

JOSEPH BARKER, JR. HOUSE
FEATURES OF SIGNIFICANCE WITH PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS



SUBMITTED BY
THE CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND BUILDINGS
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SEATTLE DISTRICT
FOR THE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

16 JULY 2014



CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary	1
2. Assessment of Architectural Significance	2
3. Conclusion	5
4. Features of Significance with Preservation Recommendations	7
4.1 Exterior, Brick and Frame House	7
Figure 1. Brick House Front/South Elevation Drawing.....	10
Figure 2. Brick House West Elevation Drawing	13
Figure 3. Brick House North Elevation Drawing	18
Figure 4. Brick House East Elevation Drawing	19
4.2 Interior, Brick House: First Floor	25
Figure 5. First Floor Plan Drawing	27
4.3 Interior, Brick House: Second Floor and Attic	38
Figure 6. Second Floor Plan Drawing.....	40
4.4. Interior, Frame House: First Floor	50
4.5. Interior, Frame House: Second Floor and Attic	54
5. Inventory of Features of Significance	56

THE JOSEPH BARKER, JR. HOUSE

FEATURES OF SIGNIFICANCE WITH PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Joseph Barker, Jr. House is Federal style brick house, with an attached frame section, located along the north side of the Ohio River, and owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District (Corps), as part of its fee lands associated with the Willow Island Lock and Dam. In 1967, the building was adapted for Corps office space during construction of the dam, but vacated afterward. Since that time, fencing of the property and minimal emergency maintenance has taken place; for example, the covering of a chimney to block rain water.

The following document supplements and updates an architectural investigation of the house conducted by the Corps in 1981. At that time, “The Joseph Barker, Jr. Home – A Comparative Architectural and Historical Study of a 19th Century Brick and Frame Dwelling in Washington County, Ohio” was undertaken in anticipation of the Corps’ need to use the lands for future dredging spoils, and thereby necessitate removal of the house.¹ The study had a limited focus on the possible role of a master building (Joseph Barker, Sr.) in the design and construction of the brick house, but failed to address the core significance of the property as an important example of Federal style residential architecture, and did not examine the respective values of the brick and frame sections. Over four decades have passed since the 1981 study, and a number of management factors and renewed public interest have drawn concern for a more current documentation of the property’s physical status. As part of its obligation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act – and in view of the house’s declining condition – the Corps is presently investigating alternatives for the disposition of the property.

The following photography was performed because of concerns that the house could have a catastrophic structural failure, particularly in the north/frame section where failure is already occurring, and because opportunities to capture a record of current integrity and condition might be limited. The document was provided to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District, in anticipation of mitigation actions that may be required under Section 106. An effort was made to identify essential character defining design qualities, features, materials, and components and to determine their integrity levels for the purpose of stabilization and

¹ Ronald C. Carlisle and Ronald L. Michael. “The Joseph Barker, Jr. Home – A Comparative Architectural and Historical Study of a 19th Century Brick and Frame Dwelling in Washington County, Ohio.” Prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District. February 1981.

preservation. Investigation of the property took place on December 10, 2013, at which time photography and review of conditions was undertaken. Extreme cold temperatures limited prolonged access and much of the frame house interior was inaccessible due to high danger of further structural failure. Because all windows remained boarded up and no auxiliary lighting was available, interior lighting relied upon camera flash. Although high resolution digital photography was used, images are not of the quality that would be required as part of a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) recordation, and are provided for the purposes of decision making, only.

2. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

In order to determine an appropriate course of action that meets obligations under Section 106, a final assessment of architectural merit is essential, both because prior documents are mostly silent on the respective significance (or lack thereof) of the brick and frame sections of the structure, and because choices will need to be made about which portions of the house to protect, preserve, or salvage. Neither the National Register nomination form of 1979, nor the 1981 report adequately tracks the architectural evolution of the combined structures and discerns which sections – or which specific components, materials, and design values – define the origins of the house built for Joseph Barker, Jr. The choice of alternative for managing the property will be dependent upon complete information about what aspects of the house are significant and warranting of mitigation.

The Joseph Barker, Jr. House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 for important associations with master builder, Colonel Joseph Barker, one of the earliest white settlers in the Marietta area and lauded as a regional practitioner of the Federal style of architecture. Because the subject property exhibits potentially diagnostic features, the elder Barker has been posited as the likely author of its design, which he is believed to have built for his son, Joseph Barker, Jr. around 1828. The focus of the study revolved around a comparative analysis of the Barker, Jr. House with other homes and buildings in the Marietta area that have firmer associations with his father, with the goal of discerning whether this house could be attributed to Barker, Sr. Commonalities found among the Barker, Sr. properties are fine brickwork, Neo-classical doorways with pilasters, side lights, and fan lights, and delicate staircases and fireplace surrounds, all wrapped within Federal styling. Similar, if not exact replications of these features occur throughout his son's home.

Many of these details reflect Neo-classical conventions found in architectural pattern books of the era, such as Asher Benjamin's *The Country Builder's Assistant*, or *The American Builder's Companion* (1796-1807), or Minard Lafever's *The Modern Builder's Guide* (1833). The finely

crafted staircase with square balusters and the elliptical fan light over the door are sophisticated embellishments of the Federal style. A builder in the Marietta area conversant in the style and aided by such sources would have had little trouble executing the illustrated examples using locally made brick and timber milled from whatever hardwoods ruled the landscape.

Settlers to the Marietta area such as Barker, Sr. hailed from New England communities where architectural trends were esteemed and widely promoted, so it is not difficult to imagine that familiar ideas about domestic buildings were carried to the Ohio frontier. Further southwest of Marietta, along the Ohio River at Lesage, West Virginia, the Albert Gallatin Jenkins House recalls a similar pattern of architectural imitation on the western edge of the nation's advancing frontier. In what was then western Virginia, a distinguished confederate general created a home with delicate appointments not unlike those found at the Barker, Jr. House. Also like the Barker home, the interior details of the Jenkins house are somewhat practical and exhibit fewer flourishes than higher styled Federal buildings found in the east. Moreover, the Jenkins House is significant, not for associations with a builder-designer of note, but because it as a well fashioned version of the Federal style, and marks the carriage of high style domestic architecture to newly settled territories. Whether or not an association with Barker, Sr., exists, the Barker, Jr. House can be elevated in importance for the same reasons.

The 1979 National Register nomination cites architecture and exploration/settlement as areas of significance, and the brief narrative suggests the home is significant as part of Barker, Sr.'s respected body of work in the local context. The architectural analysis of 1981 builds on this thesis and suggests that the inability to connect the design Barker, Jr. House with his father is detrimental to the home's potential significance. While a desired link of this property to the elder Baker may have been a basis for significance in 1979, the singular focus on this attribution ignored the home's merit as a noteworthy example of the Federal style. Studies and inventories conducted since have provided a broader framework for examination. The property today, particularly the brick section that faces the river, can easily be advanced as a fine academic rendering of this early style in what was then regarded as the Northwest Territory. In addition, the full complex that included the house, now demolished barn and outbuildings may possess historical archaeological value under National Register criterion D, especially the subsurface footprint of the house, the potential builder's trench, and outlying margins.

Revision of the original nomination is not suggested at this time. Still, these points of significance are useful in evaluating the present integrity and merit of the Barker, Jr. House for the purposes of documentation. The 1981 study, for example, proposes that the frame structure abutting with the rear of the brick section is the earlier house, and that the Federal

composition was added to the gabled end. The discovery of unpainted brick where the back elevation of the house meets the frame structure has been used to support this conclusion.

Some brick exterior walls on Federal style buildings were left unpainted, or painted with reddish brown pigments and mortar joints picked out in white. Such was the discovery made at the Jenkins House in Green Bottom, West Virginia, also under the jurisdiction of the Huntington District of the Corps. There, the brick was not painted until early in the twentieth century when the Classical Revival movement of that era created a fondness for clean white facades to emulate colonial architecture. The earliest known photograph of the Barker, Jr. House – though of poor quality and taken from a distance – shows the house in a darker color, perhaps red brick. Without further investigation, it cannot be proven that the Barker, Jr. House stood for decades with unpainted brick though probing of brick surfaces would be helpful in determining whether the white paint was a later application.

