

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL, MEDICAL
OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
West side of Williamson Drive, 500 feet
south of the southeastern intersection
with Rixey Place
Portsmouth
~~Portsmouth County~~
Virginia

HABS No. VA-1287-E

HABS
VA
65-PORTM,
2E-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Northeast Field Area
Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
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- Location: West side of Williamson Drive
(500 feet south of the southeastern intersection with Rixey Place)
Portsmouth, Virginia
UTM: 18.383640.4078280
QUAD: Norfolk South, VA; 1965 (photorevised 1986)
- Present Owner: United States Department of the Navy with caretaker responsibility assigned to the Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Portsmouth.
- Present Use: Temporary offices for the Tri-Care Project Office.
- Significance: Medical Officer's Quarters B, among the oldest structures in the hospital complex, is historically and architecturally significant owing to its continuous use as an officer's residence for the Portsmouth Naval Hospital, and as an example of an early twentieth-century Georgian Revival-style residence which retains much of its original architectural integrity.
- Medical Officer's Quarters B was constructed in 1904-1906 as one of two almost identical Georgian Revival-style residences for junior medical officers, the other being Medical Officer's Quarters C (HABS No. VA-1287-B). Medical Officer's Quarters B is the southernmost of the two residences built in a row just northwest of "The Myrtles," the Italianate-style 1857 Medical Director's Quarters, also later designated Medical Officer's Quarters A (demolished in 1956 for the construction of the 1960 Hospital).

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. PHYSICAL HISTORY

1. **DATE OF ERECTION.** An Appropriation Bill of 1904 provided a total of \$20,000 for converting the medical officer's quarters within the hospital into wards for enlisted men, and for constructing two new residences for junior medical officers (Holcomb 1930: 342-343). Originally known as Medical Officer's Quarters B and C, the two new officer's residences were begun in 1904 and completed and occupied in 1906 (Class 2 Property Record; Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "(Plans, Section and Elevations of) Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904; Holcomb 1930: 342-343).
2. **ARCHITECT.** Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, Washington, D.C. Architects Waddy Butler Wood, John M. Donn, and William I. Deming were responsible for a number of important commissions in Washington, D.C. and throughout Virginia during the eight years of their partnership (1902-10). During that time, the firm's most important work was the Masonic Temple of 1907. It is important to note that Wood, Donn & Deming, in addition to designing Medical Officer's Quarters B and C, were also the architects for the 1907 additions to the Portsmouth Naval Hospital (HABS No. VA-1287-A), the most extensive alterations since the building's original construction.

Waddy Wood, a native of St. Louis and graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, appears to be the best known and most prolific of the partners. After his departure from the firm, he designed numerous diplomatic, commercial, and institutional buildings in the Nation's Capital, as well as planned many temporary buildings for all branches of the government during the first World War. He was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1916, and continued in practice until his retirement in 1940 (Withey 1956: 670).

William Deming, a native of Washington, D.C. and graduate of George Washington University, continued in practice with Donn for ten years after Wood's departure, thereafter practicing alone. During the latter period, he designed a number of schools, hospitals and commercial buildings (Withey 1956: 168).

3. **ORIGINAL AND SUBSEQUENT OWNERS.** Medical Officer's Quarters B has been under continuous ownership by the United States Department of the Navy.
4. **BUILDER, CONTRACTOR, SUPPLIERS.** Not known.

5. ORIGINAL PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION. Medical Officer's Quarters B and C were both built from the same 1904 drawings, indicating that the two were designed as identical residences. Microfilm prints of these drawings, including floor plans, sections, and elevations, and a 1930 photograph of the two residences (Holcomb 1930: 343) give a good indication that the historic appearance of Medical Officer's Quarters B was similar to that of the present day. The only major exterior alterations appear to have been the enclosure of the porches and the removal of the shutters and the front porch roof balustrade. The interior retains its original floor plans, except for conversion of the second-floor nursery into the present east bathroom, and modernization of the other bathrooms and the kitchen. The majority of the interior woodwork is intact, except for the replacement or removal of some of the doors.

Medical Officer's Quarters B was constructed at a government cost of \$18,064 (Class 2 Property Record).

Photocopies of the microfilm prints of eight of the original construction drawings by Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "(Plans, Section and Elevations of) Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904, are herewith included. The microfilm records are on file at the Civil Engineering Support Office, Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, CA.

The 1904 elevation drawings for the Medical Officer's Quarters indicate that neither the wrap around porches nor the porches off the kitchens were enclosed when built. The drawings show a wood balustrade on the wrap-around porch with simple rectangular balusters over a wood-paneled wainscot between the present Tuscan columns, and a wood balustrade on the roof of the porch featuring turned finials on top of square baluster posts. The porch off the kitchen is depicted with a wood balustrade in a diamond-shaped geometric pattern between the present square Tuscan columns, and a five-panel kitchen door with a rectangular, single-light transom. Louvered wood shutters flank most of the windows, except the dormer and end-gable windows, and the two northern windows lighting the service stair hall and first-floor toilet. A window is specified for the south wall of the southeast bedroom where French doors now exist. The basement windows shown on the drawings differ from the present windows; the windows specified are short rectangular windows with two-light casements, wire shutters, and stone sills. The drawing specifications indicate a slate roof, concrete keystones, pine window sills, pebbled plaster, and a five-light skylight.

The 1930 photograph of the two quarters taken from the bank of the Elizabeth River looking west shows that the wrap-around porches were screened, and the front entrance pavilion was enclosed with the existing multi-pane glazing by that

time. Although difficult to distinguish, the lack of shutters, the altered glazing pattern, and the length of the opening on the south wall of the southeast bedroom indicate that the French doors may have been installed by 1930.

The only major alteration to the original plans appears to be the renovation of the original second-floor nursery into a bathroom in 1926. The nursery was located between the two front bedrooms on the southeast and northeast corners of the house. There were entrances to the nursery from each of the bedrooms, with a third entrance to the nursery from the central stair hall, through a short entry hallway with flanking closets.

Comparison between the present interior detailing and the 1904 longitudinal section indicates that much of the original woodwork is intact, including the built-in bookcase in the library, the built-in cupboard in the dining room, and the wood mantels and overmantels in the living room, dining room, and library. The extant baseboards, chair rails, and cornice mouldings correspond to the 1904 longitudinal section, as well as the pilasters flanking the living room fireplace. The drawing specifies single-panel wood doors on the first floor; five-panel wood doors on the second floor; and a five-panel interior basement door, and half-paneled exterior basement entrance door.

6. ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS. Medical Officer's Quarters B retains most of its original exterior and interior construction. Alterations occurred mainly to update and modernize the efficiency of the utilities, and to make the residence more comfortable.

The second-floor nursery, located between the southeast and northeast bedrooms was converted to the east bathroom in 1926. Designed by Public Works, U.S. Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia, the renovation included the infill of the original nursery doorway from the stair hall with a two-light, center-pivot, hopper window above a wainscot, closing the short entry hallway which retained its original flanking closets. The construction drawing indicates that the French window in the center bay of the facade was to be converted to a regular double-hung sash similar to existing second-floor windows. The geometric, black-and-white tile floor design with its Greek-key border is specified in the plan, as are the placement of bathroom fixtures (Public Works, United States Navy Yard, Norfolk, VA, "Naval Hospital Quarters B & C New Bathrooms on Second Floor," 14 Sept. 1926).

The 1930 photograph shows that the porch balustrades above the wainscots were removed by that time, and it appears the the porches were screened. In addition, the entrance pavilion was enclosed with multi-paned glazing.

Alterations, probably made around the mid-twentieth century include the glazing of the screened porch, and the addition of awnings over the windows.

The cast-iron radiators with free-standing, pressed-wood radiator covers appear to be of post World War II vintage. Around the same time window air conditioners were installed in some of the openings, and the plumbing and electricity were updated. Some of the original doors were replaced with new doors.

Repairs were made in 1980 to various housing quarters, including Medical Officer's Quarters B. The architects were Clark, Nexsen, Owen, Barbieri, Gibson of Norfolk and Lynchburg, Virginia. The 1980 plan indicates that the electrical service in the two quarters was updated at that time (Clark, Nexsen, Owen, Barbieri, Gibson, Architects and Engineers, Norfolk and Lynchburg, Virginia, "Repair Various Housing Quarters; Plans and Elevations; Buildings B and C," Aug. 21, 1980).

B. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

From 1904 to 1910, under the administration of President Theodore Roosevelt, the Navy's Medical department experienced a period of general expansion, including the renovation of its aging hospitals, most of which were built in the 1830s. In addition, many new facilities were constructed. Medical Officer's Quarters B and C were built in 1904-1906 to provide housing for two of the three most senior medical officers assigned to the hospital, the Executive Officer and the Chief of Surgery. The relationship of Medical Officer's Quarters A, B, and C reflected the hierarchy of the naval command. While Medical Officer's Quarters A was a large, impressive house with well developed landscape design features, Medical Officer's Quarters B and C to the north were more conservative, comfortable residences in a modest landscape setting (Holcomb 1930: 343, 364, 393). It was customary that the Medical Officers and their wives entertain distinguished guests at their home.

