

458 C Street
Washington, D.C.

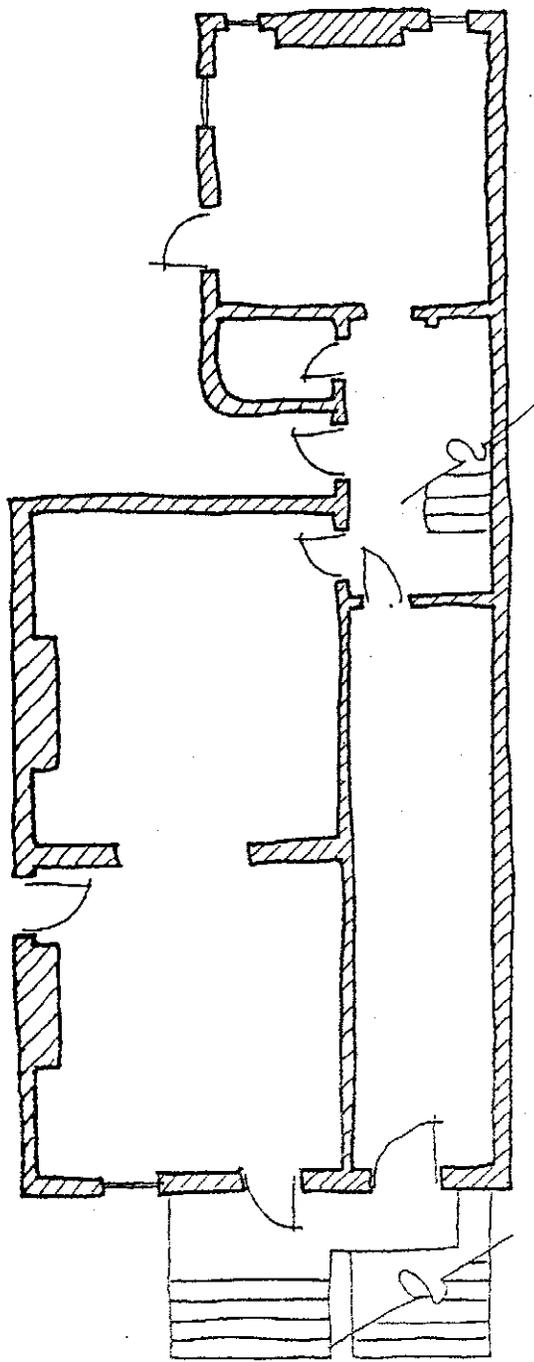
HABS No. DC-374

HABS,
DC,
WASH,
240-

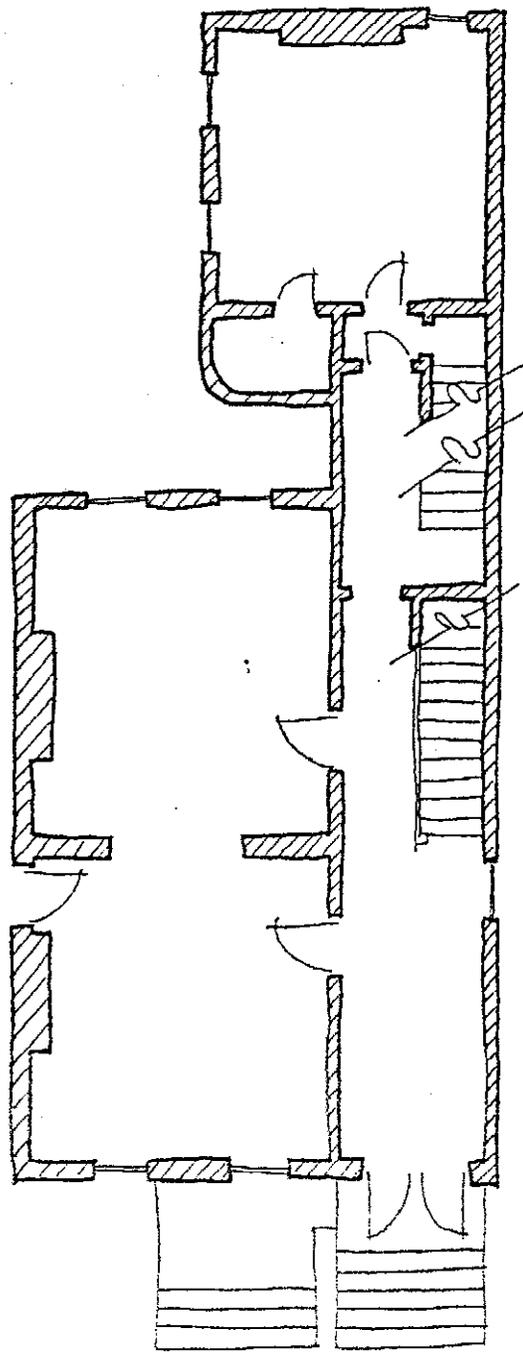
PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		WASHINGTON, D.C.
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
		DC-374
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
458 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C., (West) Old Lot 19, Square 491		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
Between 1844 and 1850 (1844 and 1850 D.C. General Assessment Records)	Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
A good example of a mid 19th century rowhouse containing original features; the vestibule transom, decorative molding, twin staircase, and decoratively glazed tile brick veneer surrounding fireplace.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Brick Load Bearing		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
The structure measures 25' at C Street and 58' at the longest elevation (West). The East party wall measures 35'.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
Three bays wide, three story with basement pressed brick rowhouse. A Romanesque arch with terra cotta keystone surrounds the double entry way. Front stairs are decorative cast iron. The brick and terra cotta cornice is composed of several corbelled bands with frets acanthus, egg and dart and dentil work.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
Doors and window frames feature an entablatured design with denticulated cornices. The ceilings have applied fillet molding. The first floor fireplaces have glazed tiles and a wooden mantelpiece terminating in an ogee top shelf (See attached floor plan).		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
Romanesque arch is of a later date. Some areas of the building have had twenty-two layers of paint. A possible renovation occurred in the 1890's.		
PRESENT CONOITION AND USE		
Boarding house in conjunction with 456 C. Street. Demolished 1979.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
This structure was recorded by Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation in compliance with Executive Order 11593 and a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
1844 and 1850 D.C. General Assessment Records.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION	DATE	
WENDY HUNTER, ARCHITECT		
P.A.D.C. PATRICIA ROWSE, HISTORIAN, HABS	June 1980	



