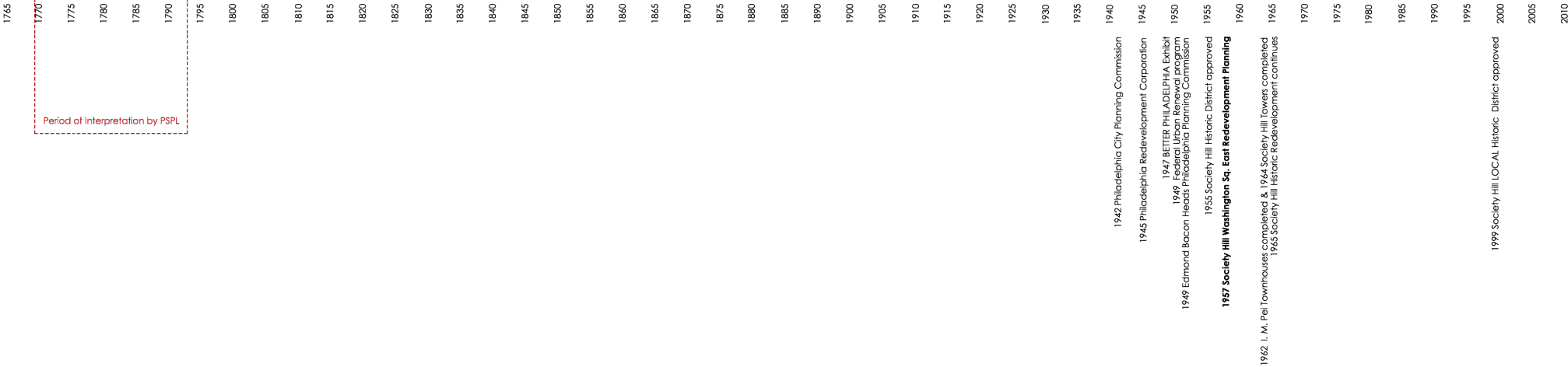


Powel House

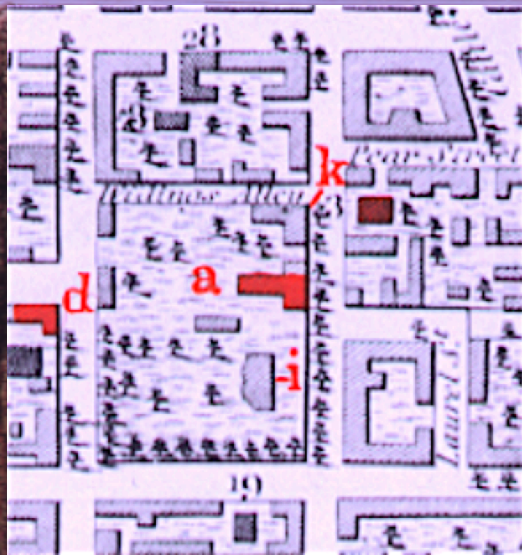
From the ~~Mayor's house~~
to a
~~Horsehair Factory~~
To
House Museum



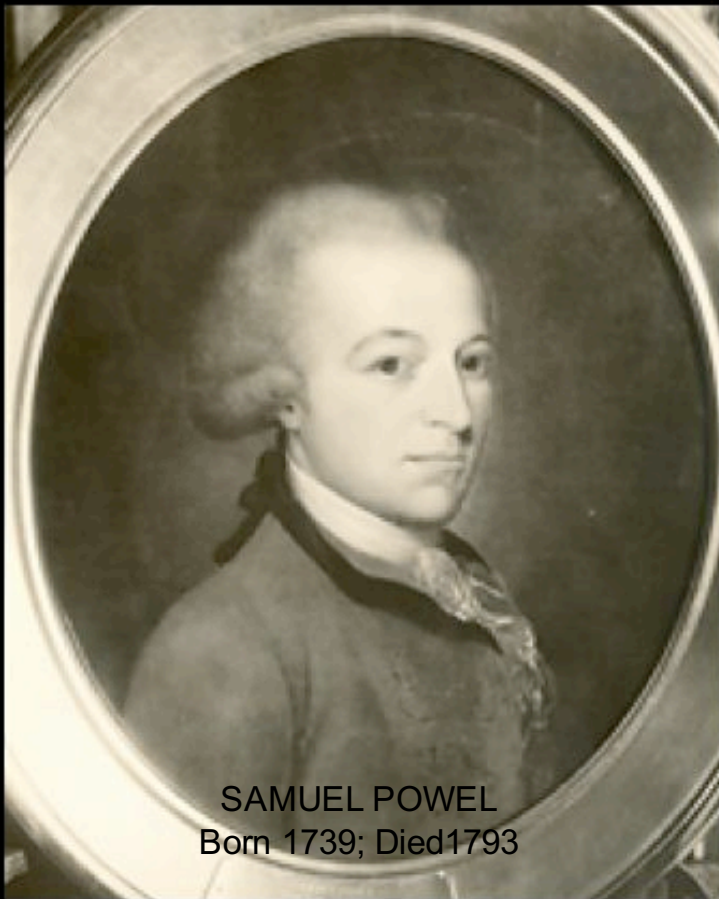
Historic Preservation: Theory and Practice



Period of Interpretation by PSP



INSET: Plan of the city of Philadelphia, 1796 by John Hills. Powel House and estate "a".
 The City of Philadelphia, Third Street looking NW from Spruce, 1800 by William Birch



SAMUEL POWEL
Born 1739; Died 1793

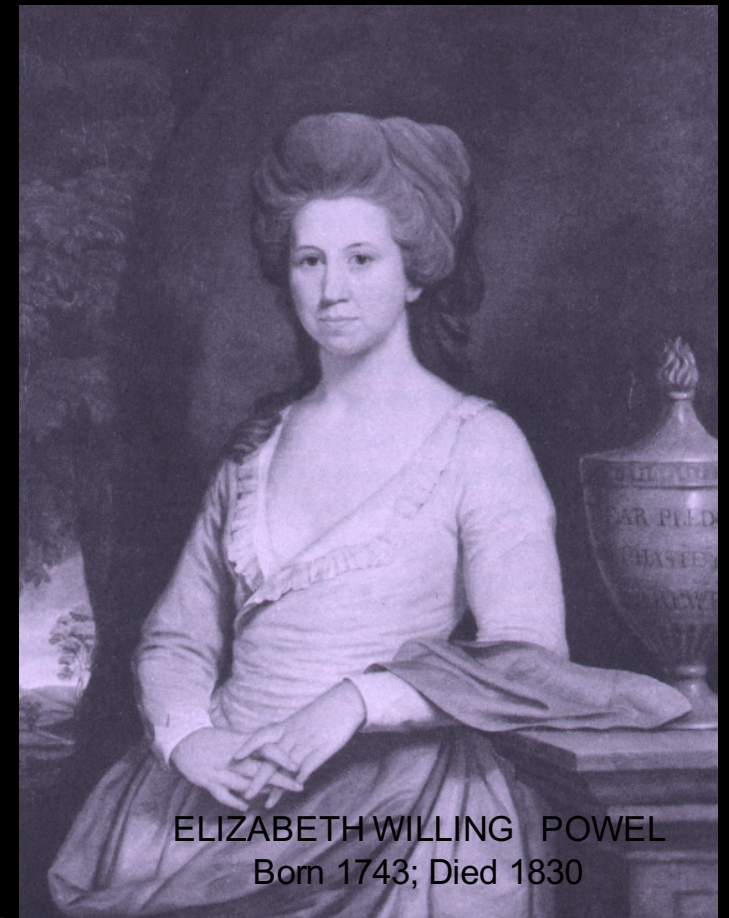
1775 mayor

1789 again chosen mayor.

Speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate in 1792

1785 first president of the Philadelphia society for promoting agriculture,

Manager of the Pennsylvania hospital



ELIZABETH WILLING POWEL
Born 1743; Died 1830

Confidant to George & Martha Washington

Political "lobbyist"

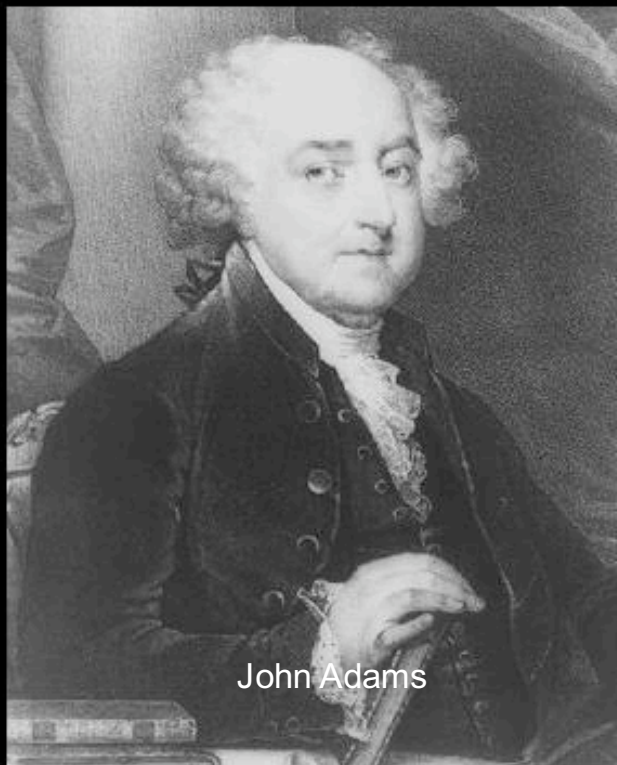
"social connector"

Family ties to Philadelphia Politics and Commerce



JOHN HARE POWE
(JOHN POWEL HARE)
Born 1786; Died 1856

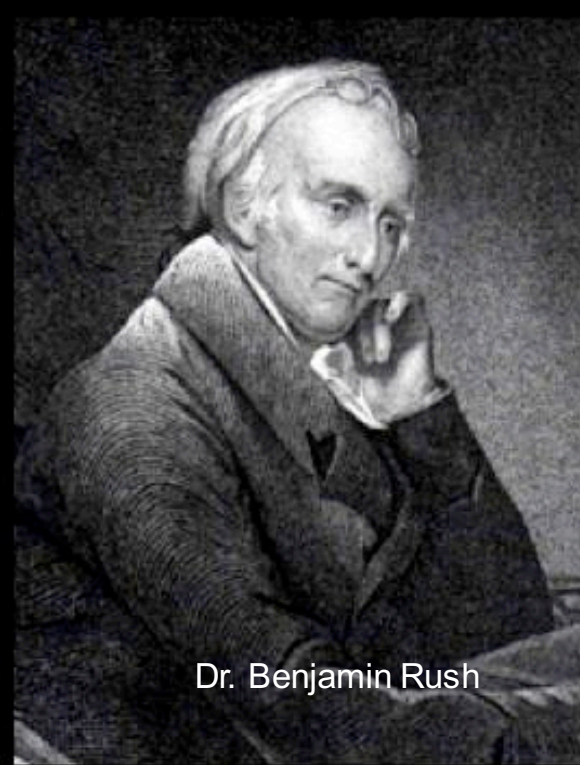
"the handsomest man ever seen."