After the 1956 demolition of Quarters A, "the Myrtles", the Commanding Officer occupied Medical Officer's Quarters C, the former residence of the Chief of Surgery. It was at some point after this time that Medical Officer's Quarters B and C generally became known respectively as the Executive Officer's Quarters and the Commanding Officer's Quarters.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. GENERAL STATEMENT

1. ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER. Medical Officer's Quarters B, with its symmetrical massing, formal plan, and architectural details such as quoins, keystones, denticulated cornice, and arched transom entrance with sidelights, is characteristic of Georgian Revival-style residences fashionable at the turn of the twentieth century. A notable additional feature is the enclosed wrap-around porch on the east and south elevations that accommodates the climate and the riverside location.
2. CONDITION OF FABRIC. Medical Officer's Quarters B appears to be in excellent overall structural condition. There are no obvious cracks in the exterior walls or indications of foundation settlement. There appears to be adequate site drainage, with no indication of moisture penetration at the foundation level. Roof drainage also appears adequate, and gutters and downspouts appear to be functioning properly.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EXTERIOR

1. OVERALL DIMENSIONS. The main block of the Medical Officer's Quarters B is 44'-4" wide and 32'-2" deep. A kitchen wing at the rear (west) measures 18'-0" wide and 17'-9" deep, giving the residence an overall depth of 49'-11". A front porch projects an additional 8'-9" to the east and south, while a back porch extends 6'-0" from the north wall of the kitchen wing (Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "First Floor Plan; Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904). The residence encompasses a total area of 5,071 square feet (Class 2 Property Record).

The two-and-a-half-story residence has a three-bay facade (east) with a one-story, three-bay porch across the east and south elevations; the kitchen wing is one story, with a story-and-a-half, projecting, service stair bay. The northern portion of the main block has a basement, while the balance of the residence sits atop a crawl space. The porches are supported by piers.

2. FOUNDATIONS. The foundation walls are 1'-1" thick, constructed of irregularly coursed brick, supported by a concrete footing. Freestanding and engaged brick piers, the former covered with smooth stucco, support the interior bearing walls at the basement level.

3. **WALLS.** The exterior walls, including the foundation, are clad entirely in rough-surfaced stucco over brick. Ashlar quoins occur at the four corners of the main block. The door and window openings have narrow surrounds of smooth stucco. The door and window jambs, and the keystones over the windows feature stucco with exposed-aggregate detailing. All the exterior elevations, the porches, the architectural details, and the chimneys are painted white.
4. **STRUCTURAL SYSTEM, FRAMING.** The exterior wall structure is of load-bearing, brick masonry construction, with two interior, load-bearing, wood frame walls at the center of the main block. Other partitions are non-load-bearing wood frame. The floors are framed with 2" x 10" joists at 16" centers, and the roof with 2" x 8" rafters at 24" centers. The front porch has load-bearing wood columns, 2" x 8" floor framing and 2" x 6" roof framing, both at 16" centers (Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "Longitudinal Section; Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904).
5. **PORCHES.** The enclosed front porch wraps around the house on the east and south elevations, and features a one-bay, projecting, entrance pavilion at the northern end of the front portion, centered on the center bay of the facade. The entrance pavilion has concrete steps with simple wrought-iron railings, and features coupled corner columns and a wood entablature with a two-fascia architrave, a plain frieze, and a projecting cornice. The entrance pavilion's wood frame storm door has jalousie glazing and an interior storm panel; the rest of the entrance pavilion is enclosed with fixed, multi-pane windows. The remainder of the porch is two bays wide (each with four glazed panels) on the facade and three bays deep (each with three glazed panels) on the south elevation, with floor-to-lintel jalousie windows and interior storm glazing. Single Tuscan columns divide the bays, with tripled Tuscan columns at the corners. There is an additional porch entrance on the west wall, with wood steps down to the level of the yard. Except for the entry pavilion, the porch is shaded on the east, south and west by aluminum awnings. The porch is crowned by a wood entablature and covered by a flat roof. The interior of the porch has carpeting installed over a wood floor, baseboard radiators in front of the windows, and a ceiling fan.

The kitchen porch is located on the north side of the kitchen wing, and is three bays wide and one bay deep, with engaged square columns dividing the bays and marking the corners. Wooden steps with a simple wood rail lead to a nine-light, half-paneled wood door in the center bay, flanked on the east by a single-pane sidelight. The porch is enclosed by paired, one-over-one aluminum sash, storm windows over a wood, paneled wainscot. The porch has a wood entablature and cornice, and is shaded on the north and west by aluminum awnings. A concrete stairway at the foot of the kitchen porch steps descends to an exterior entrance to the basement.

6. CHIMNEYS. There are three chimneys, which are rectangular, stucco-faced brick stacks with corbelled caps: one is located at the ridge of the roof of the main block near the south gable end; another rises from the rear, northwest portion of the same roof; the third occurs at the northwest corner of the kitchen wing.

7. OPENINGS

- a. Doorways and doors. The main entrance is located off the front porch, in the center bay of the facade (east elevation). The Georgian Revival-style entry has a six-paneled wood door with a four-light, semicircular window, and features an arched, traceried transom, sidelights with inward opening casement windows over wood panels, and fluted Roman Doric pilasters framing the door and sidelight panels. The entry is set into an arched opening with a raised elliptical arch with a keystone springing from rectangular impost blocks.

There are three additional entrances to the house. That from the porch on the south wall of the dining room features a pair of ten-light French doors and a rectangular, three-light transom. The entrance from the kitchen porch on the north wall of the kitchen wing has a solid wood door, simple door casing, and a projecting cornice. The basement entrance is at the northwest corner of the house, and has a half-paneled wood door with four lights.

The south elevation has an unusual feature at second-floor level in the four-light French doors that open onto the roof of the front porch from the southeast (master) bedroom. The residence originally featured a balustrade crowning the porch roof, and it is likely that these doors provided access to this area to take advantage of the cooling river breezes and the panoramic views of the harbor area between Norfolk and Portsmouth.

- b. Windows. The windows have rectangular openings with raised keystones, simple wood casings, and moulded wood sills. The majority of the windows have green aluminum awnings, and there are air conditioners inserted in some of the windows.

The first-story rooms of the main block, including the living room, front parlor, and dining room, have eight-over-one wood sash windows with aluminum storm windows. Most of the second-story windows also are of this configuration. A one-over-one sash illuminates the southeast bedroom closet on the south elevation, a two-over-two sash lights the northeast bedroom closet on the north elevation, and a six-over-six sash window on the south elevation illuminates the west bathroom. The windows in the dormers and on the gable ends are traceried, wood sash set in round arches with keystones. The basement has two paired, four-light casement windows on the north elevation.

The windows in the kitchen wing have rectangular openings with raised keystones; simple, rectangular, beaded wood casings; and moulded wood sills. Most of the windows are shaded by aluminum awnings. The kitchen wing has six-over-six sash, eight-over-eight sash, and two-over-two sash on the first story. There is a boarded opening on the kitchen's west wall in the attic gable. The projecting service stair bay has a three-over-three sash window on the north elevation, and a six-over-six sash on the south elevation.

8. ROOF

- a. Shape, covering. The main portion of the house has a side-gabled roof with a pedimented gable above the center bay. The side-gabled roof of the kitchen wing is at a right angle to the main gable. The projecting bay of the service stair protrudes through the kitchen roof, extending the rear slope of the main roof. The roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The skylight frame projects above the rear slope of the main roof.
- b. Cornice, eaves. The main portion of the house has a denticulated wood cornice with returns on the gable ends. The pedimented gable on the facade has a denticulated raking cornice. The kitchen wing has a plain wood cornice with returns. The original rainwater drainage system is largely extant. The gutters are concealed within the eaves behind the cornice mouldings, and the downspouts descend from beneath the soffit. On the facade the downspouts have oversized, decorative scuppers, creating the appearance of pilasters framing the center bay.
- c. Dormers. The two, symmetrical, gable-roofed dormers on the facade are clad in stucco, and feature wood details including engaged, paneled, square, Tuscan corner columns; simple, arched window surrounds with keystones; and raking cornices with returns.

C. DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR:

1. FLOOR PLANS. See Land and Community Associates, "Medical Officer's Quarters B; Floor Plans (as of March 1991)" for present arrangement of rooms.
 - a. Basement.
 - b. First floor.
 - c. Second floor.
 - d. Attic.

2. **STAIRWAYS.** There are four staircases in the house. The main staircase is located along the north wall of the hall, and rises toward the rear (west) of the house. The second-story landing is a U-shaped hall, with balustraded galleries on each side of the staircase, and a centrally-placed, borrowed light window in the ceiling. The staircase features a turned newel post with a volute, and has a rounded, shaped-wood railing, and rectangular sawn balusters, and bracketed wood stairs.

A service stair rises to the north from the pantry, turning east to open onto the north gallery of the second-story hall. The stairway is enclosed, and has a five-paneled, wood door, carpeted wood steps, and a simple wood banister. Another enclosed, wood stair rises to the north from the northeast corner of the second-floor hall to the attic. An open, plain wood staircase with a five-paneled wood entrance door leads to the basement from the narrow, first-floor side hall.

3. **FLOORING.** All the floors in the main portion of the house are 2-1/4"-strip wood flooring except for the principal staircase which has gray, cut-pile carpeting, and the bathrooms which have ceramic tile floors. The east bathroom has a 1930s-era black-and-white tile floor with a Greek-key motif border, while the west bathroom has a black-and-white tile floor in a checkerboard pattern. The kitchen wing has off-white sheet vinyl floors, while the attic rooms have sheet vinyl flooring in a parquet pattern.
4. **WALL AND CEILING FINISHES.** The primary wall and ceiling finish is painted plaster on lath, although the partitions in the attic are painted gypsum board. The interior basement walls are painted brick, as are the gable end walls of the attic. Painted wall surfaces throughout the house are off-white.

The walls of the second-floor bathrooms are generally tiled to approximately half their height, higher at the tub/showers. The tiles in the east bathroom are white with a narrow accent strip in black; those in the west bathroom are light green with a narrow accent strip and top cap in black.