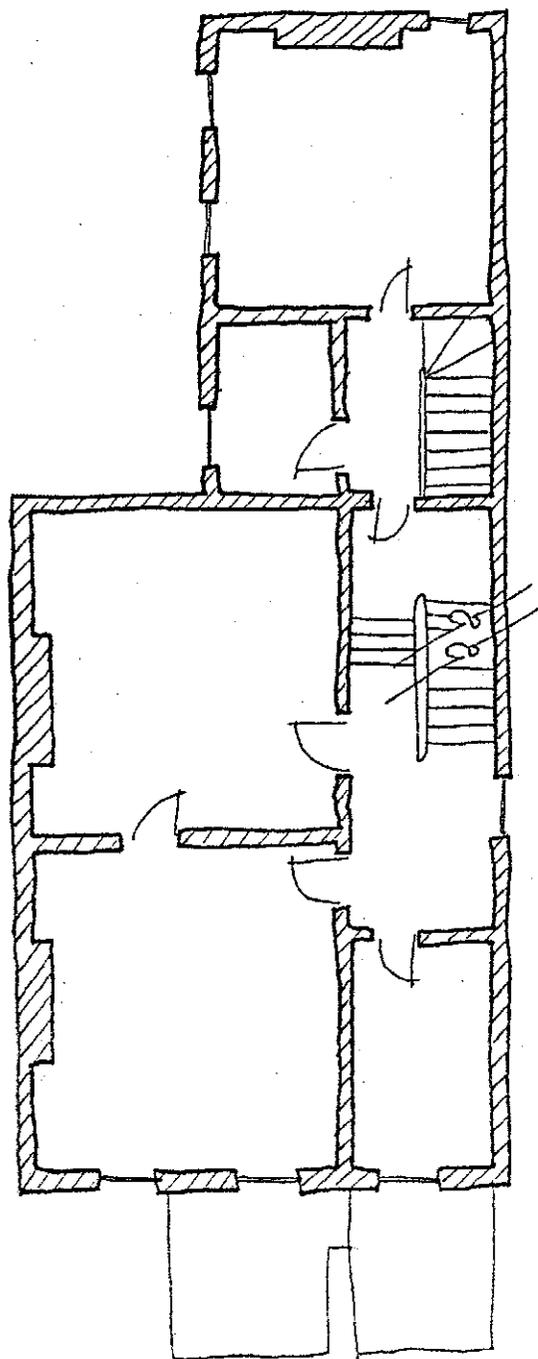
BASEMENT



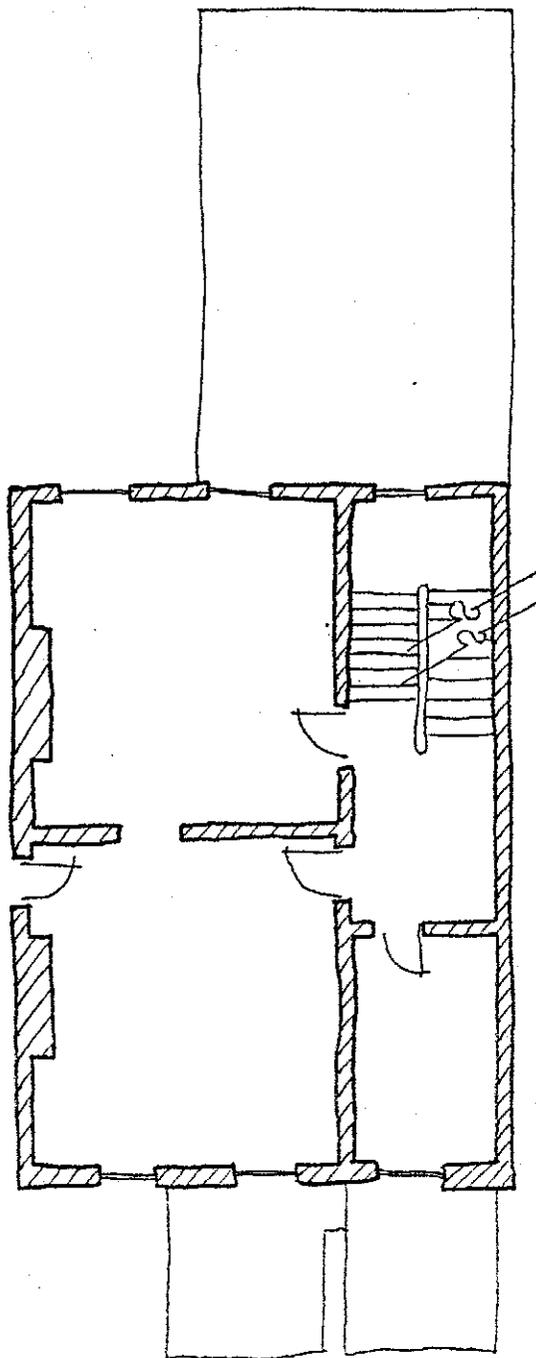
FIRST FLOOR

458 C STREET, N.W.,

WASHINGTON, D.C.



SECOND FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR

458 C STREET, N.W.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDENDUM TO:
458 C Street, NW (Residence)
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-374

HABS
DC
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240-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

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ADDENDUM TO
458 C STREET, NW (RESIDENCE)
HABS No. DC-374
(Page 4)

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

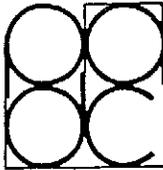
458 C STREET, NW (RESIDENCE)

This report is an addendum to a 3 page report previously transmitted to the Library of Congress.

Location: 458 C Street, NW, Washington, DC

Date of Construction: unknown, before 1850.

Present Owner: unknown.



PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

425 13TH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20004

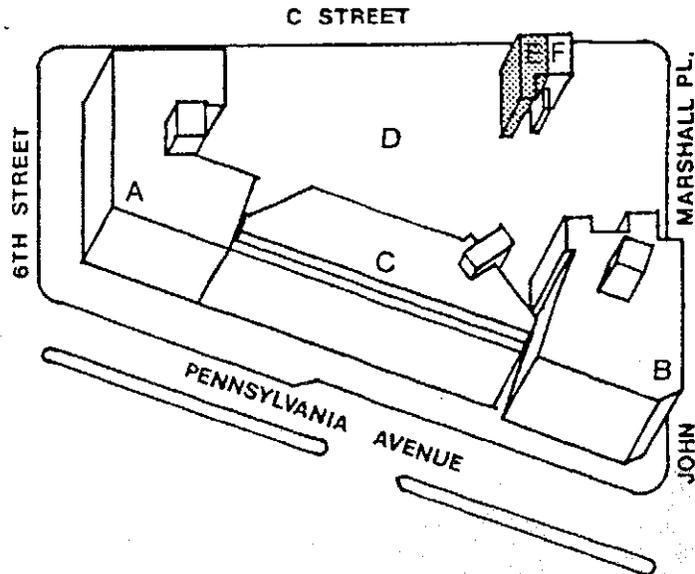
GENERAL CONSULTANTS

ANDERSON NOTTER/MARIANI GENERAL PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
DEVROUAX & PURNELL ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS
DAVID MCLAREN HART & ASSOCIATES PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
MONK DUNSTONE ASSOCIATES COST ESTIMATING CONSULTANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE
458 C STREET, NW
PART OF OLD LOT 19



GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Isolated amidst a parking lot this L-shaped brick building stands with its neighbor as the only remaining small scale buildings that once characterized this area. The building, consisting of a main block and an ell, occupies a small rectangular site near the north-east corner of the block, across the street from the new Federal Courthouse. The site measures 25' wide by 65' deep and slopes gently to the south. The main block of the building is rectangular in plan, three stories high (plus basement and attic) and is capped by a gabled roof. The narrow shed-roofed rear wing is also rectangular in plan but only two stories. This wing and the adjacent building to the east encloses a small three-sided court at the rear. #9

The main or C Street facade is divided into three equal bays. It contains an elaborate eccentric arched entrance on the west. The entrance features ornate cast iron stair. The disposition and slender proportions of the openings in the facade suggest a late manifestation of the Federal style. A proper judgement, however, is made difficult by the extensive later alterations to the doorway, cornice and perhaps the entire facing of the wall.

The non-contemporaneity of the facade brick and the arched surround of the entryway is evident from the different mortars used. The arch voussoirs were laid in a black mortar and the bricks associated with the arch have been toothed into the surrounding masonry using the same black mortar. The remaining facade masonry is laid in white mortar. Further proof of the arched opening as later construction lies in the fact that the door frame has only seven layers of painting, whereas the one on the adjacent building has twenty-two. The window frames of both buildings, however, have similar paint seriations.

The interior framing consists of 3" x 12" wooden joists spanning north-south. The layout is straight forward: a narrow stair hall running along the west wall serves a front and a rear room on each floor. On the first floor some interior finishes typical of the late Nineteenth Century still remains. Seen in the context of the facade changes, it would appear that the building underwent a massive renovation in the 1890's. This, however, is not confirmed due to sketchy permit records.

The former dwelling house was used as a boarding house until recently, when it was vacated. It is now empty.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The exact dating of this building has proven difficult to establish from the data contained in the building permit, tax and title records. It can be inferred, however, that it was definitely built 4 before 1850, rendering it a venerable structure by Washington's young standards. Stylistically it would appear to fit into this period as a late manifestation of the Federal style or as a transition to the Greek Revival. The entrance arch, however, is an interesting expression of the Romanesque Revival of the 1880's-1890's. The ornate corbelled cornice with its frets, acanthus, mutules, egg-and-dart and metal ogee clearly bespeaks the predilection for ornament so common at that time.

The two houses at 456 and 458 C Street constitute a vestige of early residential development of Washington which once filled this block.