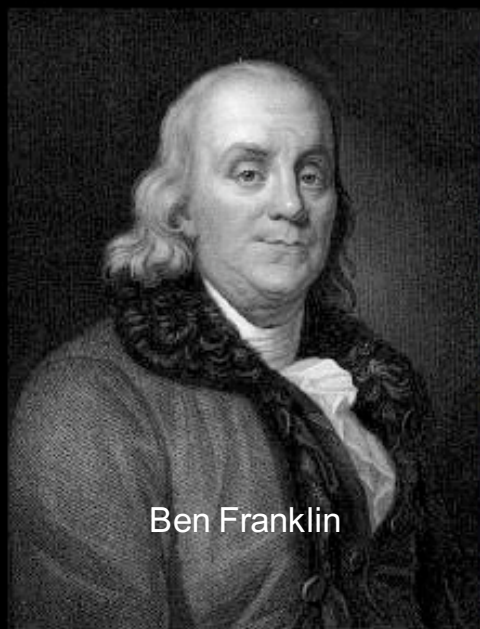
John Adams



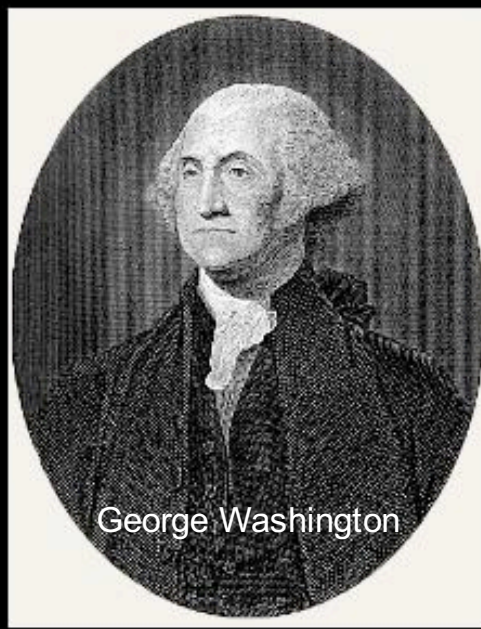
Marquis de Lafayette



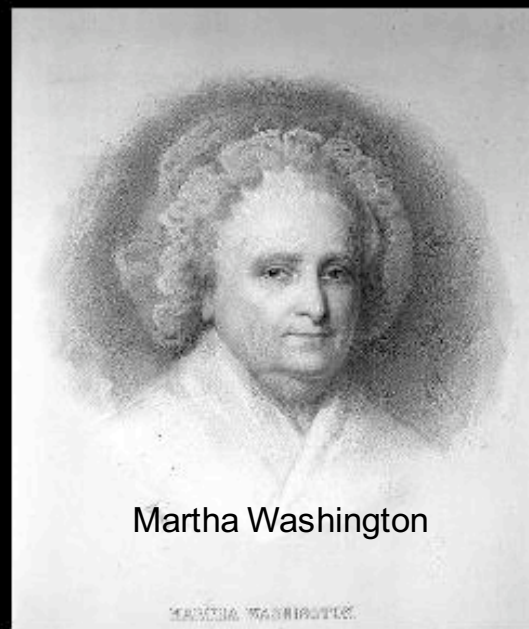
Dr. Benjamin Rush



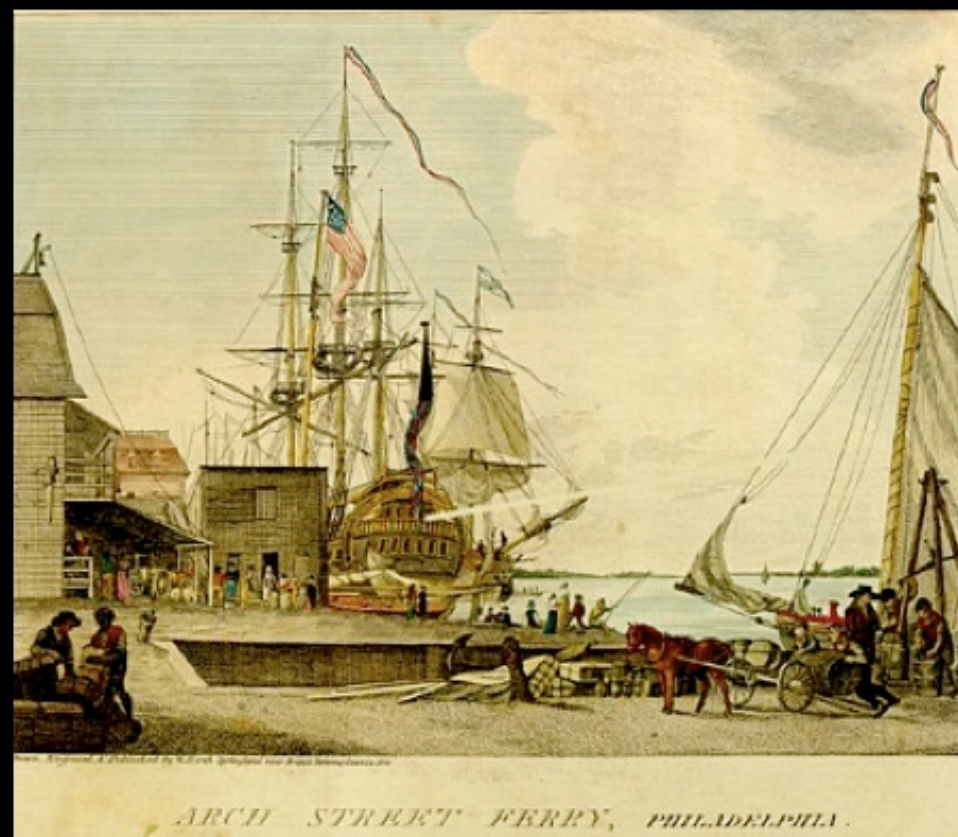
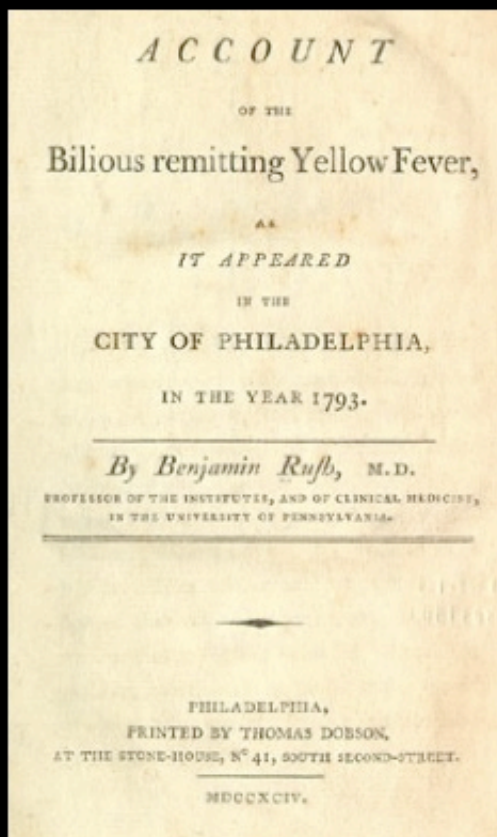
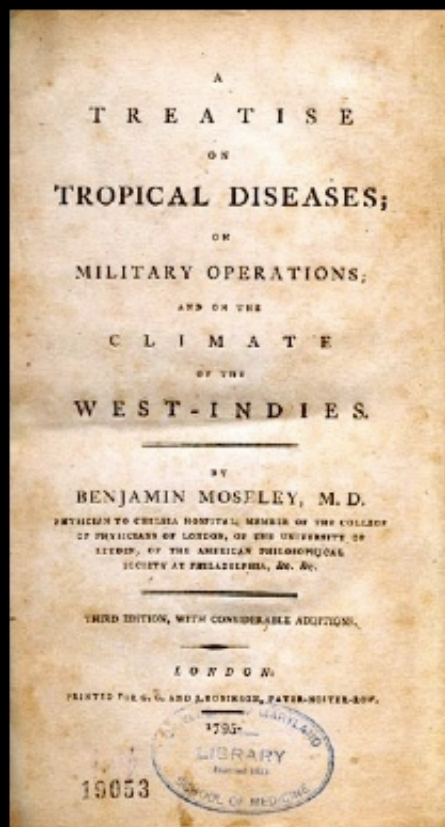
Ben Franklin



George Washington



Martha Washington



With a population of approximately 55,000 in 1793, Philadelphia was America's largest city, its capital and its busiest port. The first fatalities appeared in July and the numbers grew steadily. Victims initially experienced pains in the head, back and limbs accompanied by a high fever. These symptoms would often disappear, leaving a false sense of security. Shortly, the disease would announce its return with an even more severe fever and turn the victim's skin a ghastly yellow while he vomited black clots of blood. Death soon followed as the victim slipped into a helpless stupor. A good portion of the population, along with members of Congress, President Washington and his Cabinet, abandoned the city. The disease subsided and finally disappeared with the arrival of cold weather in November.

*From JULY 1793 to NOVEMBER 1793 it is estimated that 4,000 died.
(Mayor Samuel Powel died on September 29, 1793.)*





Hexamer - Locher Map, 1860

Map with the assistance of Free Library of Philadelphia Map Collection



400 block Spruce St. shows the then Baptist church as recently remodeled (now Spruce St. Synagogue). 1860



West side, 300 block of 4th St. 1860



Southwest corner of Spruce and Fourth Street.
July 1861.



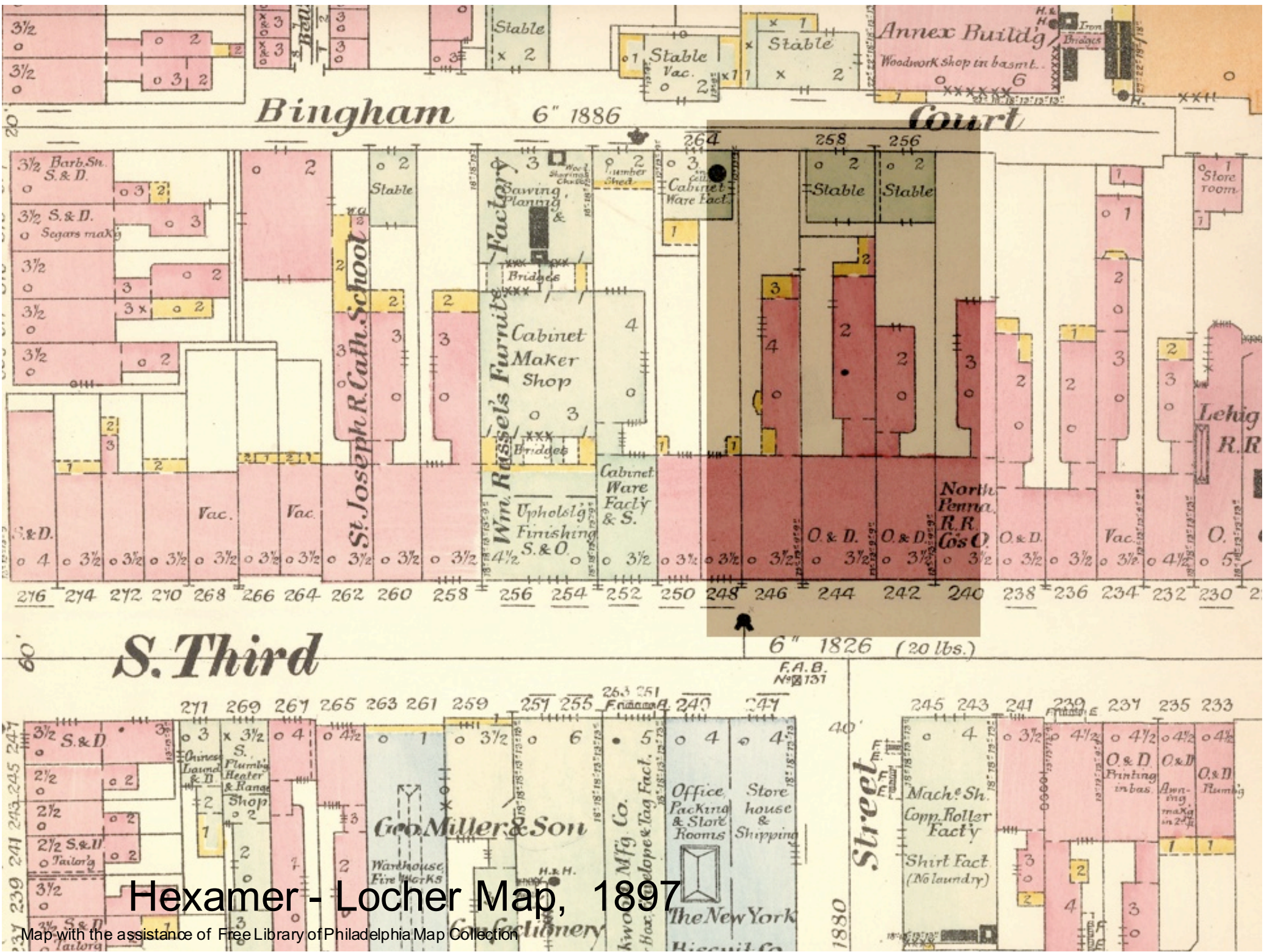
Northeast corner of Fourth and Pine Street.
June 1861.