The mortar joints on the rear façade that abuts the frame house may also provide clues about the relative construction dates of the two buildings. Here, some brick joints are not struck, but crudely executed with thick amounts of mortar spilling outward, suggesting the wall was never meant to be exposed. However, other joints on this wall, as well as joints on the first floor, appear consistent with the rest of the house. Overall, the exposed portions of the rear elevation exhibit several types of mortar and varying joint configurations which may reflect periods of repair or reconstruction. More conclusive findings could be obtained by sampling the mortar in different locations. An analysis of lime, sand, and aggregate types and proportions could determine whether there is consistency throughout the wall, and whether there is more than one episode of mortar application. Such information would be useful in verifying the relative construction dates of the frame and brick sections.

It has also been asserted that Flemish bond was not used on the rear elevation of the brick house because this side was not intended as an exterior wall, but a wall to be covered when the two sections were joined together. The lack of Flemish bonding on the back wall is not surprising. The use of common bonding on side and rear walls is consistent with many Federal style properties where greater finesse was often paid to the brickwork of front elevations. This is also exemplified in the Jenkins House, where the front walls of the house were laid up in Flemish bonding, while the side and rear elevations – which were always exposed – display a common bond where every sixth row of stretcher bricks alternates with a row of both headers and stretchers.

Deterioration of the property since 1981 has left some structural details exposed that were not discernible at the time. For example, on the first floor, in Room 3 where plaster has fallen away due to water damage, a relieving arch is visible above the rear doorway leading to the

frame section. This segmental brick arch, fitted into the interior wythe of the brick, lent added stability to the wall by redirecting the downward stress around the door opening. Relieving arches probably occur above all other door and window openings, but are concealed by plaster. If the brick house was added to the frame building, it is surprising that a more expansive opening between the two sections was not created, instead of a single doorway.

Aside from the additions to the back of the house that are known to date to the twentieth century, other alterations took place decades earlier. The hood over the front door, for example, was no doubt a practical add-on since Federal buildings rarely had protected entries. The brackets themselves are characteristic of Eastlake style that became fashionable around the 1880s, more often reflected in interior details and furnishings. The entrance hood as well as the milled porch brackets on the east side of the frame house, indicate a fairly robust period of remodeling in the later part of the nineteenth century.

To accept the frame house as the earlier structure on the site means that the Joseph Barker, Jr. family would have adapted a modestly styled building for their first residence. This seems unlikely for several reasons. At a time when the elder Barker had become the esteemed designer of several elegant Federal style homes in the community, why would his politically successful son not have emulated the same standard with a free-standing Federal style home of his own? Given the odd dimensions of the frame section, a portion of the structure would have to have been reduced, before the Federal style home was constructed onto it. This proposal is also curious, considering much energy had to be expended on demolition that might have been directed to a whole new project. Altogether, the awkward juxtaposing of the frame house with the graceful proportions of the Federal dwelling – especially the offset alignment of the gable with the brick house – create perplexing questions about the owner's motives.

Another possibility is that the brick house had a kitchen in a separate building, perhaps some portion of the frame structure where there is a large hearth. This was a typical arrangement of upper middle class homes of the period, where cooking was conducted away from the main house, especially during warm summer months. The numerous alterations that are found throughout the frame house may have resulted from the expansion of the kitchen and eventually merging with the brick house. The 1981 report cites an interview with a descendent of a former resident who dated the brick house to 1811, and the frame section to 1860. Given the status of the home's historic fabric, this chronology seems plausible.

3. CONCLUSION

Unless further examination of the house is made, the relationship between the Federal style brick house and frame section will remain somewhat speculative. The one opportunity to

answer these questions lies in the prospect of deconstructing the frame house, and conducting archaeological investigations of the building footprint, itself. Regardless of its origin, whether it preceded or post-dated the brick house, the frame building has lost considerable integrity and is no longer a good example of early domestic architecture of the southern Ohio frontier. On the west side, where the frame portion joins the brick house, water damage has caused a large section to fail. The flooring of the primary space (with hearth) is now collapsed, and further structural elements have been compromised. Furthermore, insensitive additions at the back of the property, numerous remodeling phases, as well as the installation of a mid-twentieth century chimney on the west wall have compromised the nineteenth century character of the building.

The Federal style house presents a high level of design integrity and sound structural integrity. Aside from damage to the northeast brick wall, caused by rainwater falling through an unrepaired chimney, there are no indications of serious failures, or destabilization in the brick walls. Exterior brickwork is well preserved and minimal erosion of mortar joints has occurred. Time, weather, and lack of maintenance have left cosmetic scars on the interior and damp conditions and water penetration has promoted mold growth on plaster walls and ceilings. Still, all character defining features that express the Federal program are intact, having suffered remarkably little alteration since construction. The staircase railing retains the dark finish typical of Federal style prototypes that feature natural mahogany railings capped with white painted balusters. The elliptical fanlight over the entrance door has delicate tracery executed with the same finesse found on eastern homes. Proportionally and stylistically, the fireplace surrounds are textbook examples of Neo-classical types, though with fewer embellishments such as pilasters and paterae.

The brick house is an important example of early nineteenth century Federal style, domestic architecture, and possesses significance comparable to the Huntington District's other Federal style property, the Albert Gallatin Jenkins House. Regardless of designer/builder attribution or familial association, the Joseph Barker, Jr. House is testament to the architectural finery that pushed into the western margins of a growing nation during the early part of the nineteenth century. The advanced state of collapse of the frame house may be an endangerment to the structural soundness of the brick dwelling. Since a memo on the condition of the house was prepared in February 2011 considerable failure and loss of historic fabric has occurred. Future actions should therefore concentrate on protecting the brick house and the character defining features that are noted in the following photographs. A summary inventory of these significant features and materials is provided at the end of the document in Section 5.

4. PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF INTEGRITY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All Photographs

Name of Property: Joseph Barker, Jr. House

City or Vicinity: Newport, Ohio

County: Washington State: Ohio

Photographer: Lauren McCroskey

Date Photographed: 12 December 2013

4.1 EXTERIOR, BRICK AND FRAME HOUSE:

Aside from deferred maintenance and exposure to weather, the four exterior walls of the brick house have a high level of integrity with almost no modification. All masonry walls, to include mortar joints are well preserved, except for the northeast wall of Room 3 that has partially collapsed, and some sections of the east elevation where there is mortar loss, both due to water migration from a damaged chimney. Wood window sashes, lug sills, and framing are original, as are the front entrance door and surround. The corbelled brick chimneys are original, though there is a loss of bricks and damage in the east side unit. The standing seam, metal roof that envelopes both sections is a likely replacement (historic era), and there are indications the gable roof structure has been altered at some time, perhaps as the frame building was united with the brick building. The following are specific features, materials and components of the exterior that are original and warrant consideration in future treatment and stabilization efforts:

1) FEATURE: Brick/Mortar Walls

PHOTOS: 14-19

Recommendation: The masonry is a significant aspect of the building's integrity, as are the composition of the mortar joints and execution. Overall, conditions are very good on the south, west, and east elevations. The rear/north elevation (northeast wall of Room 3) requires immediate bracing to prevent further failure. The cause - ongoing water migration from exposed chimney opening and roof damage - should be arrested. To ensure no structural decline is imposed on the brick house by the deteriorating frame house, regular inspection and emergency stabilization of the north wall may be necessary.

2) FEATURE: Windows/Sills

PHOTO: 7

Recommendation: The 6/6 wood sash windows and gable-end quarter windows are original and should be preserved. Plywood cover panels should be removed so windows can be inspected. The panels are likely causing further damage by retaining water and dampness, which in turn may cause dry rot and loss of historic material. The lower southwest window on the west elevation, in particular, exhibits damage to the sandstone lug sill, probably due to water and biological entrapment by the plywood panels. On a periodic basis, panels should be removed and replaced when damaged; and windows should be allowed to dry and cleaned of insect or bird nesting or other biological invasion. Where sandstone lug sills are delaminating from moisture, they should be dried out. See Figure 6.