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES:

Facade: The main facade is of hard pressed brick, laid in running bond with very thin joints pointed with a light-colored mortar. The three-story facade features windows of equal height at the first and second stories, with shorter ones at the third. All windows are one-over-one double-hung. Lintels are of 8" high stone. Ornamentation occurs at the elaborate eave cornice and on the arched entryway. The entry consists of a large round arch with molded terra-cotta keystone and impost blocks in a foliage design. The arch proper features a round-edged row of brick voussoirs to smooth the transition between the plane of the facade and that of the intrados. The extrados is marked by projecting, round-ended brick headers that form a continuous semi-circular molding. The entrance is also accentuated by an elegant cast iron stair and stoop. The curvilinear wrought iron balustrade spans between newels ornamented with a floral relief and ball finials. The steps rest on open stringers with decorative perforations. This theme is further elaborated by a basket-weave design on the risers.

The final enrichment of the facade lies in the brick eave cornice which is composed of several corbelled bands with ornamental moldings. The decorative program springs four courses above the third floor lintels with a single-corbelled fascia six courses high. The next corbel is attenuated by a fret band and a leaf-and-dart on the cove. A third, more pronounced corbel is marked by brick mutules with four guttae each, and then, above, a cove treatment similar to the first is accomplished with a large egg-and-dart

molding. The eave itself is terminated by a metal ogee.

INTERIOR

Finishes: Many of the interior finished are extant from the late Nineteenth Century. The first floor features the most carefully designed ornamentation. The ceilings have applied fillet moldings creating geometrical patterns. Door and window frames feature an entablatured design with denticulated cornices. The first floor fireplace has an interesting mantel piece terminating in a large ogee top shelf. The staircase to the second floors exhibits a long initial straight run on an open bracketed stringer. There is a massive newel post, square in plan, from which springs the hand-rail, which rests on simple wooden balusters.

August 1979

ADDENDUM TO:

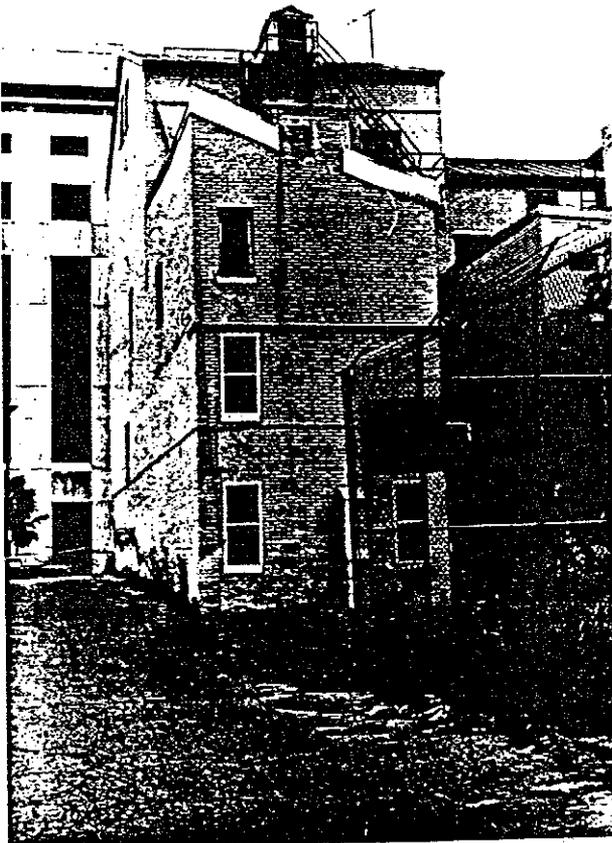
458 C Street, NW (Residence)

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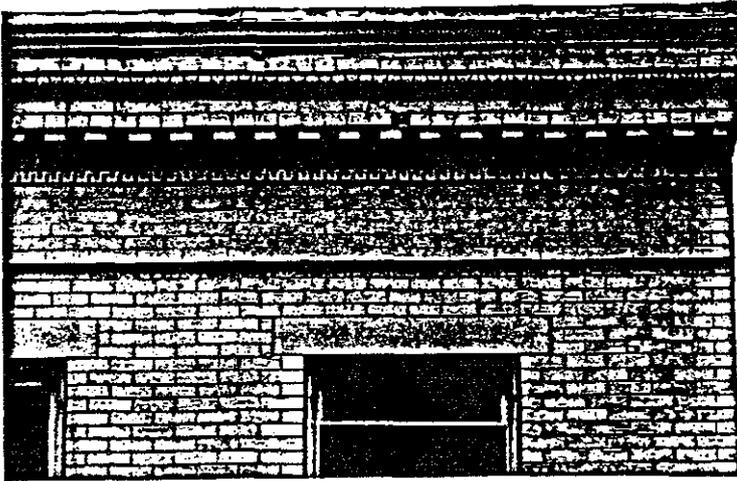
Page 9