5. **OPENINGS**
 - a. **Doorways and doors.** Treatment of these features is fairly consistent throughout the house. Door openings are framed by strongly-molded but simple surrounds that are generally more detailed on the first floor. Two wide, rectangular doorways lead into the living room and front parlor from the center hall; otherwise most of the other cased openings are fitted with doors. A few of the original, raised panel wood doors are extant; two of those surviving on the first floor (at the service stair and the basement stair) are five-paneled wood doors with porcelain knobs. The coat closet in the center hall has a wood door that is probably original, with a single, vertical, raised panel. The door from the center hall to the pantry is a half-paneled

door with a single, solid glass pane (probably altered) over three raised wood panels. The door to the pantry from the dining room (altered) is freely swinging, and has a round window. The original doors on the second floor are five-paneled wood doors, although some of the doors have been replaced with newer, hollow-core wood doors. All the doors except those at the service stair and basement are fitted with brass knobs.

- b. Windows. Like the doors, windows are framed with strongly-molded but simple surrounds that are generally simpler at the second floor than at the first floor. The windows have simple, scrolled wood valances containing curtain tracks, and are covered by venetian blinds.

A four-light, central-pivot-type window in the ceiling over the principal staircase borrows light from the attic skylight and provides a source of natural illumination for the second-floor hall. The window can be opened to ventilate the stair hall.

A two-light, wood, center-pivot, hopper window occurs on the west wall of the east bathroom. Added in the 1926 bathroom renovation, it illuminates and ventilates the centrally located linen closet accessible from the second-floor stair hall.

A window on the north wall of the service stair illuminates that narrow space, and small windows in the closets of the southeast and northeast bedrooms provide natural light and ventilation.

- 6. DECORATIVE FEATURES AND TRIM. All the woodwork is painted off-white to match the walls and ceiling.

Each of the three principal rooms on the first floor has a Georgian Revival-style wood mantelpiece. The living room mantel is the most elaborate and features paneled Tuscan pilasters, a keystone, denticulated cornice, and paneled overmantel. The dining room mantel has a keystone, flanged surround, bolection moulding, cornice, and simple overmantel. The mantel in the front parlor is identical to the one in the dining room, but lacks an overmantel with a cornice moulding. All three fireplaces project into the room, and have brick fireboxes with painted brick facings.

The rectangular doorways on each side of the central hall have fascia surrounds, and are capped by cornices. Other door and window trim on the first floor is generally similar, with two-fascia surrounds and under-window aprons. The hall also has two dropped lintels, one at the foot of the staircase and one inside the front door, supported by square pilasters, that along with the rectangular doorways define a central foyer area. The foyer has a recessed ceiling with a cornice moulding — the most highly detailed in the house. It features a one-fascia frieze with projecting cornice moulding. Similar cornice

mouldings in the three formal rooms vary in scale depending on the room's importance.

Square pilasters also flank the living room's east and west alcoves. There are round arches in the dining room on each side of the mantelpiece, one surrounding the doorway into the front parlor, and the other over the built-in china press. The dining room has a chair rail, while the front parlor and the east alcove of the living room have a rail of similar design placed higher on the wall. A picture moulding encircles the living room at the level of the doorway cornice. The east alcove also has a large, U-shaped seat under the front window. The front parlor contains a built-in bookcase on the south side of the mantelpiece, and the dining room has a built-in, half-paneled china press with traceried-glass doors above. The pantry has built-in storage cabinets next to the service stair.

The second-floor stair hall has three arched openings on the east wall, one leading into the southeast and northeast bedrooms, and the third to a central hall closet. Now a blind arch, this opening originally led to the nursery through a short passage flanked on each side by smaller closets.

7. **HARDWARE.** The front door has brass door hinges. The windows have brass window latches. All the door knobs are brass, except the service stair door and the basement door, which have porcelain door knobs.
8. **MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT**
 - a. **Heating, air conditioning, ventilation.** The house has radiators under some windows and elsewhere, supplied with steam from the Central Power House (HABS No. VA-1287-J). There are air conditioning units in some of the first- and second-story windows.
 - b. **Lighting.** Nearly all light fixtures have been replaced with Colonial-type fixtures c. 1950-70s. Chandeliers hang from the ceilings in the central hall, front parlor, and dining room. The second-story stair landing and bedrooms have wall sconces.
 - c. **Plumbing.** The plumbing in the house is typical for a residence of its size, and serves the three bathrooms, the pantry, the kitchen, first-floor toilet, and basement laundry sink.
9. **ORIGINAL FURNISHINGS.** None.

D. SITE

1. **GENERAL SETTING AND ORIENTATION.** Medical Officer's Quarters B is oriented to the east, facing the Elizabeth River across Williamson Drive. The site is

relatively flat, and is served by cool breezes coming off the river and from the nearby Atlantic Ocean. The house is in a park-like setting, surrounded by broad lawns, shrubs and trees, and foundation plantings. The side and rear yards are enclosed by a chain-link fence. There are two driveways to the house from Green Street: the southernmost curves around behind Medical Officer's Quarters B to a shared parking area northwest of the house; the one approaching from the west has entrance pillars and a straight driveway running southwest to northeast, approaching Medical Officer's Quarters C from the rear and providing access to the parking area from the north.

2. HISTORIC LANDSCAPE DESIGN. "The Plan of Hospital Buildings, 1918," gives the earliest indication of the orientation and relationship of Quarters B to the surrounding landscape (Holcomb 1930: 393). The original V-shaped front walk shown on the 1918 plan is extant. The plan also shows a concentration of buildings at the rear of the hospital, while the remainder of the naval base property is primarily undeveloped except for a network of roads. The land along the river to the south of the hospital is shown given over entirely to Quarters A "The Myrtles," and Quarters B and C.

A photograph of the grounds taken 23 March 1901 entitled "Fort Woods" shows that the majority of the land surrounding the 1827 Hospital was thickly forested and featured winding, oyster shell paths through the woods. By 1943, however, another photograph shows that the grounds of the hospital complex had taken on the park-like appearance it has today, with broad lawns, shade trees, ornamental shrubs, and concrete walks lined by traditional, cast iron lampposts ("Norfolk Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Va., Sept. 29, 1943; View of site for Chapel").

A 1930 photograph, taken from the riverbank looking northwest towards the two residences, shows the appearance of Medical Officer's Quarters B to be much the same as it is today (Holcomb 1930: 343). The most striking aspect of the historic landscape appearance is that the street in front of both quarters is lined with tall deciduous trees. Aside from a few young trees having been planted along the old treeline, the present appearance of the landscape is otherwise the same, with hedgerows, the foundation plantings, and the front walks in the similar locations. The construction of the high-rise naval hospital from 1958-1960 has probably had the greatest effect in altering the landscape surrounding Medical Officer's Quarters B.

3. OUTBUILDINGS. There is one outbuilding located behind the house on the west side of the parking area, the Medical Officers' Garage (HABS No. VA-1287-F).

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. ORIGINAL ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "(Plans, Sections and Elevations of) Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904, Shelf file #551-30-2, Bureau of Yards and Docks #50584. U.S. Navy, Civil Engineering Support Office, Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, CA.

Public Works, United States Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia, "Naval Hospital Quarters B & C New Bathrooms on Second Floor," 14 Sept. 1926. U.S. Navy, Civil Engineering Support Office, Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, CA.

Clark, Nexsen, Owen, Barbieri, Gibson, Architects and Engineers, Norfolk and Lynchburg, Virginia, "Repair Various Housing Quarters; Plans and Elevations; Buildings B and C," Aug. 21, 1980, EFD drawing #160751, NAVFAC drawing #4060751. Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Norfolk, VA.

Land and Community Associates, "Medical Officer's Quarters B; Floor Plans (as of March 1991)," adapted from Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects, "(Plans, Sections and Elevations of) Quarters for Medical Officers to be Erected at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Virginia," Dec. 16, 1904 (see above).

B. EARLY VIEWS

"Fort Woods" Black and white photograph dated 23 March 1901. Photograph provided by Al Cutchin, Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

"Norfolk Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Va., Sept. 29, 1943; View of site for Chapel." Black and white photograph provided by Al Cutchin, Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

C. BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. PRIMARY AND UNPUBLISHED SOURCES

Class 2 Property Record, Public Works Office, Facilities Management, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA.

Preliminary Information Form, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Quarters A & B, 1985.
(DHR File 124-60)

2. SECONDARY AND PUBLISHED SOURCES

Barba, Karen. "Naval Hospital boasts rich past 'Quarters A' name lives on," n.p., n.d. (Newspaper article from a file on the Portsmouth Naval Hospital kept in the Portsmouth Public Library).

Bush, Ted J., "99-Year-old Quarters at Hospital Being Torn Down for New Building." *Virginian-Pilot*, section G, January 29, 1956.

Conaway, Captain T. H., Jr., "First and Finest Facts," Hospital Points, September/October 1990.

Holcomb, Richmond C., A Century With Norfolk Naval Hospital 1830-1930. Portsmouth, Va.: Printcraft Publishing Co., 1930.

Withey, Henry F., A.I.A. and Elsie Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Los Angeles, Calif.: New Age Publishing Co., 1956.

