

1208-1210-1212 REDDOUR STREET (House)  
Pittsburgh  
Allegheny County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6192

HABS  
PA  
2-PITBU,  
92-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

1208-1210-1212 REDDOUR STREET (HOUSE)

HABS No. PA-6192

Location: Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

USGS Pittsburgh West Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
17.584130.4478840

Significance: 1208-1210-1212 Reddour Street is believed to be a substantially altered cluster of brick rowhouses which would originally have resembled 9-15 Pernod Street. In their original form, they would have been representative of the smaller scale brick houses that were constructed in this section of Allegheny between 1874, when a devastating fire cleared four acres of some 199 buildings, and 1884, by which time the neighborhood was densely built-up.

Description: The cluster of three two bay, three story rowhouses is faced in yellow brick and topped by a flat roof. The windows are square metal casement. The entry doors are mid-twentieth century in design.

An examination of the interiors, however, reveals similar plans and detailing to the ca. 1874-1884 houses at 9-15 Pernod Street. The plans consist of two principal rooms per floor, separated by a transverse stair. The stair is enclosed by vertical tongue-and-groove wood paneling. The simple wood mantelpieces also resemble those in the Pernod Street houses. All other original detailing has apparently been removed. The basement and rear of the structures are inaccessible due to accumulated debris and plant overgrowth.

History: Based on map research and stylistic evidence, it is believed that the three houses at 1208-1210-1212 Reddour Street were built contemporaneously with those at 9-15 Pernod Street, and subsequently substantially altered ca. 1920-1940. Reddour Street (first called Middle Alley and later Race Street), dates to at least 1830. The attached Day & Cramer map of 1851 suggests that little actual construction had taken place in the block at this date; the first buildings apparently were erected between 1850 and 1872. By 1872, the 1208-1212 Reddour Street lots contained three buildings, at least two of which seem to have been for commercial purposes. All three were then owned by "J. Stuckroth." Two of Stuckroth's buildings fronted directly on Reddour Street while the third was erected at the rear of the residential lots fronting on Eloise Street. All of these buildings were likely destroyed in the July 4, 1874 fire that consumed 199 buildings between Sampsonia Street and Eloise and from Federal Street on the east to Arch Street on the west. The block had been substantially rebuilt by 1884, however, as shown by the Sanborn Insurance Company map of that year. The three row houses at 1208-1212 Reddour, together with another residence at 1206 Reddour, were all built during the 1874-1884 period; the 1884 map shows them sharing a common roof. The 1890-1891 G.M. Hopkins Atlas shows "J. Rafferty" as the owner of these buildings. By then, Rafferty also had developed a row of adjacent tenements known as "Rafferty's Row" and possibly had constructed the now unnamed way that provided access from Reddour Street to the rear of these tenements and to the 1206-1212 Reddour Street houses.

By 1925, D. Waiters (or Walters) owned 1208 Reddour, W.J. Turk owned 1210 Reddour, and A.B. Norton owned 1212 Reddour Street. In more recent years, 1208 was sold by Eleanore S. Toft and Allan J. Schmalte to Coleman D. and Karen L. Joyce in 1996; the URA subsequently acquired it by Declaration of Taking filed August 22, 1996. 1210 was sold by Kathleene C. Saunder to Francis J. Saunders in 1991 and by Francis J. Saunders to the URA in 1996. 1212 was sold by Winifred Elaine and Regis J. Murphy to Frank T. and Mary E. Madfish in 1963, and by

Mary E. Madfish to the URA in 1996. The dwelling at 1206 Reddour was demolished prior to the current project. In early November 1996, the buildings at 1208, 1210, and 1212 Reddour Street were gutted in an arson fire shortly after 1210 Reddour Street had been photographically documented by the current study.

