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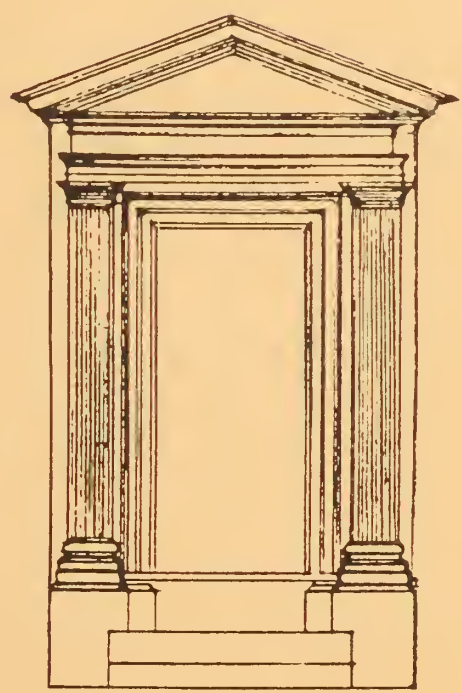
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# ANTRAM - GRAY HOUSE

## Roger Williams National Memorial



Historic Structure Report



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**HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT**

**THE ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE**

**Roger Williams National Memorial**

**Providence, Rhode Island**

By

**ANDREA M. GILMORE**

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Boston, Massachusetts

1981





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I. INTRODUCTION





The Antram-Gray House is located at the corner of North Main and Smith Streets in Providence, Rhode Island. It is an early 18th-century structure with a late 18th-century addition. The original, north portion of the house was built ca. 1730 on the west -- or water -- side of North Main Street, a very early road originally called Towne Street. This portion of the house is one of the few structures in Providence that survive from the city's earliest period of commercial and maritime development.

The original portion of the Antram-Gray House is a simple wood-frame structure of 2-1/2 stories, with a gable roof. The ridge of the roof runs north-south; the primary, east elevation faces North Main Street. This portion of the house is two bays wide and four bays deep.

The plan of the ca.-1730 portion of the house is atypical for early 18th-century Rhode Island houses. Most noteworthy is the absence of fireplaces in all but the central rooms on the first and second floors, and the placement of the chimney in the slope of the gable roof, rather than on the gable end. These differences in plan suggest that it may have been built for a combined residential/commercial use, rather than a strictly residential use. As such, it is a rare example of an early 18th-century, mixed-use structure.

The ca.-1798 addition, which was built onto the south side of the ca.-1730 house, doubled its size. The addition also is 2-1/2 stories, with a gable roof. Like the ca.-1730 portion of the house, the addition is of wood-frame construction, except for the south wall, which is of brick. Two chimneys are incorporated into the south wall. The addition is two bays wide and four bays deep.

The Antram-Gray House was acquired by the National Park Service in 1974 as part of the Roger Williams National Memorial. The memorial is located at the foot of College Hill in Providence, Rhode Island. It consists of 4.56 acres. It is bounded on the north by Smith Street, on the south by Lonsdale Street, on the east by North Main Street, and on the west by Canal Street. The Antram-Gray House is located at the northeast corner of the site (see Illustration 1).

South of the house -- along North Main Street -- is the Bernon Grove, a planting of maple trees commemorating an early Providence resident, Gabriel Bernon.[1] To the south of Bernon Grove is the Hahn Memorial, a landscaped area surrounding the site of the original fresh-water spring around which Providence was settled. The remaining land of the memorial is vacant. It was cleared for urban renewal in the late 1960's.

When the National Park Service assumed responsibility for the Antram-Gray House in 1974, it moved the house approximately 40 feet to the south of its original location, to enable Smith Street to be widened. Several years later, the Park Service renovated the first floor of the house to accommodate park offices, an area for an interpretative display, and public restrooms. The area between the Antram-Gray House and the Bernon Grove was landscaped in 1980. This landscaping included the building of stone-terraced planting areas and brick walks. The next year, the Park Service undertook a major landscaping effort to transform the remaining vacant urban-renewal land into an urban park (see Illustration 2). With the building of this urban park, the Park Service is contemplating expanding its interpretative program at the Roger Williams National Memorial. This expansion would require the moving of park offices to the second floor of the Antram-Gray House, to create additional space for interpretative displays on the first floor.

The purpose of this historic structure report was to study and document the evolution of the Antram-Gray House. Special attention was given to the documentation of the architectural fabric of the second floor, since this area may be altered significantly if adaptively reused for park offices. The findings presented in this report will serve as a guide for all future use proposals for the Antram-Gray House.

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### NOTES

1. Gabriel Bernon was instrumental in bringing the Episcopal Church to Providence. He was active in the fund-raising efforts for the building of King's Church, located across from the memorial at the corner of Church and North Main Streets.



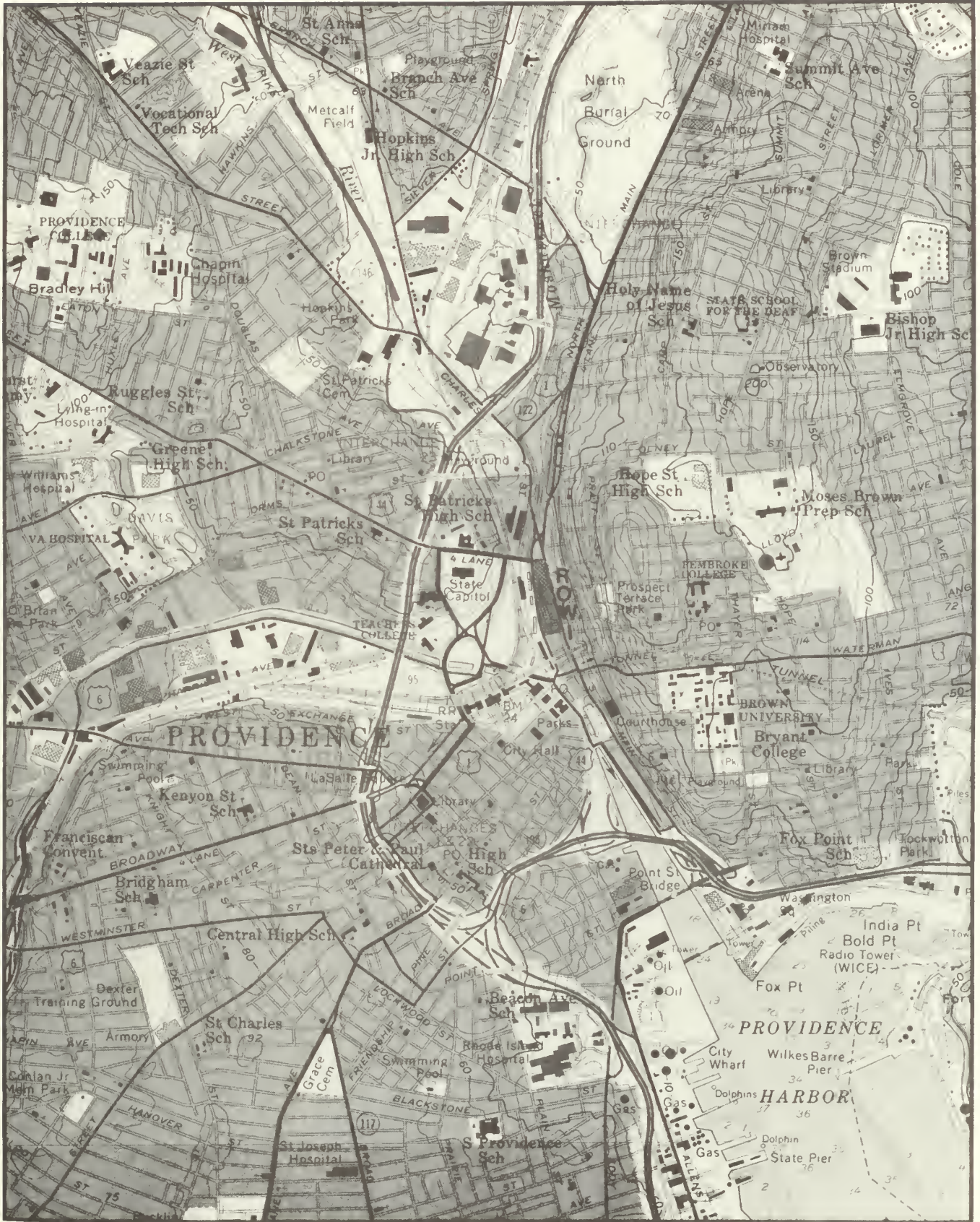


Illustration 1. USGS Map of Providence, Showing Location of Roger Williams National Memorial (1957).

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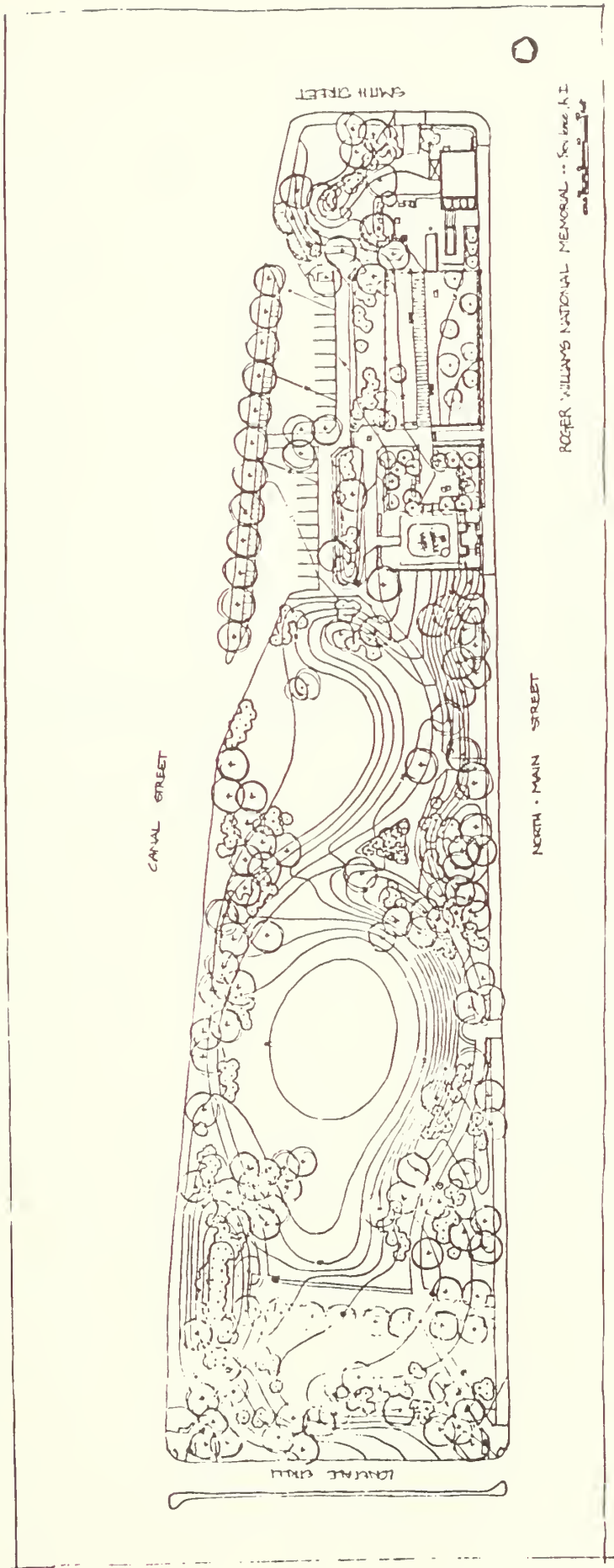


Illustration 2. Site Plan, Roger Williams National Memorial (1981).



II. SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION





Traditional architectural documentation for the Antram-Gray House is nearly nonexistent. No early drawings or specifications for the house have been found, and the earliest photograph of it was taken during the 1940's. In the absence of such information, other types of documentation have been examined. Early patterns of development in Providence, records of property ownership, family genealogies, and insurance records have been used to help trace the architectural evolution of the Antram-Gray House.

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In March 1637, Roger Williams purchased from the Narragansett Indians:

... the lands west of Seekonk River and the Great Salt River into which it flowed, its other bounds extending from 'ye river and fields at Pautuckqut' southwesterly to 'ye great hill of Notquonckanet' and then southeasterly to Pawtuxet River.[1]

Included in this purchase was a neck of land, bordered on the east by the Seekonk River, on the south by the Great Salt River,[2] and on the west by the Cove. (See Illustration 3.) It was on this neck of land that Providence was first settled. Cady describes this parcel of land as follows:

A hill rose sharply, east of the spring, to a height of 200 feet. The descent to the east and south was more gradual. Thick forests covered most of the territory, with swamps at the lower levels. A brook flowed southerly through the neck, curving westerly, near its mouth, to discharge into Mile End Cove. Between the bend of the brook and the southerly shore of the neck, Foxes Hill rose to a height of about 40 feet. A gravelly beach extended from Fox Point northerly to the mouth of Moshassuck River.[3]

The site on which the Antram-Gray House was built is located in this neck area. In Illustration 3, it is located on the west side of the neck, slightly southeast of where the Moshassuck River flowed into the northernmost extension of the Cove. The Cove was a tidal inlet and marsh into which the Woonasquatucket River also flowed. When looking at Illustration 3 and other early maps of Providence, it is important to note that the shoreline of the Cove formed the west boundary of the parcel of land on which the Antram-Gray House stood. The Cove was accessible by sailing ship from the Atlantic Ocean via Narragansett Bay and the Great Salt River. During the late 17th and early 18th centuries, wharves and warehouses were built along the shoreline of the Cove to accommodate maritime commerce.

The first road laid out in Providence was Towne Street. It originally ran from Mile End Cove, along the Providence River and the Cove, north to the area of the Moshassuck Falls, where it turned slightly east and ran up the north end of Constitution Hill. In 1638, "home lots" were laid out along the east side of Towne Street (see Illustration 4). Fifty-two long, narrow lots were laid out. They ran from Towne Street up the hillside to present-day Hope Street. The lots varied in size from 7-1/2 to 8-1/2 acres.[4] Houses were built on these lots soon after this initial land division.

The west side of Towne Street, where the Antram-Gray House was built, remained undeveloped during the 17th century. No record has been discovered of a survey of house lots in this area prior to 1700, nor has any information been found of actual structures in this area. Henry Dorr, a 19th-century historian writing about the west side of Towne Street during the 17th century, says the following:

During the first sixty years, the original conception of Towne Street remained unexecuted. As we have thus far viewed it, it had but one side. In modern phrase it was a shore road. [5]

By the beginning of the 18th century, building on the west side of Towne Street had commenced. Cady describing Providence ca. 1703 says:

Providence, at that time, had about 1200 inhabitants.... Most of these inhabitants lived in dwellings on the east side of Towne Street. The wharves and warehouses of the sea merchants were conveniently located opposite their houses on the waterfront. [6]

An article entitled "The Old Town of Providence," published November 29, 1903, also states that shops -- as well as wharves and warehouses -- began to be built along the west side of Towne Street at this time. The article reads as follows:

Towne Street during the early years of settlement had been built upon the east side only. The few merchants who lived there had their businesses in connection with their dwellings, according to the old custom, but early in 1700 shops began to be built on the west side of the street. The first dwelling house for that purpose was by Gabriel Bernon, nearly opposite King's Church. [7]

A 1713 plat map (Ill. 5) is the first document found thus far that shows the division into house lots of the land along the water at the northern end of Towne Street. Public gangways, to provide access between Towne Street and the water, also appear for the first time on this map. They are located between every two property lots. The gangways later became narrow streets. Also shown on this map is the spring, whose location is identified on the earlier maps of Providence. To the south of the spring is an area designated as common land. Several lots to the north of the spring, a lot was designated for the laying of timber. North of this lot are two lots identified as being privately owned. Lot #85 was owned by a person named Whitman; lot #86 was owned by Major Dexter.

Unfortunately, this plat map does not extend as far north as the location of the Antram-Gray House. A later plat map of Towne Street, dated 1746, indicates that the Antram-Gray house lot would have been lot #88 (see Illustration 6). The failure of the 1713 map to show the Antram-Gray house lot is especially disappointing because the will of Benjamin Whipple, dated 1704, indicates that a dwelling may have been standing on this lot by that date. Whipple's will states:

I do Give and Devise unto my son John my Dwelling House and land standing by the Salt Water side in said town of Providence. [8]

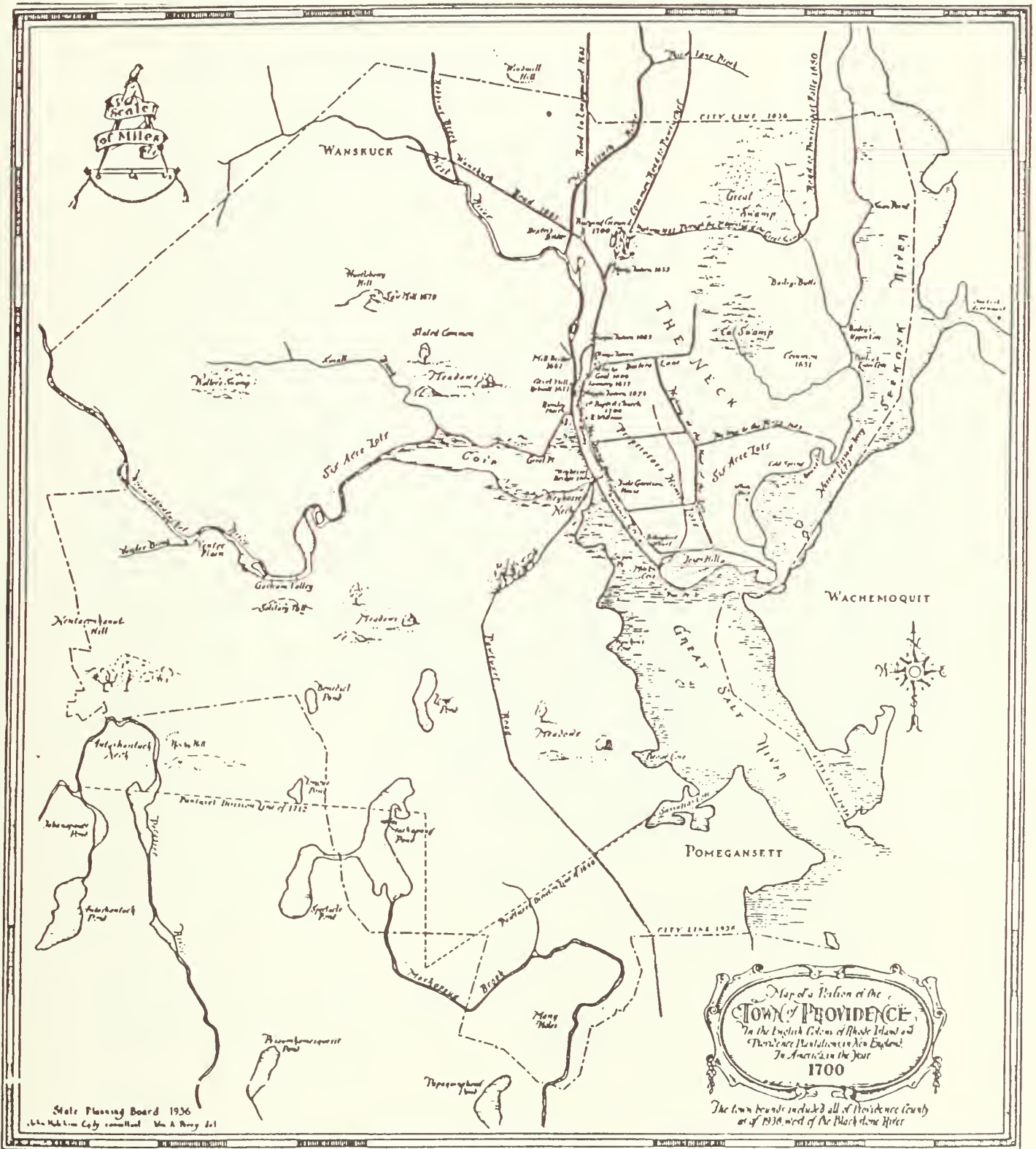


Illustration 3. Map of Providence in 1700.





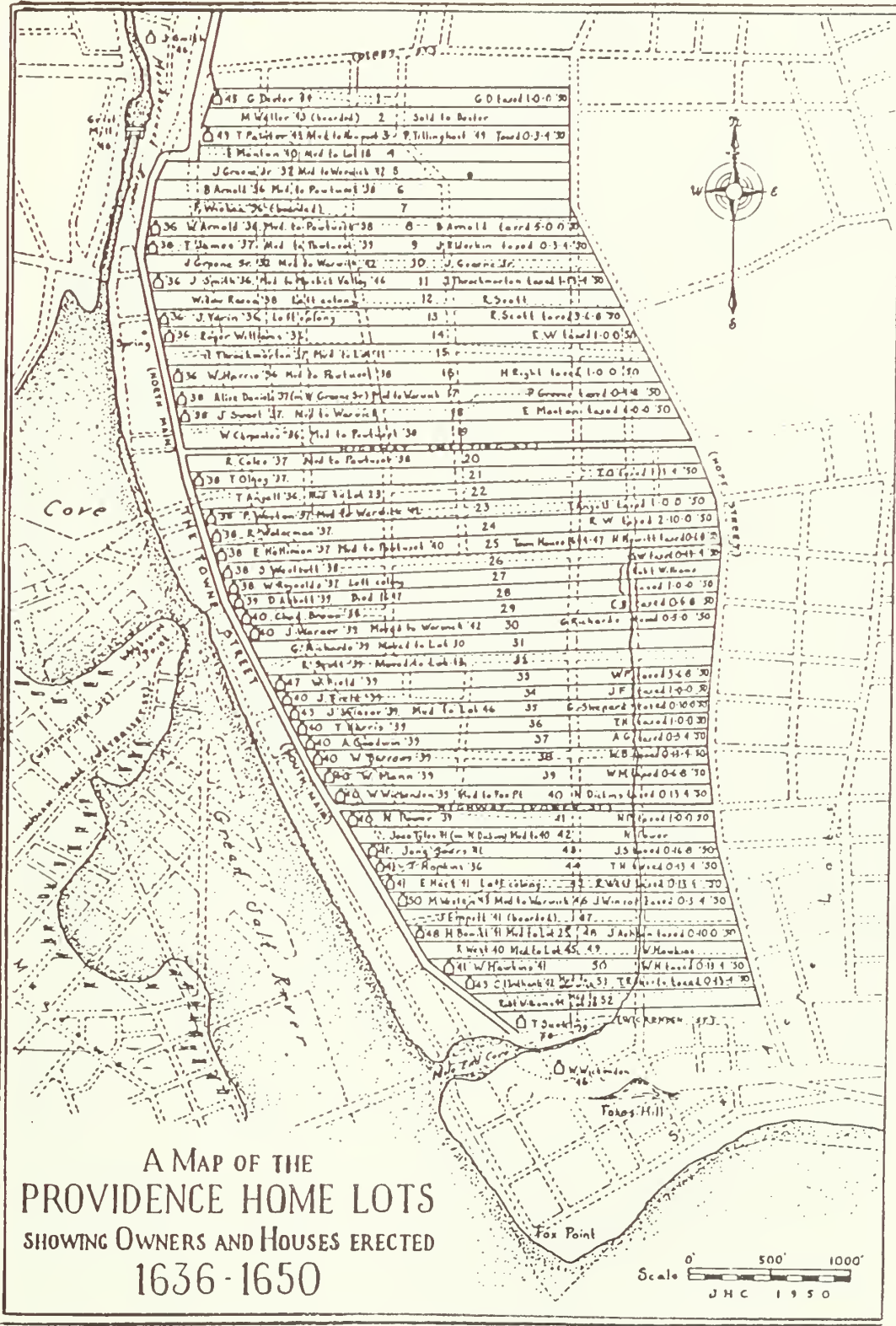


Illustration 4. Map of Providence Home Lots in 1636-1650.



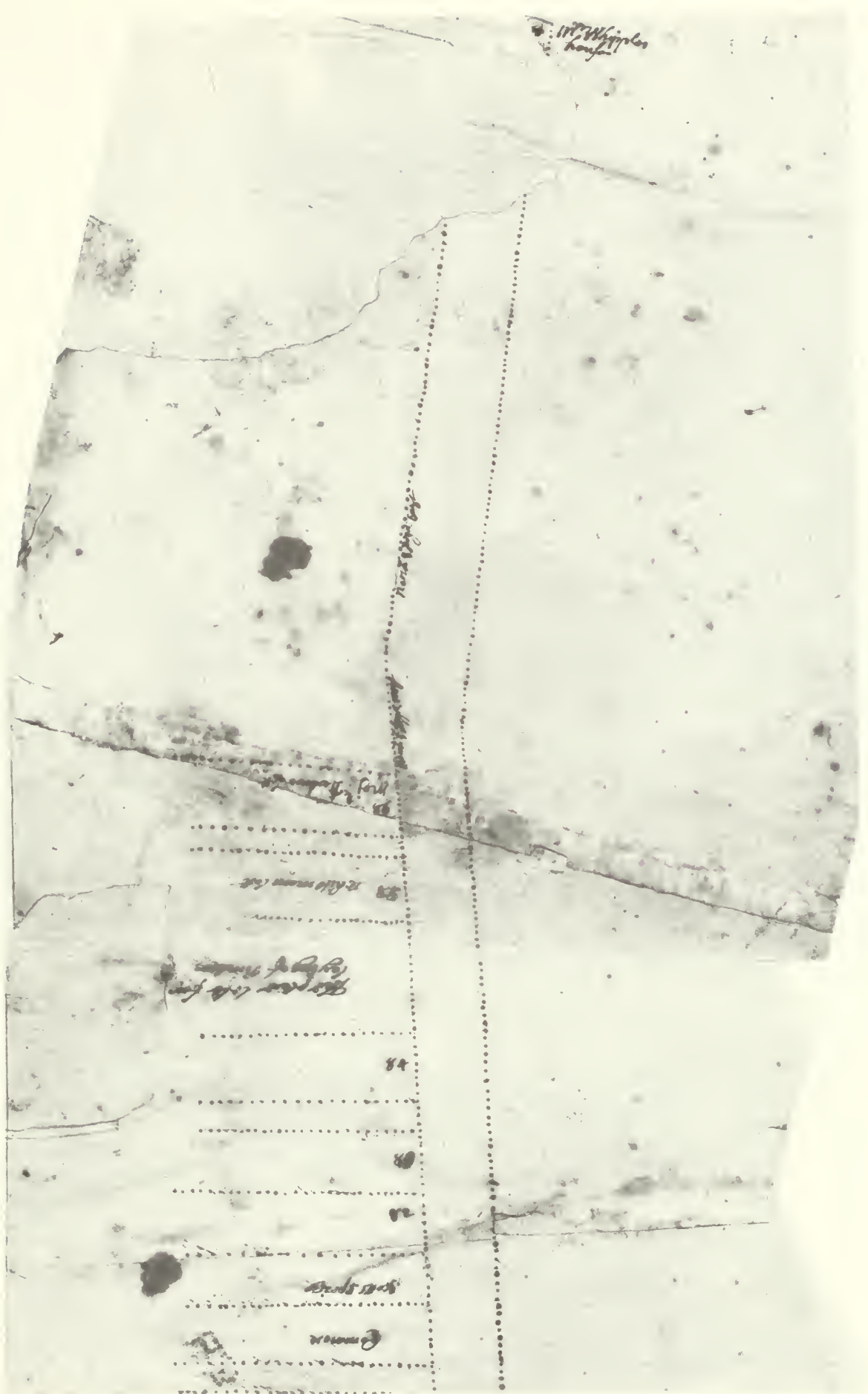


Illustration 5. Plat Map of Towne Street in 1708-1713.





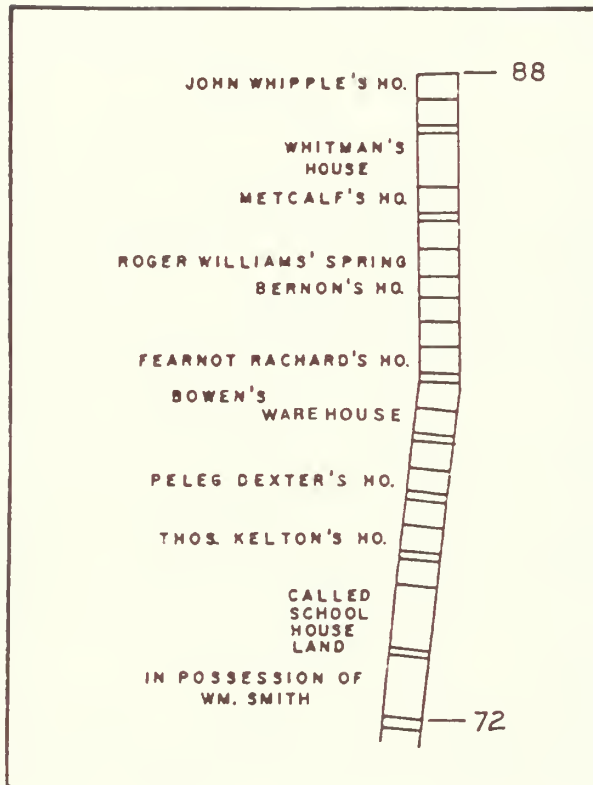


Illustration 6. Plat Map of Towne Street in 1746.



Although the dwelling named in this will cannot be positively located on the Antram-Gray House site, a deed dated 1737/38, for the sale of property by John Whipple to William Antram, indicates that John Whipple owned this property by 1737. The deed reads as follows:

John Whipple, cordwainer, son of Benjamin Whipple, sells for 420 L currant money truly paid by William Antram, distiller... "a fourth lot of land on the W side of the Towne Street a little southward of the Baptiste Meeting House. Bounded on a highway that is between that and the said Baptiste Meeting House [the present Smith Street]; S by Stephen Dexter, and E with the said Towne Street, holding the breadth of 40' to the Channel of said Providence River, together with all the housing, buildings and improvements.[9]

The Early Records of Providence also make mention of William Antram's dwelling in 1738. In that year Smith Street was laid out. It was described as "a highway 66 feet wide between the Baptist Meeting House on the north and William Antram's dwelling on the south." [10] The dwelling referred to in these two citations is probably the older, north portion of the present Antram-Gray House. However, since no detailed description of the "dwelling" is given, positive identification is not possible. The 1746 plat map of the west side of Towne Street (Ill. 6) shows this property still in the ownership of John Whipple. The deed cited above, however, indicates that this map is in error.

A map of "Providence in the Middle of the Eighteenth Century" (Ill. 7), drawn by John Cady ca. 1957 and based on his extensive research of the early settlement of Providence, shows "Antram's Distil House" at the corner of Smith and North Main Streets. On this map, William Antram's house is shown north of the Baptist Church. This was another piece of property that Antram bought from Anthony Field in 1747, and should not be confused with the Antram-Gray House.

William Antram's family owned the property at the corner of Smith and North Main Streets from 1738 to 1765. During this time it was possessed by four members of the family. Ownership of the property is described as follows by William W. Chapin in his book, The Genealogy of the Family of William Antram:

The first purchase of land by William Antram in the compact part of Providence was made in 1738, when he bought of John Whipple, son of Benjamin, of Smithfield, a forty foot lot on the west side of a gangway lying between the lot of the Baptiste Meeting House, which was then on the north side of what is now Smith Street, and the lot conveyed. No buildings are mentioned in the deed. [The text of the deed, cited above, indicates this last statement is incorrect.]

After the death of William Antram, Sen. in 1753, his property passed by inheritance (he died intestate) to his son William, who in the same year conveyed for good will the estate where his honored father lived to his brother Thomas. Thomas died in 1754 and the estate reverted to William, who the same year,

gave his sister Mary for love, a life interest in the house, so long as she remained unmarried. There were also a still house and warehouse on the lot.

... in 1764 he [William Antram] mortgaged the estate where his father had lived to Darius Sessions. At this time Antram was in jail for debt and the mortgage was given to secure Sessions, who had given bond that Antram would not go beyond the limit of the jail yard.[11]

Later the property was sold to Darius Sessions. The 1765 deed for this purchase reads as follows:

William Antram, distiller, sells for 12 L Old. Tenor Money to Darius Sessions, Two certain lots of land. Bounded: N on a large highway between said lots and the Baptist Meeting House; S by a gang way; E by Main Street; W by Providence Salt River, together with a dwelling house where my sister Mary Antram now dwells, together with my Still House, Warehouse, Warfe and all other buildings... also my stills, worms, sarm tub, etc., Nothing excepted as reserved.[ 12]

It is interesting to note that by 1765, the waterfront lot on the south side of Smith Street contained not only a dwelling house, but also a still house, warehouse, and wharf. The intensive use of the waterfront land found on the Antram-Gray house lot was the typical pattern of land use for the waterfront lots during the mid-18th century.

A map of Providence in 1775-77, drawn from memory by F. M. Sumner in 1834 (Ill. 8) illustrates well the fact that the north end of Towne Street was the center of Providence's maritime trade throughout the 18th century. Distilleries, warehouses, and wharves lined the shores of the Providence River and the Cove. In contrast, the original house lots on the east side of Towne Street retained their residential character. Sumner's map does not show William Antram's wharf. However, because this map was done from memory and contains some inaccuracies, the 1765 deed that mentions the wharf is considered more reliable than the map. An entry in the Annals of the Town of Providence also mentions a wharf on what would have been the Antram-Gray house lot. Samuel Thurber, recalling the early history of Providence, says the following:

I once saw a vessel of about thirty or forty tons, a fisherman, unloading at a wharf... adjoining to what is now called Smith Street.[13]

Darius Sessions, who purchased the Antram-Gray House property from William Antram in 1765, was married to William Antram's daughter, Sarah. It seems likely that Sessions bought the property from his father-in-law to relieve him of some of his debts, rather than to acquire a place to live. He was a prominent citizen in 18th-century Providence, and it seems unlikely that he would have lived in a house surrounded by distilleries, warehouses, and wharfs. Thomas Sessions, writing to H.S. Flynt on January 20, 1845, says the following about his father:

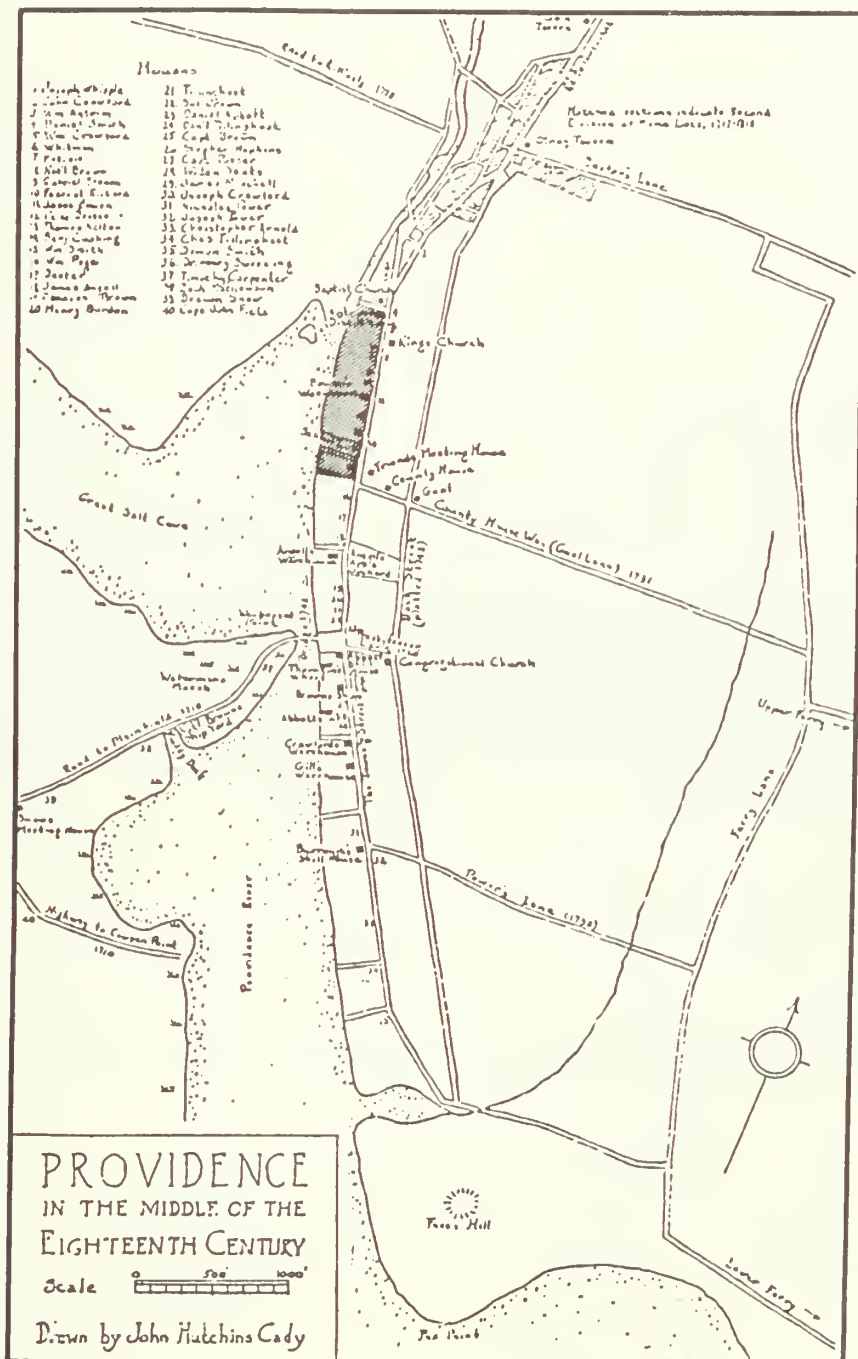


Illustration 7. Map of Providence Circa 1750.





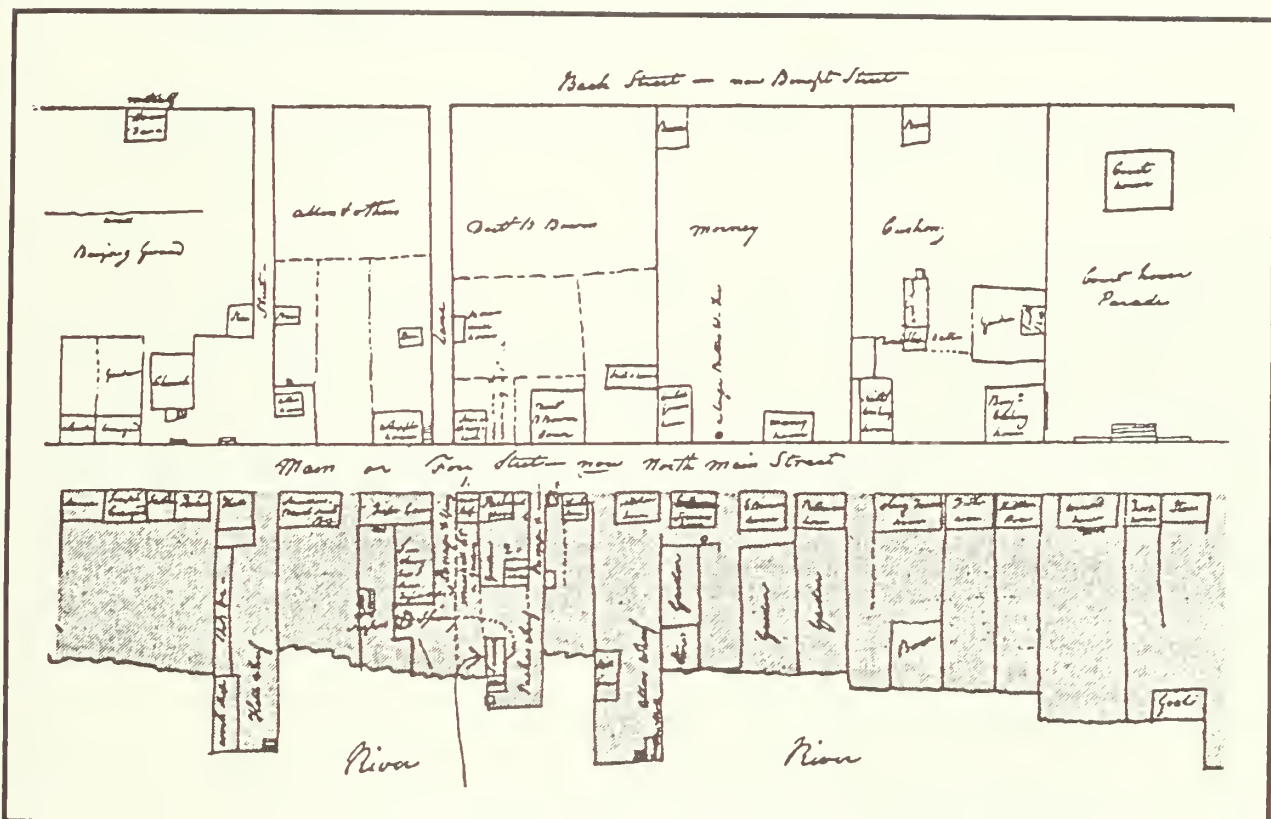


Illustration 8. Sketch Map of North Main and Benefit Streets in 1775-1777.





Darius, my honored father, was a scholar, a merchant, a statesman, a Christian, a man. His sound judgment and legal information were generally considered conclusive, and the numerous applications to him gave him a very extensive acquaintance. He was Lieutenant Governor, and acting governor of Rhode Island for many years, and held that position at the commencement of the Revolution. He was in very delicate health, and declined public honors; bought a farm in Killingly, CT and lived thereon during the war.[14]

Thomas Sessions' description of his father indicates that, at least during the Revolution, Darius Sessions did not live in the "dwelling" -- probably the north half of the present Antram-Gray House -- that stood on the south corner of Smith and Towne Streets.

During the Revolution, reference is also made to Darius Sessions' shop near Smith Street. During the war this shop sold "... milk, cheese, choice French brandy, Holland geneva and many other articles." [15] Whether this shop was contained in the "dwelling" located on the south side of Smith Street cannot be stated positively. However, since this dwelling was located directly on Towne Street -- the center of Providence's retail trade -- its first-floor rooms are good candidates for the location of the shop. Also, since Darius Sessions did not live in the "dwelling," the use of some of the first-floor rooms for commercial space is more plausible.

In 1797, Darius Sessions gave to his son, William Antram Sessions, the southern part of the lot bounded by the south side of Smith Street and Towne Street. The deed reads as follows:

1797 Darius Sessions, for the love, good-will and affection I bear my son, William Antrim [sic] Sessions, have granted, conveyed, released and forever quit claim unto him the said William Antrim [sic] Sessions and his heirs and assigns forever, a certain lot of land a little N/ly of the Episcopal Church on the W side of Main Street with a DWELLING HOUSE standing thereon now, and for many years past in the possession of said William A Sessions, being butted and bounded as follows: Beginning at the S/E corner of said lot and extending W/ly on the N side of a 12' gangway, until it comes to the W end of the garden, about 18', from thence it turns N/ly and runs as said garden fence now stands, 40' until it comes to a lot of land belonging to the grantor thereof, thence it turns E/ly and keeping the 40' width, runs till it comes to the Main St. aforesaid, then turns S/ly and runs on the W side of said Main Street til it comes to the 1st mentioned corner. The Well though not Wholly within the above described limits be considered a part of the premises while improved for that purpose.... [16]

This gift did not include the northern portion of the property, on which the present Antram-Gray House stands. Nor did it include the wharf, warehouse, or distillery, indicating that they were located either to the west or north of the house and garden given in this deed.

In the United States Direct Tax of 1798, the owners of property in Providence were listed, and descriptions of their properties were given. Henry R. Chace, a Providence historian, compiled from these tax listings a map and notecards containing descriptions of the properties. Looking at Chace's map (Ill. 9), members of the Sessions family owned property at three locations in Providence: one lot on the west side of Main Street, located approximately seven lots north of the State House; two more lots on the west side of Main Street, farther north (on the south corner of Smith Street); and eight acres at the north end of Constitution Street. The index cards compiled by Chace contain the following information about the two lots at Smith and Main Streets:

Occupant: Thomas Sessions

Owner: Darius Sessions

Street: E on Main Street A House lot N of the Church..40' x 74'... N on a gangway..S on William Sessions...on it part of an Old House that (my part) measures 27' x 20'...the house joins N by Thomas Sessions' Dwelling House.

[the lot on which the Antram-Gray House stood, plus the north half of the house]

Occupant: Thomas Sessions

Owner: Thomas Sessions

Street: E on Main Street....A Dwelling House N of the Church on leased land, Owned by Darius Sessions, 27' x 16'...2 stories high. 2 sides of wood 1 side brick...the other side joined by an old House of the said Darius.

Dwelling Houses

Valuation of Dwelling House, lot and  
Outbuildings...\$550

1

[the south half of the Antram-Gray House only]

Occupant: Thomas Sessions

Owner: Darius Sessions

Street: E on Main Street..N on gangway..S on William Sessions. A House Lot N of the Church..40' x 74'..on it an Old House (a part of)

[the same lot, same half of the house referred to by the first card]

Occupant: William A Sessions

Owner: Darius Sessions

Street: S on a gangway...A wharf lot 40' x 44' on the W end of William Sessions House Lot ...(282 N Main St)

[property west side of William Sessions' house - SW of Antram-Gray House]

Occupant: William Sessions

Owner: William Sessions

Street: W side of the Main Street...A house lot N of the Church..40 x 34'.. A Dwelling House thereon 32' x 27'...2 stories...wood...E on said Street N on Darius Sessions...S on a gangway

[the lot on which William Sessions' house stood, plus that house -- directly south of the lot on which the Antram-Gray House stood]

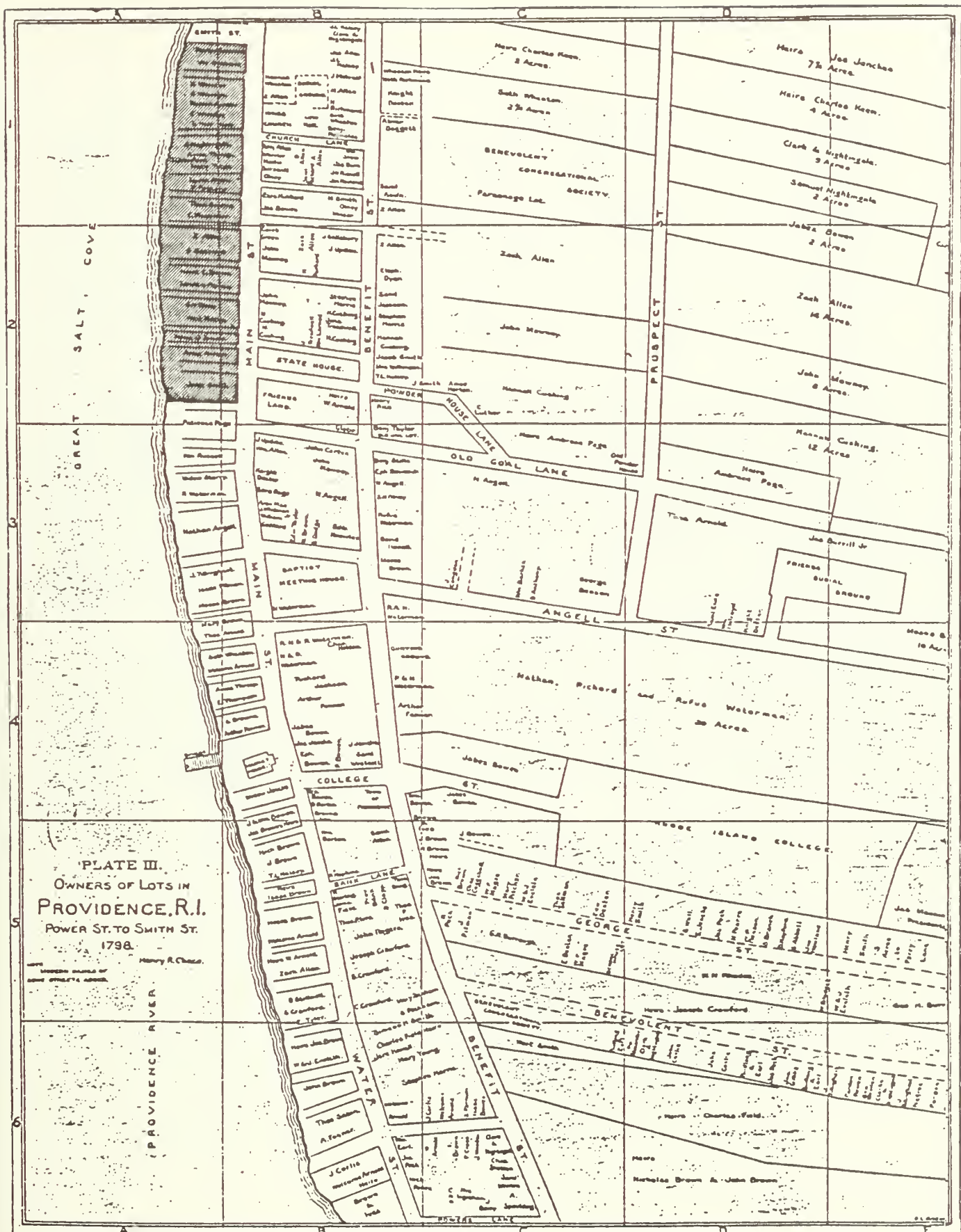


Illustration 9. Map of Owners of Lots in Providence, Power Street to Smith Street, in 1798.





The first and second cards cited are of particular interest, because they prove that the south addition to the Antram-Gray House was in place by 1798. (The original, north part of the house is described in these records only as "old.") The most positive evidence for stating that the buildings described are the present Antram-Gray House is the correlation of the dimensions given in the tax records with the size of the existing building. In the tax records, the dimensions for the north half of the building are 20 feet by 27 feet; those for the south half are 16 feet by 27 feet. The north half of the existing building measures 20 feet, 6 inches by 28 feet; the south half measures 16 feet by 27 feet. Also, the records' description of the second house as having "2 sides of wood 1 side brick... the other side joined by an old House of the said Darius" is a precise description of the south half of the Antram-Gray House.

The discrepancies between the tax records' descriptions and the existing Antram-Gray House are in the cardinal reference points. The two dwellings comprising the house are listed as "E on Main Street,"[18] rather than on the west side. This appears to be an error, because the properties are described as bounded by gangways, and gangways were built only along the west side of Towne Street. Also, the property on which both parts of the house stand, according to the first and third cards, was bounded "S on William Sessions." William Sessions' property, described on the fifth card, was located on the west side of Main Street. Noting these discrepancies, but regarding them as errors, one can consider the tax records of 1798 to be the first clearly identifiable documentation for the present Antram-Gray House.

These records further indicate that the two parts of the Antram-Gray House were owned separately, in 1798, despite the fact that they sat on the same house lot, were joined physically, and were occupied by the same person. In 1798, this person was Darius Sessions' son Thomas, who apparently owned the south half of the house, but who leased the land on which both parts stood from his father, who allowed Thomas to occupy the north half, as well. Thomas was able to lease the north part of the house in 1808. The deed for this lease reads as follows:

Darius Sessions, in consideration of \$20 paid me by Thomas Sessions together with the love and good will I bear him, have leased and farm let to said Thomas, his heirs, executives, and administrators, a certain DWELLING HOUSE in said Providence, now, or has been for a number of years improved...near the Episcopal Church, standing on the Antrim [sic] Lot, fronting on Main Street until it comes to the dividing fence that runs N and S between the Estate aforesaid and the lower end of the Antrim [sic] Lot (now let by the said Darius Sessions and Benjamin Cornell and William Bardine.) The said Thomas Sessions shall hold, use, occupy. It is understood at the end of the said term, the said Thomas Sessions shall surrender and deliver up the said House and premises to the heirs, executives, and administrators of the said Darius Sessions.... [19]

The fire records of 1808 describe Thomas Sessions' house as follows:

W side

Thomas Sessions...Main Street...Dwelling House, barn, chaise house, stable. Dwelling House in which he lives is 40' front..wash house 13' sq at S/W corner house is 2 stores high...wood excepting end which is brick. [20]

These records indicate that in 1808 -- at least for the purposes of fire insurance records -- the two parts of the house were considered as one house. The records are noteworthy also for their mention of a 13-foot square wash house at the southwest corner of the house. No evidence of this wash house has been found. [21]

Darius Sessions died in 1809, leaving his property in Providence to his children. The portion of the will relating to the Antram-Gray House reads as follows:

To my three daughters, Mary Sessions, Sarah Sessions, and Amey Sessions 3 Lots of land I have in Providence. The 1st is near the Episcopal Church on the W/ly side of Main Street on which it measures 40', holding that width to the Channel of the River, and is in possession of my son Thomas Sessions et al, with the Wharf, DWELLING HOUSE, and all other buildings thereon EXCEPTION 1/2 of the largest Mansion which belongs to my son Thomas.

The 2nd Lot adjoins the foregoing on the N side and on the S is bounded by land which I gave to my son William by deed...40' in width to the Channel. It measures thereon 40' and holds that width joining to a gangway til it reaches the aforesaid Channel of the River, with all the buildings thereon erected and lately improved by the said William A Sessions, but now in the possession of myself and my said son Thomas Sessions. [22]

In this will the house referred to as the "largest Mansion" is probably the Antram-Gray House, since half of the latter did belong to Darius' son, Thomas Sessions. Referring to the Antram-Gray House as a mansion may seem pretentious to 20th-century architectural historians. However, at the beginning of the 19th century, the term mansion may have connotated "a place of abode," rather than "an imposing or stately residence," as it is commonly defined today. [23]

At the close of the 18th century, the Neck -- where the Antram-Gray House was located -- remained the dominant area of settlement, commerce, and industry in Providence. [24] By 1830, however, its role had been altered significantly. Maritime trade, which had been the basis of Providence's economy during the 18th century, was supplanted by manufacturing -- primarily the milling of cotton and woolen cloth. The center of industry moved away from the shoreline of the Neck, onto the inland waterways. This caused many changes in building and land use within the area of the Neck. For purposes of this report, only those changes related to the Antram-Gray House will be discussed.