D. LIKELY SOURCES NOT YET INVESTIGATED

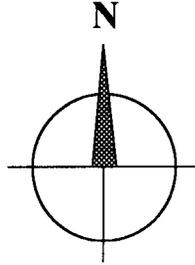
Architectural drawings, maps, and photographs dating from the early to mid-twentieth century at the National Archives, Architectural and Cartographic Division, Alexandria, VA

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

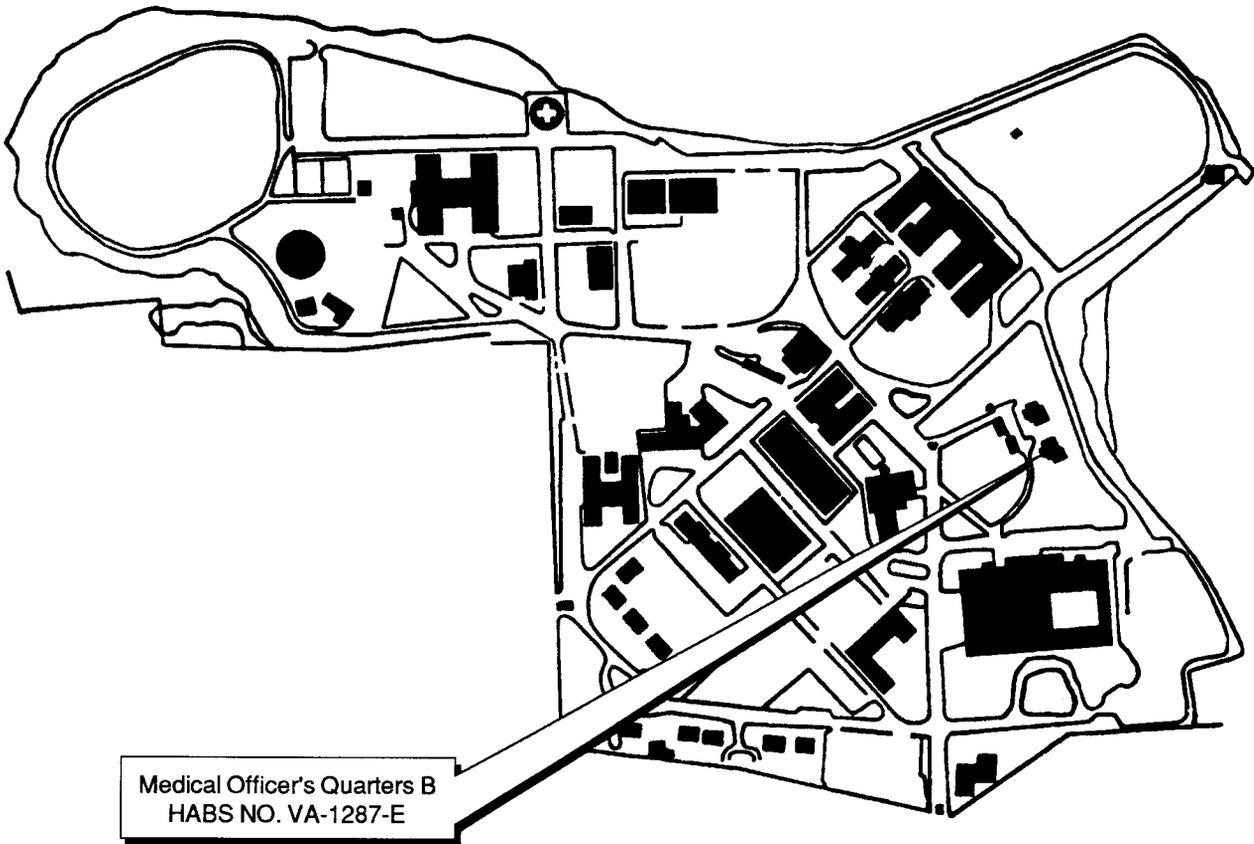
Medical Officer's Quarters B was vacated September 1990. Previously it was in continuous use as an officer's residence. From the time it ceased functioning as a residence to the present, it has served as the temporary offices for the Tri-Care Project Office. In order to construct a new hospital on the site, the residence will be demolished. The demolition of Medical Officer's Quarters B is a result of Military Construction Project P-002: Hospital Replacement, Naval Hospital, Portsmouth. The agency responsible is the Defense Medical Facilities Office (DMFO).

Prepared by: M. J. Wuellner, Architectural Historian
Frederick Schneider, Historical Architect
Land and Community Associates
June 1991

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 16)