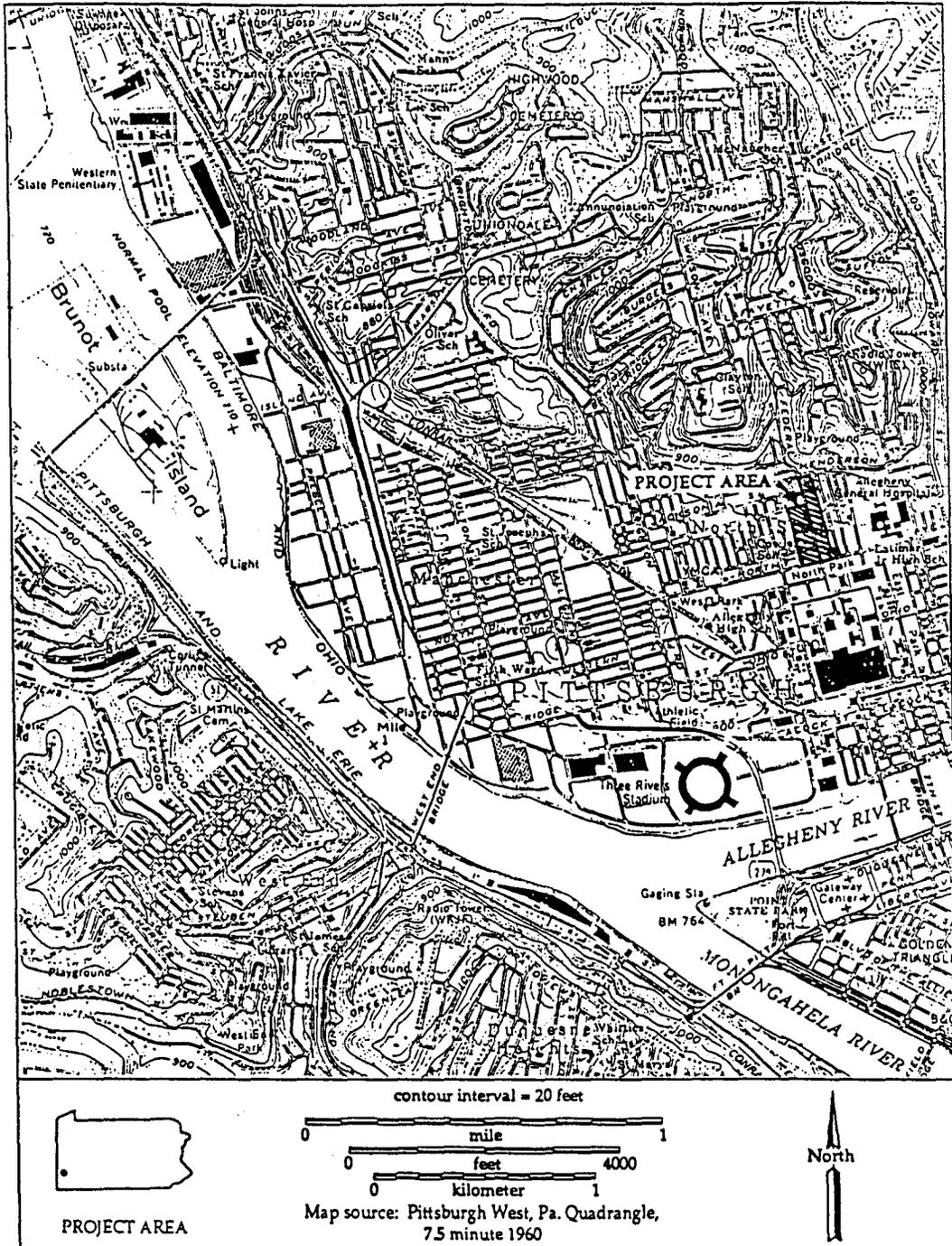
The three-block Federal North Redevelopment Area in the Central Northside Historic District of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was certified in 1989. In 1995, Pittsburgh adopted a redevelopment plan for this neighborhood. In consultation with the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer (PASHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), it was determined that proposed redevelopment in the Federal North neighborhood would affect National Register of Historic Places-eligible historic properties. One condition of the project's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) provided for Historic American Building Survey (HABS) recording of 14 buildings in a portion of the redevelopment project called "Block #2." Block #2 includes the area bounded by Federal Street on the east, Eloise Street on the south, Reddour Street on the west, and Pernod Street on the north. The buildings at 1208-1212 Reddour Street were located in Block # 2.