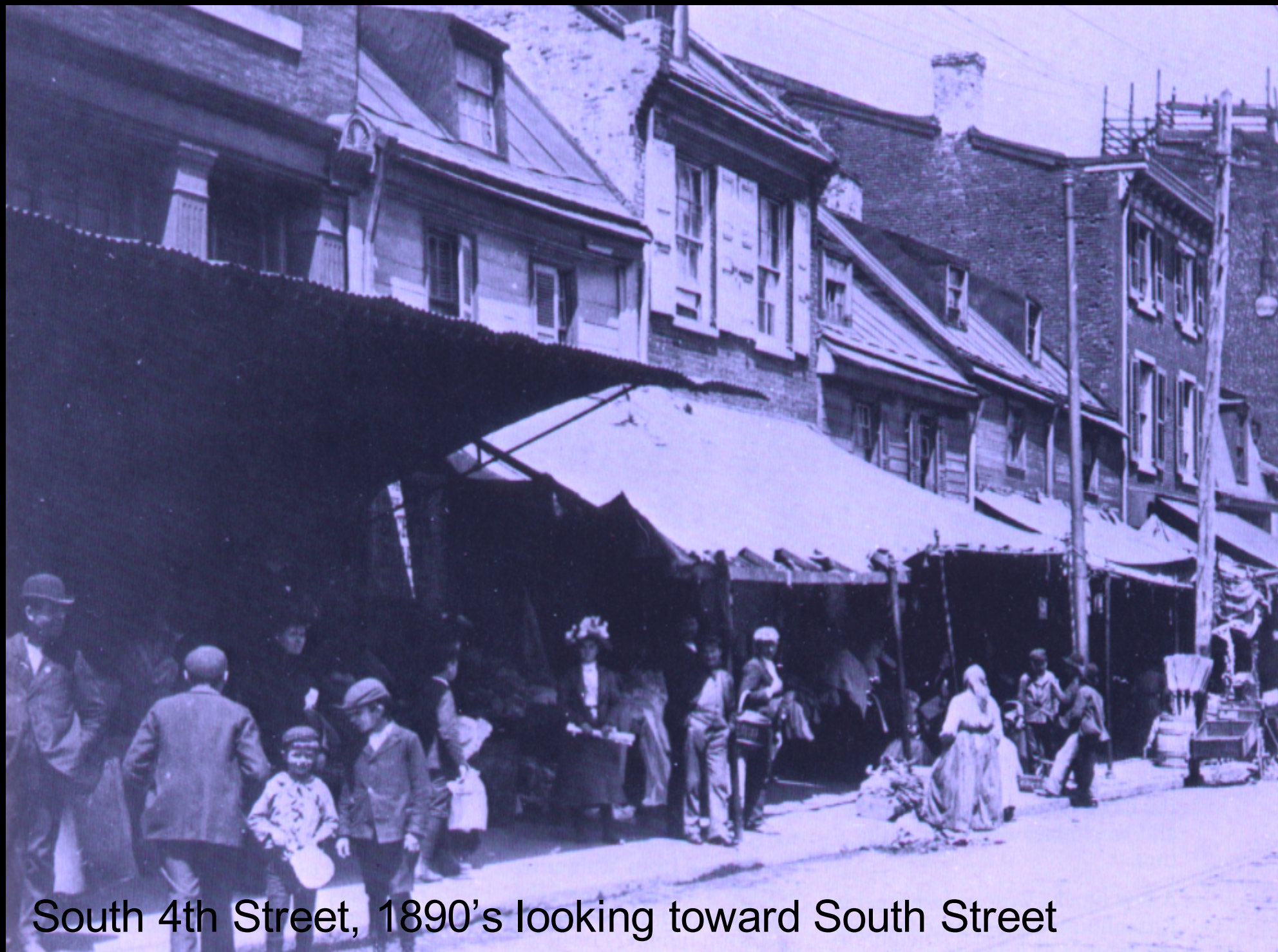
North side of Spruce west of Fifth Street.
August 1861.



Southeast corner of Spruce and Third Street.
June 1861.



Hexamer - Locher Map, 1897



Photograph from STILL PHILADELPHIA, A photographic History

Works: 243, 245 & 247 S. ORIANNA ST.



Cable Address

"KLEBANSKY, PHILADELPHIA"

Wolf Klebansky

Importer, Exporter and Jobber in All Kinds of

Russian and Siberian Horse Hair and Bristles

Manes and all Kinds of Animal Hair Supplied to the Curled Hair Trade

Also Manufacturer of Drawn Hair for the Supply of Brush Manufacturers and
Hair Cloth Weavers

Realty Registry(1927/ 1928)

246 South 3rd. Street

Purchased by Wolf Klebancsky on May 1899
\$9,400

242 & 244 South 3rd. Street

Purchased by Wolf Klebansky on May 1903
\$23,000



"POWEL MANSION," SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA

HORSE HAIR FACTORY ON HISTORIC SITE IN THIRD STREET DISTRICT

1-23-1907

WOLF KLEBANSKY
IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
HORSEHAIR
AND
HOG BRISTLES.

Think you that this up-to-date business-like sign would strike the casual observer as appropriate, when displayed over the front door of the house in which George Washington, as the guest of Samuel Powel, Mayor of Philadelphia, in the years 1776 and 1789, more than once stepped gracefully to the music of a minuet? Would it appeal to his artistic sense if blazoned in letters of gilt upon the panes of the front windows of the historic mansion?

With all due respect to Mr. Klebansky, the Colonial Dames of America emphatically declare that it most certainly would not. And yet, unless patriotic souls come quickly to the rescue, this very thing will occur.

Down on old S. 3d st. stands, or rather leans, an old, three-story-and-a-half yellow brick house, numbered 244. The antiquated building looks decrepit and forlorn. The dinginess of its coat of paint, applied long since, is emphasized by the spruce, prosperous appearance of its neighbors on either side. Here and there a pane of glass is missing. The stone steps of the little colonial stoop have been discolored by age and through want of proper care. The iron railings are rusted and rickety.

Hard indeed it is to realize that this dilapidated old structure was once the scene of brilliant balls and receptions, and still more difficult is it to conjure up a vision of the "Father of His Country" fanching gaily with some fair partner across the once polished floors of the outcast of a house, which now bears a "For Rent" sign, swung carelessly from a lower window sill.

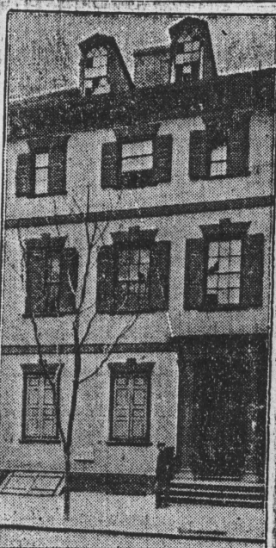
In proof, however, that this really did happen, and is not the production of a disordered brain, a letter written on January 17, 1779, by Sarah Bache, to her father, Benjamin Franklin, may be quoted.

"Dearest father," the letter reads, "I have lately been several times abroad with the General and Mrs. Washington. He always inquires after you in the most affectionate manner, and speaks of you highly. We danced at Mrs. Powel's your birthday, or night. I should say, in company together, and he told me it was the anniversary of his marriage. It was just twenty years that night."

This letter is now in possession of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Mrs. Powel, who was many times the hostess of Washington, was, before her marriage, Elizabeth Willing. The house which she and her husband, the Mayor, occupied, was then numbered 112, this number may still be deciphered upon a metal plate over the door. Years ago the number was changed to 244. When the house was built, it was one of four or five famous mansions which stood between Willing's alley and Spruce st.

