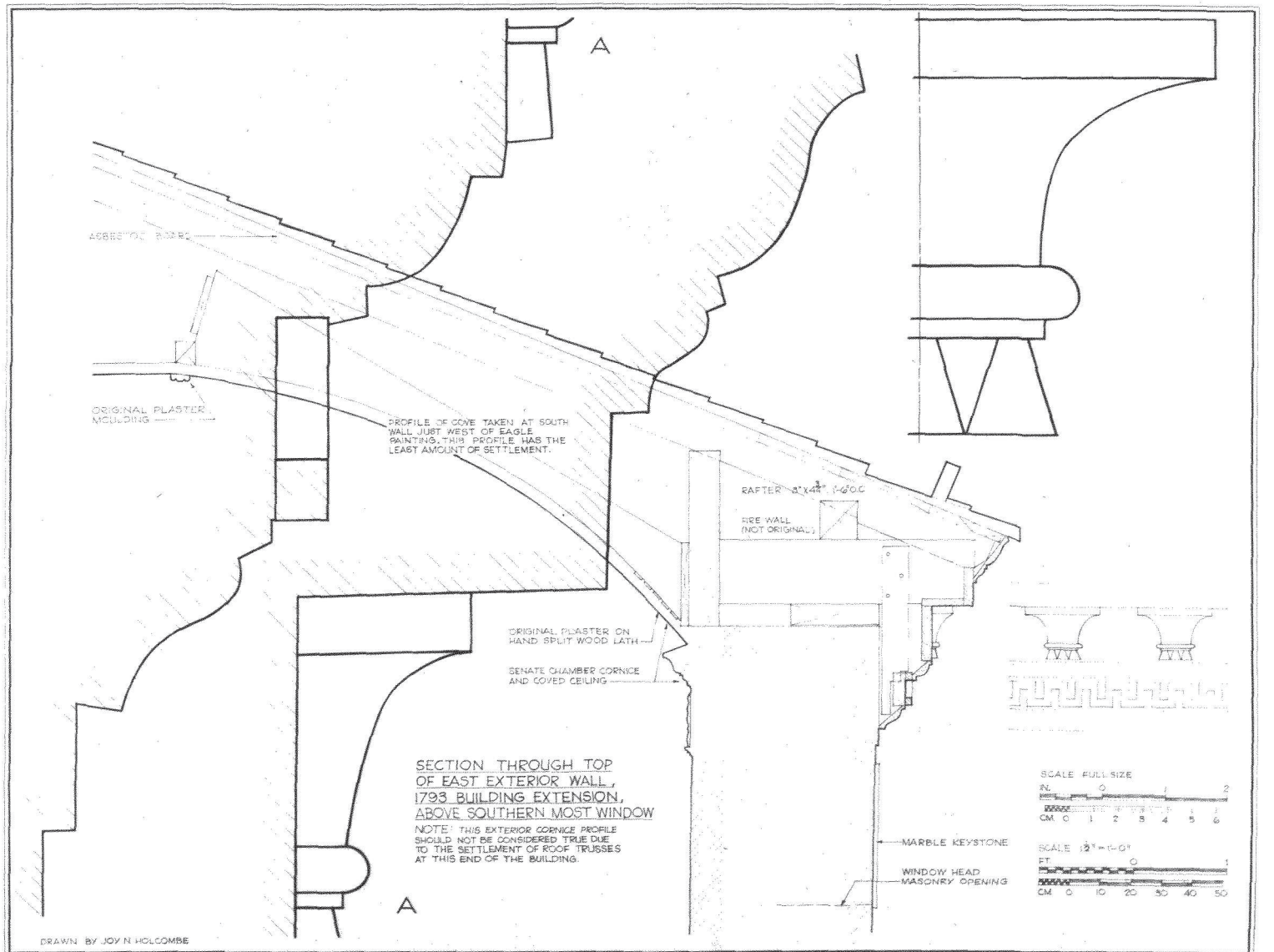
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 26 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



SECTION THROUGH TOP OF EAST EXTERIOR WALL, 1793 BUILDING EXTENSION, ABOVE SOUTHERN MOST WINDOW

NOTE: THIS EXTERIOR CORNICE PROFILE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED TRUE DUE TO THE SETTLEMENT OF ROOF TRUSSES AT THIS END OF THE BUILDING.

DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

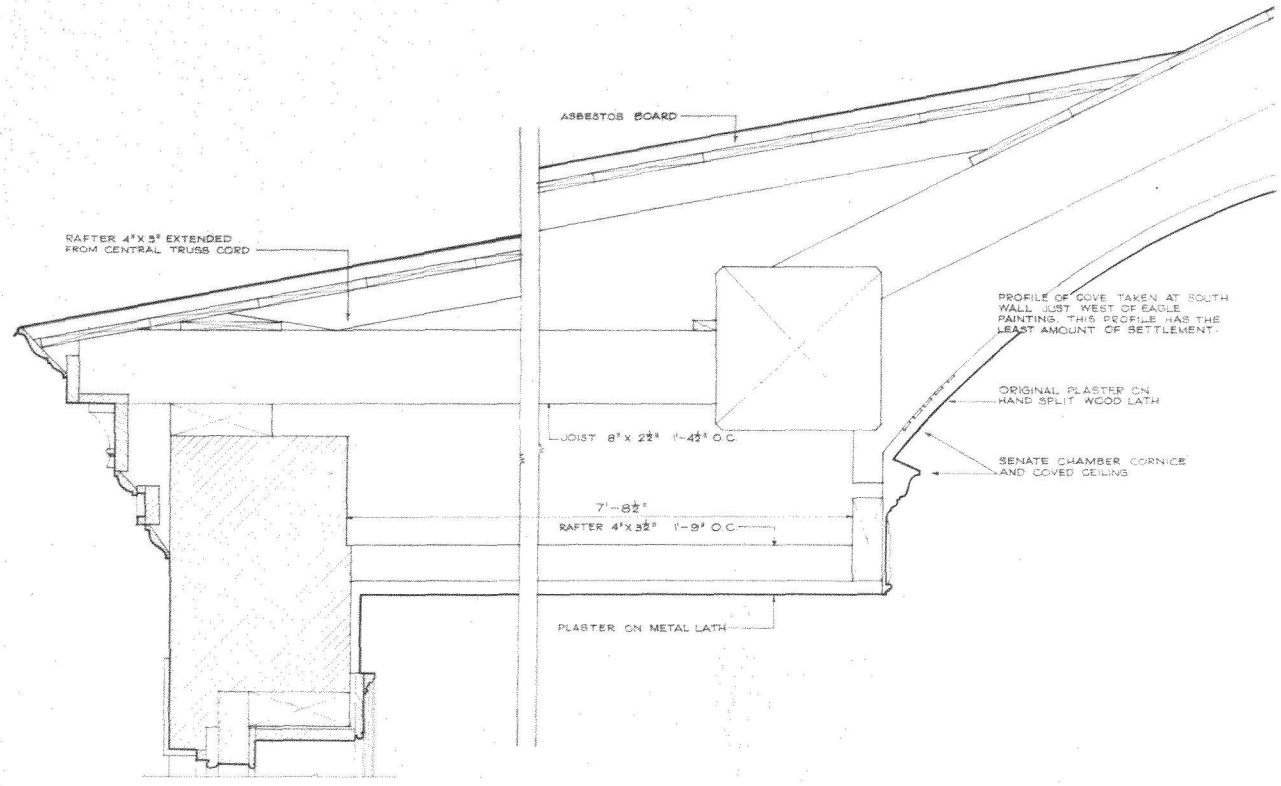
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 27 OF 48 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION

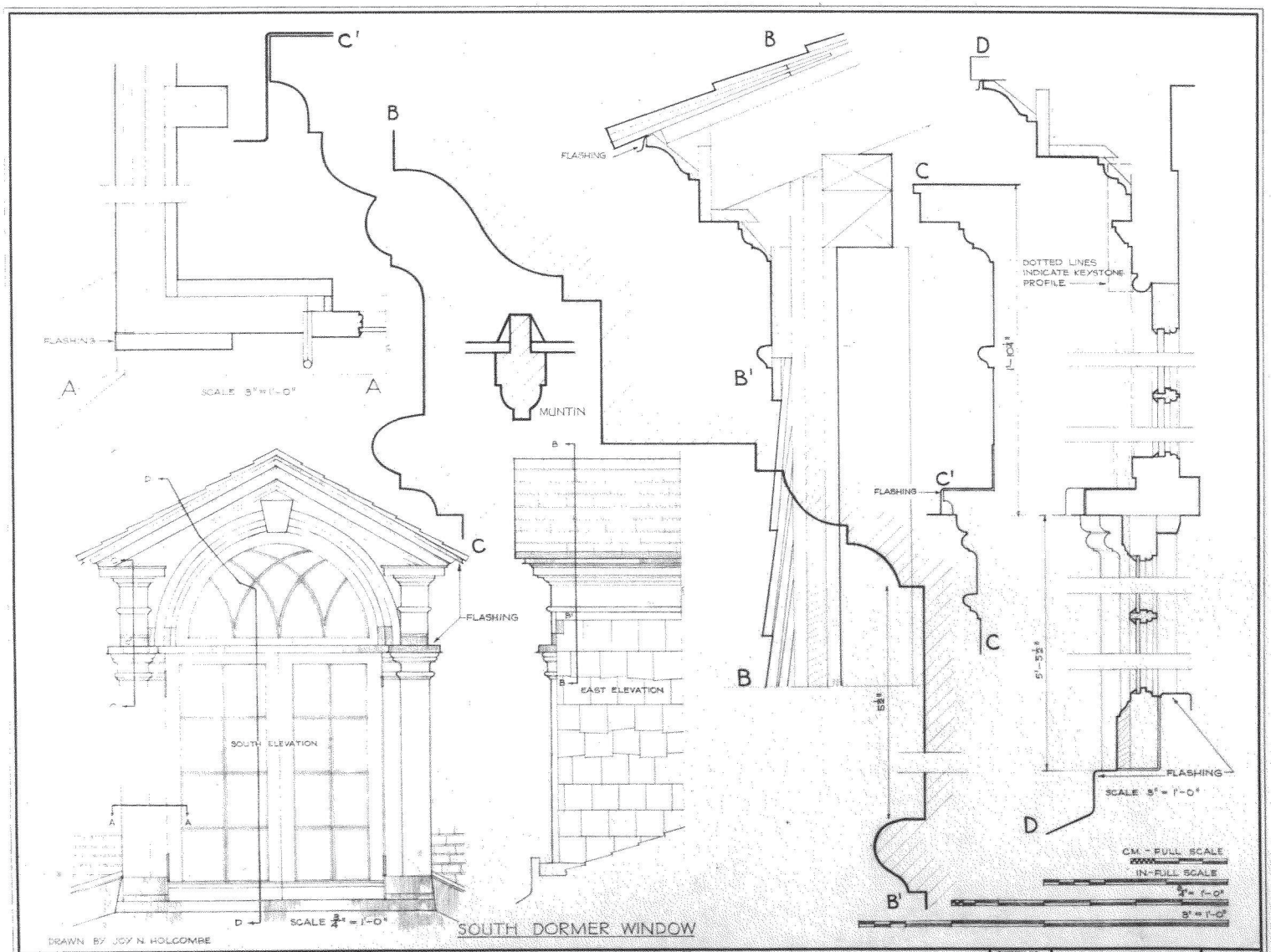


SECTION THROUGH ROOF OF SOUTH BAY
1793 BUILDING EXTENSION
ABOVE CENTER WINDOW

SCALE 1½" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 24 OF 45 SHEETS	INDEX NO.



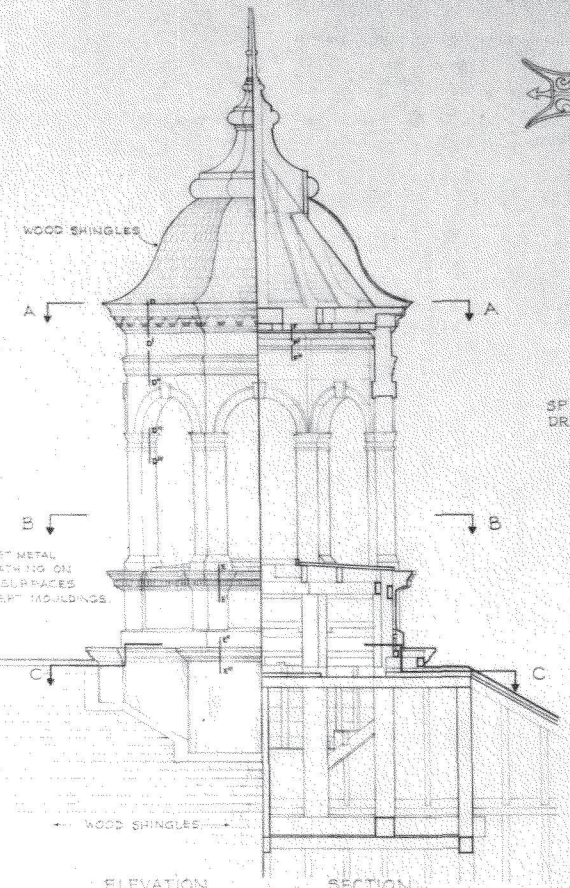
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

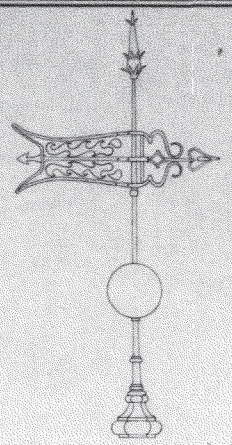
SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 29 OF 48 SHEETS

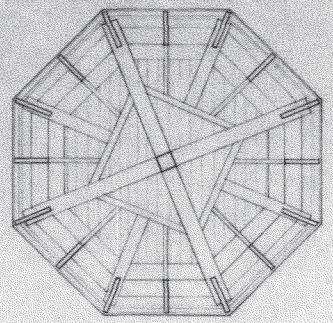
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS ROOMS



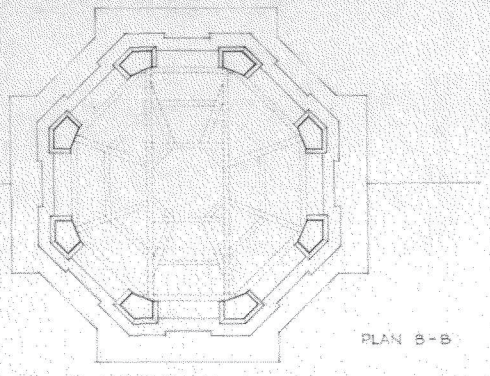
CUPOLA
VIEW TO WEST



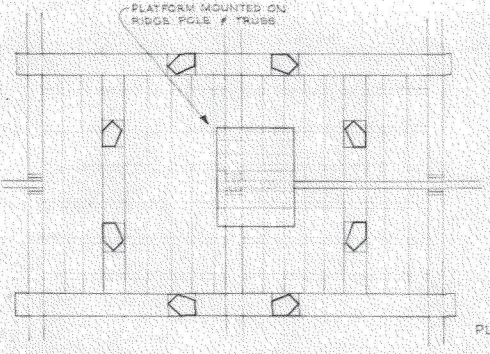
SPIRE AND WEATHERVANE
DRAWN FROM A PHOTOGRAPH
APPROX. 1½"=1'-0"



PLAN A-A



PLAN B-B



PLAN C-C

NOTE: MOULDING P.S. PROFILES ARE DRAWN ON SHEET NO. 31

Scale ⅜"=1'-0"

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 FT
0 0 20 40 60 80 100 200 CM