Sources:

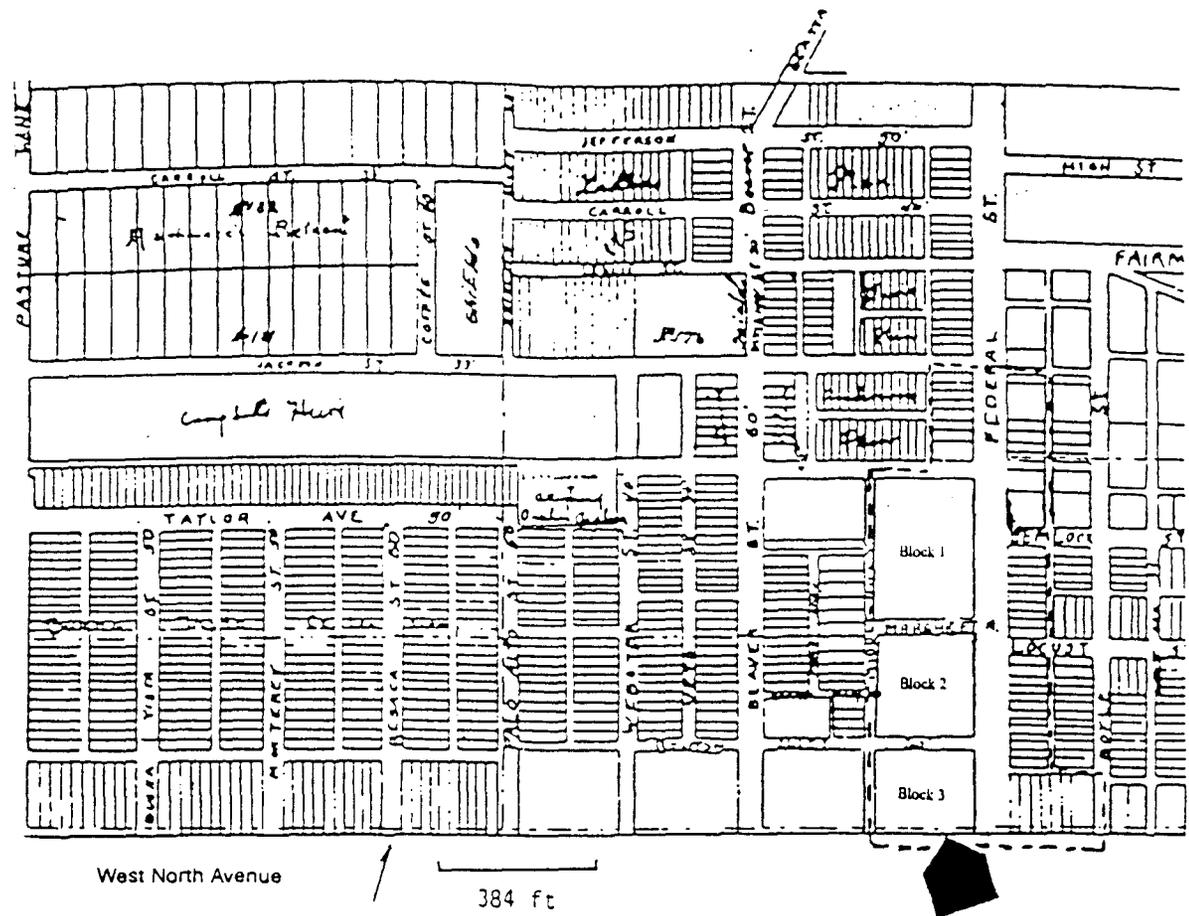
- Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, Recorder of Deed's Office  
Deed Book 4058 page 275, May 20, 1963  
Deed Book 8529, page 602, May 30, 1991  
Deed Book 6376, page 1133, June 12, 1996  
Deed Book 9781, page 137, September 11, 1996  
Non-filed deed, October 15, 1996
- Day & Cramer. Plan of Allegheny City Surveyed in 1850 and 1851. Pittsburgh: Day & Cramer, 1851.
- Hopkins, G.M. & Company. *Atlas of the Cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, and the Adjoining Boroughs*. Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins & Company, 1872.
- Hopkins, G.M. & Company. *Atlas of the City of Allegheny from Official Records, Private Plans, and Actual Surveys*. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins & Company, 1890-1891.
- Hopkins, G.M. & Company. *Atlas of the City of Pittsburgh*. Vol. 5. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins & Company, 1925.
- Sanborn Insurance Company. Sanborn Insurance Company Map of the Cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny. New York: Sanborn Insurance Company, 1884.
- Sanborn Insurance Company. Sanborn Insurance Company Map of Pittsburgh. New York: Sanborn Insurance Company, 1926 (updated to 1940).
- Sanborn Insurance Company. Sanborn Insurance Company Map of Pittsburgh. New York: Sanborn Insurance Company, 1926 (updated to 1979).
- Carlisle, Ronald C., and Arthur B. Fox. "Visual Inspection and Land-Use History in the Federal Street/North Avenue Redevelopment Area Northside, Pittsburgh." A report prepared by the Cultural Resource Management Program, University of Pittsburgh, for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh under the supervision of Ronald C. Carlisle, Ph.D., principal investigator, 1990.
- Millis, Heather. "An Archaeological Survey and Land-Use History for the Proposed Federal North Redevelopment Project, City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania." A report prepared for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh by Garrow & Associates, Inc., Thomas R. Baker, Ph.D., principal investigator, 1995.