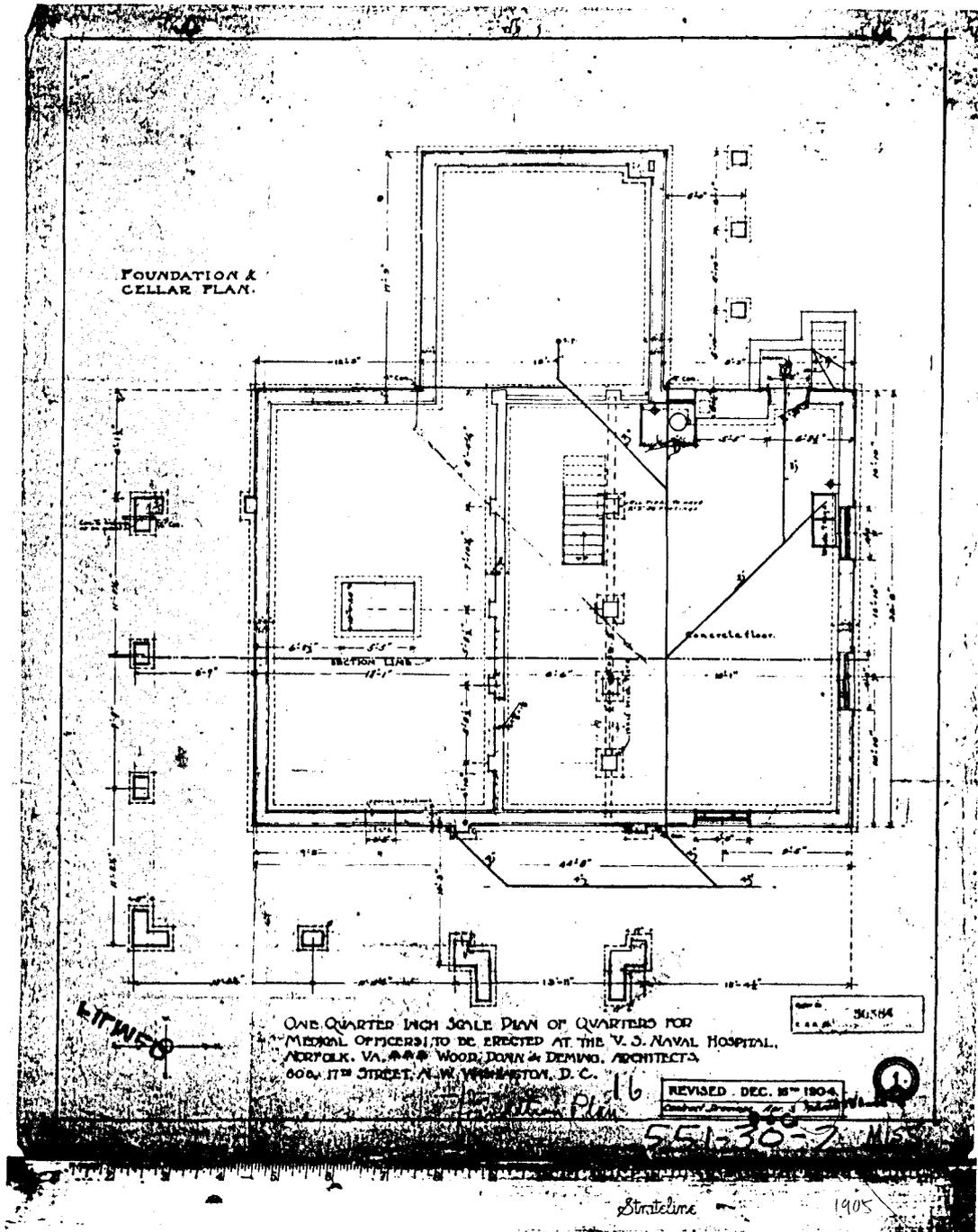


NAVAL HOSPITAL Portsmouth, Virginia



Medical Officer's Quarters B
HABS NO. VA-1287-E

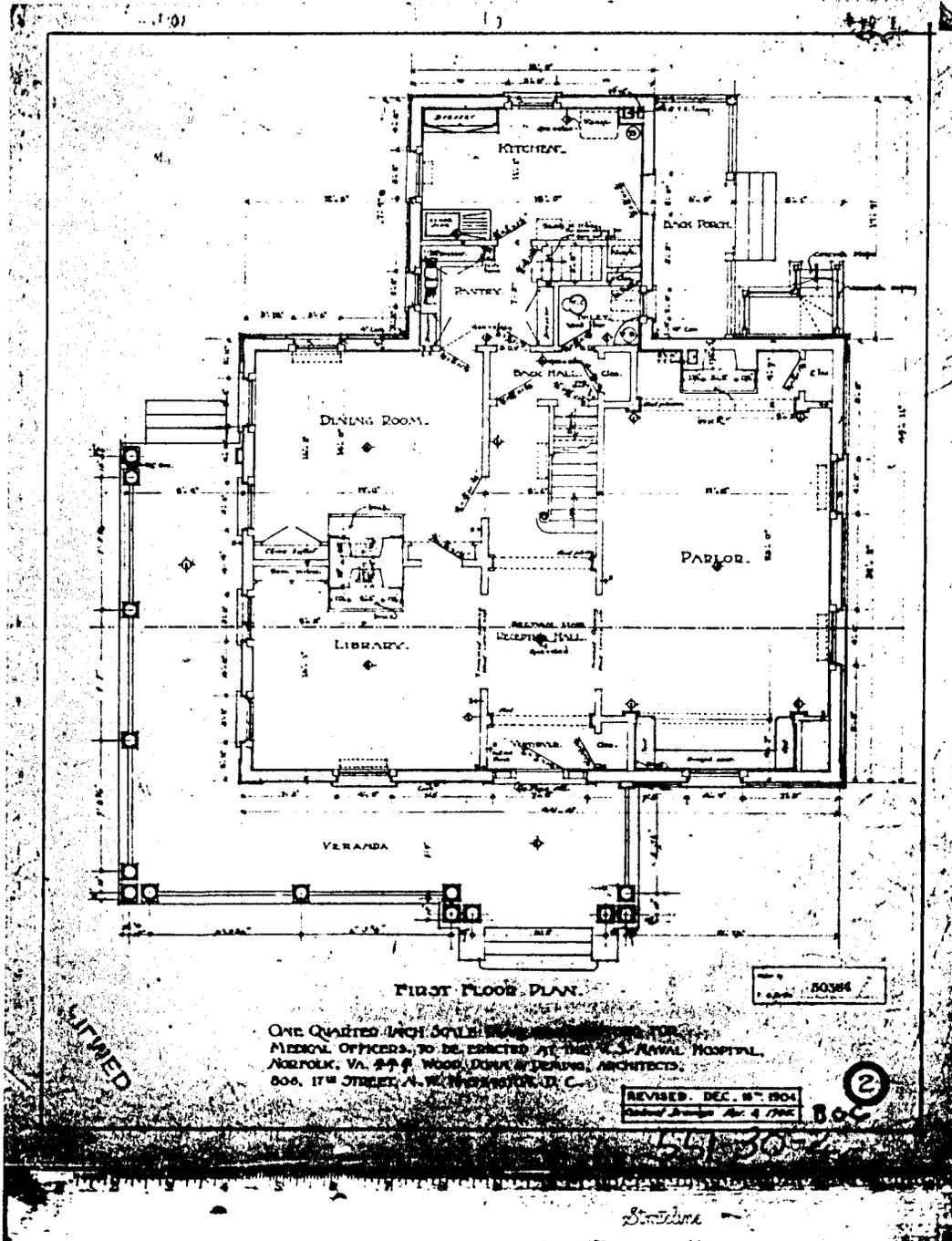
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 17)



Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
FOUNDATION AND CELLAR PLAN

December 16, 1904

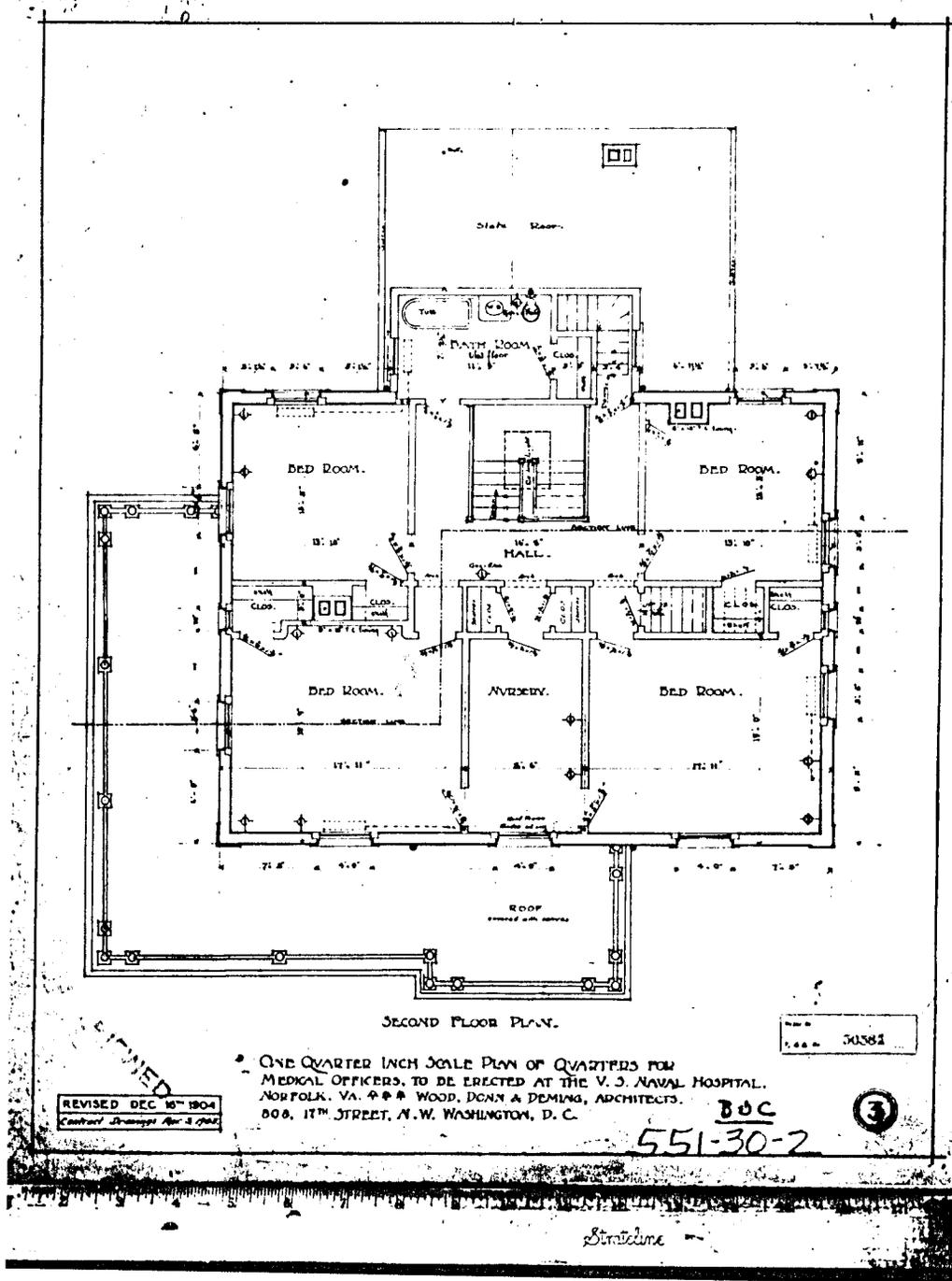
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
 MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
 (Executive Officer's Quarters)
 HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 18)



Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
 MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
 (Executive Officer's Quarters)
 HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 19)

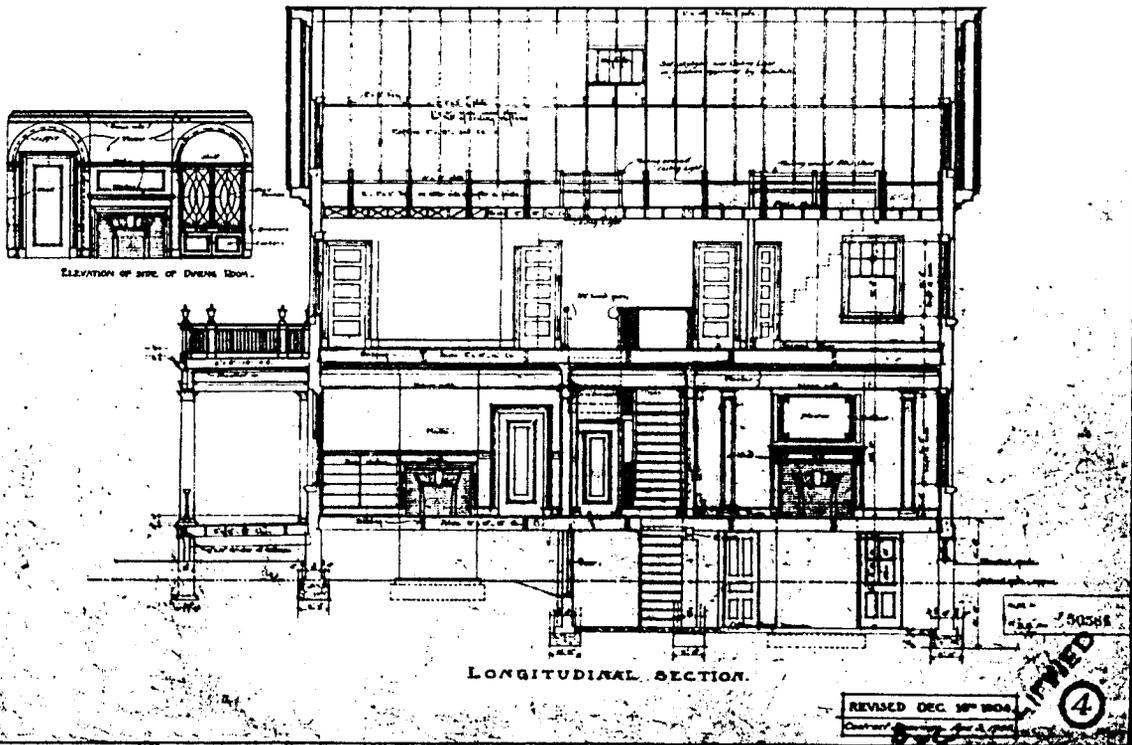


Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
 SECOND FLOOR PLAN

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 20)