The War of 1812 heralded the decline of maritime trade in Providence. In 1809, the Embargo Act was passed, forbidding the departure of any American vessel to a foreign port. From 1809 until the end of the war in 1815, maritime trade in Providence virtually ceased. During these years, wealthy merchants -- who in the 18th century had made their fortunes in shipping -- began to sell their ships and invest their money in the cotton and woolen mills that were being built along the inland waterways. This change in capital investment patterns permanently altered Providence's economic base, so that even after the war ended in 1815, maritime trade never resumed its pre-war importance to the city's economy.[25]

Another factor was the rebuilding of the Weybosset Bridge, located where the Providence River ran out of the Cove, after its destruction in 1815 by a "great storm." When rebuilt in 1816 as a fixed-span bridge, seafaring vessels could no longer reach the Cove.[26] The wharves and warehouses that lined the shoreline of the Cove, including those at the eastern end of the Antram-Gray House lot, were no longer needed for Providence's greatly diminished maritime trade. They were used instead for local trade, which was carried out with smaller boats.

North Water Street was extended from Steeple Street to Smith Street in 1823.[27] This extension was 40 feet wide, with a retaining wall running along the eastern shore of the Cove (see Illustration 10).[28] The extension of North Water Street eliminated the shoreline of the Antram-Gray House property. At this time the wharf and other buildings lining the shore of the Cove may have been demolished.

In the same year that North Water Street was extended, the Blackstone Canal Company was incorporated. The company was authorized "to locate, construct and fully complete a navigable canal, with locks, tow paths, basins, dams, wharves, embankments, toll houses and other necessary appendages from the Cove to the Massachusetts line." [29] Construction of the canal began in 1825; it opened in 1828. The canal ran from the north end of the Cove up the Moshassuck River Valley. Where the canal left the Cove, a causeway was built. This causeway ran west from Haymarket Street to the north shore of the Cove (see Illustration 11). The body of water on the inland side of the causeway was appropriated by the canal company for a boat basin. The Antram-Gray House stood on the east side of this basin. The canal boats docked in this basin, along North Water Street, which was renamed Canal Street by 1828. The canal towpath ran along the water side of Canal Street.

The building of the Blackstone Canal brought renewed shipping activity to the area around the Antram-Gray House. Since the extension of Canal Street in 1823 had destroyed some of the early wharves along the east shore of the Cove, it seems likely that new wharves suitable for the smaller canal boats were built. In addition, when the canal was opened, new warehouses were built on the east side of Canal Street.

Specific information about the Antram-Gray House during the first half of the 19th century is as scant as it is for the 18th century. Entries found in the Providence Deed Books indicate that the house changed ownership five times from 1809 to 1838. The entries relating to the Antram-Gray House read as follows:

1809 Mary and Sarah Sessions sell to Thomas Sessions a certain property....  
"being the same deeded to them by Father Darius Sessions." [30]



- 1809 Thomas Sessions, for \$4000 sells the property to Thomas and Josiah Snow (housewrights) known as the Antram Estate, being the same I purchased of Mary and Sarah Sessions.. [ 31]
- 1813 Thomas Snow and Josiah Snow, housewrights, sell the property to Winthrop Pidge and Jeremiah Whipple, tenants in common for \$4500...being the same as DB 34.25.. [ 32]
- 1831 Winthrop Pidge, butcher, sells to Jeremiah Whipple, trader, 1 undivided 1/2 of a certain 40' lot together with buildings, being Nward of the Episcopal Church on the W side of Main Street and is known as the Antram Estate. Bounded W by the Channell of the Moshassuck River (so-called); N by Smith Street... [ 33]
- 1838 Jeremiah Whipple sells for \$4500 to Silvanus Martin a certain piece of land a little N of the Episcopal Church with buildings etc. Bounded W by channel of the Moshassuck River; E by Main Street; N by Smith Street; S by grantees land.. [ 34]

Entries found in the first city directory for Providence (1824) give two addresses for the Antram-Gray House -- 175 North Main Street and 177 North Main Street. The south portion of the house, 175 North Main, is listed as the residence of Silvanus G. Martin; the north portion of the house is listed as Silvanus Martin's grocery and dry goods shop. Martin appears to have leased or rented the Antram-Gray House from Winthrop Pidge and Jeremiah Whipple before purchasing it in 1838.

By 1847, the date of the second Providence City Directory, the street numbers for the Antram-Gray House were changed to 197 and 199 North Main Street, for the south and north halves of the house, respectively. 199 North Main Street is listed as Martin's Dry Goods Shop. No listing is given for 197 North Main Street; it is assumed that it was used as the Martin residence.

The rapid turnover of ownership of the Antram-Gray House during this period suggests that, like the area around it, the use of the house was in transition. It is also noteworthy that the owners of the house during these years appear to have been small businessmen, rather than the wealthy merchants and prominent citizens -- such as William Antram and Darius Sessions -- who owned it during the 18th century.

In 1847, the Blackstone Canal was abandoned, having been replaced by the Providence and Worcester Railroad. The effect of the closing of the canal on the Antram-Gray House and the surrounding area would in itself have been significant. However, the filling-in of large portions of the Cove to facilitate the laying of the new railroad tracks, which coincided with the canal's closing, had an even more dramatic impact on the area (See Illustration 12.) Beginning in 1846, large areas of the Cove were filled in, transforming it from a rectangular into an elliptical body of water. A promenade was built around the elliptical Cove basin. More directly related to the Antram-Gray House, however, was the filling in of the canal boat basin, which also occurred at this time. (The Antram-Gray House was located on the east side of the north end of this basin.) As a result of the filling of portions of the



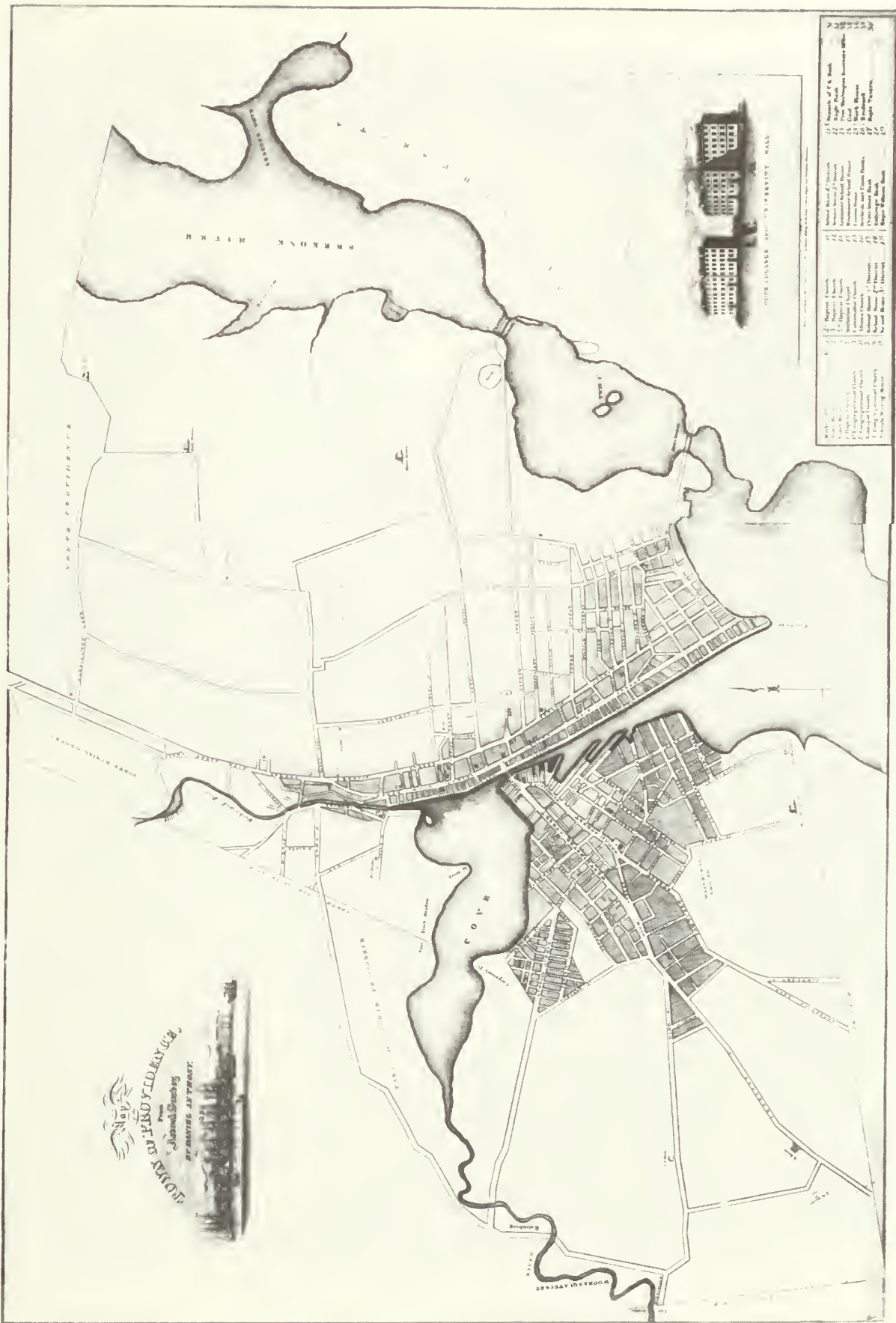


Illustration 10. Map of Providence in 1823.



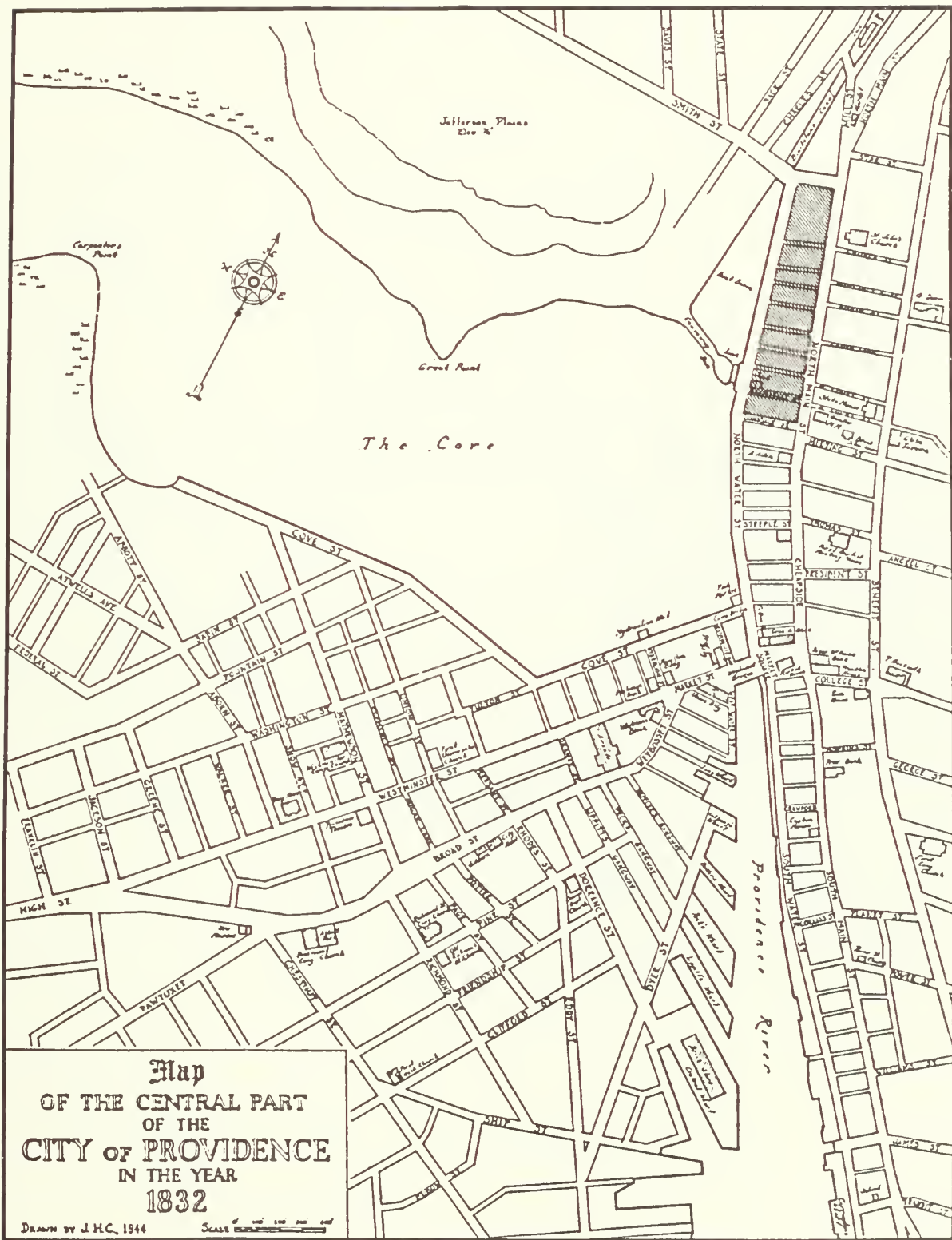


Illustration 11. Map of Central Providence in 1832.



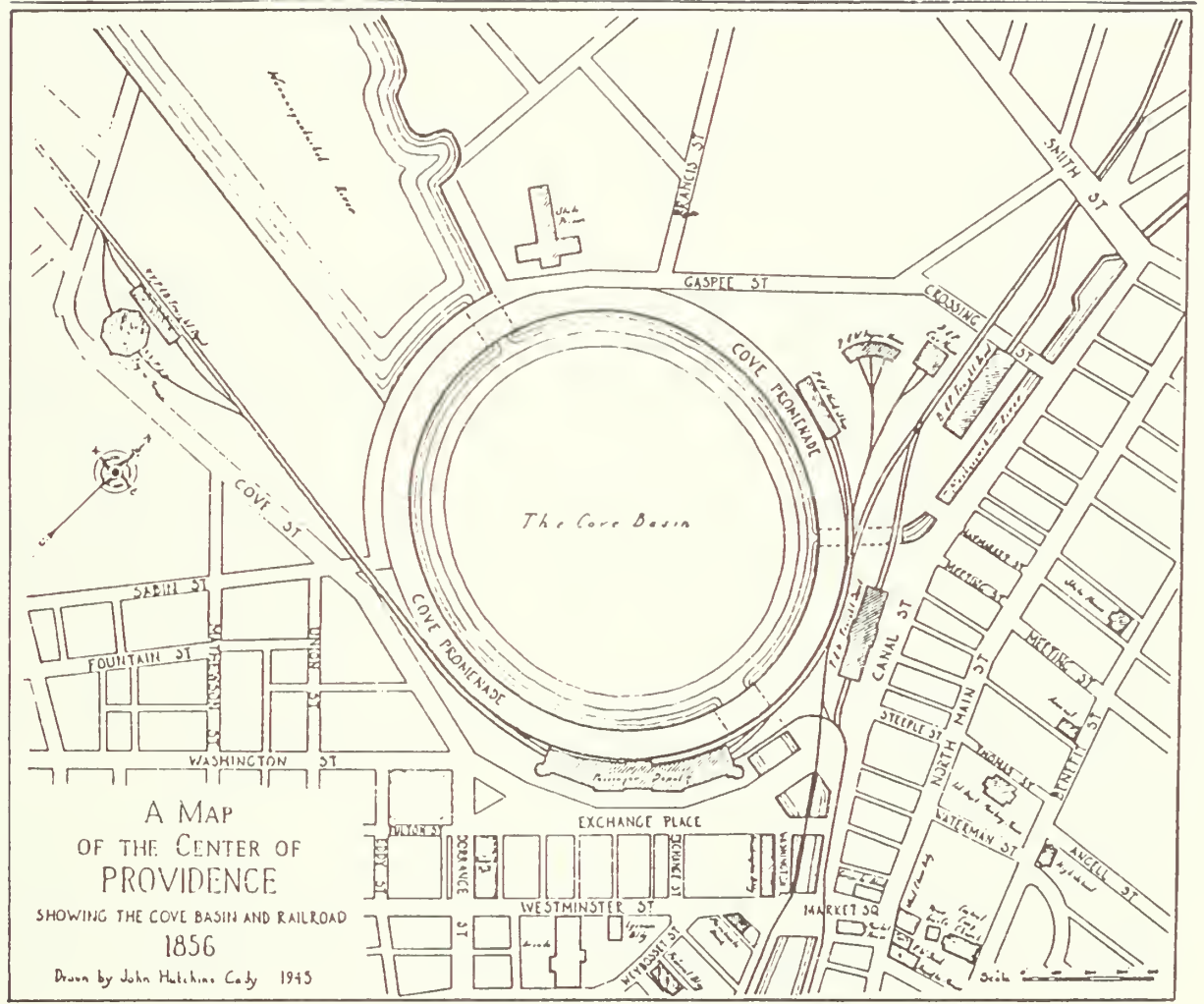


Illustration 12. Map of Central Providence in 1856.







Cove and the basin, the Antram-Gray House was landlocked. Direct access to the sea and the inland waterways, which so strongly influenced the development of the area around the Antram-Gray House during the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries, was eliminated. [35]

The area formerly occupied by the north end of the basin was traversed by the channeled Moshassuck River, and by railroad tracks running to Worcester and Boston. Unlike the basin, the river and the railroad tracks generated little, if any, commerce across Canal Street into the area surrounding the Antram-Gray House. On the filled land at the southern end of the basin were built several railroad freight depots. Some goods from these depots may have been stored in the warehouses located on the lots between Canal and North Main Streets. The majority of the goods transported, however, were loaded, unloaded, and stored on the west side of the Moshassuck River. The principal orientation of commerce at the north end of Main Street was thus changed from east-west to north-south.

This change in the orientation of commerce along North Main Street is significant, for it reflects the larger shift of the city's commercial center from North Main Street to the area surrounding Market Square and Exchange Place. This move had been occurring gradually since the beginning of the 19th century. Only with the closing of the Blackstone Canal and the filling of the Cove area, however, was the decline in commercial activity sufficient to consider the shift complete.

The relationship of the Antram-Gray House to Providence's commercial center was radically altered by the move. During the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries, it had been located within Providence's commercial center. By the middle of the 19th century and throughout the 20th century, it was located at the northern edge of the business district.

Records relating to the Antram-Gray House indicate that the ownership and use of the house over this 125-year span changed along with the development patterns of the city. (See Appendix K.) The 1850 Providence City Directory listing for the Antram-Gray House is the same as the 1847 entry, with the noteworthy exception of a listing for 1 Smith Street. This is the street number given to the residence entered through the northwest door of the Antram-Gray House. The office of David E. Holmes, physician, is given at this address; his residence is listed at 3 Smith Street. William Hughes, a boilermaker, is also listed at 1 Smith Street as a boarder. The entry for 1 Smith Street in the 1850 city directory is the first time that this address appears, suggesting that the uses of the house were expanding from a shop and residence to include a physician's office and a boarder's room.

In 1855, Silvanus Martin died, leaving the Antram-Gray House to his wife, Ann Martin. His will reads:

I give, devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Anna Martin, her heirs and assigns forever....ALSO the Whipple Estate (so-called) next N of my Homestead Estate and situated on the S/ly corner of North Main Street and Smith Street.. [36]

The Providence City Directory for 1857 lists the south half of the house as the residence of Ann Martin, widow, and Mary Martin, dressmaker. No listing is given for the north half of the house, while seven people are listed as boarders at 1 Smith Street. This entry for 1 Smith Street indicates that the primary use of the Antram-Gray House by 1857 was as a boarding house.

The change in use of the Antram-Gray House from a private residence and office to a boarding house probably corresponds to the series of alterations made to the house ca. 1850. At this time, a door was installed in the west corner of the south facade of the house, providing access to a new interior stairway. This doorway and stair provided direct access to the second floor of the south half of the house, eliminating the need to pass through the first-floor rooms. At this same time, the entire first floor may have been opened up for commercial use. This would explain the single address listed for the house in 1847. However, since no commercial use is listed in the directory, this use is only speculation.

Anna Martin died in 1864, and the Antram-Gray House was sold to John Keefe. The portion of the will that refers to the Antram-Gray House states:

a certain lot of land with a dwelling house at the corner of  
North Main and Smith Street [37]

Entries in the 1866 Providence City Directory list "John Keefe, Liquor," at 231 and 233 North Main Street. [38] This listing suggests that the entire first floor was used as a liquor shop at this time. John Keefe is listed as the owner of 1 Smith Street; whether he resided there, or only rented out rooms, is unknown.

The Antram-Gray House continued to be used as a liquor shop and a boarding house throughout the remainder of the 19th century. During the first part of the 20th century, the first floor of the south half was used for a liquor shop; the first floor of the north half was used for a restaurant. The second and third floors of the house were used for lodging rooms. In the 1913 Providence City Directory, the listing for 1 Smith Street is a "Turkish Lodging House."

In 1917, the Thomas B. Gray watch shop moved into the north half of the Antram-Gray House. Bernice B. Gray maintained her watch shop in the house until the latter was acquired by the Providence Redevelopment Agency in 1969. During most of its tenancy, the Gray watch shop occupied both halves of the first floor of the house. The second- and third-floor rooms were used first as lodging rooms, then combined into an apartment.

The Providence Redevelopment Agency purchased the Antram-Gray House with the intention of demolishing it, along with all of the surrounding buildings. Intervention by the Rhode Island Historical Commission saved it from the wrecking ball. Today it is being adaptively used by its present owner -- the National Park Service -- for park offices and interpretative displays.

It is both ironic and fortunate that after some 200 years of closely reflecting the development of the city, the Antram-Gray House escaped the destruction that was a part of the general development plan for this area in the late 1960's. The uniqueness of the Antram-Gray House -- one of the few 18th-century structures to survive on the west side of North Main Street -- should be kept in mind when reading the architectural descriptions of the house that follow. It also should be exploited by the National Park Service in its interpretation of the site.

NOTES

1. John H. Cady, The Civic and Architectural Development of Providence 1636-1950, p. 4.
2. The Great Salt River was renamed the Providence River early in the 18th century.
3. Cady, Development, p. 4.
4. Ibid., p. 7.
5. Henry C. Dorr, "The Growth and Planting of Providence."
6. Cady, Development, p. 19.
7. Newspaper clipping in Scrapbook #10, Rhode Island Historical Society.
8. Will of Benjamin Whipple, DB A 90 Early Records, p. 240.
9. Providence Deed Book 10.170.
10. Cady, Development, p. 30; also Early Records of Providence, IX, pp. 80-85.
11. William Chapin, Genealogy of the Family of William Antram, pp. 12-14.
12. Providence Deed Book 18.125.
13. William Staples, Annals of the Town of Providence, p. 76.
14. Alexander Sessions, Sessions Family in America, p. 35.
15. Franklin S. Coyle, The Survival of Providence Business Enterprise in the American Revolutionary Era, p. 30.
16. Providence Deed Book 25.260.
17. Henry Chace, 1906 note cards on file at the Rhode Island Historical Society.
18. Chace, in writing about the 1798 tax records, used the modern name of "Main Street," even though that name did not replace the earlier name of "Towne Street" until 1805.
19. Providence Deed Book 27.354.
20. Providence Fire Records, Vol. 12, #488.

21. The failure to find any evidence of this wash house is not surprising. Modern clapboards currently cover this corner of the house, and these were not removed. Also, the moving of the house in 1974 would have destroyed any evidence of the wash house's foundation.

22. Will of Darius Sessions, 10.379.

23. American Collegiate Dictionary.

24. Cady, Development, p. 68.

25. Ibid., p. 81.

26. Ibid., p. 95.

27. North Water Street was renamed Canal Street by 1828.

28. Cady, Development, pp. 58, 95. The section of North Water Street from the Weybosset Bridge to Steeple Street had been built in 1792.

29. Ibid.

30. Providence Deed Book 34.23.

31. Providence Deed Book 34.25.

32. Providence Deed Book 37.60.

33. Providence Deed Book 61.58.

34. Providence Deed Book 74.16.

35. The Moshassuck River, which was channeled to run along the west side of Canal Street, was not navigable.

36. Will of Silvanus G. Martin, 17.45.

37. Providence Deed Book 167.264.

38. North Main Street had been renumbered again by 1866.





III. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY



The architectural evolution of the Antram-Gray House spans more than 250 years. Built during the first half of the 18th century, the house was doubled in size ca. 1798. The interior of the house was remodeled extensively ca. 1850, and the first-floor fenestration on its east and north facades was completely reworked early in the 20th century.

Written and graphic documentation for these alterations is virtually nonexistent. Thus, the evolution of the Antram-Gray House has been traced primarily through physical investigation of the structure. Framing members, sheathing, floorboards, walls, and woodwork were examined for evidence of alterations. The study of nails used in the house also shed light on when structural changes were made. Finally, paint, mortar and plaster, and wallpaper samples were analyzed to date comparatively different architectural elements. These samples were assigned numbers according to the IROS system used by the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center. In this system, each sample number is preceded by a letter indicating the type of sample -- P for paint, M for mortar or plaster, W for wallpaper. Thus, sample P001 would be the first paint sample taken, while sample W010 would be the tenth wallpaper sample obtained.

Areas accessible for physical investigation for this report were limited primarily to the second and attic floors of the house. The exterior and first floor of the house were renovated for adaptive park reuse in 1976-79. Physical investigation of these areas would have required the destruction of some of the new work; this was ruled out, since further restoration of these areas is not contemplated. Paint samples taken in 1976 from the exterior and first floor, however, were analyzed and incorporated into this report.

Secondary sources also have been consulted to help trace the Antram-Gray House's evolution. They have been used principally as a source of comparable, documented house plans, elevations, and architectural elements. Antoinette F. Downing's book, Early Homes of Rhode Island, has been an invaluable secondary source for this study.

The architectural evolution of the Antram-Gray House, as presented in this report, has been divided into phases. The distinguishing alterations and additions of each evolutionary phase are described. Accompanying drawings of floor plans and elevations illustrate how these alterations transformed the appearance of the structure. Illustration 13 indicates the room-, doorway-, and window-numbering system used in this report.

Dividing the architectural evolution of the Antram-Gray House into phases is necessary for purposes of organization. However, such grouping tends to oversimplify a building's history, particularly in the case of a structure as complex as the Antram-Gray House. Changes to a structure are generally made over time, rather than once every 30 to 50 years, as the grouping of alterations into phases suggests. In light of this fact, the "circa" dates assigned to the evolutionary phases in this report should be interpreted broadly.

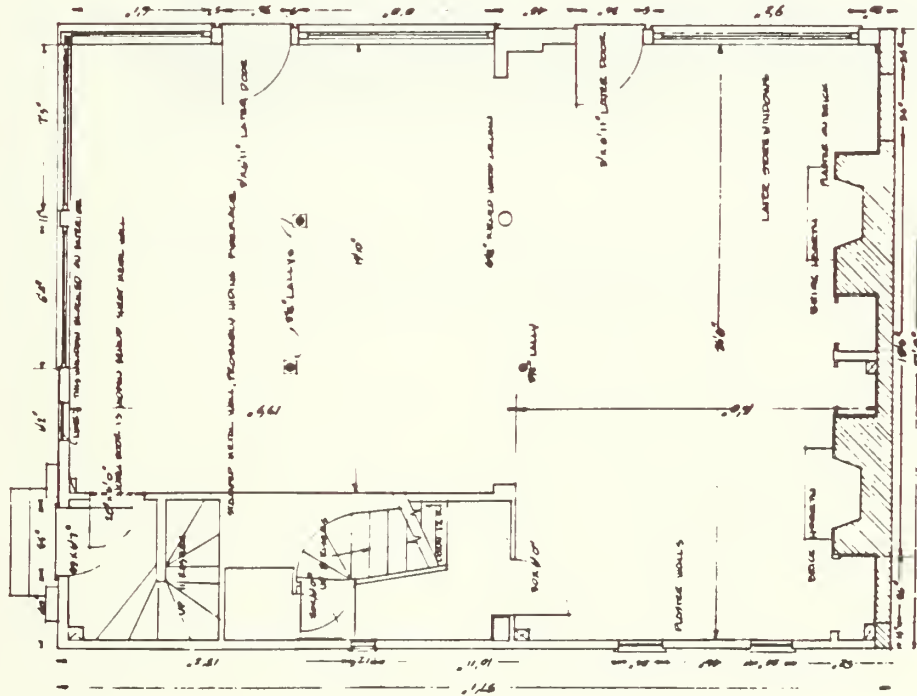
CIRCA 1730:  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE

The precise date of construction of the original, north portion of the Antram-Gray House is not known, but documentary and physical evidence strongly supports a construction date of ca. 1730. The Antram-Gray house lot -- "with all the housing, buildings and improvements" -- was sold by John Whipple to William Antram in 1737/38.[1] Whipple most likely inherited the lot, and the dwelling house on it, in 1704 from his father, Benjamin Whipple.[2] The 1704 house is probably not the present Antram-Gray House, however. So old a house would have had casement windows, and there is no evidence that the Antram-Gray House ever did.[3]

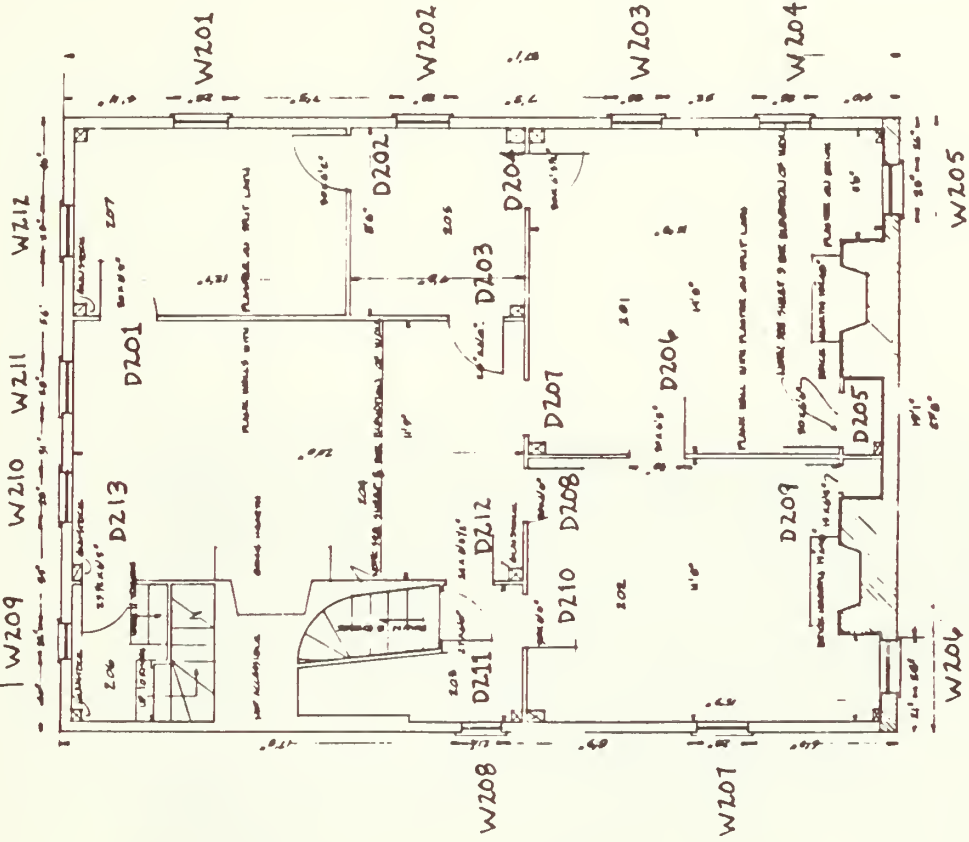
Evidence for the ca.-1730 date includes the name "David Pepe" and the date April 10, 1730-31, written in whitewash on one of the second-floor joists (the second joist south from the north wall of the house.)[4] (See Illustration 14.) It cannot be positively stated that this inscription was written at the time the house was built. However, since the ceilings were plastered originally, covering this joist, it seems likely that the words were inscribed during construction. Other physical evidence -- particularly nail and lath types, and interior wall finishes -- also supports a ca.-1730 date of construction.

The original, ca.-1730 Antram-Gray House appears to have been a 2-1/2 story, wood-frame structure with a gable roof. A one-story ell, also with a gable roof, may have abutted its west side. The main 2-1/2 story portion of this house forms the northern half of the present Antram-Gray House; the ell has been demolished. Evidence for the presence and design of the one-story ell at the north end of the west facade of the house is limited to that found in the existing structure, and is therefore scant. When the house was moved, and Smith Street widened, any part of the ell's foundation that had survived its demolition was destroyed. The evidence that does remain includes:

- the placement of the sheathing boards on the west facade of the house. The sheathing boards at the top of the wall run diagonally, forming a triangular area, within which the sheathing boards run vertically. (See Section B, "Wall Construction.") This triangular area appears to have been open originally, possibly for access to an attic over the ell. The diagonal sheathing boards may have been placed this way as a form of bracing the top of the opening.
- the fact that the chimney, which originally extended to the west wall of the house, served only one room in the main house; logically, it would have heated more than one room.
- the fact that both west-facade windows are crowded to the south end of the facade; this would have allowed ample room for the ell.
- the fact that prior to the remodeling of ca. 1798, an ell was the most likely place for a kitchen.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY RUSSELL WRIGHT 5/74

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SHOW THE LOCATION OF WINDOW

WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE · PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND ·

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 1 OF 2

Illustration 13. Antram-Gray House: Key to Room, Doorway, and Window Numbering System.







**Illustration 14.** Antram-Gray House: Second-Floor Joist  
Inscribed with Signature and Date.



This evidence, although not conclusive, clearly suggests the presence of an ell on the west facade of the ca.-1730 house. However, it gives few clues as to the design of the ell, other than that it was approximately 13 feet, 6 inches wide and had a gable roof. For the purposes of this report, the floor plan and elevations of this ell have been drawn with dotted lines. No attempt has been made to describe the exterior or interior of the ell.

#### A. Exterior Elements

Most of the elements comprising the ca.-1730 exterior of the Antram-Gray House have been completely altered. Therefore, its appearance has been deduced from physical evidence and secondary sources.

##### Foundation

The ca.-1730 foundation consisted of rubble fieldstone up to grade, and brick above grade. This foundation was destroyed when the house was moved.

##### East Facade

The east facade of the ca.-1730 house is thought to have been the primary one because it faced Towne (North Main) Street. It was two bays wide, with roughly symmetrical fenestration (Ill. 15). At first-story level, an entrance appears to have been located at the south end of the facade; north of this doorway was one window. On the second story, a window was located above the entrance. North of this window was another opening, located over the first-floor window. This was larger than the other ca.-1730 windows, and may have been used as a doorway to a second-floor storage area. Evidence for the placement and size of the east facade's second-story openings was found in the interior plaster walls. The location of the doorway is based on the knowledge that ca. 1798, a stair was built in this corner, which would probably have been placed here to take advantage of an extant doorway.

##### North Facade

The north facade of the house, which presently faces Smith Street, was four bays wide (Ill. 15). The placement of the windows in this wall reflects the interior room divisions. The center two of the four windows on each story are closer to each other than they are to the end windows, because they are both in the same room. A secondary entrance was located at the west end of the north facade; a smaller window was situated in the gable.

The location of the windows in the north wall was deduced from the present location of the second-story and attic windows, and the absence of any plaster patches in the second-floor interior walls that would indicate a change in window location. It is assumed that the first-floor windows were aligned with the second-floor windows. The secondary entrance was thought to be at the west end of the north elevation, because evidence found inside the house indicates that the original stairhall was located in its northwest corner. In early 18th-century Rhode Island houses, the main stair usually communicated with an exterior doorway.[5]

#### West Facade

Assuming the existence of the ell, it would have covered the northern two-thirds of this facade (see Illustration 16). A chimney similar to the present one, but approximately two feet farther north, would have sat between the west wall of the main house and the ell; its stack would have emerged from the roof slope above the juncture of the house and ell. One window was located in each of the first and second stories at the south end of the facade. The second-story window is assumed to be in its original location, although none of the plaster surrounding it is ca.-1730 plaster. The first-floor window was located directly below this window.

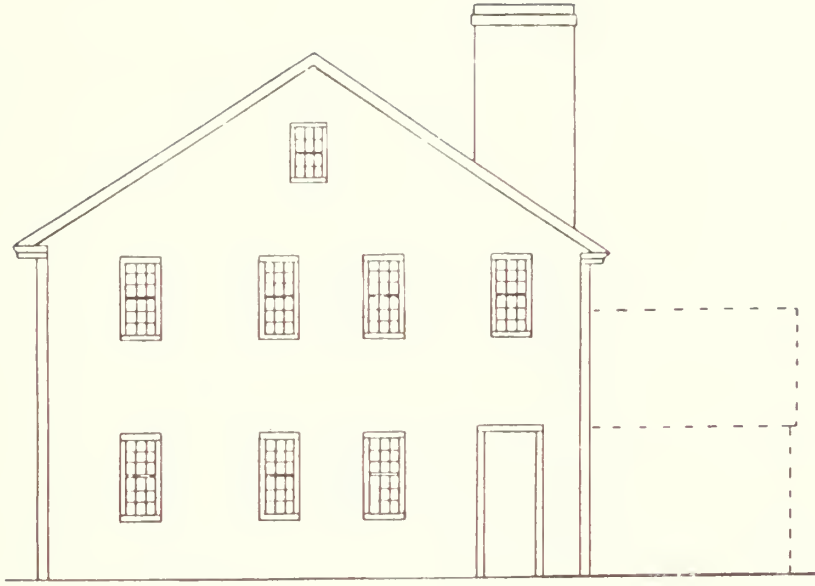
#### South Facade

The south facade of the ca.-1730 house was obliterated completely by the ca.-1798 addition. Evidence found in the plaster walls of the second story (Ill. 17) indicates that the windows on this elevation (Ill. 16) were arranged similarly to those of the north elevation. Where the latter had a doorway, however, the south elevation had yet another window.

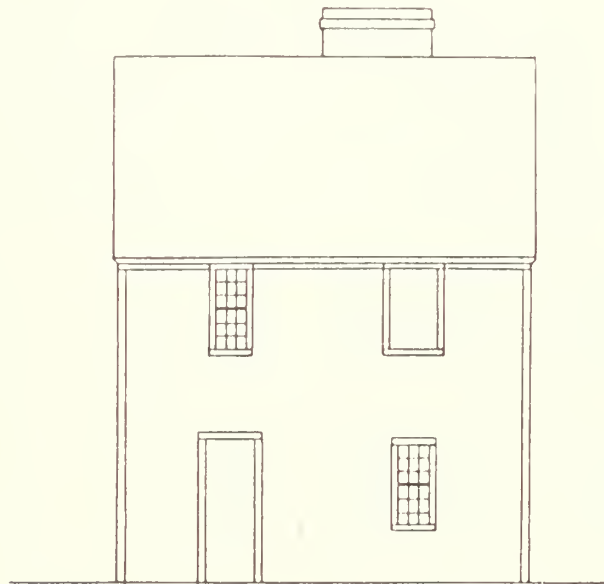
#### Doorway and Window Styles

Doorways. The only doorway remaining from ca. 1730 is the one at the west end of the north facade. Its present surround was installed ca. 1798, judging by paint evidence. There is no indication as to the appearance of the Antram-Gray House's original doorways or doors.

Windows. The window sashes used ca. 1730 probably were nine-over-nine, sliding sashes, with lights measuring 6 by 8 inches. This is based largely upon the size of the original window openings, two of which have remained intact. They are the openings of Windows 208 and 209 -- the second-floor north window on the west facade, and the second-floor west window on the north facade, respectively. These openings measure about 21 inches wide by 49 inches long. This is consonant with building practices of their day: "Early sash windows were characterized by their high, narrow proportions..."[6] Each sash would have measured about 21 inches wide by 25 inches long. Other Rhode Island houses of the same period featured sashes having either 9/9 lights, or 12/12 lights, or some variation thereon.[7] Given the generally vertical orientation of lights, the 9/9 style with 6 by 8-inch lights best fits the 21 by 25-inch dimensions of the sash. A modern version of this style of sash is used in Windows 208 and 209 today.



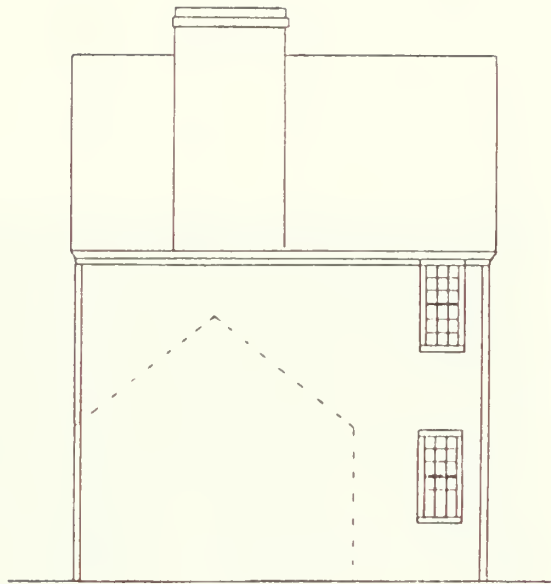
North Facade



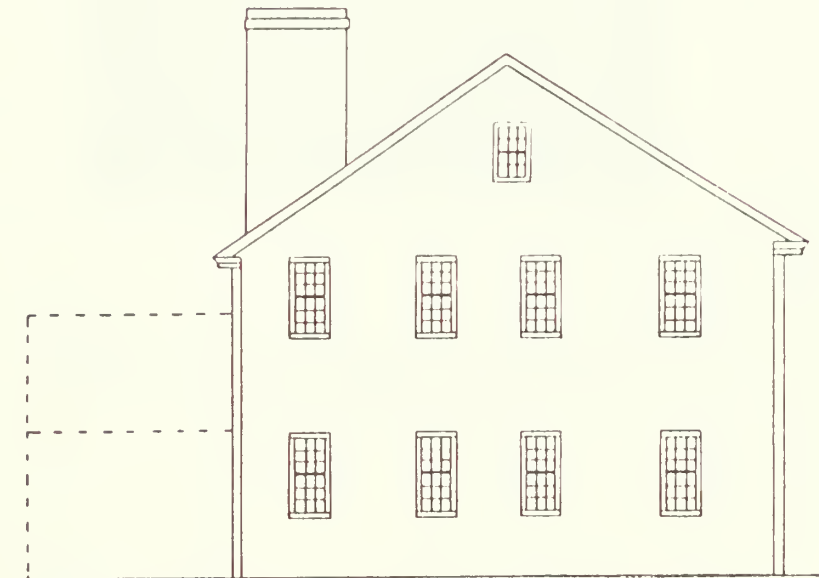
East Facade







West Facade



South Facade

**Illustration 16.** Antram-Gray House: West and South Facades Circa 1730.





**Illustration 17.** Antram-Gray House: Plaster Evidence, in South Wall of Room 204, of Circa-1730 Window.



The trim around all windows has been altered, so the form of the ca.-1730 architraves is unknown.

### Wall Covering

The original exterior wall covering was wooden shingles. An original shingle was found in Rcom 202, attached to one of the vertical sheathing boards of the south wall. The shingle measures 3-1/2 inches wide and 13 inches long; it had approximately a 4-1/2 inch exposure (see Illustration 18). It was nailed to the sheathing boards with wrought nails. The shingle is unpainted, indicating that at least the body of the house was unpainted until ca. 1798. Whether or not the wooden trim was painted is unknown.

### Roof Covering

The covering of the ca.-1730 roof undoubtedly was wooden shingles, judging by the nature of the framing here (see Section B, "Roof Framing") and customary building practices of the day.

### Chimney

As will be explained later, the original chimney on the west wall of the house sat 1 foot, 4 inches farther north than its present-day successor. The configuration of the exterior portion of this chimney is unknown. Rhode Island houses of similar date had roughly square chimneys of brick. A corbeled band near the cap was common.

## B. Framing

Unlike the case of the exterior elements, the ca.-1730 Antram-Gray House retains most of its framing members, especially at the attic-floor level. Many of these early timbers have been reinforced, but they are still intact enough to help establish the appearance of the historic framing elements that are missing.

The house is of plank-frame construction, in which a heavy timber frame is enclosed with, and partitioned by, walls consisting of thick, vertical planks. This type of building was common in northern Rhode Island in the 17th and 18th centuries, as it was in other areas settled by members of the Plymouth Colony. [8]

The ca.-1730 portion of the Antram-Gray House is unusual, however, in that it is deeper than it is wide. Most 17th- and 18th-century houses are wider than they are deep, and normal framing terms reflect this. In the case of the Antram-Gray House, the short east and west walls are the front and rear walls, respectively. The long north and south "end" walls contain elements usually found only in front and rear walls.

## Exterior Framing

The four exterior walls were built on four ground sills. The four corner posts -- 7 inches square and two stories high -- were tenoned and pinned into the sills. It appears that three of these four posts remain today: they are flared at the level of the attic floor. The southeast corner post is not flared, and may well date to ca. 1798 (see "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section B, "Exterior Framing").

The long north and south walls each contain two additional posts approximately the same size as the corner posts. These divide the interior into three bays -- a small western bay, a slightly larger eastern bay, and a large middle bay. The pair of posts demarking the west bay, which contains the chimney, can be considered chimney posts. The pair of posts defining the east bay can be thought of as story posts.

The tops of the posts are tied together by the front (east) and rear (west) wall plates, and the north and south end girts. The former are attached to the latter by a simple dovetail joint (Ill. 19). All of the beams are 7 inches square. The end girts extend approximately 18 inches beyond the front wall plate, to form the front-facade roof overhang.

## Interior Framing

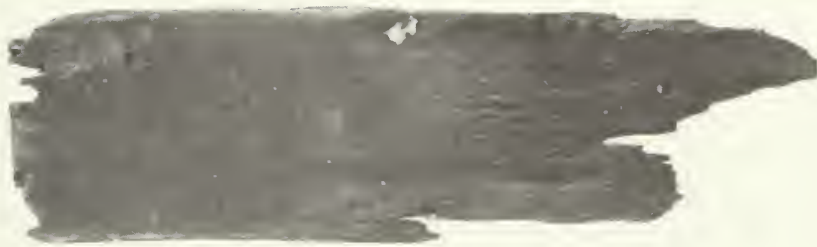
First Floor. Many changes have been made to the original framing members here (Ill. 20, left), but the members' original configuration can still be deduced. At the level of the ground sills, a 6- by 6-1/2 inch, east interior girt connects the pair of story posts. Also remaining is the north half of a 7-inch square, west interior girt. Presumably, that girt originally spanned the entire distance between the pair of chimney posts.

The two, east and west interior girts have a 9- by 11-inch summer beam running between them. The east end of the summer beam is attached to the midpoint of the east girt with a tusk tenon joint. The west end of the summer beam stops short of the west girt, being supported instead by a masonry pier. Originally, the summer beam probably extended to the west girt, and was framed into its midpoint with a tusk tenon joint.

The location of the summer beam -- between two interior girts -- is atypical of late 17th- and early 18th-century house framing.[9] At first glance, one might suspect that the middle portion of the house was an earlier, one-room house. However, the absence of east-wall corner posts, and the raising numbers found on the attic-floor joists (to be described shortly) rule out this possibility.

The summer beam supports the 12 first-floor joists of the middle bay. There are six joists on a side, measuring about 3 by 6 inches and running north-south out to the sills. The ends of the joists are set into the summer beam with butt cog joints. It is assumed that their outer ends were set into the original sills with the same type of joint; the physical evidence for this in the sills is unclear, due to extensive changes.



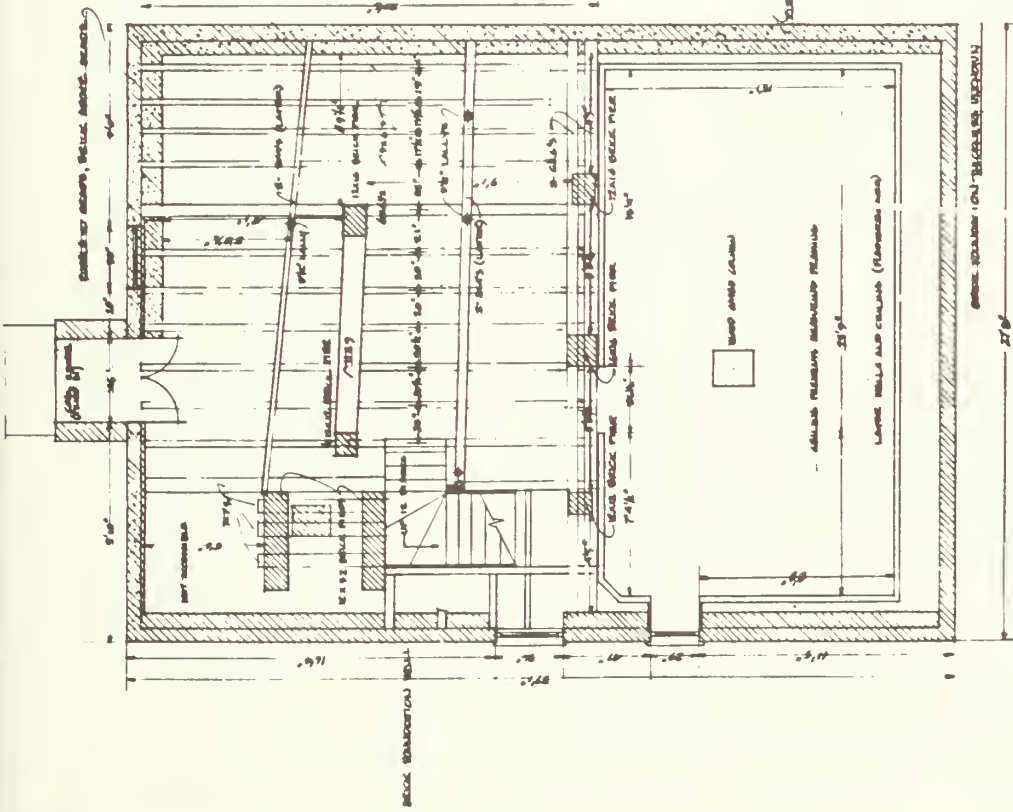


**Illustration 18.** Wooden Shingle Removed from South Facade of Circa-1730 Antram-Gray House.

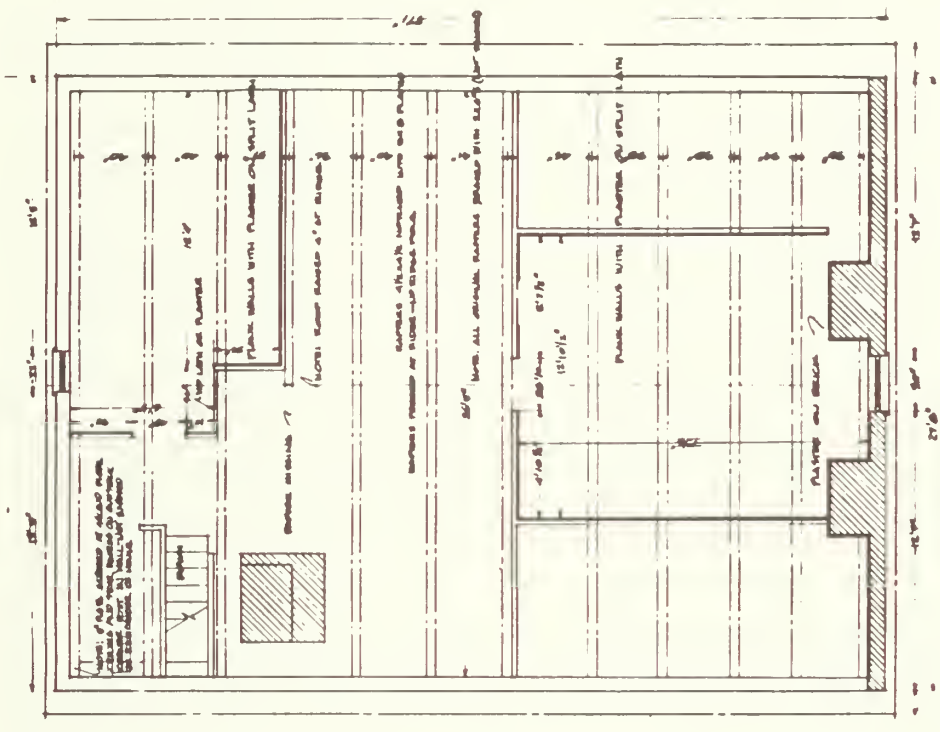


**Illustration 19.** Antram-Gray House: Dovetail Joints of Wall Plates in Northeast Corner of Attic.





**BASEMENT, WITH REFLECTED FRAMING PLAN**



**ATTIC, WITH ROOF FRAMING**



DESIGNED BY E. J. WELLS, ARCHT. 5/17

UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE · PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND ·**

SHEET NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
PART 2, OF 6 SHEETS

**Illustration 20.** Antram-Gray House: Plan of Basement and Attic Stories, Showing Reflected First-Floor and Roof Framing Plans (1977).



The original joistwork in the east bay appears to have run east-west: butt-cog joist pockets remain in the east side of the east girt. The present joists in the east bay run north-south.

The original joistwork of the west bay also appears to have run east-west: a few east-west joists remain, although numerous changes have taken place in this area. It is assumed that the framing here was similar to that of the original attic floor (see "Attic Floor," below). This would mean that the southern half of the bay would have contained five floor joists, running east-west and spaced approximately 1 foot, 8 inches on center. The northern half of the bay would have contained the original chimney and probably two east-west floor joists, spaced asymmetrically.

Second Floor. The eight vertical posts of the ca.-1730 half of the Antram-Gray House are tied primarily at plate level, but a grid of beams at second-floor level (Ill. 21) helps to stiffen the frame. Front, rear, and end girts run between the corner posts, the story posts, and the chimney posts. The pair of story posts is linked by an east, interior girt, while the pair of chimney posts is connected by a west, interior chimney girt. All girts measure 7 inches square, and are tenoned into and pinned to the posts.

As was the case at first-floor level, a large summer beam runs between the east interior girt and the west interior girt (Ill. 21, right center). Its east end is framed into the east girt with a tusk tenon joint. Its west end was probably attached to the west girt in the same way, but it has been cut off just short of the chimney breast, and is now supported on two lally columns. The summer beam carries 12 joists -- six on each side, measuring approximately 3 by 6 inches -- that support the floor of the middle bay.

The east-west joistwork of the east bay's floor dates largely to ca. 1730, but the southern end (Ill. 21, center bottom) was altered when a stairway was built here ca. 1798. Timbers remaining from that alteration are the 5-inch square east-west trimming joist located approximately 6-1/2 feet north of the south wall; the north-south header running from the south-wall girt to the trimming joist; and the three east-west joists running from the east-wall girt to the north-south header. Timbers added ca. 1850, when the stair here was closed up, are the three east-west joists on the west side of the north-south header.