In some manner the house passed from the hands of the Powel heirs, and in the fall of 1904 was bought by Wolf Klebansky. Klebansky is a Russian Hebrew, a native of the province of Kovno, Russia. He came to this country twenty-one years ago, and became a man of considerable means through the importations from Siberia and Japan of horse hair and bristles, which he prepared for the use of clothing and brush manufacturers. He bought the house at 244 S. 3d st., at 212 S. 3d st. The former he used as his residence and office, the latter he leases as an office building. In the rear of 244 S. 3d st., the old Powel Mansion, he built a factory, where he shapes up his horse hair and bristles. This factory was not large enough, so Klebansky purchased two years ago, 244 S. 3d st., which was then owned by a Frenchman. In this he intended to install machinery, and operate in conjunction with his factory. When he was informed of the historic value of 244, he hesitated to demolish it.



WHERE WASHINGTON DANCED.

It is this old house, on S. 3d st., that is in danger of being turned into a hair and hog bristle factory.

"I understand the feeling, which, I hope, Americans bear toward this house," said Klebansky, in his broken English, "and do not wish to seem a vandal. Nevertheless, while this building stands idle, I lose money."

It is understood that Klebansky paid in the neighborhood of \$25,000 for the house.

The Colonial Dames of America are making every effort to save the old dwelling. Klebansky has agreed to rent to them the front part of the house, which contains the rooms in which Washington was entertained. The rear portion, which is only two stories high, and runs back nearly to Orianna st., he proposes to tear down. He intimated that if a high enough price were offered, however, he would sell the whole house.

No definite decision has been reached, but certain Colonial Dames have set on foot a movement to have various historical societies each rent a room or two in the mansion, thus securing it for the present. The Indian Rights Society is the only one which has so far entered into this plan. It is also proposed to organize a society for the preservation of historic places, which would look after the 3d st. house. John Frederick Lewis is greatly interested in the preservation of the old place.

A member of the Society of the Colonial Dames of America said to-day that everything possible was being done to save the Powel house.

"I think it would be desecration to tear the building down," she declared. "All true Philadelphians should assist us in our effort to save it. This is one of the few buildings in this city which we know really sheltered George Washington."

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, January 23, 1907

With the kind assistance of Harry Boonin

REAL ESTATE NEWS

OLD POWEL MANSION TO BECOME BUSINESS STRUCTURE.

No. 1117 Walnut Street Sold for \$55,000—Addition to the Netherlands Apartments.

The historic Powel mansion, at No. 244 South Third street, in the drawing room of which George Washington attended numerous entertainments, is to be extensively remodeled into a business structure. The owner, Wolf Klebonsky, who bought the property from the Salignac estate about four years ago, is having plans prepared by Architects Watson & Huckel, which provide for an entirely new front, as well as lowering the first floor to the street level. This, it is understood, will be fitted up for a financial institution which is in the process of formation. The old mansion is a three-story brick structure of the familiar Colonial type, and was built in 1762. In several of the letters written by Mrs. Bache to Benjamin Franklin, her father, the statement is made that the writer attended receptions in the old house and danced the minuet with George Washington. The Society of the Colonial Dames during the past few years have made several ineffectual attempts to raise funds for the purpose of retaining the old mansion in its original condition.

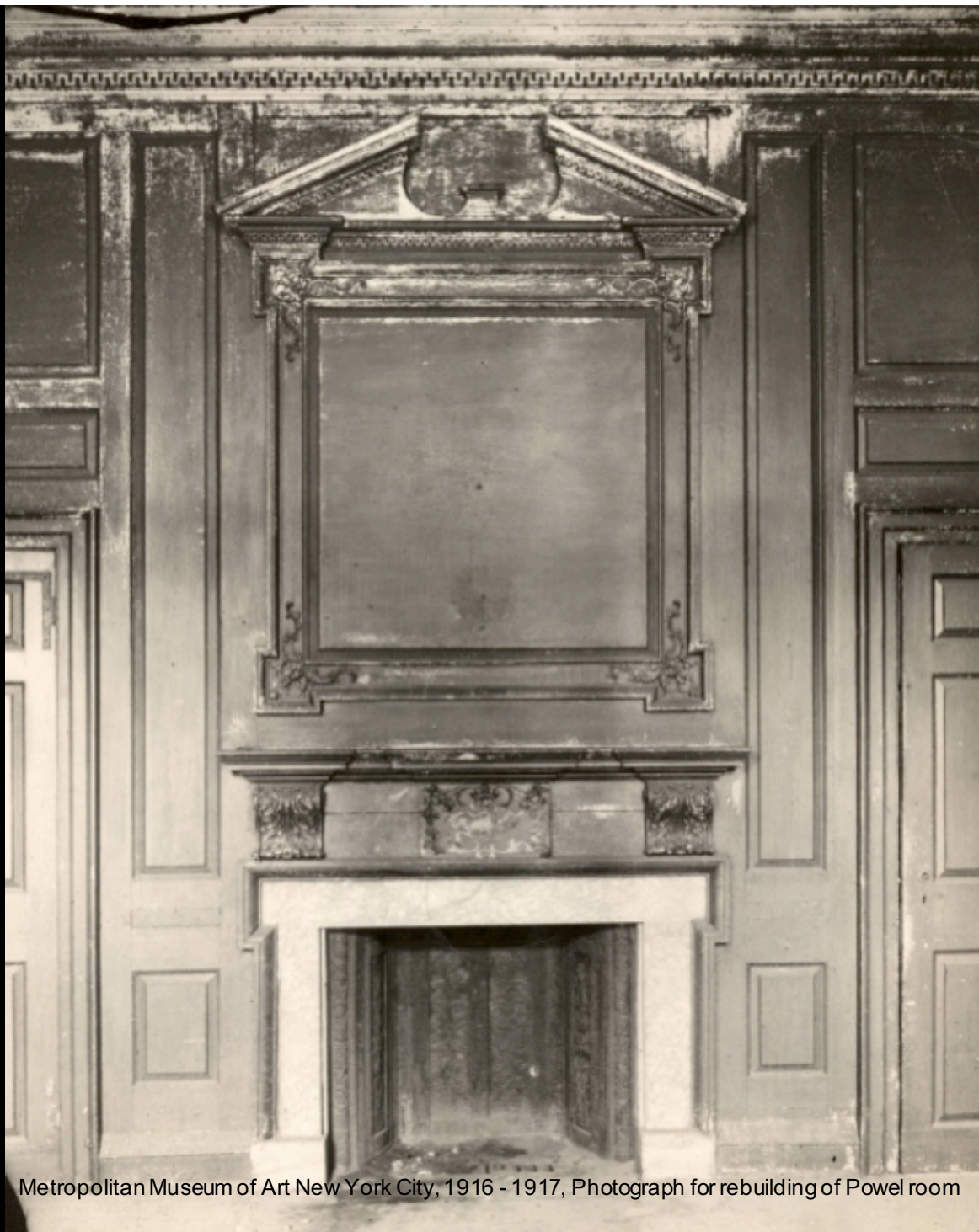
Philadelphia Record, February 26, 1909

With the kind assistance of Harry Boonin



South 5th Street, 1915

Photograph from STILL PHILADELPHIA, A photographic History



Metropolitan Museum of Art New York City, 1916 - 1917, Photograph for rebuilding of Powel room