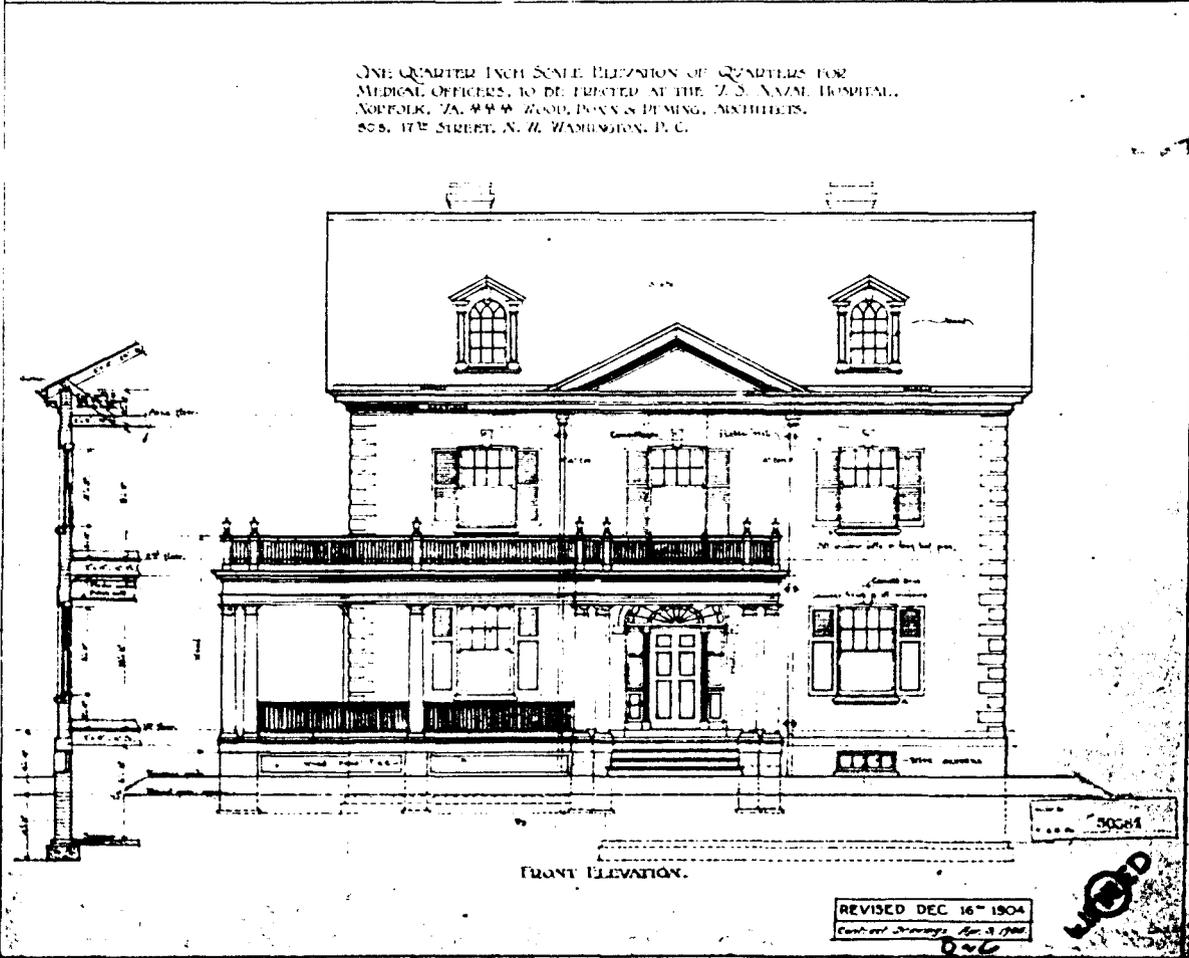
ONE QUARTER INCH SCALE CROSS SECTION THRU QUARTERS FOR
MEDICAL OFFICERS, TO BE ERRECTED AT THE U. S. NAVAL HOSPITAL,
NORFOLK, VA. WOOD, DONN & DEMING, ARCHITECTS,
808, 17TH STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.



Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
LONGITUDINAL SECTION

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 21)

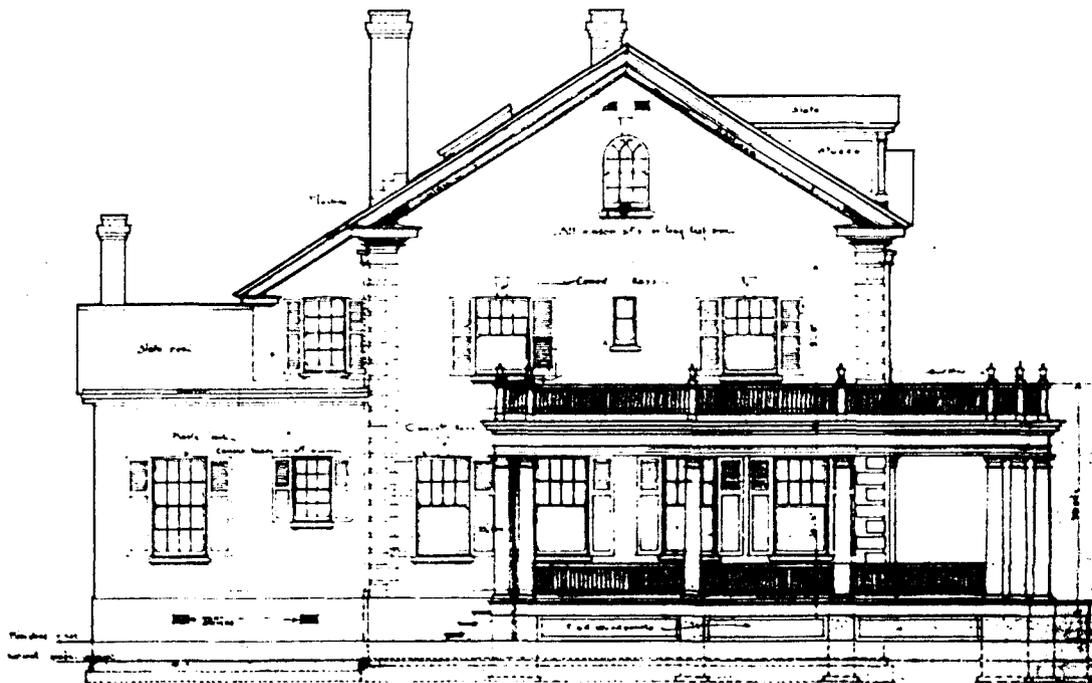


Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
FRONT ELEVATION

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 22)

ONE QUARTED INCH SCALE ELEVATION OF QUARTERS FOR
MEDICAL OFFICERS, TO BE ERRECTED AT THE U. S. NAVAL HOSPITAL,
NORFOLK, VA. *** WOOD, DONN & DEMING, ARCHITECTS,
806, 17TH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C. - S. 11.



SOUTH SIDE ELEVATION.

REVISED DEC. 16 1904

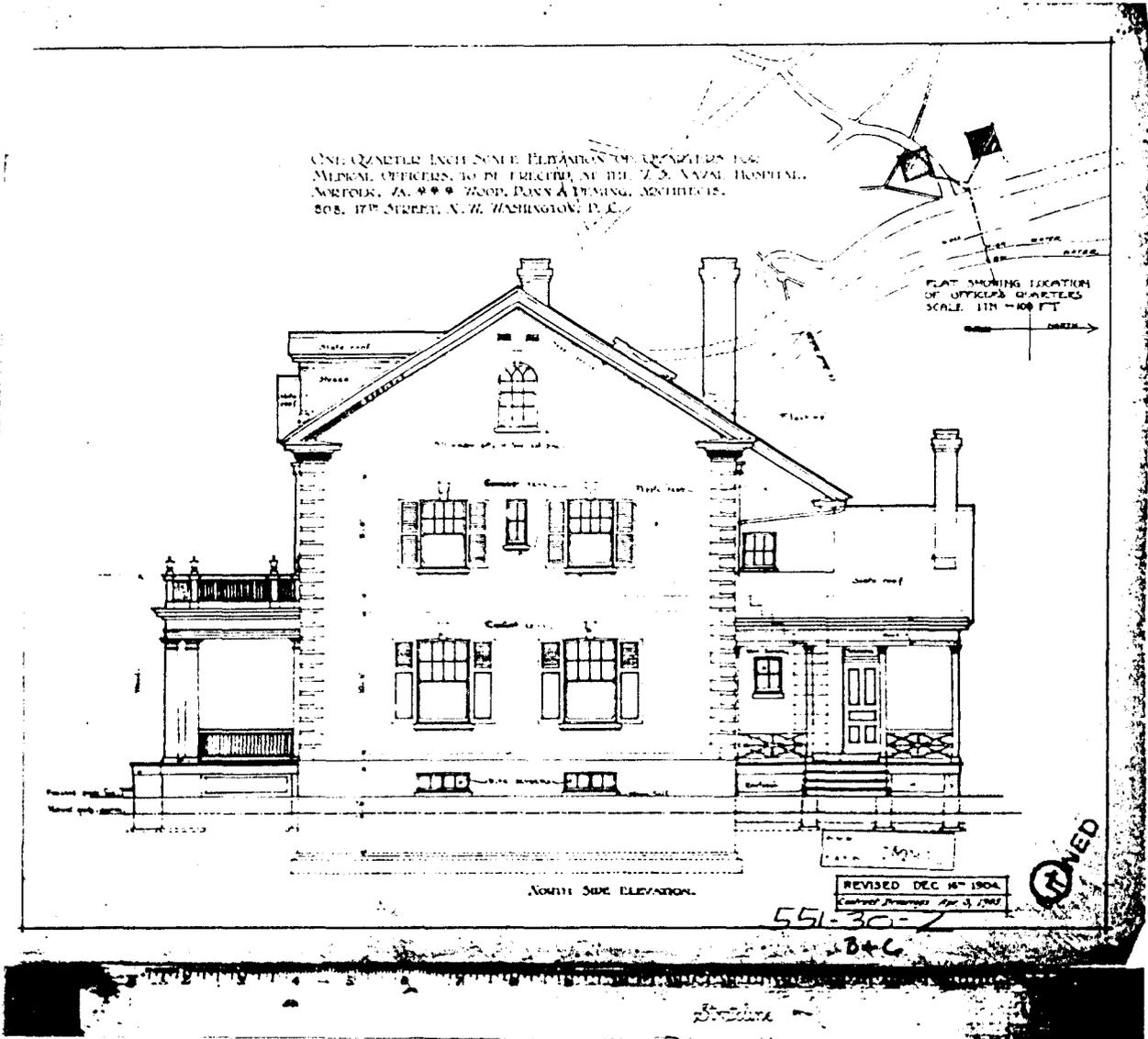
551-30-2

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Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
SOUTH SIDE ELEVATION