The joistwork of the west bay at this level shows evidence of several changes, including the alteration of the original, northwest stair, and the installation of the later, southwest stair. Illustration 22 indicates how original east-west joists were removed from the west bay when the southwest stair was built. It is assumed that the framing here was similar to that of the attic floor (see "Attic Floor," below). This would mean that the southern half of the bay would have contained five floor joists, running east-west and spaced approximately 1 foot, 8 inches on center. The northern half of the bay would have contained the original chimney, and probably two joists supporting the framing of the stair to the second floor.

Attic Floor. This floor (Ill. 23) is almost completely intact from the ca.-1730 period. When this report was being written, the framing members were visible from both above and below. In the attic, selective floorboards were raised. On the second floor, the posthistoric plasterboard ceilings in Rooms 204 and 207 had been removed in 1979, the original lath and plaster ceilings having been removed and replaced with the plasterboard prior to 1974.



The floor's outermost supports -- the front and rear wall plates, and the north and south end girts -- have already been described. As on the lower floors, an east girt links the two story posts, while a west girt connects the chimney posts. Both girts are dovetailed into the attic-level girts of the north and south walls. As with the floors below, they are joined at their midpoints by a large summer beam, whose ends are tusk-tenoned into the girts.

The most interesting and informative aspect of the attic-floor framing pertains to the joistwork. A system of raising numerals was cut into joists, and next to joists pockets in beams, to indicate which joists fit into which pockets.

The south end of the west bay is spanned by east-west joists I through III, whose east ends still rest in correspondingly numbered pockets in the west side of the west girt. Joists IV and V are gone, however; their west-girt pockets are empty (Ill. 24), and the present chimney occupies part of this area. The empty pockets are the best evidence that the ca.-1730 chimney was subsequently moved approximately 1-1/2 feet to the south.

The north end of the west bay currently features three east-west joists and one pair of empty joist pockets. Neither the joists nor the pockets are numbered, and the joists differ in size and spacing from the ca.-1730 joists in the south half of the bay. This suggests that there were no joists here ca. 1730. One must doubt this idea, because it means that the entire head of the stairwell would have been open to the attic. More likely, the current northernmost joist rests in the pockets of one ca.-1730 joist, while a second ca.-1730 joist rested in the now-empty pockets, adjacent to the original chimney. These two joists would have provided adequate support for a ceiling in the stairwell. A scuttle opening to the attic could easily have fit between them, particularly in the northwest corner of the ceiling. The only unresolved question concerns the total lack of raising numerals in this area. The other two joists now present in the north end of the west bay appear to have been installed ca. 1798, when the present attic stair was built.

Evidence for two similar ca.-1730 joists at both the first- and second-floor levels has been destroyed, but these would have been necessary, to support the stairhall floor and the stair landing, respectively.

The numerals of the numbering system proceed to the southeast corner of the middle bay; joists VI to XI are located on the south side of the summer beam, while joists XII to XVII sit on the north side. The exact numerical correspondence of the joists to their pockets indicates that no changes have taken place in this area.

The framing of the attic floor in the east bay is also intact, judging by the numerals. The 2- by 6-inch joists are framed into the east side of the east girt with butt cog joints. The joists pass over the front plate, being set into cuts 1-1/2 inches deep, so that they can extend approximately 18 inches beyond the front of the house to create an overhang. As on the second floor below, the fourth joist from the south wall is oversized (6 inches square). Unlike on the second floor, the fourth joist from the north wall is equally oversized. These two timbers are original, judging by the special raising numerals assigned to them. They are set into the east girt and front plate, not with butt cog joints, but with tusk tenon joints, like the summer beam of the middle bay. Their function probably was to increase support for the rafter feet, which would have extended 18 inches beyond the front wall plate.



**Illustration 21.** Antram-Gray House: Second-Floor Framing Plan.

Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"





**Illustration 22.** Antram-Gray House: West Girt of  
Circa-1730 House, Showing Former Locations of  
Original Floor Joists.





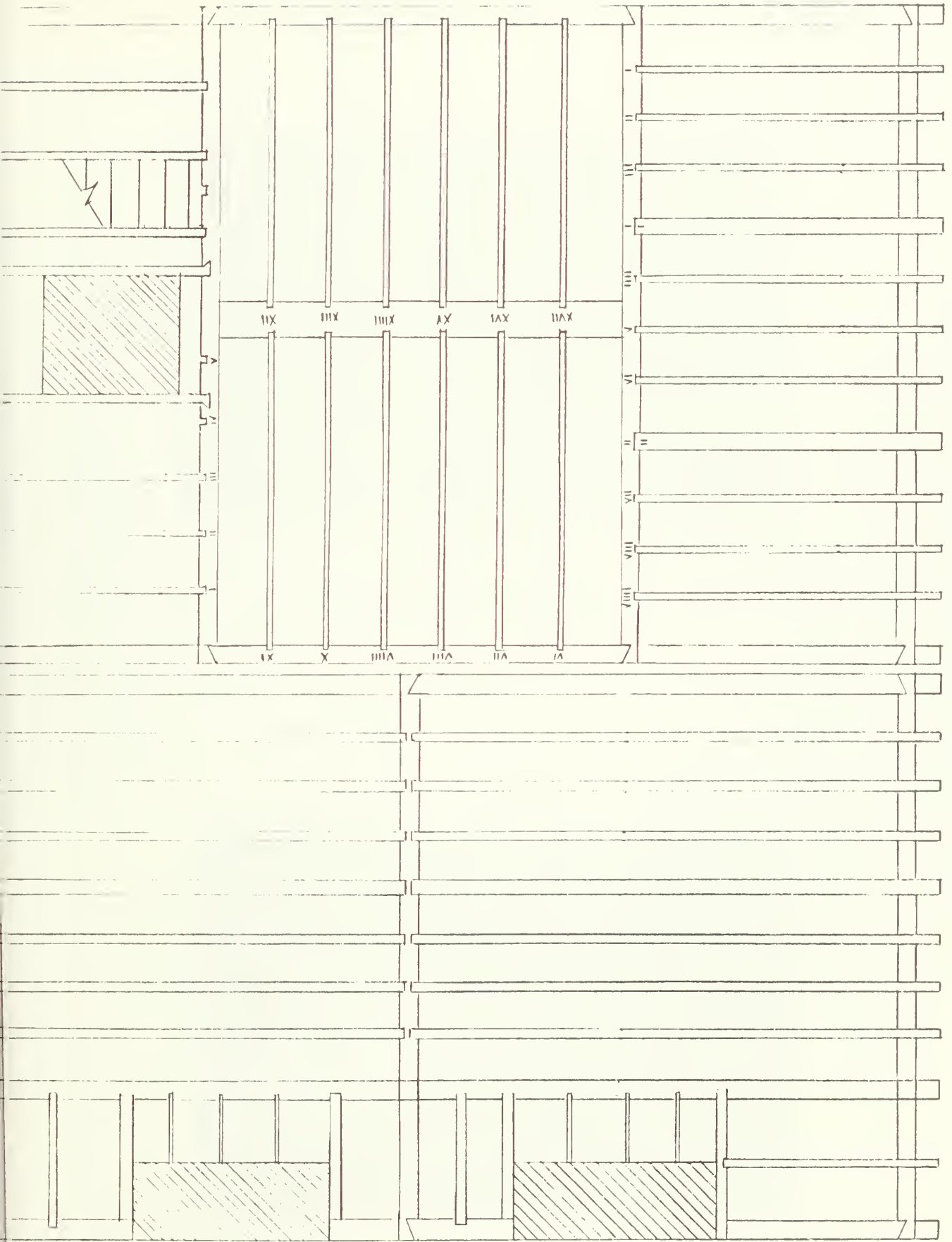


Illustration 23. Antram-Gray House: Attic-Floor Framing Plan. Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"





**Illustration 24.** Antram-Gray House: Raising Numerals on Attic-Floor Framing Members.



**Illustration 25.** Antram-Gray House: Raising Numerals on Roof Rafters.



## Roof Framing

The roof framing in the ca.-1730 house consists of seven hand-hewn principal rafters (Ill. 20, right). Several of the rafters retain their wane edges. The rafters are approximately 5 inches square and are spaced 2 feet, 10 inches on center. All rafters are marked with raising numerals and bridle-jointed at their apex (Ill. 25). Rafter feet are nailed with spikes to the west plate, with the westernmost floorboard cut out to fit around the rafters. At the east end, the rafter feet sit directly on the floorboards, being nailed with spikes to the floorboards, north and south end girts, and floor joists. The rafters contain no purlin trenches; wrought nails found along the full length of the outsides of the rafters indicate that the sheathing boards were nailed directly to the rafters. No evidence has been found in the rafters of framing for the ca.-1730 chimney opening.

## Wall Construction

The exterior frame of the Antram-Gray House is clad with thick, vertical planks, which are one story in length and nailed with large, wrought-iron nails to the sills, girts, and plates. The one exception to this involves the second-floor west wall, where most of the planking runs diagonally in two directions (see Illustration 26). The diagonal planking forms, below it, a triangular area approximately 13 feet long by 5 feet, 6 inches high (Ill. 27), which is infilled with vertical planks (Ill. 28). These planks are whitewashed, indicating that they were reused. As stated earlier, it is thought that the diagonal planks outline the former location of the gable roof of the missing one-story, ca.-1730 ell. The reused planks represent the closure of the opening into the attic of the ell, which occurred when the ell was removed.

As stated in Section A, "Wall Covering," wooden shingles were nailed directly to the exterior surface of the planking. Vertical planks also form the partitions that divide the interior of the Antram-Gray House into rooms. Lath and plaster were applied directly to the interior surfaces of the exterior walls, and to both sides of interior walls (see Section D, "Walls and Ceilings").

### C. Interior Plan

Illustration 29 shows the probable layout of the first, second, and attic stories of the Antram-Gray House ca. 1730. (There is insufficient information to depict the basement story.)

#### First Story

As indicated in Illustration 29, the northwest chimney -- on the rear, west wall of the house -- was located ca. 1730 approximately 1-1/2 feet farther north than it is today. This more northerly location was deduced from changes in original joistwork, as stated in Section B, "Interior Framing -- Attic Floor." The location is borne out by plaster evidence in the west wall of Room 204: sections of original plaster end in straight lines that would have abutted the ca.-1730 mantelpiece (see Appendix B). This mantelpiece would have been centered, roughly, on the chimney in its more northerly location, and would have extended from floor to ceiling.



The ca.-1730 stair is thought to have been in the same general area as the present northwest stair. This is based upon the absence of original floor joists or joist pockets in the northwest corner of the house. It is also based upon the composition of the plaster of the ceiling of the present first-story stairhall (Room 106). There is a break in this ceiling, approximately 2 feet, 4 inches from the north wall of the house. The plaster north of the break is ca.-1730 plaster; that south of the break is ca.-1798 plaster. Thus, the break probably represents the edge of the original stairwell.

No evidence has been found to indicate that this stair extended down into the basement. It may have been accessible through a trap door somewhere in the first floor.

The only interior first-story partitions likely to date from ca. 1730 are those forming Rooms 103 and 106. The broken lines in Illustration 29 indicate probable partitions forming Rooms 104, 105, and 107. The locations of these partitions were deduced from evidence found at the second-story level. The placement of doorways in all of these partitions, existing and hypothesized, is also based on evidence remaining at the second-story level.

### Second Story

The ca.-1730 plan at this level is easier to reconstruct, because a larger number of the original partitions remain in place today. These are the walls between Rooms 203 and 204, 204 and 205, 204 and 206, and 204 and 207. In addition, there is ample physical evidence to determine the original location of the wall between Rooms 205 and 207, which was moved southward ca. 1798.

The placement of doorways in these partitions was deduced from sections of lath and plaster infill (see Appendices B and C). The absence of infill around a doorway suggests that it is original; the presence of infill indicates that a doorway was moved or closed up.

There is no evidence to suggest that the northwest stair extended up into the attic prior to ca. 1798.

### Attic Story

The attic of the original house was not partitioned off in any way. Its usefulness would have been limited by the absence of a stair leading up to it.

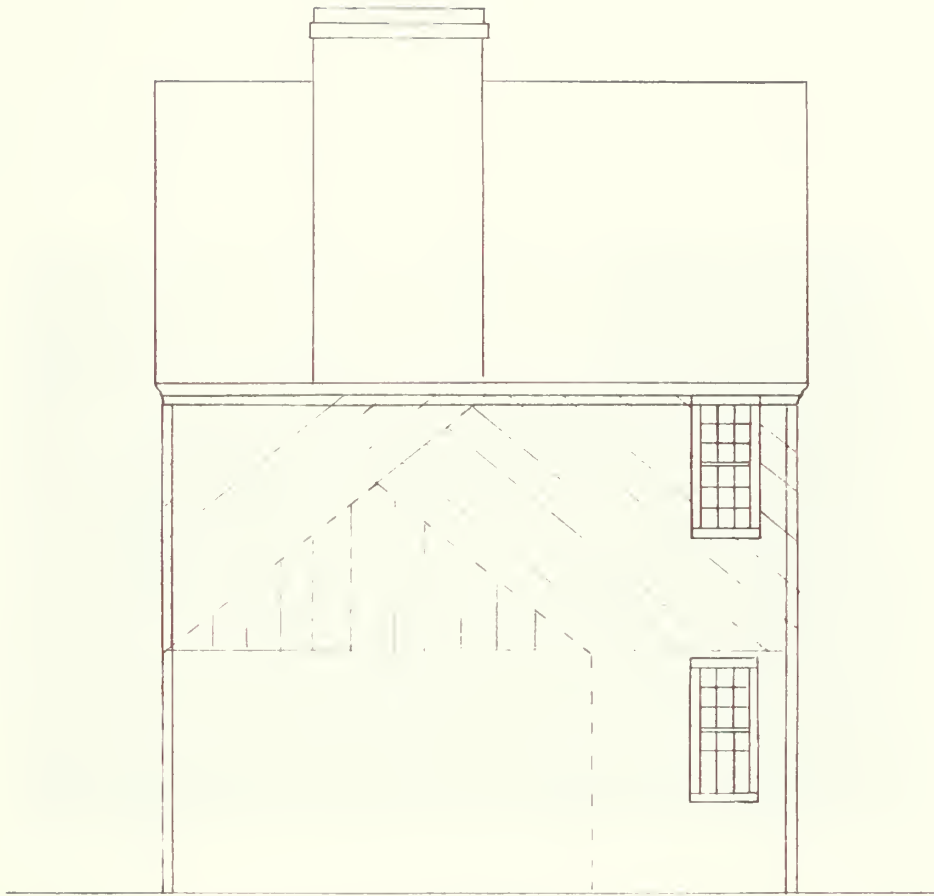
### Analysis of the Interior Plan

The most unusual aspect of the apparent ca.-1730 room plan is that the two east rooms on both first and second stories lack any source of heat. This is atypical of early 18th-century Rhode Island houses.[10] The most plausible explanation for this unusual plan is that the structure was built originally for a combined residential/commercial use.[11] The two east rooms of the first story, which faced what was Providence's main commercial street during the 18th century, would have been a good location for a shop. The two east rooms of the second story may have



**Illustration 26.** Antram-Gray House: Sheathing Evidence, in West Wall of Room 206, of Circa-1730 Ell.





**Illustration 27.** Antram-Gray House: Sheathing Evidence, in West Exterior Wall, of Circa-1730 Ell.

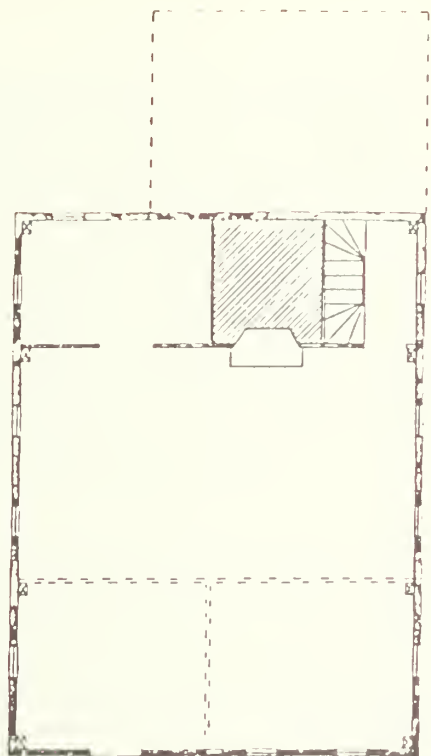




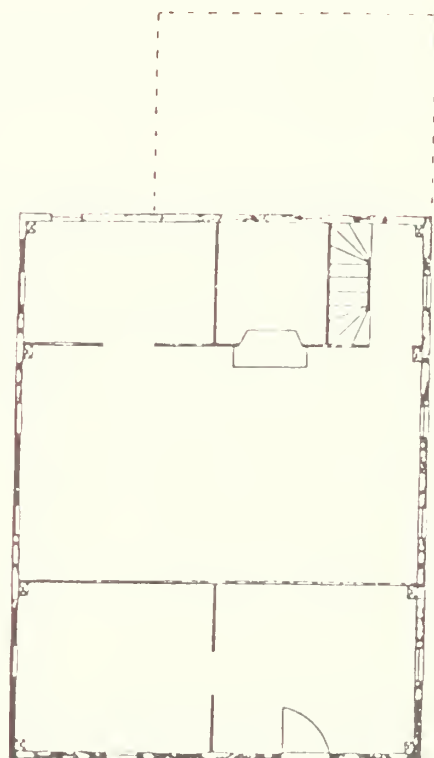
**Illustration 28.** Antram-Gray House: Sheathing Evidence,  
in West Wall of Northwest Stair, of Removal of  
Circa-1730 Ell.



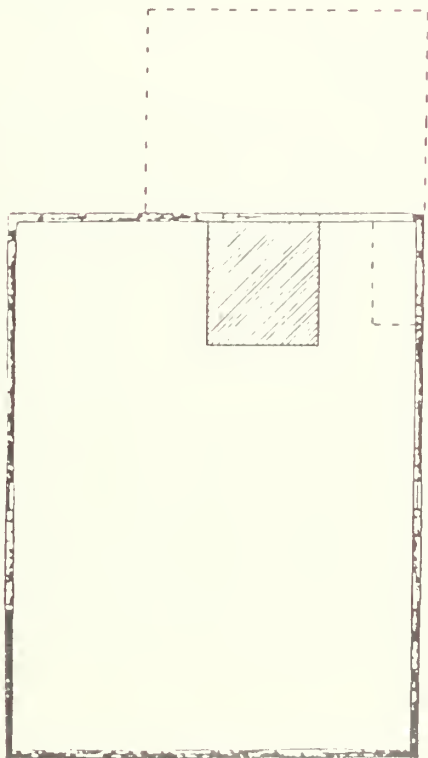




First-Story Plan



Second-Story Plan



Attic-Story Plan

Illustration 29. Antram-Gray House: First-, Second-, and Attic-Story Plans Circa 1730.



been used for storage for the shop. This use would account for the oversized second-story opening at the north end of the east facade: it could have been used as a doorway through which goods were hoisted to the second story. A shop and shop storage would not have needed as much heat as primary living rooms. A doorway between the middle room on the first story and the shop would have allowed some heat to pass into the latter. All evidence as to where this doorway might have been located was destroyed when the wall that separated the shop from the middle room, or parlor, was removed. No evidence has been found on the second story to indicate that there was originally any doorway between the east rooms and the large central chamber. There may have been a trap door connecting the shop with its second-story storage rooms, either between the extant ca.-1730 floor joists, or at the southeast corner, where the original floor and joists later were destroyed by the building of the ca.-1798 southeast stair.

By viewing the first- and second-story east rooms as a shop, the remaining rooms of the ca.-1730 Antram-Gray House form a logical, early 18th-century house plan. All of these rooms could have been heated by the west-wall fireplace. The entrance to the house -- at the west end of the north facade -- opened into a small stairhall, whose winder stair ran up the side of the chimney. The kitchen would have been located in the one-story ell attached to the rear, west wall of the house. Even the locations of the summer beams in the ceilings of the parlor and second-story chamber are more consonant with this arrangement.

#### D. Interior Elements

##### Walls and Ceilings

Almost nothing remains of the ca.-1730 finishes of the first-story walls and ceilings. The chief remnant seems to be a 2-foot, 4-inch wide strip of ceiling plaster along the north wall of the northwest stairhall (plaster sample M045, paint sample P145). This plaster is similar to ca.-1730 plaster surviving on second-story walls and ceilings. Thus, it appears that first-story finishes were the same as those used on the second story. There is also a small portion of ca.-1730 plaster within the northwest-stair enclosure, on the east wall at the top of the stairs.

On the second story, the small west-bay chamber, the large middle-bay chamber, and the northwest stairhall (Rooms 203, 204, and 206, respectively) were plastered throughout. The plaster was applied to hand-split wooden lath, which was nailed with handwrought nails to the vertical planks used for the interior partitions and exterior-wall sheathing. The ceiling lath was nailed directly to the attic-floor joists. The handwrought nails used to secure the ceiling lath are larger than those used to secure the wall lath. (See Appendix C, Photographs 1 and 2.) The ca.-1730 plaster in Room 204 is a thin (1/2-inch thick) white lime plaster, consisting of about two parts sand to two parts lime and containing brown hairs 1/2-inch long (Type-1 plaster).

The two east-bay chambers (Rooms 205 and 207) had only their exterior walls plastered. The vertical planks of the partition separating them from Room 204, and from each other, were left exposed. Again, this reinforces the idea that these rooms were first used commercially. The plaster applied in Rooms 205 and 207 also was a thin, white lime plaster. Its mix, however, consisted of one part sand to two parts lime (Type-II plaster). Fragments of shell found in the fines of both plasters suggest that their lime may have been produced by burning shells.

Whitewash was the finish used ca. 1730 on all second-story walls and ceilings -- both plastered surfaces and exposed areas of vertical-plank partitions. Paint analysis indicates that the second-story rooms were whitewashed a total of five to six times during the 18th century. The third time, black paint apparently was used as an accent color. In Room 204, the wooden dado cap (see Illustration 30) was topped by a black border (P141), and black paint was used to simulate a baseboard in this room and in Room 207 (P124). This black paint seems to have been nothing more elaborate than whitewash tinted with lampblack, since it reacted positively when spot-tested with hydrochloric acid.

#### Floors and Baseboards

Areas of floorboards that probably date to ca. 1730 remain on the second story of the Antram-Gray House. These can be identified by their width (varying from 9 to 12 inches), butted edges, and wrought nails. Room 204 features such floorboards, but they are secured only with late machine-cut nails (post-1810). This suggests that they were relaid at some point -- probably ca. 1850, as will be explained later. Paint analysis indicates that this floor was unpainted ca. 1730. Room 205 has original floorboards, complete with wrought nails, in the east half only. This area was retained as a landing when the ca.-1798 southeast stair was introduced here. Room 207 retains its entire, completely original floor -- underneath a ca.-1850 floor laid on leveling joists nailed atop the old floorboards. Paint analysis of the original floor found a bottom blue layer that matched ca.-1798 woodwork paint in that room (P107). Thus, it seems that the floor in Room 207 also was left unpainted ca. 1730.

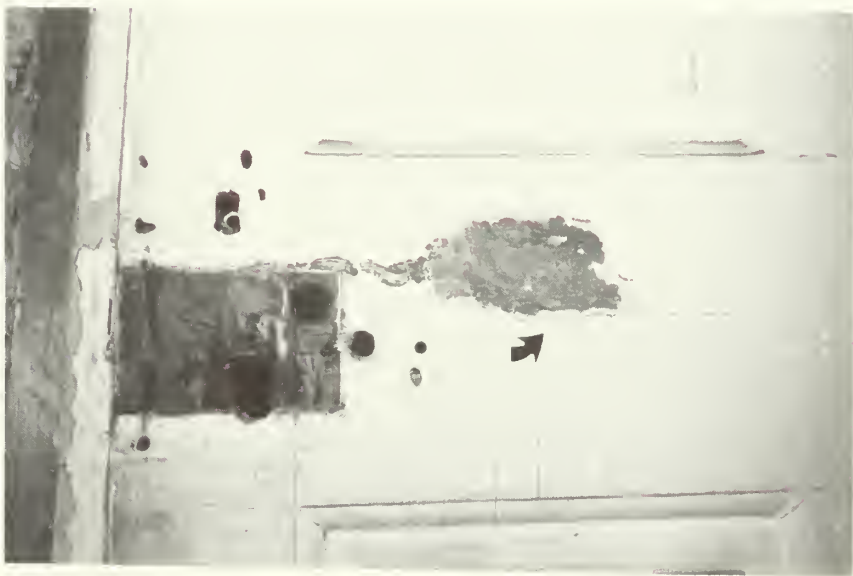
Since at least Rooms 204 and 207 received painted baseboards in the 18th century, it is unlikely that these rooms had wooden baseboards originally. The same would probably be true of the rest of the ca.-1730 rooms.

#### Fireplaces

The identification of the few woodwork elements dating from the ca.-1730 construction of the house was accomplished through the combined use of paint analysis, molding analysis, and hardware analysis. The paint layering on certain elements known to date to the ca.-1798 addition was determined. Elements found to have an additional, earlier paint layer were assumed to predate 1798. Paint analysis alone, however, could not determine which elements were part of the ca.-1730 construction of the house, and which were later 18th-century additions. Study of the elements' molding profiles and hardware evidence helped clarify the paint analysis.



**Illustration 30.** Antram-Gray House: Painted Border Above Chair Rail, Room 204.



**Illustration 31.** Antram-Gray House: Door 201, East Side, Showing Evidence of Original Graining.





The mantel in Room 201 appears to date to the construction of the addition ca. 1798. Most of its components do have as their first paint layer the first layer found on other ca.-1798 woodwork in the room. However, the narrow mantelshelf has an additional layer of dark-red paint beneath its ca.-1798 layer. It thus seems that this mantelshelf was part of one of the ca.-1730 mantels in the original part of the house, and that it was reused here during the ca.-1798 remodeling. It probably came from Room 204 (see "Corner Posts," below).

### Doorways

Another place where the dark-red paint is found beneath a ca.-1798 paint layer is on the trim and door of Doorway 210. Although this doorway was created ca. 1850 to access the ca.-1798 addition, a number of its elements appear to date to ca. 1730. The Room 201-side of this doorway's trim features a Type-E molding (see Appendix D), consisting of a quarter-round and fillets; its inner edges are beaded. This is consonant with a ca.-1730 date. Traces of red paint -- or possibly graining -- are found on the south side of this trim. (A similar but smaller, Type-G molding is used for the Room-204 trim of Doorway 201, but it lacks any early paint.)

The door of Doorway 210 is clearly a ca.-1730 door. It has four panels; those on the south side are raised (Appendix D, Molding Type R), while those on the north side are recessed, with a beaded edge (Molding Type S). The profiles of the door's moldings are composed of circular shapes, which is characteristic of 18th-century moldings. And the south side bears evidence of an HL hinge earlier than the HL hinges used there ca. 1798. (All evidence of other early hardware has been covered over by layers of later paint.) This door must have been hung elsewhere in the house ca. 1730, and moved here ca. 1798. One clue to the original location might be the bright-yellow paint comprising the original layer on the south side of the door (the red paint being on the north side only).

Two other doors in the original part of the Antram-Gray House have a fine grained finish beneath their ca.-1798 paint layers. These are the doors of Doorways 201 and 213. Door 201 features the graining on its east side only (Ill. 31); Door 213 has it on both sides. These doors also seem to have been rehung. They currently feature the type of HL hinge used during the ca.-1798 remodeling. However, paint lines on the west side of Door 201 indicate that it formerly was hung from that side with HL hinges earlier than the ones there now. No other traces of pre-1798 hardware were found on this door. Door 213 has had all traces of any pre-1798 hardware obscured by later paint. It is now hung by the type of HL hinges used ca. 1798.

In theory, Doors 201 and 213 would antedate 1798, because their graining underlies the ca.-1798 finishes. However, these doors appear to be too late stylistically for the ca.-1730 construction date of the house. Both doors have six panels arranged in typically Federal fashion, with the two small panels being uppermost. The panels are raised, with a beveled edge; the outer edges of the panels are beaded (see Appendix D, Molding Type Q). These molding profiles are based on circular, 18th-century shapes, but the six-panel form described above would have been more common in the second half of the century.

In addition, there is no solid evidence that graining was used elsewhere in the Antram-Gray House. (The south-side trim of Doorway 210 has some fragments of paint that could be graining, but which are more likely the dark-red paint found elsewhere in the house.)

In sum, it appears that Door 210 is the only door that was part of the ca.-1730 Antram-Gray House.

#### Corner Posts

Perhaps the strongest piece of evidence for the ca.-1730 use of dark-red paint in the Antram-Gray House is the presence of that paint as the first layer on the casings of the corner posts in Room 204, beneath their ca.-1798 paint layers. The corner posts in Rooms 106 and 205 are also cased, but their casings have the ca.-1798 paint as their first layer. These posts may have been covered with plaster originally, as were the posts in Rooms 203, 206, and 207. (The plaster on the posts of the latter two rooms is still in situ.)

#### Other Trim

One coat of the red paint dated to ca. 1730 also is found on fragments of what appears to be a chair rail board 2-1/2 inches wide. These fragments, used as scabs in several places in the house, are probably the remains of the chair rail formerly in Room 204. This chair rail is known to have been removed during the ca.-1798 remodeling (see "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Other Trim"). Therefore, it is thought to date to ca. 1730.

NOTES

1. Providence Deed Book 10.170.

2. Will of Benjamin Whipple, DB A 90 Early Records, p. 240.

3. It is highly unlikely that sliding sash such as those used at the Antram-Gray House would have been found in a house built before 1704. See Antoinette Downing, Early Homes of Rhode Island, p. 136, and Abbott L. Cummings, The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay pp. 155-157.

4. No mention of a David Pope or David Pepe has been found in the early records of Providence. The 1730/31 date probably represents the two calendars that were being used at that time. The date of 1730 would have come from the Julian calendar; the date of 1731 would have been from the Gregorian calendar.

5. Downing, Early Homes, pp. 4, 126.

6. Ibid., p. 136.

7. Ibid., p. 137.

8. Richard M. Candee, "A Documentary History of Plymouth Colony Architecture," Old-Time New England, LIX, No. 3 (Winter 1969), p. 60, and LX, No. 2 (Fall 1969), pp. 40, 50.

9. See Cummings, Framed Houses; Downing, Early Homes; and Norman Isham, Early American Houses, for their descriptions of early framing practices.

10. Downing, Early Homes, p. 126.

11. As noted in Chapter II of this report, the structures built on the west side of Towne Street in the early 18th century frequently had shops in their first stories. There is even a specific reference to a shop at this site, owned by the Sessions family during the time of the Revolution. According to Franklin S. Coyle, in his book The Survival of the Providence Business Enterprise in the American Revolutionary Era (p. 30), "During the War this shop sold...milk, cheese, choice French brandy, Holland Geneva and many other articles."

CIRCA 1798:  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE ADDITION

Around 1798, an addition 16 by 27 feet was built onto the south side of the Antram-Gray House. This date of construction is based on information contained in the United States Direct Tax Records for 1798. The two relevant references read as follows:

Occupant: Thomas Sessions

Owner: Darius Sessions

Street: E on Main Street A House lot N of the Church..40' x 74' [in this instance the reference to the church is the Episcopal Church, not the Baptist Church] ... N on a gangway..S on William Sessions...on it part of an Old House that (my part) measures 27' x 20'...the house joins N by Thomas Sessions' Dwelling House.

Occupant: Thomas Sessions

Owner: Thomas Sessions

Street: E on Main Street....A Dwelling House N of the Church on leased land, Owned by Darius Sessions, 27' x 16'...2 stories high. 2 sides of wood 1 side brick...the other side joined by an old House of the said Darius.

Dwelling Houses

Valuation of Dwelling House, lot and Outbuildings...\$550

1

These references establish that the addition was in place by 1798. Physical clues suggest that it was not built much earlier than that. In particular, it is known that one type of nail used for the addition was not made until the 1790's.[1] This is the machine-cut nail with a handmade head.

Like the original part of the house, the addition is 2-1/2 stories high, has a gable roof, and is mostly of plank-frame construction. The south wall is brick. This section of the report describes the probable appearance of the addition when it was built. It also touches upon several alterations made to the addition after ca. 1798, but before the next major remodeling campaign, which occurred ca. 1850.

A. Exterior Elements

Foundation

Like that of the ca.-1730 house, the foundation of the ca.-1798 addition to the Antram-Gray House was of rubble fieldstone below grade, and brick above grade. It was destroyed when the house was moved in 1974.



### East Facade

The east, or principal, facade of the ca.-1798 addition faced North Main Street (Ill. 32). It was two bays wide, with two windows located at the second-story level, and probably two windows at the level of the first story. The second-story windows remain in their original locations; the first-story windows most likely were removed when the large plate-glass windows and modern doorways were installed in this area in the 20th century.

### South Facade

On the south elevation (Ill. 32), which is of brick construction, four windows were located at the east and west edges of the wall, two per story. Another, smaller window was located in the center of the gable. The first-story windows have been bricked in; the second-story windows remain in their original location. The central portion of this wall is occupied by two interior end chimneys and their fireplaces.

The brick of the south wall is laid in four-stretcher American common bond. Brick belt courses mark the levels of the first, second, and attic floors. They consist of a bottom projecting course of stretchers; a middle, flush course of headers set on end; and a top, flush course of stretchers.

### West Facade

The west elevation (Ill. 33) contained only two windows, one centered roughly in each of its first and second stories. All evidence for the placement of the first-story window was destroyed by later alterations, but the second-story window remains in its original location.

### Doorway and Window Styles

Doorways. No evidence has been found for the location of a ca.-1798 exterior doorway in the south addition. The brickwork of the south wall shows no signs of an original, infilled doorway. The infill at the west corner of this wall is for a doorway that was made by enlarging an original, ca.-1798 window ca. 1850. Any evidence for exterior doorways in the east and west walls of the addition would have been obliterated by later alterations. However, the first-story floor plan lacks any type of entrance hall. This strongly suggests that exterior access to the addition was through the ca.-1730 portion of the house. The small entry-stairhall in the southeast corner of the ca.-1730 portion of the house would have provided access to the rooms on both the first and second stories of the addition.

Windows. The main window openings in the addition were the same height as the window openings in the ca.-1730 part -- about 48 inches -- but they were wider, approximately 26 inches. This is based upon the large number of addition-window openings remaining intact today, at the second-story level. The south gable window opening measures about 24 by 40 inches.



The south-facade openings at both first- and second-story levels have splayed brick lintels, constructed of 16 stretchers set vertically. The gable window has a flat brick lintel, constructed of headers laid vertically. The tops of the second-story windows on the east and west facades do not have brick lintels, probably because they abut the eaves line; having no brickwork above them, they need no lintels to support it. The first-story windows on the east and west facades, as just stated, have been obliterated by later alterations. It is probable that they also had splayed brick lintels, to support the brick walls above them.

The sashes used ca. 1798 in most of the addition's windows probably were 12/12, sliding sashes, with lights measuring 6 by 8 inches. This configuration would have been quite old-fashioned by ca. 1798, but the dimensions of the window openings attest to its use. Each sash would have measured about 26 inches wide by 24 inches high. In 1799, common sizes for lights were 6 by 8 inches, 7 by 9 inches, 8 by 10 inches, 9 by 11 inches, 10 by 12 inches, and 10 by 14 inches.[2] Again, given the generally vertical orientation of lights, the 12/12 configuration -- with 6- by 8-inch lights arranged four across by three down -- is the only one that conforms to the sashes' dimensions.

### Wall Covering

The original exterior wall covering for the wooden east and west walls of the ca.-1798 addition appears to have been clapboards. None of these clapboards has been found, nor were modern clapboards removed to find evidence in the sheathing of shingle or clapboard nailing patterns. However, a piece of wood bearing the paint outline of a row of clapboards (Ill. 34) was found to have been reused as infill above the fireplace in Room 204. This piece of wood appears to have been used first as an exterior trim board. It has been dated to the ca.-1798 work on the basis of two attributes. It was attached originally with wrought T-shaped nails, or brads. This is an early type of nail, but some of these were used in the ca.-1798 addition, in conjunction with later, machine-cut nails with handmade heads. Also, the piece bears one coat of white, lead-base paint (P292), as does the exterior casing of the northwest doorway. This casing has been dated to ca. 1798, as will be explained in the following section, "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section A, "Doorway and Window Styles -- Doorways." The outline of the clapboards found on the reused board indicates that they were hand-rived and approximately 4 inches wide. Paint evidence suggests that the clapboards, like the trim boards, were painted white.

The south, brick wall was painted during the exterior work of 1976-1979. Examination of the hardness of the bricks may indicate whether or not the wall was painted originally.

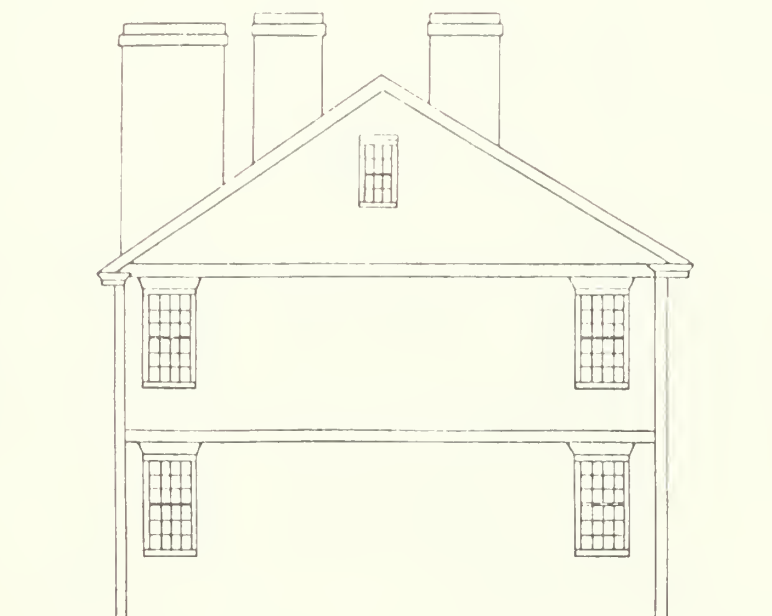
The design of all other ca.-1798 exterior wooden trim is unknown.

### Roof Covering

As with the roof of the ca.-1730 portion of the house, the roof covering of the ca.-1798 addition is thought to have been wooden shingles.



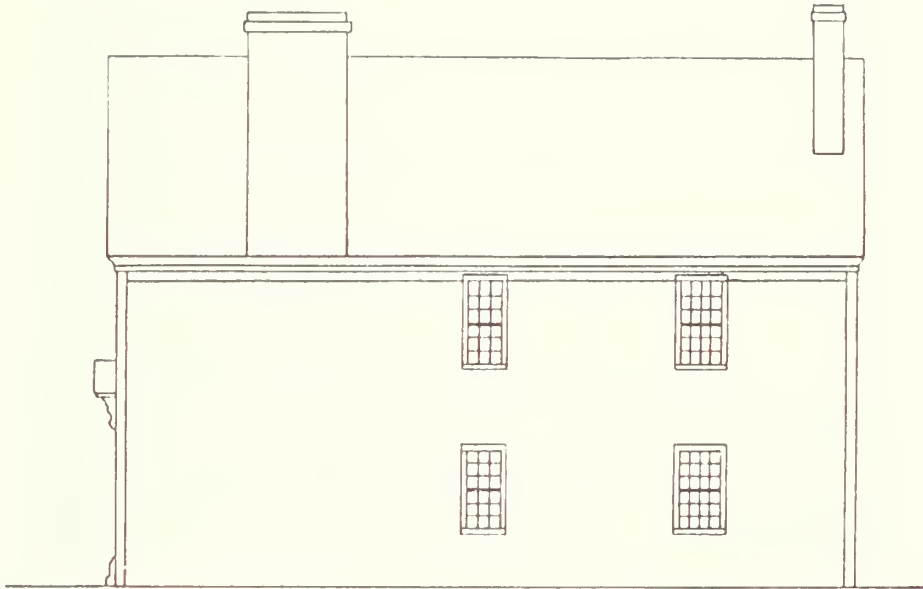
East Facade



South Facade

**Illustration 32.** Antram-Gray House: East and South Facades Circa 1798.





West Facade



North Facade





**Illustration 34.** Evidence, on Reused Board, of 1798 Clapboard Paint.



**Illustration 35.** Antram-Gray House: West-Wall Framing of First Story, Showing Adjacent Circa-1730 and Circa-1798 Corner Posts and End Girts.





## Chimneys

Two symmetrical, interior chimneys were located in the south wall of the house. It is probable that they were built in much the same form as they evince today. They sit, one on either side of the roof ridge, about 3 feet below the ridge; they extend up about 3 feet above the ridge. Each stack has a corbeled band near its top. This is the design seen in the earliest photographs of the house, and is the one depicted in the 1974 HABS drawings (see Appendix G, Sheets 3 and 4). It is possible that the two chimneys were substantially altered before 1959, but there is no proof of this.

### B. Framing

Like the original portion of the Antram-Gray House, the ca.-1798 addition is a plank-frame structure, with the exception of the south, brick wall. The frame of the ca.-1798 addition appears to have been erected next to, but not attached to, the frame of the existing ca.-1730 house. One possible explanation for this approach was that it allowed the exterior vertical-plank sheathing of the ca.-1730 house's south wall to be reused in place as interior partitions.

Illustration 35 shows the present house's west wall at the point where the earlier and later sections of the house meet at first-story level. Here are two parallel corner posts -- one for each section -- supporting the ends of two parallel end girts -- again, one for each section. The 3-inch gap between them is probably where the vertical sheathing was retained: fragments of it appear to remain, sticking down from between the parallel girts.

Illustration 36 documents the juncture of the two portions as it appears in the cellar. The ca.-1798 north sill runs alongside the ca.-1730 south sill. Any evidence for a masonry foundation wall beneath the ca.-1798 sill was lost when the house was moved. As will be explained in "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section B, "Interior Framing -- First Floor," it is thought that there was never such a wall, and this sill was supported instead on three brick piers.

## Exterior Framing

The timber frame of the ca.-1798 addition rests on a total of four ground sills, into which the four corner posts are tenoned and pinned. These posts do not have flared tops, as the ca.-1730 posts do. Also tenoned and pinned to the sills are two "prick posts," one each at about the midpoint of the north and south walls.[3] The ends of the south-wall sill are pinned to the southeast and southwest corner posts; the middle part of that sill is partially embedded in the brickwork protruding in from the south wall at this level, as part of the first-story fireplaces.

The second-story front, rear, and side girts are tenoned and pinned to the posts. The same is true of the front, rear, and side plates. The plates are roughly 7 inches square, and are interlocked with simple dovetail joints. The north and south side plates extend approximately 18 inches beyond the east, front-wall plate to form the east-facade overhang.

## Interior Framing

Except for minor alterations to the first floor, the interior framing for the ca.-1798 addition to the Antram-Gray House is intact.

First Floor. The 1974 HABS drawings do not depict the addition's first-floor framing, because it was covered by a plasterboard ceiling (see Appendix G, Sheet 2). Based on an examination of the extant framing members, the original framing system here closely resembled that of the addition's second floor (Ill. 21). A chimney girt ran east-west about 4 feet from the south wall. A north-south summer beam intersected the chimney girt a little to the west of the girt's midpoint. As will be explained shortly, the floor joists in this area also ran north-south. Thus, the chief role of the summer beam seems to have been to support the interior partition walls dividing Rooms 101 and 102, and 201 and 202.

Before the move of 1974, a wood-cased pier -- probably of brick -- supported the summer beam at a point about midway between the chimney girt and the addition's north-wall sill (see Illustration 20, left). It is thought that the pier was built at the time the addition was constructed, because other brick piers elsewhere in the house's cellar appear to have been built at that time (see "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section B, "Interior Framing -- First Floor"). The wooden casing around the pier probably was added later (see "CIRCA 1850-1974: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Walls and Ceilings").

Floor joists run north-south between the chimney girt and the north and south sills, and are spaced from 1 foot, 2 inches to 1 foot, 6-1/2 inches on center. The joists measure 3 inches by 6-1/2 inches, and are set into 3-inch pockets with butt cog joints. The fact that the joists run parallel to the summer beam here seems unusual. However, no evidence has yet been found to suggest that the joists originally ran east-west.

In the northeast corner of the first-floor framing is a framed but filled-in opening measuring 3 feet, 7 inches by 3 feet, 4 inches. It is not part of the original framing; its origin is unknown.

Second Floor. The second-floor framing (Ill. 21) is similar to that of the first floor. The north-south summer beam at this level appears to have its ends resting on the two prick posts mentioned in "Exterior Framing." The north-south floor joists are more evenly spaced -- approximately 1 foot, 5 inches on center.

Attic Floor. The chimney girt and the summer beam here resemble those members at the second-floor level (see Illustration 23). However, here the joists run in an east-west direction. The joists are the same size as those of the first and second floors; they are arranged from 1 foot, 4 inches to 1 foot, 6 inches on center.

## Roof Framing

The roof framing for the ca.-1798 addition consists of six principal rafters, each roughly 5 inches square (Ill. 20, right). The southernmost rafter rests on top of the south, brick wall. Rafters are spaced approximately 1 foot, 10 inches on center; they are bridle-jointed at their apex. Rafters are spiked, through the floorboards, to



**Illustration 36.** Antram-Gray House: First-Floor Framing, Showing Adjacent Circa-1730 and Circa-1798 Sills.



**Illustration 37.** Antram-Gray House: South Wall of Attic, East End, Showing Studs Embedded in Brickwork.





the east and west plates. Like the rafters in the ca.-1730 portion of the house, these rafters contain no purlin trenches. Nail patterns found on the top of the rafters indicate that the sheathing boards were nailed directly to the rafters.

### Wall Construction

Vertical sheathing boards, one story in height, are nailed to sills, girts, and plates to form the east and west exterior walls. These boards are secured with mostly early machine-cut nails (having handmade heads); some wrought nails also were used. These boards are thus thought to date to the construction of the addition ca. 1798.

Similar vertical boards form the north, interior wall that divides the addition from the ca.-1730 portion of the house. At the first- and second-story levels, these boards are the same planks that once formed the south, exterior wall of the ca.-1730 house. They were retained as an interior wall when the addition was built. At the attic level, however, the vertical boards of the north wall are not that old: they lack any pattern of shingle-nail holes on their south sides, and so must have been introduced ca. 1798, to replace the original vertical boards here.

The south wall of the addition at all three stories is of brick, so no vertical wall planks were needed. In the attic, studs embedded in the brick wall run from the plate to the pair of rafters above the plate. These lie flush with the inner surface of the wall (Ill. 37).

As stated in Section A, "Wall Covering," the clapboards of the east and west facades were nailed directly to the exterior surfaces of the facades' vertical wall planks. Lath and plaster were applied directly to the interior surfaces of these boards, and to the boards of the north, interior wall. The south brick wall was left exposed on the exterior. On the interior, furring strips were nailed to the sill, girts, and plate, and wooden lath was nailed to the strips to hold the finish plaster.

### C. Interior Plan

Illustrations 38-39 depict the probable layout of the first, second, and attic stories of the Antram-Gray House ca. 1798. Again, there is insufficient information to include the basement story.

#### First Story

The original first-story interior room plan for the ca.-1798 addition to the Antram-Gray House has been completely obliterated by later alterations to the space. However, the location of the fireplaces in the south wall suggests that the first-story plan was similar to the room plan of the second story, which is intact. As depicted in Illustration 38, it appears that the first story of the addition contained two rooms -- a larger east room and a slightly smaller west room -- each with a fireplace centered on its south wall. The east room undoubtedly had a doorway to the



southeast stairhall that was created during the ca.-1798 work (see "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways"). The east room also may have connected with the main room in the ca.-1730 section. The west room almost certainly would have connected with this older room, and probably connected with the addition's east room, as well.

### Second Story

Almost all aspects of the present second-story room plan for the ca.-1798 addition appear to date from the construction of that addition. This is based on the lack of evidence for later changes. As is thought to have been the case at first-story level, the larger east room (Room 201) connects with the southeast stairhall (Room 205) that was built ca. 1798 in the ca.-1730 section of the house. Room 201 also features doorways to the main room in the ca.-1730 section (Room 204), and to the adjacent west room of the addition. An original closet remains in the southwest corner of Room 201, next to the fireplace.

The west room of the addition (Room 202) connects not only with the east room, but also with the ca.-1730 main room. The present room plan also includes a doorway from Room 202 to Room 203, which is a stairhall in the southwest corner of the ca.-1730 section. However, neither the doorway nor the stairhall date to ca. 1798. The former probably was introduced when the latter was built, ca. 1850. Again, an original closet sits in the southeast corner of Room 202, next to the fireplace.

### Attic Story

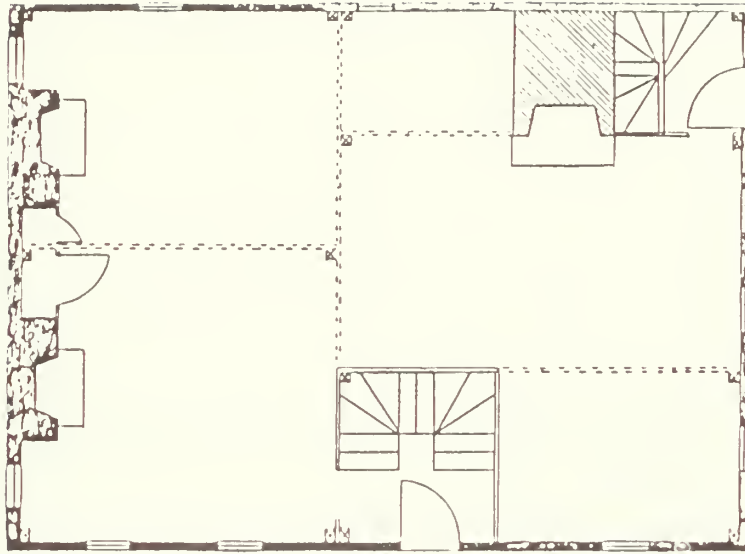
The plan of the attic story of the addition, as constructed ca. 1798, was probably one large, undivided space, separated from the attic of the ca.-1730 section of the house by a partition of vertical planks (Ill. 39). A small doorway with door in the center of this partition provided access to this part of the attic, from the ca.-1730 part. There was no attic stair in the addition itself.

As stated in "CIRCA 1850: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section C, "Attic Story," a finished room was created in this part of the attic during the ca.-1850 renovations. It is possible, but not probable, that the east and west walls of this room were roughed in when the addition was built.

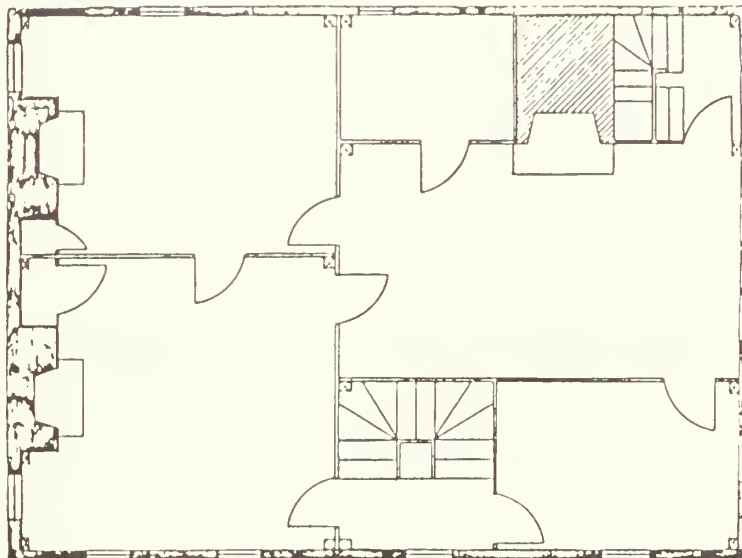
Sometime after the addition was built ca. 1798, but prior to ca. 1850, a finished room was created in the northeast corner of the attic of the ca.-1730 part of the house (see Illustration 39). As will be explained in "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section C, "Attic Story," it is thought that this work took place ca. 1830.

#### D. Interior Elements

As is the case in the ca.-1730 section of the Antram-Gray House, the first story of the addition retains very little of its original interior finishes. Fortunately, the second story of the addition retains nearly all of its original finishes.



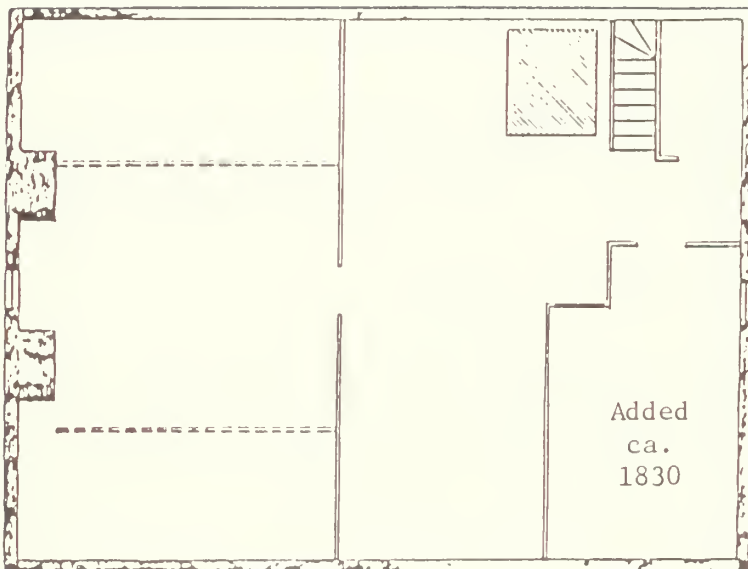
First-Story Plan



Second-Story Plan

**Illustration 38.** Antram-Gray House: First- and Second-Story Plans  
Circa 1798-Circa 1830.





**Illustration 39.** Antram-Gray House: Attic-  
Story Plan Circa 1798-Circa 1830.



## Walls and Ceilings

Plaster. No areas of ca.-1798 plaster have been found on the first floor of the addition. However, nearly all of the wall plaster in both second-story rooms (201 and 202) seems to date to ca. 1798. This plaster is grayish in color, and consists of two parts sand to one part lime (Type-III plaster). It is applied to hand-split lath that is somewhat thicker, wider, and more uniform than the hand-split lath from ca. 1730 (see Illustration 40). The date of the lath was determined from the fact that it is hand-split, and by the fact that it is attached with early machine-cut nails having handmade heads, and with some wrought nails (see Appendix C). This type of lath and plaster also was used for the ceilings in Rooms 201 and 202, judging by remaining fragments.

The finished room in the center of the attic of the ca.-1798 addition has plaster walls, but these are thought to have been introduced later (see "CIRCA 1850: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster").