1917
The Metropolitan museum of Art
Acquired the 2nd. Floor
Back room



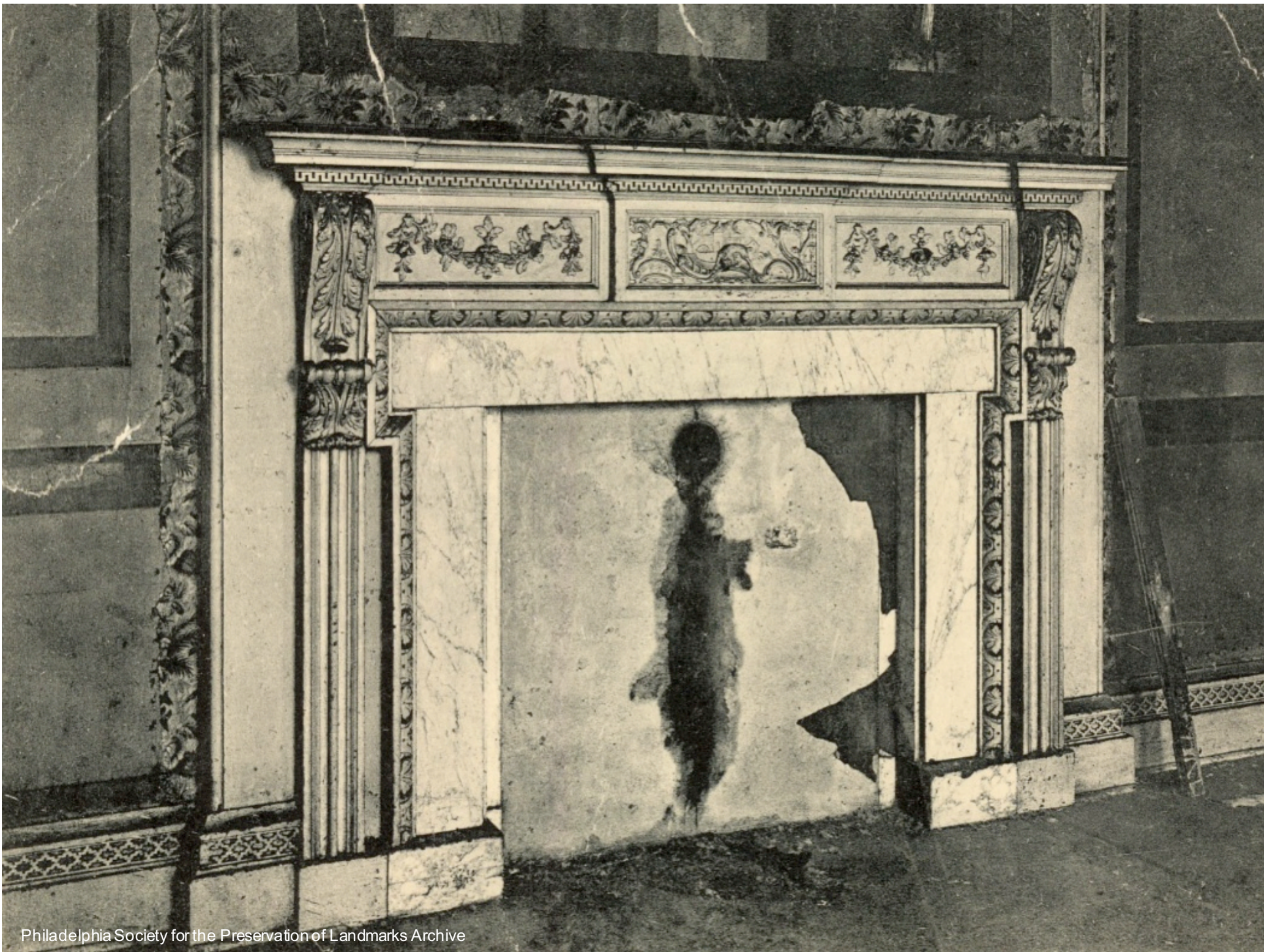


Series No 5 "Old Colonial"

Powell House, 244 So 3rd. St., Built in 1762, Philadelphia.
The Hall.



Photograph from Franklin D. Edmunds, 1908





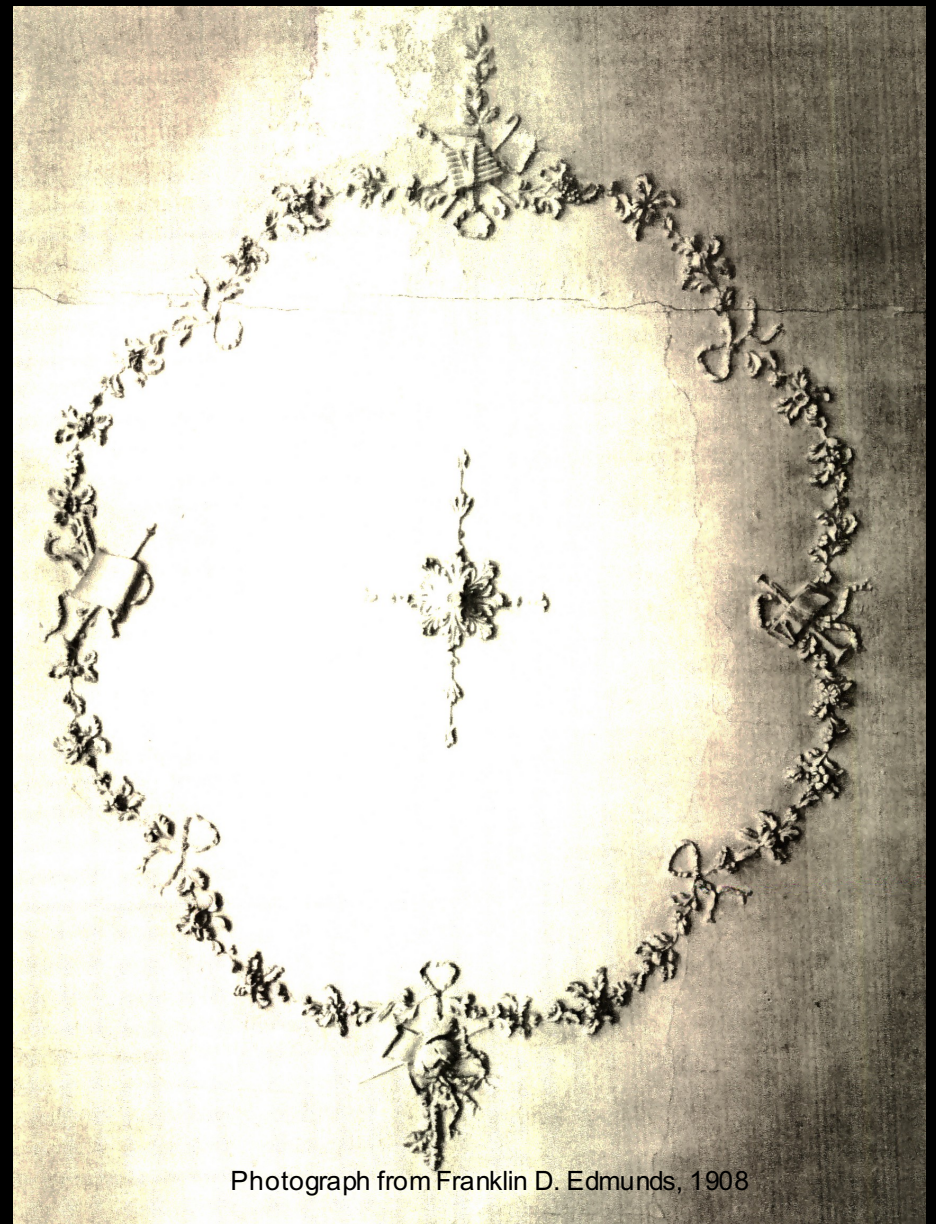
Photograph from Franklin D. Edmunds, 1908

1925

The The Philadelphia Museum of Art
Acquired the 2nd. Floor
front room wood working and plaster ceiling



Photograph from Franklin D. Edmunds, 1908



Photograph from Franklin D. Edmunds, 1908

Works: 243, 245 & 247 S. ORIANNA ST.



Cable Address

"KLEBANSKY, PHILADELPHIA"

CODES USED

WESTERN UNION

5TH EDITION

BENTLEYS

L. D. BELL 'PHONE, LOMBARD 19-82

L. D. KEYSTONE 'PHONE, MAIN 9080

CLOSED ON SATURDAYS

Wolf Klebansky

Importer, Exporter and Jobber in All Kinds of

Russian and Siberian Horse Hair and Bristles

Manes and all Kinds of Animal Hair Supplied to the Curled Hair Trade

Also Manufacturer of Drawn Hair for the Supply of Brush Manufacturers and Hair Cloth Weavers

246 SOUTH THIRD STREET

Philadelphia, Pa. June 5, 1927

The Pennsylvania Museum
Memorial Hall Fairmount Park
Philadelphia, Pa.