3) FEATURE: Entrance Door

PHOTOS: 3, 4, 25

Recommendation: The six-panel door is original and features original door knobs, key hole, hinges, and should be regularly monitored for damage or vandalism. No immediate treatments are required.

4) FEATURE: Entrance Door and Surround

PHOTOS: 1, 3, 4

Recommendation: The Federal style surround – including classical pilasters, elliptical fanlight, and side lights – is among the most significant features on the house. Because the wood components have experienced deferred maintenance, some damage is evident from exposure and water. There is some severe loss of material and dry rot that should be immediately addressed through protective painting and possible consolidation.

5) FEATURE: Entrance Door Hood

PHOTOS: 3, 4

Recommendation: The Eastlake style hood over the door is a late nineteenth century addition, but has achieved some significance in its own right. It has served to protect the entrance, and should be inspected for damage to the standing seam metal. Soldering repairs should be made if needed.

6) FEATURE: Entrance Step

PHOTO: 2

Recommendation: The entrance step and threshold are cracked and badly delaminated. Immediate attention is required to support the threshold crack and stabilize the sandstone material from further deterioration.

7) FEATURE: Sandstone Foundation

PHOTOS: 16-18

Recommendation: The dressed cap stones around the foundation perimeter and entrance threshold step are original. No immediate treatment is required, however regular inspection should be made to clean biological infestations and ensure no structural failure is occurring.

8) FEATURE: Chimneys

PHOTOS: 1, 5, 6, 8

Recommendation: The corbel cap of the east chimney should be repaired, and mortar joints replaced where missing (using a mortar composition, pigment, and application identical to the original). Chimneys should also be covered to prevent water access into the interior of the house.

9) FEATURE: Roof and Soffits

PHOTOS: 6, 14

Recommendation: The standing seam metal roof is historic but likely not the original roof. The roof should be secured and repaired where damaged to prevent further water access to interiors. This may include soldering or replacement of sections “in kind” with similar material, as well as soldering of any flashing.

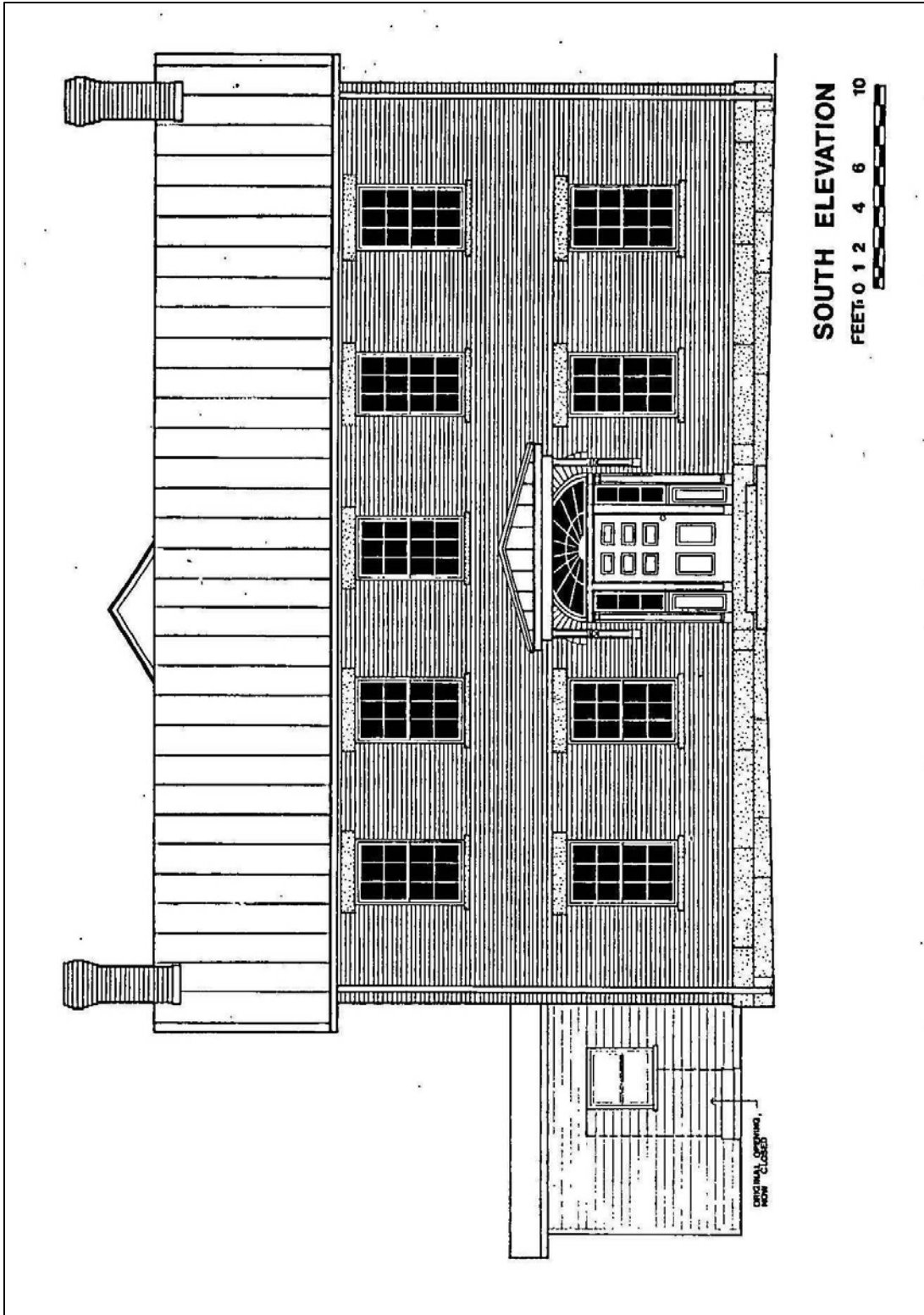


Figure 1. Front Elevation Drawing of Brick House. The one-story frame addition to the left is a non significant portion of the overall property. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation*, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE)



Photo 1.

View is of the river facing elevation of the brick house, looking northwest. The gable peak of the frame section is visible along the roofline, and is off-set from center.



Photo 2.

Front elevation step at the entrance door. Severe delamination of the sandstone step and cracked threshold stone require immediate stabilization.



Photo 3.

Front entrance detail. The Eastlake style door “hood” with knee brace brackets, was likely added in the last quarter of the nineteenth century.



Photo 4.

A close-in view of the entrance hood reveals its awkward relationship to the elliptical arch and fanlight, as well as the contrast of Neo-classical and Eastlake styles.