Paint and Wallpaper. The plaster walls in Rooms 201 and 202 are unpainted, indicating that they have always been wallpapered. No fragments of early wallpaper have been found in these rooms. Fragments of plaster from the ceilings indicate that they were originally whitewashed.

## Floorboards and Baseboards

The present floorboards in Rooms 201 and 202 appear to be those installed ca. 1798. They measure approximately 1 inch thick by 8 to 10 inches wide, and are butt-joined. They are secured with early machine-cut nails, which have handmade heads, and so do not appear to have been relaid. (See Appendix C, Photograph 9.) The floorboards apparently were not painted originally.

The current baseboards in Rooms 201 and 202 likewise appear to date to ca. 1798. Each baseboard consists of two separate boards -- a taller one set flush against the wall, and a shorter one applied to the face of the taller one (Appendix D, Molding Type X). The top edges of the paired boards exhibit a quarter-round bead.

## Fireplaces

The only element of original wooden trim still in place at first-story level is the mantelpiece of the east south-wall fireplace (Ill. 41). This mantelpiece extends from floor to ceiling. Its upper part displays two raised panels, whose molded edges are formed by a quarter-round and bevel (Appendix D, Molding Type Q). The molded mantelshelf between the two panels, which rests on two cyma-recta brackets, appears to be a replacement. The firebox opening is edged by a complex molding featuring a fillet, a cyma recta, and a bead (Molding Type K). All traces of the ca.-1798 paint on this mantelpiece have been removed (P251, 252).



The fireplace mantelpiece in Room 201 resembles the one below it on the first story, but seems more intact (see Illustration 42 and Appendix G, Sheet 5). It also extends from floor to ceiling, and features two raised panels (Molding Type Q) separated by a molded mantelshelf. The profile of the mantelshelf and its bed molding (Molding Type L) is more consistent with a ca.-1798 date than that of the first-story mantel. The cornice of the mantelpiece exhibits a profile (Molding Type M) that resembles that of the mantelshelf's bed molding.

Paint analysis indicates that the first layer on most elements of the mantel is the green color found on other ca.-1798 woodwork in the room. The mantelshelf and its molded strip have one earlier layer -- the dark red paint (P058, 057) previously identified as an original color in the ca.-1730 part of the house. This suggests that the shelf and molding were part of a ca.-1730 mantel in the house, but were reused in the construction of one of the ca.-1798 mantels. The length of the shelf and molding style indicates that they came from Room 204. The time of the elements' reuse is less certain. The board to which they are nailed has green paint on it, beneath the mantelshelf and molding; this suggests that the shelf and molding were not part of the original mantel design, but were added shortly thereafter. Thus, any similarity between the mantel's cornice molding, and the mantelshelf's bed molding, is coincidental.

The firebox opening in the wooden mantelpiece measures 3 feet, 2 inches wide by 2 feet, 8 inches high. Its edges are beaded. At a distance of 4 inches from these edges, a complex molding composed of a torus, cavetto, and bead (Molding Type N) outlines the firebox. The area between the edges and the molding was originally painted black.

The firebox is 1 foot deep and has splayed sides. Originally it was lined with a natural-cement covering. Embedded in the east side, at heights of 1 foot, 4-1/2 inches and 2 feet, 7 inches are two wrought-iron bolts, most likely used to hold a crane.[4]

The present mantel in Room 202 probably dates to ca. 1820 (Ill. 43). It does not contain the first layer of green paint found on the other woodwork in this room (P047, 048). The moldings of the mantel (Molding Type O) are also elliptical in shape, rather than circular, further supporting a ca.-1820 date. The design of the ca.-1798 mantel is unknown, but it probably was similar to that of the mantel in Room 201.

The firebox opening in Room 202 measures 3 feet, 10 inches wide, 3 feet high, and 1 foot, 3 inches deep. The sides are splayed (Ill. 44). The surfaces of the firebox are covered with natural cement. Embedded in the east side, at heights of 1 foot, 4 inches and 2 feet, 7 inches, are two wrought-iron bolts. The hearth measures 2 feet by 1 foot, 10 inches, and is made of 4-inch square bricks, similar to those used for the fireplace hearth in Room 204. The hearth in Room 204 also has been dated to ca. 1820, as will be discussed shortly.



**Illustration 40.** Antram-Gray House: Type-III Lath and Plaster, Circa 1798, on West Wall of Room 202.



**Illustration 41.** Antram-Gray House: First-Story Fireplace at East End of South Wall (Formerly in Room 101).





**Illustration 42.** Antram-Gray House:  
Fireplace in Room 201.



**Illustration 43.** Antram-Gray House: Fireplace in  
Room 202.







**Illustration 44.** Antram-Gray House: Fireplace in Room 202, East Side of Firebox, Showing Natural-Cement Targeting.



**Illustration 45.** Antram-Gray House: Door 204, South Side, Showing Paint Evidence of Missing Rim Lock.





## Doorways

No clue remains as to the appearance of the ca.-1798 doorways or doors of the first story. Doorways from that date on the second story suggest: 1) that the doorway casings in the original first-story east room would have been more elaborate than those in the original first-story west room; but 2) that their doors would have been the same.

Most of the doorways in Rooms 201 and 202 have been dated to ca. 1798, based on paint analysis and molding styles. These original doorways are D204, D205, D206, D207, D208, and D209. (Doorway 210 dates to ca. 1850, as was explained in Section C, "Second Story.") The trim of doorways D204, D205, D206, and D207 -- within Room 201 -- has beaded inner edges, and includes two fasciae and a fillet joined by cyma recta moldings (see Appendix D, Molding Type A). The trim of doorways D208 and D209 -- within Room 202 -- is simpler: it features the beaded inner edge, but has only one fascia and a fillet joined by a cyma recta molding (Molding Type B).

The doors in five of the six original second-story doorways are alike. Doors 204, 205, 206, 207, and 208 have four raised panels, whose edges are beaded and beveled (see Appendix D, Molding Type Q). This is the same type of molding found on the edges of the panels of the mantel in Room 201. Door 209 -- Room 202's closet door -- features the same type of moldings, but has only two panels (see Appendix G, Sheet 5). All of the doors are hung with HL hinges: the "H" part is approximately 7-3/8 inches long, while the arm of the "L" measures 6 inches. Each vertical piece of the "H" contains five screws, while the arm of the "L" has three screws. (The screw in the corner where the "H" meets the arm of the "L" was counted for both pieces' total.) Evidence for rim locks measuring 4 by 6 inches (Ill. 45) is found on all of the ca.-1798 doors, except closet doors 205 and 209. All of these rim locks have been removed. In most cases, this action exposed bare wood. On several doors, the areas from which the locks were removed have been covered over with later locks or metal plates. There is bare wood beneath these, though. The bare wood suggests that the rim locks were part of the doors' original hardware, put on before the doors were painted for the first time.

## Windows

Few examples remain of the window trim used when the addition was constructed ca. 1798. At first-story level, all of the original windows have been lost, along with their trim. At second-story level, the addition retains its original window openings, but the trim pieces around those openings on the east and west walls are later replacements. (Ca.-1798 plaster is intact around this trim, but the trim itself is modern stock, unmolded and attached with wire nails.) The original trim does appear to survive around the two south-wall windows at second-story level. These are windows W205, in Room 201, and W206, in Room 202.

The molding of W205's trim is composed of an outer fillet and two fasciae connected with cyma recta moldings; its inner edge is beaded (see Appendix D, Molding Type H). The window sill consists of a composite molding made up of a torus, cyma recta, and bead; the bottom edge of the sill is beaded (Molding Type J). The molding of W206's trim, in Room 202, has an outer fillet and one fascia joined by

a cyma recta; its edge is beaded also (Molding Type I). This window's sill molding is the same as that used for W205 in Room 201. All of the ca.-1798 sash has been replaced, so the addition's original muntin profile is unknown.

Based on this information, it is assumed that: 1) the trim of the east and west windows in each second-story room was the same as the trim of the south-wall window in that room; and 2) the trim of the windows on the first story of the addition would have been more elaborate in the east, front room than in the west, rear room.

#### Corner Posts

The corner posts in Rooms 201 and 202 are cased; the casings feature beaded outer edges. Paint lines on the plaster walls, and irregularities and nail holes in the plaster wall surfaces, indicate that Room 202 originally had a chair rail. The chair rail was located at a height of 2 feet, 8 inches, and was approximately 4 inches wide. No evidence has been found to indicate that there was ever a chair rail in Room 201.

#### Woodwork Paint

There is no indication as to the paint colors used originally on the woodwork of the ca.-1798 addition at first-story level. Most of the woodwork of both second-story rooms was painted green. The green used in Room 201 was matched to no. 10 Y 7/2 of the Munsell color notation system. This color was used on all woodwork, with two exceptions: the part of the mantelpiece right around the firebox opening, which was painted black, and the floor. The green paint used on all woodwork except the floor in Room 202 was matched to Munsell no. 2.5 GY 6/2. The original mantelpiece in this room is gone, but it probably bore black paint in the area right around the firebox opening, as was the case in Room 201.

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#### NOTES

1. Lee H. Nelson, Nail Chronology.
2. Charles E. Peterson, ed., Building Early America, p. 157.
3. Abbott L. Cummings, The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, p. 53.
4. The presence of such wrought-iron bolts -- presumably used to hold cranes -- in all second-floor rooms ca. 1798 strongly suggests that these rooms were in use as boarding rooms by this time.

CIRCA 1798:  
ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE

The construction of the large addition on the south side of the Antram-Gray House ca. 1798 was accompanied by numerous alterations made to the original, ca.-1730 portion of the house. Some of these alterations appear to have been necessitated by the building of the addition, while others seem to have been made by choice. Several additional changes were made to this portion of the house in the first half of the 19th century, as well. For the purposes of this report, all of the alterations that occurred ca. 1798 and thereafter, up to the next major remodeling campaign ca. 1850, are covered here.

A. Exterior Elements

The alterations made ca. 1798 to the exterior of the ca.-1730 portion of the Antram-Gray House appear minor when examined individually. However, when viewed cumulatively and in relation to the construction of the ca.-1798 addition, they changed dramatically the exterior appearance of the house.

East Facade

The ca.-1730 doorway opening at the south end of the first floor probably received, during this remodeling, an enframement similar to the one installed then on the north-elevation doorway, which is still extant (see "North Facade").

It seems likely that all three windows on the ca.-1730 east facade were altered in size ca. 1798 to match the size of the windows used in the addition. The present window openings on the second story date to that work, based on evidence found in the rooms in which they are located (see Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster"). They are the same size as the original window openings in the ca.-1798 addition. To achieve this uniformity, the typically small ca.-1730 south window opening was enlarged. This opening also was moved approximately 8 inches to the south, to center it in the east wall of Room 205. Again, plaster evidence in Room 205 is the basis for dating this work to ca. 1798. The oversized ca.-1730 north opening -- perhaps formerly a loading door for the shop -- was reduced in size. No trace remains of the ca.-1730 window opening at the north end of the first floor. Presumably, it also was a typically small window that was enlarged.

North Facade

The ca.-1730 doorway opening at the west end of this facade was retained during the ca.-1798 remodeling, and given new trim (see "Doorway and Window Styles," below). All evidence for alterations made to the three first-story windows



has been lost. Judging by what was done ca. 1798 to this facade's second-story windows, those on the first story were enlarged at that time, to match the addition's windows. Plaster evidence on interior walls indicates that none of the four second-story windows was moved ca. 1798. Three of these windows were enlarged, however, to the same size as the addition's windows. (This is the size of these windows today.) The fourth second-story window -- at the west end of the north facade -- was not enlarged from its ca.-1730 size, and so probably escaped alteration ca. 1798. The gable window does not appear to have been enlarged, either.

### West Facade

The 1-1/2 story ell on this facade probably was removed during the ca.-1798 remodeling. Originally, the ell could have been reached from the main house by a doorway, in the west wall of the house, either south or north of the original chimney. As stated earlier, the original chimney was rebuilt farther south at some point, which would have closed up any south doorway to the ell. Plaster evidence inside the house (see Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster") indicates that the chimney change occurred ca. 1798. Circa-1798 plaster also is found on the west wall north of the rebuilt chimney, covering over the location of any north doorway to the ell. Thus, there was no way of reaching the ell from the main house after ca. 1798.

It is unlikely that the fenestration of the west, rear facade was changed ca. 1798. All trace of the first-story window has been obliterated, but the second-story window above it retains both its ca.-1730 location and size. This suggests that the room served by it -- a small bedroom next to the chimney -- was too unimportant to merit window enlargement. The first-story window would have served a similar space. It therefore probably was not altered ca. 1798, either.

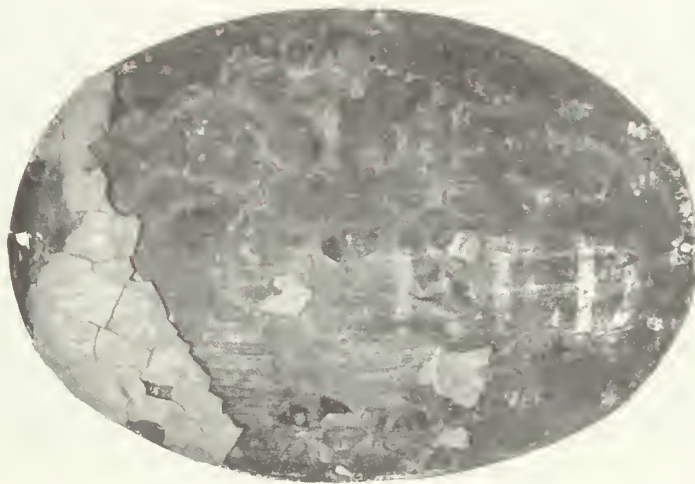
### Doorway and Window Styles

Doorways. The ca.-1730 doorway opening at the west end of the north facade received an elaborate new frontispiece during the ca.-1798 remodeling. This is known because the element remains in place today (Ill. 46), making it the oldest surviving exterior architectural feature found on the Antram-Gray House. (The present door is a replacement.) Evidence for the ca.-1798 origin of the frontispiece includes its style, which incorporates a triangular pediment supported by fluted Doric pilasters.[1] The wrought nails used in its construction also attest to the age of the feature. Finally, there is an oval metal insurance marker located in the center of the pediment of the frontispiece (Ill. 47). Painted on the marker are the words "No. 134 - Insured." There is one layer of paint under this marker, indicating it was put up soon after the frontispiece was installed. Since the first insurance company in Providence -- the Providence Insurance Company -- was opened in January of 1799, it seems likely that the marker was installed ca. 1800.[2]

Paint samples taken from this frontispiece contain a full sequence of paint colors dating from ca. 1798 (see samples P226, 271). These samples are the best evidence that remains for the early exterior paint colors of the Antram-Gray House. They indicate that ca. 1798, the wooden trim on the house was painted white.



**Illustration 46.** Antram-Gray House: North Facade,  
Showing Circa-1798 Doorway Frontispiece.



**Illustration 47.** Insurance Marker from Circa-1798  
Doorway Frontispiece.





As was mentioned in "East Facade," it is probable that a similar surround also was installed on the ca.-1730 east-facade doorway at this time.

Windows. Most of the narrow window openings in the ca.-1730 part of the house apparently were widened ca. 1798, from about 21 inches to about 26 inches, to match the size of the window openings in the addition. (As mentioned in "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section A, "Doorway and Window Styles -- Windows," the openings of Windows 208 and 209 escaped being widened.) Since the enlarged window openings were the same size as those of the addition, it is likely that they received new sash of the same type used on the addition -- 12/12, sliding sash with 6- by 8-inch lights.

#### Wall Covering

A paint outline of clapboards on a piece of reused wood found above the fireplace in Room 204 (Ill. 34) suggests that the original wooden shingles were removed from the walls of the ca.-1730 house and replaced with clapboards ca. 1798. Paint found on this piece of wood indicates that the clapboards were painted white.

#### Roof Covering

The wooden roof shingles probably were replaced at this time, as well: the installation of new clapboards and roof shingles would have been necessary to join the two parts of the house so that water could not penetrate between them.

#### Chimney

The framing evidence is clear that the brick ca.-1730 chimney stack was taken down at some early date, and that a new chimney was built approximately 1 foot, 4 inches south of the earlier chimney's location. (See "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section B, "Interior Framing -- Attic Floor.") The dimensions of the new chimney appear to have been 5 feet deep by 4 feet, 6 inches wide. The interior part of this chimney remains within the present Antram-Gray House, but the portion above the roof may have been rebuilt, so its original appearance is unknown.

That the rebuilding of the chimney occurred ca. 1798, is confirmed by plaster evidence at both first- and second-story levels (see Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster").

The reasons for rebuilding the chimney are unclear. One can only assume that they related to the benefits obtained by the work. As stated in Section D, below, these benefits were two-fold. A "modern" cooking fireplace was installed in Room 104, and the tiny original northwest stairhall -- which apparently was only 2 feet, 4 inches deep -- was enlarged. (See also Section C, "First Story.")

## B. Framing

### Exterior Framing

The main exterior framing change that was made to the ca.-1730 house during the ca.-1798 remodeling was the demolition of the original, west-facade ell. There is also a strong possibility that the southeast corner post of the original house was replaced with a new post at this time. The southwest, northwest, and northeast corner posts of this section of the house have flared tops, but the southeast one does not. Since it is adjacent to the ca.-1798 addition, it may have been introduced then, as a replacement.

### Interior Framing

First Floor. As depicted in Illustration 36, the south foundation wall of the ca.-1730 house was removed at some time. The purpose of this action probably was to combine the ca.-1730 cellar with that of the ca.-1798 addition, to create one large room. It is likely that this work took place when the ca.-1798 addition was built. The reason for believing this is that, after the removal of the wall from beneath the north sill, this sill was supported on the three brick piers that also supported the adjacent, south sill of the addition. There is no indication that the south sill ever had a foundation wall beneath it. Thus, the piers probably date to ca. 1798 -- which suggests that the wall beneath the north sill was removed at that time, as well.

Before the move of 1974, there were two other, similar brick piers in the cellar of the ca.-1730 house. One was located under the east end of the summer beam here, at the point where it framed into the midpoint of the east interior girt. (See "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section B, "Interior Framing -- First Floor.") The other pier was located under the west end of the summer beam, which stops short of the west, chimney girt. Since at least three of the brick piers appear to date to ca. 1798, it is possible that the two piers under the ends of the summer beam also were introduced then. This suggests that the west end of the beam was cut off when the adjacent, northwest chimney was rebuilt ca. 1798.

The rebuilding of the northwest chimney caused changes to be made to the first-floor joists in this area, as well. The floor framing itself was not visible for study during the preparation of this report. However, a look at the easily accessible attic-floor framing conveys a good idea of what happened ca. 1798 at the first-floor level. The original chimney stack was flanked by two east-west floor joists. The one on the north side of the chimney undoubtedly helped support the original northwest stair. When the chimney was rebuilt farther south, the two joists flanking it had to be removed, as well as the next joist southward. Two new joists had to be installed, one on either side of the new chimney stack.

The moving of the chimney enlarged the amount of space available to the small northwest stair. Minor framing changes were made to widen it, and to extend it up to the attic, and down to the basement. Presumably, some first-floor joists in Room 106 had to be removed, to make a stairwell for the new basement stair.

Second Floor. As with that of the first floor, the second-floor framing was not visible for study during the preparation of this report. It can be assumed that the rebuilding of the chimney farther south in the west bay caused the same type of changes to be made to this floor as were made to the first and attic floors. Namely, the two east-west joists flanking the original chimney were removed, as well as the next joist southward. Two new east-west joists were installed, flanking the new chimney.

Also as happened at first-floor level, the northwest stair was enlarged and rebuilt up against the north side of the new chimney. Presumably, no second-floor joists except those flanking the chimney had to be removed to accomplish this.

The framing of the second floor was changed most ca. 1798, however, by the construction of the southeast stair. The southeast stair appears to have been added to provide easy access to the second story of the ca.-1798 addition, which lacks any evidence of having had a stair of its own. To accommodate the run of the new stair from the first to the second stories, three second-floor joists were removed (see Illustration 21). A fourth, more northerly joist was removed and replaced with a trimming joist measuring 5 inches square. At a distance of about 3 feet, 4 inches from the east wall, a north-south header was inserted. The ends of this header are not set into pockets; instead, they are spiked to the south wall's second-floor girt, and to the trimming joist. The area west of the north-south header was left open for the stairwell. This space was made a little larger by carving away roughly half of the south wall's second-floor girt in this area (see Illustrations 21, 48). The area east of the north-south header was infilled with three short, east-west joists. These ran between, and were spiked to, the header and the east wall's second-floor girt; they supported the ca.-1798 stair landing. No evidence has been found in the attic or first-floor framing that this stair ever extended up to the attic or down to the basement.

The stair itself is described in Section D, below.

Attic Floor. The attic floor contains the clearest evidence of the framing changes made when the chimney was moved 1 foot, 4 inches farther south in the west bay of the original house. Examination of the area around the present chimney reveals that two of the east-west floor joists in this bay -- numbers IV and V -- were removed at this time (see Illustrations 23, 49). Two new joists were introduced, one on either side of the new chimney stack. The southern one was located between the pockets of the two removed joists, while the northern one was approximately 4 feet, 6 inches farther northward. The two new joists were attached to the west-wall girt, and to the west interior girt, with half-dovetail joints.

In addition to changes in the floor framing, the center roof rafter of the west roof slope had to be removed in order to move the chimney (Ill. 20, right). The center roof rafter of the east slope remains in its original location, with an empty mortise and pin at its apex. A principal purlin also was inserted into the second and fourth roof rafters from the south, to frame the new chimney opening. This purlin has since been removed, but its pockets are still visible in the rafters.



The attic floor also contains the clearest evidence of the enlargement and extension of the northwest stair ca. 1798 (Ill. 23). When the chimney was shifted southward, the old unnumbered joist that had abutted the north side of the old chimney was in the way of the new attic stair. It thus was removed, leaving the pair of empty pockets visible today. Two new joists were installed, one on either side of the pockets. One was located 5-1/2 inches north of the new joist, next to the new chimney. The other was installed approximately 2 feet, 9 inches farther north. The new attic stair was built between these two new joists.

The attic stair itself is described in Section D, below.

### C. Interior Plan

The primary changes made ca. 1798 to the floor plan of the original house were the removal of the west ell; the relocation/rebuilding of the chimney, and the subsequent enlargement of the northwest stair; and the introduction of the southeast stair.

#### First Story

As indicated in Section A, "West Facade," it is thought that the original ell appended to the west facade of the Antram-Gray House was removed ca. 1798. In Section A, "Chimney," it was noted that the ca.-1798 rebuilding of the chimney included the creation of a cooking fireplace in Room 104, and the enlargement of the northwest stairhall. It is tempting to think that the ell contained the original kitchen, considering the cramped living conditions inside the ca.-1730 main house stemming from the presence of the shop there. If this were the case, the demolition of the ell may have required the rebuilding of the chimney, to gain a new cooking fireplace inside the main house. (The contemporaneous construction of the addition would have alleviated the earlier space problem.) It is unlikely that the chimney was rebuilt solely to enlarge the northwest stairhall, since an entirely new, southeast stair was built at that time. It is likely that the southward shift in location of the new chimney was due to the desire to expand the northwest stairhall, however: there are indications that the Antram-Gray House began to be used as a boarding house ca. 1798. (See "CIRCA 1798: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ADDITION," Note 4.)

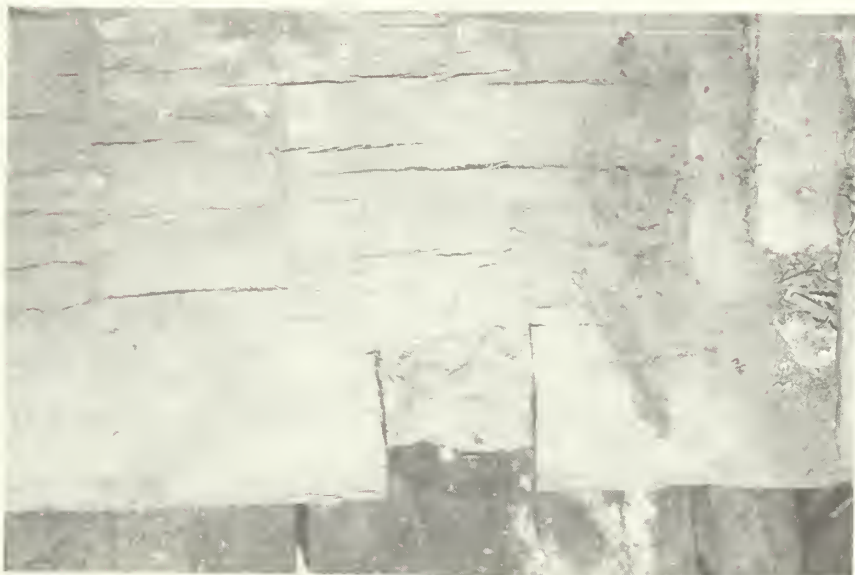
Moving the chimney 1 foot, 4 inches farther south meant that the north wall of Room 103 also had to be moved southward. All evidence for the moving of this wall was obliterated when the southwest stair was built here ca. 1850. It is assumed that the wall was moved only as far south as necessary to accommodate the chimney, but this cannot be stated positively.

An addition to the first-story plan ca. 1798 was a stair down to the cellar. Plaster evidence makes it clear that this was constructed as an extension of the northwest stair, which also was widened at that time.

Another ca.-1798 addition to the first-floor story was a stair built in the southeast corner of the original house, in Rooms 105 and 205. This seems to have been required for access to the second-story rooms of the addition, which had no



**Illustration 48.** Antram-Gray House: First-Floor Framing, Showing Circa-1730 South Girt Cut Out for Southeast Stair.



**Illustration 49.** Antram-Gray House: Framing Evidence of Southward Shift of Northwest Stair.





stair of its own. To reduce Room 105 to stairhall size, the ca.-1730 wall between Rooms 105 and 107 was removed, and replaced with a new wall located approximately 2 feet farther south. Evidence found beneath a baseboard in Room 205 indicates that the new wall built between Rooms 105 and 107 extended up to divide Rooms 205 and 207, as well.

The actual stair, which has since been removed, was U-shaped. It ascended first the south wall, then the west wall, and finally the north wall of Room 105 (see Illustration 38). This stair is described more fully in Section D, below.

### Second Story

The shifting of the northwest chimney farther south caused the north wall of Room 203, like that of Room 103, to be moved southward. All evidence of the exact distance of the move was lost when the southwest stair was built here ca. 1850.

An addition to the second-story plan ca. 1798 was the construction of a stair up to the attic. This was built as an extension of the northwest stair, which also was widened at that time.

The second-story plan also was affected ca. 1798 by the construction of the new stair in the southeast corner of the original house, in Rooms 105 and 205. To reduce Room 205 to stairhall size, the ca.-1730 wall between Rooms 205 and 207 was removed, and replaced with a new wall located approximately 2 feet farther south. As stated previously, this wall extended up from the first-story level.

### Attic Story

No change was made to the floor plan of the attic above the original house during the ca.-1798 remodeling. However, it appears that the northeast attic room was created ca. 1830 (Ill. 39). Evidence for this is cited below, in Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster."

## D. Interior Elements

### Walls and Ceilings

Plaster. The plaster used for the ca.-1798 alterations is Type-III plaster (see Appendix B). This is a gray, one-coat plaster composed of approximately two parts sand to one part lime. It is keyed to hand-split lath that is wider, thicker, and more uniform than the hand-split lath used ca. 1730. The lath is nailed to the vertical planks of the house walls with wrought, and early machine-cut, nails.

The age of this type of plaster was determined to be ca. 1798, based on its composition, the nature of its lath, and the type of nail used with the lath. Thus, patches of it in the ca.-1730 portion of the house indicate areas of alterations made ca. 1798.

For example, Type-III plaster is found on the west walls of Rooms 106 and 206 (the northwest stairhall), and around the west-wall fireplace in Room 204. This indicates that the rebuilding of the chimney -- and probably the removal of the west-facade ell -- took place ca. 1798 (see Section A, "West Facade"). The predominance of Type-III plaster on the walls and ceilings of Rooms 106 and 206 affirm that the northwest stairhall was enlarged at the same time that the chimney was rebuilt.

Plaster is also the best evidence for assuming that the northwest stair was not only widened ca. 1798, but also extended down into the basement. A large patch of Type-IV plaster on machine-sawn lath (M016, 018) exists within the Type-III plaster of the west half of the south wall of Room 106, below the stair to the second floor. This patch marks the location of the ca.-1798 doorway to the basement stair. Thus, the stair must have been U-shaped, descending first southward, then westward along the north side of the chimney foundation, then northward along the west foundation wall. The north side of the chimney is finished with Type-III plaster (M015) that was whitewashed and later painted yellow. Remains of this treatment are found on the west foundation wall, as well. Overhead, parallel to the north wall of the chimney foundation, the underside of the stair to the second floor also is finished with Type-III plaster, recalling the ceiling of the ca.-1798 basement stairwell.

In the same way, plaster evidence indicates that the northwest stair also was extended up to the attic ca. 1798. Type-III plaster on hand-split lath remains on the west wall and lower half of the south wall within the present attic-stair enclosure. It is painted yellow; the same color can be found on the vertical planks forming the north wall of the stair enclosure (P157, 160), although most of this wall was later covered with lath and plaster.

Finally, the presence of Type-III plaster and its lath on the west and north (M030) walls of Room 205, and the west and south (M034) walls of Room 207, attests to the construction ca. 1798 of the now-lost southeast stair. (As mentioned in CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Walls and Ceilings," the west walls of Rooms 205 and 207 originally had only whitewash as a finish on the vertical planks forming those walls. Apparently a finer finish was desired by ca. 1798, and the two walls were plastered.)

Other, smaller areas of Type-III plaster mark areas where ca.-1730 doorways and windows were moved or closed up. Patches of this plaster on the south walls of Rooms 204 and 205 indicate where original windows were covered over by the ca.-1798 addition. More of this plaster on the east wall of Room 205 indicates the date and extent of the southward shift of the window here. A complete listing of locations of Type-III plaster is contained in Appendix B.

A plaster having a mix similar to that of the Type-III plaster is found on the walls of the northeast attic room. However, this plaster is keyed to accordion lath (Ill. 50), which is nailed to the vertical-plank walls of the house with cut nails having machine-made heads. The lath type and nail configuration are too late for ca. 1798; they suggest that this attic room was not finished off until ca. 1830.

Paint and Wallpaper. It appears that whitewash was applied to the plaster walls of the less-important rooms during the ca.-1798 remodeling of the original house, but that wallpaper was used in the more important rooms.



**Illustration 50.** Antram-Gray House: Accordion Lath and Plaster, Circa 1830, on South Wall of Northeast Attic Room.



**Illustration 51.** Antram-Gray House: Plaster and Wallpaper, Circa 1798, Uncovered on North Reveal of Fireplace in Room 204.





The areas of Type-III plaster in Rooms 106 and 206, and Room 203 -- which ca. 1798 were the northwest stairhall and a small bedroom, respectively -- have a first layer of whitewash. All areas of Type-III wall plaster are gone from Room 103, so it is not known how the walls of this small room were treated ca. 1798.

The areas of Type-III wall plaster in the three major second-story rooms do not have early paint layers on them. This indicates that wallpaper was used here, instead of paint.

In Room 204, a red geometric-striped wallpaper (see Appendix F, WP001) was used. A piece of this paper was found next to the ca.-1798 fireplace (see Illustration 51), which had been covered over by later brickwork installed to enlarge the firebox (see "Fireplaces," below). The presence of this paper over the chair-rail nailer in this room indicates that the chair rail was removed during the ca.-1798 remodeling.

The walls in Room 205 -- the southeast stairhall -- were covered with a handsome blue, black, and white classical wallpaper (WP012), which was hung with a red, blue, and black swag border. This wallpaper was found alone under the north baseboard in Room 205, and as the bottom layer of wallpaper on all of the walls of this room. (The areas of this wallpaper on the north wall are nearly complete.) As would be expected, it covers the Type-III plaster patch resulting from the southward shift of the east-wall window in this room. Fragments of this wallpaper found under the north-wall baseboard indicate that this wallpaper also was used in the Room 105, the first-floor portion of the stairhall.

The ca.-1798 wallpaper in Room 207 has a red striped floral design, printed on a blue ground (WP017). This wallpaper was found alone under later floorboards and baseboards, and on the walls under two layers of later wallpaper.

All three ca.-1798 wallpapers (WP001, 012, and 017) consist of handmade, rag paper that was block-printed.

It is unclear as to whether wallpaper was used ca. 1798 in the main rooms on the first floor. Wallpaper probably would have been used in Room 104, which was a living area, but probably would not have been used in Room 107, which presumably was a commercial area.

During the period ca. 1798 to ca. 1850, several additional wallpapers were hung in the second-story rooms. These wallpapers are thought to predate 1850, because they were covered over by alterations made to the house during the middle of the 19th century. As mentioned earlier, they are described here -- in conjunction with the ca.-1798 finishes -- because their use in the Antram-Gray House preceded the next major phase of alterations.

In Room 203, the use of paint instead of wallpaper persisted for some time after ca. 1798: several layers of whitewash and a gray calcimine were applied to the plaster walls between ca. 1798 and ca. 1830. Around 1830-40, a wallpaper with a blue and black floral design on a white ground was hung in this room (WP020). Unlike the earlier wallpapers hung in the Antram-Gray House, this is a machine-made paper. However, its design was still block printed.



Room 204 saw four additional wallpapers applied over its ca.-1798 paper prior to ca. 1850. These four wallpapers were found above the ca.-1798 fireplace -- an area that was originally recessed but later covered over with sawn lath and plaster that protected the wallpapers. All four of these wallpapers are handmade, rag papers with block-printed designs. The earliest (WP002), dated ca. 1810, has its design printed with a dark gray paint onto a light gray ground. Portions of the design are shaded with a pinpoint motif. The second layer of wallpaper in this group has a floral design (WP003). The ground of the paper is light gray; the flowers are outlined with a darker gray color, and are highlighted with white and yellow. The third wallpaper (WP004) has a striking floral design. The ground for the paper is a rich royal blue; the flowers and leaves are gold and canary yellow. An undulating gold line forms the background design for this wallpaper. The fourth wallpaper (WP005) has a bold geometric design, consisting primarily of circular shapes. It has a blue ground; the design is printed in darker shades of blue, red, and white.

In Room 105/205, the Classical Revival paper with its swag border hung from ca. 1798 until ca. 1850, when the southeast stair was closed up. This statement is based upon the absence of any later wallpaper covering pieces of this wallpaper and border remaining under the floorboards and baseboards that were installed when the stairwell was filled in.

The walls of Room 106/206 continued to be whitewashed up until about ca. 1820-30, when a curvilinear green and yellow wallpaper was hung (WP023). It is a machine-made wallpaper with a block-printed design. Samples of this wallpaper were found under the later wainscoting on the north wall of Room 106, the lower part of the northwest stairhall. Another sample was found at the top of the stair to the second story, on the east wall. This wallpaper was not used in the attic-stair enclosure.

In Room 207, two additional wallpapers were hung prior to ca. 1850. They were found under the floorboards and baseboards that were installed as part of the 1850 renovations. The first wallpaper (WP018) is a handmade paper with a block-printed design. The ground color of this paper is yellow. The pattern is printed in gray and red, and consists of three vertical sections each containing a vermiculate design. Each section uses a different combination of the gray and red to create the design. The shading for the design is again done with pinpoints. The second wallpaper (WP019) is the blue and black floral paper that hung in Room 203. In both rooms, this wallpaper was hanging ca. 1850, and significant pieces of it were covered over by the alterations made at that time.

The attic saw the northeast room framed in and plastered ca. 1830. It is thought that a striped wallpaper with large circular motifs was hung at that time on the west side of the west wall of the northeast room, facing the attic stair. The paper is attached directly to the vertical planks of the wall; although badly deteriorated, it is still intact. The ground color is white; the design is printed in red and black.

## Floors and Baseboards

The ca.-1730 floorboards in Rooms 103, 104, 203, and 204 probably remained intact during the remodeling of ca. 1798. The ca.-1730 floorboards in Rooms 106 and 206 -- the northwest stairhall -- would have required replacement when that stair was enlarged. The floor in Room 106 is now covered with plywood, but it is thought that the ca.-1798 floorboards remain in place below the plywood. The ca.-1798 floorboards are both extant and visible in Room 206. They are butt-joined, 8 to 10 inches wide, and secured with early machine-cut nails. The ca.-1730 floorboards in Rooms 105, 107, 205, and 207 also were altered ca. 1798, due to the creation of the southeast stair. Judging by the flooring still present at second-story level, the ca.-1798 remodeling saw: 1) the removal of ca.-1730 floorboards from the west halves of Rooms 105 and 205, for the southeast stairwell; and 2) the installation of new floors in Rooms 107 and 207, which were enlarged when the southeast stair was built.

The bottom layer of paint on the ca.-1798 floorboards of Room 207 is a blue color that matches the paint used on the woodwork in that room ca. 1798. Thus, it appears as if this floor was painted after its installation. It is not known if any other floors were painted then.

It is unlikely that wooden baseboards were installed ca. 1798 in the rooms of the ca.-1730 portion of the house, even though they were used in the rooms of the addition built at that time. As stated in "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Floors and Baseboards," these rooms originally had no baseboard whatsoever, but later at least one room (Room 204) received a band of black paint simulating a baseboard. Flooring changes were made ca. 1798 in Rooms 106 and 206, and it would seem that baseboards would have been installed here at that time, if they were being installed anywhere. However, the ca.-1798 floor still extant in Room 206 today has a ca.-1850 wooden baseboard (see "CIRCA 1850: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Floors and Baseboards"). Also, ca.-1798 wallpapers were found under the existing baseboards in Rooms 204, 205, and 207. Thus, it would appear that the installation of wooden baseboards in the ca.-1730 portion of the house did not occur until after ca. 1798.

## Fireplaces

The rebuilding of the chimney ca. 1798 meant that Rooms 104 and 204 had new fireplaces built on their west walls. Very little remains of these fireplaces today. As will be described later, the fireplace in Room 104 had its mantel removed, and was plastered over, ca. 1850. The ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 204 was enlarged and fitted with a new mantel ca. 1820, and then closed up ca. 1850. Some information was gleaned about the two fireplaces, however, during National Park Service investigations in 1977 and 1980.

The building of the ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 104 probably involved the installation of a new mantel: it was a cooking fireplace, and would have required a larger mantel than was on the ca.-1730 fireplace here. No trace remains today of any mantel. The firebox and bake oven were uncovered, photographed (Ill. 52), and then reclosed during the renovations of 1976-79. There is no indication that the recessed treatment of the ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 204 (Ill. 53) was used in Room 104.

The fireplace constructed ca. 1798 in Room 204 was recessed into the west wall of that room (see Illustration 53). This design may have resulted from the need to fit a new chimney into an existing space. A new mantel probably was introduced at that time, since part of the ca.-1730 mantel here apparently was reused in Room 201. Again, no trace remains of the ca.-1798 mantel. Marks remaining inside the enlarged firebox indicate that the ca.-1798 firebox had splayed sides; was 29 inches wide at the back, and 35 inches wide at the front; and was 31 inches high. The firebox appears to have been 12 inches deep. One layer of bricks has been applied to the rear wall of the firebox, making it seem as if the ca.-1798 firebox was only 9 inches deep. However, these bricks are not tied into the splayed sides of the firebox, and so appear to have been added later, probably ca. 1820 (see below).

As mentioned, the ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 204 was remodeled ca. 1820. This work involved the enlargement of the firebox, the laying of a new hearth, and the installation of a new mantel, which is seen in Illustration 54. The date of ca. 1820 has been assigned to this alteration, on the basis of two one-cent coins found in the mortar into which several bricks of the new hearth were set. These coins were set on edge, indicating that they were placed there deliberately. Their dates are 1803 and 1818, so the date of ca. 1820 seems appropriate.

The firebox was enlarged chiefly by extending its splayed sides forward, until they were flush with the plane of the main wall. This would have made the firebox too deep to be effective, so one layer of bricks appears to have been used to bring the back wall of the firebox forward. The enlargement did away with the recessed effect of the fireplace itself, although the wall area above the fireplace appears to have remained recessed. The new brickwork covered over and preserved a significant piece of the wallpaper used ca. 1798 in Room 204 (see Illustration 51).

After its enlargement, the firebox measured 15-1/2 inches deep by 44 inches wide by 33-3/4 inches high. In the angled brick side of this fireplace are three wrought-iron crane bolts. Two are associated with the enlarged ca.-1820 fireplace; they are at a height of 1 foot, 10 inches and 3 feet, 1 inch. The hearth for this fireplace measures 5 feet, 2 inches by 2 feet, 1-1/2 inches; it is made from 4-inch square bricks, like those used for the hearth in Room 202. During the preparation of this report, several of these hearth bricks were raised. It was in the mortar into which these bricks were set that the two one-cent coins were found.

The wooden mantelpiece for this fireplace is 4 feet, 4 inches high and 5 feet, 6 inches wide (see Appendix G, Sheet 6). Its outer edge is trimmed with an applied fillet and double quarter-round molding (Appendix D, Molding Type P). The mantelshelf is a simple, unmolded, rectangular board.

### Doorways

A number of new doorways were needed ca. 1798, to access newly constructed areas such as the addition and the southeast stair. Three ca.-1730 doorways appear to have been altered. And at least one ca.-1730 doorway -- that leading to the west ell -- was closed up when the ell was removed during the remodeling.





**Illustration 52.** Antram-Gray House: Uncovered First-Story Fireplace at North End of West Wall (Formerly in Room 204).



**Illustration 53.** Antram-Gray House: Fireplace in Room 204, Showing Circa-1798 Recessed Overmantel and Circa-1820 Firebox.





The doorways created ca. 1798 at first-story level have all disappeared, since the partition walls in which they were located were removed. It is assumed that these doorways were generally in the same locations as the ca.-1798 doorways at second-story level, which remain largely intact. These can be identified not only by their relationship to areas that were altered ca. 1798, but also by their molding profiles, hardware, and paint chromochronologies. These doorways are 201 (between Rooms 204 and 207), 202 (between Rooms 205 and 207), 204 (between Rooms 201 and 205), 207 (between Rooms 201 and 204), 208 (between Rooms 202 and 204), and 214 (between Room 206 and the attic stair).

Doorway 201 does not serve an area created ca. 1798, and it embodies conflicting physical clues as to its age. Nevertheless, the bulk of the evidence indicates that it was created ca. 1798. The trim of its Room-204 side is a Type-G molding, which has tentatively been dated to ca. 1730 (see "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways"). The trim on its Room 207-side is a Type-B molding, which was used only for ca.-1798 remodeling work. (As mentioned earlier, Type-A moldings were used for ca.-1798 new construction, in the addition and southeast stairhalls.) The Room-207 trim also bears as its first paint layer the same paint used ca. 1798 on other woodwork elements in that room. The door has six panels; these are raised, with beveled edges and beaded outer edges (see Appendix D, Molding Type R). It has a first layer of fine graining on its Room-207 side beneath its ca.-1798 paint layer. It is hung with the type of hinges used for -- and bears the paint marks of a 4- by 6-inch rim lock as found on -- other ca.-1798 doors in the house. It thus would appear that Doorway 201 was cut through ca. 1798; fitted on one side with reused, ca.-1730 trim from elsewhere in the house; fitted on the other side with new, Type-B trim; and hung with a door salvaged from some other structure that had featured grained finishes.

Doorways 202, 204, 207, and 208 are very much alike. Doorway 202 is in a wall built ca. 1798, and it served the southeast stair built at that time. It has Type-B trim on both sides. Doorway 204 was created to connect the southeast stair with the addition. It has Type-B trim on its Room-205 side, and Type-A trim on its Room-201 side. Doorway 207 is similar: it has Type-B trim on its Room-204 side, and Type-A trim on its Room-201 side. Doorway 208, which connects Rooms 204 and 202, has Type-B trim on both sides.

Doorway 214 was created as part of the ca.-1798 attic stair. Its trim consists of the Type-C molding, which is similar to the Type-B molding, but larger. The Type-C molding is found, in undisturbed condition, only in Room 206. It appears that when the northwest stair was enlarged ca. 1798, it was decided to trim it with a molding less elegant than that used in Room 201 (Type A), but more elaborate than that used elsewhere (Type B).

All of the above-mentioned trim pieces have as their first paint layer the ca.-1798 paint layer found on other ca.-1798 woodwork in their rooms. For example, compare samples P062 with P071 for Doorway 202.

In terms of doors, Doorways 202, 204, 207, and 208 all have four-panel doors, hanging on HL hinges and having paint evidence of 4- by 6-inch rim locks. In all of these respects, these doors are identical to the doors used in the ca.-1798 addition.

Also, these doors have as their first paint layers the same ca.-1798 paint layers found on their casings, and on other woodwork elements in their rooms.

Door 214 is a two-board batten door. It is hung with ca.-1798 HL hinges, and has as its first paint layer the ca.-1798 paint used elsewhere in Room 206.

Three ca.-1730 doorways appear to have been altered ca. 1798: the exterior doorway in the north wall of Room 106, and interior doorways 212 and 213 (seen in Appendix G, Sheet 6). The exterior doorway has Type-B trim on its Room-106 side. This presumably was introduced when the elaborate frontispiece was applied to the exterior side of this doorway. Doorway 213 is at the head of the northwest stair. Its Room-206 side has trim consisting of the same Type-C molding found around Doorway 214 in this room. Like that doorway, Doorway 213 appears to have received this comparatively elaborate molding as part of the ca.-1798 upgrading of the northwest stairhall. The door here is very similar to the one in Doorway 201. It has six panels; these are raised, with beveled edges and beaded outer edges (Molding Type R). It has a first layer of fine graining on both sides beneath its ca.-1798 paint; it is hung with the usual ca.-1798 HL hinges; and it bears paint marks of a 4- by 6-inch rim lock.

Doorway 212 links Rooms 203 and 204. It was shifted southward ca. 1850 (see "CIRCA 1850: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways"); most of its trim pieces, and its hinges, date to that time. However, the south jamb in Room 203 is a Type-C molding, which is apparently a reused piece of ca.-1798 trim. Also, its door has the ca.-1798 paint layer as its first layer, and so must date from that period. Door 212 is a six-panel door whose east side features Molding Type R, like Doors 201 and 213, which are thought to have been used in another structure before being installed in the Antram-Gray House ca. 1798. Door 212 differs from them in several respects, however. It is unusually narrow; it has only recessed, unmolded panels on its west side; and it bears no paint layers earlier than the ca.-1798 paint. It is thus unlikely that it was used elsewhere before being installed in Doorway 212 ca. 1798.

In summary, it appears that new, four-panel doors were introduced ca. 1798 in doorways relating to the newly constructed addition and southeast stair. Six-panel doors, some reused from another structure, were hung at that time in new or altered doorways in the ca.-1730 house. All of these doors were hung with HL hinges that were different from the HL hinges used ca. 1730, and were outfitted with 4- by 6-inch rim locks that have since disappeared. A board-and-batten door was installed in the doorway to the newly created attic stair.

One ca.-1730 doorway must have been closed up during the ca.-1798 remodeling. This was the doorway to the original, west ell. It is not clear whether this doorway was located in the west wall of Room 103, or of Room 106. Evidence in Room 103 would have been partially destroyed by the shift of the chimney here ca. 1798, and covered over completely during the construction of the southwest stair ca. 1850. Evidence in Room 106 would have been covered over when the northwest stairhall was widened ca. 1798.

## Windows

As mentioned in Section A, most of the first- and second-story window openings on the east, north, and west facades of the ca.-1730 portion of the house were enlarged ca. 1798, to match those featured in the addition of that date. (The oversized opening in the east wall of Room 207 had to be reduced in size to conform.) The window opening in the east wall of Room 205 was not only enlarged, but also was moved approximately 8 inches southward. The north-wall window in Room 206 was not enlarged, nor was the west-wall window in Room 203. The first- and second-story windows of the south facade of the original house were either closed up or converted to doorways when the addition was built against that facade. These changes caused the loss of all of the ca.-1730 window casings. Subsequent changes have caused the loss of all of the ca.-1798 window casings. It is likely that the latter resembled Molding Types I and J; these were used for the ca.-1798 window casings in Room 202, whose doorway casings (Type B) were the same as those installed in the original part of the house during the ca.-1798 remodeling.

## Northwest Stair

Most of the woodwork in Rooms 106 and 206 -- the northwest stairhall -- dates to the widening of that stair ca. 1798. This woodwork includes Room 106's northwest-doorway trim, and the casings of its northwest corner post and north and west girts; the stair from the first to the second stories; and the stair from the second story to the attic. No woodwork elements remain of the ca.-1798 stair from Room 106 down to the basement; evidence for that feature is found primarily in the adjacent plaster surfaces (see "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster").

As mentioned, the trim of the northwest exterior doorway is the Type-B molding used for other ca.-1798 alterations. It is thought that the exposed northwest corner post and north and west girts in that room received their wooden casings then, because the first paint layer on each is the paint used first on other ca.-1798 woodwork in the room (P130, 131).

The stair from Room 106 to 206 is mostly intact. It has been dated to ca. 1798 on the basis of Type-III plaster and lath on the walls of its enclosure, and on the ca.-1798 paint found as the first layer on some of its elements. This ca.-1798 stair is approximately 6 inches wider than the original northwest stair here. Its 11 risers are arranged in a U-shape, ascending without landings along first the west wall, then the north wall, and finally the east wall of the enclosure. (The underside of several of the east-wall steps can be seen at the top of Room 106's south wall, outside the stair enclosure.) The risers are about 7 inches high; the treads are 8-1/2 inches wide by 2 feet, 6 inches long.

The stair enclosure also features a baseboard, a chair rail, and a handrail attached to the chair rail. The baseboard consists of boards applied flush to the outer wall, one extending out horizontally from each riser. All three of these elements have essentially the same chromochronology as the other woodwork elements there, but they lack the first, ca.-1798 layer. Also, a one-cent coin dated 1820 was found under the baseboard. Thus, it appears as though the present baseboard, chair rail, and handrail were installed ca. 1820 -- about the time that the fireplaces in Rooms 201 and 204 were altered.



The stair from Room 206 to the attic is also intact. The doorway that leads to this stair is located next to the west wall of Room 206. The stair itself is L-shaped, consisting of 10 risers. The treads are 8-1/2-inches wide and 2 feet, 6 inches long; the risers are 7 inches high. The treads are held in place with machine-cut nails with handmade heads. These nails are the type that were used for other ca.-1798 work. Vertical boards form the north wall of the stairwell enclosure; these were painted yellow (P157, 160), to match the Type-III plaster found on the lower half of the south wall. (The boards subsequently were covered with lath and plaster.) The attic stair terminates at a small landing on the north side of the attic.

#### Southeast Stair

The location of this vanished stair -- in the west half of Room 205 -- has been deduced from framing evidence, as described in Section B. The construction of the stair has been dated to ca. 1798, on the basis of plaster, nail, and paint evidence. A vertical nailer for the stair balustrade remains attached to the south wall of Room 205 (Ill. 55). It measures 2 by 4 inches, and is about 2 feet, 7-1/2 inches high. The nailer was embedded in Type-III plaster, and was nailed to the wall with early machine-cut nails like those used for other ca.-1798 work. The nailer also bears the full paint-layer sequence (P074) found on other ca.-1798 woodwork elements in Room 205.

The configuration of the stair was U-shaped, ascending -- without landings -- first the south, then the west, and finally the north wall of Room 105. The place where the top tread reached the floor of Room 205 is marked by a floorboard patch, which was installed when the tread was removed. This patch indicates that the treads and risers of the southeast stair were 3 feet long. The treads were 9 inches wide, and the risers were 8-1/2 inches high, judging by the remains of a classical wallpaper and its border (WP012) found on the north wall of Room 205, beneath the later baseboard.

#### Corner Posts and Girts

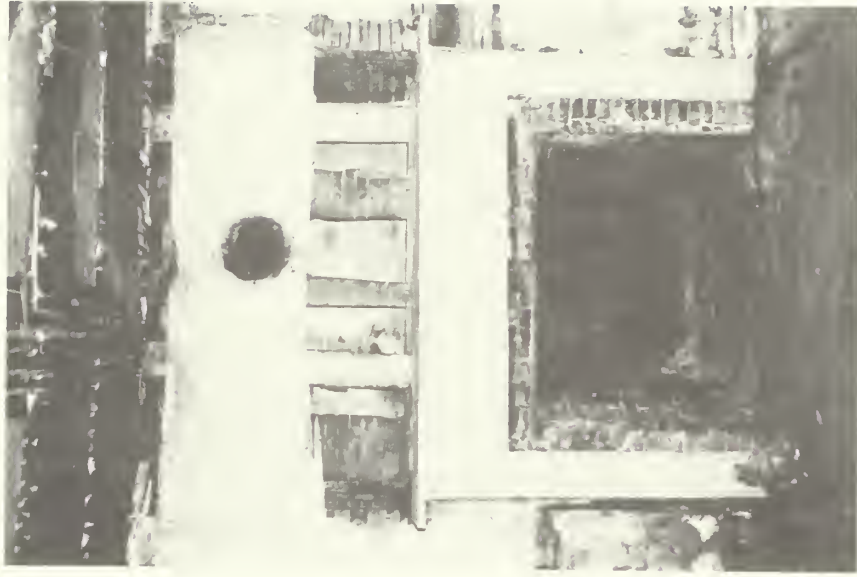
As mentioned above, the exposed corner post in the northwest corner of Room 106 was encased with wood ca. 1798. The same was true of the north-wall and west-wall girts in that room. Paint analysis indicates that the corner posts in Room 205 were cased at the same time. The girts, and the posts in both rooms, probably were not cased originally, as were the posts in Room 204. They may have been covered with plaster originally, as were the posts in Rooms 203, 206, and 207. It is not known how the corner posts in the first-story rooms were treated.

#### Other Trim

Finally, as stated earlier in "Walls and Ceilings," the original wooden chair rail in Room 204 was removed ca. 1798, judging by the presence of ca.-1798 wallpaper atop the nailer for the chair rail.



**Illustration 54.** Antram-Gray House: Fireplace in Room 204, Showing Circa-1820 Overmantel, Mantel, and Firebox.



**Illustration 55.** Antram-Gray House: Plaster Evidence, in South Wall of Room 205, of Former Southeast-Stair Balustrade.