Attention: Mr. Fiske Kimball

Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of your esteemed of the 3rd inst. and noted contents carefully.

With reference to the removal of the plain boards from the front room on the second floor of 244 S. 3rd Street, we would prefer to take the matter up with you personally if possible.

Inasmuch however as our place of business is closed until Wednesday next owing to our Holidays; we will appreciate if you will communicate with us after that date by telephone. We feel certain that we will be able to arrange matters to our mutual satisfaction, thus with best personal regards, we are,

Very truly yours,

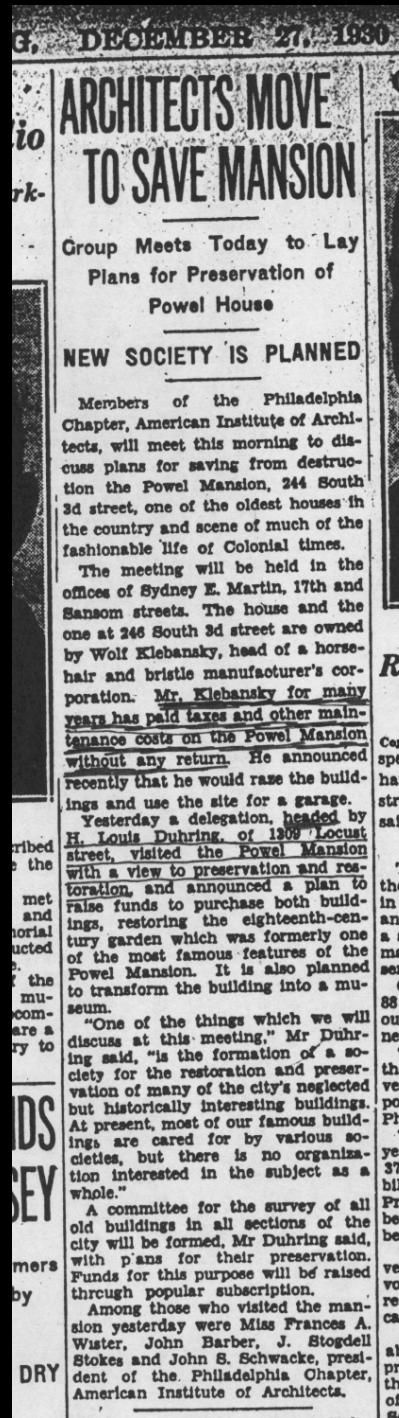
Wolf Klebansky

AAR/LS

Not before Monday
Promised to replace with plain boards while
The removal is going on
Will send down old mantelpieces
Nothing more to be taken except from
front room



To be returned without fail
to Fiske Kimball
Director, Pennsylvania Museum of Art



Public Ledger, December 27, 1930

With the kind assistance of Harry Boonin

HISTORY ORGANIZATION TAKES OVER POWEL HOUSE

Title to the Powel residence at 244 South 3d street, lot 30 by 180 feet, in which President George Washington was frequently entertained, and to which he makes several references in his diary, passed last week from Mildred E. Thiele, together with the adjoining dwelling, 246 South 3d street, lot 24 feet 8 inches by 135 feet, to the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, which will restore the dwelling and convert the adjoining lot into a garden. Both properties were purchased several weeks ago by Mildred N. Thiele from Wolf Klebansky, who had acquired the Powel House, 244 South 3d street, formerly known as 258 South 3d street, from the heirs of L. Theodore Salsgnae, in December, 1904, for \$7000. L. Theodore Salsgnae had acquired the property in January, 1886, from the estate of Isaiah Hacker for \$14,000. Several other owners intervened between Isaiah Hacker and the Powel heirs, who sold the property late in the eighteenth century.

The house is one of the best preserved specimens of Colonial architecture in Philadelphia. The drawing room was removed several years ago and presented to the Philadelphia Art Museum on the Parkway, where it is on exhibition. This is the first purchase of a historic site made by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks. When Washington made his visits to the house the adjoining property owners were Thomas Willing, Benjamin Chew, William Rawle, John H. Brinton, John B. Wallace and Thomas Cadwalader, all of whom joined in a deed recorded in Deed Book L. C. No. 2, page 508, under date of December 10, 1800, reserving a ten-foot strip of ground extending in front of their dwellings which could never be built upon.

POWEL MANSION

Editor Everybody's Catalog: Was the old Powel mansion on South Third or Fourth streets used as the White House for Presidents Washington and Adams?
E. C. F.

The famous Powel house, at 244-46 South Third street, has often been called the first White House. This designation may have arisen because during the Constitutional Convention of 1787 Washington (who became President in 1789) was a frequent guest there. Samuel Powel was the Mayor of Philadelphia in 1775, the last Mayor in Colonial times and the first Mayor under the new United States Constitution in 1789. His wife was Elizabeth Willing, daughter of Charles Willing and sister of Thomas Willing, both Mayors of Philadelphia at different times.

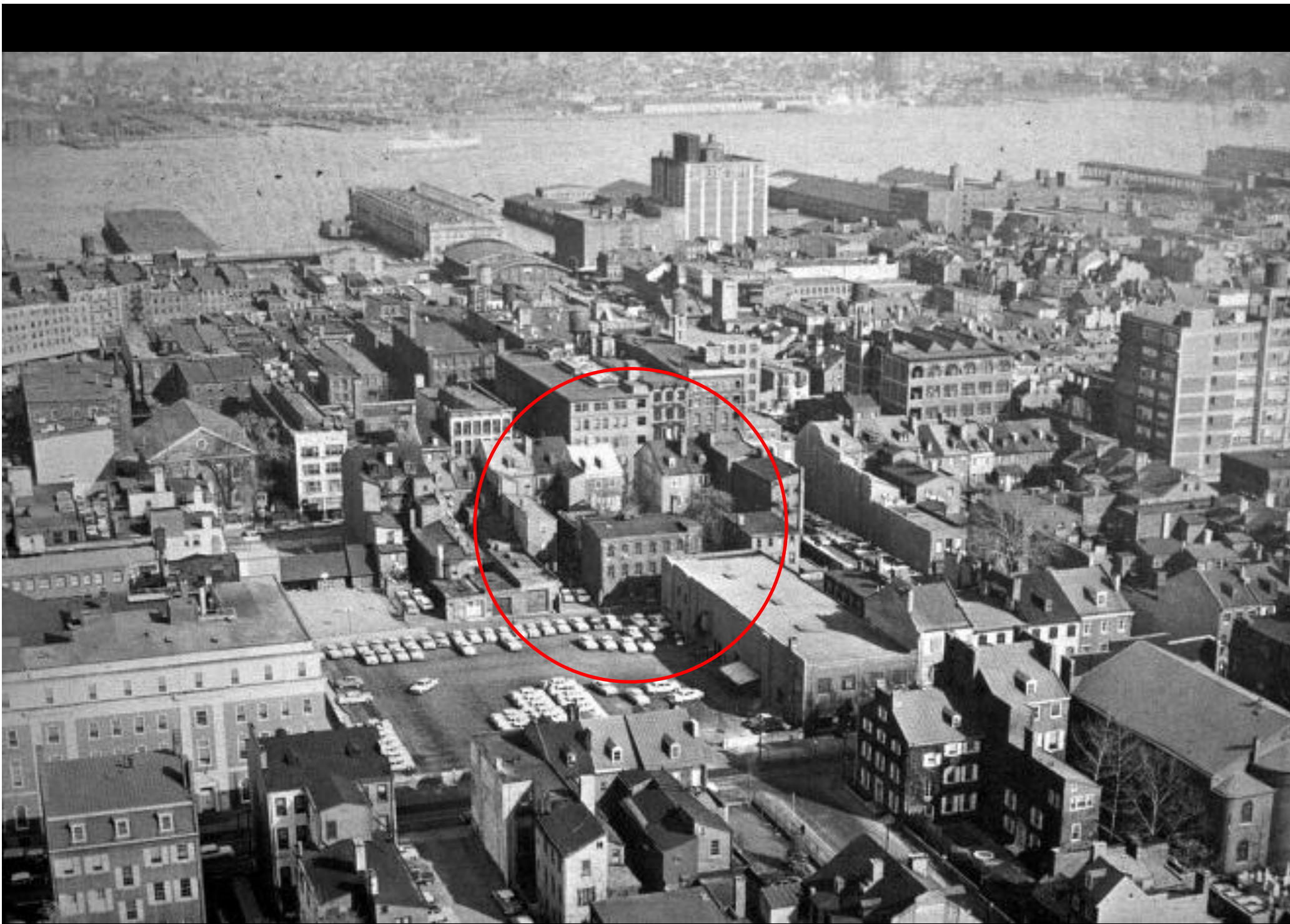
The Powel House was built in 1759 and was purchased by Samuel Powel in 1769 from Captain Charles Z. Hedman, its original owner. John Adams, later President, wrote in his diary:

"Dined at Mr. Powel's with many others; a most sinful feast again! Everything which could delight the eye or allure the taste; curds and creams; jellies, sweetmeats of various sorts, twenty sorts of tarts, fools, trifles, floating islands, whipped sillibub, etc., etc. Parmesan cheese, punch, wine, porter, beer, etc."