Historians:

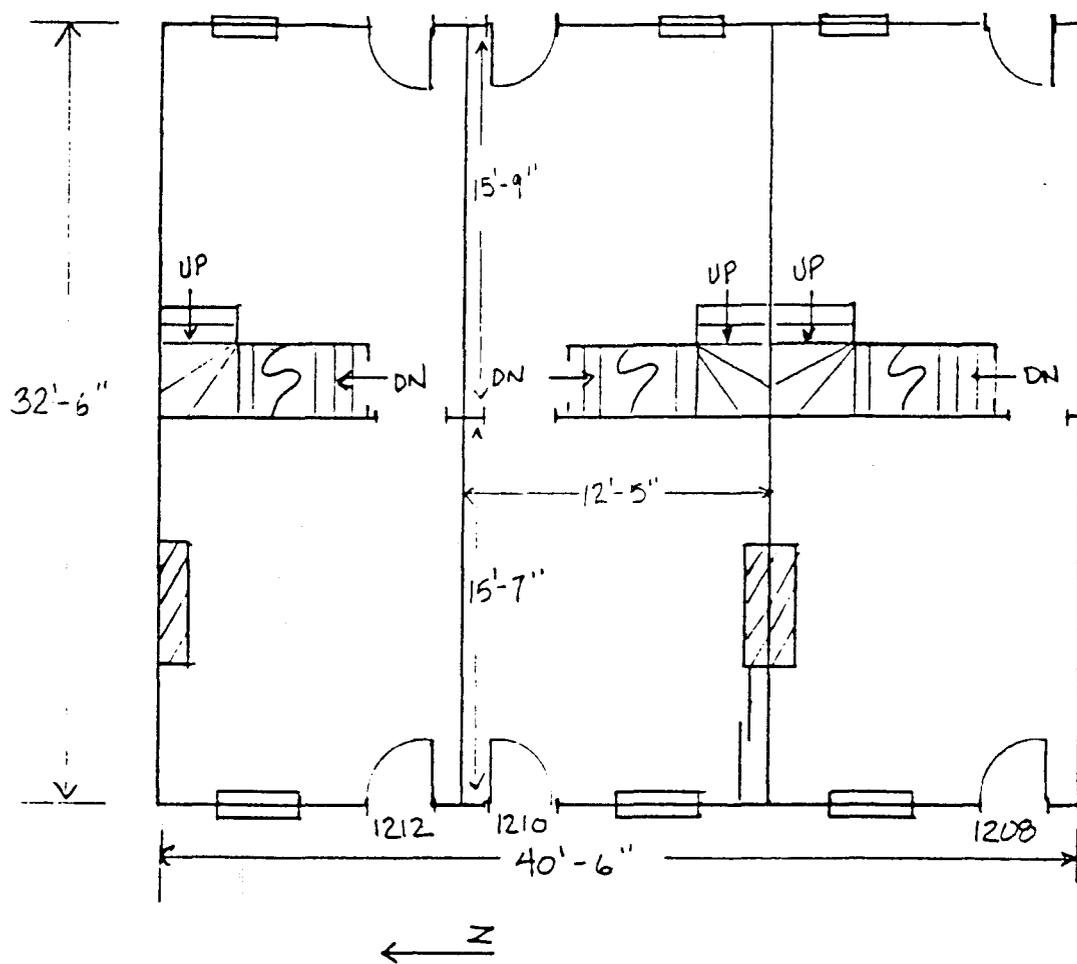
Ronald C. Carlisle, Ph.D. and Eliza Smith Brown  
Brown Carlisle & Associates, Inc.  
November 1996