NORTH FACADE



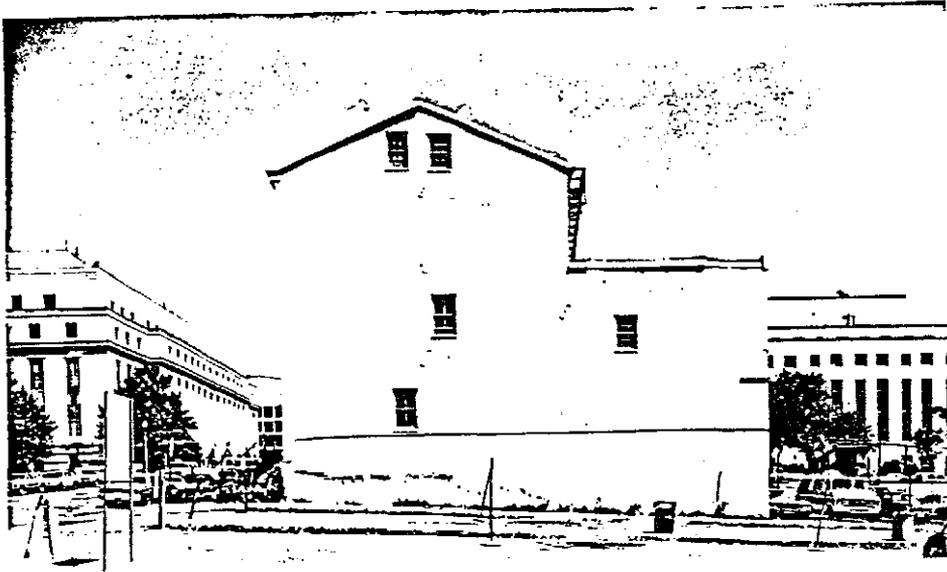
REAR ELEVATION
SHOWING SHED -
ROOFED SOUTH WING



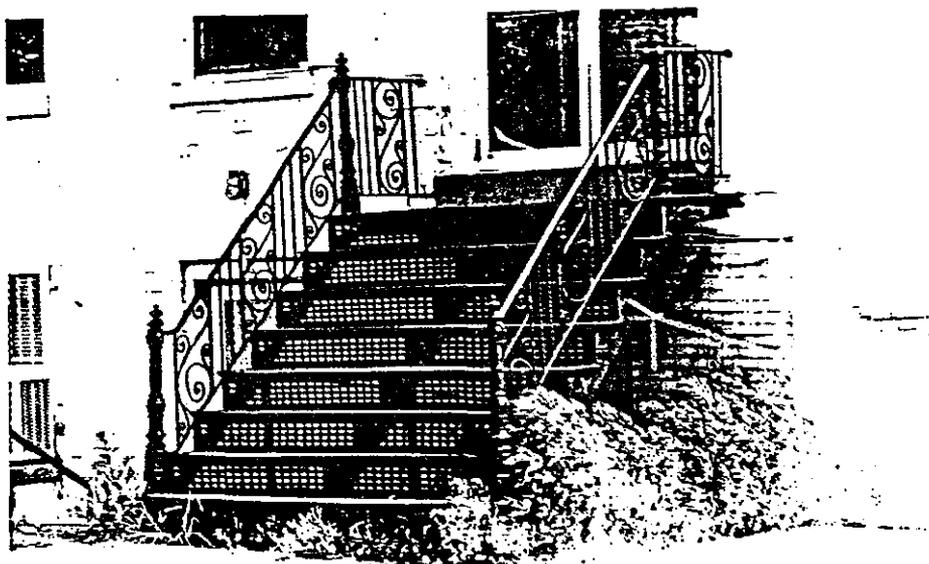
NORTH FACADE
DETAIL OF LINTEL AT THIRD FLOOR WINDOWS; EAVE CORNICE DETAIL



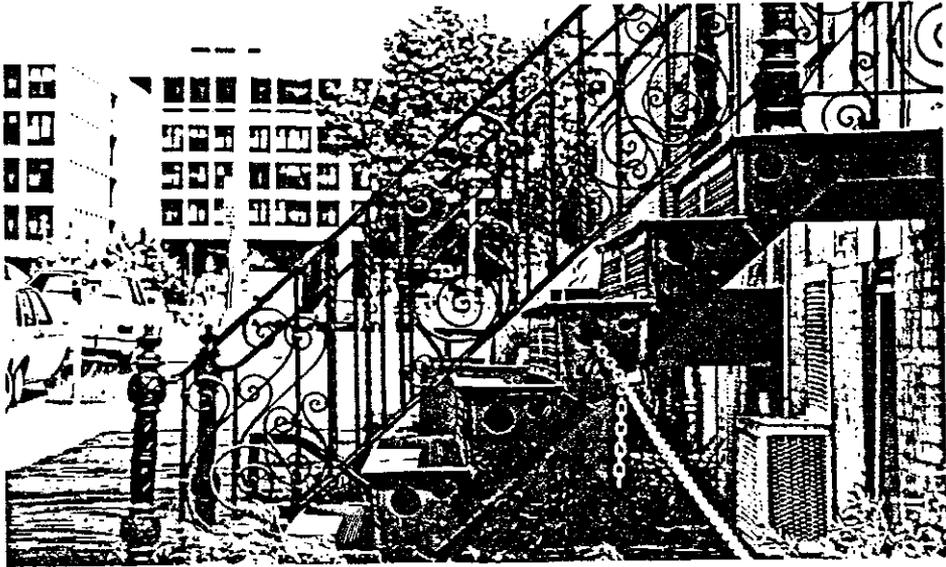
NORTH FACADE
DETAIL OF ARCH OVER MAIN ENTRANCE