N. NESBITT DEL.

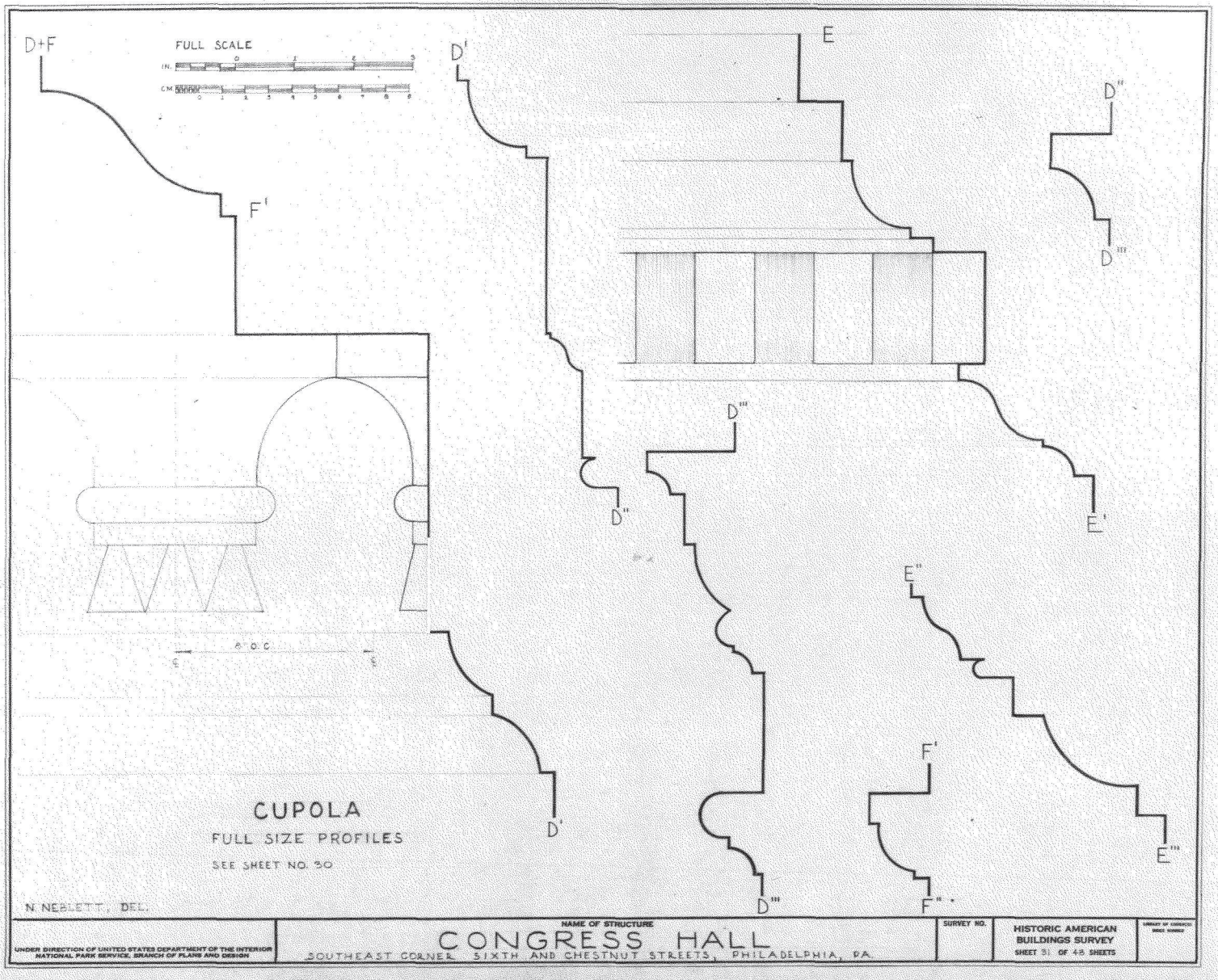
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 30 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BRICK NUMBER



CUPOLA

FULL SIZE PROFILES

SEE SHEET NO. 30

N. NEBLETT, DEL.

UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE

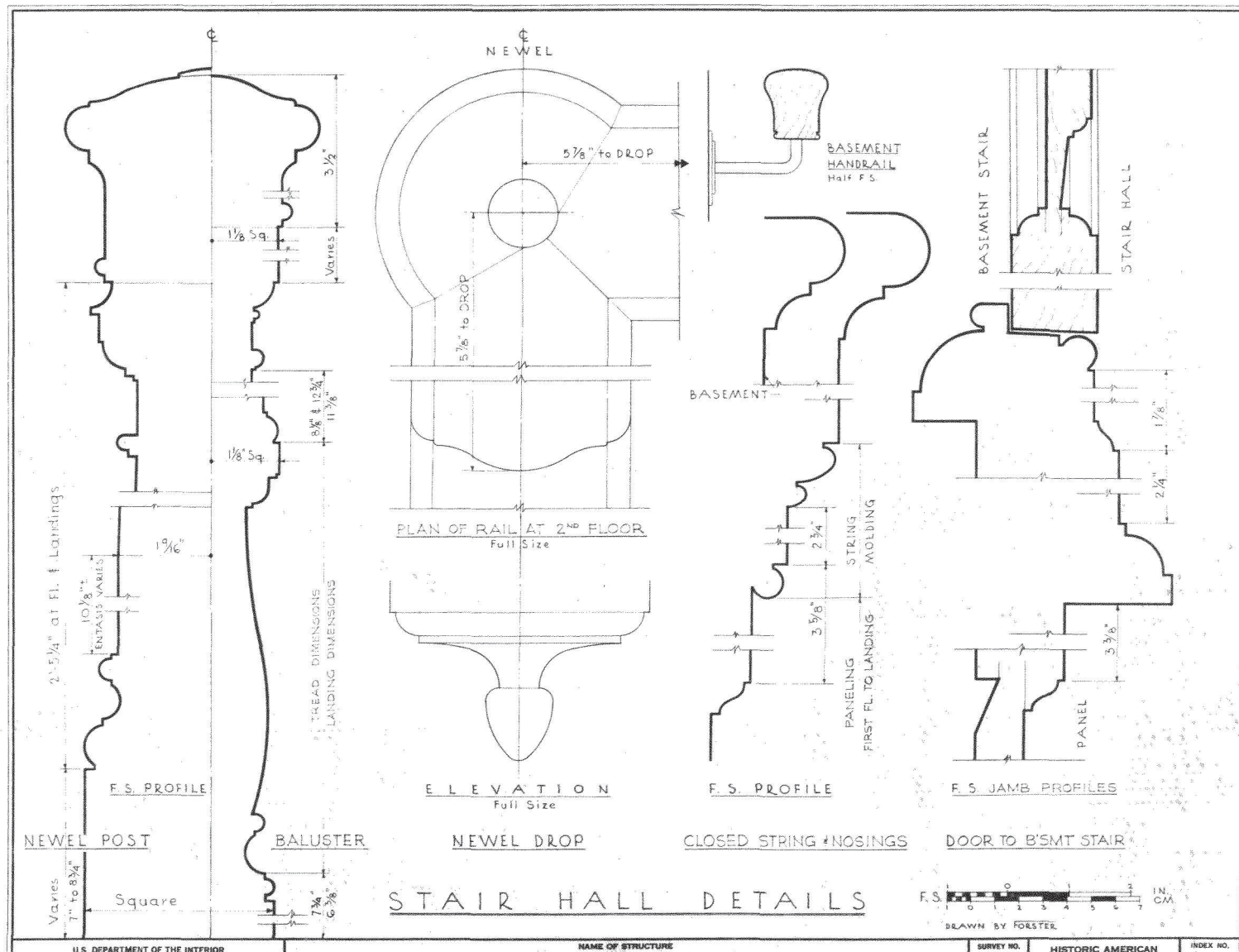
CONGRESS HALL

SOUTHEAST CORNER SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHEET 31 OF 48 SHEETS



STAIR HALL DETAILS

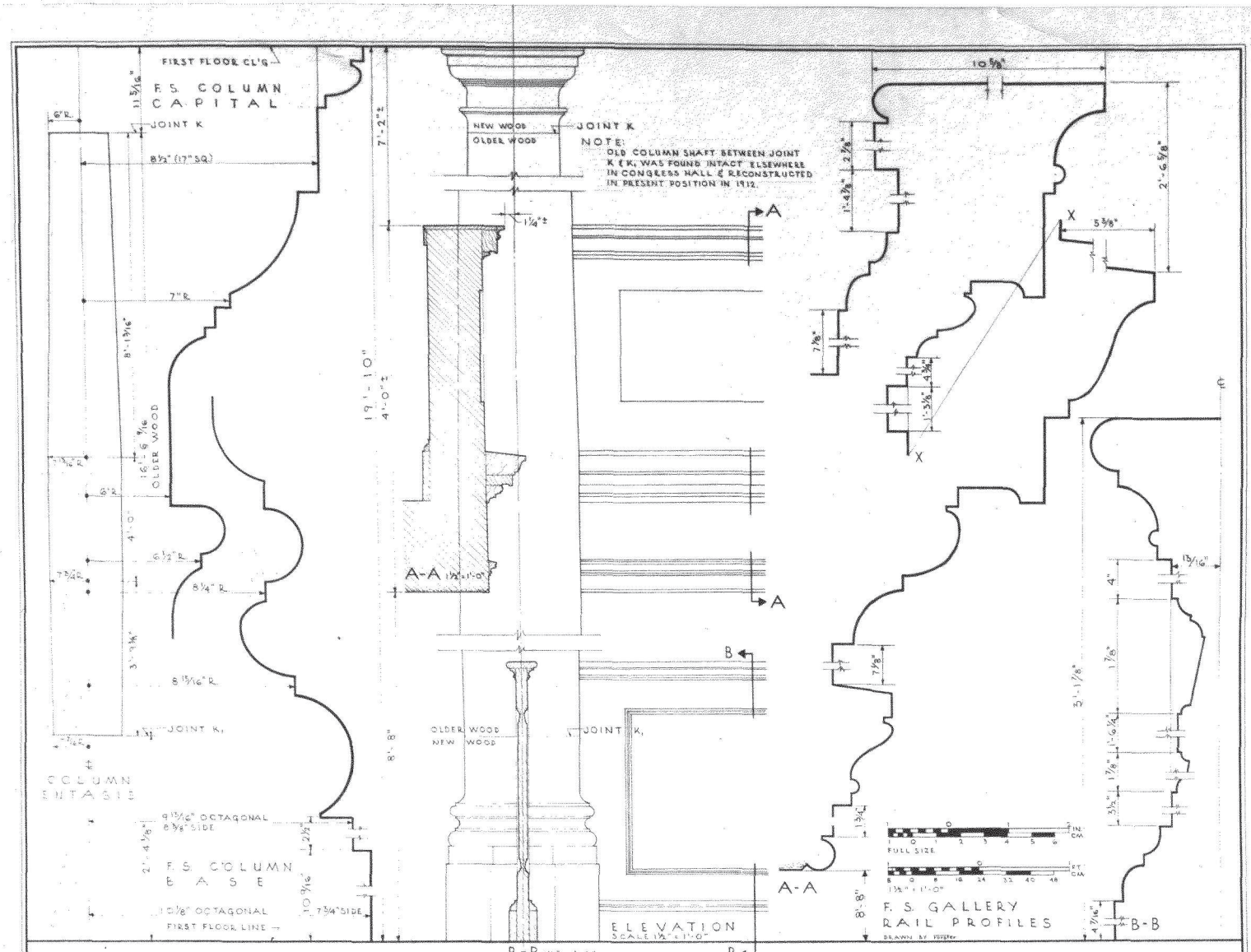
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 32 OF 46 SHEETS

INDEX NO.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES GALLERY DETAILS

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE

CONGRESS HALL

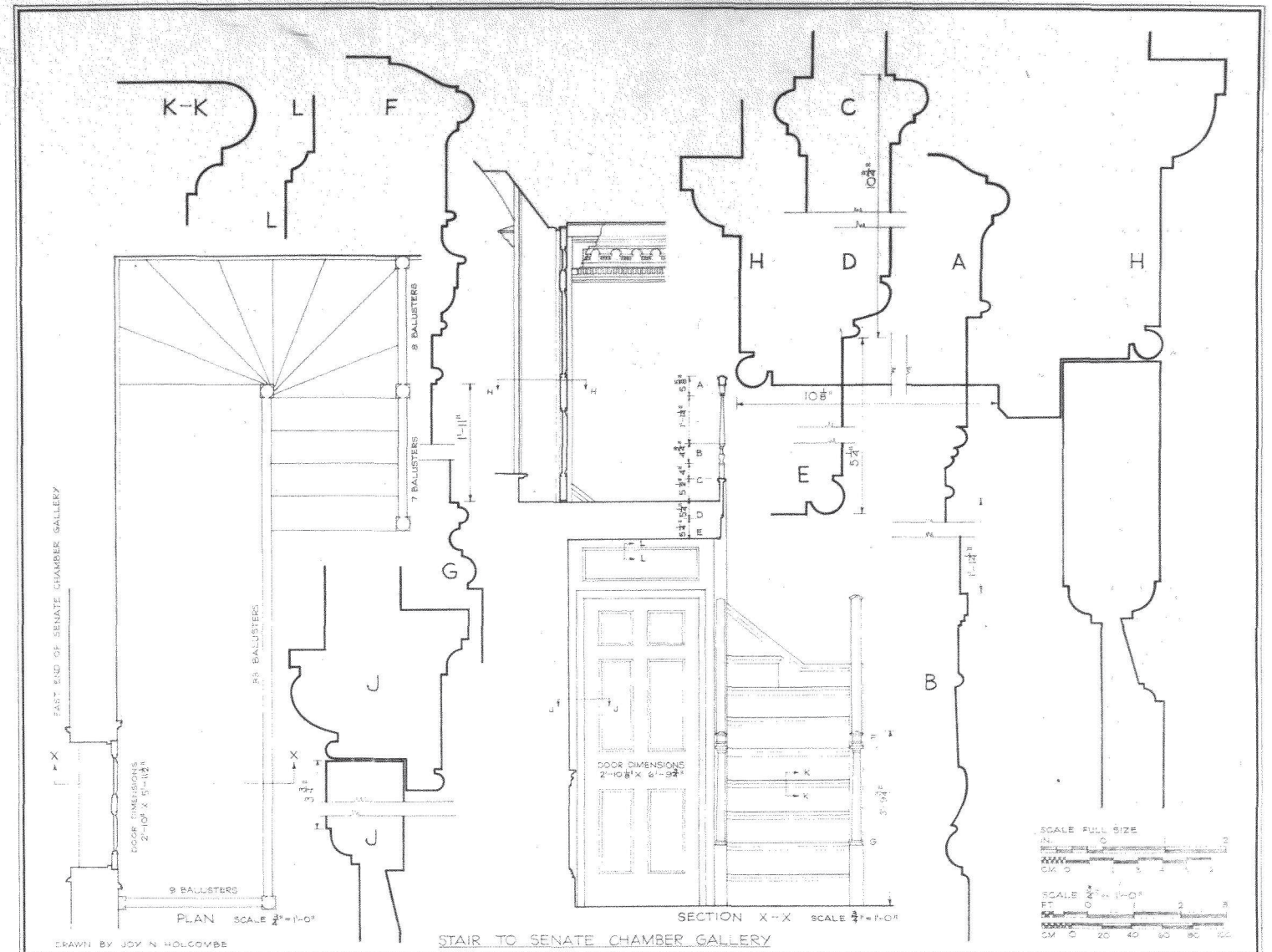
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHEET 42 OF 48 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

STAIR TO SENATE CHAMBER GALLERY

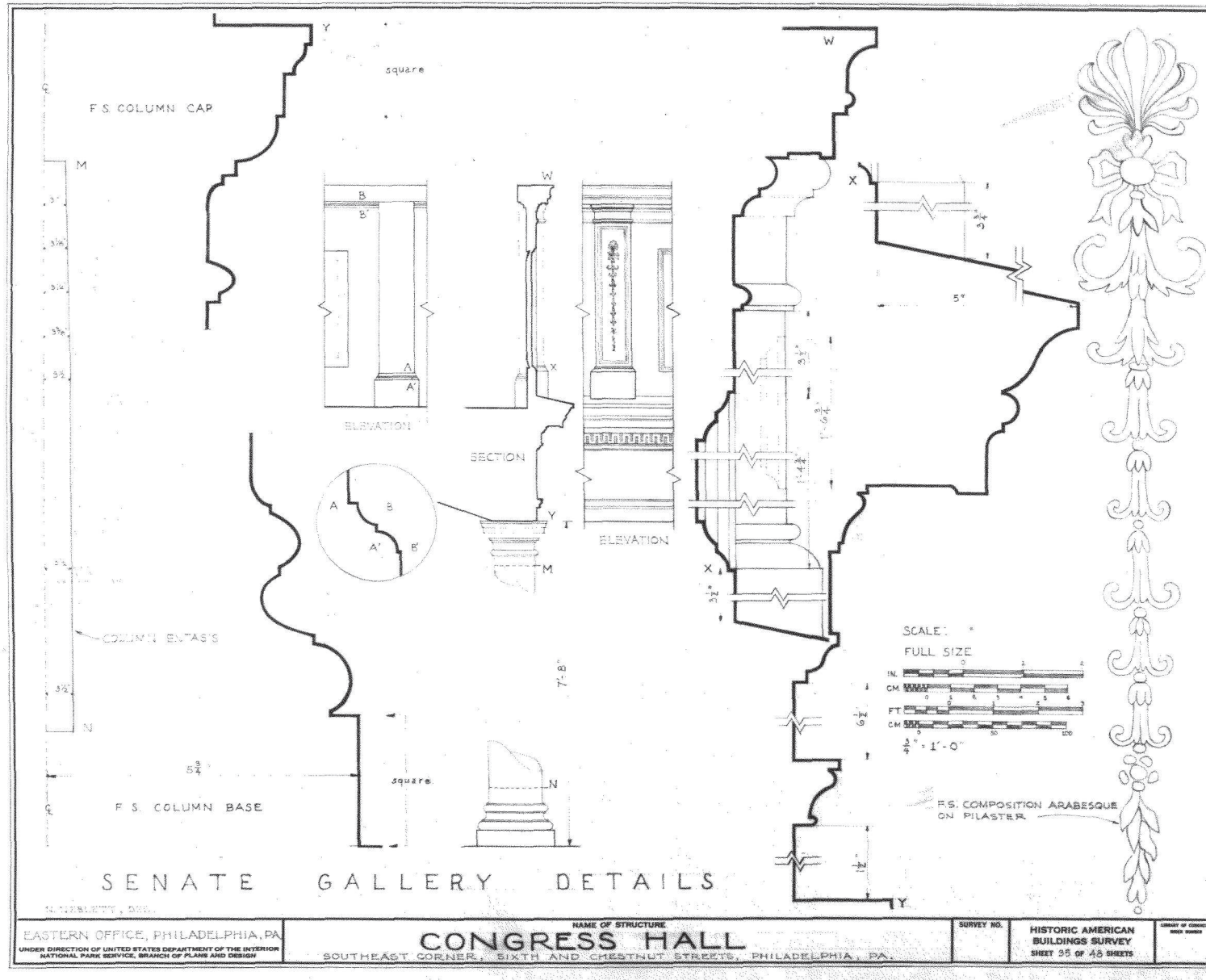
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 14 OF 44 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