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 23)

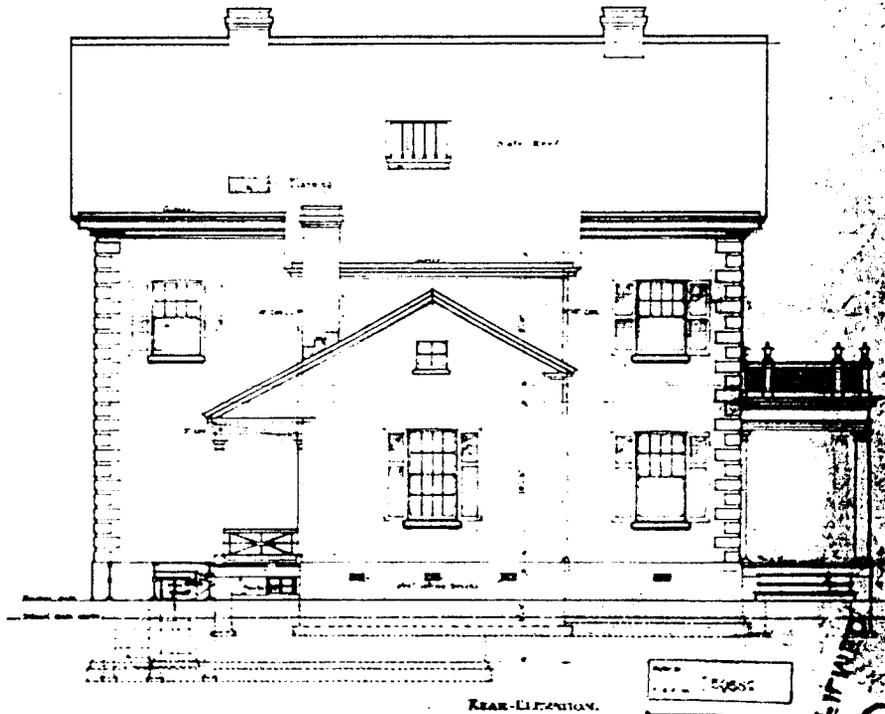


Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
NORTH SIDE ELEVATION

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 24)

ONE QUARTER INCH SCALE ELEVATION OF QUARTERS FOR
MEDICAL OFFICERS, TO BE ERRECTED AT THE U. S. NAVAL HOSPITAL,
NORFOLK, VA. *** WOOD, DONN & DEMING, ARCHITECTS,
502, 17th STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.



REAR-ELEVATION.

REVISED DEC 16-1904

551-30-7

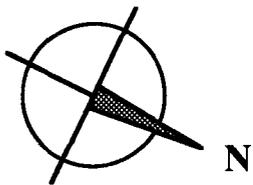
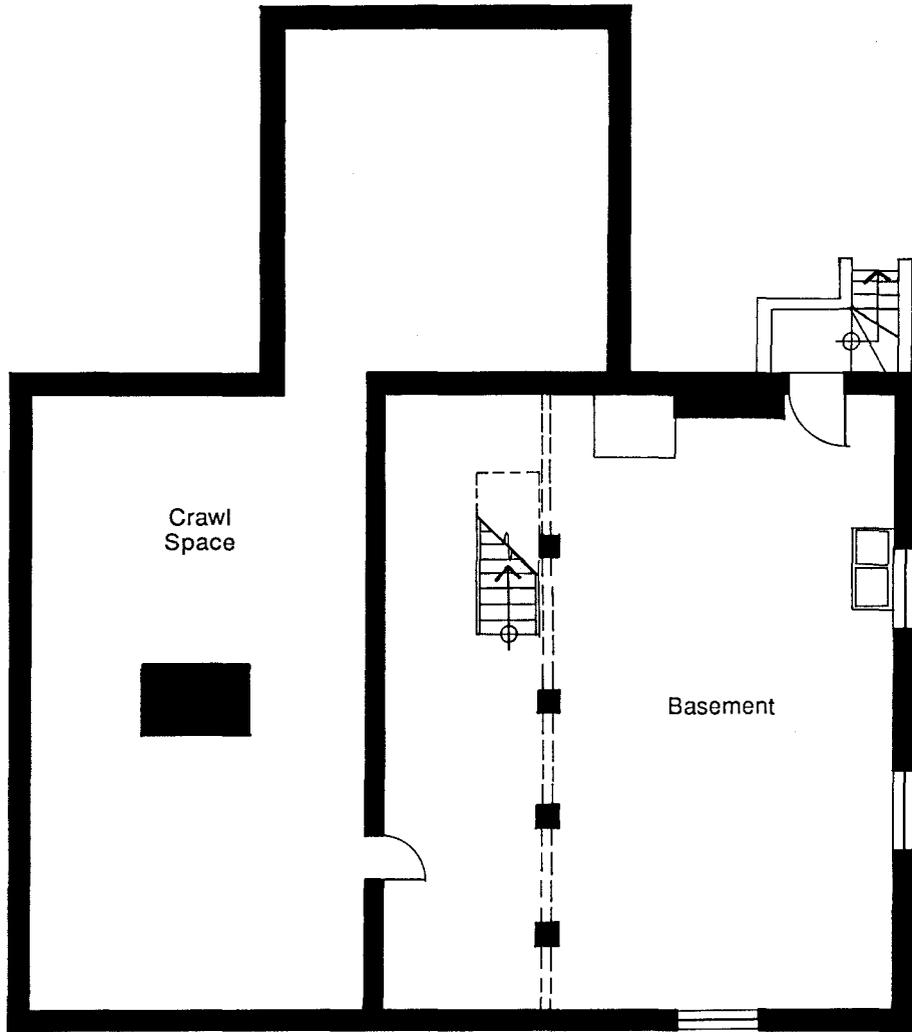
D.C.

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Wood, Donn & Deming, Architects
REAR ELEVATION

December 16, 1904

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 25)

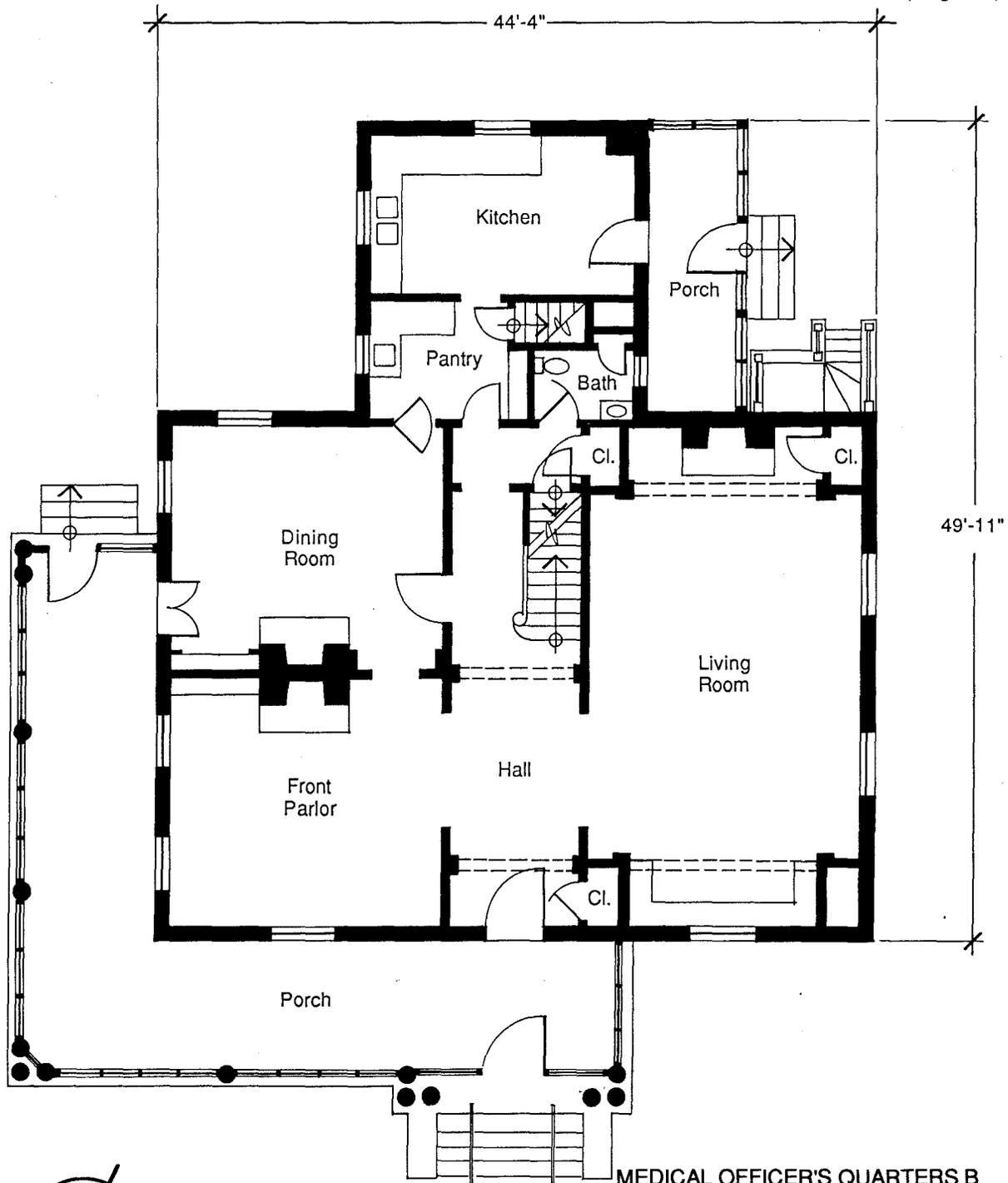


MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
BASEMENT PLAN (as of MARCH 1991)