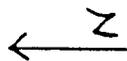
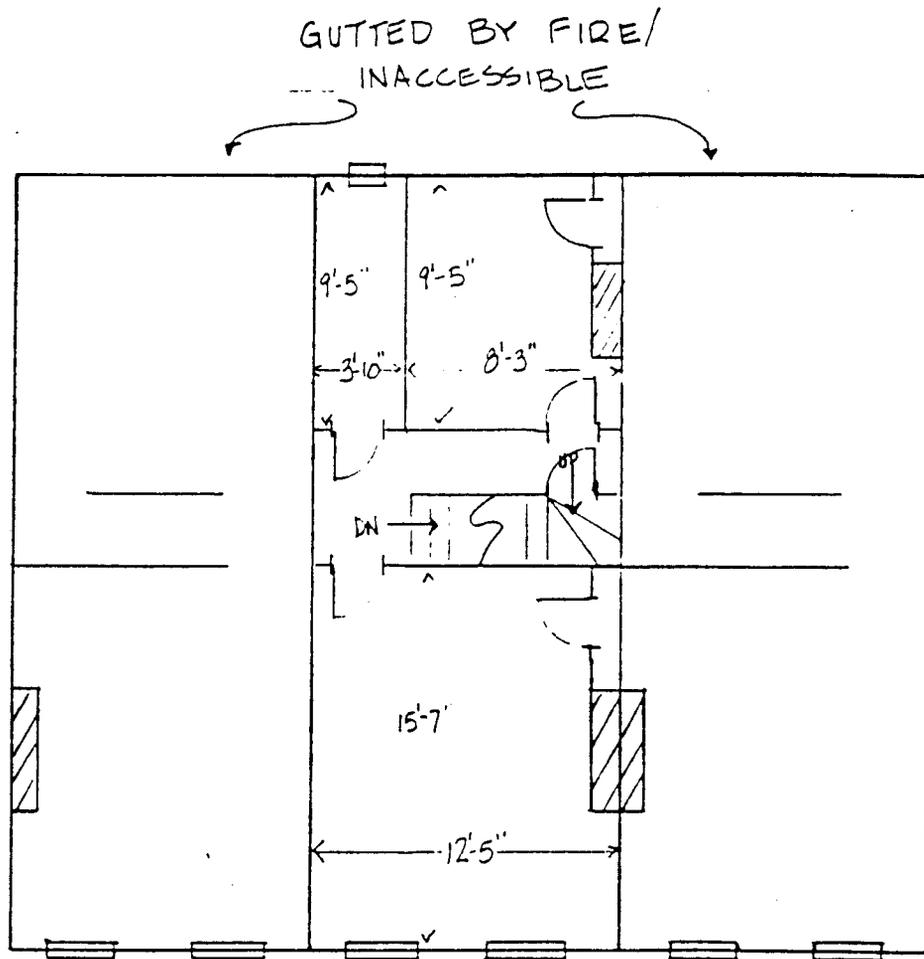
Location of the Federal North Redevelopment Area in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Source: USGS Pittsburgh, West 7.5 minute quadrangle map. After Millis (1995: 2, Figure 1).



