

James P. White House
1 Church Street
Belfast
Waldo County
Maine

HABS No. ME-92

HABS
ME
14-BELF
10-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

JAMES P. WHITE HOUSE

HABS
ME
14-BELF
10 -

Address: 1 Church Street, at the southern junction of Church and High Streets facing U.S. Route 1, Belfast, Waldo County, Maine.

Present Owner: Estate of Mrs. Frank Palmer Wilson

Present Use: Residence.

Brief Statement of Significance: This is one of the larger, more elaborate houses in Belfast, and the home of several prominent people.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: James Patterson White, original owner; George W. Burkett, owner in 1890; Dr. Everard A. Wilson; Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Wager; Senator James P. Taliaferro, purchased the house in 1912; Frank Palmer Wilson, purchased the house in 1936; his widow died 1962, and the house is for sale [August 1962], Arthur Clark, realtor.

2. Date of erection: The house is usually dated 1840, apparently based on a family tradition first recorded by Joseph Williamson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine, in 1877. The obituary of the architect published in 1890, however, dates the house 1842.

3. Architect: Calvin A. Ryder, according to an unidentified newspaper clipping in the copy of Williamson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine, vol. I, owned by Miss Elena Shute, 7 Park Street Belfast. This clipping quotes from an earlier obituary that appeared in the Journal (Belfast) for May 1, 1890 and gives the following information about the architect: "Calvin Ryder, Esq., of Boston, died Bangor, Maine, April 25 [1890], age 78. Ryder remembered in Belfast as the architect for the Baptist Church 1837; The Hiram O. Alden house [19] Church Street, 1840 [later owned by the Kennys, in 1962 owned by Sherman English]; James P. White house, 1842; and the Edward Sibley house on High Street, 1844-1845, [subsequently owned by Joseph W. Blaisdell, William Lord Sexton, Louis Breechman, Arthur Clark]. Ryder then moved to Boston where he became a leading architect.

4. Sources of information: Interview with Miss Elena Shute, 7 Park Street, Belfast, August 17, 1962 by Osmund R. Overby.

Samuel M. Green, Exhibition of Maine Architecture from the 17th Century to the Civil War (Catalog of an exhibit arranged by The Art Department of Colby College, Waterville, Maine, 1945).

HABS
ME
14-BELF
10-

Maine Writers Research Club, Historic Churches and Homes of Maine (1937), P. 111.

Joseph Williamson and Alfred Johnson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine, Vol. II (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913), pp. 16-18 passim, illustration facing p. 18.

The James P. White House referred to in Federal Writers' Project, Maine, A Guide "Down East" (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1937), p. 226, at 30 Church Street, the southwest corner of Church and Pearl Streets, is the earlier house built for White c. 1825.

B. Historical Events Connected with Structure: James Patterson White was born in Belfast, September 2, 1800 and died March 25, 1879 at the age of 78. He built a house at the corner of Church and Pearl streets before the 1840 house. He had a long and successful business career and was mayor of Belfast 1861-1863; state senator 1862-1863.

James P. Faliaferro was a U. S. senator from Florida whose permanent home was in Jacksonville. He bought this place as a summer house.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: Built in 1840, this is a large, elaborate frame house with Greek Revival detail, designed by Calvin A. Ryder, architect.

2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Over-all size: Large, two-story, rectangular main block, three bays wide with projecting center pavilion. Two-story intermediate wing at the rear connects to a two-story, rectangular, rear block parallel to the front block.

2. Foundations: Large, smooth, cut blocks of granite.

3. Wall construction: Frame. Smooth flush siding on front and sides of main block, clapboards elsewhere. Walls of main block marked off by corner colossal Doric pilasters, molded belt course between floors, and a deep entablature around the entire house.

4. Porches: Two-story entrance porch in projecting center pavilion, distyle in antis, carved ornament in the pediment, on the

friezes of each story, and against the house at the second floor. One-story porch along west side of intermediate rear wing between front and rear blocks, fluted Doric columns.