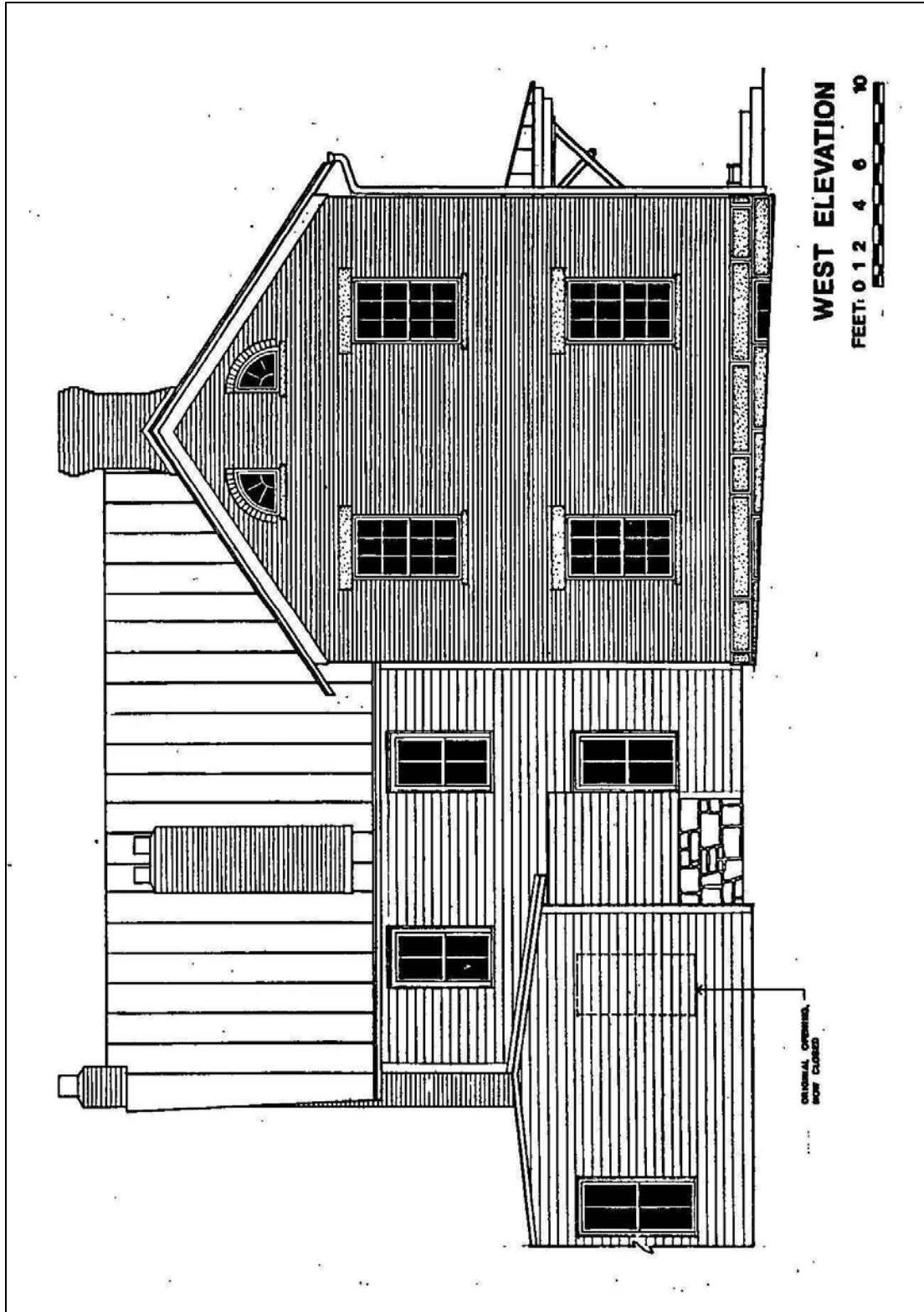


Figure 2. West Elevation Drawing of the Brick House, with frame section at the left. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE*)



Photo 5.

West end of brick house. Mortar joints and paint coating are intact and no recent cracking or other masonry failure is evident.



Photo 6.

Juncture of brick house (right) and frame building (left). The mid-twentieth century fireplace is revealed by structural failure. The brick section has not been significantly affected.



Photo 7.

Original sandstone lug sill at southwest corner of brick house. A crack extending downward from the left sill appears to have occurred since the 1970s painting, and may be a consequence of water entrapment behind the plywood boards.



Photo 8.

View from the rear of the property showing twentieth century additions: the two-story frame section is the oldest addition; and later one-story additions dating to the early and mid twentieth century are located in the foreground.



Photo 9.

View of the frame section of the house, looking southwest. Note the tapering chimney on the exterior.



Photo 10.

View from the non-significant, twentieth century garage addition (Room 10), looking toward the north/rear exterior wall of frame house. Room 9 is through the door on the right.

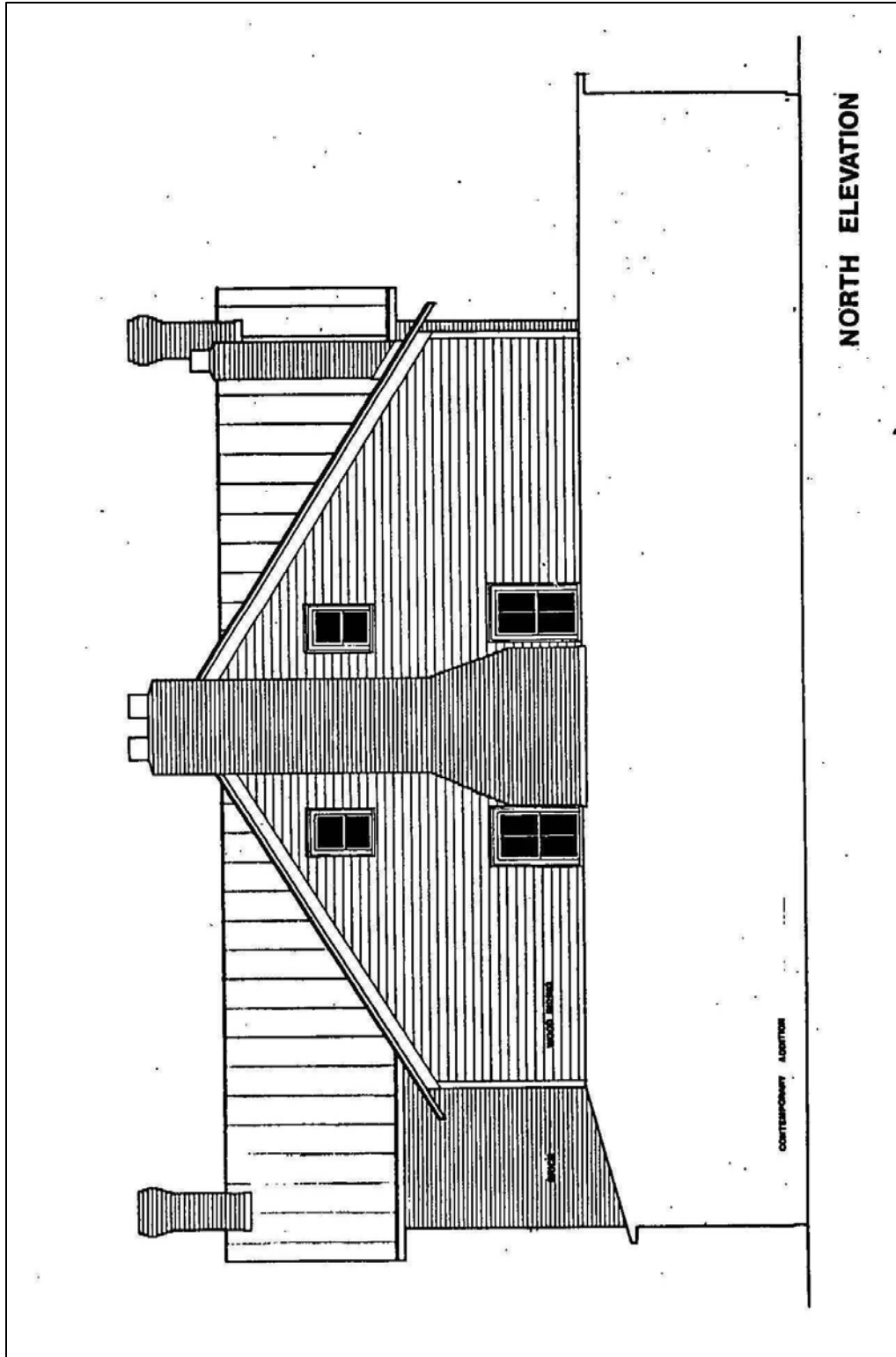


Figure 3. North Elevation Drawing showing the frame section of indeterminate age. The collapse of interior floors, loss of original materials and features, and inappropriate remodeling render the frame house no longer significant. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE*)