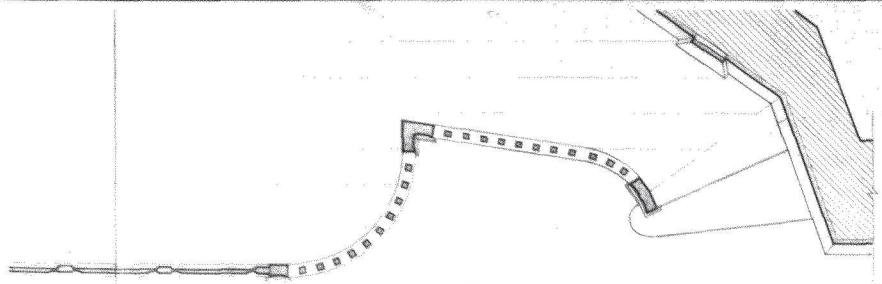
SENATE GALLERY DETAILS

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

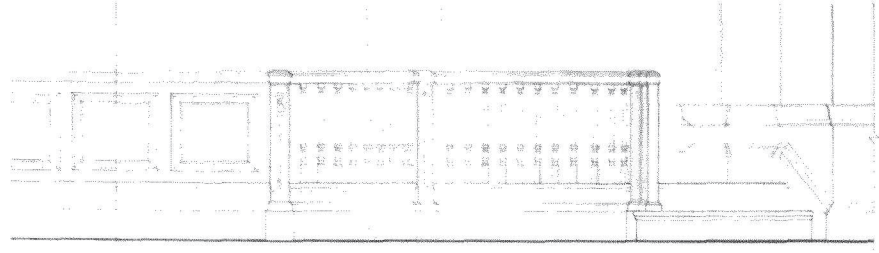
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 35 OF 48 SHEETS



PLAN

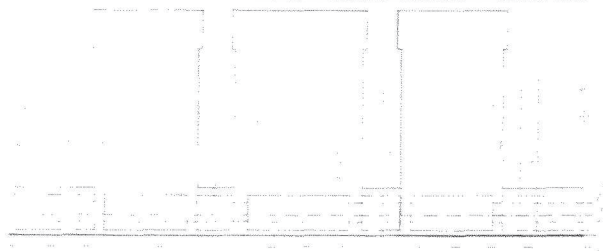
Scale: $\frac{3}{4}$"=1'-0"

center line



ELEVATION

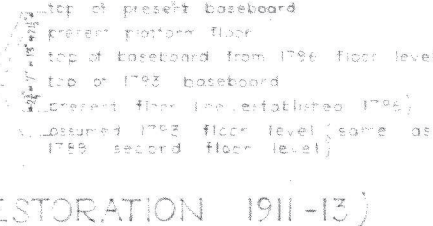
Level decoration same as on senate gallery except for length. (see sheet 35 of 45)

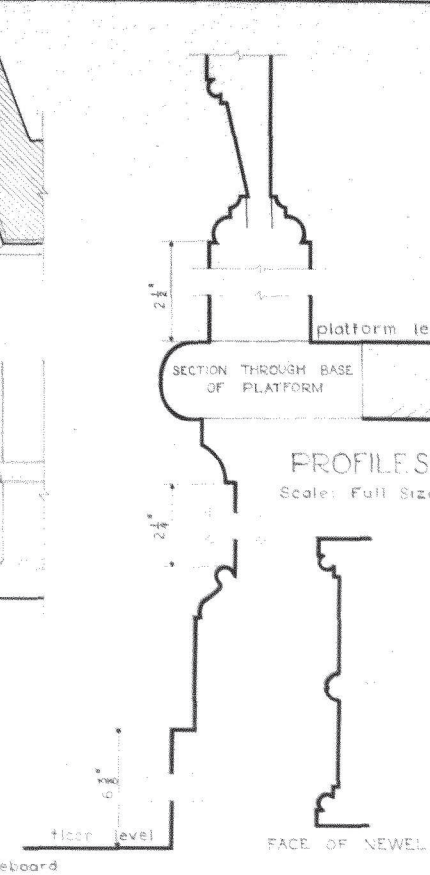


SCHEMATIC EVIDENCE DRAWING

platform and rail removed

scale: $\frac{1}{2}$"=1'-0"

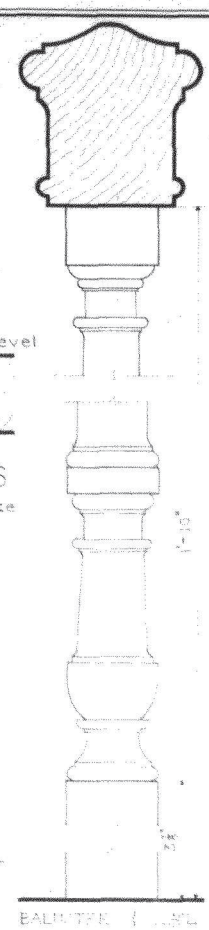




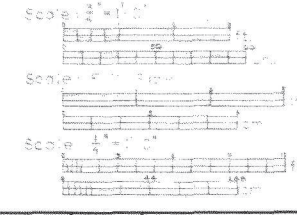
PROFILES

Scale: Full Size

FACE OF NEWEL



BALUSTER



SPEAKER'S PLATFORM (RESTORATION 1911-13)

SENATE CHAMBER

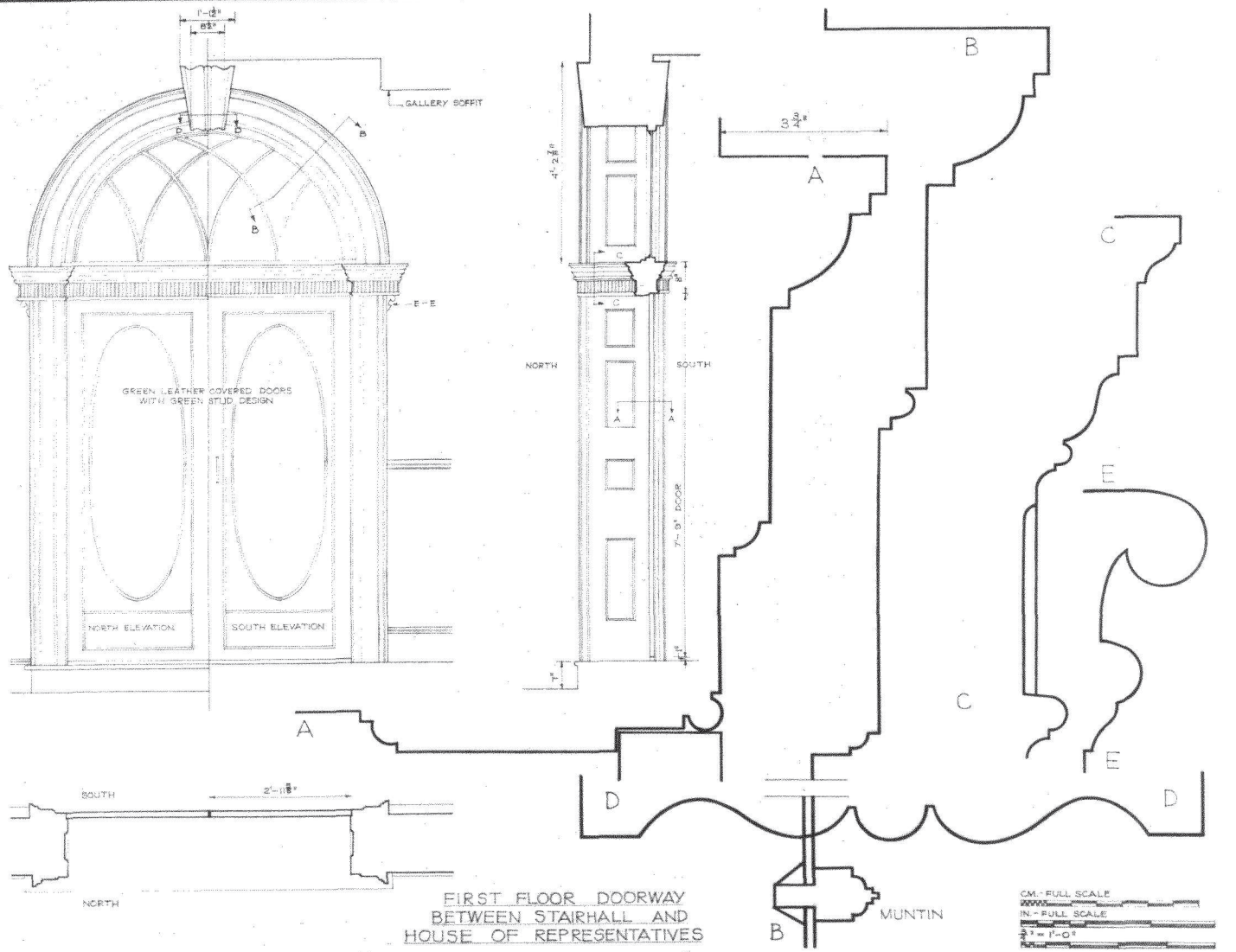
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 34 OF 45 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INDEX NUMBER



FIRST FLOOR DOORWAY BETWEEN STAIRHALL AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

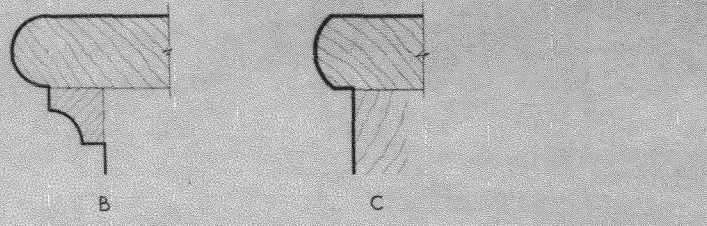
DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

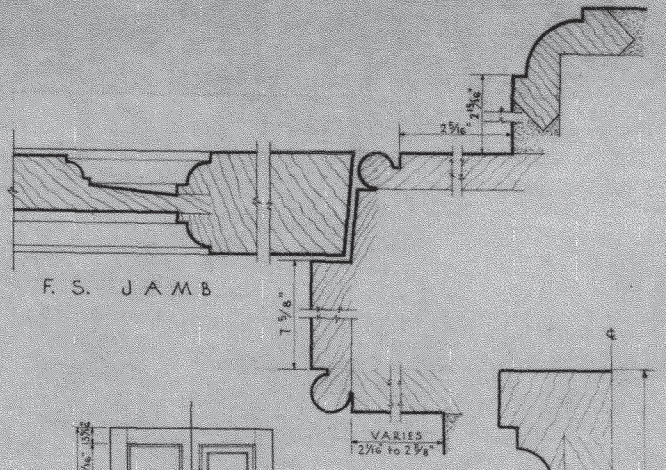
NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

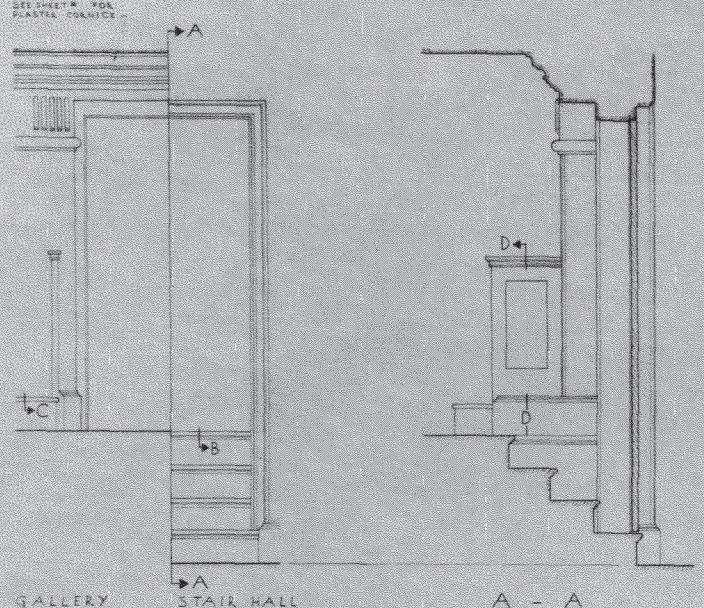
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 57 OF 65 SHEETS



F. S. NOSINGS



F. S. JAMB



GALLERY STAIR HALL

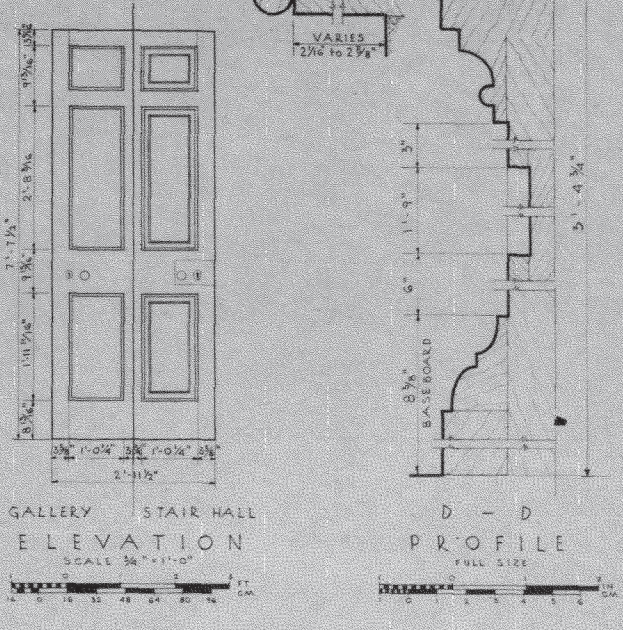
ELEVATION

SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"

A - A

SECTION

SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"



GALLERY STAIR HALL

ELEVATION

SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"

D - D

PROFILE

FULL SIZE

DRAWN BY Forster

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES GALLERY DOORS

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE

CONGRESS HALL

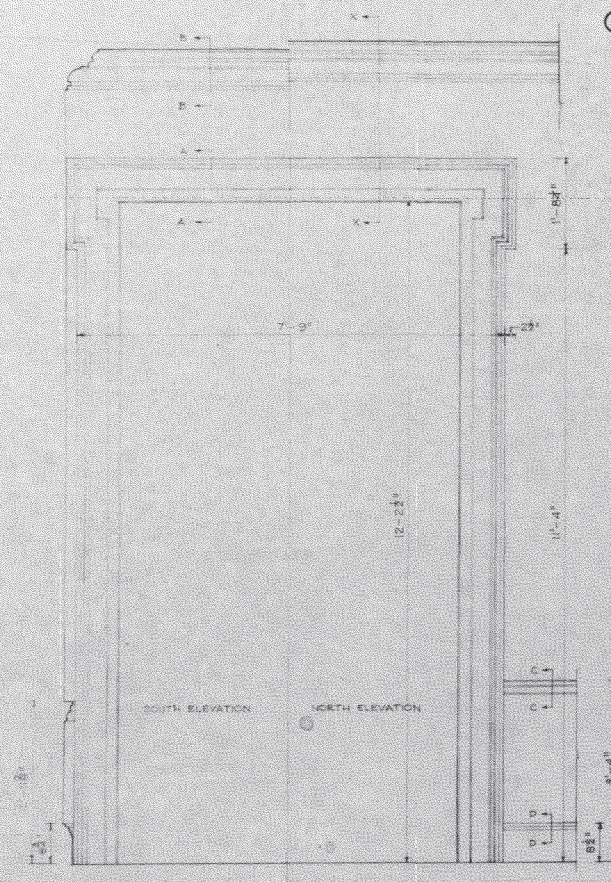
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