HABS
ME
14-BELF
10-

5. Chimneys: Two inside brick chimneys in main block, other brick chimneys in rear wings.

6. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: Both the main entrance and the west side entrance have simple doorways with side lights and later board doors.

b. Windows: Double hung windows, later two-light sash in the front, six-light sash in the rear. Elaborate window frames on front block with cornices on the second floor, and flat pediments and underwindow panels on the lower floor.

7. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: Low hip roof on main block, gable roofs on rear, shingled.

b. Cornice: Molded wood cornice.

c. Cupola: Elaborate cupola on main block, balustraded square first stage; octagonal second stage with large windows, Ionic corner columns, and a heavily carved balustrade.

C. Site

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces southeast at the intersection of Church and High Streets, on a large, level lot in a residential section.

2. Enclosures: Modern high stake fence. A cast iron fence is shown in the photograph in Williamson and Johnson, History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine, Vol. II, illustration facing p. 18.

3. Outbuildings: There is a small garden pavilion or gazebo, octagonal, tall peaked roof elaborately decorated in front of the house.

4. Landscaping: Informal yard with lawn, trees, shrubs, and flowers.

Prepared by Osmond R. Overby, Architect
National Park Service
August 1962.

Addendum to:
JAMES P. WHITE HOUSE
1 Church Street
Belfast
Waldo County
Maine

HABS No. ME-92

HABS
ME,
14-BELF,
10-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20013-7127

HABS
ME,
14-BELF,
10-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Addendum to:
JAMES P. WHITE HOUSE
1 Church Street
Belfast
Waldo County
Maine

HABS No. ME-92

Data pages 1 through 3 were previously transmitted to the Library of Congress
This is data page 4.

INVENTORY OF PHOTOGRAMMETRIC IMAGES

The glass photogrammetric plates listed below are not reproducible except with special permission. However, reference prints and film copy negatives have been made from the plates indicated by an asterisk (*) and are included in the Library of Congress collection of formal HABS/HAER photographs.

8 4" x 6" glass plate negatives (4 stereopairs) produced by James Replogle in 1960.

One survey control contact print per plate; survey control information for each pair.

LC-HABS-GS07-13L *	GENERAL VIEW FROM SIDE
LC-HABS-GS07-13R	GENERAL VIEW FROM SIDE
	Left and right overlap: 80%
LC-HABS-GS07-14L *	FRONT ELEVATION (Contact print missing)
LC-HABS-GS07-14R	FRONT ELEVATION
	Left and right overlap: 85%

LC-HABS-GSO7-15L *	SIDE ELEVATION
LC-HABS-GSO7-15R	SIDE ELEVATION
	Left and right overlap: 65%
LC-HABS-GSO7-16L *	GAZEBO
LC-HABS-GSO7-16R	GAZEBO
	Left and right overlap: 75%

PROJECT INFORMATION STATEMENT

Photogrammetric images were incorporated into the HABS/HAER collections in the summers of 1985 and 1986. Inventories of the images were compiled and filed as data pages for each structure recorded. Since the glass photogrammetric plates are not reproducible except with special permission, a reference print and film copy negative were made from one plate of each stereopair and from the most informative plates in sequential sets. The reference prints and copy negatives were then incorporated into the formal HABS/HAER photograph collections.

The Photogrammetric Images Project was a cooperative endeavor between the HABS/HAER Division of the National Park Service and the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. The reference prints and film copy negatives of the original plates were made by the Library of Congress Photoduplication Service with funds provided by the Library of Congress Flat Film Preservation Fund. Additional reproductions were made by HABS/HAER. The project was supervised by HABS/HAER Architect John A. Burns, AIA, and completed by HABS Historians Jeanne C. Lawrence (University of London) in 1985 and Caroline R. Alderson (Columbia University) in 1986.