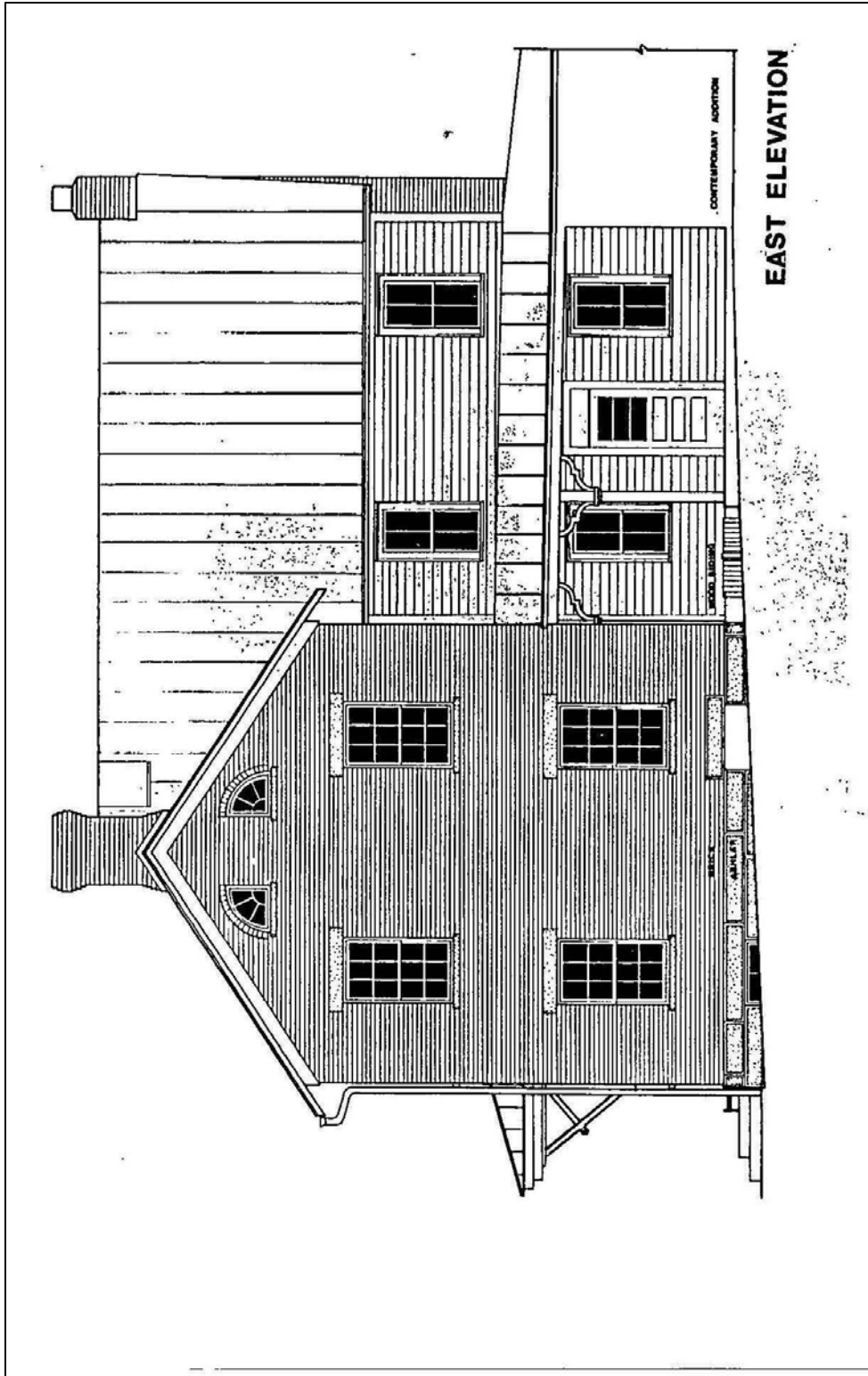


Figure 4. East Elevation Drawing showing the relationship between the significant brick house, and frame house, which has lost essential integrity. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE*)



Photo 11.

East elevation, showing frame house at right, and brick section at left.



Photo 12.

East elevation of the frame section. Square porch columns with decorative millwork brackets suggest a late nineteenth century period of alteration.



Photo 13.

Badly deteriorated cellar entrance doors are located in the east side porch.



Photo 14.

View of gable and deteriorated soffit on the east elevation of the brick house, looking southwest. Failure is likely due to the damaged chimney, above.



Photo 15.

Detail of typical brick surface on the east elevation of the brick house. Water has migrated outward through mortar joints and pushed paint away.



Photo 16.

Original east elevation foundation shows de-lamination of some sandstone surfaces.



Photo 17.
East foundation elevation showing former coal chute.



Photo 18.
Original foundation, west elevation. Sandstone cap blocks exhibit bush hammered finish with chiseled margins.



Photo 19.

Exterior/North wall of the brick house that meets the frame section, looking southwest. Original attic floor and floor joists are apparent. This wall presents several types of mortar and mortar joints which could be tested to determine age and relative dates of execution. Left of the column, mortar joints appear to have similar composition and application as other exterior elevations. Joints at the far right are darker in color, have different composition, and are not struck. This suggests a period of repair perhaps when the frame section was adjoined to the brick house.

4.2 INTERIOR, BRICK HOUSE:

First Floor

Aside from deferred maintenance, damp conditions, mold growth, and animal infestation, the first floor design qualities and materials are remarkably intact and original. The following are specific features, materials and components of the first floor that are original and warrant consideration in future treatment and stabilization efforts:

- 1) FEATURE: Plaster Walls and Ceilings – all rooms

PHOTOS: 20-23, 27, 30

Recommendation: All first floor plaster walls are original surfaces, though repainting has occurred and several paint colors are not original. Cosmetic damage is the most prevalent, with mold, including black mold present on many surfaces. A lack of ventilation and ongoing moisture from leaking roof and chimney are likely causes. Given the general soundness of all plaster walls, it can be inferred that original lath and plaster keys are of high quality and in a good state of preservation as little to no cracking or failure is evident aside from a section of the rear/north wall in Room 3 that has lost plaster due to roof damage and water penetration. All interior spaces should be periodically aired and dried. Some drying benefit can be realized when exterior plywood window coverings are removed for inspection and repair. Overall, periodic dehumidifying is recommended to aid the drying of plaster and prevention of mold growth.

- 2) FEATURE: Room 3 – Panel doors, hardware, windows, trim, inset panels bulls-eyes, chair rails, wainscoting

PHOTOS: 30-34

Recommendation: Wood paneled doors, door knobs and hardware, chair rails, baseboards, window and door surround moldings with bulls eyes; recessed windows with paneled bays; wood fireplace surround are all original features. They are all in good condition, aside from infill of the hearth and repainting and flaking. The east fireplace surround is original, and represents the type of original surround that is missing from Room 5. The wainscoting in this room may have been added in the mid to late nineteenth century.

- 3) FEATURE: Room 3 – Federal fireplace surround

PHOTOS: 30-32

Recommendation: The east fireplace surround and coal grate are original, and represent the type of surround that is missing from Room 5. It should be cleaned of flaking paint, dirt, and periodically inspected for condition.

- 4) FEATURE: Room 4 – Doors, frames, trim, staircase, hardware
PHOTOS: 20-25

Recommendation: Features include the entrance door and side rooms doors, door knobs, hardware, interior surround/side lights/fan light; two-story staircase to include balusters, scrolled end; scrolled stair end details; stair treads and risers and moldings; doorway framing trim, chair rail. Because this space presents a high level of integrity and has some of the most significant Federal features, high emphasis should be placed on its preservation. Features are in good condition but exhibit paint flaking, though no structural or material damage is evident. Surfaces should be cleaned/de-humidified.

- 5) FEATURE: Room 5 – Doors, hardware, windows, trim, inset panels, bulls-eyes, chair rails
PHOTOS: 26-29

Recommendation: Significant original features include wood paneled doors, door knobs and hardware, chair rails, baseboards, window and door surround moldings with bulls-eyes; recessed windows with paneled bays. Features and materials are in good condition, aside from repainting and flaking. Cleaning/dehumidifying is recommended.

- 6) FEATURE: Room 5 – Detached Federal style fireplace surround
PHOTO: 28

Recommendation: The large Federal style fireplace surround leaning against the wall likely belonged to the hearth in the frame house. This is feature dates to the original construction period of the brick house and should be retained.

- 7) FEATURE: Room 5
PHOTO: 29

Recommendation: The original [west] fireplace surround is missing. The hearth presently has an Eastlake-style surround that is not fully engaged. The Eastlake feature likely represents a late nineteenth century period of remodeling, and is contemporary with the front door hood. Though not associated with the original construction period, it should be retained as part of the historical evolution of the brick house.