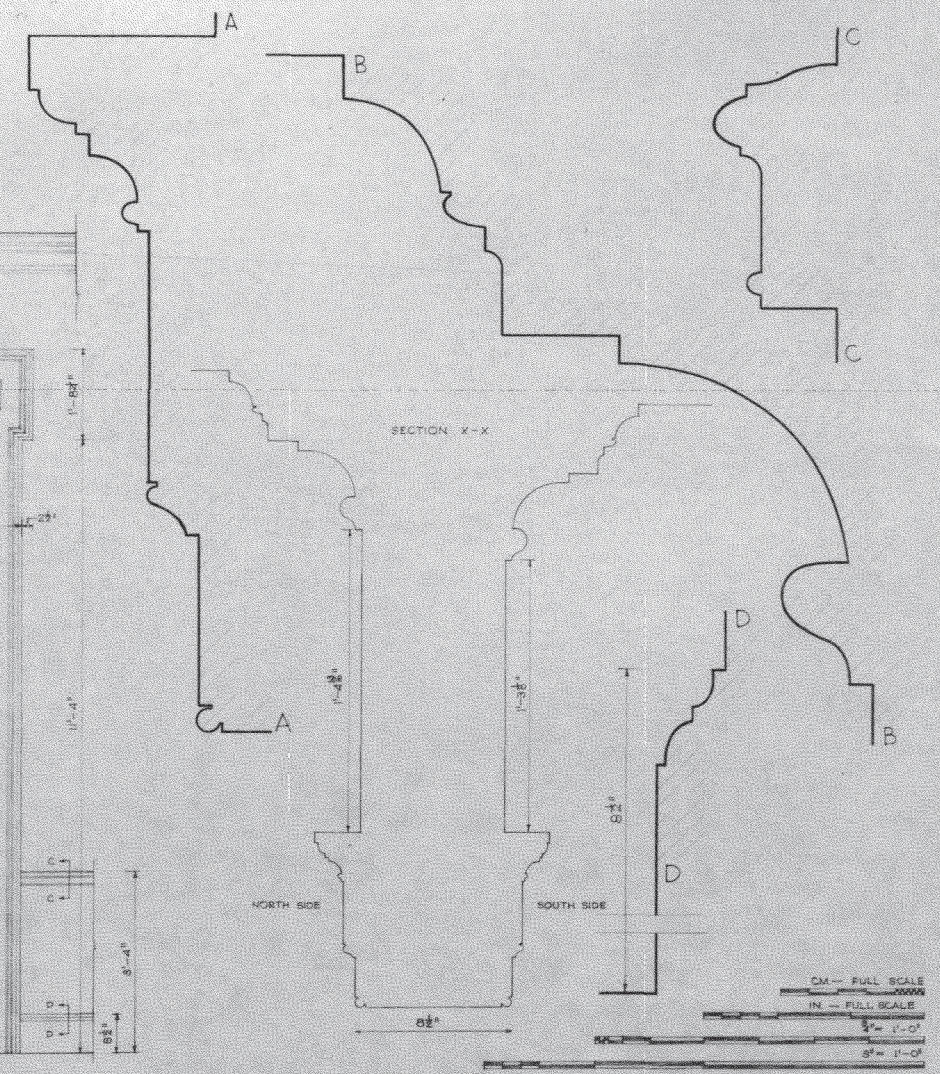
SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHEET 35 OF 45 SHEETS

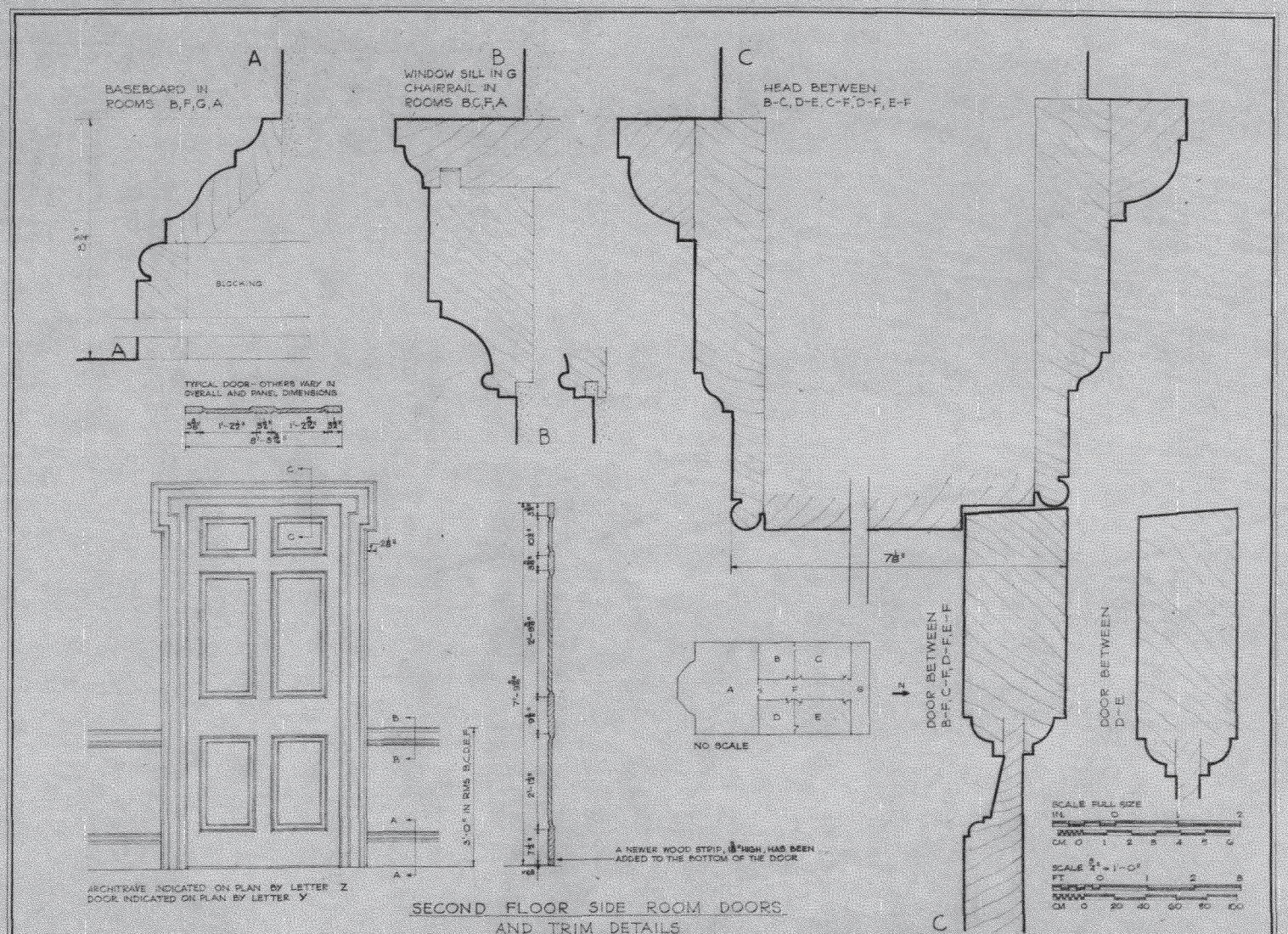
SECOND FLOOR
DOORWAY BETWEEN
STAIR HALL AND HALL





DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 33 OF 43 SHEETS	INDEX NO.



SECOND FLOOR SIDE ROOM DOORS AND TRIM DETAILS

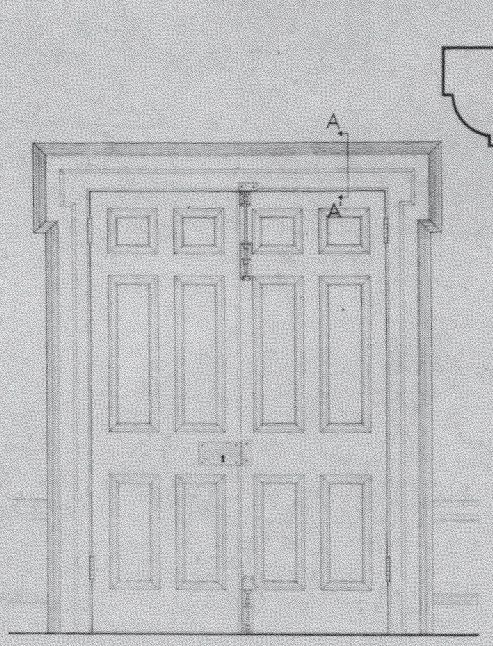
DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

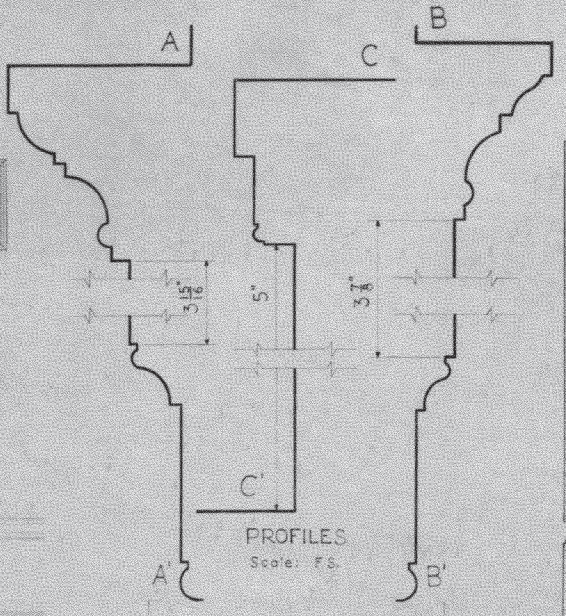
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 40 OF 46 SHEETS



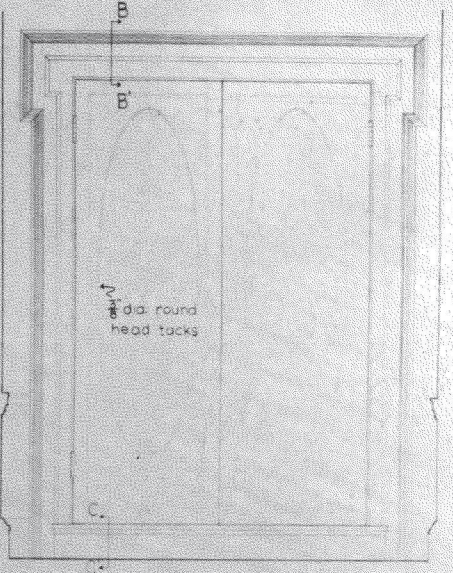
WOOD PANELED DOORS
SENATE CHAMBER, SOUTH ELEVATION
Paneling on north elevation: same,
hardware: brass knob and key plate (see below)



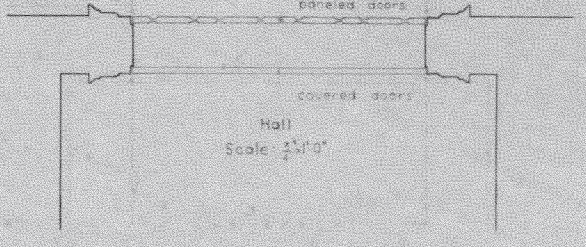
BRASS KEY PLATE
NORTH SIDE OF PANELED DOOR
Scale: F.S.

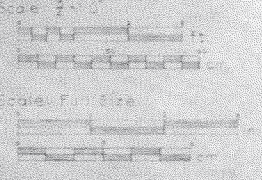


PROFILES
Scale: F.S.



FELT COVERED DOORS, NORTH ELEVATION
South elevation of felted doors: same

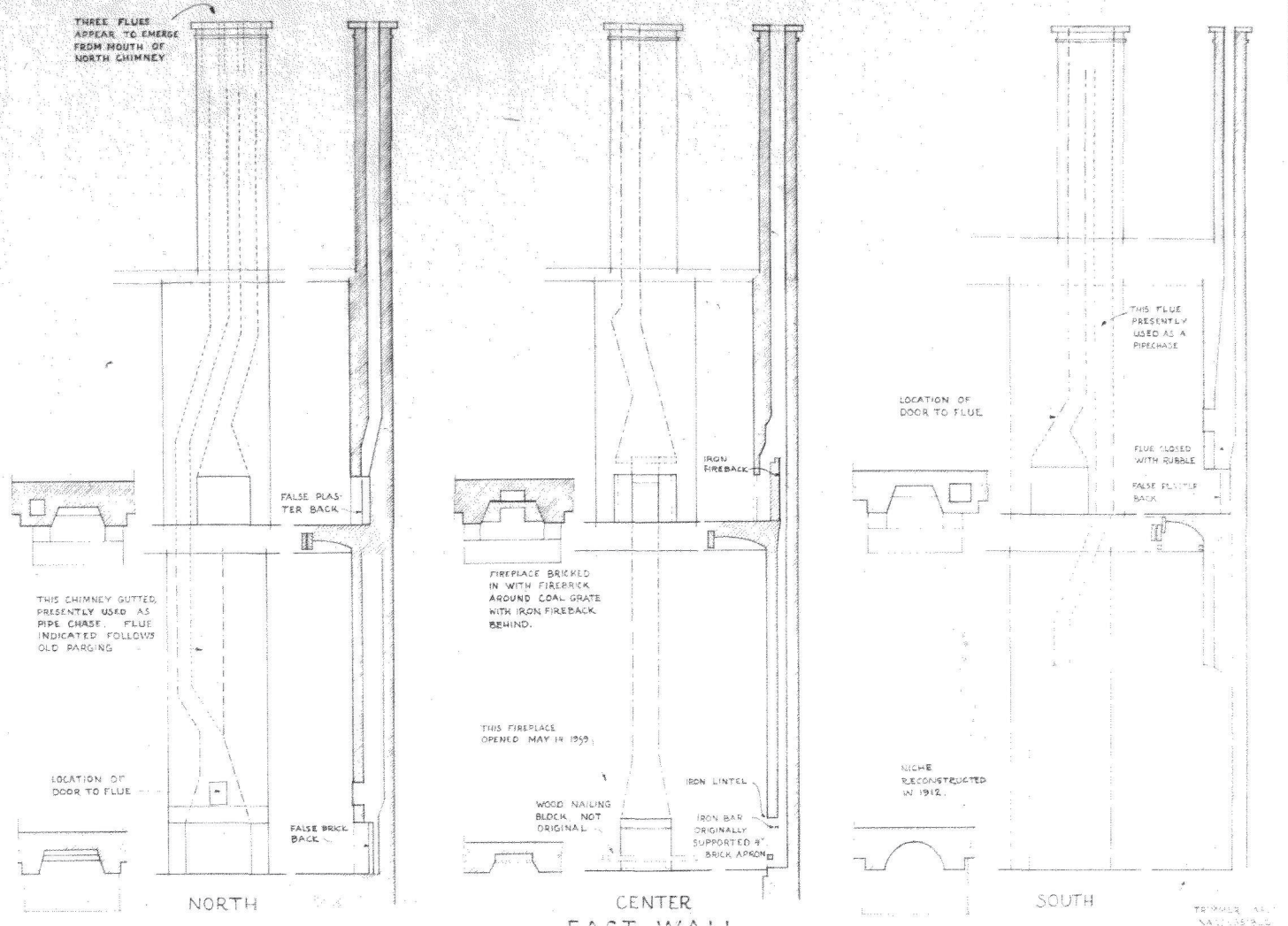




DOORS TO SENATE CHAMBER

Drawn by Lawr J. Biondi

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 4 OF 4a SHEETS	INDEX NO.



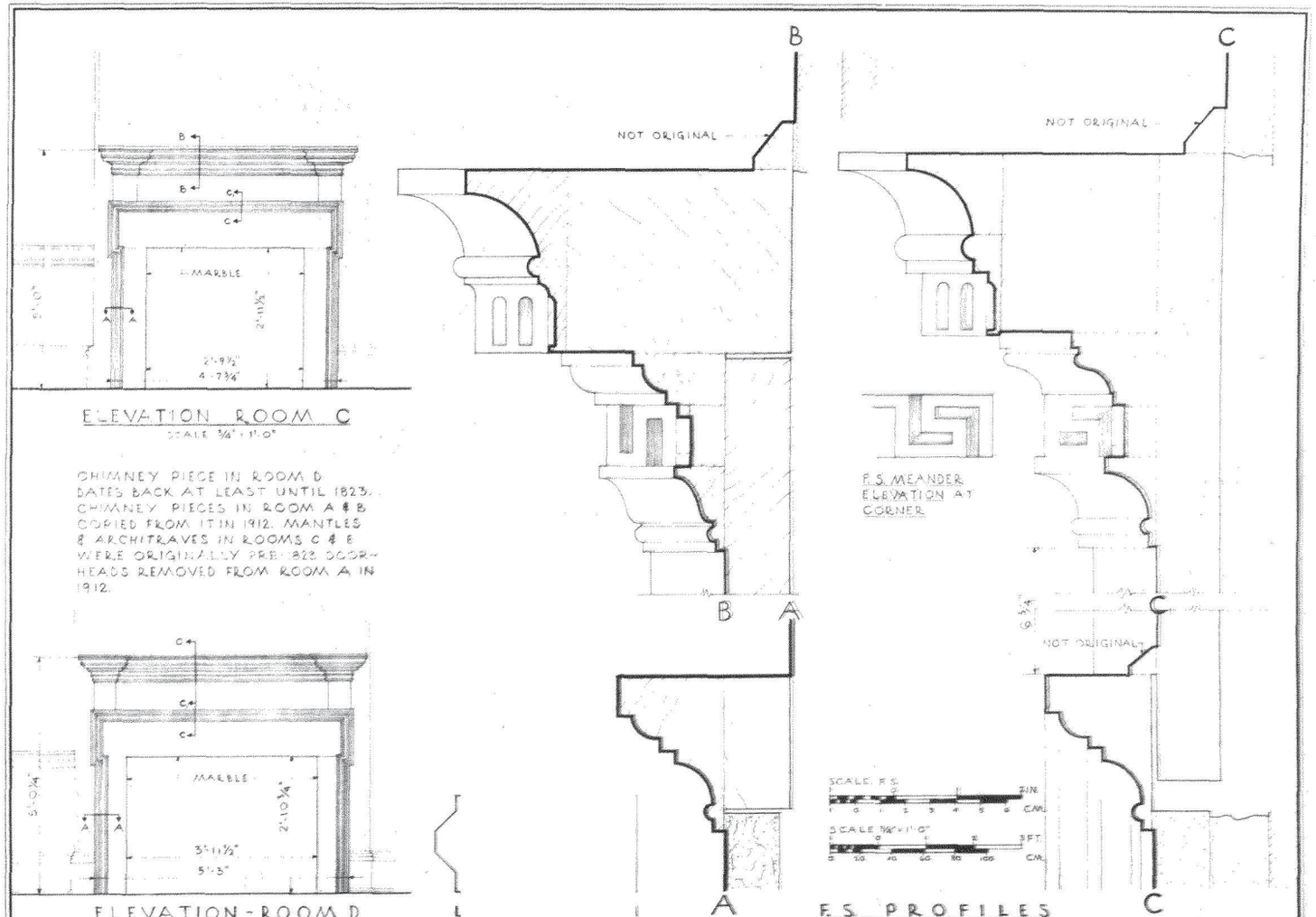
EAST WALL

FIREPLACE AND FLUE DISPOSITION

N NEBLETT, DEL

NO SCALE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 4 OF 40 SHEETS	INDEX NO.



SECOND FLOC CHIMNEY ~ PIECE DETAILS

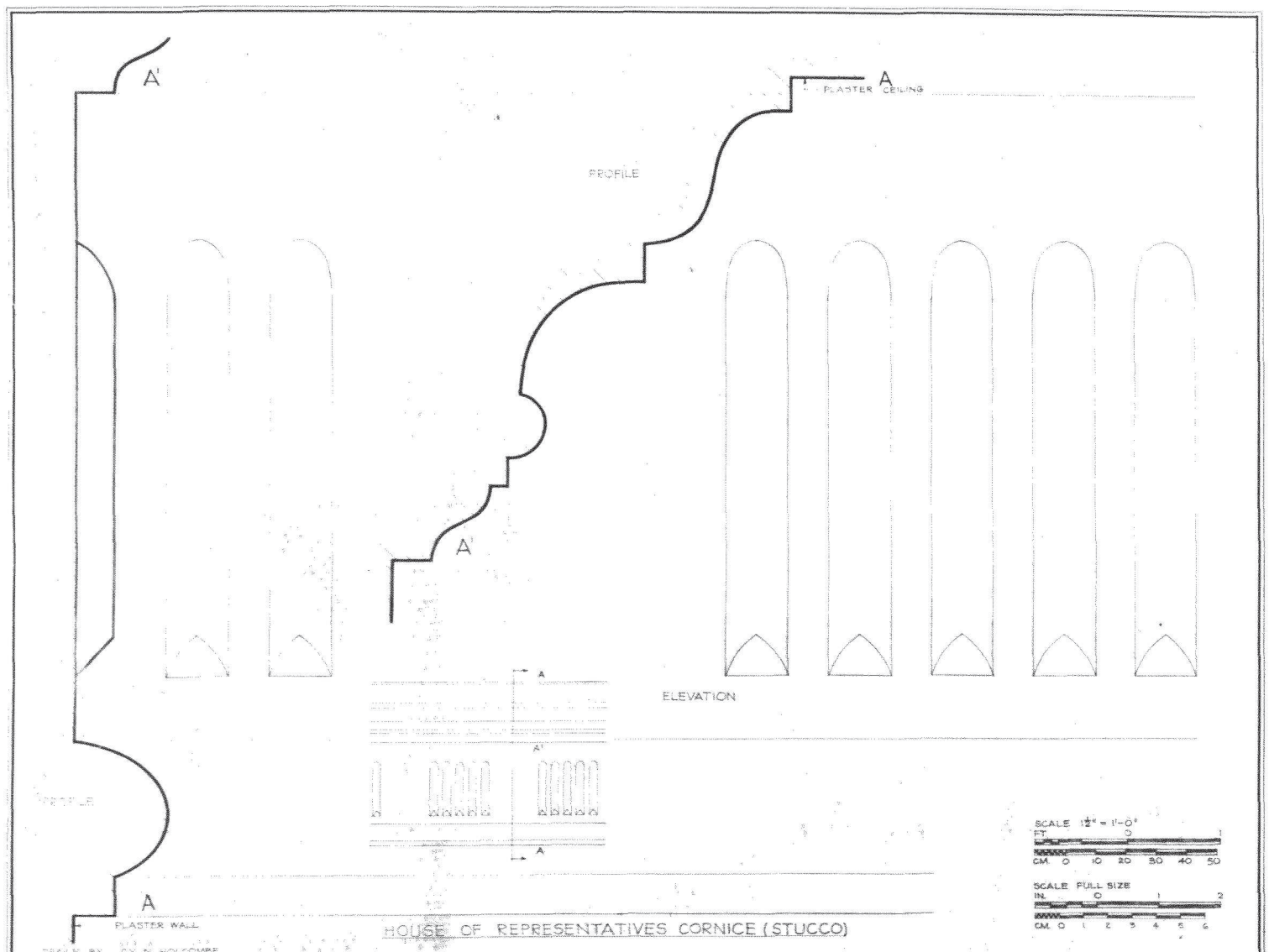
DRAWN BY FORSTER

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 45 OF 48 SHEETS



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CORNICE (STUCCO)

DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

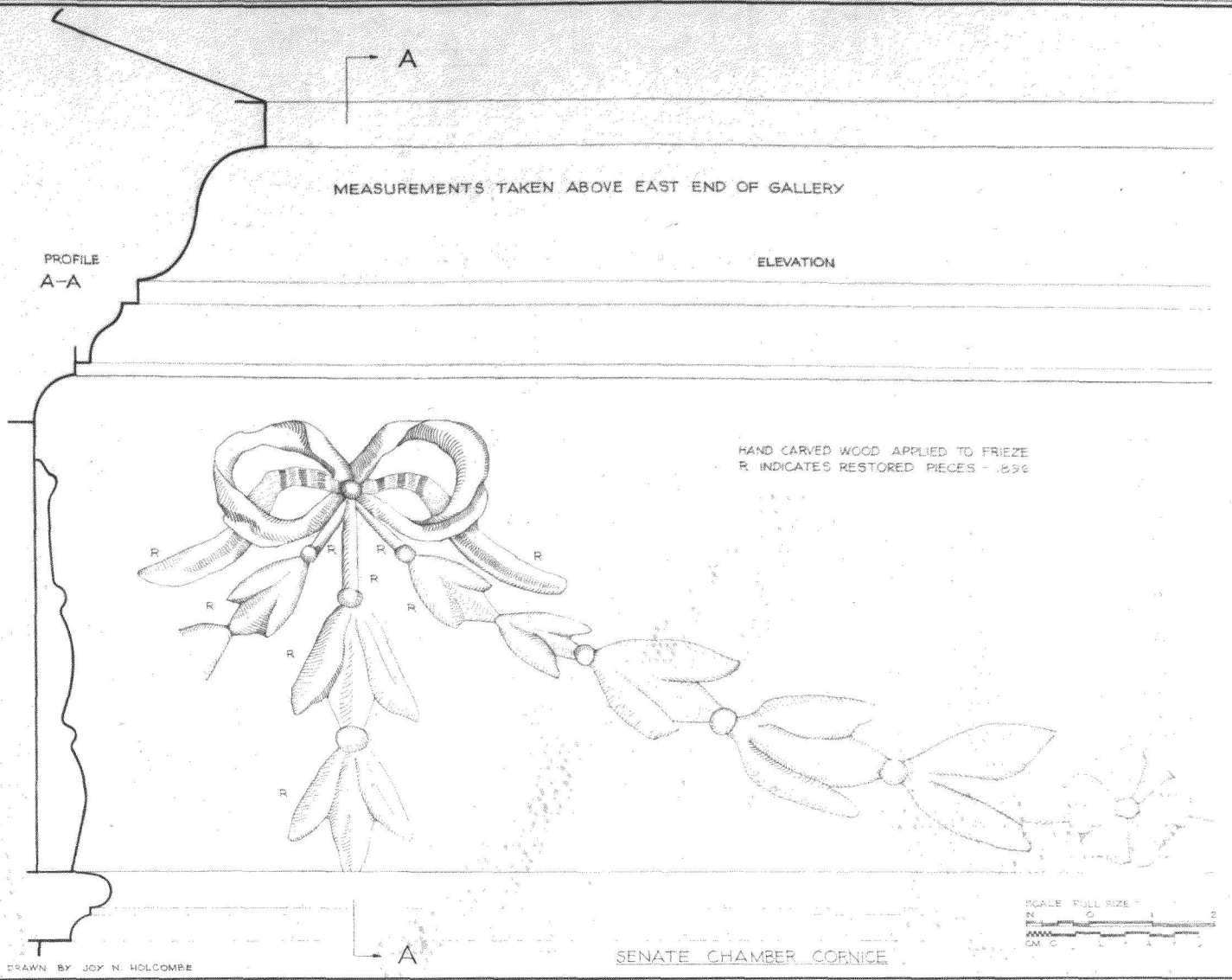
EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
CONGRESS HALL
SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SURVEY NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 45 OF 48 SHEETS

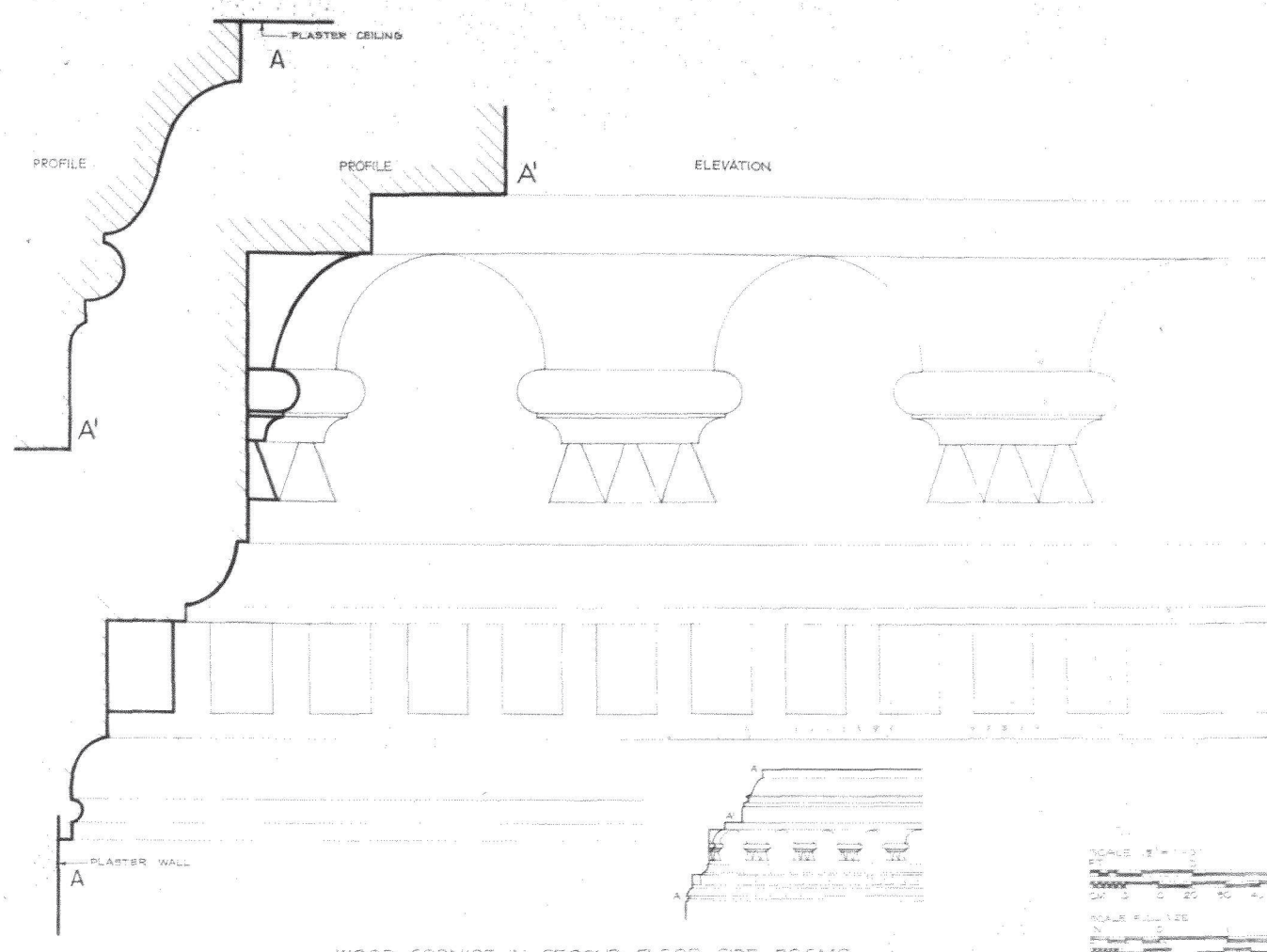
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINT NUMBER



DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

SENATE CHAMBER CORNICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 46 OF 45 SHEETS	INDEX NO.

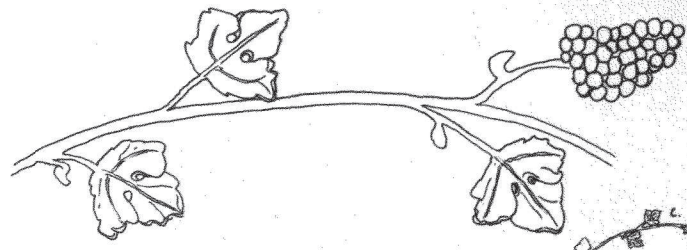


WOOD CORNICE IN SECOND FLOOR SIDE ROOMS

DRAWN BY JOY N. HOLCOMBE

EASTERN OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA. UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL SOUTHEAST CORNER, SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PA.	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 4 OF 5 SHEETS