### Woodwork Paint

The paint colors used during the ca.-1798 remodeling on the woodwork in the ca.-1730 portion of the house are as follows:

Room 203 -	Unknown - all ca.-1798 woodwork has been destroyed by later alterations
Room 204 -	Munsell 2.5 GY 6/2 Benjamin Moore OT-62
Room 205 -	Munsell 5 GY 7/2 Benjamin Moore OT-58
Room 206 -	Munsell 7.5 YR 6/6 Benjamin Moore GB-13
Room 207 -	Munsell 5 B 5/2 Benjamin Moore BT-8

Subsequent, pre-1850 paint schemes for these rooms are identified in Appendix E, "Finishes Analysis."

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### NOTES

1. Antoinette Downing, Early Homes of Rhode Island, p. 237.
2. Alvin E. Bulau, Footprints of Assurance, p. 31.

CIRCA 1850:  
ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE

The Antram-Gray House underwent a second series of significant alterations ca. 1850. The exact date of these changes is unknown; no building or tax records have been found that relate to this work. However, the elliptical molding profiles of the woodwork installed then, the variations in paint layering sequences, and the late machine-cut nails and machine-sawn lath used to make these alterations strongly suggest a ca.-1850 date.

This report's description of the alterations made to the Antram-Gray House ca. 1798 was divided into two sections, relating to the addition and the original part of the house, respectively. This format was adopted for the sake of clarity. The description of the alterations made ca. 1850 treats the two parts of the house as a single entity. This approach was chosen primarily because the ca.-1850 changes were not extensive enough to be confusing. It also underscores the fact that by ca. 1850, deeds for the house indicate that both parts were owned by a single person, Silvanus Martin.

A. Exterior Elements

Facades

The alterations that were made to the exterior of the Antram-Gray House ca. 1850 appear to have been minimal. Nearly all of the exterior woodwork from this period has been destroyed, so the true extent of these alterations is unknown. The physical evidence that does remain indicates that the first-story west window in the south facade was enlarged at this time to become a doorway. This doorway has since been filled in, and no evidence for the design of its trim was found.

The absence of ca.-1850 plaster patches (Type-IV plaster) in the second-story rooms, and other extant evidence found on the exterior of the house, indicates that the second-story fenestration was not altered at this time. Based on this fact, it is presumed that the first-story fenestration also remained basically unchanged during the ca.-1850 remodeling. (The large shop windows on the east and north facades of the house probably were introduced in the late 19th or early 20th century -- see "CIRCA 1850-1974: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section A, "East Facade" and "North Facade.")

B. Framing

Exterior Framing

No alterations were made to the Antram-Gray House's exterior framing during the ca.-1850 renovations.

## Interior Framing

Minor changes were made to the interior framing of the house. These were necessitated by the removal of the southeast stair, and the consequent construction of the southwest stair. The northwest basement stair also was removed at this time.

First Floor. The extensive use of Type-IV plaster and machine-sawn lath associated with the present southwest stair indicates that the stair was added during the ca.-1850 renovations. It was constructed in the northeast corner of Room 103 (Ill. 13, left), extending up into Room 203 (Ill. 13, right), and down into the basement (Ill. 20, left). This required the removal of floor joists and floorboards in the northwest corner of Room 103. It also apparently caused the removal of the south half of the basement's ca.-1730 west chimney girt, which would have run right across the new basement stairwell (see Illustration 20, left). It is not clear how the cut end of the beam was supported; the masonry of the adjacent northwest chimney may have been modified to accommodate it.

As will be described shortly, the creation of the southwest basement stair apparently enabled the old northwest basement stair to be removed. The closing up of the doorway leading to this stair made it unnecessary to floor over its stairwell opening (see Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster").

Second Floor. The southwest stair built ca. 1850 emerged at second-story level in Room 203. This required the removal of the flooring in the northeast corner of that room.

The addition of the southwest stair made it possible to remove the older, southeast stair to the second floor. The stairwell hole for it -- in the floor of Room 205 -- was closed up with three east-west floor joists. These joists, in the west half of the floor, are odd-sized. Unlike the other second-floor joists, their ends are not set into pockets. Rather, the ends rest on "scabs" nailed to the east interior girt, and to the header of the former stair (see Illustration 21). The nails used to attach these scabs are late machine-cut nails. This is the main reason why the southeast stair is thought to have been closed up ca. 1850.

### C. Interior Plan

Illustrations 56-57 represent the probable layout of the first, second, and attic stories of the Antram-Gray House ca. 1850. (Again, there is insufficient information to depict the basement story.) The primary changes made ca. 1850 to the interior plan of the Antram-Gray House were the removal of the southeast stair, the construction of the southwest stair, and the finishing of the attic room over the addition.

#### First Story

The southeast stair appears to have been removed ca. 1850 to permit the opening up of most of the first story, for improved commercial usefulness. (Rooms 103 and 106, on either side of the chimney, remained separate.) It is thought that the

majority of this work was done after ca. 1880 (see "CIRCA 1850-1974: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section C, "First Story"). However, it could have begun as soon as the southeast stair was removed -- i.e., ca. 1850. Perhaps some of the walls were taken down ca. 1850, with the rest being removed after ca. 1880.

The removal of the southeast stair meant that another stair had to be built. This apparently was done in Room 103, which was out of the way, and of little commercial use. The area in the vicinity of Room 103 was altered in several ways to accommodate the new stair. The adjacent, ca.-1798 chimney stack was made smaller: its depth was reduced by half, and its south edge was moved approximately 1 foot, 6 inches northward. The brick patching from this work can be distinguished from the neatly laid, ca.-1798 brickwork by its rubble-like, uncoursed appearance. The newly created space behind the chimney became part of Room 103. The former doorway in the east wall was closed up, because it interfered with the stair. A new doorway was cut into the south wall. This interior doorway would have lined up with the exterior doorway created ca. 1850 at the west end of the south facade (see Section A, "Facades"). Perhaps a partition was built parallel to the west wall of Room 102, to form a hallway connecting the two doorways. All evidence of such a partition would have been destroyed by later alterations. It is possible that an exterior doorway also was cut through the west wall of Room 103 itself. The existence of such a doorway would be hard to prove, since all evidence for it, too, would have been obliterated by later work.

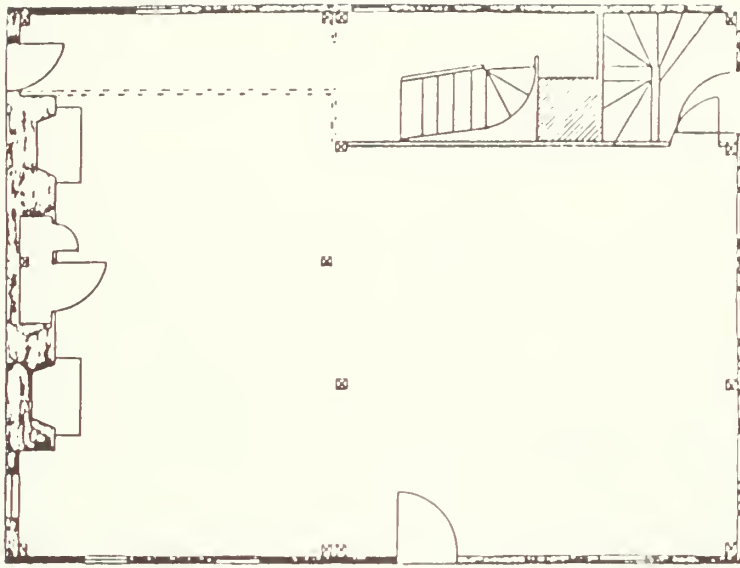
As mentioned in Section B, "Interior Framing -- First Floor," the construction of the southwest stair ca. 1850 included the building of a new stair to the basement. The reason for this action is unclear, since the northwest stair already extended down into the basement.[1] Nevertheless, the latter was removed, and the doorway that had served it -- in the south wall of Room 106 -- was infilled with lath and plaster.

## Second Story

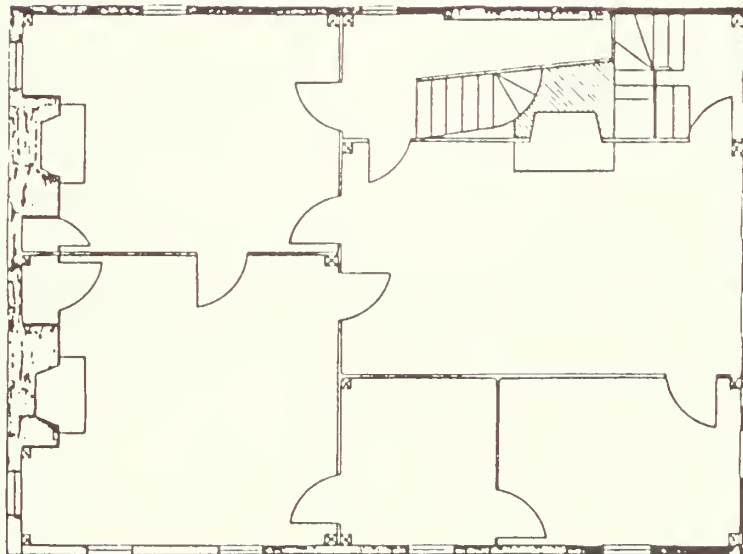
The removal of the southeast stair ended Room 205's role as a stairhall, and that space again became a normal room. Some of the effects of its use as a stairhall remained, however. Its north wall was not moved back to its original location, farther north. Also, the room retained its pair of doorways, in the north and south walls, and so continued to serve as a conduit between the ca.-1730 and ca.-1798 portions of the house.

The role of stairhall was conferred instead on Room 203, by the construction of the southwest stair. The area in the vicinity of this room was altered similarly to the area around Room 103. The adjacent northwest chimney stack was made smaller: its depth was reduced by a third, and its southwest corner was removed. Again, the masonry patching associated with these changes is virtually brick rubble. The newly created space behind the chimney became part of Room 203; it was fitted with three shelves (Ill. 58). The southwest corner of the chimney was removed in order to accommodate the sweep of the stair. Doorway 212 was shifted about 2 feet, 2 inches southward, to avoid the stair, and Doorway 210 was cut into the south wall, to provide direct access to Room 202.



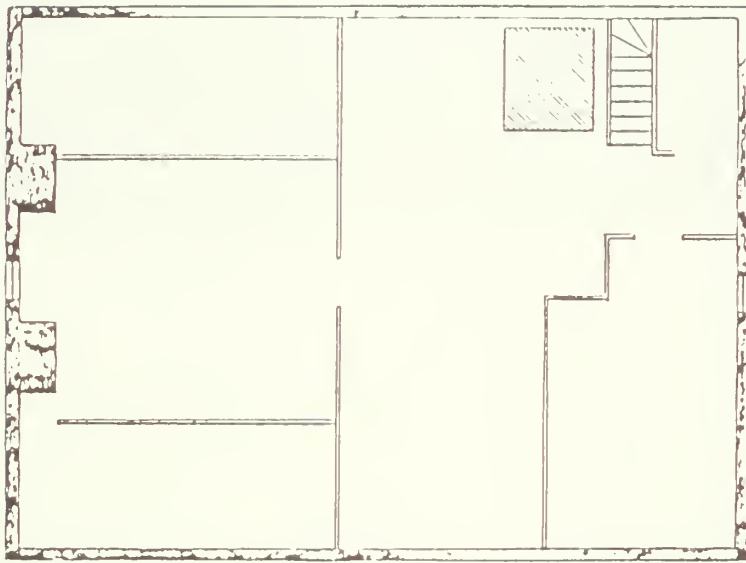


First-Story Plan



Second-Story Plan



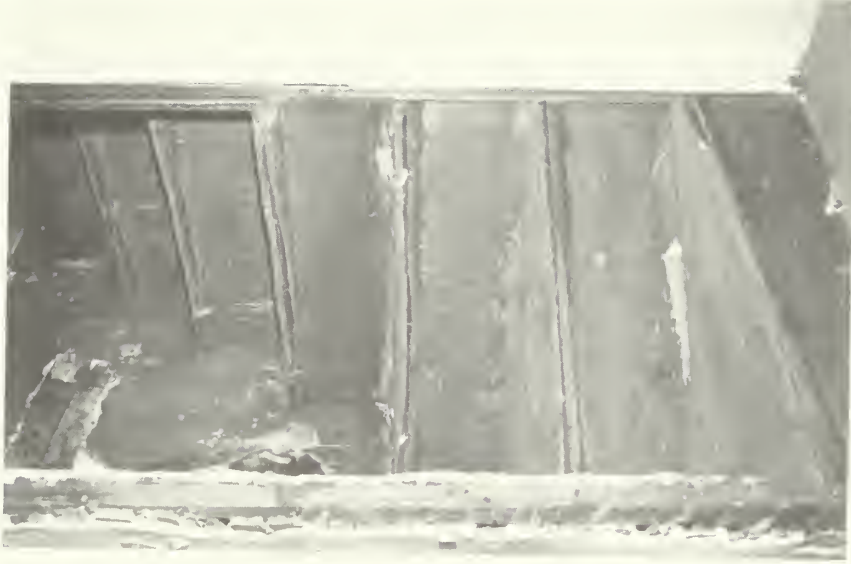


**Illustration 57.** Antram-Gray House: Attic-  
Story Plan Circa 1850.





**Illustration 58.** Antram-Gray House: North End of Room 203, Showing Wooden Shelves.



**Illustration 59.** Antram-Gray House: Southwest Stair, Looking Southeast.





There is no evidence that the southwest stair ever extended up into the attic. In fact, analysis of woodwork and paint samples suggests that the ca.-1798 northwest stair to the attic was not only retained but also improved ca. 1850.

### Attic Story

As mentioned earlier, the finished attic room in the northeast corner of the ca.-1730 part of the house was created ca. 1830. The finished attic room in the center of the ca.-1798 part of the house, however, does not appear to have been created until ca. 1850. It is certain that the south wall of the room -- the brick, exterior gable end of the addition -- was in place ca. 1798. The same is probably true of the room's north wall -- the vertical-plank partition with doorway separating the two parts of the attic. It is thus possible that the east and west, vertical-plank walls of the room were roughed in ca. 1798. However, the physical evidence suggests that these two walls were not built until the room was plastered ca. 1850. (See Section D, "Walls and Ceilings -- Plaster.")

## D. Interior Elements

### Walls and Ceilings

Plaster. The plaster used for the ca.-1850 alterations is Type-IV plaster (see Appendix B). This is a tan, one-coat plaster composed of approximately four parts sand to three parts lime. It is keyed to machine-sawn lath, which is attached with late machine-cut nails. (See Appendix C, Photograph 10).

The age of this plaster was determined to be ca. 1850, based on its composition, the nature of its lath, and the type of nail used with the lath. Thus, areas of Type-IV plaster in the ca.-1730 and ca.-1798 portions of the Antram-Gray House indicate sites of alterations made ca. 1850.

The use of Type-IV plaster to close up the fireplace in Room 104 suggests that this fireplace was replaced ca. 1850 with a stove (see "Fireplaces," below). The remnants of Type-IV plaster on the walls of Room 103 -- the southwest stairhall -- point to a ca.-1850 date for the installation of that stair. And the use of Type-IV plaster to close up the Room-106 doorway to the ca.-1798 northwest basement stair corroborates the idea that a new basement stair was built as part of the ca.-1850 southwest stair.

The second and attic stories contain more numerous areas of Type-IV plaster. This plaster is found on all of the walls and ceiling of Room 203, and in the southwest-stair enclosure; in Zones A, B, and E of the west wall of Room 204, and as the fireplace infill in that room; in the closet in Room 202; in the northwest attic-stair enclosure; and on the walls of the south attic room.

As discussed earlier, the Type-IV plaster on all of the walls of Room 203, and of the southwest-stair enclosure, indicates that the southwest stair was added ca. 1850. The removal of the west third of the adjacent chimney mass required that the west wall in the newly created alcove be finished off. This was done, but the finished area projected approximately 3 inches beyond the plane of the rest of the wall (Ill. 58, left).

The use of Type-IV plaster in both Zones A and B of the west wall of Room 204 is unusual. This is the area where Doorway 212 was moved southward, to avoid interfering with the new, southwest stair. If the doorway was closed up (Zone B), and rebuilt farther south (Zone A) at the same time, one would not expect to find the distinct break that exists between the two zones of plaster. Nevertheless, the plaster of both zones is so similar (M002, 014) that the time difference between the filling in of the old door, and the creation of the new one, could not have been great.

The use of Type-IV plaster to infill the fireplace in this room, and the use of it in Zone E -- above the fireplace -- suggests that this fireplace was closed up at the same time as the one in Room 104 (see "Fireplaces," below).

The Type-IV plaster in the closet of Room 202 probably represents repair work: leakage around the adjacent chimney is a likely cause.

The presence of this plaster in the northwest attic-stair enclosure suggests that not only was this ca.-1798 stair retained ca. 1850, but it also was improved. This plaster was used to cover the ca.-1798 vertical boards on the north wall of the enclosure. It also was used on the upper part of the south wall, above the ca.-1798 Type-III plaster already on the lower part of that wall. A small portion of Type-IV plaster also was found on the west wall of the enclosure.

Type-IV plaster also was used on the walls of the south attic room. As mentioned in Section C, "Attic Story," the east and west plank walls of this room may have been roughed in ca. 1798. However, the planks have no whitewash or paint on them, under their ca.-1850 lath and plaster. Therefore, the east and west walls most likely were built and plastered ca. 1850. The preexisting south brick wall, and the preexisting north plank wall, would have been plastered at this time, as well. The finishing of this room, coupled with the existence of the northeast attic room, probably prompted the improvements made ca. 1850 to the northwest attic stair.

There is evidence that, as part of the ca.-1850 renovations, some of the ceilings in the ca.-1730 portion of the house were replastered. The extent of this work at first-floor level is unknown, because of the effect of later alterations. The activity that occurred at second-story level is more discernible. As already stated, the ceiling of Room 203 had to be replastered ca. 1850, after the building of the southwest stair in that area. The ca.-1730 ceiling in Room 205, and the ca.-1798 ceiling in Room 206, appear to have been retained. However, fragments of Type-IV plaster (M009) and machine-sawn lath remain in the ceilings of Rooms 204 and 207. The lath was nailed with late machine-cut nails to leveling scabs, which were nailed directly to the attic-floor joists with 3-inch late machine-cut nails. This indicates that the ca.-1730 plaster ceilings in Rooms 204 and 207 were taken down ca. 1850. Some of the leveling scabs appear to be reused elements from elsewhere in the house. In Room 204, several of the scabs appear to be earlier chair rails and possibly floorboards.

Paint and Wallpaper. The ca.-1850 remodeling campaign appears to have included the redecorating of the rooms in the Antram-Gray House. Examples of the finishes applied then have not survived very well. This is because no later remodeling work involved the covering over of ca.-1850 paints and wallpapers.

As with earlier finishes, most of the ca.-1850 wall finishes at first-story level were destroyed by subsequent alterations. It is known that wallpaper was used in Room 106 at that time: there is no paint on the ca.-1850 plaster patch where the doorway to the ca.-1798 northwest cellar stair was closed up.

At the level of the second story, all evidence of the ca.-1850 wallpaper used in Rooms 201, 202, and 207 has been destroyed. In Room 203, a wallpaper with a dark gray geometric pattern on a light gray ground was hung (WP021). This same wallpaper also was used in Room 204 (WP006). In Room 205, a wallpaper with a bold floral design -- printed in red and blue on a white ground -- was hung (WP013). Room 206 received a wallpaper with a foliate pattern. The branches of the tree are printed in two shades of brown; the leaves are in two shades of blue. This wallpaper has a white ground with brown pinpoints.

In the attic, the plaster walls of the northeast room -- finished off ca. 1830 -- and the south room -- finished off ca. 1850 -- are unpainted beneath the current modern wallpaper. This means that these walls were not painted during the ca.-1850 remodeling. It is not known if they were wallpapered -- no evidence for this was found -- or simply left bare.

#### Floors and Baseboards

The remodeling of ca. 1850 saw a considerable amount of work done to the floors of the Antram-Gray House. It is not known what improvements were made to the floors at the first-floor level, because all of these floors have been covered by later materials. Evidence for work done at the second-story level is much more apparent. The installation of the southwest stair caused the permanent removal of the original floorboards in the northeast quadrant of Room 203. (The original floorboards in the other three quadrants were replaced after ca. 1850.) The ca.-1730, butt-joined floorboards in Room 204 were relaid, judging by the fact that only late machine-cut nails secure these still-extant boards. The ca.-1730 floorboards in Room 205 that survived the creation of the southeast stair ca.-1798 -- those in the east half of the room -- also survived the ca.-1850 closure of that stair. The west half of the floor -- the site of the former stairwell -- was filled in with tongue-and-groove boards ca. 1850, based on the fact that they are attached exclusively with late machine-cut nails. The ca.-1798 floorboards in Room 206 apparently were left untouched. However, the ca.-1730 floorboards in Room 207 were covered over with a new floor ca. 1850, which was laid on top of leveling joists nailed atop the old floorboards.

Paint sampling indicates that all of these floors remained unpainted.

The baseboards now in Rooms 204, 205, 206, and 207 are thought to all date to the ca.-1850 work. The same molding (Type Y) is used in Rooms 204, 205, and 206. The baseboard in Room 205 could not have been applied until after the southeast stair was removed ca. 1850. Also, that baseboard was installed over the ca.-1798



wallpaper in this room. Therefore, the Room-205 baseboard -- and the identical baseboards in Rooms 204 and 206 -- have been dated to ca. 1850. The baseboard in Room 207 is more elaborate (Molding Type Z), but is also thought to have been a product of the ca.-1850 work: it is attached with only late machine-cut nails, and it sits atop the ca.-1850 floorboards here.

### Fireplaces

The chief alteration made during the ca.-1850 renovations -- the replacement of the prominently located southeast stair with the less-intrusive southwest stair -- required that the size of the northwest chimney mass be reduced. This reduction seems to have been made possible by closing the fireplaces in Rooms 104 and 204, and by using stoves here instead, which did not require such large flues.

The ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 104 was a cooking fireplace, complete with bake oven. Circa 1850, its mantel was removed; furring strips were nailed to its brickwork; and it was completely covered over with machine-sawn lath and Type-IV plaster. A stovepipe hole in the wall area over the former fireplace suggests that a stove was introduced here to replace the fireplace. If that stove was a cooking stove, then the kitchen activity that had been associated with this room before ca. 1850 could have continued thereafter. Since it is thought that much of the first story was opened up at this time for commercial purposes, however, it is likely that the stovepipe hole served a heating stove.

The ca.-1798 fireplace in Room 204 -- which had already been altered once ca. 1820 -- underwent a similar but less dramatic remodeling ca. 1850. Its firebox was covered over with Type-IV plaster; a stovepipe hole remaining in the chimney breast suggests that a stove was introduced at that time. The mantel that had been installed during the ca.-1820 remodeling was retained. However, the recessed overmantel area was furred out flush with the rest of the west wall and plastered over with Type-IV plaster (see Appendix B, Zone E). The board that bore the paint outlines of the ca.-1798 clapboards -- seen in Illustration 34 -- was one of the boards used to fur out this recess.

### Doorways

The major elements of ca.-1850 woodwork that remain are associated with Doorways 210, 211, and 212, which were either created or moved during the construction of the southwest stair. All three of the doors in these doorways are hung with three butt hinges.

Doorway 210 apparently was created to provide direct access from the new stair to Room 202. Without it, traffic to Room 202 would have had to pass through Room 204. As stated in "CIRCA 1730: CONSTRUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways," the Room 202-side trim, and door, of Doorway 210 appear to be reused ca.-1730 material. The Room 203-side trim consists of two different moldings: Type D, on the east side and top, whose elliptical profile indicates a mid-19th century date; and Type F, on the west side, which may be from the 20th century (see "CIRCA 1850-1974: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways").



Doorway 211 was created at the head of the new southwest stair. Its trim consists entirely of ca.-1850, Type-D moldings. Its ca.-1850 door has four recessed panels (Molding Type W) on each side, with the two upper panels being longer than the two lower panels, in the Italianate mode. Hinge marks on the east side of Door 211 indicate that it originally opened into the stairwell. Apparently, when the handrail was installed there later, the door was altered to swing into Room 203.

Doorway 212 represents a ca.-1730 doorway that had to be rebuilt ca. 1850 2 feet, 2 inches farther south, to avoid the new southwest stair. The trim on both sides of this doorway is mostly the ca.-1850, Type-D molding. However, the south jamb piece in Room 203 is a Type-C molding, which is apparently a reused piece of ca.-1798 trim. The door of Doorway 212, as mentioned in "CIRCA 1798: ALTERATIONS TO THE ORIGINAL HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways," is thought to date to that remodeling.

### Southwest Stair

This stair (Ill. 59) remains today largely as built ca. 1850. It is an enclosed stair, with eight risers. The three steps closest to the first floor are winders, which describe a quarter-circle. The remaining steps form a straight run to the second floor. The risers of all of the steps measure 8 inches high. The treads of the straight-run steps are 8-1/2 inches wide by 34-1/2 inches long. It is not known if there was a handrail here originally; the present handrail is later (see "CIRCA 1850-1974: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Southwest Stair").

### Woodwork Paint

All of the woodwork in all of the second-story rooms except Room 205 appears to have been painted ca. 1850 a light cream color. This color was matched to the Munsell color notation system's number 2.5 Y 9/2, and to the commercial, Benjamin Moore paint color OW-15. The woodwork in Room 205 was painted white -- Munsell number 5 Y 9/1, Benjamin Moore OW-5. The woodwork of the attic rooms was painted dark green. For more information, see Appendix E.

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### NOTES

1. The north wall of the cellar was the location of a coal chute before 1974 (see Appendix G, Sheet 2). If coal was used for the stoves introduced in the Antram-Gray House ca. 1850, it probably would have been stored in the northwest corner of the cellar, where the masonry of the foundation walls and the northwest chimney would have provided a ready-made bin. This action would have necessitated the removal of the ca.-1798 cellar stair, and the creation of a new cellar stair, ca. 1850.

CIRCA 1850-1974:  
ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE

These alterations comprise, in general, all of the changes not attributable to the two earlier major remodelings, but accomplished by 1974, when the National Park Service took possession of the property. Tentative dates for specific alterations were determined by the appearance of the wire nails used to secure them (corroded or clean); the style of the materials used (pressed tin, plasterboard); and by the number of paint and wallpaper layers on altered elements, relative to the number of layers on elements of more certain date.

A. Exterior Elements

East Facade

Paint evidence indicates that the ca.-1730 doorway and three ca.-1798 windows at first-floor level were replaced with two successive types of storefronts. A fascia board running along the top of the present storefront has approximately 15 layers of paint on it (P007, 008) -- about 15 fewer than the ca.-1798 doorway frontispiece on the north facade (P205, 207). The present storefront, however, has only five to seven layers of paint. This suggests that in the late 19th or early 20th century, the present fascia board and one type of storefront were installed at the first-story level of this facade. The storefront definitely would have caused the removal of the ca.-1798 windows here. It may have incorporated the single, ca.-1730 doorway, or else may have exhibited the two-doorway arrangement seen in the present storefront. Around 1920, the first storefront was replaced with the present one, whose elements all bear only five to seven layers of paint (P004, 201, 202, 203).

North Facade

The ca.-1730 doorway with its ca.-1798 frontispiece was left intact over the years. The rest of the first-story area underwent the same two-phase transformation as did the east facade, judging by the disparity in number of paint layers on the fascia board here and the present storefront.

West Facade

By 1974, both ca.-1798 windows at first-story level had been taken out. The south window was replaced by two small windows; the north window was closed up entirely.

### South Facade

The ca.-1798 west window at first-story level had been enlarged into a doorway by ca. 1850. Sometime between ca. 1850 and 1974, this doorway -- and the ca.-1798 east window opening -- were closed up with brickwork. The date of this work is unknown; it may have related to the opening up of the first-story interior space.

### Doorway and Window Styles

Although the elaborate ca.-1798 frontispiece of the north-facade doorway remained intact, paint and stylistic analyses indicate that its present eight-paneled door is a relatively recent replacement. This door is seen in a photograph taken just after the 1959 remodeling, and may well date from that work.

All evidence of the appearance of the ca.-1900 first-story storefront on the east and north facades was lost when its successor was installed ca. 1920. As stated above, it could have had either one or two doorways on the east facade. Its display windows probably were typical of the period, with multiple lights, as found at the Christopher Arnold House on South Main Street in Providence (Ill. 61). The storefront introduced ca. 1920 is seen in Illustration 60. It included two doorways, recessed-paneled pilasters, and three large, plate-glass display windows on the east facade, and two of these on the north facade. The south plate-glass display window on the east facade was replaced, during the 1959 remodeling performed by the Gray jewelry company, with a fixed wooden sash having 36 lights (nine across by four down). The window openings at the second-story level saw their ca.-1798, 12/12 sash replaced before 1959 with 2/2 sash. The 2/2 sash in turn were replaced with 12/12 sash during the 1959 remodeling by the Gray jewelry company.

### Wall Covering

The east, north, and west facades of the house, which were clad originally with wooden clapboards, were covered with asbestos shingles sometime prior to 1959 (see Illustration 60). The asbestos shingles were themselves replaced with wooden clapboards during the 1959 remodeling.

### Roof Covering

As part of the 1959 work, the roof was raised slightly and reshingled. Scabs were added along the rafters that raised the roof line approximately 6 inches, and which removed part of the load of the roof from the original rafters. New sheathing boards and asphalt shingles were added to the roof at this time. The cornice also was rebuilt.

## B. Framing

### Exterior Framing

The wall framing of the east and north facades was altered to accommodate the two different storefronts mentioned in Section A. Presumably this was done once in the late 19th or early 20th century, for the earlier storefront, and once ca. 1920, for the present storefront.

### Interior Framing

First Floor. The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) drawings done in 1974 of the Antram-Gray House (Appendix G) chronicle the extensive changes made to the framing of the first floor prior to that time. As mentioned earlier, it is likely that the alterations that required the construction of the five brick piers seen in the HABS drawing of the cellar (Ill. 20, left) occurred ca. 1798. Illustration 20 depicts other changes, as well, which seem to postdate ca. 1850. These include the substitution of north-south floor joists for the original, east-west joists in the east bay; and the introduction of two sets of paired 2 by 4s that run from the east sill to the west chimney girt. These paired 2 by 4s rest on metal lally columns 3-1/2 inches in diameter. It appears as though the orientation of the east-bay joistwork was changed from east-west to north-south when the 2 by 4s and the metal lally columns were introduced.

Second Floor. The removal of interior walls at the first-story level (see Section C, below) required that other means be used to support the framing of the second floor. A turned post was introduced to replace the hewn post formerly at the southwest corner of Room 105, and three steel lally columns were installed for additional support, probably sometime during the 20th century.

## C. Interior Plan

### Basement Story

Sheet 2 of the HABS drawings (Ill. 20) depicts the basement of the Antram-Gray House at the end of the circa 1850-1974 period. The basement of the south half by that time had been partitioned off as a separate room.

### First Story

The first story of the Antram-Gray House continued in commercial use during the period ca. 1850-1974. This area was altered extensively during that time to suit the needs of the various merchants that occupied it. In 1886, records indicate that John Keefe's liquor store occupied both 290 and 294 Main Street (see Appendix K). This suggests that the entire first story -- with the exception of Rooms 103 and 106, the southwest and northwest stairs -- had been made into one large space by that





**Illustration 60.** Antram-Gray House: East Facade  
Circa 1940.



**Illustration 61.** Christopher Arnold House (1734),  
Providence, Showing Early Shop Windows.





time. The only physical clue as to the date of this work is the turned support post located at what formerly was the southwest corner of Room 105. The style of this post suggests that it was installed after ca. 1880. If the first floor was not opened up until this time, however, it is hard to imagine why the house's ca.-1850 owner went to the trouble of removing the southeast stair. Perhaps some of the walls were removed ca. 1850, with the rest being taken down after ca. 1880.

### Second and Attic Stories

The usage of the second-story and attic rooms changed several times during the period ca. 1850-1974, but the floorplans of these levels remained virtually unchanged. The second-story and attic rooms appear to have been in use as single lodging rooms by ca. 1850. When the first story was used as a restaurant in the early 20th century, Room 204 was outfitted as the restaurant kitchen. Around 1930, the second-story rooms were remodeled into one apartment. Room 202 was made into a kitchen, while Room 203 was converted to a bathroom. The date of ca. 1930 was based upon the type of nails used to secure elements of that remodeling, and upon the number of paint and wallpaper layers found upon these elements today.

Only two alterations in plan were generated by all of these changes in use. Doorway 203 was created, to link Rooms 204 and 205. And Doorways 206 and 210 were closed off, by the immobilization of their doors. It is not known why Doorway 206 was closed off; Doorway 210 apparently interfered with the ca.-1930 installation of bathroom fixtures in Room 203.

#### D. Interior Elements

The rooms of the Antram-Gray House were redecorated numerous times between ca. 1850 and 1974.

#### Walls and Ceilings

In the basement, the walls and ceiling of the area under the ca.-1798 addition were finished with plasterboard sometime prior to 1974. It is likely that the brick pier that sat in the middle of the space received its wooden casing then.

At first-story level, a number of the walls and ceilings were covered with sheets of pressed metal (Ill. 62). This work probably was done ca. 1920, judging by the sheets' style. The matched-board, waist-high wainscot on the north wall of Room 106 also appears to date from the period ca. 1850-1974.

At second-story level, the walls were repapered repeatedly. The wallpapers were hung one on top of the other, with no effort being made to strip off earlier papers before the application of a new one. The wallpapers used prior to ca. 1900 are discussed in Appendix F of this report. Samples of the later wallpapers are on file at the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center. Room 202 presently features wallboard made to resemble 4-inch square ceramic tiles, on the lower two-thirds of its walls (Ills. 63-64). It is assumed that this tileboard dates to the room's conversion to a kitchen ca. 1930.

Also at the second-story level, the original plaster ceilings in Rooms 201, 202, 204, and 207 were removed and replaced with plasterboard. This was done ca. 1950, based upon the type of plasterboard used. The ceiling of Room 205 saw plasterboard applied over the ca.-1730 plaster. The plaster ceilings of Rooms 203 and 206 were not altered.

### Floors and Baseboards

The original floorboards in Room 203 that survived the creation of the southwest stair ca. 1850 appear to have been replaced at the time bathroom facilities were installed in that room, ca. 1930. The other floors at the second-story level appear to have remain unchanged, with the exception of having been painted several times.

### Doorways

Doorway 203 (Ill. 65) is thought to have been cut through sometime in the 20th century. This is based upon several pieces of evidence. The trim around the doorway is secured exclusively with wire nails. The door here consists of matched, beaded boards, and it is hung with T-strap hinges. Paint samples taken from the doorway trim and door (P067, 068, 092, 093) contain fewer layers than the other woodwork elements in the adjacent Rooms 204 and 205 (Ill. 66).

It is thought that Doorway 206 was closed off ca. 1930, because the metal plate that held its door closed (Ill. 67, left) bears about the same number of paint layers as found on elements in the adjacent Rooms 201 and 202 that date to those rooms' conversion to an apartment.

Doorway 210 also was closed off ca. 1930, by the installation of Room 202's tileboard across it (Ill. 64, left). The doorway trim pieces in both Rooms 202 and 203, and the door, were left intact.

Mention was made in "CIRCA 1850: ALTERATIONS TO THE ENTIRE HOUSE," Section D, "Doorways," that the Room-203 trim of Doorway 210 included a nonconforming molding (Type F) as its west jamb piece. The Type-F molding is similar to the ca.-1850, Type-D molding used elsewhere in Room 203. However, since there is only one piece of the Type-F molding in the entire house, it would appear to be part of a post-ca. 1850 alteration. The date of this alteration is unclear. It probably related to the installation of bathroom fixtures in Room 203, which is thought to have occurred ca. 1930, when the second floor was converted into an apartment. It is true that Doorway 210 was closed off during that remodeling. However, the doorway trim and door remained in place; if the trim on the Room-203 side was damaged by the installation of the fixtures, it is reasonable to assume that it would have been replaced, even though the door itself was inoperative.



**Illustration 62.** Antram-Gray House: Uncovered First-Story Fireplace at North End of West Wall (Formerly in Room 204), and Later Pressed-Tin Wall Covering.





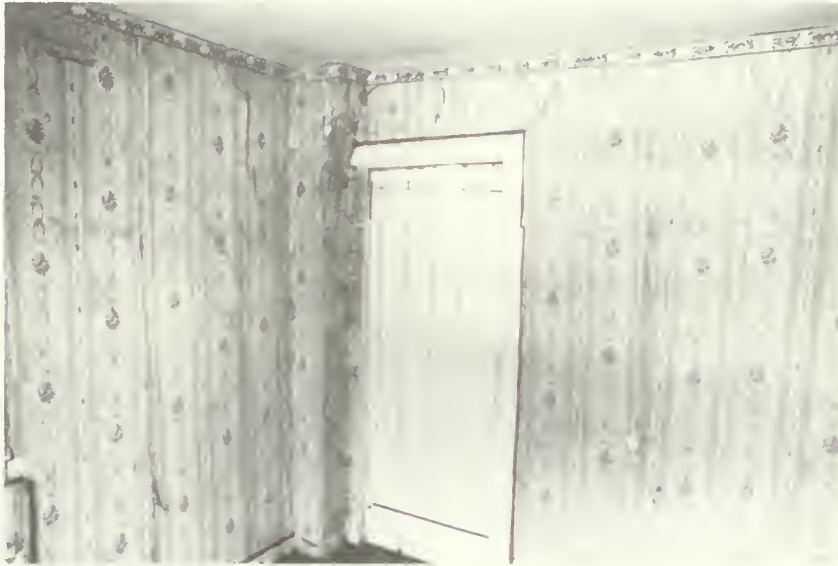


**Illustration 63.** Antram-Gray House: Room 202,  
Looking South.



**Illustration 64.** Antram-Gray House: Room 202,  
Looking Northeast.





**Illustration 65.** Antram-Gray House: Room 205,  
Looking Southwest and Showing Doorway 203.



**Illustration 66.** Antram-Gray House: Room 205,  
Looking South.





**Illustration 67.** Antram-Gray House: Room 201,  
Looking North.





### Windows

As indicated in Section A, "Doorway and Window Styles," the 12/12, double-hung sash used in most window openings ca. 1798 was replaced sometime before 1959 with 2/2 sash. (The 9/9, double-hung sash of Windows 208 and 209, and the 6/6 sash of the north attic window, may have escaped this alteration.) Most of the 2/2 sash were in turn replaced with 12/12 sash by the Gray jewelry company during its restoration of the building in 1959. The latter work included the removal of the ca.-1798 interior trim around those windows. Those windows that did not have their 2/2 sash replaced -- the three on the south facade -- retained their ca.-1798 interior trim.

### Southwest Stair

The bentwood handrail that runs along the east wall of this stair's enclosure apparently was installed after the stair was built ca. 1850, since it is held in place by metal clamps that are attached with wire nails. The original treads of the stair became so worn, that they were covered with new treads that are extant today. These apparently also were introduced ca. 1850-1974.

### Woodwork Paint

The woodwork on the second story was repainted frequently during the period ca. 1850-1974, and it is likely that the now-lost woodwork on the first story was treated similarly. The paint samples from woodwork elements at the second-story level contain full paint-layering sequences for the years ca. 1850 to 1974. The color schemes of individual rooms during this period are not identified in this report. Such information can be obtained, if needed, from the files of the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center.

### Mechanical Systems

At some point, a coal-fired hot-air furnace was installed in the basement of the Antram-Gray House. This is inferred from the hot-air risers and registers still in place prior to the 1976 renovations.

Two toilets also were installed, probably ca. 1930. The one at first-story level, in the space just behind (west of) the northwest chimney, contained only a toilet. The full bath at second-story level was located in the same general area, behind the northwest chimney, but extending out into the west half of Room 203.

1974-1979:  
RENOVATIONS BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Providence Redevelopment Authority transferred control of the Antram-Gray House to the National Park Service in the summer of 1974. The state of the house at that time was recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), in a series of drawings that is included here as Appendix G. Immediately after assuming responsibility for the house, the Park Service moved it approximately 40 feet southward, to permit the widening of Smith Street. An annotated drawing for moving the Antram-Gray House is also included in this report, as Appendix H. The Park Service received formal title to the property in December of 1974. In 1976, a program of work was begun to improve the exterior of the house, and to renovate the interior for use as park offices and for interpretive purposes. Specifications and drawings proposed for this work, which extended into 1979, are found in Appendix I.

A. Exterior Elements

Foundation

When the house was moved in 1974, a new basement was excavated. The new foundation was built of masonry blocks; the exposed areas were surfaced with brickwork.

Facades

Few changes were made to the facades during the work of 1976-79. The original intention, as seen in Appendix I, was to remove the ca.-1920 storefronts from the east and north facades. Ultimately, these were retained (Ills. 68-69). The first-story, south-facade doorway and window that had been bricked up earlier were not reopened (Ills. 70-71). The most work took place on the west facade. There, the two small windows that had replaced the south first-story window were themselves removed, and a replica of the original, ca.-1798 window was installed (Ill. 72, right). A one-story shed was added, a little to the north of center (Ill. 72, left). It measures 8 feet by 16 feet, and has a shed roof. The walls of the shed are covered with clapboards; the roof bears black asphalt shingles. A double doorway containing two six-panel doors is located in the south facade of the shed.

Doorway and Window Styles

The doorways extant in 1974 were retained in 1976-79, along with the existing storefronts on the east and north facades. The frontispiece of the west doorway in the north facade had the bases of its pilasters replaced in kind. As mentioned in "Facades," the south first-story window in the west facade was recreated and fitted



**Illustration 68.** Antram-Gray House: East Facade.



**Illustration 69.** Antram-Gray House: North Facade.







**Illustration 70.** Antram-Gray House: South Facade.



**Illustration 71.** Antram-Gray House: South Facade, East End.



with 12/12 sash made to match the other extant sash. The three windows of the south facade -- two at second-story level and one at attic level -- were replaced to match the corresponding windows on the north facade. These were fitted with 12/12 and 6/6 sash, respectively.

### Wall Covering

The wooden clapboards installed in 1959 were retained, repaired, and repainted. The wooden trim was repaired, and missing pieces were reproduced and installed. The brickwork of the south facade was repointed and painted gray.

### Chimneys

The southwest chimney stack above the roofline was taken down and rebuilt in kind during the work of 1976-79. The other two chimney stacks were repointed as needed.

### Roof

The asphalt shingles of 1959 were retained. The V-shaped wooden gutters were replaced in kind.

## B. Framing

### Exterior Framing

The construction of the west-facade storage shed was the only significant alteration to occur to the exterior framing during the period 1974-79.

### Interior Framing

First Floor. The supports for the framing of the first floor were changed slightly as a result of the moving of the house. The five brick piers existing in the old basement -- three at the juncture of the two portions of the house, and one under each end of the summer beam in the ca.-1730 portion of the house -- were recreated with masonry blocks in the new basement. The wood-cased column extant in the old basement -- centered under the ca.-1798 portion of the house -- also was recreated with masonry blocks in the new basement. The arrangement of the four metal lally columns existing in the old basement -- one under the northern set of paired 2 by 4s, and three under the southern set -- was changed slightly in the new basement: one of the group of three was omitted, and the others were positioned more effectively. The wooden framing members themselves generally were retained in their existing state during both the move of 1974, and the renovations of 1976-79.

Second and Attic Floors. The framing of these floors was not affected by the moving of the house in 1974. Partitions were erected during the 1976-79 renovations in the first-story area, but not in the second-story or attic spaces.

### C. Interior Plan

#### Basement Story

A boiler room was created during the 1976-79 renovations, in the southwest corner of the new basement (see Appendix I, Sheet 2). Otherwise, this area was left open.

#### First Story

The first-story area was completely gutted during the 1976-79 renovations, to clear away the work benches, display cases, and toilet of the Gray watch shop. An exterior doorway was cut in the west wall of the former toilet room, to access the new west-facade storage shed (see Appendix I, Sheet 2). Two new toilet rooms, a storage room, and an entryway were partitioned off in the west half of what was formerly Room 104. As part of this work, the fireplace in Room 104 was once again closed up.

#### Second and Attic Stories

The room plan at each of these stories was not changed, either by the 1974 move or the 1976-79 renovations.

### D. Interior Elements

#### Walls and Ceilings

By 1976, few early interior walls remained at the first-story level (Ill. 73). Those that did remain, and the exterior walls, generally were stripped of all earlier finishes, down to the vertical planks that formed them. Areas that escaped this treatment were Room 106, which retained its ca.-1798 plaster; the east wall of Room 103, which retained its ca.-1850 plaster; and the entire south wall, which consisted of brick. The exposed plank walls were furred out, insulated, and covered with plasterboard. As indicated in Section C, several new rooms were created in 1976-79. The partitions erected to form these rooms were of stud and plasterboard construction.

All of the old ceilings at the first-story level were removed and replaced with plasterboard, as well.



**Illustration 72.** Antram-Gray House: West Facade.



**Illustration 73.** Antram-Gray House: First-Story Interior, Looking South.





### Floors and Baseboards

The floors existing in 1974 were generally retained in 1976-79. A concrete floor was poured in the basement during the renovation work. The floors of most first-story rooms received plywood subflooring, wall-to-wall carpeting, and vinyl baseboards. The floors of the two toilet rooms and the new storage room were covered with vinyl asbestos tiles.

### Fireplaces

The mantel of the one fireplace remaining at first-story level -- in what formerly was Room 101 -- was stripped of its numerous paint layers and repainted. It is possible that the mantelshelf now on this mantel was installed at that time. The fireplaces in what formerly were Rooms 102 and 104 were opened for investigation, and then were covered over again.

### Doorways and Windows

In conjunction with the new plasterboard walls, new, plain doorway and window trim was installed throughout the first-story level. A new door was introduced at the exterior doorway on the north facade. Nearly all of the windows and their sash -- mostly dating to 1959 -- were retained and repaired. As stated in Section A, "Doorway and Window Styles," the three windows of the south facade -- two at second-story level and one at attic level -- had their frames, trim, and sash replaced with elements made to match those of the corresponding windows on the north facade.

### Basement Stair

As part of the move of 1974, a new basement stair had to be built in the new basement. This was done, replicating in general the L-shaped configuration of the ca.-1850 stair that had been left behind in the old basement.

### Mechanical Systems

In 1976-79, all existing mechanical systems were removed. A new water-supply and sewer system, a new baseboard hot-water heating system, and a new fire-detection and alarm system were installed.



IV. EXTANT ARCHITECTURAL FABRIC AND ITS CONDITION





As indicated in the previous chapter, five of the seven rooms on the first floor of the Antram-Gray House as it existed ca. 1800 had been combined into one large room by the time the National Park Service acquired the property. These five rooms were the former Rooms 101 and 102 (in the ca.-1798 south addition), and Rooms 104, 105, and 107 (in the ca.-1730 north portion). The one large room was retained during the renovation by the National Park Service in the late 1970's, although part of it was partitioned off to form restrooms. For the purposes of this chapter, the one large room -- including bathrooms -- will be referred to as Room 101. Also, all architectural elements that were installed during that renovation are dated 1976, even though the work continued into 1979.



EXTERIOR

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

CONDITION

Foundation

Concrete masonry blocks, faced with brick - 1974

Good

Facades

Covering

East, north, west facades: clapboards, weather varying from 2-3/4" to 3-1/4" - 1959 (painted gray - nonhistoric)

Good

South facade:

brick, four-stretcher American common bond, two projecting belt courses - ca. 1798 (painted with gray latex paint)

Fair: some spalling; peeling paint

Trim

East facade:

fascia board between first and second floors - ca. 1900 (painted gray); first-floor storefront consisting of paneled pilasters, two doorways, two large display windows, and one smaller display window - ca. 1920 (painted gray)

Good

North facade:

fascia board between first and second floors - ca. 1900 (painted gray); first-floor storefront consisting of two display windows

Good

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

Good

East facade:  
two storefront doorways; glazed doors -  
1959, modified 1976 (painted gray)  
North facade:  
one pedimented doorway surround with  
pilasters - ca. 1798 (painted gray;  
below are multiple layers of paint,  
including original ca. - 1798 layer);  
eight-panel door, with six raised panels  
and two top panels glazed - ca. 1959  
(painted gray)

Good

First story:  
east and north facades: plate-glass dis-  
play windows - 1976; west facade: double-  
hung, 12/12 sash - 1976 (painted gray)  
Second story:  
east, west, and north facades: double-  
hung, 12/12 sash - 1959; south facade:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1976 (painted  
gray)  
Attic story:  
north facade: double-hung, 6/6 sash -  
1959; south facade: double-hung, 6/6  
sash - 1976

Good

Good

Roof

Covering

Black asphalt shingles - 1959

Fair: shingles more than 20 years  
old

(Exterior - cont.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Gutters	V-shape wooden gutters; 3" metal down-spouts - 1976 (reproductions of historic material; painted gray)	Good
<u>Chimneys</u>	Northwest chimney; brick, rectangular, corbeled band near top - ca. 1798 (unpainted)	Good
	South chimneys: brick, rectangular, corbeled band near top - ca. 1798; west one rebuilt 1976 (both unpainted)	Good



BASEMENT

(Current Use: Maintenance Storage)

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

Good

Exterior walls:  
concrete masonry blocks, laid with a  
portland cement mortar - 1974

Good

Interior walls:  
most areas: plasterboard - 1976; north  
side of chimney foundation; plaster on  
hand-split lath - ca. 1798 (painted  
yellow over earlier whitewash)

Good

North half:  
exposed framing members and subfloor of  
first floor - ca. 1730 (framing members  
painted with white latex)  
Northwest corner (former location of  
cellar stair): plaster on hand-split lath  
- ca. 1798

Fair

Good

South half:  
exposed framing members and subfloor of  
first floor - ca. 1798 (framing members  
painted with white latex paint)

Good

Poured concrete - 1976

Floor

Good

Wood, open-string - 1976 (painted gray)

Cellar Stair

Good

1976

Hardware

(Basement - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Bathroom	1976	Good
Furnace	1976	Good

ROOM 101

(Current Use: Staff Offices and Site Interpretation)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Walls</u>	Plasterboard - 1976	Good
<u>Ceiling</u>	Plasterboard - 1976	Good
<u>Floor</u>	North half: wooden floorboards - ca. 1730 Southern half: wooden floorboards - ca. 1798 (both halves overlaid with plywood and carpeting, 1976)	Unknown Unknown Good
<u>Baseboards</u>	Vinyl - 1976	Good
<u>Fireplace</u>	<p>Mantelpiece</p> <p>Cornice: unknown Overmantel: one raised, horizontal panel with beveled and beaded edges, Molding Q - ca. 1798 Mantelshelf: molded, on cyma-recta brackets - date unknown Firebox surround: one raised, horizontal panel below shelf, with beveled and beaded edges, Molding Q - ca. 1798; Molding K around firebox opening - ca. 1798 (all elements painted)</p>	Fair: mantelpiece in original location; historic paint removed 1976, latex paint applied

(Room 101 - cont.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Firebox	Brick - ca. 1798	Good
Hearth	Brick - ca. 1798	Good
<u>Doorways</u>		
Trim	Unmolded - 1976 (painted)	Good
Doors	Flush - 1976	Good
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	Unmolded - 1976 (painted)	Good
Sash	East and north facades: plate-glass display windows - 1976 (painted) West facade: double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1976 (painted)	Good
<u>Hardware</u>	1976	Good
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Heating	Baseboard hot-water - 1976	Good

(Room 101 - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Bathrooms	1976	Good
Electrical	1976	Good



ROOM 103

(Current Use: Southwest Stairhall)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

Walls

East and north walls:  
various materials - pre-1976  
West and south walls:  
plasterboard - 1976

Fair

Good

Ceiling

Plasterboard - 1976

Good

Floor

Wooden floorboards - ca. 1730  
(overlaid with plywood, 1976)

Unknown  
Good

Baseboards

Vinyl - 1976

Good

Doorways

Trim

Unmolded - 1976 (painted)

Good

Doors

Unmolded - 1976 (painted)

Good

Windows

Historic west-wall window closed up  
before 1974

--

Southwest Stair

Wood, enclosed - ca. 1850, handrail  
later (unpainted)

Good: structurally sound; badly worn  
original treads covered with new  
treads

(Room 103 - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Hardware</u>	1976	Good
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Heating	Baseboard hot-water - 1976	Good
Electrical	1976	Good

ROOM 106

(Current Use: Northwest Stairhall)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Walls

Outside Northwest Stair  
Enclosure

Most areas:  
plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798  
South wall, doorway infill:  
plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850  
East wall, and north wall, east end:  
nonhistoric finishes  
(all areas covered with multiple layers  
of wallpaper)

Poor: major cracks, areas of broken  
keys; wallpapers are torn and dirty

Within Northwest Stair  
Enclosure

Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798

Poor: major cracks, areas of broken  
keys; wallpapers are torn and dirty

Ceiling

Most areas:  
plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798  
Small portion:  
plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730

Poor: cracked, with peeling paint

Floor

Wooden floorboards - ca. 1798  
(overlaid with plywood, 1976)

Unknown  
Good

Baseboards

Unknown

--

(Room 106 - con't.)

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

Doorways

Trim

East doorway:  
unmolded - 1976 (painted)  
North doorway:  
Molding B - ca. 1798 (covered with  
multiple layers of paint)

Good

Good: altered slightly to accom-  
modate modern lock

Doors

East door:  
none  
North door:  
eight panels (six recessed and  
two top panels glazed) - pre-1959

--

Good

Northwest Stair

Wood, enclosed - ca. 1798 (covered with  
multiple layers of paint, including  
original ca.-1798 layer)

Fair: structurally sound, but treads  
are worn; paint is deteriorated

Hardware

1976

Good

Mechanical Systems

Heating

Baseboard hot-water - 1976

Good

Electrical

1976

Good

(Current Use: Unoccupied Storage)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTDESCRIPTION AND DATECONDITIONWalls

Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798  
(covered with multiple layers of wall-  
paper, all post 1900)

Fair: plaster is cracked, with some  
areas of total loss; wallpapers are  
torn and dirty

Ceiling

All plaster and lath missing, leaving  
exposed the framing members and subfloor  
of attic floor

--

Floor

Wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 8-10"  
wide - ca. 1798

Fair: some worn areas, but general  
condition is good

Baseboards

Molding X, 5-6" high - ca. 1798 (painted)

Fair: paint is deteriorated

FireplaceMantelpiece

Cornice:  
Appendix D, Molding L - ca. 1798  
Overmantel:  
one raised, horizontal panel with beveled  
and beaded edges, Molding Q - ca. 1798  
Mantelshelf:  
rests on a molded strip, Molding M -  
ca. 1730, reused ca. 1798  
Firebox surround:  
one raised, horizontal panel below shelf,  
with beveled and beaded edges, Molding Q -  
ca. 1798; Molding N around firebox  
opening - ca. 1798

Fair: paint is deteriorated

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Firebox	(all elements covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer; mantelshelf and its supporting molding also have earlier, ca.-1730 layer) 1' deep, with splayed sides - ca. 1798 (wrought-iron bolts embedded in east side, 1'4-1/2" and 2'7" above hearth)	Poor: original parget of natural cement missing; black paint on front edge missing
Hearth	Brick - ca. 1798	Fair
<u>Doorways</u>		
Trim	Doorways 204, 205, 206, 207: Molding A - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: all trim is in good condition; paint is deteriorated
Doors	Doors 204, 205, 206, 207: four raised panels, Molding Q - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: all doors need minor carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	Windows 203, 204: unmolded - 1959 (painted) Window 205: Moldings H, J - ca. 1798 (painted)	Good Fair: sill and apron cut to accommodate 1976 sash



ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Sash

Windows 203, 204:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1959 (unpainted)  
Window 205:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1976 (unpainted)

Good

Fair: sill and apron cut to accommodate 1976 sash

Hardware

Door Hinges

Doors 204, 205, 206, 207:  
HL hinges - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint)

Fair: paint buildup impairs operation

Door Latches, Knobs

Doors 204, 205, 206, 207:  
ca. 1900-1959

Poor: parts are missing

Mechanical Systems

Electrical

Ca. 1940

Poor: needs upgrading and supplementing

ROOM 202

(Current Use: Unoccupied Storage)

CONDITION

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

<u>Walls</u>	Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798 (bottom part covered with wallboard made to resemble ceramic tile; top part covered with multiple layers of wallpaper, all post 1900)	Fair: areas of wallboard have been removed, leaving patches of glue on the walls; wallpapers are torn and dirty
<u>Ceiling</u>	All plaster and lath missing, leaving exposed the framing members and subfloor of attic floor	--
<u>Floor</u>	Wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 8-10" wide - ca. 1798	Fair: some areas are worn and patched
<u>Baseboards</u>	Molding X, 5-6" high - ca. 1798 (painted)	Fair: paint is deteriorated
<u>Fireplace</u>	Mantelshelf: rests on molded strip, Molding O - ca. 1820 Firebox surround: Molding O around firebox opening - ca. 1820 (all elements covered with multiple layers of paint postdating the ca.-1798 layer in this room)	Fair: paint is deteriorated

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

Firebox

3'10" wide by 3' high by 1'3" deep, with splayed sides - ca. 1820 (covered with parget of natural cement; wrought-iron bolts embedded in east side, 1'4" and 2'7" above hearth)

Good

Hearth

2' by 1'10", consisting of 4" square bricks - ca. 1820

Good

Doorways

Trim

Doorways 206, 208, 209:  
Molding B - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Doorway 210:  
Molding E - ca. 1730, reused ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including traces of ca.-1730 layer)

Fair: all trim needs carpentry repairs, paint is deteriorated

Doors

Doors 206, 208:  
four raised panels, Molding Q - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Door 209:  
two raised panels, Molding U - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Door 210:  
four raised panels, Molding S - ca. 1730, reused ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including traces of ca.-1730 layer)

Fair: all doors need carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

Windows

Trim

Fair: sill and apron cut to accommodate 1976 sash  
Good

Window 206:  
Moldings I, J - ca. 1798 (painted)  
Window 207:  
unmolded - 1959 (painted)

Sash

Good

Window 206:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1976  
(unpainted)  
Window 207:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1959  
(unpainted)

Hardware

Door Hinges

Good

Doors 206, 208, 209:  
HL hinges - ca. 1798 (painted)  
Door 210:  
three-knuckle butt hinges - ca. 1850  
(painted)

Fair

Door Latches, Knobs

Poor: parts are missing

Doors 206, 208, 209, 210:  
ca. 1900-1959

Mechanical Systems

Electrical

Ca. 1940

Poor: needs upgrading and supplementing

ROOM 203

(Current Use: Southwest Stairhall)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Walls

Plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850 (covered with fragments of wallpaper, including original wallpaper, and paint)

Poor: plaster is cracked, with some areas of total loss; wallpapers are torn and dirty; paint is chipped and flaking

Ceiling

Plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of whitewash and calcimine)

Poor: plaster is cracked, with some areas of total loss; paint is peeling

Floor

Wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 3-4" wide - ca. 1930

Fair: boards are worn and cut up by installation of bathroom fixtures

Baseboards

Unknown

Doorways

Trim

Doorway 210:  
east side and top, Molding D - ca. 1850 (painted); west side, Molding F - ca. 1930 (painted)

Fair: all trim needs carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated

Doorway 211:  
Molding D - ca. 1850 (painted)

Doorway 212:  
south side, Molding C - ca. 1798, reused ca. 1850 (painted); north side and top, Molding D - ca. 1850 (painted)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Doors	Door 210: four recessed panels, Molding T - ca. 1730, reused ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including traces of ca.-1730 layer) Door 211: four raised panels, Molding W - ca. 1850 (painted) Door 212: six recessed panels, Molding V - ca. 1798, reused from another structure; moved ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: paint is deteriorated on all doors
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	Window 208: unmolded - 1959 (painted)	Good
Sash	Window 208: double-hung, 9/9 sash - 1959 (unpainted)	Good
<u>Shelves</u>	Wood - ca. 1850	Fair: paint is deteriorated
<u>Hardware</u>		
Door Hinges	Doors 210, 211, 212: three-knuckle butt hinges - ca. 1850	Fair



(Room 203 - cont.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Door Latches, Knobs	Doors 210, 211, 212: ca. 1900-1959	Poor: parts are missing
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Electrical	Ca. 1940	Poor: needs upgrading and supplementing

ROOM 204

(Current Use: Unoccupied Storage)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Walls</u>	Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730 and ca. 1798, and plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850 -- see Appendix B for specific areas of each (covered with multiple layers of wallpaper, including earliest ca.-1798 layer, applied over earlier whitewash)	Poor: plaster is cracked, with some areas of total loss; fragments of wallpaper that remain are torn and dirty
<u>Ceiling</u>	All plaster and lath missing, leaving exposed the framing members and subfloor of attic floor	--
<u>Floor</u>	Wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 9-12" wide - ca. 1730, relaid ca. 1850	Fair: some areas are worn and patched
<u>Baseboards</u>	Molding Y, 5-6" high - ca. 1850 (painted)	Fair: paint is deteriorated
<u>Fireplace</u>	Mantelshelf: unmolded - ca. 1820 Firebox surround: Molding P - ca. 1820 (all elements painted)	Fair: mantelpiece was removed in 1982 to study the earlier ca.-1798 fireplace here

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Firebox

15-1/2" deep by 44" wide by 33-3/4" high - ca. 1820 (wrought-iron bolts embedded in side, 1'10" and 3'1" above hearth)

Poor: firebox was dismantled in 1982 to study the earlier ca.-1798 fireplace here

Hearth

5'2" by 2'1-1/2", of 4" square bricks - ca. 1820

Fair: some disruption due to investigation of ca.-1798 fireplace here

Doorways

Trim

Doorway 201:  
Molding G - ca. 1730, reused ca. 1798 (painted)  
Doorway 203:  
unmolded - post 1900 (painted)  
Doorways 207, 208:  
Molding B - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Doorways 212, 213:  
Molding D - ca. 1850 (painted)

Fair: all trim needs carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated

Doors

Door 201:  
six raised panels, Molding R - ca. 1798, reused from another structure (covered with multiple layers of paint, including ca.-1798 layer)  
Door 203:  
matched boards - post 1900 (painted)  
Doors 207, 208:  
four raised panels, Molding Q - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)

Fair: doors need minor repairs; paint is deteriorated

(Room 204 - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
	Door 212: six raised panels, Molding R - ca. 1798, rehung ca. 1850 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	
	Door 213: six raised panels, Molding R - ca. 1798, reused from another structure (covered with multiple layers of paint, including ca.-1798 layer and earlier graining)	
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	Windows 210, 211: unmolded - 1959 (unpainted)	Good
Sash	Windows 210, 211: double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1959 (unpainted)	Good
<u>Corner Post Casing</u>	Wood - ca. 1730 (covered with multiple layers of wallpaper, applied over original ca.-1730 paint)	Good
<u>Hardware</u>		
Door Hinges	Doors 201, 207, 208, 213: HL hinges - ca. 1798 Door 203: T-strap hinges - post 1900 Door 212: three-knuckle butt hinges - ca. 1850	Good Good Good

(Room 204 - con't.)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Door Latches, Knobs

Doors 201, 203, 207, 208, 212, 213:  
ca. 1900-1959

Poor: parts are missing; some  
latches are not operational

Mechanical Systems

Electrical

Ca. 1940

Poor: needs upgrading and  
supplementing

ROOM 205

(Current Use: Unoccupied Storage)

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

Fair: plaster is cracked and crumbling, with areas of total loss; wallpapers are torn and dirty

Walls

East wall, north and south ends, and south wall:  
plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730 (covered with multiple layers of wall-paper, including earliest, ca.-1798 layer, applied over earlier whitewash)  
East wall, patch north of Window 202, and north and west walls:  
plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of wall-paper, including earliest, ca.-1798 layer)

Ceiling

Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730 (covered with multiple layers of calcimine paint)

Poor: plaster is extensively cracked; most keys are broken; paint is chipped and peeling

Floor

East half:  
wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 9-12" wide - ca. 1730  
West half:  
wooden floorboards, tongue-and-groove, 6-8" wide - ca. 1850

Fair: boards are worn and patched in both halves

Baseboards

Molding Y, 5-6" high - ca. 1850 (painted)

Fair: paint is deteriorated



ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Doorways

Trim

Doorways 202, 204:  
Molding B - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Doorway 203:  
unmolded - post 1900 (painted)

Fair: all trim needs carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated

Doors

Doors 202, 204:  
four raised panels, Molding Q - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)  
Door 203:  
matched, beaded boards secured by battens - post 1900 (painted)

Fair: all doors need repairs; and paint is deteriorated

Windows

Trim

Window 202:  
unmolded - 1959 (painted)

Good

Sash

Window 202:  
double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1959 (unpainted)

Good

(Room 205 - con't.)

CONDITION

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

Good

Wood - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint and wallpaper, applied over original ca.-1798 paint)

Corner Post Casing

Hardware

Good

Doors 202, 204:  
HL hinges - ca. 1798  
Door 203:  
T-strap hinges - post 1900

Door Hinges

Poor: parts are missing

Doors 202, 203, 204:  
ca. 1900-1959

Door Latches, Knobs

ROOM 206

(Current Use: Northwest Stairhall)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Walls</u>		
Outside Attic Stair Enclosure	<p>Most areas: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798</p> <p>North wall: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730 (all areas covered with multiple layers of wallpaper, including earliest ca.-1820 layer, applied over earlier whitewash)</p>	Fair: plaster is cracked, with some areas of total loss; wallpapers are torn and dirty, and large pieces are missing
Within Attic Stair Enclosure	<p>Most areas: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798</p> <p>East wall, small portion: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730</p> <p>East wall, small portion: plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850</p> <p>North wall: plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850</p> <p>West wall, small portion: plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850</p> <p>South wall, top half: plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850 (all areas painted)</p>	Fair: plaster is cracked
<u>Ceiling</u>	Plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of calcimine paint)	Poor: plaster is extensively cracked; most keys are broken; paint is cracked and peeling

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Floor</u>	Wooden floorboards, butt-joined, 8-10" wide - ca. 1798	Fair: boards are worn and patched
<u>Doorways</u>	Doorways 213, 214: Molding C - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: all trim needs carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated
<u>Trim</u>	Door 213: six raised panels, Molding R - ca. 1798, reused from another structure (covered with multiple layers of paint, including ca.-1798 layer and earlier graining)	Fair: both doors need minor carpentry repairs; paint is deteriorated
<u>Doors</u>	Door 214: two-board batten door - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	
<u>Windows</u>	Window 209: unmolded - 1959 (painted)	Good
<u>Trim</u>	Window 209: double-hung, 9/9 sash - 1959 (unpainted)	Good

(Room 206 - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Attic Stair</u>	Wood, enclosed - ca. 1798 (unpainted)	Fair: structurally sound; treads are weak
<u>Hardware</u>		
Door Hinges	Doors 213, 214: HL hinges - ca. 1798 (painted)	Good
Door Latches, Knobs	Doors 213, 214: ca. 1900-1959	Poor: parts are missing
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Electrical	Outlet for maintenance	Good

ROOM 207

(Current Use: Unoccupied Storage)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Walls</u>	East and north walls, and most of west wall: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1730 West wall, south end, and south wall: plaster on hand-split lath - ca. 1798 (all areas covered with multiple layers of wallpaper, including earliest ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: plaster is cracked and crumbling, with some areas of total loss; wallpapers are torn and dirty
<u>Ceiling</u>	All plaster and lath missing, leaving exposed the framing members and subfloor of attic floor	--
<u>Floor</u>	Wooden floorboards - ca. 1798 (overlaid with tongue-and-groove floorboards, ca. 1850)	Unknown Good: somewhat worn
<u>Baseboards</u>	Molding Z, 6" high - ca. 1850 (painted)	Fair: paint is deteriorated
<u>Doorways</u>	Doorways 201, 202: Molding B - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: all trim needs carpentry



(Room 207 - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
Doors	Door 201: six raised panels, Molding R - ca. 1798, reused from another structure (covered with multiple layers of paint, including ca.-1798 layer and earlier graining) Door 202: four raised panels, Molding Q - ca. 1798 (covered with multiple layers of paint, including original ca.-1798 layer)	Fair: both doors need general carpentry repairs
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	Windows 201, 212: unmolded - 1959 (painted)	Good
Sash	Windows 201, 212: double-hung, 12/12 sash - 1959 (unpainted)	Good
<u>Hardware</u>		
Door Hinges	Doors 201, 202: HL hinges - ca. 1798	Good
Door Latches, Knobs	Doors 201, 202: ca. 1900-1959	Poor: parts are missing

(Room 207 - cont.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Mechanical Systems</u>		
Electrical	Ca. 1940	Poor: needs upgrading and supplementing

ATTIC

(Current Use: Unoccupied)

ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND DATE

CONDITION

Walls

Northeast finished room:  
plaster on accordion-split lath - ca. 1830  
South finished room:  
plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850  
(all walls covered with post-1900 wall-  
papers)  
Remainder of attic:  
unfinished

Poor: plaster is extensively cracked,  
with some major areas of total loss;  
wallpapers are stained and torn, and  
large pieces are missing

Ceiling

Northeast finished room:  
plaster on accordion-split lath - ca. 1830  
South finished room:  
plaster on machine-sawn lath - ca. 1850  
Remainder of attic:  
unfinished

Poor: plaster is extensively cracked,  
with major areas of total loss

Floors

North half:  
wide wooden floorboards, butt-joined -  
ca. 1730  
South half:  
wide wooden floorboards, butt-joined -  
ca. 1798

Good: general condition is good;  
boards are worn and need renailling

Baseboards

Unknown

--

(Attic - con't.)

<u>ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION AND DATE</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<u>Doorways</u>		
Trim	Northeast finished room: unmolded - ca. 1830 (painted) South finished room: unmolded - ca. 1850 (painted)	Fair: paint is deteriorated Fair: paint is deteriorated
Doors	All doors missing	—
<u>Windows</u>		
Trim	North window: unmolded - 1959 (painted) South window: molded - ca. 1798 (painted)	Good Good
Sash	North window: double-hung, 6/6 sash - 1959 (unpainted) South window: double-hung, 6/6 sash - 1976 (unpainted)	Good Good

V. RECOMMENDATIONS





## FURTHER RESEARCH

The evolution of the Antram-Gray House, as presented in this historic structure report, has been deduced from the data gathered thus far. The fragmentary nature of the extant physical evidence, the inaccessibility of some parts of the structure for study, and the limited amount of written and photographic documentation for the house have left gaps in this evolutionary narrative. When work is done on the house in the future, all new information that comes to light should be appended to this report.

## FUTURE RENOVATIONS

This historic structure report should be used by historical architects, planners, and architectural conservators in all future renovations of the Antram-Gray House. Special attention should be given to the second story of the house, in light of the large amount of well-preserved 18th- and 19th-century building fabric remaining there. If the second-story space is to be adaptively reused, every effort should be made to preserve as much of this architectural fabric as possible. Serious consideration also should be given to using the second-story rooms, with their historic framing and finishes, as an interpretative architectural space: it is an important interpretative resource that should not be overlooked.

If this approach is followed, several actions should be undertaken. These include:

- 1) the removal of paint buildup on the ca.-1798 HL hinges of Doors 204, 205, and 207;
- 2) the installation of appropriate rim locks on Doors 201, 202, 204, 206, 207, 208, and 213; and
- 3) the installation of interior window trim on all second-story windows, with the extant trim of Window 205 being the model for Windows 203 and 204, and the extant trim of Window 206 being the model for all others.

### [ EDITOR'S NOTE:

Since this report was written in 1981, the Antram-Gray House has undergone two major efforts to make its interior more suitable for use as a Visitors Center. See Appendix J for more information on this work.

END EDITOR'S NOTE]



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VII. APPENDICES



## APPENDIX A.

### MORTAR ANALYSIS

Five mortar samples from the Antram-Gray House were studied for the preparation of this report, using standard mortar-analysis procedures of the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center (NAHPC). Three of the mortar samples were taken in the attic: one from the south brick wall (044); one from the southeast chimney (041); and one from the northwest chimney (043). The remaining two samples were taken from the firebox of the fireplace in Room 204 (040, 042).

The mortars used for the south attic wall and the southeast chimney appear to be the same. The mix for these mortars is 4 parts sand to 3 parts lime. The sand is tan and contains a small portion of black granules. The color of the fines for this mortar most closely matches the Munsell color notation system number 10 YR 5/2. This mortar probably represents ca.-1798 work.

The mortar used for the northwest chimney in the attic resembles that of the south wall and southeast chimney, but its mix is different -- 1 part sand to 2 parts lime. The sand is tan, but contains a small amount of black granules; the fines match the Munsell soil color chart no. 10 YR 8/2. This mortar appears to be ca.-1798 mortar, dating from when the chimney was rebuilt in a more southerly location.

The firebox of the fireplace in Room 204 was built in two phases. One mortar sample was taken from brickwork from each phase. Neither mortar matches any of the mortars found in the attic. The mortar from the smaller, ca.-1798 section of firebox consists of 1 part sand to 1 part lime. Its sand is tan; its fines color matches the Munsell soil color chart no. 10 YR 7/2. The mortar from the larger, ca.-1820 section of firebox consists of 6 parts sand to 5 parts lime to 3 parts clay. Its sand is tan; its fines color is 10 YR 6/3.

The mortar-analysis sheets from which the preceding data was summarized are on file at the NAHPC.

## APPENDIX B.

### PLASTER ANALYSIS

Plaster samples from the Antram-Gray House were studied to help trace the evolution of the structure. Samples were taken from a variety of locations; their identification numbers and the locations from which they were taken are cited in the following tables. The samples then were analyzed, using standard mortar-analysis procedures developed by the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center (NAHPC). This analysis identified not only the plaster mix, but also the sand type, fines color, and fiber content of the plasters. Four basic types of plaster were identified.

This information was evaluated further, in conjunction with knowledge about the types of lath and lath nails used with the different plasters (see Appendix C). Comparison of the various plasters and their substrates allowed tentative dates to be assigned to the four plaster types. These types are discussed in the four data-summary sheets that follow. The analysis sheets from which this data is summarized are on file at the NAHPC, and are available for further study.

The fifth sheet of this appendix is a diagram of the west wall of Room 204, showing the various types of plaster found there. This wall is of particular importance, because:

- 1) it contains three of the four plaster types found, reflecting not only the original house, but also many of the subsequent alterations; and
- 2) the approximate dates assigned to these plasters can be assigned to the several major renovation comparisons that they reflect.

For example, the presence of Type-I lath and plaster in Zones C and H indicate undisturbed, ca.-1730 wall area. The use of Type-III lath and plaster in Zone G indicates that the northwest chimney was rebuilt 1 foot, 4 inches southward ca. 1798. The same plaster in Zones D and F indicates that the entire ca.-1798 fireplace here was recessed into the wall. The presence of Type-IV lath and plaster in Zones A and B attests to the moving of Doorway 212 -- and the creation of the southwest stair -- ca. 1850. Its use in Zone E reveals that the recessed fireplace treatment was done away with at the same time.

A. Type-I Plaster

Location

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Sample Location</u>
003	Room 204 - west wall, Zone C
011	Room 204 - west wall, Zone H
012	Room 204 - west wall, Zone H

Description

Type-I plaster is one of the two ca.-1730 plasters found in the Antram-Gray House. It is a white, one-coat plaster, varying in thickness from three-eighths to one-half of an inch. It is keyed to thin, irregular, hand-split lath. The lath is nailed, to the vertical planks of the exterior sheathing and interior partitions, with wrought nails. The mix of this plaster is approximately 1 part sand to 1 part lime. The sand is a tan color, and contains numerous fragments of shell. These shell fragments suggest that the lime for this plaster may have been made from burned shells. The color of the fines of this plaster most closely matches the Munsell soil color chart no. 10 YR 6/2; the plaster contains large clumps of reddish-brown hairs approximately half an inch long.

B. Type-II Plaster

Location

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Sample Location</u>
028	Room 205 - south wall, west end
029	Room 205 - east wall, north end
033	Room 206 - north wall
045	Room 106 - ceiling
047	Room 207 - northwest corner post

Description

Type-II plaster is also a ca.-1730 plaster. Like the Type-I plaster, it is a white, single-coat plaster. It is approximately one-half to five-eighths of an inch thick. It is keyed to thin, irregular, hand-split lath, which is nailed to the vertical planks of the house with wrought nails. The plaster mix is approximately 1 part sand to 2 parts lime. The color of the sand is light brown, and it contains fragments of shell and red brick. The color of the fines of this plaster most closely matches the Munsell soil color chart no.10 YR 6/2. This plaster contains small amounts of evenly dispersed, reddish-brown hairs one-half to five-eighths of an inch long.



C. Type-III Plaster

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Location</u>
005	Room 204 - west wall, Zone D
010	Room 204 - west wall, Zone G
015	Former location of northwest basement stair
016	Room 106 - south wall, plaster surrounding doorway infill
023	Attic-stair enclosure - south wall
027	Room 205 - west wall
030	Room 205 - north wall
031	Room 201 - north wall
032	Room 204 - east wall, chair rail infill
034	Room 207 - west wall (same plaster present on south wall)
035	Room 202 - west wall
036	Attic - northeast room (although the mix is the same, this plaster is applied to accordion-type lath, and has been dated to ca. 1830)

Description

Type-III plaster has been dated to ca. 1798. It is a gray, one-coat plaster, varying in thickness from five-eighths to three-fourths of an inch. It is keyed to hand-split lath. The ca.-1798 lath is wider and more uniform than the ca.-1730 lath. The lath is nailed to the vertical planks of the house with both wrought and early machine-cut nails. The plaster mix is approximately 2 parts sand to 1 part lime. The sand used for this plaster is dark gray; the fines color falls between the Munsell soil color chart nos. 10 YR 5/1 and 5/2. This plaster contains a small amount of reddish-brown hairs a quarter of an inch long.

D. Type-IV Plaster

	Location
<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Sample Location</u>
002	Room 204 - west wall, Zone B
006	Room 204 - west wall, Zone E
009	Room 204 - ceiling, after leveling
013	Room 204 - firebox infill
014	Room 204 - west wall, Zone A
017	Attic-stair enclosure - south wall, area above yellow-painted plaster
018	Room 106 - south wall, doorway infill
019	Attic-stair enclosure - east wall (small portion)
021	Attic-stair enclosure - north wall
025	Southwest-stair enclosure - east wall
026	Room 203 - north wall, closet area
046	Room 202 - closet area
048	Attic - south room

Description

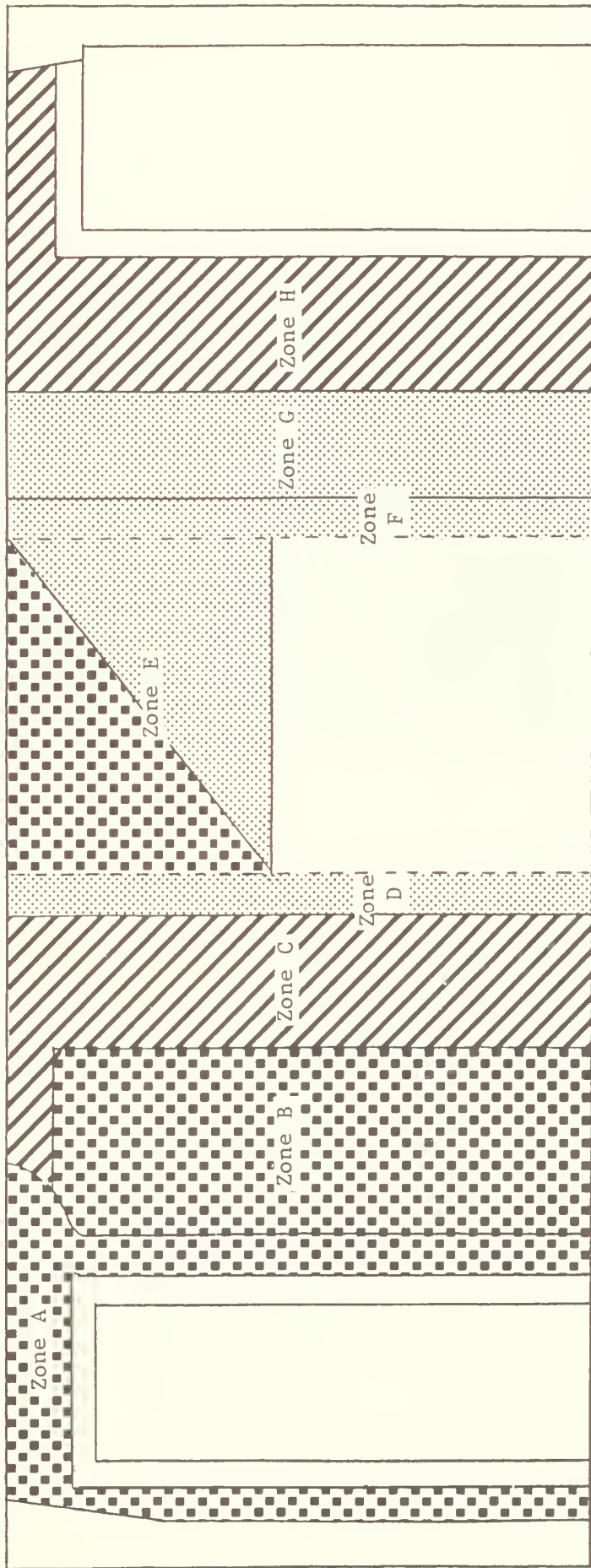
Type-IV plaster has been dated to ca. 1850. It is a tan, one-coat plaster roughly three-eighths to one-half of an inch thick and keyed to machine-sawn lath. The nails used to secure the lath to the vertical planks are late machine-cut nails. The plaster mix is roughly 4 parts sand to 3 parts lime. The sand used for this plaster is light brown, with a sprinkling of black sand grains. The fines color falls between Munsell soil color chart nos. 5 YR 6/1 and 7/1. This plaster contains large clumps of red hairs five-eighths to three-fourths of an inch long.

Antram-Gray House  
Room 204  
West Wall  
Plaster Types

Type I Plaster -- ca. 1730

Type II Plaster -- ca. 1798

Type III Plaster -- ca. 1850



APPENDIX C.

NAIL ANALYSIS

The chronology of the nails used in the Antram-Gray House was studied during the preparation of this report. Nails were pulled from architectural elements that were thought -- on the basis of paint, plaster, and molding analysis -- to be representative of the three phases of construction that had occurred at the house. The nails were grouped according to their uses -- lath nails, sheathing nails, common or box nails, and finishing nails. The nails then were dated according to their method of manufacture, based upon the information in AASLH Technical Leaflet 48, Nail Chronology, by Lee Nelson. The dates thus assigned to the nails were compared with the tentative dates that had been assigned to the architectural fabric from which they were pulled.

The information gleaned from this comparative study has been incorporated into the text of this report. In general, the earliest (ca.-1730) nails used in the Antram-Gray House are wrought nails. The nails used for the ca.-1798 addition and alterations are a combination of wrought and early machine-cut nails (with handmade heads). The ca.-1850 alterations were made with late, or "modern," machine-cut nails (with machine-made heads). The following pages indicate the appearance and locations of the nails that were studied.

A. Lath Nails



Photograph No. 1: wrought nails with rose heads, ca. 1730

Nail locations (left to right):

1. Northwest-Stair Enclosure - east wall, at top of stair  
(from a small area of hand-split lath)
2. Room 206 - north wall
- 3-4. Room 207 - north wall
5. Room 207 - east wall
- 6-7. Room 205 - east wall, below window
- 8-9. Room 204 - west wall, Zone H
- 10-11. Room 204 - west wall, Zone C



Photograph No. 2: wrought nails with rose heads, ca. 1730

Nail Locations (left to right):

1. Room 205 - ceiling
2. Room 204 - ceiling
- 3-4. Room 203 - ceiling
5. Room 204 - ceiling

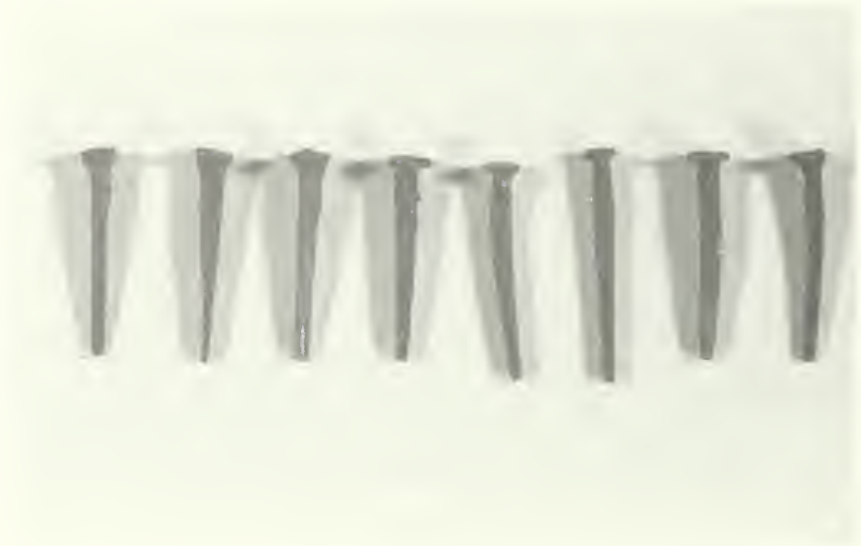




Photograph No. 3: wrought nails and early machine-cut nails with handmade heads, ca. 1798

Nail Locations (left to right):

1. Room 207 - east wall, patch north of window
- 2-3. Room 207 - south wall
- 4-5. Room 207 - west wall
- 6-7. Room 205 - north wall
- 8-9. Room 205 - east wall, patch north of window
- 10-11. Room 204 - Zone G
- 12-14. Room 204 - Zone F



Photograph No. 4: late machine-cut nails, ca. 1850

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-3. Room 204 - nails in filled-in area above fireplace
- 4-5. Attic-Stair Enclosure - north wall
- 6-7. Room 204 - west wall, Zone B
- 8. Room 204 - ceiling after it was leveled

B. Partition and Flooring Nails



Photograph No. 5: 8d (2-1/2 inch) wrought nails with rose heads,  
ca. 1730

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-3. Room 207 - former location of ca.-1730 south wall
- 4-7. Attic - floorboards



Photograph No. 6: 8d (2-1/2 inch) early machine-cut nails with handmade, T-shaped heads, ca. 1798

Nail Locations (left to right):

1. Attic - northeast room, partition walls
- 2-3. Attic Stair - tread nails
- 4-5. Room 206 - east wall, vertical boards at top of stair
6. Room 205 - south wall, former newel next to Doorway 204
7. Attic - northeast room, toe-nail strip



Photograph No. 7: 20d (4-inch) early machine-cut nails with handmade, L-shaped heads, ca. 1798

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-2. Attic - floor in south room
- 3. Room 202 - floor
- 4-5. Attic - floor in south room



Photograph No. 8: 20d (4-inch) late machine-cut nails with L-shaped heads, ca. 1860

Nail Locations (left to right):

1-4. Room 205 - floor in west half of room



C. Sheathing Nail



Photograph No. 9: 16d (3-1/2 inch) wrought nail with rose head,  
ca. 1730

Nail Location:

1. Attic - north wall

D. Common Nails



Photograph No. 10: 10d (3-inch) late machine-cut nails,  
ca. 1850

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-2. Room 204 - mantelshelf
- 3-4. Room 204 - ceiling scabs
5. Room 204 - vertical board above fireplace
6. Attic Stair - top tread

E. Finish Nails



Photograph No. 11: 4d (1-1/2 inch) and 6d (2-inch) early machine-cut nails with handmade, L-shaped heads, ca. 1798

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-3. Room 207 - Doorway 201, casing
- 4. Room 201 - fireplace, cornice molding
- 5-7. Northwest Stair - baseboard



Photograph No. 12: 6d (2-inch) early machine-cut nails with handmade, L-shaped heads, ca. 1798

Nail Locations (left to right):

1-3. Room 201 - south window, sill



Photograph No. 13: 7d (2-1/4 inch) late machine-cut nails,  
ca. 1860

Nail Locations (left to right):

- 1-3. Room 207 - later floorboards
- 4. Room 207
- 5-6. Room 204 - west wall, baseboard south of fireplace
- 7-8. Room 202 - closet shelves

APPENDIX D.

MOLDING-PROFILE ANALYSIS

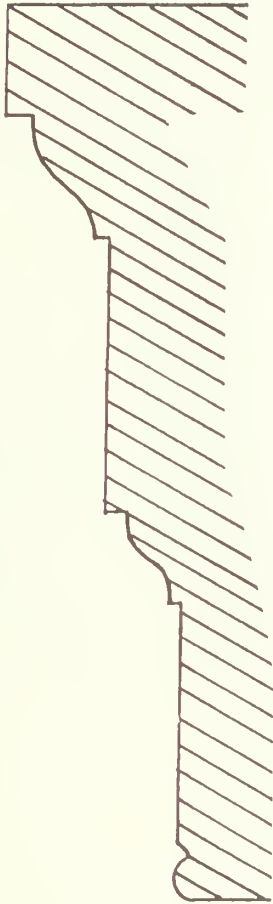
The moldings of the woodwork in the rooms of the Antram-Gray House were measured, drawn, and organized according to their profiles and the architectural elements from which they came. They then were studied, to help determine what architectural elements in the house had been altered, and when these alterations occurred.

The majority of the woodwork in the Antram-Gray House was found to date to ca. 1798. The moldings present on this woodwork are constructed from circular shapes derived from classical Roman precedents. The later, ca. 1820-50 moldings contain more elliptical shapes, being derived from classical Greek precedents. The information gained by studying these moldings has been incorporated into the text of this report.



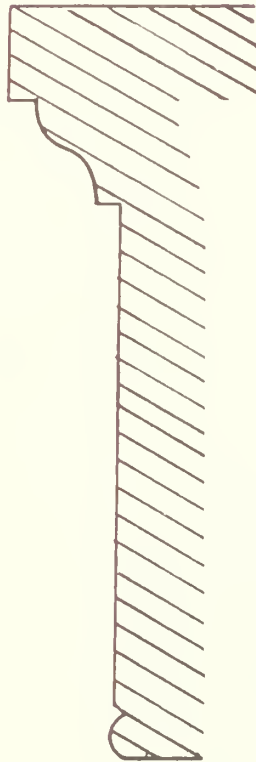
DOORWAY CASINGS

(full size)



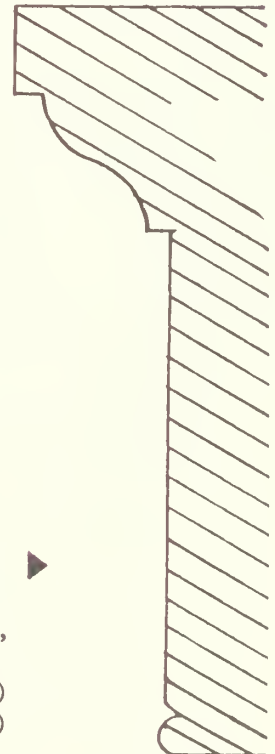
◀ Molding Type A

- D204 (Room 201)
- D205 (Room 201)
- D206 (Room 201)
- D207 (Room 201)



◀ Molding Type B\*

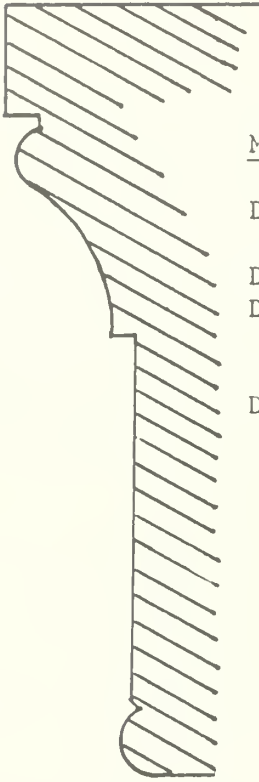
- D201 (Room 207)
- D202 (Rooms 205 & 207)
- D204 (Room 205)
- D206 (Room 202)
- D207 (Room 204)
- D208 (Room 204)
- D209 (Room 202)



Molding Type C ▶

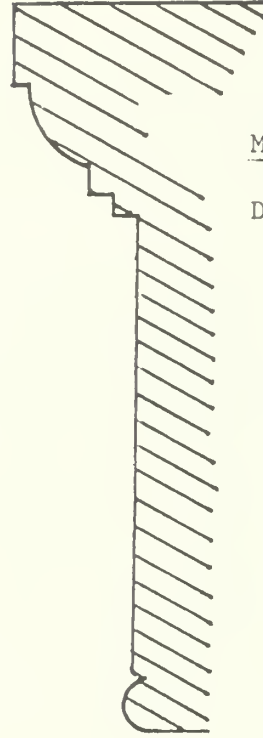
- D212 (Room 203,  
south casing)
- D213 (Room 206)
- D214 (Room 206)

\* Variations occur in the width of the casings' fasciae.



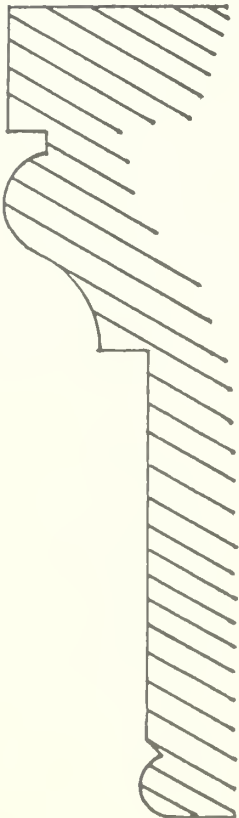
Molding Type D

D210 (Room 203, east  
and top casings)  
D211 (Room 203)  
D212 (Room 203, north  
and top casings,  
and Room 204)  
D213 (Room 204)



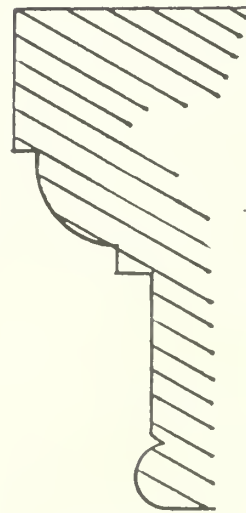
Molding Type E

D210 (Room 202)



Molding Type F

D210 (Room 203,  
west casing)

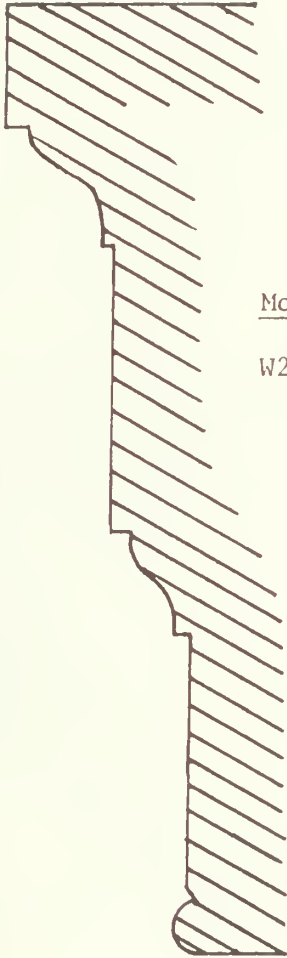


Molding Type G

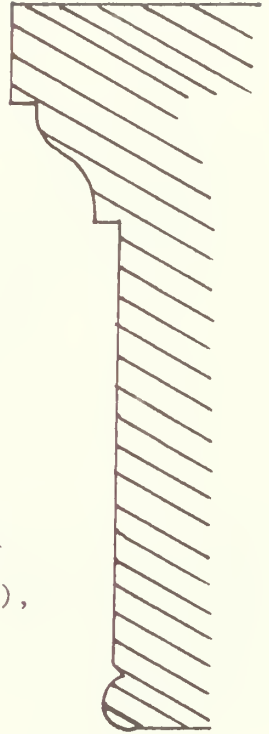
D210 (Room 204)

WINDOW CASINGS AND SILLS

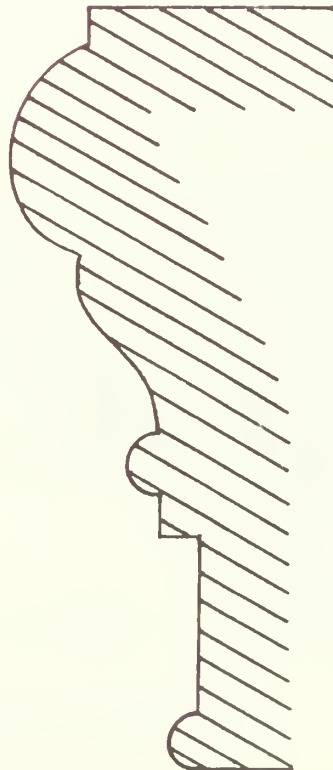
(full size)



Molding Type H  
W205 (Room 201),  
casing



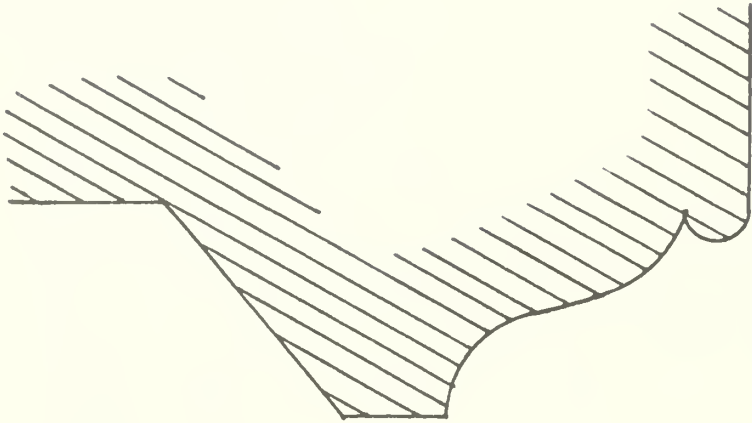
Molding Type I  
W206 (Room 202),  
casing



Molding Type J  
W205 & W206,  
sills

FIREPLACE MOLDINGS

(full size)

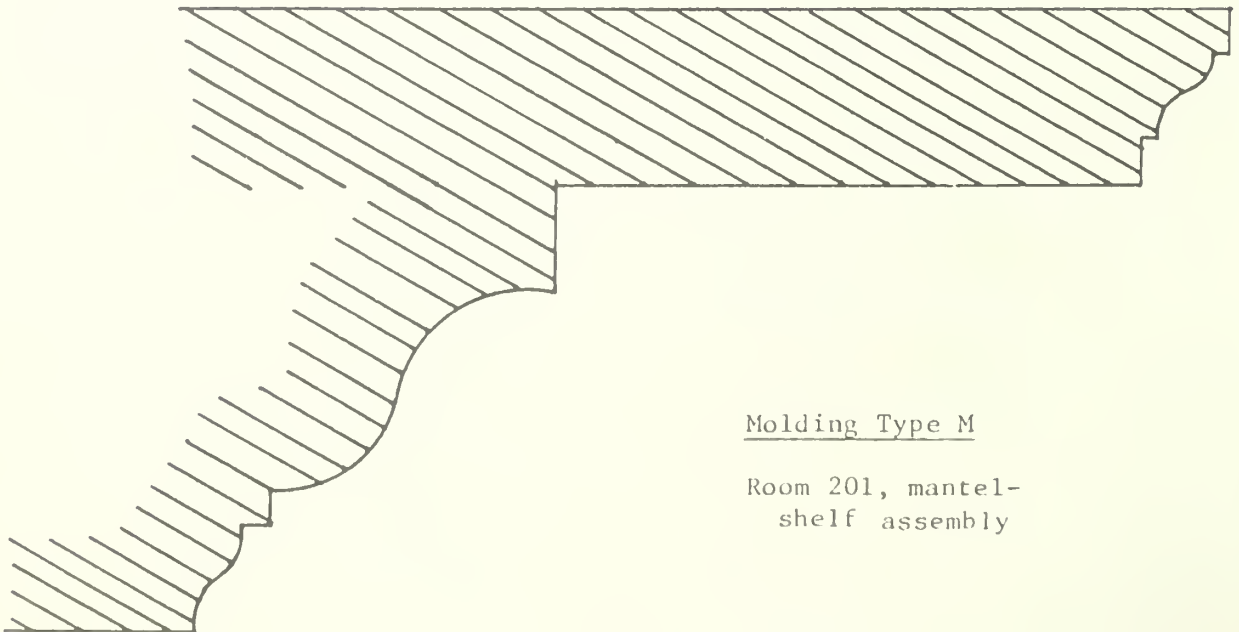
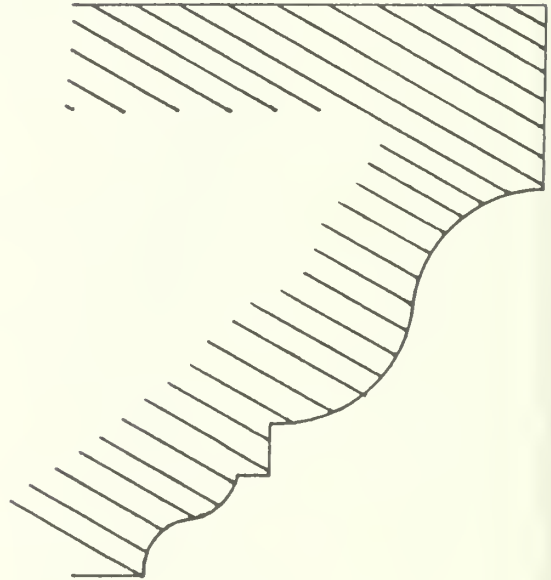


Molding Type K

Room 101, around  
firebox opening

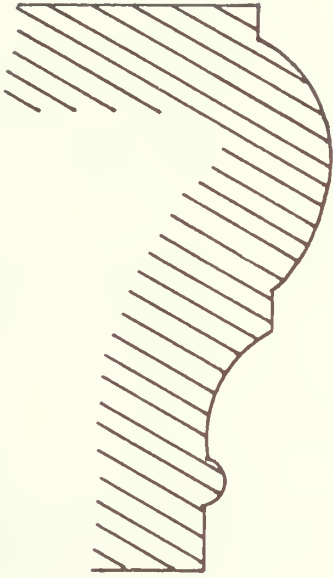
Molding Type L

Room 201, over-  
mantel cornice



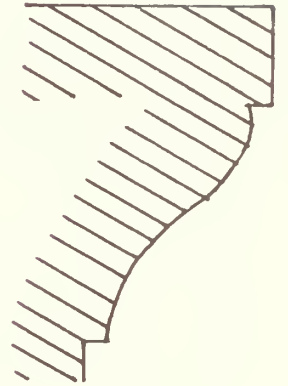
Molding Type M

Room 201, mantel-  
shelf assembly



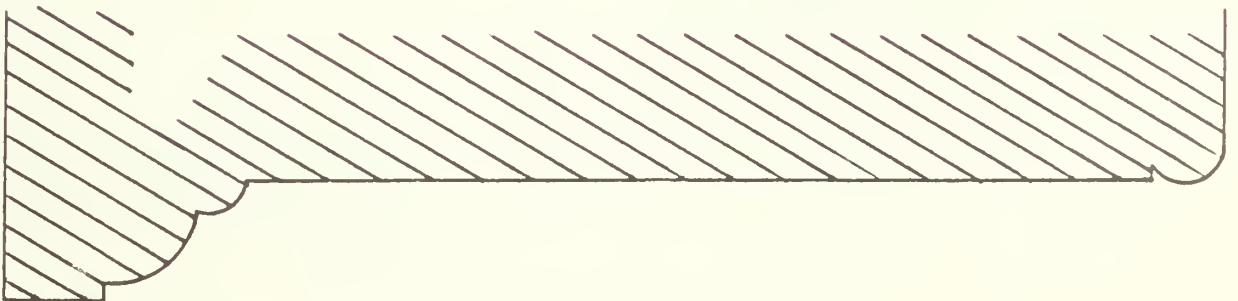
Molding Type N

Room 201, around  
firebox opening



Molding Type O

Room 202, around  
firebox opening  
and under mantel-  
shelf



Molding Type P

Room 204, around  
firebox opening

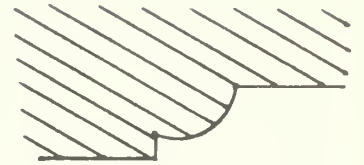
DOOR PANEL MOLDINGS

(full size)



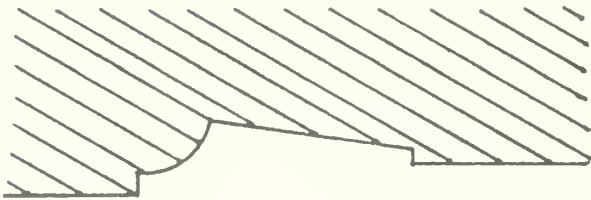
Molding Type Q

D202            D206  
D204            D208  
D205            D209



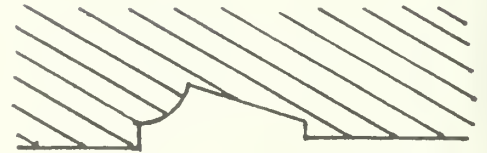
Molding Type T

D210 (Room 203)



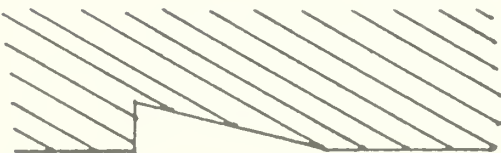
Molding Type R

D201  
D212 (Room 204)  
D213



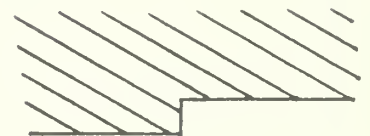
Molding Type U

D209



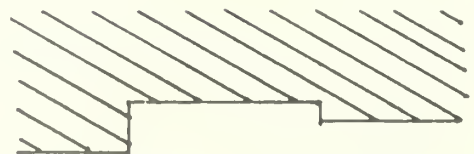
Molding Type S

D210 (Room 202)



Molding Type V

D212 (Room 203)



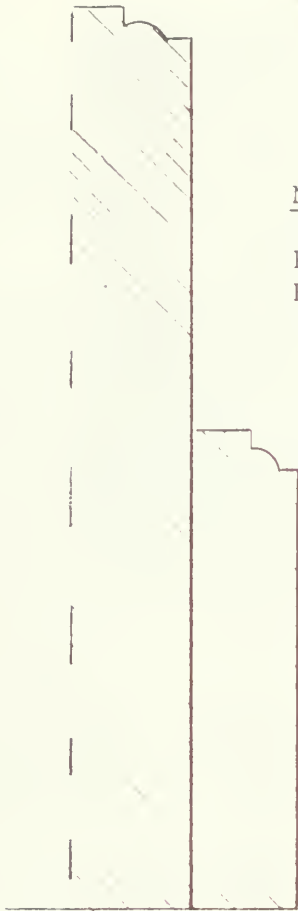
Molding Type W

D211



BASEBOARD MOLDINGS

(full size)



Molding Type X

Room 201  
Room 202



Molding Type Y

Room 204  
Room 205  
Room 206

(Height of  
baseboards  
ranges from  
5 to 6  
inches)



Molding Type Z

Room 207

## APPENDIX E.

### FINISHES ANALYSIS

Paint samples from the Antram-Gray House were analyzed to identify alterations to the structure, and to date comparatively these alterations. This information has been incorporated into the text of this historic structure report. Specific paint-sample numbers are cited there to identify the samples from which pertinent information was gleaned.

Samples containing early paint from the exterior are extremely limited, because most of the exterior woodwork is relatively modern. Only samples taken from the northwest doorway frontispiece and a reused board found in the house contain historic exterior paint. These paint samples indicate that ca. 1798, the exterior of the house was painted white (Munsell no. N 9/, Benjamin Moore OW-5). Samples of early interior paint in the first-floor rooms are equally scarce, for the same reason cited for the exterior. It is assumed that these rooms were finished with paint colors similar to those used in the second-story rooms. Paint samples from the second-story rooms contain full sequences of historic paint colors. These paint samples form the primary basis for this study. (No written or photographic documentation for the early paint colors of the Antram-Gray House has been found.)

Since the Antram-Gray House will not be restored to a particular period in its history, no restoration paint schedule has been compiled as part of this study. Instead, the paint colors associated with significant alterations to the house have been identified. These paint colors have been matched to the Munsell color-notation system, and to colors available through the Benjamin Moore company. Finishes charts have been compiled that identify the paints and wallpapers used in each room. (Since nearly all the evidence for the interior finishes in the first-story rooms has been obliterated, these charts have been compiled only for the second-story rooms.) Representative paint samples have been photographed and are presented below.