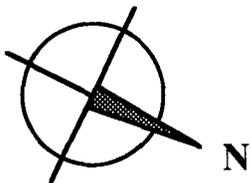
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Scale: 1" = 10 feet

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 26)



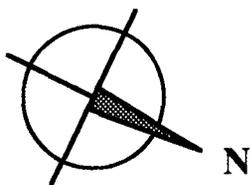
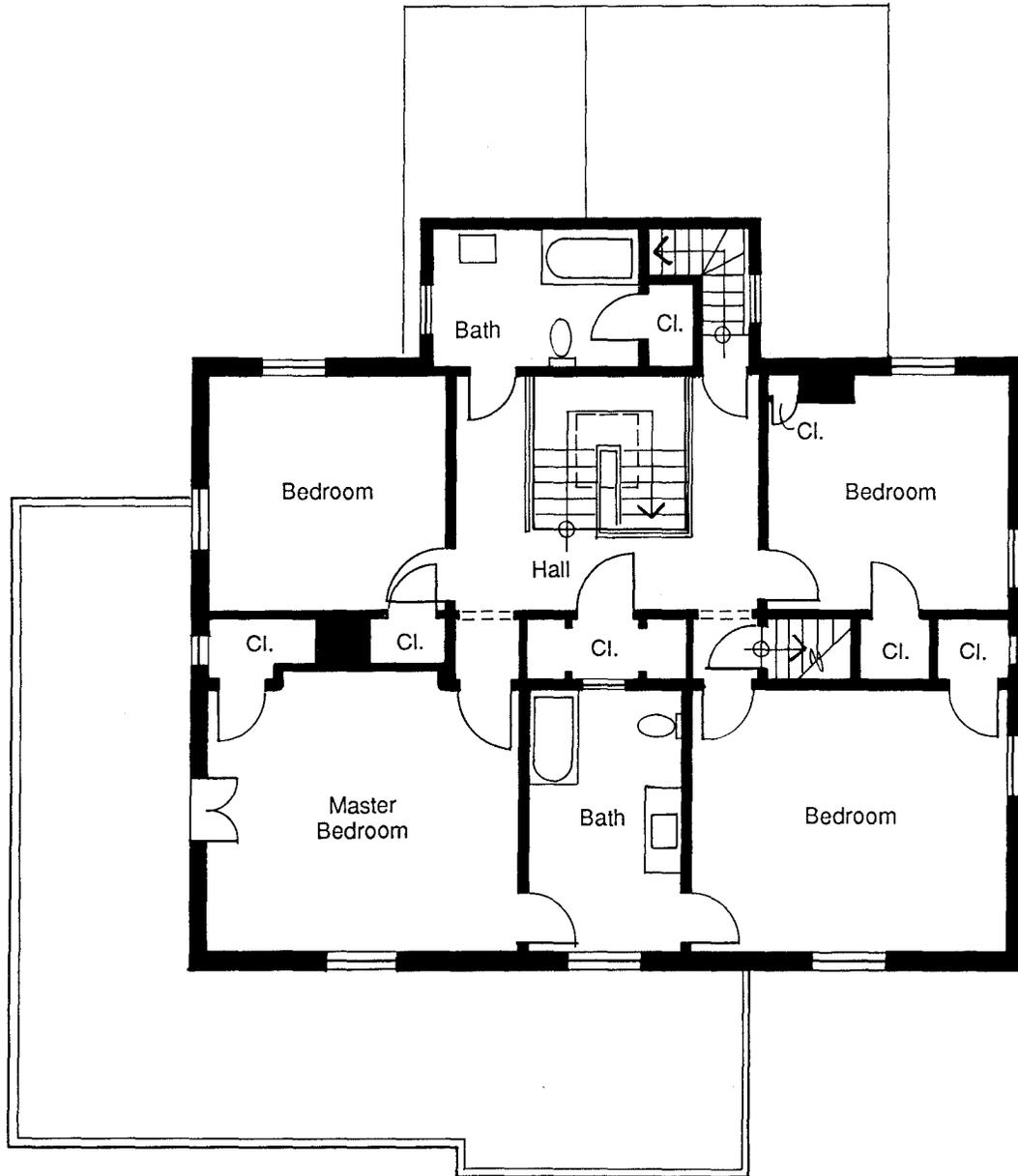
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
FIRST FLOOR PLAN (as of MARCH 1991)



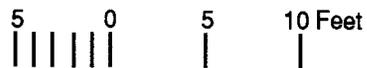
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PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 27)

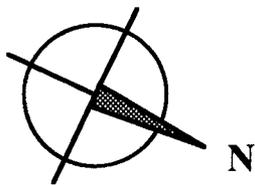
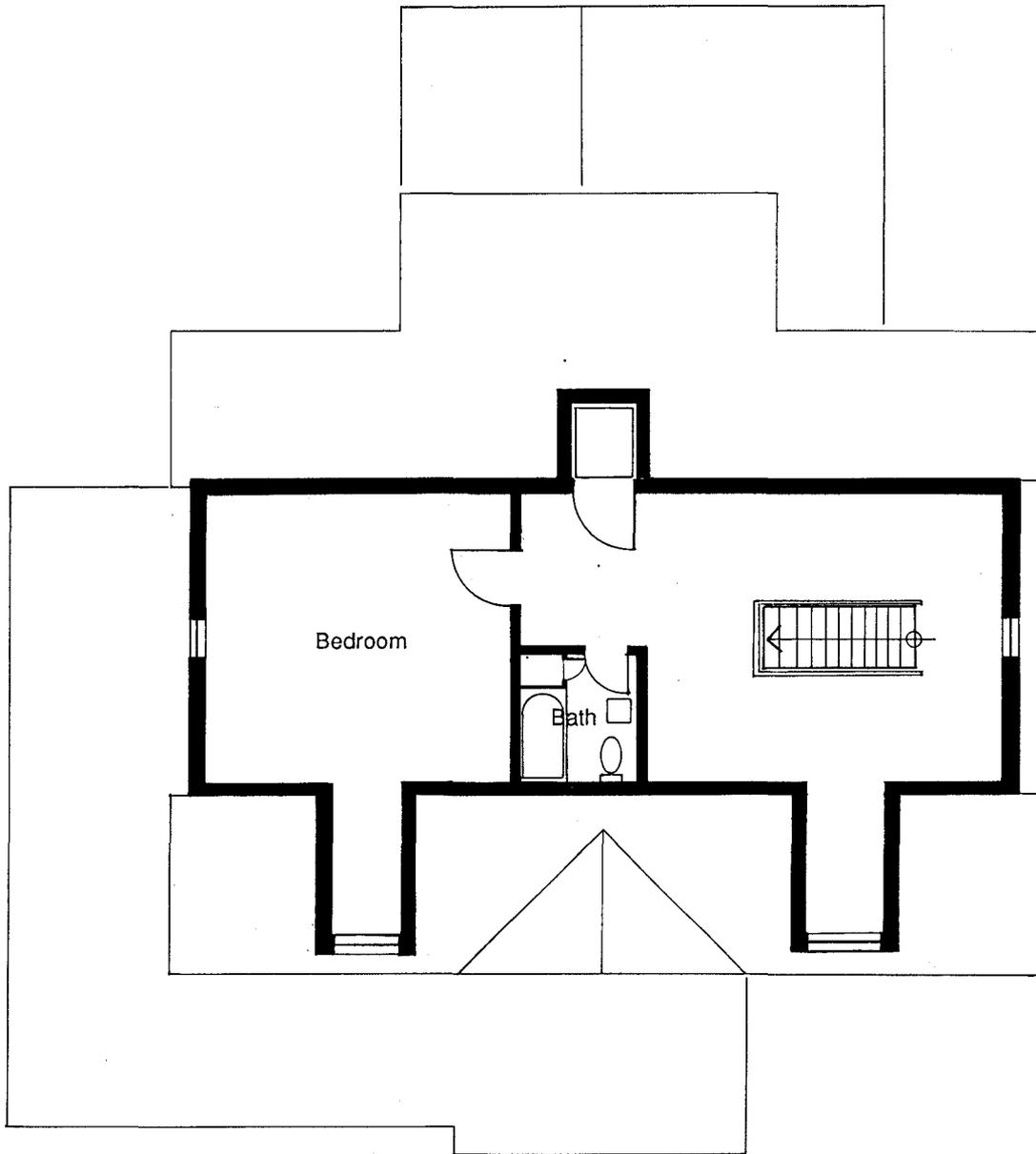


**MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
SECOND FLOOR PLAN (as of MARCH 1991)**



Scale: 1" = 10 feet

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL,
MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
(Executive Officer's Quarters)
HABS NO. VA-1287-E (Page 28)



MEDICAL OFFICER'S QUARTERS B
ATTIC PLAN (as of MARCH 1991)



Scale: 1" = 10 feet