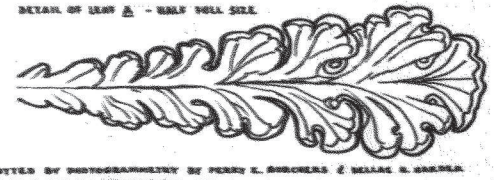
CENTRAL PLASTER ORNAMENT OF CEILING
SENATE CHAMBER - CONGRESS HALL



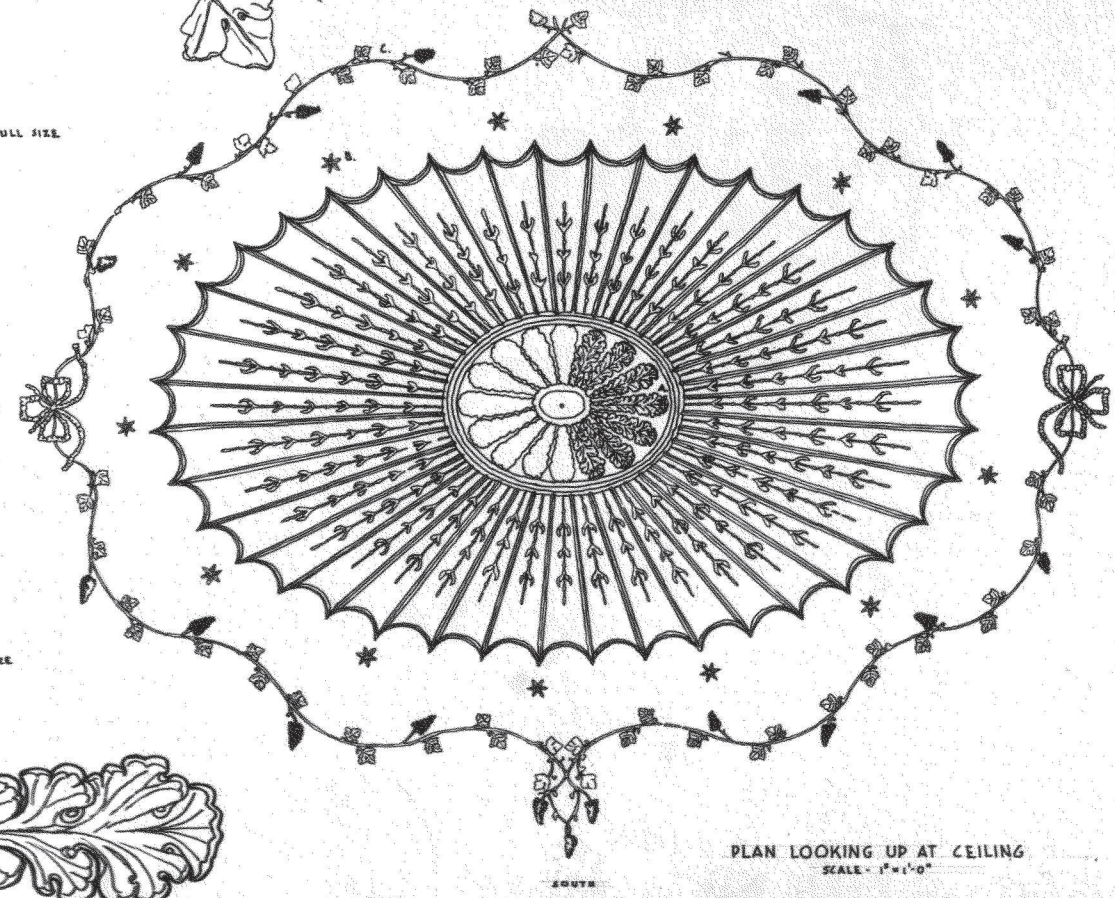
DETAIL OF GRAPEVINE AT C - HALF FULL SIZE



DETAIL OF STAR AT B - HALF FULL SIZE



DETAIL OF LEAF A - HALF FULL SIZE



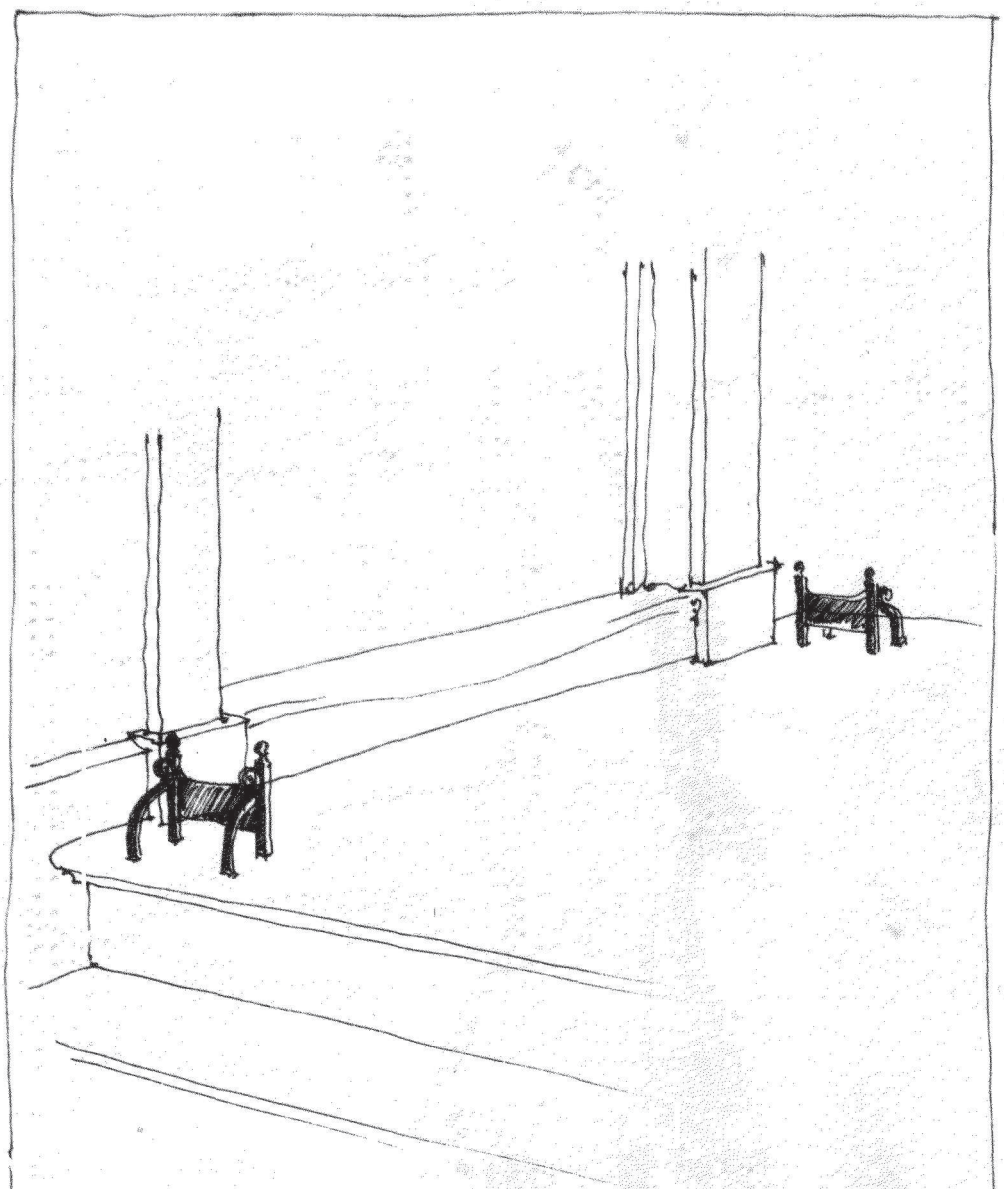
PLAN LOOKING UP AT CEILING
SCALE - 1" = 1'-0"

INCHES 0 1 2 3 4 5
SCALE OF FEET

PLOTTED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRY BY PERRY E. BORCHERS & DELLAS H. HARDER, DRAUGHTSMEN

PERRY E. BORCHERS - SUPERVISOR SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE CONGRESS HALL, INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL PARK PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA	SURVEY NO.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 48 OF 48 SHEETS

DRAWING NO. 5

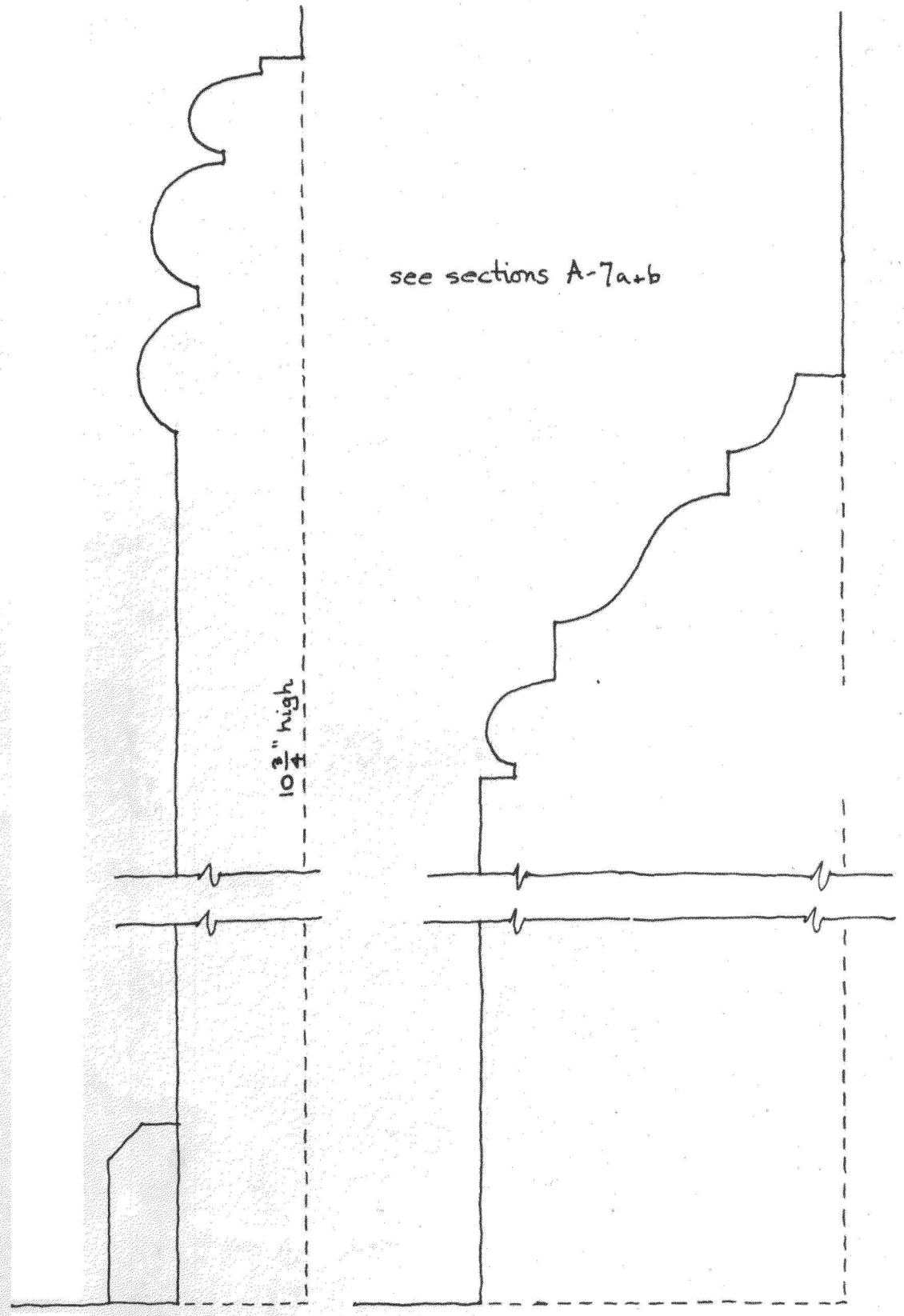


FOOTSCRAPERS

Detail of INHP photograph, "Supreme Court and Independence Hall group of buildings", taken circa. 1861 - 1868.

INHP NEG. # 6409 see section B-1.

P.H. 3/60



19th CENT.
SE, NE + NW rooms

ORIGINAL
SW, PASSAGE, STAIRHALL
+ SENATE CHAMBER

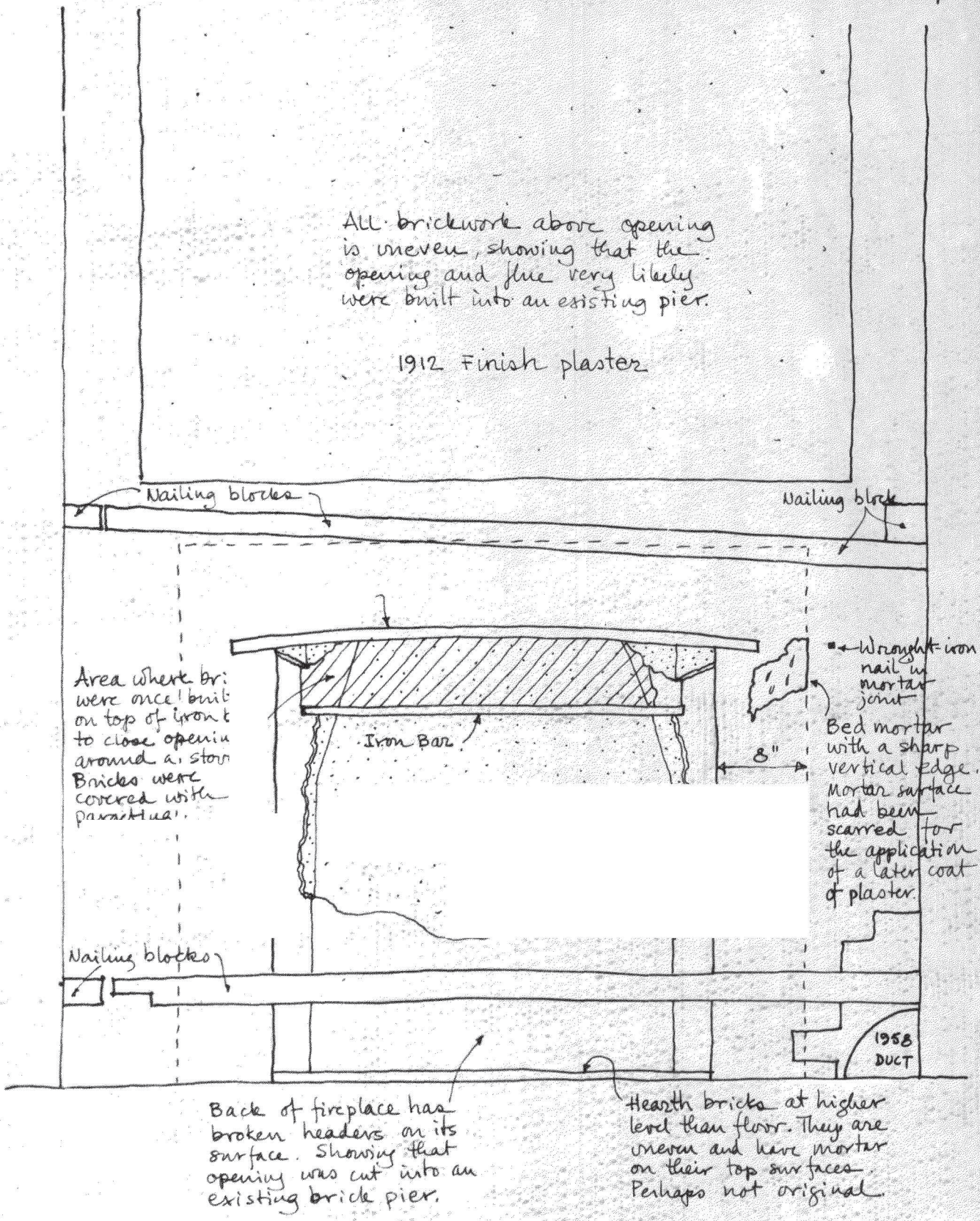
BASEBOARDS

CONGRESS HALL, SECOND FLOOR

It is recommended that the 19th century baseboards be replaced with ones to match the originals.

P.H. 3/60

DRAWING NO. 7



CONGRESS HALL, HSE. OF REP.

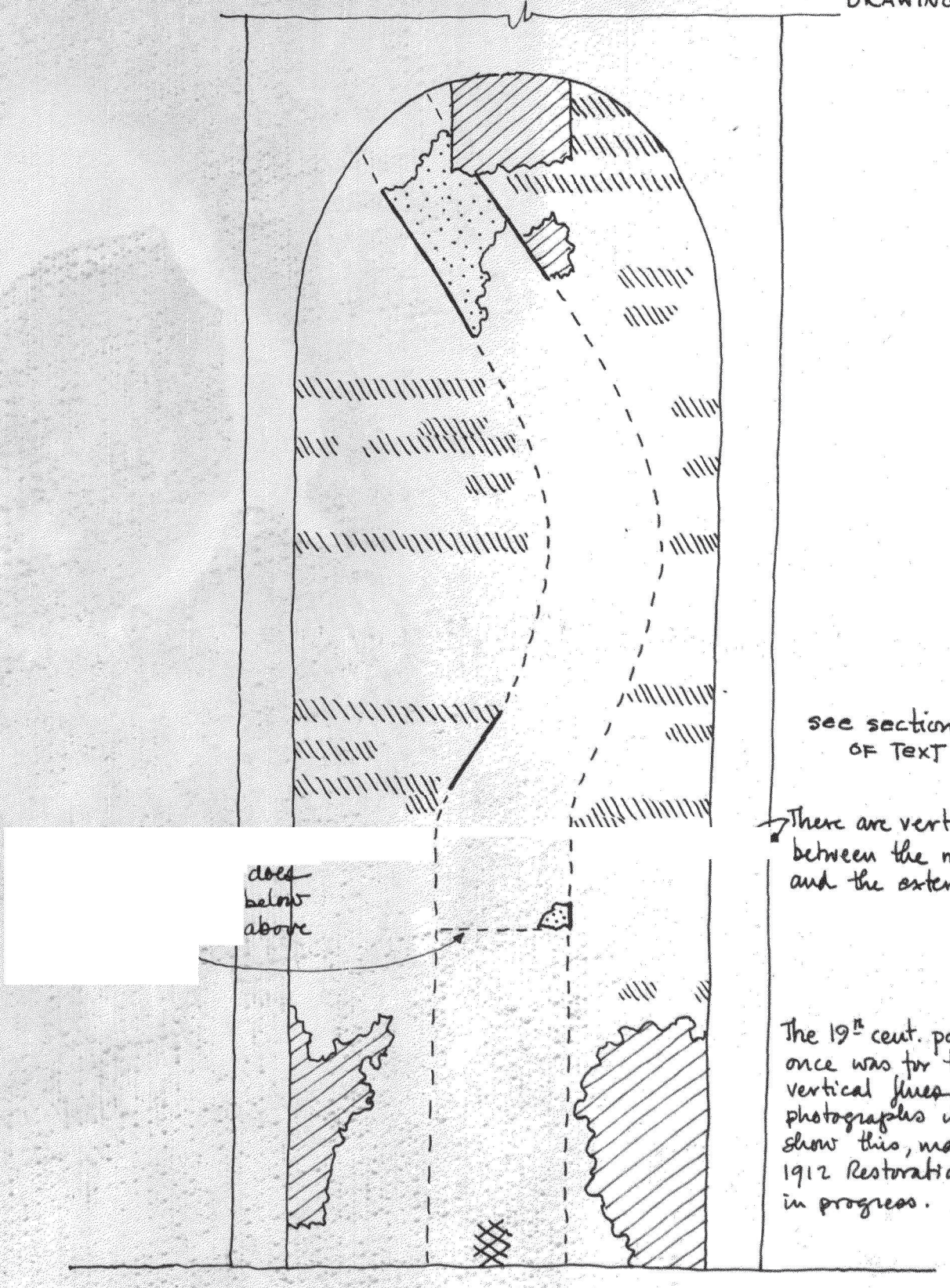
East Wall, Middle Opening, Evidence of Original Fireplace and Stove Arrangement

see sections A-8 + B-5

0" 6" 12"

P. H. 3/60

DRAWING NO. 8



see section C-10 of Text

There are vertical joints between the niche piers and the exterior walls.

The 19th cent. pargeting once was for three vertical flues. See photographs which show this, made while 1912 Restoration was in progress.

CONGRESS HALL, HSE

EVIDENCE OF

CHIMNEY

brickwork

Broken Bricks

18th century pargeting

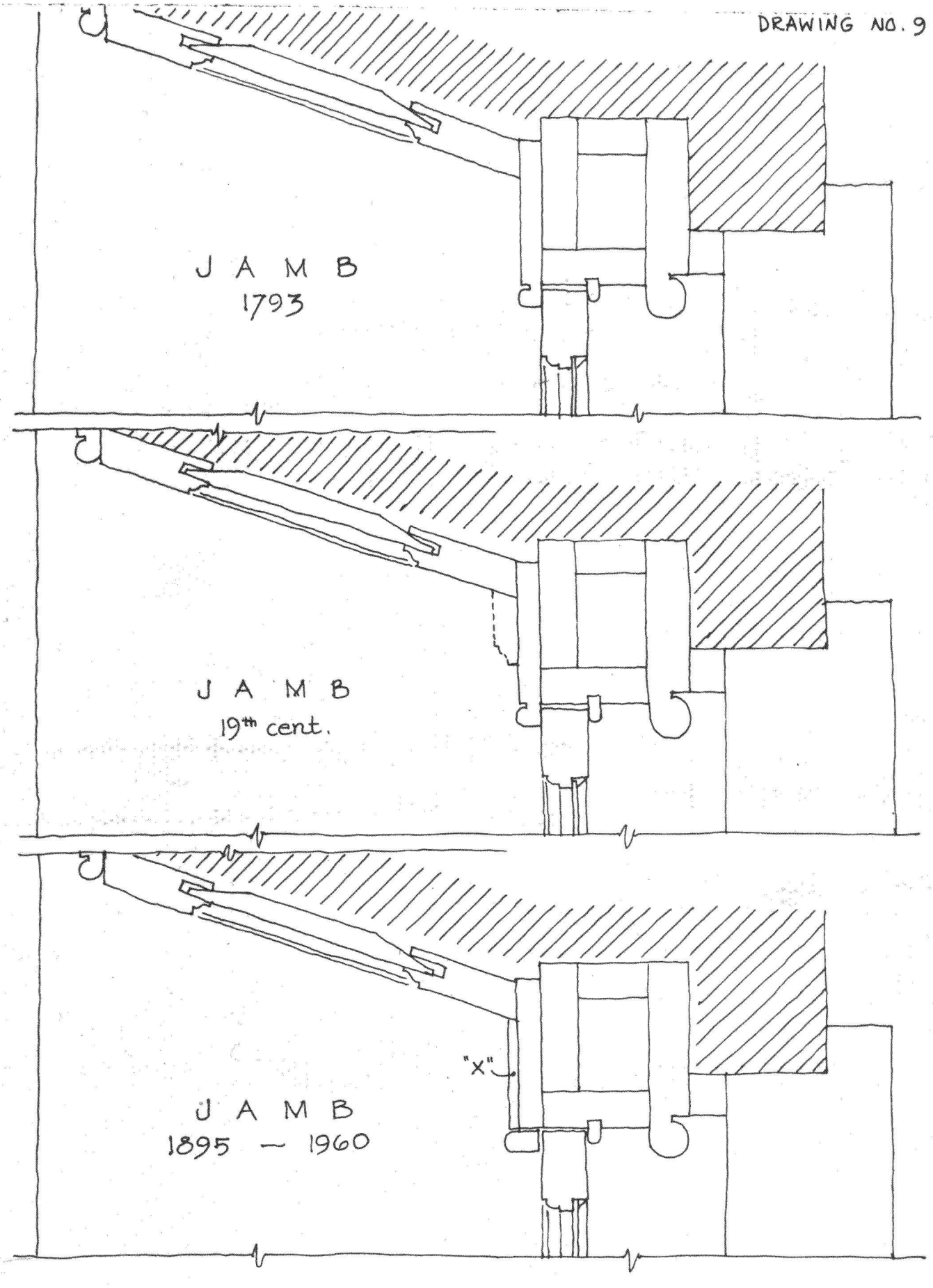
19th

Clear line of 18th cent. flue

Line of 18th cent. flue formed by light color of bricks.

0" 10" 20"

P.H. 3/60



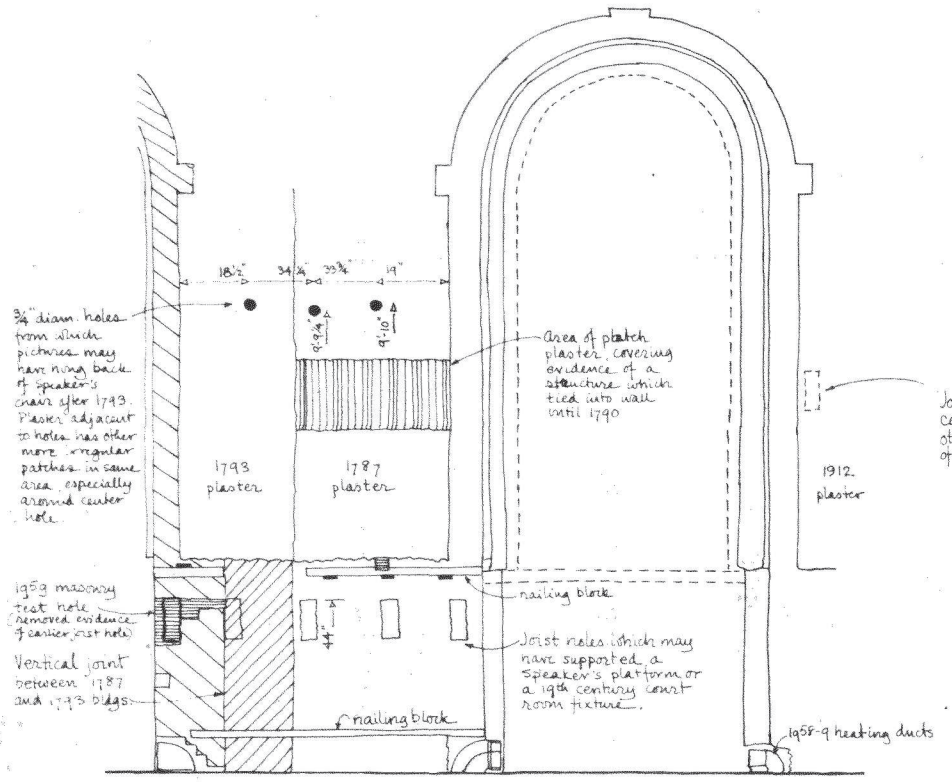
WINDOW TRIM – SENATE CHAMBER

CONGRESS HALL

ORIGINAL PAINT EVIDENCE FOUND BEHIND VENEER AT "X"
see section C-6a

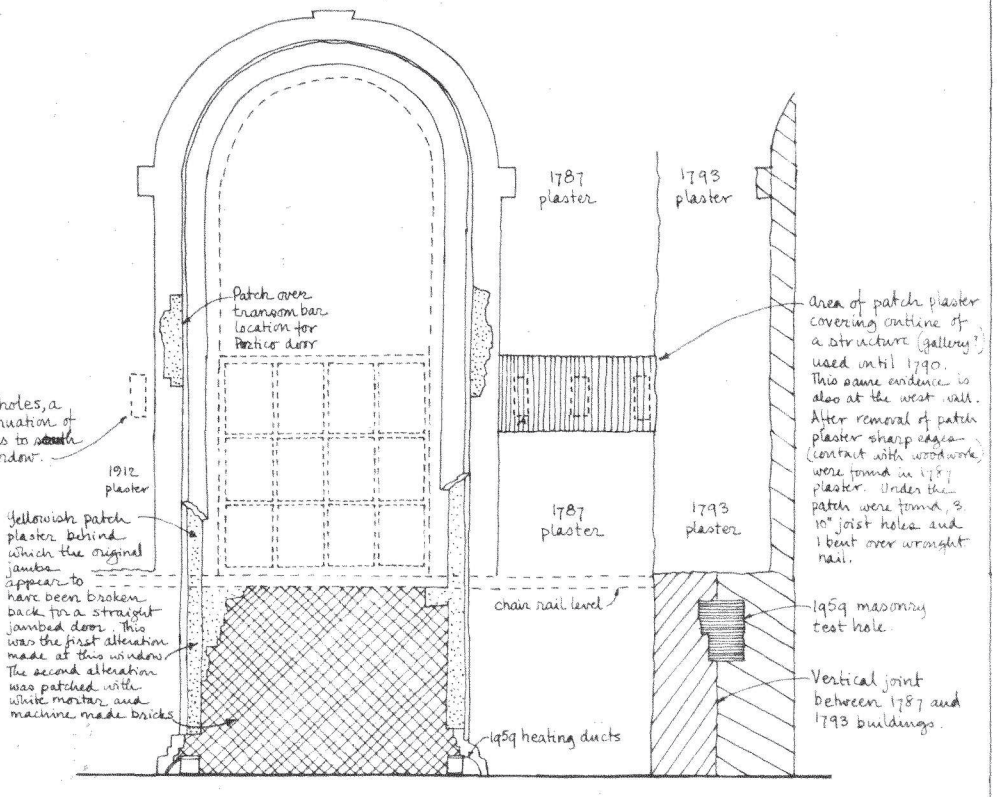
P.H. 3/60

scale: 3" = 1'-0"



[A] WEST WALL

N →



[B] EAST WALL

N ←

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1789 - 1790 GALLERY(?) EVIDENCE

1793 - 1800 PORTICO DOOR EVIDENCE

1793 - 1800 SPEAKER'S PLATFORM(?) EVIDENCE

SEE SECTIONS A-6b, C-5b + C-9

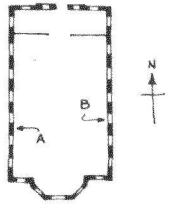
1793 EXTENSION BRICKWORK

1787 SOUTH WALL

1959 MASONRY TEST HOLE

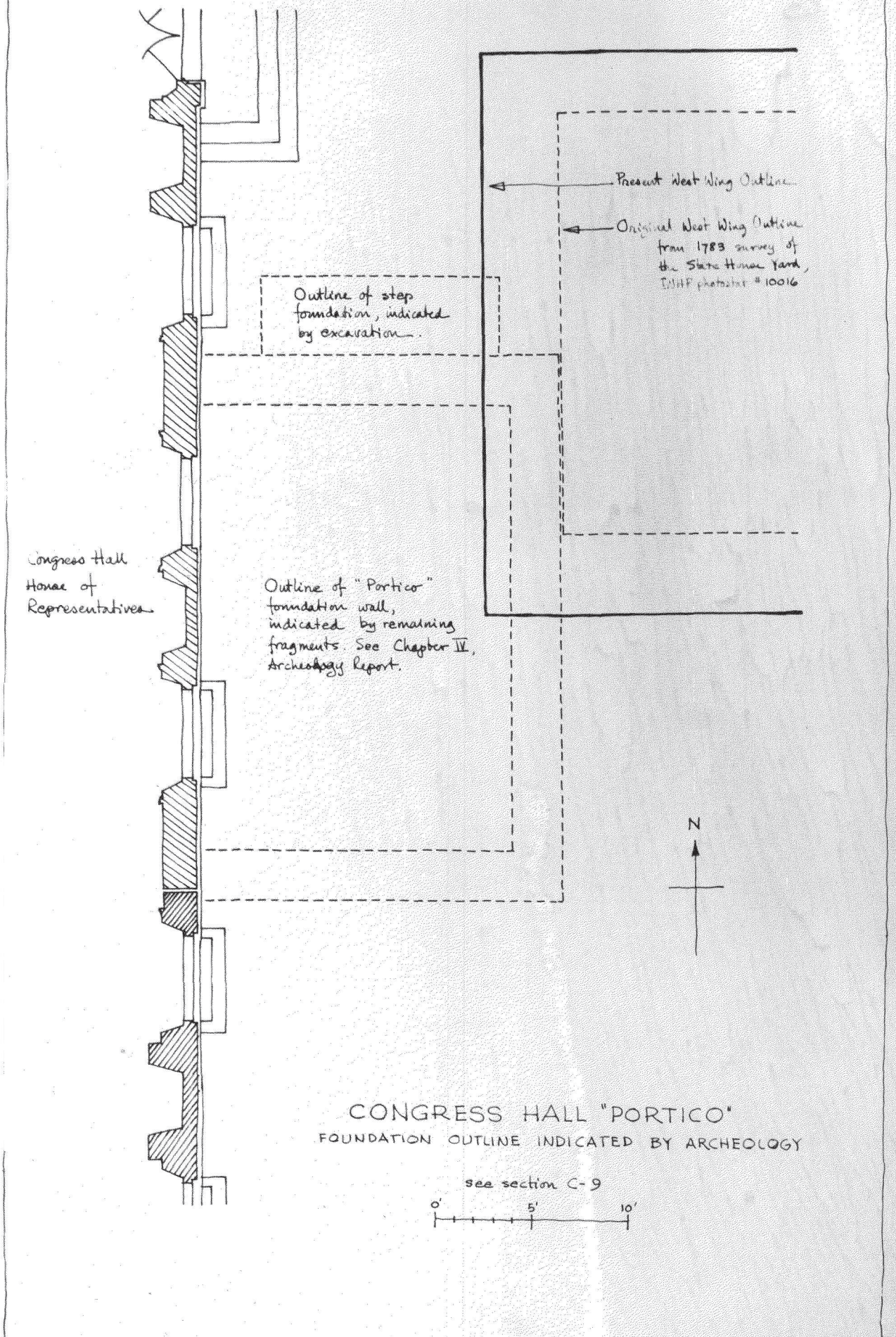
WOOD TRIM REMOVED

0 1 2 3 FT.



L.B. 2/60

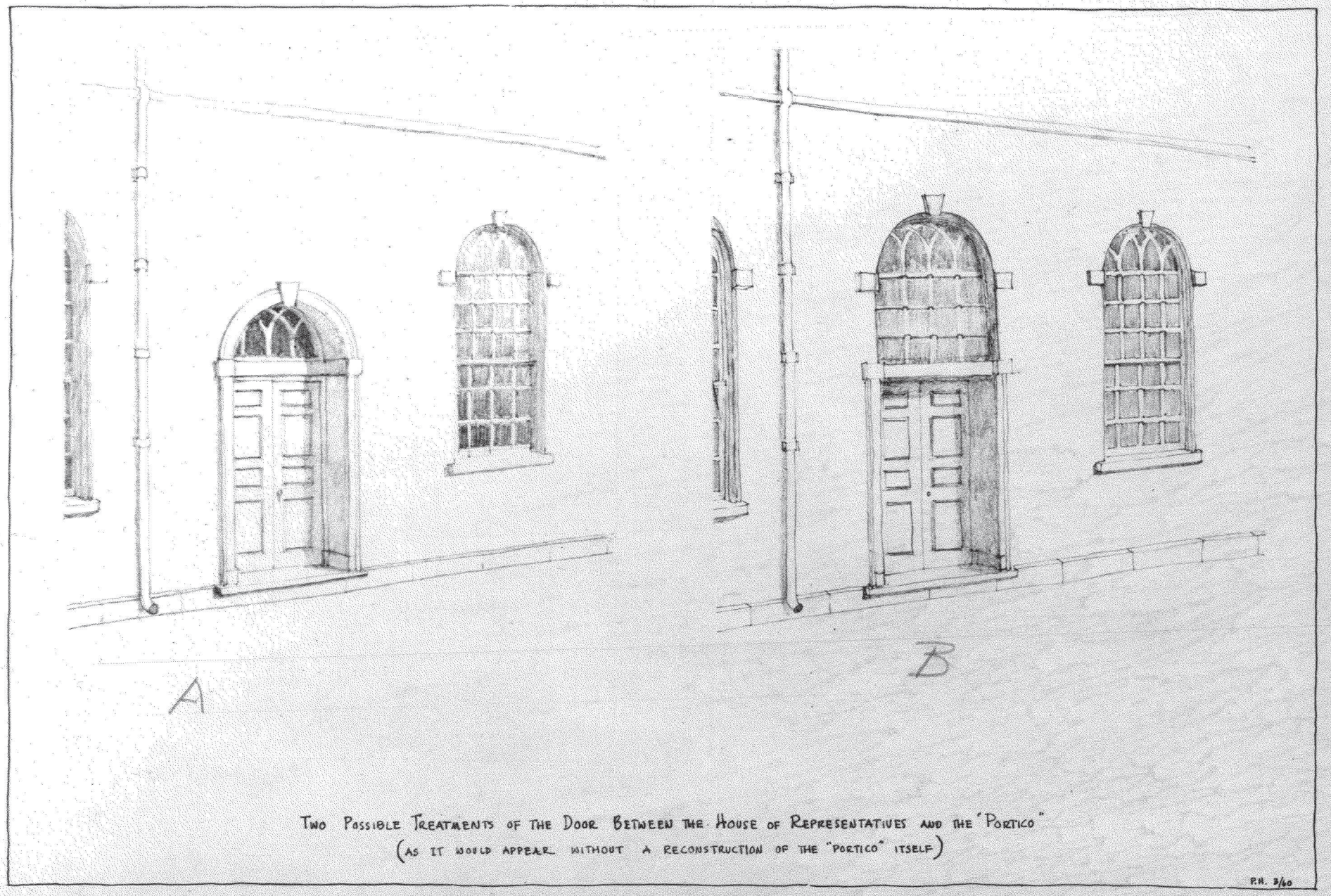
DRAWING NO. 10



CONGRESS HALL "PORTICO"

FOUNDATION OUTLINE INDICATED BY ARCHEOLOGY

P.H. 3/60



TWO POSSIBLE TREATMENTS OF THE DOOR BETWEEN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE "PORTICO"
(AS IT WOULD APPEAR WITHOUT A RECONSTRUCTION OF THE "PORTICO" ITSELF)

R.H. 3/60

DRAWING NO. 12

CHAPTER IV

ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA

Prepared by Archeologist Jackson W. Moore, Jr.