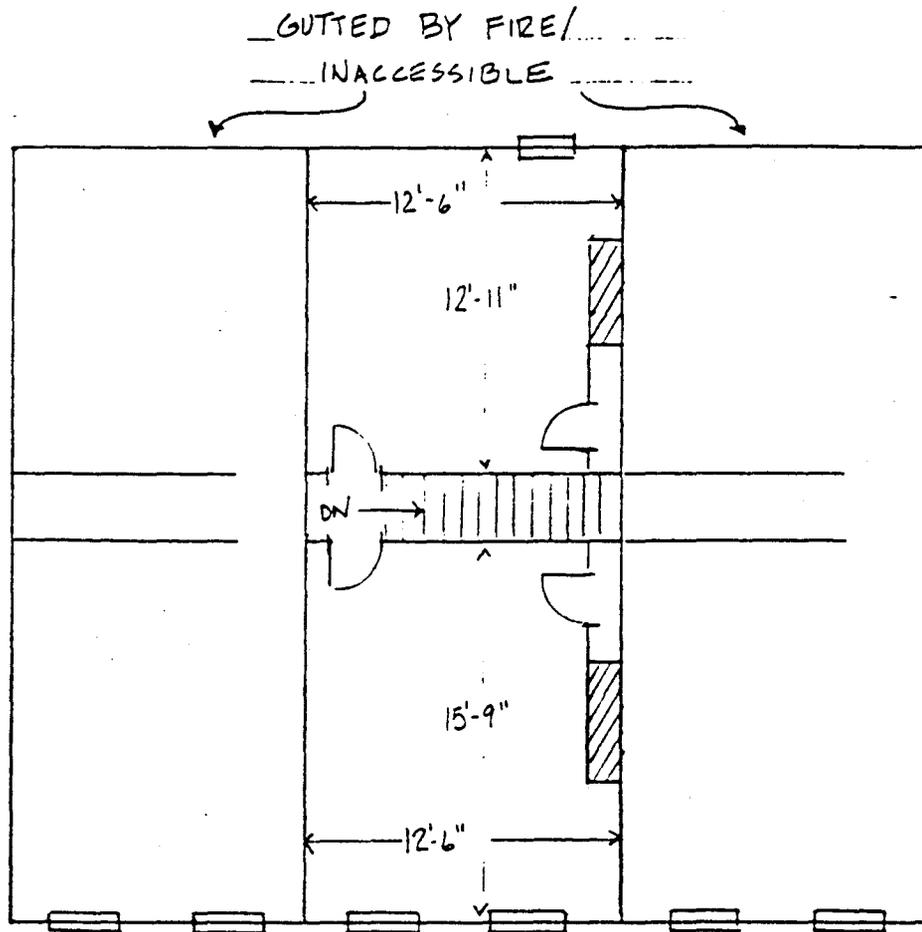
The Day & Cramer 1851 map of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (today, the Northside neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) showing lot divisions in and near the Federal North Redevelopment Area (arrow). Dashes outline the project area. The subject building is located in Block 2. Benton Alley is today's Eloise Street. Margaret Alley is today's Pernod Street. Middle Alley is today's Reddour Street. Federal Street has retained its name to the present.



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR