

Jonathan Child Residence,
Rochester, New York.

Monroe Co

HABS No. 5-R-1

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P H O T O G R A P H S

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

D I S T R I C T N O. 5

Historic American Buildings Survey
Norman R. Sturgis, District Office
353 Broadway, Albany, N. Y.

HABS

N.Y.

28. (1004)

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JONATHAN CHILD RESIDENCE
37 South Washington Street
Rochester, Monroe County, New York

Owner: Church of Christ Scientist.

Date of Erection: 1837 (text); 1837-38 (card).

Architect: Hastings (?).

Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two, and basement.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

JONATHAN CHILD HOUSE
37 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST.
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

The house at 37 South Washington Street was built in 1837 by Jonathan Child, first Mayor of Rochester, who lived in this house until 1850. Hastings is said to be the architect of the house. It was often alluded to as "Child's Folly". Mr. Child came to Rochester in 1810 from New Hampshire and in 1818 married the daughter of Colonel Nathaniel Rochester, one of the founders of the City.

He sold his home in the late 40's to John N. Wilder, one of the founders of the University of Rochester. From 1852 to 1856 the house was owned by Freeman Clark. Frederick Stewart became the owner of the house in 1856. In 1870 the house passed into the hands of D. C. Hyde and about 1879 or 80 it was purchased by Mrs. Ives who conducted it for many years as a "home for paying guests." Today it is the home of the "Fourth Church of Christ Scientist."

Carl F. Schmidt
Author