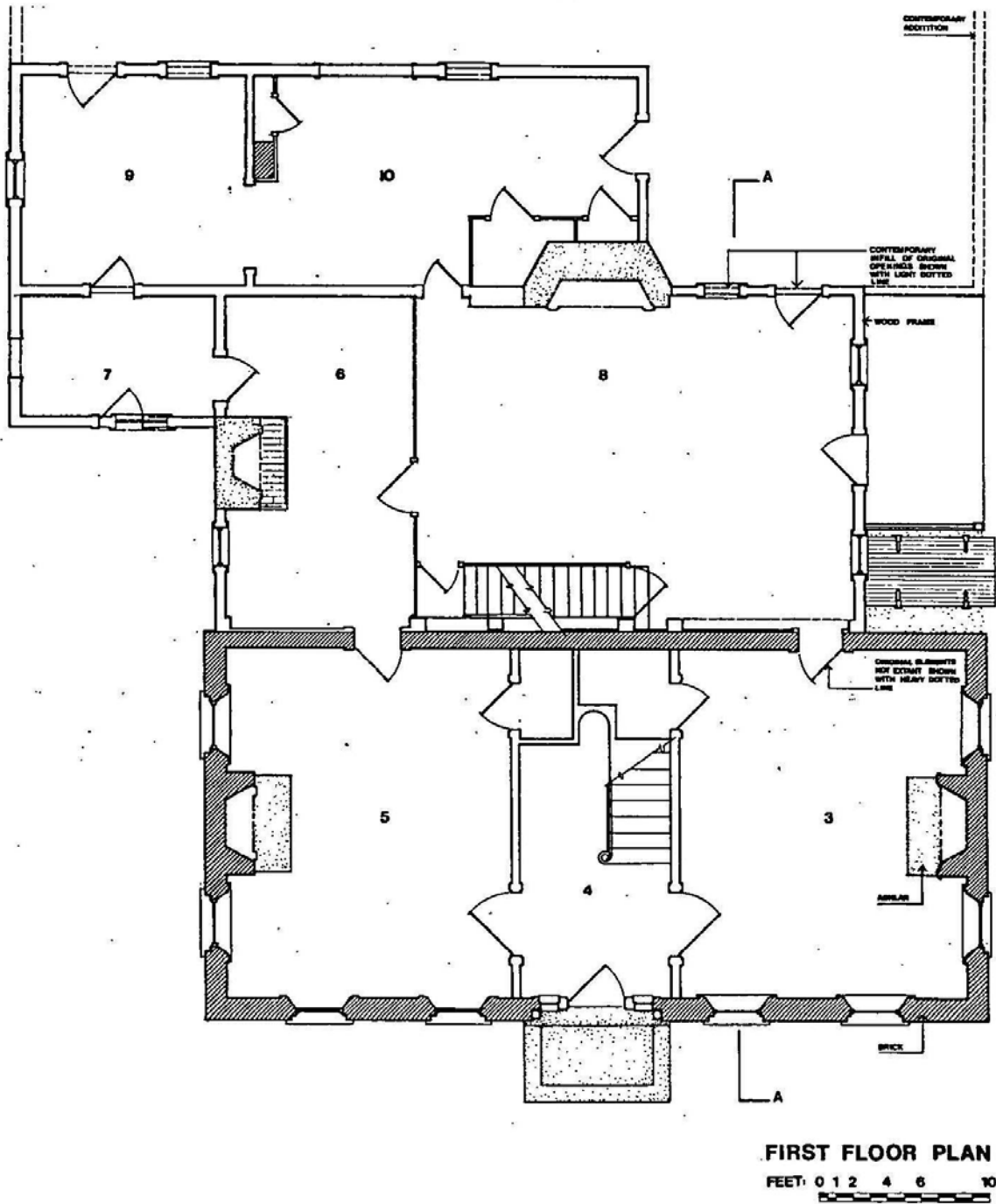


Figure 5. First Floor Plan Drawing – The darkened walls denote the walls of the Brick House. Room numbers correspond to photograph numbers. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation*, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE)



Photo 20.

Room 4 – Foyer view of front door, side lights, and fan light, looking south. All features and hardware are original and present good integrity, aside from peeling paint and deferred maintenance.



Photo 21.

Room 4 – View of front entrance and foyer looking south from stair turn.



Photo 22.

Room 4 – Original staircase looking upward to the north. Staircase handrail, square balusters, railing spiral, and tread moldings are original. Wall surfaces reflect damp conditions and mold growth.



Photo 23.

Room 4 – Staircase from second floor landing looking downward to midpoint landing. The original dark stained railing with the characteristic Federal “mahogany” appearance is intact.



Photo 24.

Room 4 – Original scrolled stair ends and crown molding tread details.



Photo 25.

Room 4 – Exterior side of front entrance door. The eight-paneled door is typical of early Federal style domestic architecture and features original hardware and key hole.



Photo 26.

LEFT: Room 5 – Front wall detail of recessed window with canted panels and framing with corner “bullseyes.”

Photo 27.

BELOW: Room 5 – Front/west wall showing original window bays and paneled door. All features, trims, chair rails, baseboards, and hardware are original.





Photo 28.

Room 5 – A Neo-classical surround that rests against the wall fits the dimensions of the hearth found in Room 8 of the frame building. Its stylistic consistency with mantels in the brick house suggest that the hearth represents a separate kitchen building that was constructed along with the brick house. As the years progressed, the kitchen building may have been expanded and eventually united with the brick house.



Photo 29.

Room 5 – An Eastlake style surround of later vintage (1880s) rests against the opening where the original fireplace surround has been removed.



Photo 30.

Room 3 – Original fireplace surround on the east wall features Neo-classical pilasters, moldings, and central panel depicted in a number of period builder’s guides. The hearth has been filled in to accommodate a later piped stove. This room also features original stripped/unpainted beadboard wainscoting.



Photo 31.

Room 3 – Detail of Neo-classical fireplace surround with unembellished central panel.



Photo 32.

Room 3 – Original mantel pilasters terminate in delicately layered moldings.



Photo 33. Room 3 – Juncture of brick house and frame section, showing partially in-filled door opening with relieving arch, rear/north wall.



Photo 34.

Room: Interior door to closet at northwest corner of room. Trim and moldings are badly peeled and have surface dirt and other accumulations that should be lightly scraped and cleaned.

4.3 INTERIOR, FEDERAL BRICK HOUSE:

Second Floor and Attic

Aside from deferred maintenance, damp conditions, mold growth, and animal infestation, the second floor features, design qualities, and materials are remarkably intact and original. The following are specific features, materials and components of the second floor that are original and warrant consideration in future treatment and stabilization efforts:

- 1) FEATURE: Plaster Walls and Ceilings – all rooms

PHOTOS: 35, 37, 39, 40

Recommendation Plaster surfaces are original, though repainting has occurred and colors are likely not original. Cosmetic damage is the most prevalent, with black mold present on many surfaces, and some painted surfaces have disengaged and are hanging loose. A lack of ventilation and moisture from leaking roof and chimney are likely causes. Given the general soundness of all plaster, it can be inferred that original lath and plaster keys are of high quality and in a good state of preservation as little to no cracking or failure is evident aside from a section of the rear/north wall in Room 11 that has lost plaster due to roof damage and water penetration. All interior spaces should be periodically aired and dried. Some drying benefit can be realized when exterior plywood window coverings are removed for inspection and repair.

- 2) FEATURE: Room 11

PHOTO: 36

Recommendation: Original six-panel wood door displays all original framing, trim, knobs, hinges, and hardware. Cleaning and scraping of loose paint and dirt is recommended.

- 3) FEATURE: Room 11

PHOTO: 35

Recommendation: Federal style surround with arched metal insert. The arched metal insert is likely original and may once have had a grate for coal burning. Altogether this fireplace is the best representation of what all other fireplaces in the brick house would have been like, and thereby warrants a high level of preservation and attention.

- 4) FEATURE: Room 12

PHOTO: 37

Recommendation: The hallway, curved profile, doorway moldings and trims, doors, and door hardware are all original and should be protected and preserved. Dirt, mold, and peeling paint layer is evident and should be cleaned and scraped lightly.

- 5) FEATURE: Rooms 13 – Window sash, framing, trim

PHOTO: 38

Recommendation: This small room was likely a closet. The single, 6/6 window sash with simple trim and moldings is set flush with the plane of the wall. Aside from periods of repainting and dirt accumulation, the window is intact, as is most glazing, and framing is in good condition. Periodic inspection and evaluation should be made when exterior plywood window coverings are removed to ensure no external forces are acting on interior conditions.

- 6) FEATURE: Room 14 – Windows, frames, trims

PHOTOS: 39, 40

Recommendation: Windows in rooms 11, 14, and 15 are identical and feature canted/inset panels, but are simpler in format as compared to the treatment of first story window frames. Aside from periods of repainting and dirt accumulation, interior surfaces of sashes, most glazing, and framing are in good condition. Periodic inspection and evaluation should be made when exterior plywood window coverings are removed to ensure no external forces are acting on interior conditions.

- 7) FEATURE: Room 15 – Window sash, framing, trim

PHOTO: 41

Recommendation: The single, 6/6 window sash features canted/inset panels, but is simplified in format as compared to the treatment of first story window frames. Aside from periods of repainting and dirt accumulation, interior surfaces and framing, and most glazing, are in good condition. Periodic inspection and evaluation should be made when the exterior plywood window covering is removed to ensure no external forces are acting on interior conditions.

- 8) FEATURE: Attic

PHOTOS: 42-45

Recommendation: The present attic construction does not appear to be fully original to the first construction period, but was likely repaired or reconstructed during a later historic period (1825-1900). Immediate attention should be given to repair any damaged roof deck boards or to solder/seal metal roofing to prevent water passage.

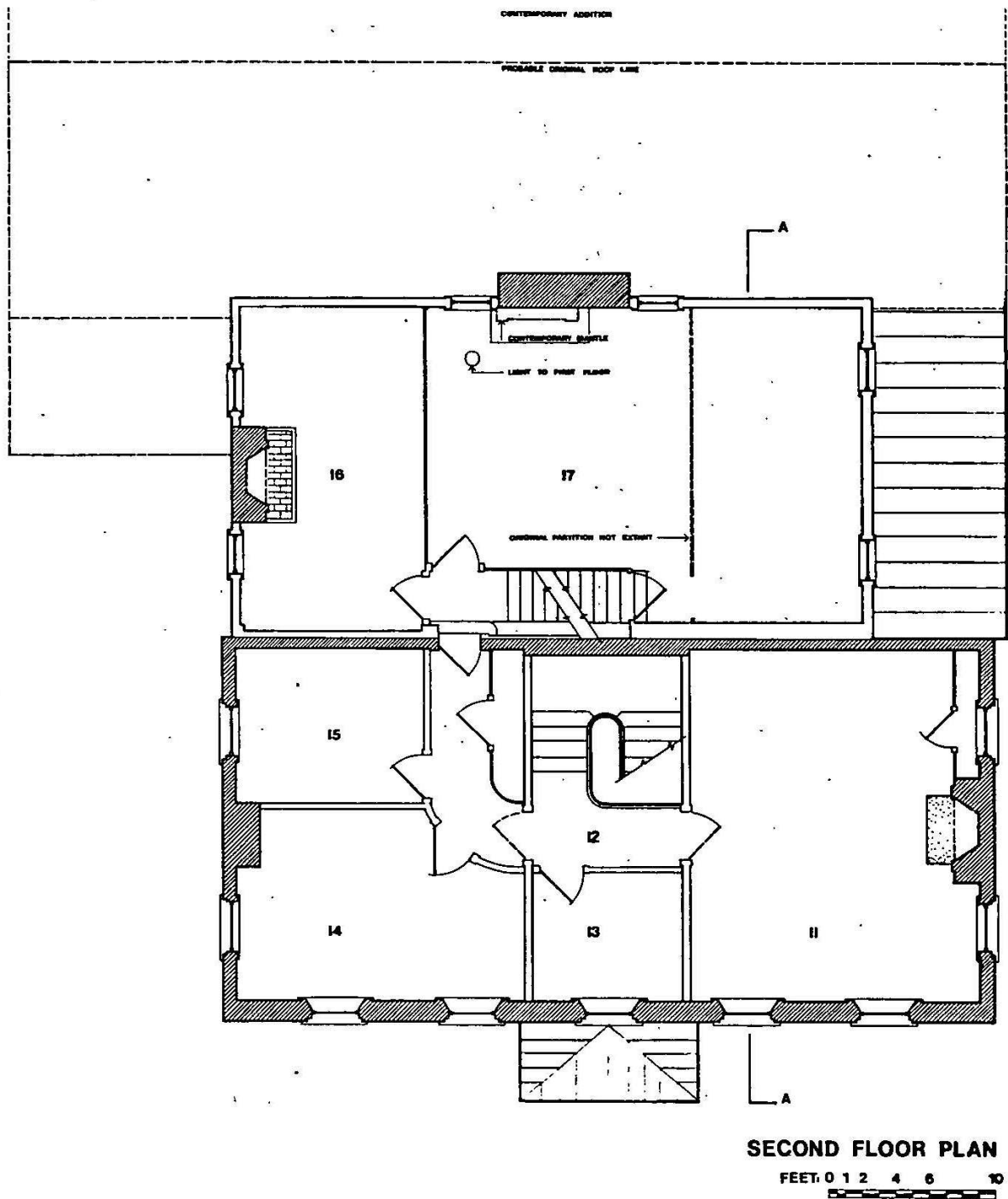


Figure 6. Second Floor Plan Drawing – The darkened walls denote the walls of the Brick House. Room numbers correspond to photograph numbers. (Source: *The Joseph Barker, Jr. House-A Comparative Architectural Investigation, February 1981, Huntington District, USACE*)



Photo 35.

Room 11 – Original fireplace surround and arched metal insert. Lacking pilasters and layered moldings, the second floor surrounds are simpler versions of the more detailed first floor surrounds.



Photo 36.

Room 11 – Original six paneled door to Room 11 at the top of the stair landing at second floor. Metal knob and keyhole cover, and door framing are all original.



Photo 37.

Room 12 – Original door and transom framing in hallway entering Room 14. Note that the original fixed multi-light transom was not designed with a curve, but set into the framing.



Photo 38.

Room 13 – Original window sash and framing. The window's flush setting with the wall plane and overall simplification, as compared to other second floor windows may indicate this small room was originally intended as a closet or storage.



Photo 39.

Room 14 – Southwest corner, showing simpler window framing than the first floor. All wood window sashes, frames, sills, and trim are original.



Photo 40.

Room 14 – Southeast corner. Recessed window boxing, framing, and six-over-six window sash is original.



Photo 41.

Room 15. Original west window sash with recessed framing. This unit is representative of the design and condition of all second story windows in the brick section of the house.



Photo 42.

Attic story of the brick house, showing ceiling construction of rafters and decking. The workmanship of the gable lacks the refinement of the lower two stories, suggesting much of the present roof is not original and was repaired or rebuilt at some time. This is also supported by the poor quality of construction in the joinery of the rafters at the peak and in the awkward termination of the brick end walls.



Photo 43.

West gable end with original quarter lights, and chimney repair evident in repointing and partial stucco finish. The off-set accommodates the placement of the fireplace on the second floor.



Photo 44.

Attic – Looking south from the second floor/attic of the frame house into the attic of the brick house. The partial wall of boards marks the meeting of the two sections.



Photo 45.

Attic floor of brick house with ladder to roofline hatch. This section of roof is the point where the gable of the frame house extends slightly beyond the roofline of the brick house.

4.4 INTERIOR, FRAME HOUSE:

First Floor

As discussed earlier, the overall integrity of the frame house is severely compromised due to structural failure and inappropriate renovation that has removed much original fabric. For this reason, this section of the house is no longer significant for the purposes of stabilization or preservation. The following photographs and captions, are provided as documentation of current status, only, but do not suggest preservation actions be taken.