WEST ELEVATION



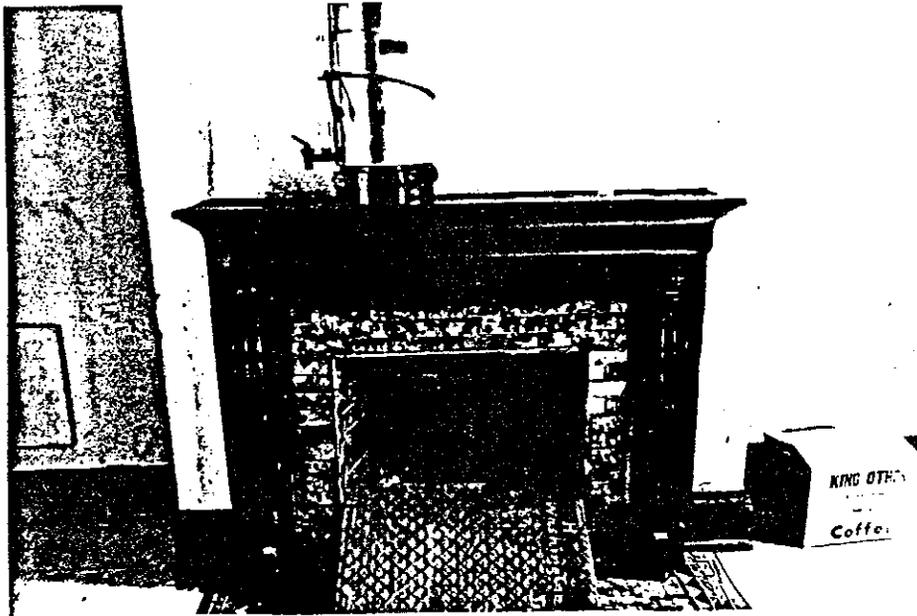
IRON STAIR AT ENTRANCE



MAIN ENTRANCE STAIRS SHOWING DETAIL OF NEWEL POST,
BALUSTRADE AND OPEN STRINGER.



MAIN ENTRANCE STAIRS SHOWING DETAIL OF NEWEL POST
AT LANDING.



FIRST FLOOR FIREPLACE AT EAST WALL SHOWING WOOD SURROUND