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-P272

LOCATION: Exterior - Pediment - Northwest Door

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Twenty-Five

SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLGY:

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. <u>white</u>         | 21. <u>red</u>   |
| 2. <u>white</u>         | 22. <u>gray</u>  |
| 3. <u>white</u>         | 23. <u>gray</u>  |
| 4. <u>brown</u>         | 24. <u>gray</u>  |
| 5. <u>white</u>         | 25. <u>gray</u>  |
| 6. <u>mustard</u>       | 26. <u>gray</u>  |
| 7. <u>tan</u>           | 27. <u>gray</u>  |
| 8. <u>brown</u>         | 28. <u>blue</u>  |
| 9. <u>black</u>         | 29. <u>white</u> |
| 10. <u>yellow</u>       | 30. <u>white</u> |
| 11. <u>brown</u>        | 31. <u>gray</u>  |
| 12. <u>red</u>          | 32. <u></u>      |
| 13. <u>white</u>        | 33. <u></u>      |
| 14. <u>red</u>          | 34. <u></u>      |
| 15. <u>red</u>          | 35. <u></u>      |
| 16. <u>black</u>        | 36. <u></u>      |
| 17. <u>white (gray)</u> | 37. <u></u>      |
| 18. <u>salmon</u>       | 38. <u></u>      |
| 19. <u>red</u>          | 39. <u></u>      |
| 20. <u>brown</u>        | 40. <u></u>      |

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-P127

LOCATION: Room 206 - Northwest Stairs - Riser

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Twenty-Five

SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. <u>gray</u>        | 21. <u>white</u> |
| 2. <u>gray</u>        | 22. <u>black</u> |
| 3. <u>gray</u>        | 23. <u>blue</u>  |
| 4. <u>gray</u>        | 24. <u>blue</u>  |
| 5. <u>mustard</u>     | 25. <u>blue</u>  |
| 6. <u>mustard</u>     | 26. _____        |
| 7. <u>mustard</u>     | 27. _____        |
| 8. <u>mustard</u>     | 28. _____        |
| 9. <u>mustard</u>     | 29. _____        |
| 10. <u>green</u>      | 30. _____        |
| 11. <u>dark green</u> | 31. _____        |
| 12. <u>dark green</u> | 32. _____        |
| 13. <u>green</u>      | 33. _____        |
| 14. <u>dark green</u> | 34. _____        |
| 15. <u>white</u>      | 35. _____        |
| 16. <u>tan</u>        | 36. _____        |
| 17. <u>dark green</u> | 37. _____        |
| 18. <u>gray</u>       | 38. _____        |
| 19. <u>white</u>      | 39. _____        |
| 20. <u>white</u>      | 40. _____        |

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-PO13  
LOCATION: Room 201 - Southeast Window

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Eighteen  
SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLGY:

- |     |                             |     |                             |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1.  | <u>white</u>                | 21. | <u>                    </u> |
| 2.  | <u>green</u>                | 22. | <u>                    </u> |
| 3.  | <u>green</u>                | 23. | <u>                    </u> |
| 4.  | <u>cream</u>                | 24. | <u>                    </u> |
| 5.  | <u>cream</u>                | 25. | <u>                    </u> |
| 6.  | <u>cream</u>                | 26. | <u>                    </u> |
| 7.  | <u>cream</u>                | 27. | <u>                    </u> |
| 8.  | <u>yellow</u>               | 28. | <u>                    </u> |
| 9.  | <u>cream</u>                | 29. | <u>                    </u> |
| 10. | <u>tan</u>                  | 30. | <u>                    </u> |
| 11. | <u>white</u>                | 31. | <u>                    </u> |
| 12. | <u>brown</u>                | 32. | <u>                    </u> |
| 13. | <u>green</u>                | 33. | <u>                    </u> |
| 14. | <u>green</u>                | 34. | <u>                    </u> |
| 15. | <u>white</u>                | 35. | <u>                    </u> |
| 16. | <u>blue</u>                 | 36. | <u>                    </u> |
| 17. | <u>white</u>                | 37. | <u>                    </u> |
| 18. | <u>white</u>                | 38. | <u>                    </u> |
| 19. | <u>                    </u> | 39. | <u>                    </u> |
| 20. | <u>                    </u> | 40. | <u>                    </u> |





SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-P051  
LOCATION: Room 202 - East Wall Baseboard  
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Twenty-Two  
SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. <u>green</u>       | 21. <u>white</u> |
| 2. <u>brown</u>       | 22. <u>white</u> |
| 3. <u>cream</u>       | 23. _____        |
| 4. <u>cream</u>       | 24. _____        |
| 5. <u>salmon</u>      | 25. _____        |
| 6. <u>cream</u>       | 26. _____        |
| 7. <u>cream</u>       | 27. _____        |
| 8. <u>cream</u>       | 28. _____        |
| 9. <u>mustard</u>     | 29. _____        |
| 10. <u>dark green</u> | 30. _____        |
| 11. <u>mustard</u>    | 31. _____        |
| 12. <u>gray</u>       | 32. _____        |
| 13. <u>gray</u>       | 33. _____        |
| 14. <u>gray</u>       | 34. _____        |
| 15. <u>white</u>      | 35. _____        |
| 16. <u>tan</u>        | 36. _____        |
| 17. <u>salmon</u>     | 37. _____        |
| 18. <u>blue</u>       | 38. _____        |
| 19. <u>blue</u>       | 39. _____        |
| 20. <u>blue</u>       | 40. _____        |

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-PO65  
LOCATION: Room 205 - South Baseboard  
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Fifteen  
SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. <u>white</u>                    | 21. _____ |
| 2. <u>blue</u>                     | 22. _____ |
| 3. <u>blue</u>                     | 23. _____ |
| 4. <u>green</u>                    | 24. _____ |
| 5. <u>white</u>                    | 25. _____ |
| 6. <u>cream</u>                    | 26. _____ |
| 7. <u>white</u>                    | 27. _____ |
| 8. <u>yellow</u>                   | 28. _____ |
| 9. <u>green</u>                    | 29. _____ |
| 10. <u>white</u>                   | 30. _____ |
| 11. <u>white</u>                   | 31. _____ |
| 12. <u>dark green</u>              | 32. _____ |
| 13. <u>mustard</u>                 | 33. _____ |
| 14. <u>white</u>                   | 34. _____ |
| 15. <u>green</u>                   | 35. _____ |
| 16. <u>6-8 layers of wallpaper</u> | 36. _____ |
| 17. _____                          | 37. _____ |
| 18. _____                          | 38. _____ |
| 19. _____                          | 39. _____ |
| 20. _____                          | 40. _____ |

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-PO94

LOCATION: Room 204 - Door 210

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Nineteen

SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1. <u>cream</u>  | 21. _____ |
| 2. <u>green</u>  | 22. _____ |
| 3. <u>green</u>  | 23. _____ |
| 4. <u>white</u>  | 24. _____ |
| 5. <u>cream</u>  | 25. _____ |
| 6. <u>cream</u>  | 26. _____ |
| 7. <u>cream</u>  | 27. _____ |
| 8. <u>cream</u>  | 28. _____ |
| 9. <u>cream</u>  | 29. _____ |
| 10. <u>cream</u> | 30. _____ |
| 11. <u>olive</u> | 31. _____ |
| 12. <u>cream</u> | 32. _____ |
| 13. <u>brown</u> | 33. _____ |
| 14. <u>brown</u> | 34. _____ |
| 15. <u>brown</u> | 35. _____ |
| 16. <u>gray</u>  | 36. _____ |
| 17. <u>tan</u>   | 37. _____ |
| 18. <u>white</u> | 38. _____ |
| 19. <u>blue</u>  | 39. _____ |
| 20. _____        | 40. _____ |

SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-PO98

LOCATION: Room 204 - Southwest Cornerpost

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Seventeen/Eighteen

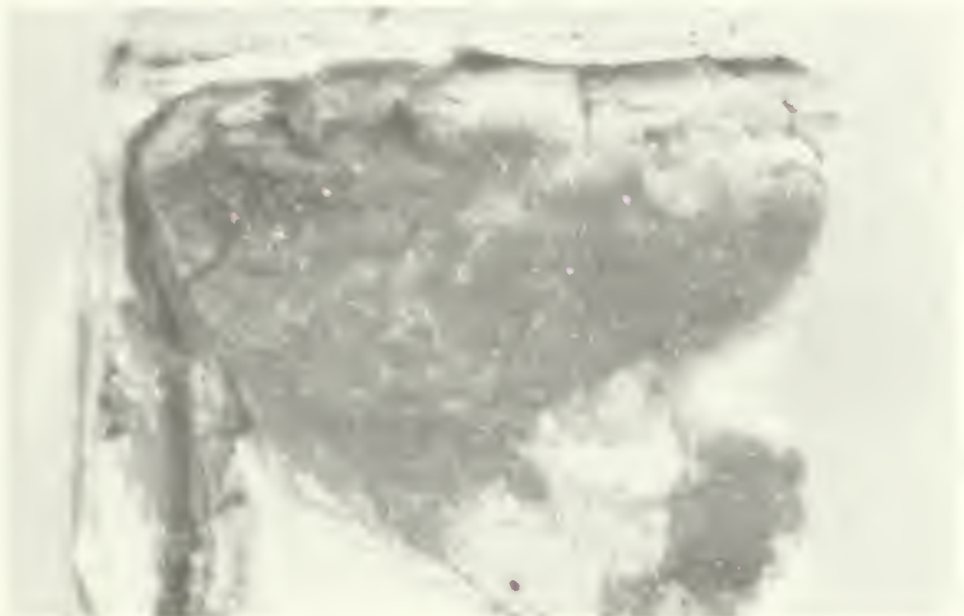
SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |     |                  |     |         |
|-----|------------------|-----|---------|
| 1.  | <u>red</u>       | 21. | <u></u> |
| 2.  | <u>green</u>     | 22. | <u></u> |
| 3.  | <u>green</u>     | 23. | <u></u> |
| 4.  | <u>cream</u>     | 24. | <u></u> |
| 5.  | <u>yellow</u>    | 25. | <u></u> |
| 6.  | <u>cream</u>     | 26. | <u></u> |
| 7.  | <u>green</u>     | 27. | <u></u> |
| 8.  | <u>white</u>     | 28. | <u></u> |
| 9.  | <u>olive</u>     | 29. | <u></u> |
| 10. | <u>mustard</u>   | 30. | <u></u> |
| 11. | <u>green</u>     | 31. | <u></u> |
| 12. | <u>brown</u>     | 32. | <u></u> |
| 13. | <u>green</u>     | 33. | <u></u> |
| 14. | <u>white</u>     | 34. | <u></u> |
| 15. | <u>white</u>     | 35. | <u></u> |
| 16. | <u>salmon</u>    | 36. | <u></u> |
| 17. | <u>wallpaper</u> | 37. | <u></u> |
| 18. | <u>blue</u>      | 38. | <u></u> |
| 19. | <u></u>          | 39. | <u></u> |
| 20. | <u></u>          | 40. | <u></u> |

SITE Roger Williams National Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-P137

LOCATION: Room 206 - Horizontal Molding at the Top of the Stairs

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Twenty-Three

SUBSTRATE: Wood

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. <u>yellow</u>  | 21. <u>blue</u>  |
| 2. <u>blue</u>    | 22. <u>blue</u>  |
| 3. <u>cream</u>   | 23. <u>white</u> |
| 4. <u>cream</u>   | 24. _____        |
| 5. <u>cream</u>   | 25. _____        |
| 6. <u>mustard</u> | 26. _____        |
| 7. <u>white</u>   | 27. _____        |
| 8. <u>mustard</u> | 28. _____        |
| 9. <u>white</u>   | 29. _____        |
| 10. <u>gray</u>   | 30. _____        |
| 11. <u>gray</u>   | 31. _____        |
| 12. <u>gray</u>   | 32. _____        |
| 13. <u>green</u>  | 33. _____        |
| 14. <u>cream</u>  | 34. _____        |
| 15. <u>cream</u>  | 35. _____        |
| 16. <u>white</u>  | 36. _____        |
| 17. <u>salmon</u> | 37. _____        |
| 18. <u>blue</u>   | 38. _____        |
| 19. <u>blue</u>   | 39. _____        |
| 20. <u>blue</u>   | 40. _____        |



SITE Roger Williams National  
Memorial

LOCATION Antram-Gray House  
DATE 12-81



SAMPLE NO.: ROWI-01-P141  
LOCATION: Room 204 - West Wall - Zone C - Behind Baseboard

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF LAYERS: Three  
SUBSTRATE: Plaster

CHROMOCHRONOLOGY:

- |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. <u>white</u> | 21. _____ |
| 2. <u>white</u> | 22. _____ |
| 3. <u>black</u> | 23. _____ |
| 4. _____        | 24. _____ |
| 5. _____        | 25. _____ |
| 6. _____        | 26. _____ |
| 7. _____        | 27. _____ |
| 8. _____        | 28. _____ |
| 9. _____        | 29. _____ |
| 10. _____       | 30. _____ |
| 11. _____       | 31. _____ |
| 12. _____       | 32. _____ |
| 13. _____       | 33. _____ |
| 14. _____       | 34. _____ |
| 15. _____       | 35. _____ |
| 16. _____       | 36. _____ |
| 17. _____       | 37. _____ |
| 18. _____       | 38. _____ |
| 19. _____       | 39. _____ |
| 20. _____       | 40. _____ |





COLOR SAMPLES AND NOTATIONS

COLOR SAMPLES AND NOTATIONS



Munsell 10Y 7/2  
Benjamin Moore OT-39



Munsell 10YR 8/4  
Benjamin Moore GB-16



Munsell 2.5Y 9/2  
Benjamin Moore OW-15




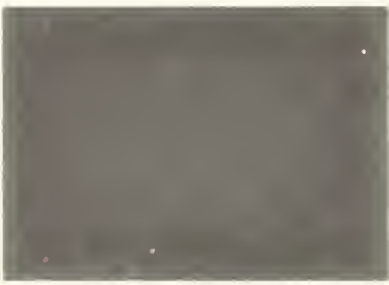



Munsell 2.5YR 6/2  
Benjamin Moore ST-50



Munsell 2.5GY 6/2  
Benjamin Moore OT-62



Munsell 2.5YR 3/4  
California AC-12

COLOR SAMPLE AND NOTATION	COLOR SAMPLE AND NOTATION
 <p data-bbox="182 729 496 790">Munsell 5Y 9/1 Benjamin Moore OW-5</p>	 <p data-bbox="816 729 1096 790">Munsell N 3.5/ California 56-15U</p>
 <p data-bbox="182 1253 516 1314">Munsell 5GY 7/2 Benjamin Moore OT-58</p>	 <p data-bbox="816 1253 1125 1314">Munsell 5B 5/2 Benjamin Moore BT-8</p>
 <p data-bbox="188 1757 516 1818">Munsell 10YR 6/6 Benjamin Moore GB-13</p>	

Finishes Chart  
Antram-Gray House  
Room 201

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	This room is located in the ca.-1798 addition and therefore has no ca.-1730 finishes.	Green - Munsell 10Y 7/2 Benjamin Moore OT-39	White - Munsell 2.5Y 9/2 Benjamin Moore OW-15
Walls		Wallpapered - Pattern Unknown	Wallpapered - Pattern Unknown
Ceiling		Whitewashed	Whitewashed
Floors		Unpainted	Unpainted

Finishes Chart  
Antram-Gray House  
Room 202

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	This room is located in the ca.-1798 addition and therefore has no ca.-1730 finishes.	Green - Munsell 2.5 GY 6/2 Benjamin Moore OT-62	Cream - Munsell 10YR 8/4 Benjamin Moore GB-16
Walls		Wallpapered - Pattern Unknown	Wallpapered - Pattern Unknown
Ceiling		Whitewashed	Whitewashed
Floors		Unpainted	Unpainted

Finishes Chart  
Antram-Gray House  
Room 203

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	Unknown	Unknown	Cream - Munsell 2.5Y 9/2 Benjamin Moore OW-15
Walls	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash Gray Calcimine Wallpaper - WP 020	Wallpaper - WP 021 Wallpaper - WP 022  There is also an early layer of rose colored paint on these walls, as is found as the first layer at the south west stairs. It suggests that these walls may have been painted for a short time before they were wallpapered.
Ceiling	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash	Whitewash
Floors	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown



Finishes Chart  
 Antram-Gray House  
 Room 204

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	Red -  Munsell 2.5YR 3/4  California Paints AC-12	Green -  Munsell 2.5 GY 6/2  Benjamin Moore OT-62  This paint layer is followed by multiple layers of white.	Cream -  Munsell 2.5Y 9/2  Benjamin Moore OW-15
Walls	Whitewash on Plaster w/ a painted black baseboard and chair- rail border	Wallpaper - WP 001 Wallpaper - WP 002 Wallpaper - WP 003 Wallpaper - WP 004 Wallpaper - WP 005	Wallpaper - WP 006
Ceiling	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash	Whitewash
Floors	Unpainted	Unpainted	Unpainted

Finishes Chart  
Antram-Gray House  
Room 205

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	Unknown	Light Blue/Green - Munsell 5GY 7/2 Benjamin Moore OT-58	White - Munsell 5Y 9/1 Benjamin Moore OW-5
Walls	Exterior Walls - Whitewash on Plaster  Interior Walls - Whitewash on Vertical Boards	Wallpaper - WP012	Wallpaper - WP 013
Ceiling	Whitewash	Whitewash	Whitewash
Floors	Unpainted	Unpainted	Unpainted

Finishes Chart  
 Antram-Gray House  
 Room 206

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	Unknown	Yellow -  Munsell 10YR 6/6 Benjamin Moore GB-13  Blue/Green -  Munsell	Cream -  Munsell 2.5Y 9/2  Benjamin Moore OW-15
Walls	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewashed  Wallpaper - WP 023  Wallpaper - WP 024	Wallpaper - WP 025
Ceiling	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash	Whitewash
Floors	Unknown	Stairs - Dark Gray  Munsell N 3.5/  California Paint 56-15V	Stairs - Yellow  Munsell 10YR 6/6  Benjamin Moore GB-13

Finishes Chart  
 Antram-Gray House  
 Room 207

	ca. 1730	ca. 1798	ca. 1850
Woodwork	Unknown	Blue - Munsell 5B 5/2 Benjamin Moore BT-8	Cream - Munsell 2.5Y 9/2 Benjamin Moore OW-15
Walls	Exterior Walls - Whitewash on Plaster  Interior Walls - Whitewash on Vertical Boards  Black Painted Base- board	Wallpaper - WP 017 Wallpaper - WP 018 Wallpaper - WP 019	Unknown
Ceiling	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash on Plaster	Whitewash on Plaster
Floors	Unpainted	Blue - Munsell 5B 5/2 Benjamin Moore BT-8	Unpainted

APPENDIX F.

WALLPAPER ANALYSIS

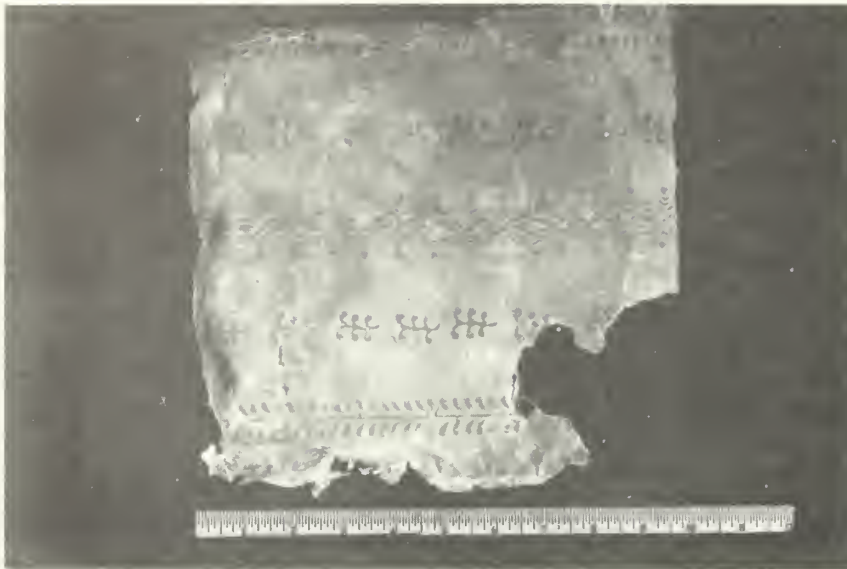
A surprisingly large number of early wallpaper fragments were found in the Antram-Gray House during the physical investigations that were conducted for the preparation of this report. In Room 205 -- once a small stairhall -- a nearly complete wall of a ca.-1800 classical wallpaper was found under multiple layers of later wallpaper.

The early wallpapers found in the Antram-Gray House were studied in situ to gather information about alterations that were made to the rooms. This information has been incorporated into the text of the report. Samples of the wallpapers also were removed and analyzed in an effort to date and document the wallpapers more accurately.

Summaries of the data gathered from this analysis, as well as black and white photographs of the samples of pre-1900 wallpaper, are presented here. Summaries and photographs of the post-1900 wallpapers are not included in this report. However, they are on file at the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center, and can be viewed by anyone wishing to learn more about these wallpapers.

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 001  
LOCATION: Room 204, angled side  
SUBSTRATE: plaster of ca.-1798  
fireplace



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	Striped, geometric; ca. 1798
SAMPLE SIZE:	approx. 9" square
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	red, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 002  
LOCATION: Room 204 - recessed  
SUBSTRATE: plaster area above  
fireplace



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	floral - ca. 1810
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 4½"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	light gray, gray, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 003  
LOCATION: Room 204 - recessed  
SUBSTRATE: plaster area above  
fireplace



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: curvilinear; ca. 1820

SAMPLE SIZE: 7' x 2' - three pieces -  
possible to determine complete pattern

PRINCIPAL COLORS: gray, dark gray

PAPER TYPE: rag

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: handmade

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 004  
LOCATION: Room 204 - recessed  
SUBSTRATE: plaster area above  
fireplace



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	floral w/curvilinear background; ca. 1830
SAMPLE SIZE:	16" x 7" (multiple smaller samples")
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, gold, yellow
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP005  
LOCATION: Room 204 - recessed  
SUBSTRATE: plaster area above  
fireplace



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

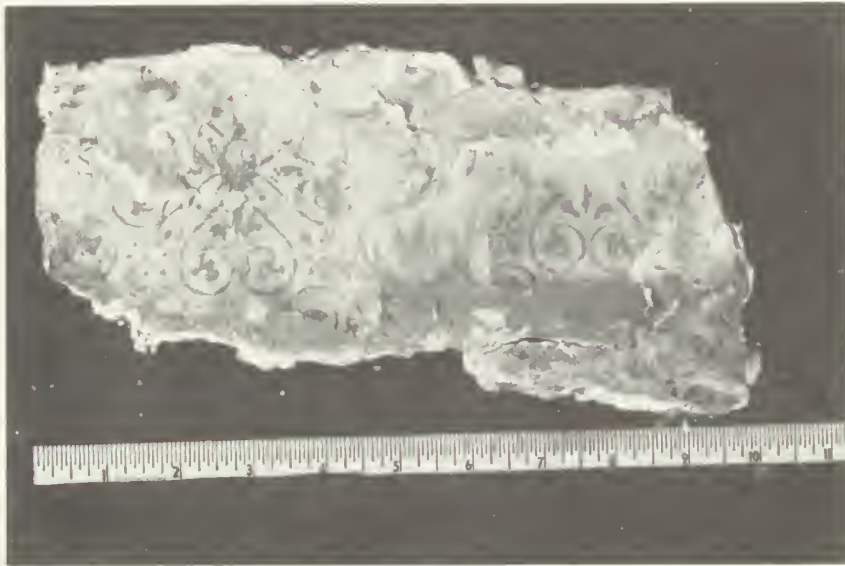
PATTERN & DATE:	geometric; ca. 1840
SAMPLE SIZE:	16" x 7" - also several smaller samples
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, dark blue, red, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP006  
LOCATION: Room 204 - under east  
SUBSTRATE: plaster chair rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	geometric; ca. 1850
SAMPLE SIZE:	9" x 4"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	light gray, gray
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS: This same wallpaper is found in Room 203 (WP 019).



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 007  
LOCATION: Room 204 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster under chair  
rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	foliate; ca. 1860
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 3" (Several small fragments)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	rose, light gray, gray
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

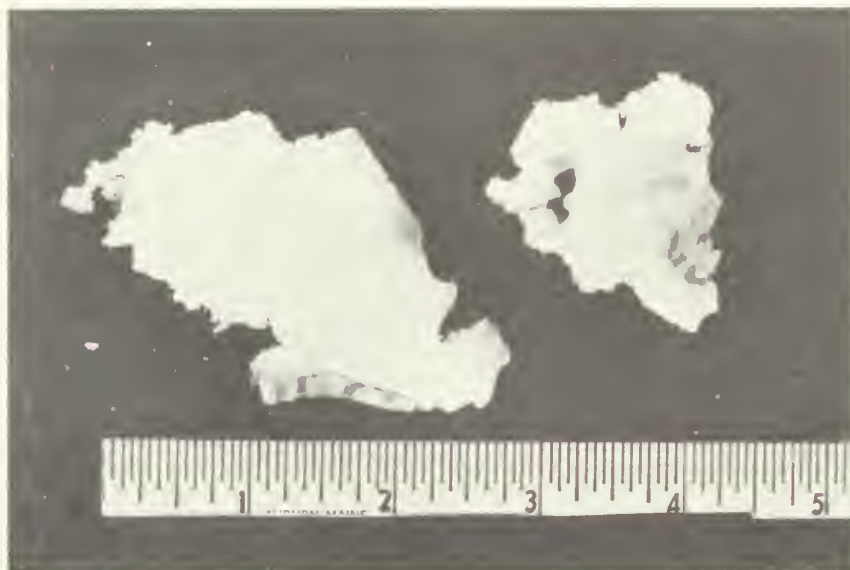
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COMMENTS:



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 008  
LOCATION: Room 204 - under east  
SUBSTRATE: plaster chair rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: plain, no pattern;  
ca. 1860-70

SAMPLE SIZE: 2" x 3" (two small  
samples)

PRINCIPAL COLORS: white ground

PAPER TYPE: rag

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: machine made

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

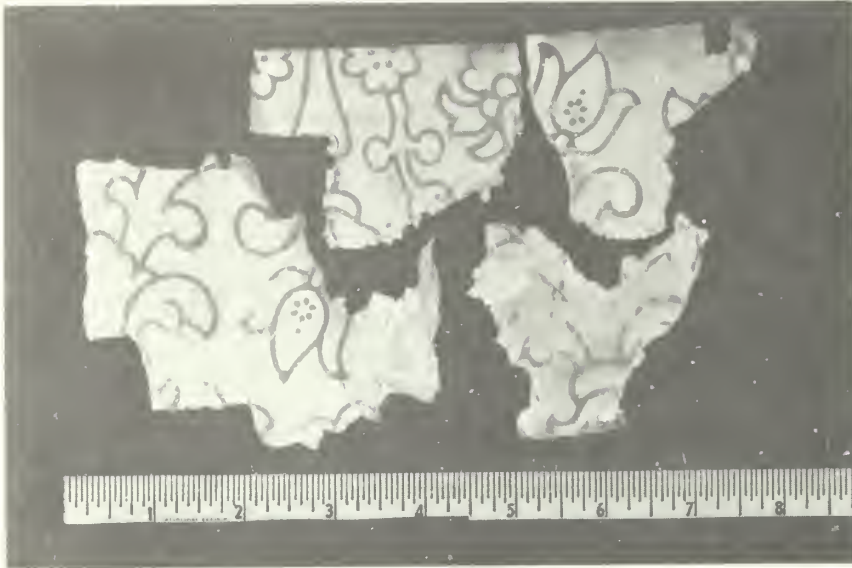
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: machine printed

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COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 009  
LOCATION: Room 204 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster behind chair  
rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	curvilinear; ca. 1870
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 3" (several samples of this size)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	white, gold
PAPER TYPE:	mechanical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 010  
LOCATION: Room 204 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster under chair  
rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	floral; ca. 1880
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 3"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	green, white
PAPER TYPE:	mechanical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine printed
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 011  
LOCATION: Room 204 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster under chair  
rail



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	floral; ca. 1910-20
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 5½"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	red, blue
PAPER TYPE:	mechanical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 012  
LOCATION: Room 205 - north wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	classical; ca. 1800	swags & garlands - ca. 1800
SAMPLE SIZE:	8" x 6"	several feet (full repeat)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, black, white	red, light blue, blue, black
PAPER TYPE:	rag	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed	block printed

---

COMMENTS: On the north wall of Room 205, large areas of this wallpaper remain intact.

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 013  
LOCATION: Room 205 - north wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: floral w/large circular motifs; ca. 1850  
SAMPLE SIZE: 10" x 12"  
PRINCIPAL COLORS: red, blue, white  
PAPER TYPE: rag  
PAINT TYPE: distemper  
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE: machine made  
PAPER TEXTURE: smooth  
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

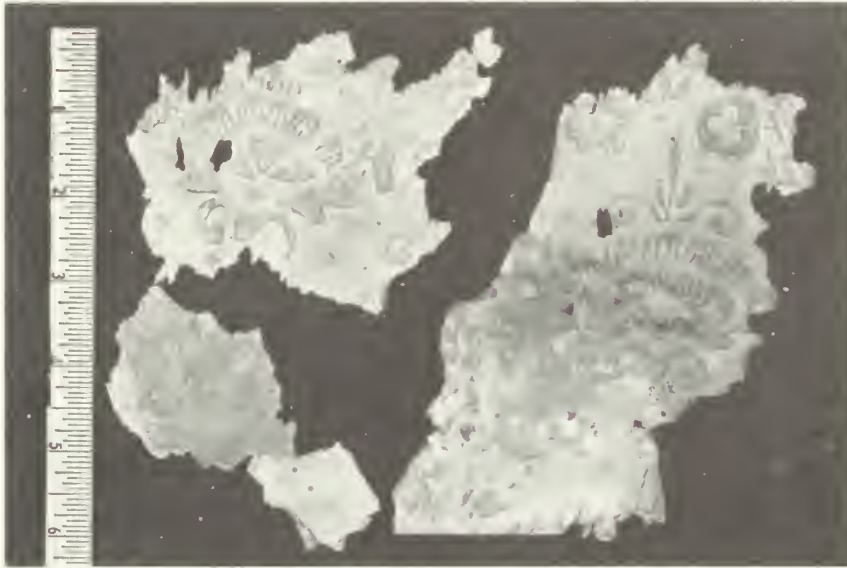
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COMMENTS:



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 014  
LOCATION: Room 205 - north wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

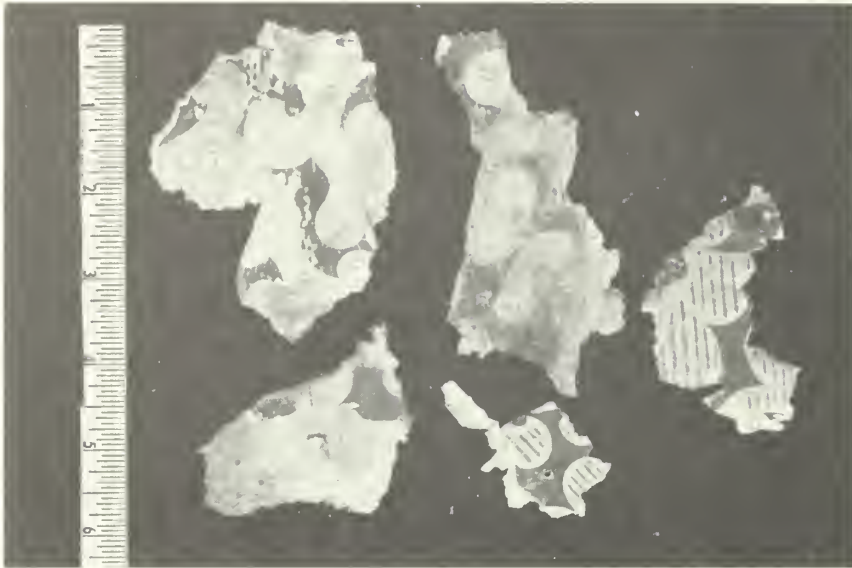
PATTERN & DATE: floral; ca. 1860-70  
SAMPLE SIZE: 1½" x 3"  
PRINCIPAL COLORS: white, green  
PAPER TYPE: mechanical wood  
PAINT TYPE: distemper  
METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: machine made  
PAPER TEXTURE: smooth  
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 015  
LOCATION: Room 205 - north wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: geometric; ca. 1880-90

SAMPLE SIZE: 2-3/4" x 3" (several other small fragments)

PRINCIPAL COLORS: blue, yellow, gray

PAPER TYPE: chemical wood

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE: machine made

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

PRINTING TECHNIQUE: machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 016  
LOCATION: Room 205 - north wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

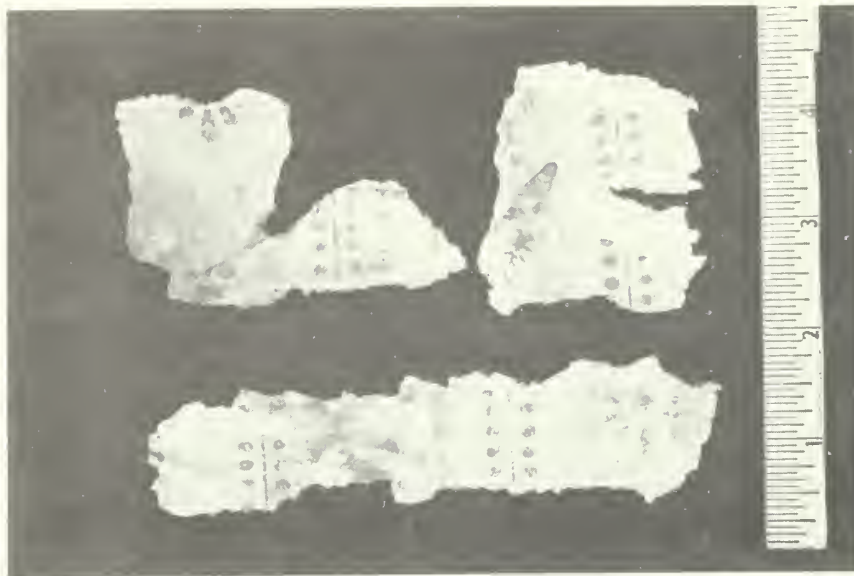
PATTERN & DATE:	floral; ca. 1880-90
SAMPLE SIZE:	1½" x 2½"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	red, blue, white
PAPER TYPE:	chemical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 017  
LOCATION: Room 207 - under  
SUBSTRATE: plaster ca.-1850  
floorboards



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: striped, geometric;  
ca.1800

SAMPLE SIZE: 2" x 2" (several fragments)

PRINCIPAL COLORS: blue, red

PAPER TYPE: rag

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: handmade

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

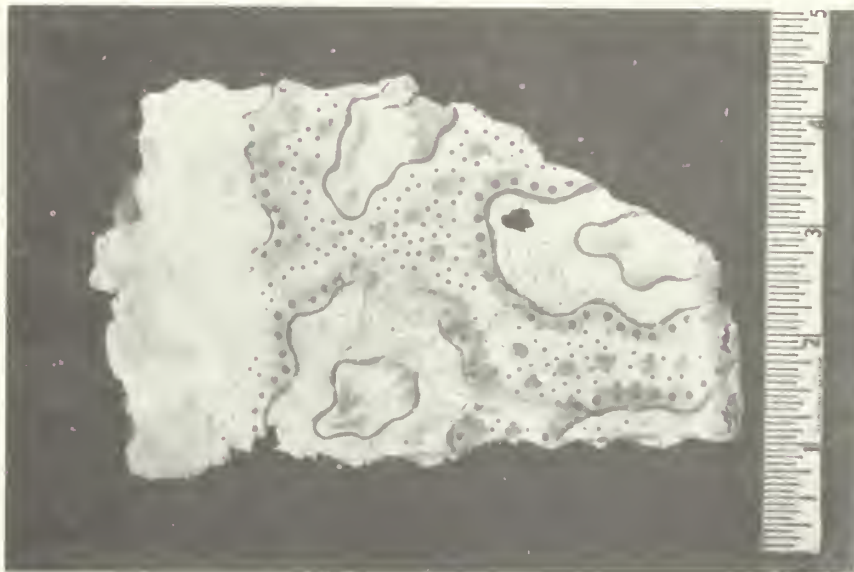
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 018  
LOCATION: Room 207 - south wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster under ca. 1850  
floorboards &  
wallboards



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: curvilinear w/pinpoint  
background; ca. 1820

SAMPLE SIZE: 5" x 3"

PRINCIPAL COLORS: yellow, red, gray

PAPER TYPE: rag

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: handmade

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

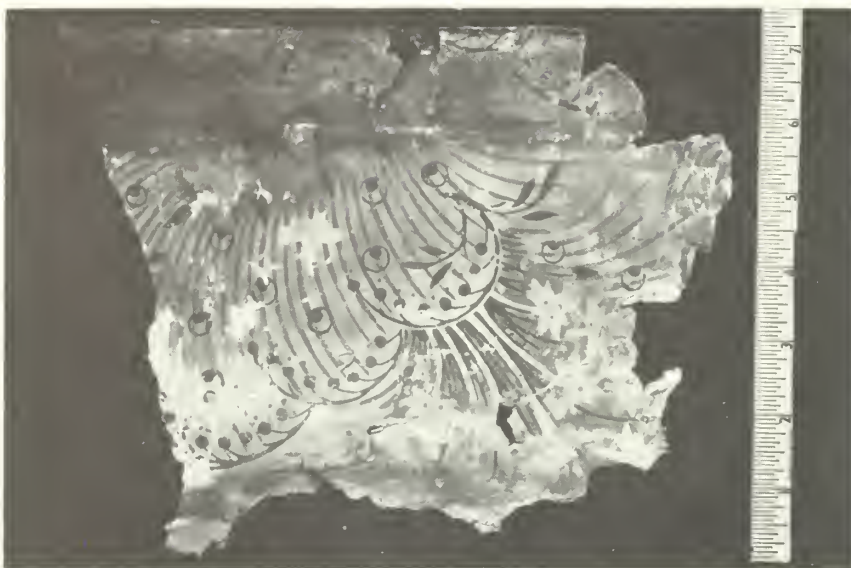
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 019  
LOCATION: Room 207 - south wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster under ca.-1850  
floorboard &  
wallboard



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	floral; ca. 1840
SAMPLE SIZE:	9" x 9" (multiple samples)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, black, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS: This same wallpaper is found on the walls of Room 203 when the southwest stairs were built ca. 1850. Evidence found in Room 207 strongly supports the contention that the stairs were installed and the floor leveled in Room 207 at the same time.



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 020  
LOCATION: Room 203 - west wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster

SEE SAMPLE WP 019 FOR PHOTO

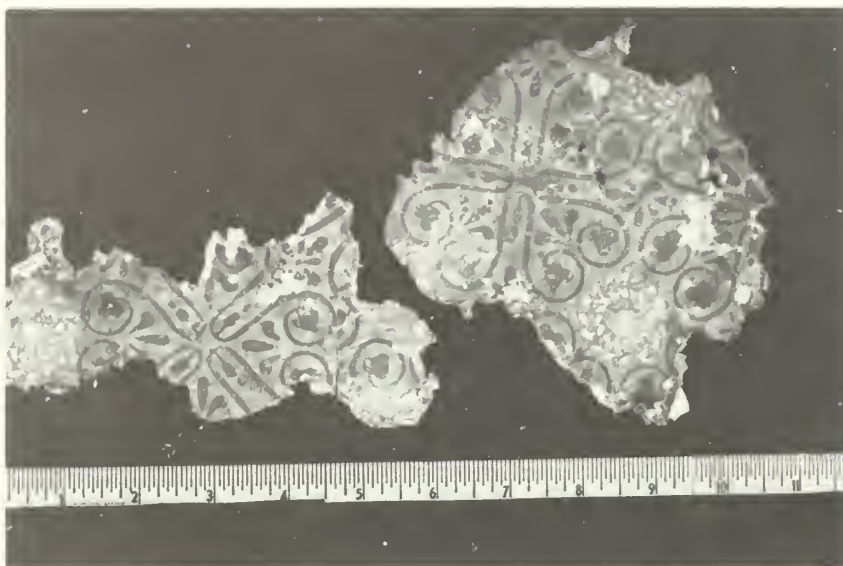
<u>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS</u>	<u>WALLPAPER</u>	<u>BORDER</u>
PATTERN & DATE:	floral; ca. 1840	
SAMPLE SIZE:	6" x 8"	
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, black, white	
PAPER TYPE:	rag	
PAINT TYPE:	distemper	
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made	
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth	
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed	

---

COMMENTS: This is the same wallpaper that is found in Room 207 (WP 018).  
It is the wallpaper that was hanging in this room when the  
stairs were installed.

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 021  
LOCATION: Room 203 - west wall  
SUBSTRATE: Plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

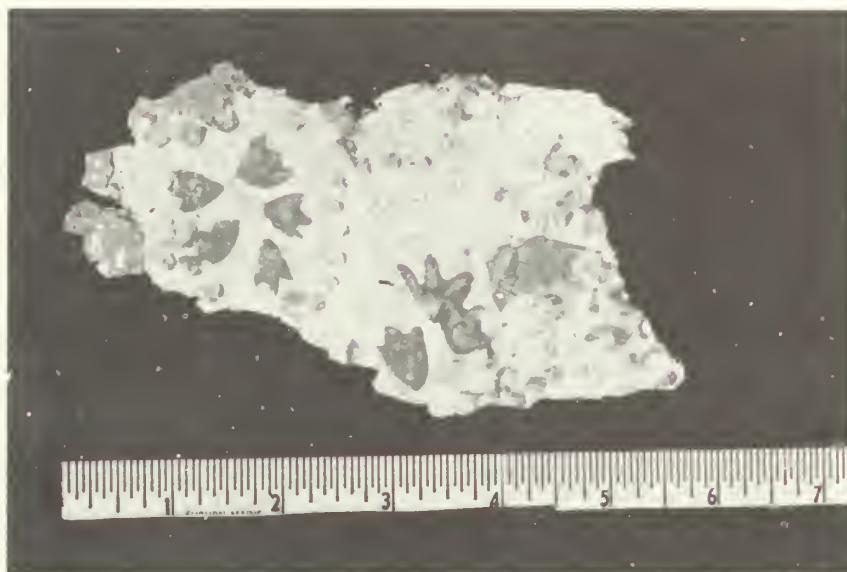
PATTERN & DATE:	geometric; ca. 1850
SAMPLE SIZE:	5" x 5"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	light gray, gray
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS: This same wallpaper is found in Room 204 - (WP006).

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 022  
LOCATION: Room 203 - south wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

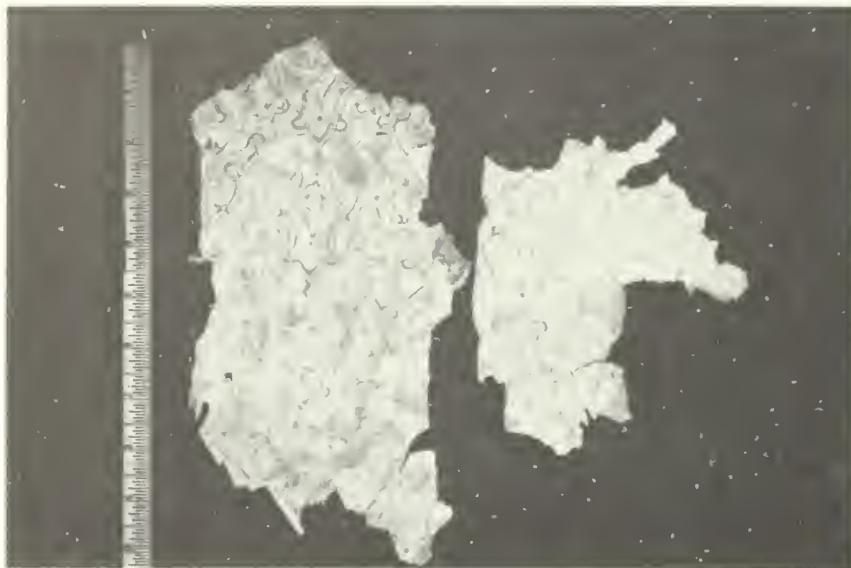
PATTERN & DATE:	foliate; ca. 1860
SAMPLE SIZE:	3" x 4½"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	green, white, gray, red
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 023  
LOCATION: Room 206 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	curvilinear; ca. 1820
SAMPLE SIZE:	9" x 4½"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	green, yellow, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 024  
LOCATION: Room 206 - east wall  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

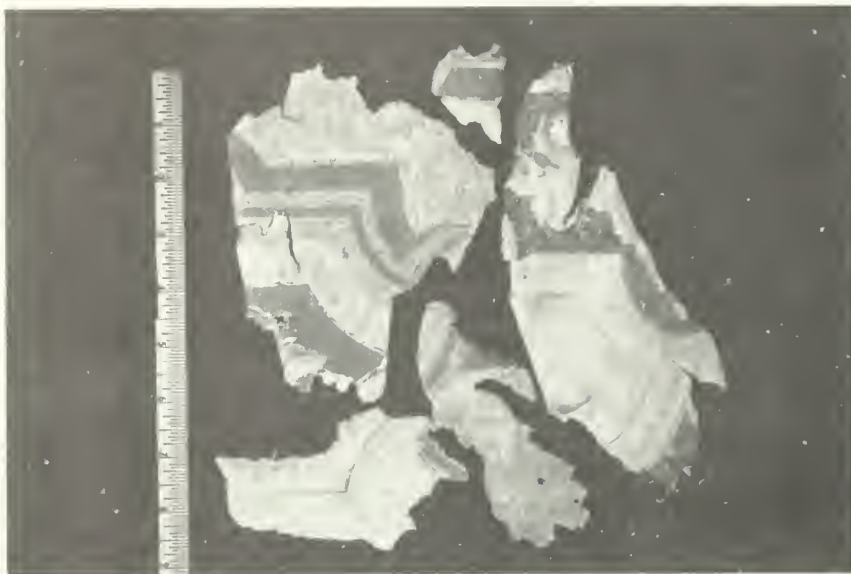
PATTERN & DATE:	foliate w/pinpoint background; ca. 1820
SAMPLE SIZE:	5" x 8" (multiple samples)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	blue, darker blue, brown, darker brown, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	handmade
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 025  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	Gothic Revival; ca. 1870
SAMPLE SIZE:	4" x 6"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	brown, tan, red
PAPER TYPE:	mechanical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 026  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

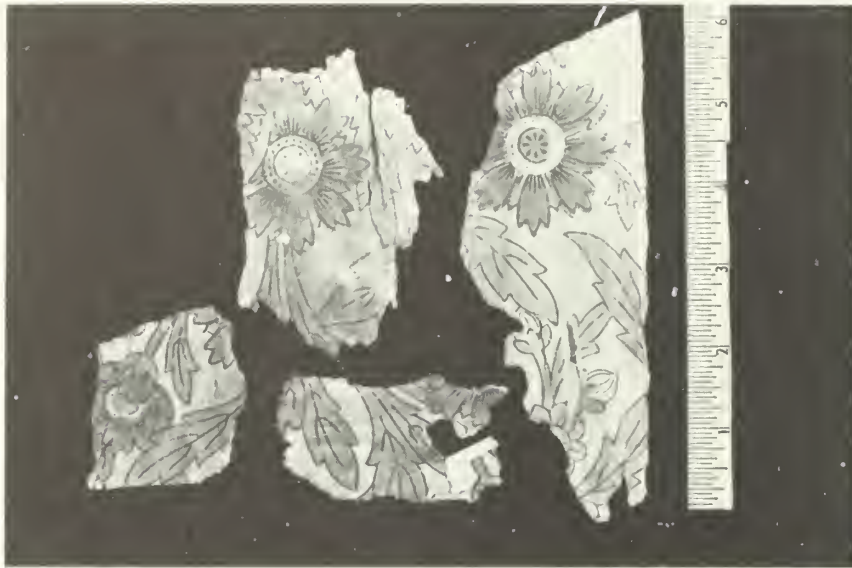
PATTERN & DATE:	striped; ca. 1880-90
SAMPLE SIZE:	2" x 3" (several samples of this size)
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	tan, brown, red, black, green
PAPER TYPE:	chemical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 027  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: Eastlake, floral;  
ca. 1880-90

SAMPLE SIZE: 3" x 6"

PRINCIPAL COLORS: red, yellow, blue, brown

PAPER TYPE: chemical wood

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: machine made

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

PRINTING TECHNIQUE: machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 028  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

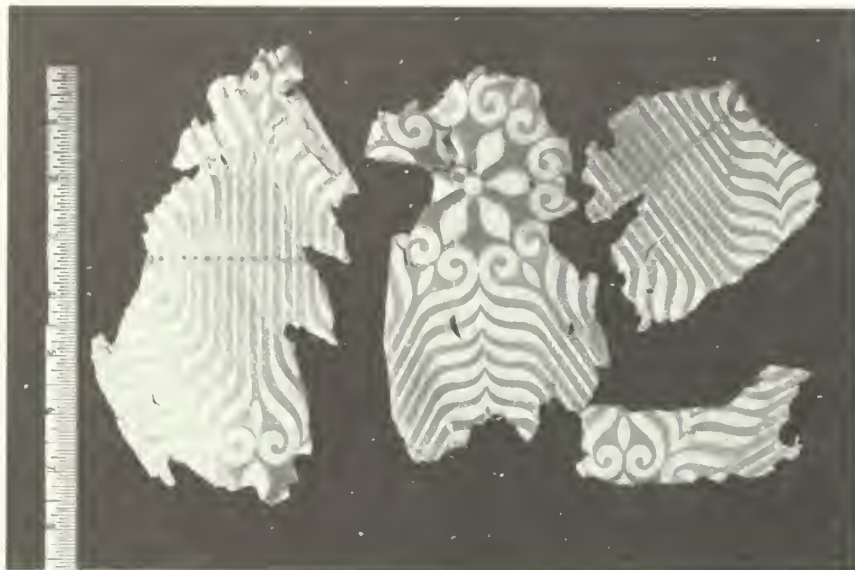
PATTERN & DATE:	Japanese; ca. 1880-90
SAMPLE SIZE:	3" x 10"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	green, yellow, tan, brown, red, black
PAPER TYPE:	chemical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS: This is the top layer of wallpaper found behind the wain-  
scoting in the first floor northwest staircase hall.

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 029  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:

Art Deco, curvilinear;  
ca. 1920

SAMPLE SIZE:

4" x 7"

PRINCIPAL COLORS:

green, brown, cream

PAPER TYPE:

mechanical wood

PAINT TYPE:

distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE:

machine made

PAPER TEXTURE:

smooth

PRINTING TECHNIQUE:

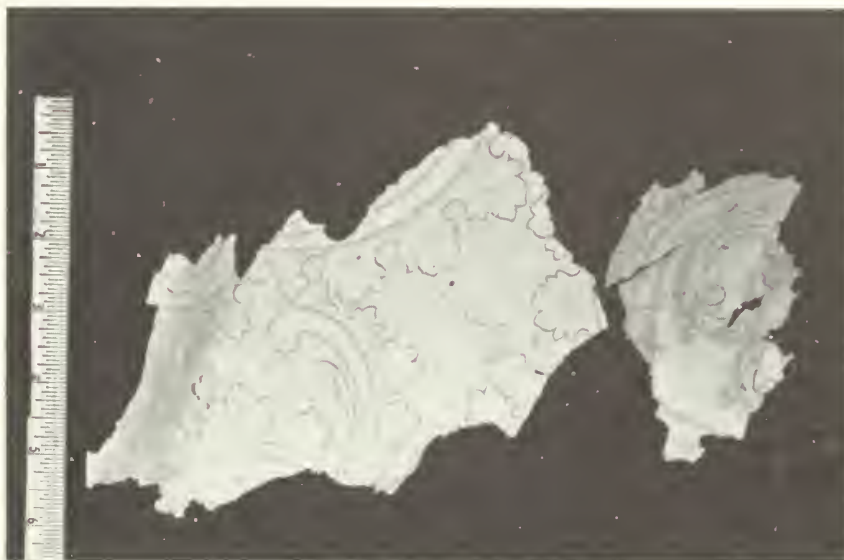
machine printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 030  
LOCATION: Room 206  
SUBSTRATE: plaster



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	Rococo; ca. 1920-30
SAMPLE SIZE:	4" x 6"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	cream, gold, salmon
PAPER TYPE:	mechanical wood
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	machine printed

---

COMMENTS:



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 031  
LOCATION: Attic - north wall,  
SUBSTRATE: wood western half



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE:	striped w/large circular motifs; ca. 1830-40
SAMPLE SIZE:	3" x 3"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	red, black, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS: A nearly complete wall of this wallpaper remains intact in the attic.



ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 032  
LOCATION: first floor to the  
SUBSTRATE: plaster right of the  
entry door  
into the  
stairwall



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

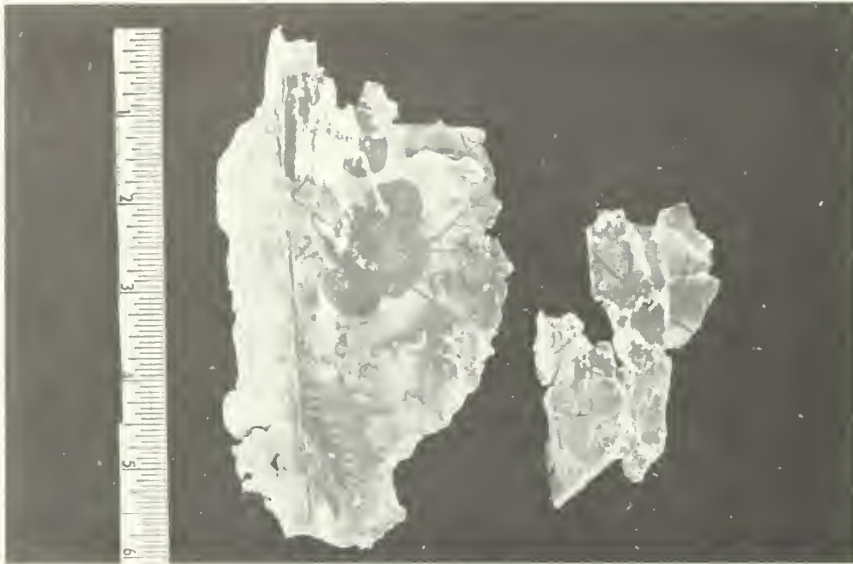
PATTERN & DATE:	Imitation Graining; pre-1850
SAMPLE SIZE:	4" x 7"
PRINCIPAL COLORS:	brown, white
PAPER TYPE:	rag
PAINT TYPE:	distemper
METHOD OF PAPER MANUFACTURE:	machine made?
PAPER TEXTURE:	smooth
PRINTING TECHNIQUE:	block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 033  
LOCATION: Unknown  
SUBSTRATE: Unknown



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: floral; ca. 1820

SAMPLE SIZE:

PRINCIPAL COLORS: blue, red, brown

PAPER TYPE: rag

PAINT TYPE: distemper

METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: handmade

PAPER TEXTURE: smooth

PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

---

COMMENTS:

ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

SAMPLE NO. ROWI WP 034  
LOCATION: Attic stairs - south  
SUBSTRATE: plaster wall



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

WALLPAPER

BORDER

PATTERN & DATE: foliate; ca. 1800  
SAMPLE SIZE: 5" x 2"  
PRINCIPAL COLORS: blue, dark blue, black, white  
PAPER TYPE: rag  
PAINT TYPE: distemper  
METHOD OF PAPER  
MANUFACTURE: handmade  
PAPER TEXTURE: smooth  
PRINTING TECHNIQUE: block printed

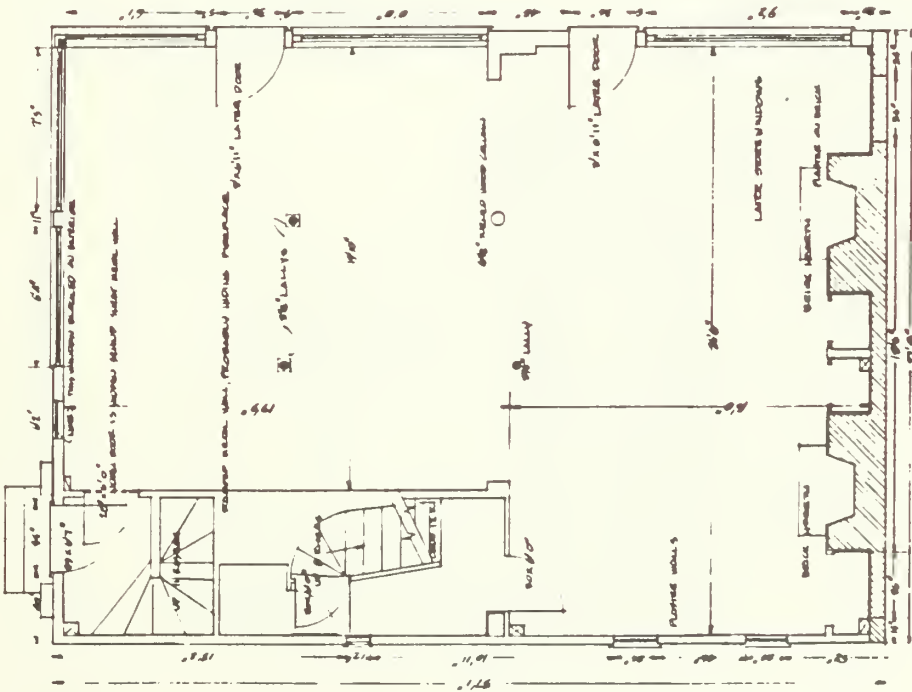
---

COMMENTS:

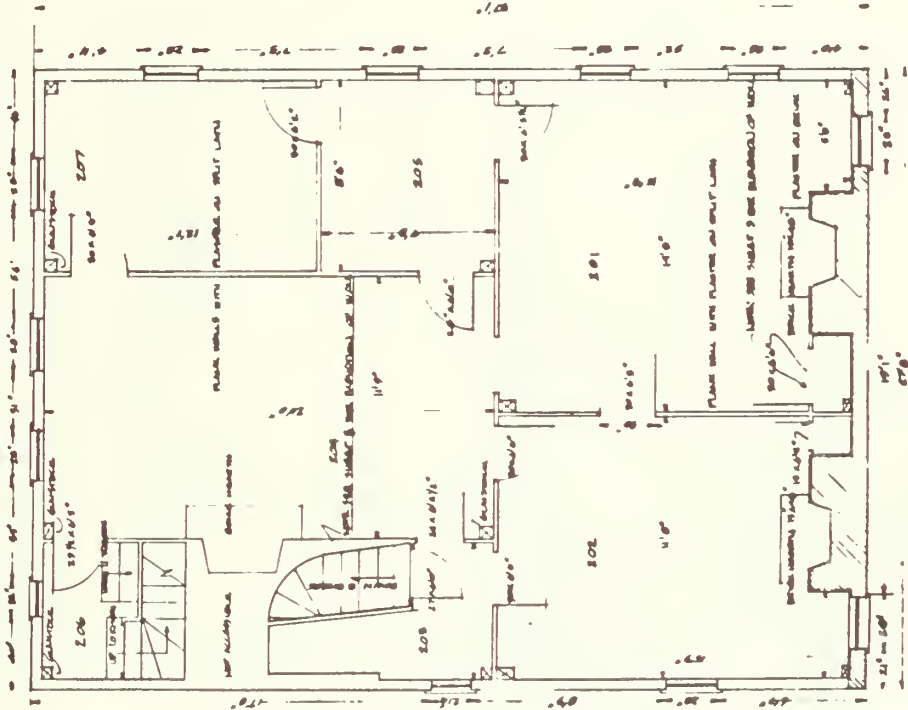
APPENDIX G.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY DRAWINGS  
OF THE WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE, 1974

The Historic American Buildings Survey prepared six sheets of drawings of the Antram-Gray House in May 1974. These are reproduced here in their entirety, because they represent the only documentation of the house before it was moved during the summer of 1974. Sheet nos. 5 and 6 include molding profiles of the mantelpiece cornice in Room 201 and the baseboard in Room 204, respectively. These profiles were drawn again more than five years later, as part of the physical investigation conducted for this report (see Appendix D, Molding Types L and Y, respectively). The second-floor rooms of the house had not been altered during this period. The two more recent renderings differ from the HABS drawings in several respects. Reexamination has indicated that the recent drawings are the more accurate versions.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"

DRAWN BY RUSSELL WRIGHT 5/74

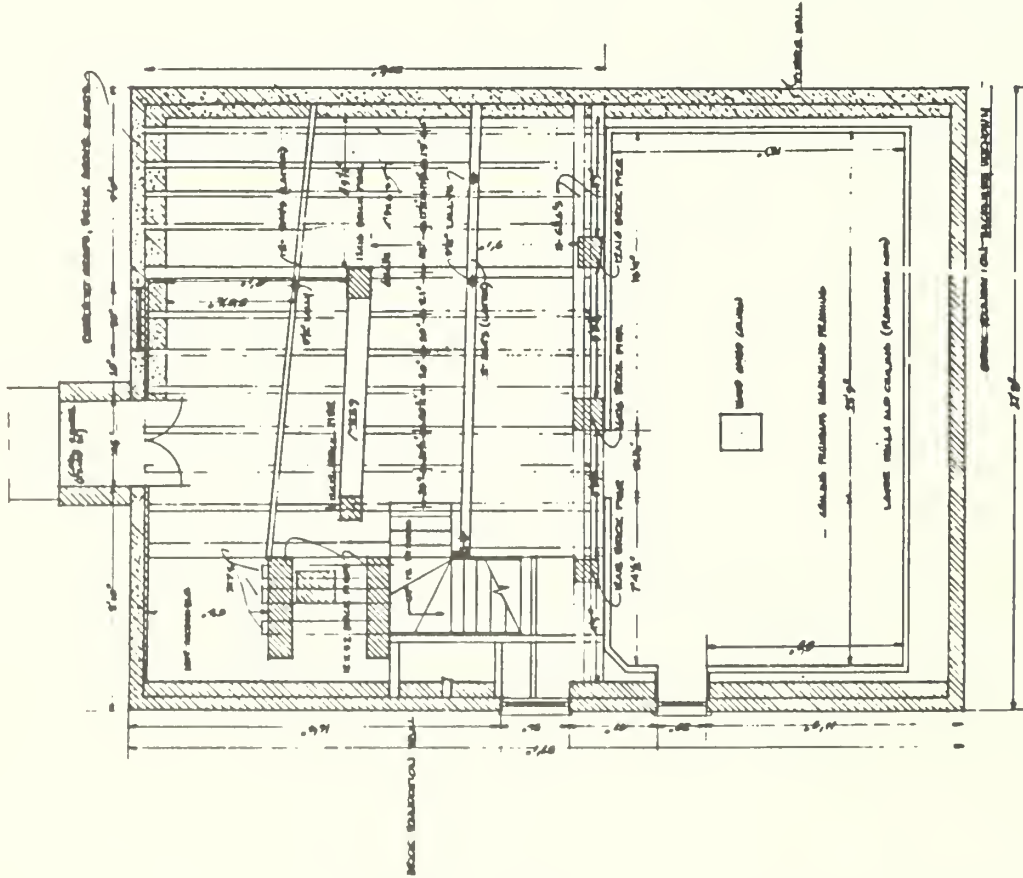
UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PLAN AND ELEVATION OF INTERIOR

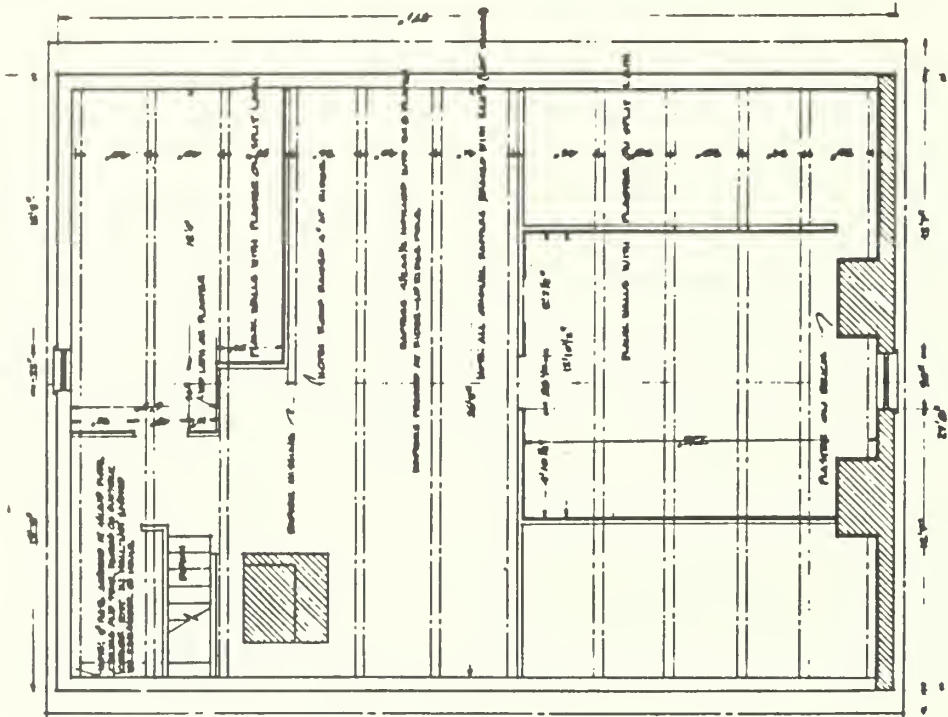
WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE · PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND ·

SHEET NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 1 OF 2



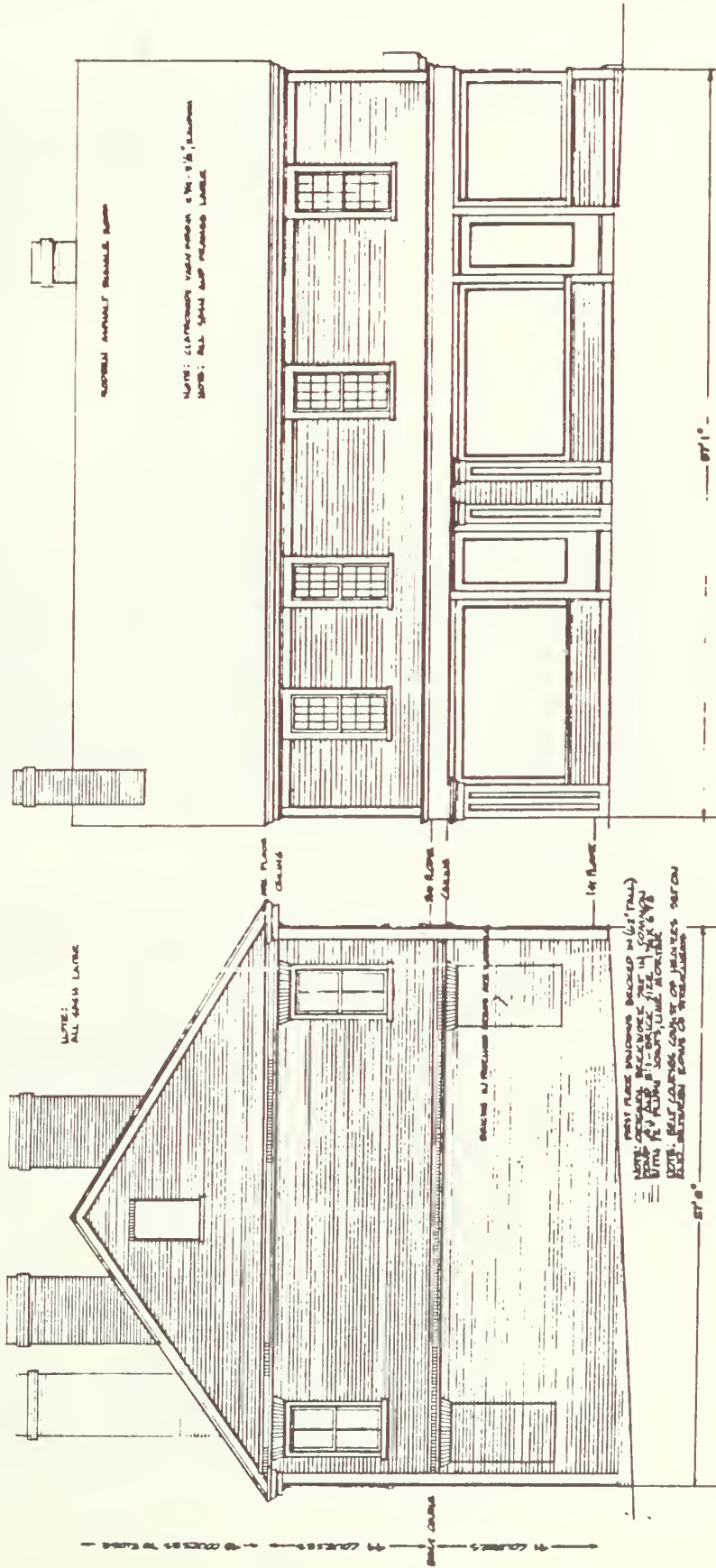
BASEMENT, WITH REFLECTED FRAMING PLAN



ATTIC, WITH ROOF FRAMING







SOUTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

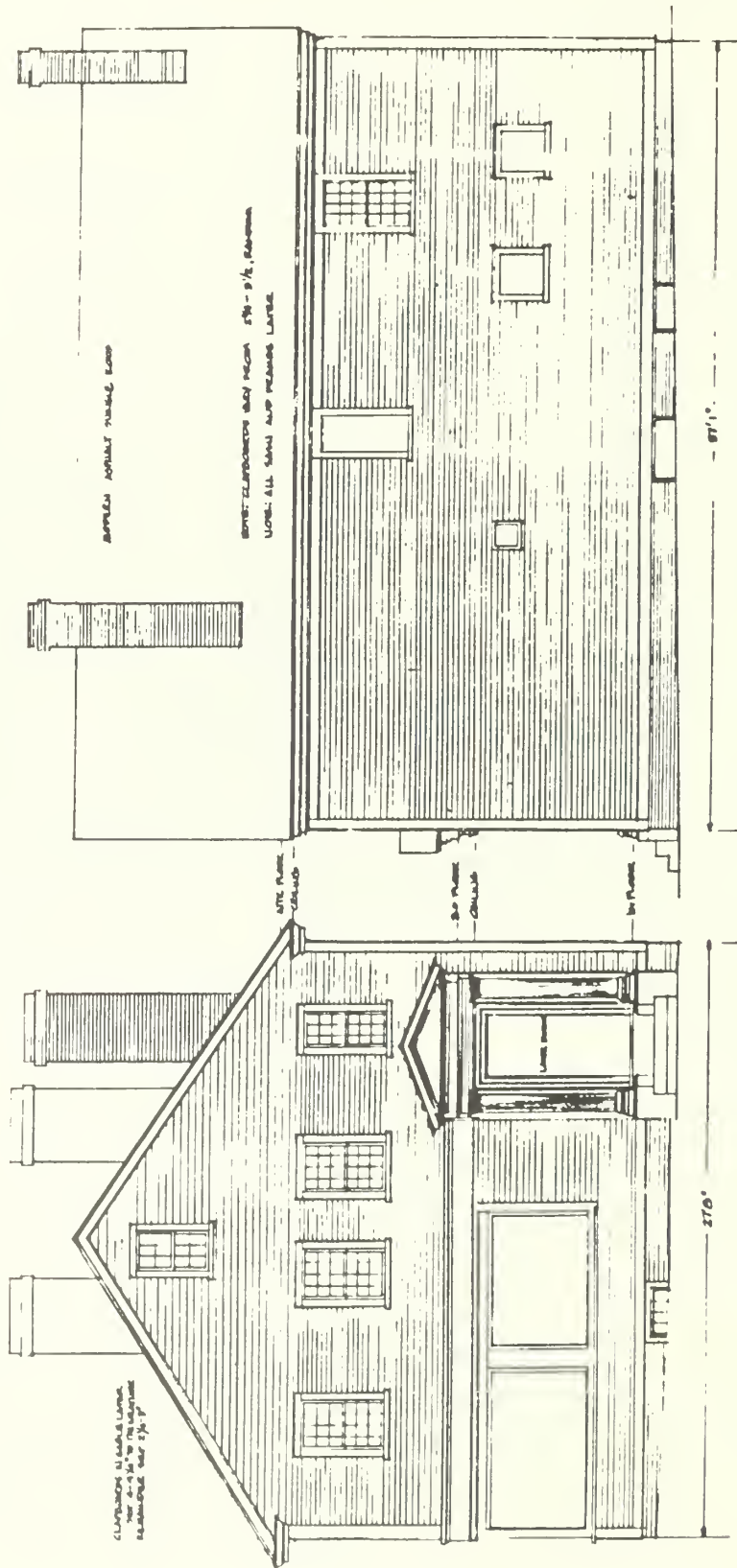
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DESIGNED BY EUSTACE WHEELER 3/14

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 OFFICE OF THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE · PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND ·

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 1937-38 & 1960



NORTH ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

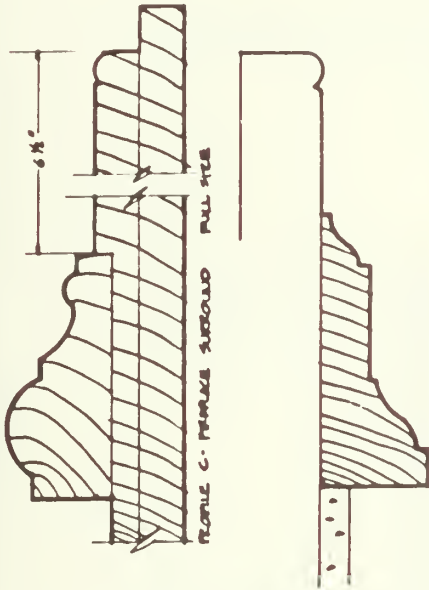
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DESIGNED BY: RUSSELL WRIGHT 3/17/20

NOTES: SEE PLAN FOR THE LOCATION OF CHIMNEYS AND THE LOCATION OF THE HOUSE ON THE LOT.

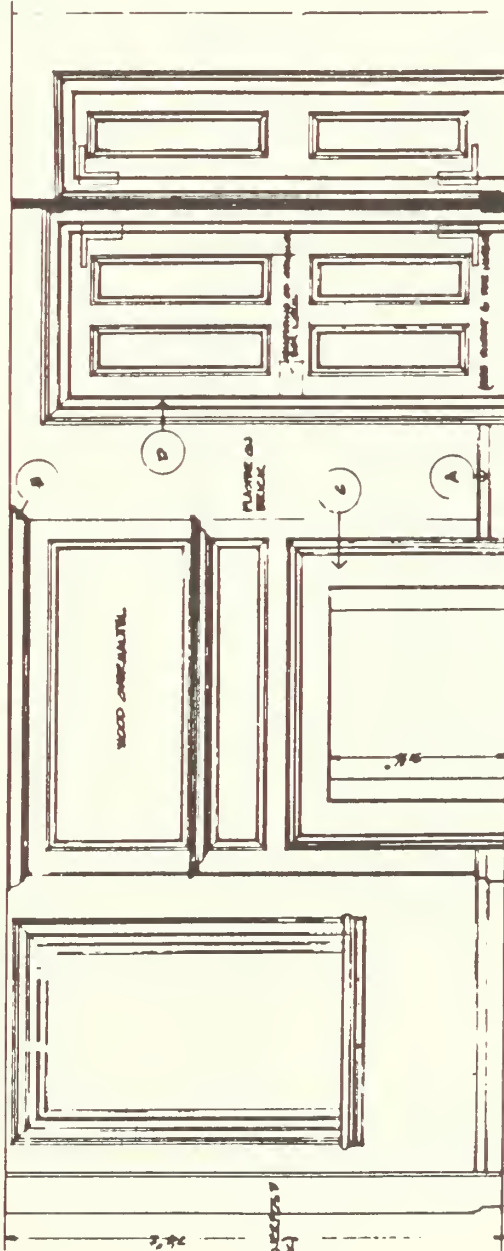
WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE - PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY



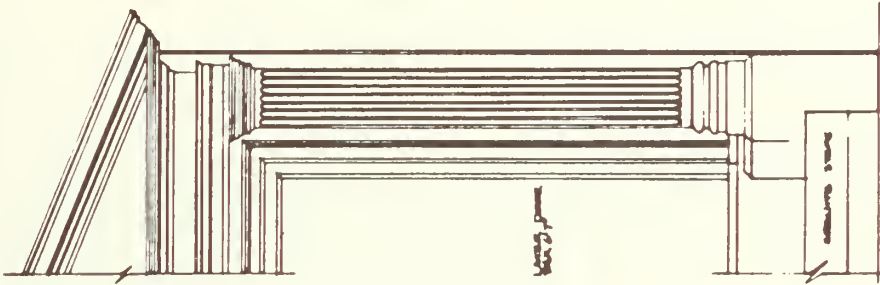
PEOPLE D DOOR ARCHITRAVE FULL SIZE

PEOPLE A SHOULDER FULL SIZE

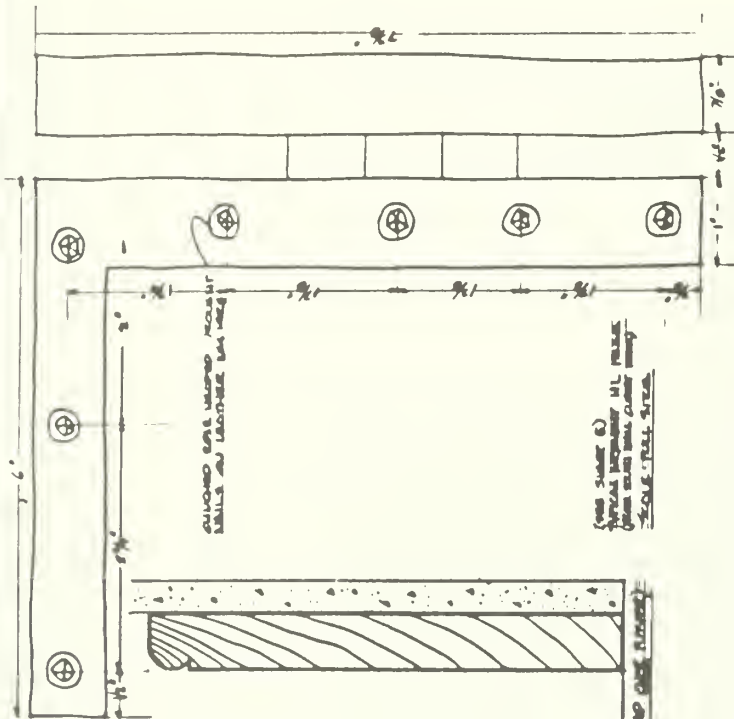


ELEVATION OF SOUTH WALL - ROOM 201

SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"



DETAIL OF DOOR AND WINDOW ENTRANCE SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"

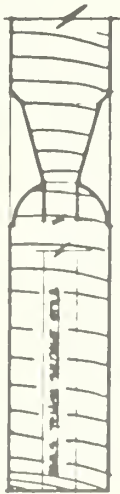


SHOWN SEE WINDOW ABOVE AT  
SMALL AND LARGER SIZES

(SEE SHEET 6)  
SPECIAL ORDERING BY MAIL  
(FROM THIS BOOK ORDER ONLY)  
SCALE - FULL SIZE



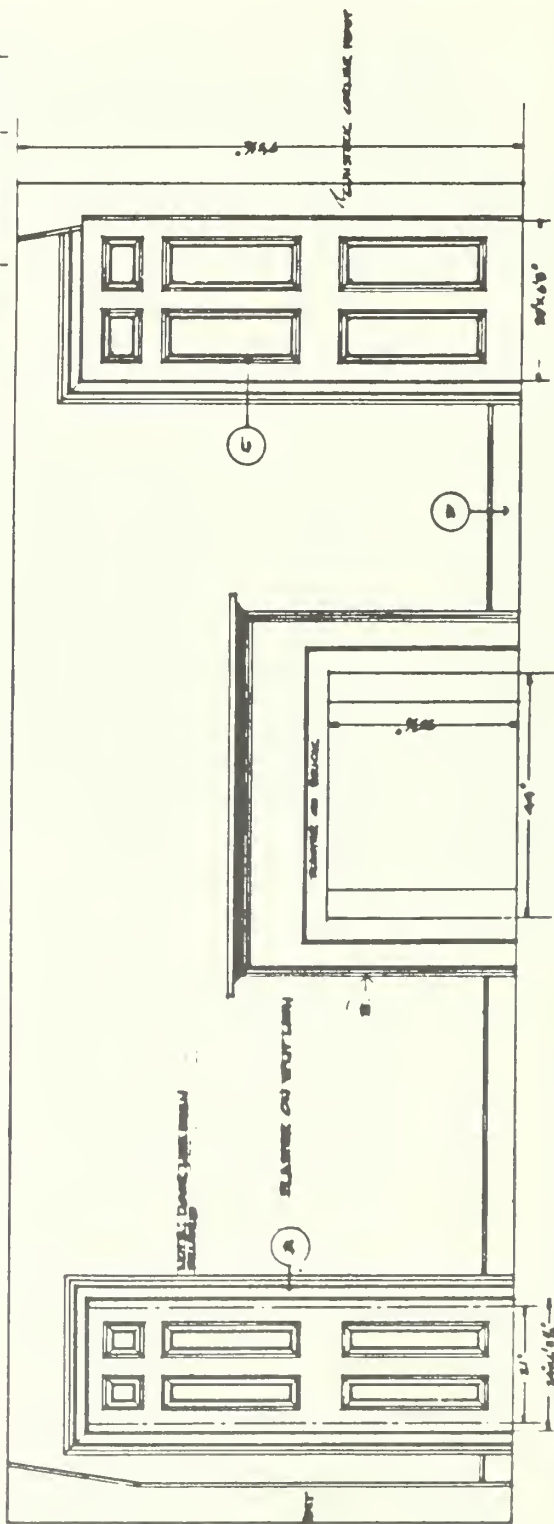
PIECES & PIECEAGE AROUND - FULL SIZE



PIECES C - DOOR CASE (SHOWN BOTH SIDES) - FULL SIZE

PIECES A - DOOR ARCHITRAVE - FULL SIZE

PIECES D - DOOR HOLD DOWN (SEE FIGURE)  
FULL SIZE



ELEVATION OF WEST WALL - ROOM 204

SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"

DESIGNED BY *[Signature]* DRAWN BY *[Signature]*

DATE OF DRAWING: *[Date]*

FOR THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

PROJECT NO.

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
BOOK 6 OF 6 PLANS

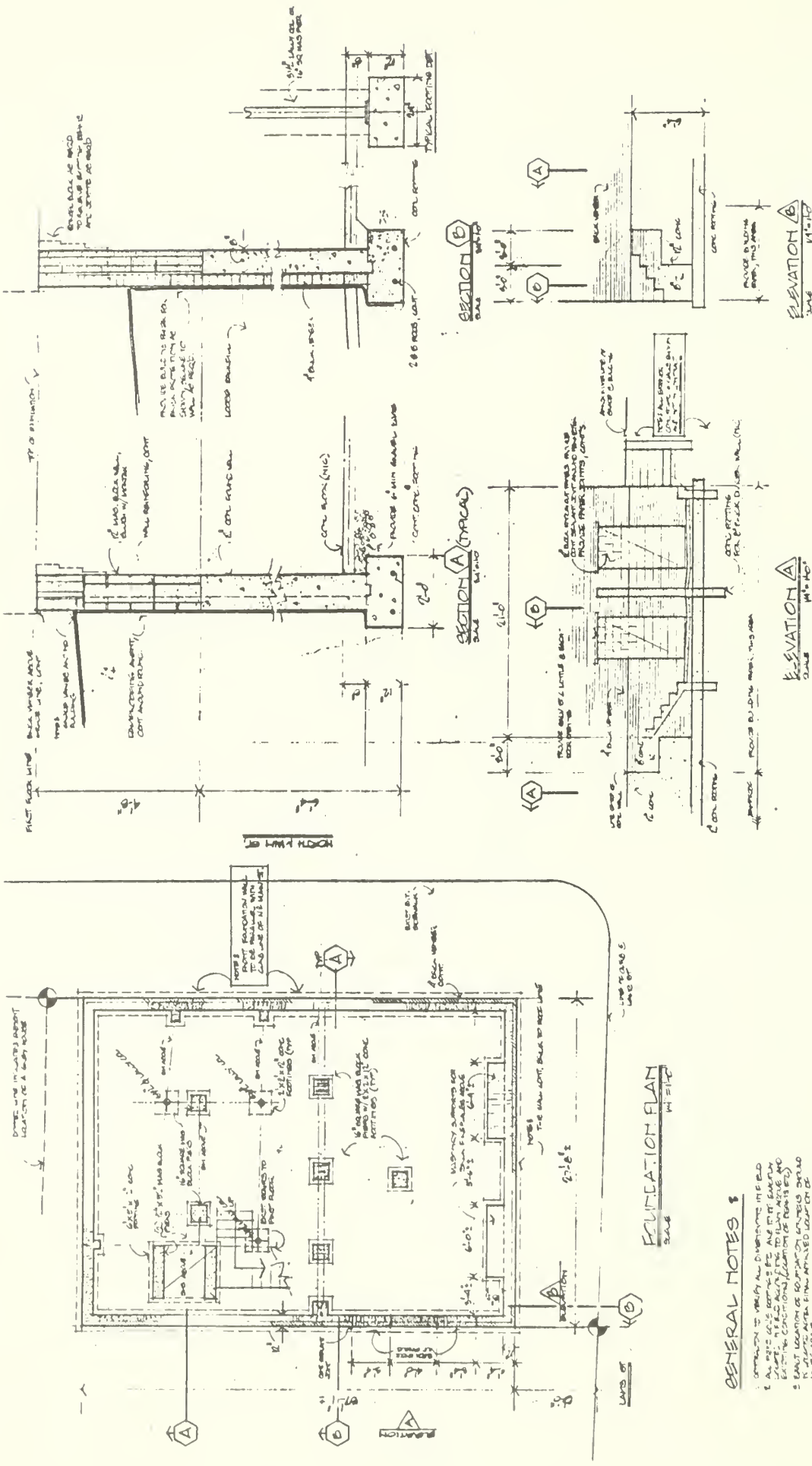
WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE - PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



APPENDIX H.

NEW LOCATION AND FOUNDATION PLAN FOR  
THE WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE, 1974

One sheet of drawings was prepared by the Providence Partnership, an architectural and engineering firm, for the relocation of the Antram-Gray House. The date of this sheet, which was executed for the National Park Service, is June 5, 1974.



**GENERAL NOTES :**

1. FOUNDATION TO BE CONCRETE ON GRAVEL.
2. ALL CONCRETE TO BE 3000 PSI.
3. ALL REINFORCEMENT TO BE #4 STEEL.
4. ALL WALLS TO BE 12" THICK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
5. ALL FOOTINGS TO BE 18" DEEP UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
6. ALL WALLS TO BE FINISHED WITH BRICK OR STUCCO UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
7. ALL WALLS TO BE FINISHED WITH PLASTER OR STUCCO UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
8. ALL WALLS TO BE FINISHED WITH PAINT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
9. ALL WALLS TO BE FINISHED WITH TILE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
10. ALL WALLS TO BE FINISHED WITH MARBLE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

**NEW LOCATION AND FOUNDATION PLAN  
FOR THE  
WILLIAM ANTRAM HOUSE • PROVIDENCE, R.I.**

THE BUREAU OF PARTNERSHIP  
ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS  
157 N. WASHINGTON ST.  
PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02903  
DATE: JUNE 5, 1964  
DRAWN BY: J.M. FED  
CHECKED BY: J.M. FED

DWS: N  
DATE: JUNE 5, 1964



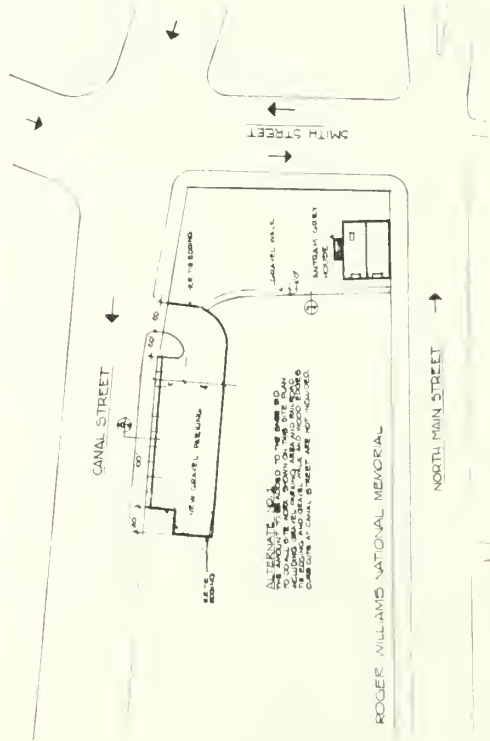
APPENDIX I.

RENOVATIONS, ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE, 1976-1979

Extensive specifications and five sheets of drawings were prepared for the exterior and first-floor renovation work at the Antram-Gray House in 1976-1979. These were executed by Boston architect/planner Richard White for the North Atlantic Region of the National Park Service. All of the specifications and drawings were included in a bid package, no. IFB-NARO-6-0023, that was presented to contractors on September 21, 1976. The drawings have been reproduced here, for the information that they convey. The specifications and the rest of the bid package are on file at the North Atlantic Regional Office, Division of Maintenance.

It should be noted that sheet no. 3 of the drawings shows the removal of the ca.-1920 storefronts from the east and north facades of the house, and their replacement with smaller windows more appropriate to the 18th century. However, the long usage of the building by the Gray jewelry company prompted a change in plans, such that the storefronts were retained.

# RENOVATIONS ANTRAM GRAY HOUSE ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND



## SHEET INDEX

SHEET NO	TITLE
1	TITLE SHEET
2	FLOOR PLANS
3	ELEVATIONS - SECTIONS
4	DETAILS - SCHEDULES
5	PLUMBING & HEATING

GENERAL NOTE FOR ALL DRAWINGS:  
UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, CONDITIONS SHOWN ARE EXISTING.  
ALL EXISTING CONDITIONS & MEASUREMENTS TO BE VERIFIED IN THE FIELD.

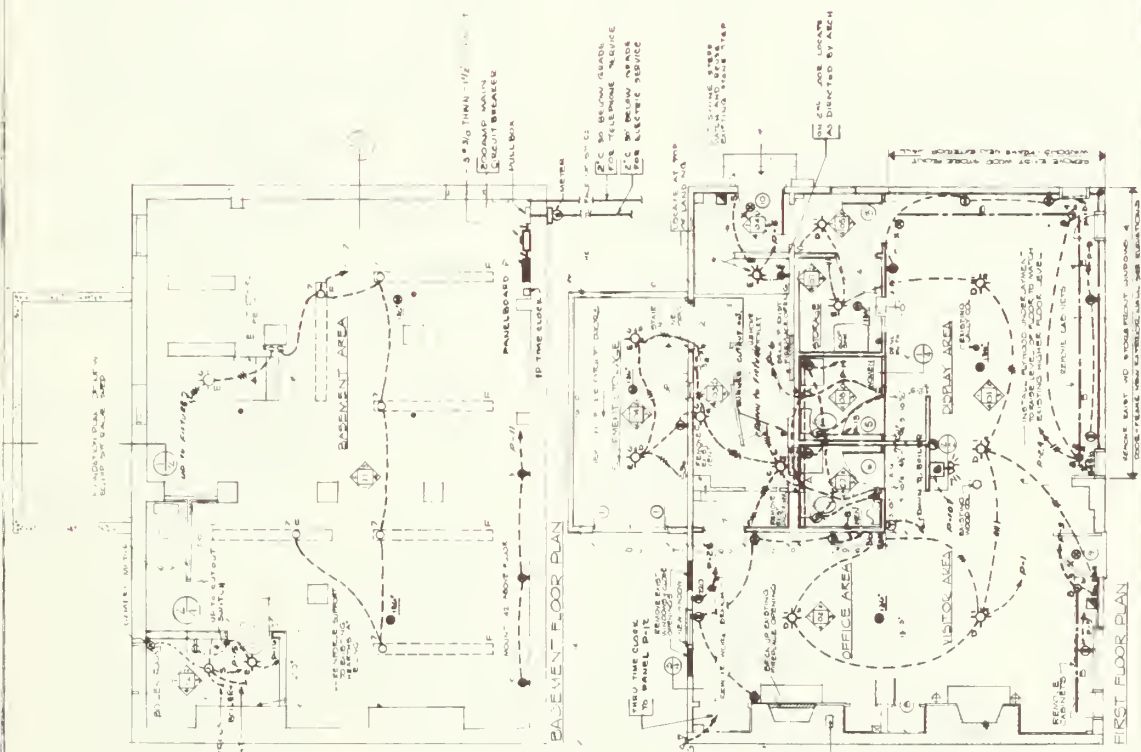
RICHARD WHITE, ARCHITECT 175 STATE STREET PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND PROJECT NO. NAKO 76-0115	CONSTRUCTION DWGS DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL MONUMENTS SYSTEM WASHINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS	TITLE SHEET RENOVATION OF ANTRAM GRAY HOUSE ROGER WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEMORIAL PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND	DRAWING NO. 76-0115 1
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**LEGEND**

- ⊙ Ring over a Device Fixture Type
- ⊙ Circuit Number of Switch Control
- ⊙ Wall Outlet or Downlight Fixture
- ⊙ Circuit Number of Switch Control
- ⊙ Exit Light
- ⊙ Junction Box with Connection to Unit
- ⊙ Double Receptacle
- ⊙ Single Wire Switch
- ⊙ Three Way Switch
- ⊙ Panel Board
- Motor to Panel Number of Arms
- Motor
- ⊙ Thermal Switch
- ⊙ Disconnect Switch
- ⊙ Telephone Outlet
- ⊙ Fire Alarm Bell Station
- ⊙ Fire Alarm Bell Light
- ⊙ Emergency Battery Unit & Hands
- ⊙ Fire Detector
- ⊙ 220 Volt Receptacle
- ⊙ Thermostat

**GENERAL NOTES**

1. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
2. Connect Normal Switches of all lamps.
3. Connections to be made in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
4. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
5. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
6. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
7. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
8. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
9. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.
10. All wiring to be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.



1 SECTION-BASEMENT SLAB  
SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"

2 SCREEN AT TOILET ROOMS  
SCALE AS NOTED

**LIGHTING FIXTURE SCHEDULE**

NO.	MANUFACTURER	CAT. NO.	MOUNTS	LAMPS
A	LAM	40 W. T-2	SURFACE	40 W. T-2
B	LIGHTOLIER	7501	SURFACE	150 W.
C	LIGHTOLIER	4742	WALL	100 W.
D	LIGHTOLIER	4551	SURFACE	2-100 W.
E	HUBBELL	101	SURFACE	100 W.
F	INSTALL-TYPE OWNERS	FIXTURES	FIXTURES	FIXTURES
G	INSTALL-TYPE OWNERS	FIXTURES	FIXTURES	FIXTURES
X	PERSONALITIES	100-1000	SURFACE	1-100 W.

**ARCHITECT**  
RICHARD WHITE  
ARCHITECT/PLANNER  
177 STATE STREET  
BOSTON, MASS.

**FLOOR PLANS**  
RENOVATION OF  
ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE  
ROOSE WILKINS MFR. MEMORIAL  
PERFORMANCE CENTER ISLAND

February 1965  
435  
81-110

12











APPENDIX J.

RENOVATIONS, ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE, 1982-1984

As mentioned in Chapter V, the Antram-Gray House underwent two programs of renovation after the body of this report was written.

The first effort involved the partial renovation of the second floor to serve as park offices. The purpose of this work was to free up more of the space on the first floor for interpretive purposes. The renovations were performed from June to September 1982 by a day-labor crew from the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center, North Atlantic Region, supervised by Exhibit Specialist Michael Fortin. During that project:

- 1) outside walls were furred out with 2 by 4 lumber, insulated, and finished with metal lath and plaster.
- 2) interior walls were covered with metal lath and plaster down to the baseboards, which were left in place.
- 3) the rooms lacking plaster ceilings -- Rooms 201, 202, 204, and 207 -- had new ceilings created of metal lath and plaster; the historic but deteriorated plaster ceilings in Rooms 205 and 206 were covered with metal lath and plaster, but the old plaster ceiling in Room 203 was not altered.
- 4) the floors were left intact and covered with plywood; the park had wall-to-wall carpeting installed via contract.
- 5) two later doorways -- D203 and D210 -- were completely closed up and plastered over.
- 6) all of the remaining doorways' trim was retained and repaired.
- 7) reproduction 4- by 6-inch rim locks were not installed on Doors 201, 202, 204, 206, 207, 208, and 213; instead, Suffolk thumb latches were installed.
- 8) the stools of the windows were retained; the nonhistoric casings were removed, but no new trim was installed, due to the furring out of the exterior walls.
- 9) the sole remaining fixture in the bathroom in Room 203 -- the tub -- was removed and stored at the NAHPC.
- 10) the woodwork was stripped of its built-up paint and repainted, but not with the colors specified in Appendix E of this report.
- 11) fluorescent lighting was installed.
- 12) the windows were wired for intrusion-alarm contacts, and heat and smoke detectors were installed on the ceilings; these systems were tied into the existing systems on the first floor.
- 13) modern interior storm windows with screens were installed in the window openings.

In addition to this work on the second floor, the south room in the attic had its plaster walls patched, and heat and smoke detectors were installed throughout the attic.

The second major campaign of renovations saw the complete renovation of the first floor, to make use of the space freed up by the relocation of park offices to the second floor. The work was carried out under NAR contract no. CX1600-4-0014 from January to August 1984, with Superintendent Lawrence Nash acting as Project Supervisor. Under that contract:

- 1) all of the interior walls were removed, except for those enclosing the northwest stair hall, and the section of wall covering the former fireplace in Room 104.
- 2) the two closets between the two south-wall chimney breasts were removed.
- 3) the 1976 plasterboard ceiling was removed; the joists of the second floor were sistered, and a new plasterboard ceiling was installed.
- 4) the existing four layers of floor were removed; the floor joists were sistered; two layers of plywood subflooring were installed, topped by wall-to-wall carpeting.
- 5) the circa-1850 southwest stair to the second floor was removed, as was the 1974 stair to the basement, along with a corner of the northwest-chimney brickwork.
- 6) a new east-west stair with 180-degree turns was built in the center of the west wall, extending up to the second floor and down to the basement; the north wall of the stair hall to the second floor retained the curved shape of the southwest stair's north wall.
- 7) two new bathrooms were installed along the south side of the new center stair.
- 8) a counter was installed to the north of the new center stair, passing in front of the doorway to the northwest stair hall.
- 9) a door was hung in the above-mentioned doorway.
- 10) fluorescent lighting was installed throughout.

In addition to this work on the first floor:

- 1) the old plaster ceiling in what was formerly Room 203 was replaced with one of plasterboard, to finish off the stair hall of the new center stair.
- 2) a toilet was installed in the south end of what was formerly Room 203 -- next to the new stair, and above the new bathrooms on the first floor.
- 3) a suspended ceiling and fluorescent lighting were installed in the basement.
- 4) the 1974 toilet room in the basement (see Appendix I, Sheet 2) was removed and replaced with another toilet room and separate shower room.

APPENDIX K.

ANTRAM-GRAY HOUSE:  
CHART OF OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS

The history of ownership and occupancy of the Antram-Gray House and its site from the early 1700's until 1975 was compiled in 1979 by Roy Weaver, then the superintendent of the Roger Williams National Memorial. This list, which treats the older north and later south halves of the house separately but concurrently, is reprinted on the following pages.

Date	Address	Occupied	Antram-Gray House South Half	Address	Occupied	Antram-Gray House North Half	Address	Occupied	Antram-Gray House Smith Street Entrance
1704				177	X	Benjamin Whipple wills to son John, land and dwelling house			
1737/8			Before 1798, history of land only.	177	X	John Whipple sells to Wm. Antram house with improvements			First occupant listing for a Smith Street address appears in 1850.
1765				177	X	Wm. Antram sells to Darius Sessions a dwelling house.			
Pre. 1798	175	X	Thomas Sessions, son of Darius Sessions, builds a southern addition to the Darius Session house as a separate residence	177	X ?	Owned by Darius Sessions, may have been occupied by his son Thomas or himself.			
			Note: Exact description of above residences and ownership listed in the United States Direct Tax of 1798.						
1809	175	X	Darius Sessions wills to Thomas Sessions the land on which this residents stands. House belonged to Thomas Sessions before.	177	X	Darius Sessions wills this half of house & lot to his 3 daughters Mary, Sarah, Amy. They sell it to Thomas S.			
1809	175	X ?	Thomas Sessions sells to Thomas and Josiah Snow, house-wrights. Use unknown from 1809 to 1824.	177	X ?	Thomas Sessions sells to Thomas and Josiah, house-wrights. Use unknown from 1809 to 1824.			
1813	175	X	Thomas and Josiah Snow sell to Winthrop Pidge and Jeremiah Whipple.	177	X ?	Thomas and Josiah Snow sell to Winthrop Pidge and Jeremiah Whipple.			
1824	175	X	Residence, Silvanus G. Martin	177	X	Grocery and Dry Goods Shop. Silvanus Martin			?
1831	175	X	Winthrop Pidge sells his share to J. Whipple	177	X	Winthrop Pidge sells his share to Whipple.			X
1838	175	X	Whipple sells to Martin, Residence.	177	X	Whipple sells to Martin, Dry Goods Shop.			X ?

Date	Address	EO	Antram-Gray House South Half	Address	EO	Antram-Gray House North Half	Address	EO	Antram-Gray House Smith Street Entrance
1847	197	X	Martin Residence assumed, no listing for Martin Residence.	199	X	Martin Dry Goods Shop.		X	
1850	197	X	Same	199	X	Same	1	X	David E. Holmes, Physician, Office 1 Smith St. Res. 3 Smith St. Wm. Hughes, Boilermaker, bds.
1852	197	X	Same	199	X	Same	1	?	No Smith St. address listed.
1854	197	X	Same	199	X	Same	1	X	John J. McCowan, Physician, office and residence.
1855	197	X	Martin residence, S. Martin dies.	199	X	Martin Dry Goods, S. Martin dies.	1	X	Same
1856	197	X	Residence, Ann Martin, widow and Mary Martin, dress maker.	199	X	Occupancy unknown, possibly Mary Martin Dress Maker Shop (no record).	1	X	Same
1857	197	X	Same	199	X	Same	1	X	Thomas Dowling, Hairdresser, bds. Michael Grady, Blacksmith, bds. Patrick Ahern, Blacksmith, bds. Thomas Kelly, Salesman, bds. John Kindred, Shoemaker, bds. Chris. Nugent, Tinsmith, bds. Michael O'Brien, Picker-maker, bds.
1858	197	X	Residence, Ann Martin, Widow; Mary Martin, dressmaker.	199	X	Address not listed, no record of occupancy perhaps Mary Martin's dressmaking shop.	1	X	Patrick Ahern, Blacksmith, bds.
1864	197	X	Ann Martin dies; estate sold to John Keefe (Keefe). Mary Martin, dressmaker maintains residency.	199	X	Ann Martin dies, estate sold to John Keefe. No address listing. Perhaps used by Mary Martin as dress shop.	1	X	Ann Martin dies, estate sold to John Keefe. Patrick Ahern, Blacksmith, bds.
1865	197	X	Mary Martin, dressmaker Silas Hall, bds. John Keefe, owner.	199	?	No address listed, perhaps used by Mary Martin's dress shop. John Keefe, owner.	1	X	Catharine Duffey, widow, house.  John Keefe, owner.



Date	Address	EO	JO	Antram-Gray House South Half	Address	EO	JO	Antram-Gray House North Half	Address	EO	JO	Antram-Gray House Smith Street Entrance
1866	231	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	233	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	1	?	?	Unknown
1870	231	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	233	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	1	X	X	John Keefe, owner
1875	290	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	294	X	X	John Keefe, Liquor	1	?	?	Unknown
		X	X	Michael J. Leyden, Clerk								
1885	290	X	X	John Keefe died, Mrs. Julia Keefe owner.	294	X	X	John Keefe died, Mrs. Julia Keefe owner.	1	X	X	John Keefe died, Mrs. Julia Keefe owner
1885	290	X	?	P.F. Hoye, Liquor	294	?	?	P.F. Hoye, Liquor	1	?	?	Unknown
1886	290	X	X	P.F. Hoye, Liquor	294	X	X	Wesman Bros. Dry Goods Shop	1	X	X	Julia A. Warfield, widow of Ziba C. Warfield, house
1887	290	?	?	Wesman Bros. Dry Goods Shop	294	?	?	Wesman Bros. Dry Goods Shop	1	?	?	Unknown
1889	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	1	?	?	Unknown
1891	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	?	?	To address listed, assumed Beckett Bros.	2	X	X	G. A. Macomber
1894	290	X	X	Mrs. Julia Keefe died, sold to Eleanor K. Burdick	294	X	X	Mrs. Julia Keefe died, sold to Eleanor K. Burdick	2	X	X	Mrs. Julia Keefe died, sold to Eleanor K. Burdick
1894	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	?	?	No address listed, assumed Beckett Bros. Liquors	2	X	X	Fred Berry, Brakeman, bds.
1896	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	?	?	Same	2	X	X	J.T. Hennessey, Breakman, bds.
1898	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	X	X	John McDermott, hairdresser	2	X	X	Mrs. Annie Joslin, widow
1899	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	X	X	Beckett Bros. Restaurant	2	X	X	Mrs. Annie Joslin, widow
1903	290	X	X	Beckett Bros. Liquor	294	X	X	Beckett Bros. Restaurant	2	?	?	No address listed in directory, assumed used by Beckett Bros.
1904	290	X	X	Eleanor K. Burdick dies, owned by the E.K. Burdick estate.	294	X	X	Eleanor K. Burdick dies, owned by the E.K. Burdick estate.	2	X	X	Eleanor K. Burdick dies, owned by Eleanor K. Burdick estate.
1905	290	X	X	McCinn and Smith, Liquor	294	X	X	McCinn and Smith, Restaurant	2	?	?	No address listed, assumed used by McGinn and Smith.
1909	290	X	X	E.D. McCinn, Liquor	294	X	X	E.D. McCinn, Restaurant	2	?	?	No address listed, assumed used by McGinn.

Date	Address	50	00	Antram-Gray House South Half	Address	50	00	Antram-Gray House North Half	Address	50	00	Antram-Gray House Smith Street Entrance
1913	290	X	X	E.D. McGinn, Liquor	294	X	X	E.D. McGinn, Restaurant	2	X	X	Turkish Lodging House
1915	290	X	X	E.D. McGinn, Liquor	294	X	X	Tatro Donate, barber	2	X	X	E.D. McGinn, Lodging House
1917	290	X	X	E.D. McGinn, Liquor	294	X	X	Bernice B. Gray, watchshop, moved from 322 North Main	2	X	X	Bernice B. Gray Eliza Driscoll May Hobson Irving W. Burdick Henry Fox
1919	290	X	X	vacant	294	X	X	Bernice B. Gray, watchshop	2	X	X	Bernice B. Gray May Hobson Irving W. Burdick
1923	290	X	X	John Leach, wholesale crockery	294	X	X	Bernice Gray, watches	2	X	X	Bernice B. Gray May Hobson
1925	290	X	X	vacant	294	X	X	Bernice Gray, watches	2	X	X	Bernice B. Gray May Hobson
1927	290	X	X	George Andrews, pool	294	X	X	Bernice Gray, watches	2	X	X	Bernice B. Gray May Hobson
1929	290	X	X	John K. Burdick, owns	294	X	X	John K. Burdick, owns	2	X	X	John K. Burdick, owner
1930	290	?	X	No address listed, perhaps part of 294 and used by B. Gray	294	X	X	Bernice Gray, watches	2	X	X	James Pina, home (rents)
1932	290	X	X	listed as vacant	294	X	X	Bernice Gray, watches	2	X	X	James Pina, home (rents)
1937	290	X	X	Bonded Municipal Corp. owner	294	X	X	Bonded Municipal Corp. owner	2	X	X	Bonded Municipal Corp. owner
1938	290	X	X	Isabella O'Neil, owns	294	X	X	Isabella O'Neil, owns	2	X	X	Isabella O'Neil, owner
1941	290	X	X	Thomas B. Gray, owner	294	X	X	Thomas B. Gray, owner	2	X	X	Thomas B. Gray, owner
1945	290	X	X	Thomas B. Gray, watches	294	X	X	Thomas Gray, watches	2	X	X	James Pina, home (rents)
1969	290	X	X	Providence Redevelopment Agency, owner	294	X	X	Providence Redevelopment Agency, owner	2	X	X	Providence Redevelopment Agency, owner
1970	290	X	X	Thomas Gray, watches	294	X	X	Thomas Gray, watches	2	X	X	James Pina, home (rents)
1975	290	X	X	National Park Service	294	X	X	National Park Service	2	X	X	National Park Service, Roger Williams National Memorial

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