Photo 46.

Room 6 – View of fireplace and surround. The feature is identical to the fireplace surround located directly above on the second floor. A four paneled wood door to Room 7 is at right.



Photo 47.

Room 8 – First floor of the frame house showing collapsed floor and large hearth, looking northwest.



Photo 48.

Room 8 – Detail of hearth in Figure 47, with dressed sandstone and brick materials exposed, looking northeast. The hearth was probably originally framed by the unattached mantel surround found in Room 5.



Photo 49. Room 8 – Detail, rear wall of the brick house, first floor, looking southwest. The mortar joints of this wall are struck and appear similar in profile, materials, and execution as joints on other exterior elevations of the house.



Photo 50. Room 8 – First floor of frame house showing collapsed floor and stairway to second floor, looking southwest.



Photo 51.

Room 8 – First floor, frame house showing beadboard wainscoting composed of alternating wide and narrow boards and chair rail.

4.5 INTERIOR, FRAME HOUSE:

Second Floor and Attic



Photo 52.

Room 16 – West wall of frame house, mid twentieth century fireplace and two-over-two sash windows. Wood flooring and joists are structurally compromised from animal infestation and water damage.



Photo 53.

Room 17 – Frame house, attic story, showing salvaged doors.



Photo 54.

Room 17 – Attic story of frame house, showing gable rafters and plank decking.



Photo 55.

Room 17 – The rafters in the frame house are joined by pegs.

5. INVENTORY OF FEATURES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following tables provide a summary of individual features and materials of significance that warrant consideration for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Features of significance may present poor condition, but retain essential historical and/or architectural design quality, stylistic detail, materials or workmanship. Those rated “high” in significance are associated with the original period of construction; while features rated “medium” belong to later eras that may be outside of the period of significance. A rating of “low” refers to features that have been severely altered and have poor integrity, or are of recent/contemporary construction. Because the frame house does not retain essential integrity as a whole, individual features or components have a low level of significance, but may have archaeological value if data recovery of this structure is undertaken

Original components and features are listed, and a suggested repair is included if warranted. Repair comments are general recommendations. Any treatments applied should conform to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation (specifically, *Historic Preservation Briefs*, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior). For example, if mortar is repointed, a sample of the original mortar should be taken and analyzed to determine material type and component ratios in order to create an appropriate replacement mortar of the correct compressive strength and pigment.

Needed actions and repairs have been assigned a number to suggest priority ranking. A ranking of 1) conveys the highest urgency and immediate attention is needed to prevent serious structural failure and harm to the overall stability and integrity of the brick house; 2) indicates a serious issue that left unchecked, may cause harm or critical loss of integrity to a particular material or feature; and 3) suggests actions that should be taken in the near future to avoid harm or critical loss of integrity to the feature or material.

The lack of a treatment comment or priority ranking means that no apparent damage is occurring at present, and therefore no intervention is required. However, all noted materials and features should be periodically inspected for damage, cleaned of dirt and animal residues, and kept free of flaking paint. These tables should only be considered basic and interim guidance for the immediate safeguarding of the property’s most significant qualities and values, and to prevent further overall decline of historic fabric, but are not intended as rehabilitation guidelines for the purposes of preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration. Finally, before any course of action is pursued on any of the following subjects, further structural evaluation of the brick and frame sections by a qualified historic preservation architect is advised.

BRICK HOUSE	Feature/ Material	Date	Significance Level	Status/ Repair or Treatment	Priority	Photo No.
First Floor	Brick/Mortar walls	ca. 1825	High	Repair partially collapsed northeast wall; repoint eroded mortar on east wall	1	14-19
	Window Sills	ca. 1825	High	De-lamination from water damage – remove plywood, clean and replace plywood panels	2	7
	Entrance Door	ca. 1825	High	Door knob, hinges, hardware – good condition	--	3, 4, 25
	Entrance Door Surround	ca. 1825	High	Side lights, pilasters, trim, fanlights – water damage, lightly scrape and repair damaged and dry rotted areas	2	2
	Entrance Door Hood	ca. 1880	Medium	Eastlake styling – inspect metal roofing; solder/repair if needed	3	3, 4
	Entrance Step	ca. 1825	High	Consolidate/repair sandstone step and threshold damage	1	2
	Sandstone Foundation	ca. 1825	High	Inspect cap stones and random ashlar foundation stones – stabilize if needed	2	16-18
	Chimneys	ca. 1825	High	Replace and repoint brick where damaged	1	1, 5, 6, 8
	Roof/Soffits	ca. 1850-1900	Medium	Replace missing wood and metal, solder metal if needed	1	6, 14
	Plaster Walls/ Ceilings	ca. 1825	High	Clean mold from surfaces and de-humidify on a periodic basis	2	20-23, 27, 30
	Room 3	ca. 1825	High	Panel doors, hardware, windows, trim, inset panels, bulls-eyes, chair rails – good condition, clean/monitor	3	30-34
	Room 3	ca. 1825	High	Federal fireplace surround – good condition, clean/monitor	--	30-32
	Room 4	ca. 1825	High	Doors, frames, trim, staircase, hardware – good condition	--	20-24
	Room 5	ca. 1825	High	Doors, hardware, windows, trim, inset panels, bulls-eyes, chair rails – good condition	--	26-29
Room 5	ca. 1825	High	Detached Federal style surround – good condition, retain/preserve	--	28	
Room 5	ca. 1880	Medium	Eastlake-style fireplace surround – not original to first construction, retain/preserve	--	29	
Second Floor	Plaster Walls/ Ceilings	ca. 1825	High	Clean surfaces, periodically de-humidify	2	35-37, 39, 40
	Room 11	ca. 1825	High	Six-panel door: hardware, windows, trim, inset panels, bulls-eyes – good condition, clean/monitor	--	36
	Room 11	ca. 1825	High	Fireplace surround with metal insert – good condition, clean/monitor	--	35
	Room 12	ca. 1825	High	Hallway configuration, doorways, doors, frames, trim, hardware – good condition, clean/monitor	--	37
	Room 13	ca. 1825	High	Single sash with framing and trim – good condition, clean/monitor	--	38
	Room 14	ca. 1825	High	Panel door, hardware, windows, trim, inset panels, bulls-eyes – good	--	39, 40

				condition, clean/ monitor		
Attic	Room 15	ca. 1825	High	Panel door, hardware, window, trim, inset panels, bulls-eye – good condition, clean/monitor	--	41
	-----	ca. 1825-1900	Medium	Attic board flooring, rafters, plank decking – inspect for water damage; replace in kind of needed	2	42, 44 45
	-----	ca. 1825-1900	Medium	Roof ladder and hatch – good condition, monitor	--	45
	-----	ca. 1825	High	End chimneys – inspect for structural vulnerability; repoint where needed	2	42, 43
	-----	ca. 1825	High	Quarter light windows – good condition, inspect for gaps and seal	3	42, 43

FRAME HOUSE	Feature/ Material	Construction Date	Significance Level	Status/ Repair or Treatment		
Exterior	Wood siding	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Structural failure and loss of essential integrity	--	6
	4/4 Window sashes	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Average condition	--	53
	Chimneys	ca. 1850-1950	Low	Good to failing	--	
	East porch	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Porch columns/milled brackets – dry rot, exposure	--	11, 12
	Cellar	ca. 1825-1900	Low	Not accessible	--	13
First Floor	Rooms 7, 9, 10	ca. 1900-1970	Low	Stable	--	8-10
	Room 6	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Unstable	--	46
	Room 8: Hearth Wainscoting Staircase	ca. 1825-1900	Low	Structural failure and loss of essential integrity	--	47-51
	Room 8: Sandstone foundation	ca. 1825-1900	Low	Some failure	--	47, 50
	Room 16 Brick fireplace	ca. 1850-1950	Low	Some failure, fireplace intact	--	52
	Room 16 Window sashes	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Average condition	--	53
	Room 17	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Evidence of pegged joinery in gable	--	55
Room 17	ca. 1850-1900	Low	Salvaged doors of unknown location	--	53	