PURPOSE OF THE EXCAVATION

Research done by the Park history staff in connection with the Historic Structures Report, Part I,[1] for Congress Hall had revealed that in 1793 a structure had been erected between the West Wing of Independence Hall and Congress Hall. No written description of this building has so far been found. A small artist's sketch from the Davies Map of 1794 shows this feature at a poor perspective, with only the west half visible. It was referred to as the "Portico" by the brick masons Charles and Jacob Souder and by the plasterers Thackera and Jones in their bills for materials and services. This implied a rather small structure. From these sources it was known that the north elevation was of brick, contained a single large door-arch, was of a height roughly equal to the second story of the West Wing, but of less height than the same story of Congress Hall, and was capped with a balustrade. What was not known was the exact location, the north-south dimension, and the depth and thickness of the foundations.

In the Archeological Data Section of the Historic Structures Report, Part I, it was recommended that an excavation be undertaken to search for possible remains of the Portico. This was accomplished during the period June 1-30, 1959.

THE EXCAVATIONS

The first trench was laid out to include the general area suggested by the Davies Map sketch between Congress Hall and the West Wing of Independence Hall.

The north wall foundation of the Portico (Feature #8, Illustration No. 4) was found 56.5' from the present south wall of Congress Hall, at a depth of 1.62' - 3.94' below the surface. The wall at this depth is 2.6' in thickness and consists of two rows of brick on each side of a rubble core. Two gaps had been torn through the wall by the laying of two nineteenth century pipes (Features #4 and 5, Illustration No. 4). The remains of a step foundation (Feature #2, Illustration No. 4) built of unmortared brick was found to be fairly complete on the west, though elsewhere torn up by several later features. Since the step would have been symmetrically centered with the north wall, the east edge of the step would have been the same distance from the original West Wing as the west edge is from Congress Hall (3.3').

The south wall foundation of the Portico (Feature #13, Illustration No. 4) was found to be of mortared stone, rather than brick, 2.3' in thickness and 1.32' - 2.68' below the surface. The south face of this wall is 27.6' from the present south wall of Congress Hall; it thus coincides with the original southwest corner of the Hall before its enlargement in 1793. A two-foot gap had been torn through this wall by the iron pipe (Feature #4, Illustration No. 4) in the same manner as the north wall.

All traces of the east wall were destroyed by the construction of the Mills Building about 1811. The latter was found to have a depth below the surface of 12.74'. Calculations drawn from a comparison of the present ground plan of the Independence Group with a recently found one drawn in 1783[2] indicate that the original west wall of the West Wing was 3.95' plus/minus 0.5' farther east. This would give the Portico dimensions of 28.9' x 18.6' plus/minus 0.5'. The steps are recknoned at 4.15' x 12.0' plus/minus 0.5'.

A wall of brick laid in a Portland-type mortar was found 0.7' south of the Portico's south wall (Feature #14, Illustration No. 4). It extends undamaged across the pipe trench and was identifiable as the south wall of the Late Mills Extension. The location of the north wall of the extension was already known from several excellent photographs taken in the late nineteenth century. The exact date of construction is not known.

CONCLUSIONS

Archeological excavation revealed the north Portico wall foundation, showing its exact location, depth, thickness, and manner of construction. It also revealed the associated step foundation and, with some extrapolation, its dimensions. Also found was the south wall foundation, which was constructed differently but nevertheless identifiable as such.[3] The absence of the east wall was accounted for by the location and identification of the Mills Building foundation which displaced it. This provided the north-south dimension.

Collaboration of the archeologist with historians and architects resulted in the most sound extrapolation of the east-west dimension and above-ground reconstruction possible at this time.

Incidental to the project, but of probable future value, are the nineteenth century features. While not treated exhaustively, they were recorded and photographed. Previous to this, nothing was known of the Late Mills Extension, for example, other than the location of the north elevation.

Additional data is certain to be obtained from further historical research, especially from the private papers of the individual congressmen of the period. However, in the event that a reconstruction of this structure is programmed, the remainder of the south wall should be excavated to determine whether there were any other features (i. e., a step foundation) in association.

Chapter IV
Notes

1. Independence National Historical Park, Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall (May 1959), Chapter II, Section 2, pp. 21-2, and Appendix G, p. 1.

2. Drawing No. NHP-IND 2477.

3. Independence National Historical Park, "Excavation of the Portico Site," pp. 9, 11 (1959).

Chapter IV
Illustration No. 1



"Before" view of brick paving and East Wall of Congress Hall. Arrow indicates position of Portico's North Wall according to Davies Map Sketch.

Chapter IV
Illustration 1

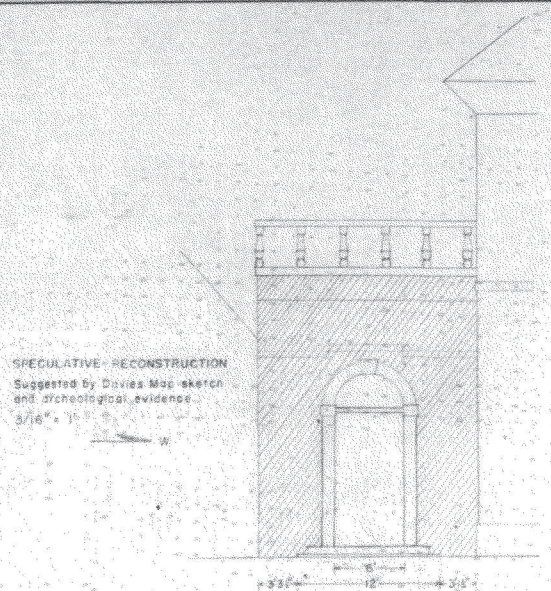


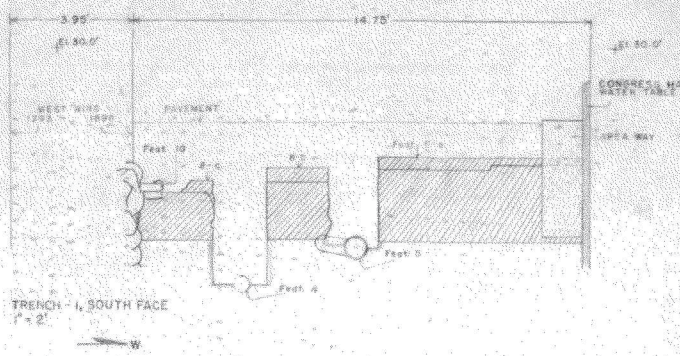
Step Foundation (Fea. #2) in foreground. North Wall of Portico (Fea. #8) at top. Small pipes containing telephone wire were associated with Area Way at right (modified in 1913).

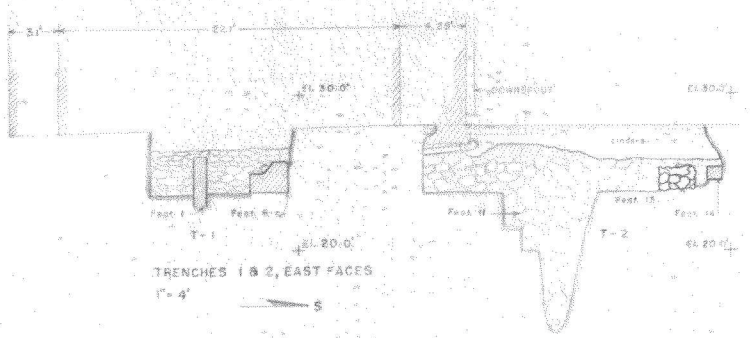
Chapter IV
Illustration No. 3



Present southwest corner of West Wing at extreme left. Mills Building foundation of mortared stone at center. Portico South Wall foundation at upper right. Arrow, pointing roughly north, rests on foundation of Late Mills Extension's South Wall.







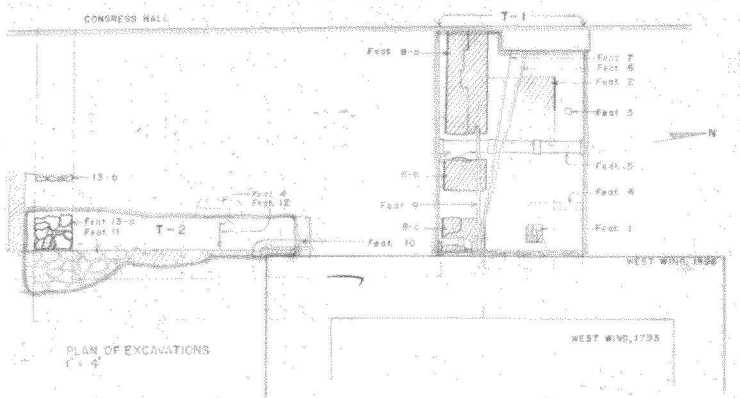


FIG. 11

Chapter IV
Illustration No. 4

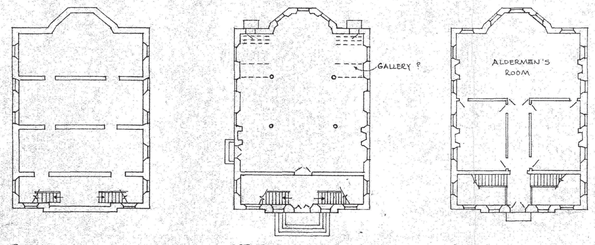
BASIC DATA ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD NOTES, DAVIES MAP 1794

RECOMMENDED ____ DATE	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARCHEOLOGY PREPARED BY FIELD OFFICE
APPROVED	PORTICO TITLE OF DRAWING CONGRESS HALL LOCATION WITHIN AREA INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK NAME OF AREA

SCALE AS NOTED

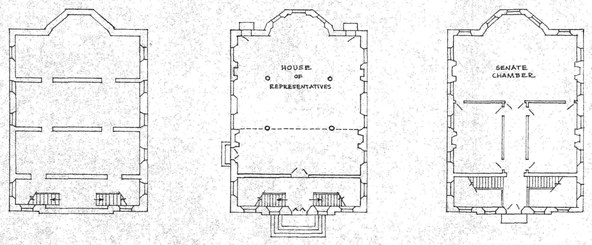
ORIENTATION REVIEWED
OPERATIONS REGION
WASHINGTON
INTERP. REGION
WASHINGTON
COOP. ACTY. REGION
WASHINGTON
DES. & CONST. STERN
A
E.
L.A.
WASHINGTON
A
E.
L.A.
OTHER
PREPARED J.W. Moore Jr.
DESIGNED J.W. Moore, Jr.
DRAWN
CHECKED
REVISED DATE | INITIAL
REGION FIVE
PCP
SHEET 1 OF 1
DRAWING NO. NHP/ND 26,69
DATE 9-21-59

1787 - 1790 AS BUILT FOR COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA



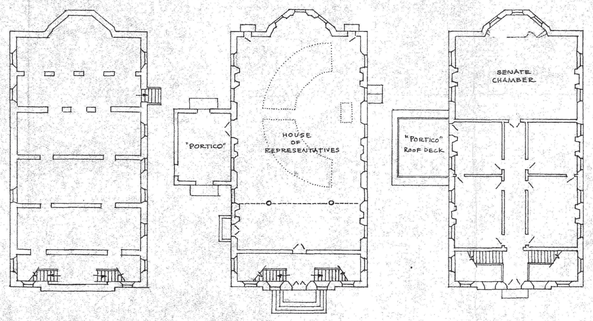
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1790 - 1793 AS FIRST REMODELED FOR CONGRESS



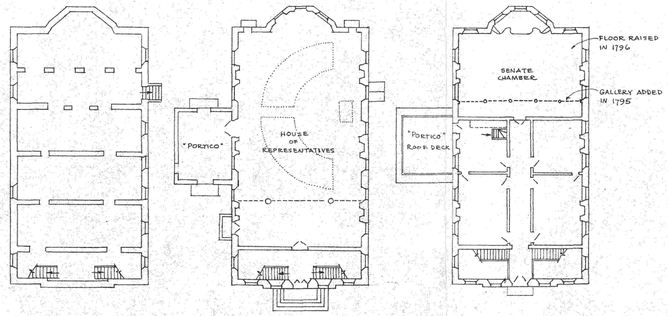
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1793 - 1795 AS ENLARGED FOR CONGRESS



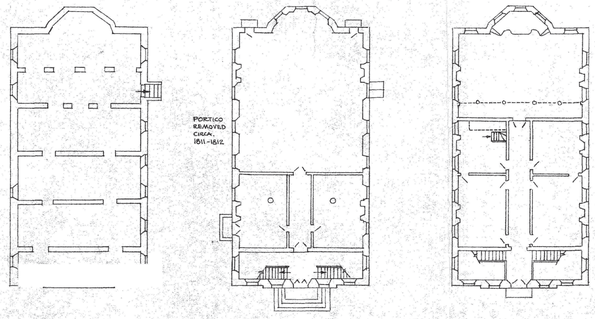
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1795 - 1800+ CHANGES IN SENATE CHAMBER



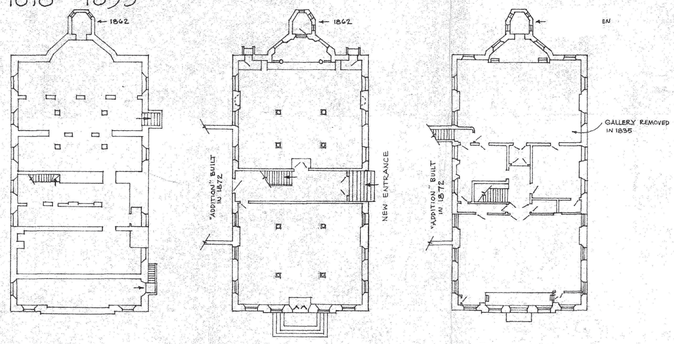
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1800+ - 1818 REVERTED TO COUNTY USE



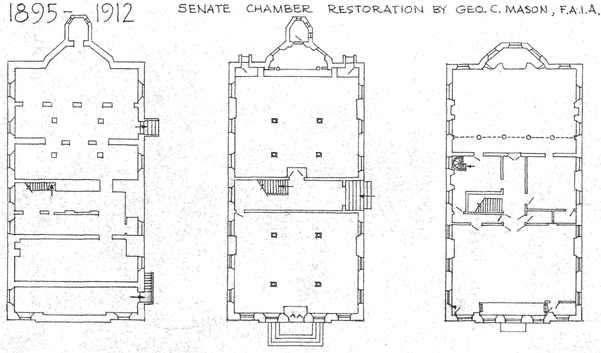
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1818 - 1895 MAJOR REMODELING FOR COURT USE



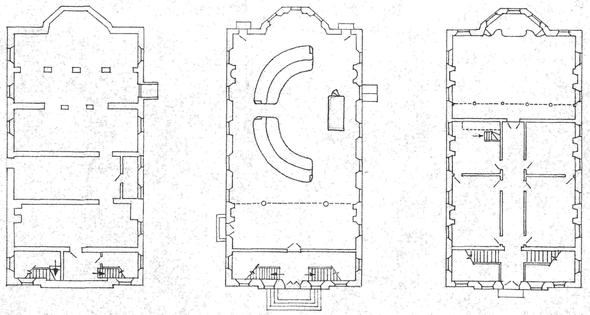
BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1895 - 1912 SENATE CHAMBER RESTORATION BY GEO. C. MASON, F.A.I.A.



BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

1912 - 1959 RESTORATION BY PHILA. CHAP., A.I.A.



BSM'T. 1ST FL. 2ND FL.

EVOLUTION OF THE FABRIC

CONGRESS HALL, INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

0 10 20 30 60 90 FEET

SCALE

MARK	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE	INITIAL
	REVISED		

PREPARED P. HARTSHORNE
DESIGNED L. J. BIOND
DRAWN
CHECKED

RECOMMENDED
DATE
APPROVED

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DIVISION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
PREPARED BY EASTERN OFFICE

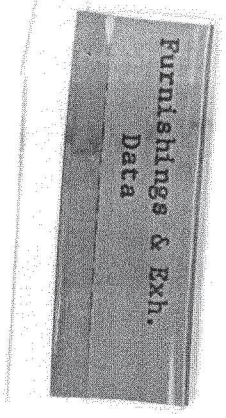
EVOLUTION OF THE FABRIC
TITLE OF DRAWING
CONGRESS HALL
LOCATION WITHIN PARK
INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
NAME OF PARK

REGION FIVE
PCP NO.
SHEET 13 OF 13
DRAWING NO. IND-NHP
Cong. Hall Report, II
DATE FEB. 5, 1960

CHAPTER V

FURNISHINGS AND EXHIBITION DATA

Prepared by Museum Curator David H. Wallace



EXISTING HISTORIC FURNITURE

One upholstered armchair believed to have been used in Congress Hall during the historic period has been acquired since May 1959. The Park collection now contains twenty-four chairs of this type.

The eagle mural from the Senate Chamber ceiling was removed from the building in September 1959 and is now undergoing restoration by Conservator Clapp. It will be replaced in its original position during the restoration of Congress Hall.

PROPOSED FURNISHING PLANS

Parts a-c of the Furnishing Plan for Congress Hall, First Floor, were submitted in 1959. Parts d-f are scheduled for submission by July 1, 1960.

Parts a-c of the Furnishing Plan for Congress Hall, Second Floor, are scheduled for submission during the current fiscal year.

PROPOSED FINANCING
OF REFURNISHING

Refurnishing of Congress Hall will be financed out of regular construction funds. It is estimated that it will cost about $300,000.

RECOMMENDATION FOR
INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT

See Historic Structures Report Part I on Congress Hall.