January 16, 1931







Photograph with assistance of Dr. David Brownlee

IN LOVING TRIBUTE
TO

FRANCES ANNE WISTER

THROUGH WHOSE UNTIRING EFFORTS
THE RESTORATION OF THE POWEL HOUSE
WAS MADE POSSIBLE

THE POWEL HOUSE COMMITTEE
THE POWEL HOUSE BRIDGE AND TEA COMMITTEE
JEPHTHA ABBOTT CHAPTER D.A.R.
1931 1956



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Tribute

Philadelphia Society For the Preservation of Landmarks

The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks was founded in 1931 by Miss Frances A. Wister and a group of citizens concerned about the impending destruction of Powel House, the home of Philadelphia's "patriot mayor" Samuel Powel.

Built in 1765, the Powel House was one of colonial Philadelphia's most beautiful and elegant homes. American patriots and foreign ministers alike, from Washington to Lafayette, gathered there to enjoy hospitality at its most gracious.

The Landmark Society's belief in the importance of preserving the Powel House and its lovely garden has been more than justified by the delight of the thousands who visit the mansion each year. Philadelphia is proud to cite the achievements of the Landmark Society in restoring this beautiful and historic home, and extend this official Tribute in recognition.



James D. Tate
Mayor

Fredrick R. Mann
City Representative





Flag raising at the Powel House. Feb. 21th (Presidents Day, 1932)

Feb 20 - 1932
Raising Powel House Flag. Presented by Mrs Geo. S. Patterson



Flag raising at the Powel House. Feb. 21th (Presidents Day, 1932),
John Cadwalder, Mrs. George Patterson (dog), H. Louis Duhring

ALTERNATE SUGGESTIONS
FOR REAR STAIRS
ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO
THE POWELL HOUSE
#244 S. 3rd St.
Phila. Penna.











POWEL HOUSE LUNCHEON AIDES—From left, Mrs. Leslie N. Moxon of Wayne, Miss Maeryn Stradley of Radnor, Mrs. Robert S. Murch of Strafford and Mrs. Harbour Mitchell Jr., of Wynnewood, were aides at the Powel House annual luncheon at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel last Friday. Some 425 guests attended the luncheon. The fashion show was presented by Thomas Neil Center fashion director of John Wanamaker Store. Mrs. William G. Martin was the chairman of the luncheon. The luncheon was sponsored by the Powel House Preservation Committee, of which Mrs. Henry M. Watts Jr. is the president. (Carole Springer Photo)



Tea and Bridge Committee

Annual Powel House Fundraising
Fashion Show

February 2-1960

Bulletin 2/25/60



MEETING ON SOCIETY HILL: Plans for annual bridge and tea January 30 at the Bellevue-Stratford to benefit Powell House are made by (from left) Mrs. Joseph Vallery Wright, of Penn Valley; Mrs. Edgar D. Paul, of Wynnewood; Mrs. George Stuart Patterson, of 1823 Delancey place, and Mrs. Haig H. Pakradooni, Jr., of Wynnewood. The 18th century mansion at 244 S. Third st., was the home of Samuel Powel, first mayor of Philadelphia under the new United States.



ing a gabfest while preparing for the
e card party and tea held early in
the Bellevue-Stratford, are (left to

right) Mrs. Myron E. Leslie, Mrs. Francis R.
Masters, Jr., Mrs. Clayton B. Wentworth, Mrs.
Norman J. Greene, Jr., and Mrs. William M.

Deuber. They represent the younger members
who served as aides at the party, preceding
which they were luncheon guests of Mrs. Nor-

man Joy Greene. The restoration of the Powel
House has been conducted by the Philadelphia
Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.

FEB. 26, 1933

EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER—PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY,
ON FASHIONABLE COMMITTEE FOR BRIDGE PARTY NEXT MONTH



Ledger Photo
MRS. JOHN HAMPTON BARNES, MRS. HARRY WALN HARRISON, MRS. JOHN W. GEARY, MRS. GEORGE STUART PATTERSON
AND MRS. A. J. DREXEL PAUL
Take time for a hand of bridge as they discuss plans for the bridge party and tea to be given on Monday, March 11, at the Warwick,
for the benefit of the Bowel House Committee of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.

Fashion Show to Help Restore Powel

By Josephine Arader

FASHION has always had a hand in history. Now the ruffled glove is lending a helping hand.

An advanced showing of spring

and resort fashions will be presented tomorrow afternoon in the Wanamaker auditorium for the benefit of the Powel House, one of the most beautiful of Philadelphia's historic landmarks.

This colonial mansion at 244 S. 3d st. was the home of our city's pre-Revolutionary mayors. Samuel Powel, patriot, mayor and connoisseur purchased the house in 1769 when it was considered the finest town house in the city.

A fine example of Georgian architecture, Powel House was an important center of social activity in colonial days.

Washington never slept there. But according to records he was a frequent visitor and danced in

the great second floor 20th wedding

THE house demolition Philadelphia Preservation Society founded, bought Powel restoration

One can that has been the landmark day through M. to 5 P. show the when it was

It is the House collection entire house der. Up to has been done

The fashion shown to colonial. theme of entation w dress and of resort f ed for the vacation c ladies who ahead to s

Cottons fresh, new collection. novelty f s ated the s

Proceeds show and the rest George St orary chair Miss Frank man.

Vice chair Williams Lukens. M is treasure

Mrs. Noy as chairwoman Powel Ho fashion sh





Mrs. Henry M. Watts, Jr. (left), of Society Hill, is seated next to Philadelphia Museum of Art president Mrs. John Wintersteen at luncheon-fashion show. Mrs. Watts is chairman of the Powel House committee of Philadelphia Society for Preservation of Landmarks.

Seltzer 2
Arts 3
ews 3
y's events 6

The Philadelphia Inquirer living

Gowns you can waltz in

Do they hear a waltz? Models rehearsing for the Jan. 28 luncheon and Fashion Presentation to benefit historic Powel House might well be listening for the echoes of waltzes that rang out often during the 1700s when some of Philadelphia's most fashionable parties were held there.

The Powel House Preservation Committee will be staging the luncheon at the Ben Franklin Hotel. Fashions for the show, including the designer gowns pictured here in Powel House, are from the John Wanamaker store. Purchase of a ticket (\$16) will help the committee continue to furnish and maintain the house and keep it open to the public. For tickets or information, phone LA 5-1499.



CITY *Philadelphian*

JANUARY, 1966



Powel House, Philadelphia, 1768, some of the furniture and wallpaper are not original to the

*Metropolitan Museum
York.*

To Preserve History

Women Rally To Collect Funds For Powel House



Mrs. Henry M. Watts, Jr., chairwoman of Powel House Committee, wearing a robin's-egg-blue and beige gown by Oscar de la Renta, now at Nan Duskin, is shown in the Bell room of the famous colonial house. Reflected in the ornate mirror is a significant 18th century Irish Old Waterford Crystal chandelier.

■ Powel House at 244 S. 3rd st., now open to the public, is one of the great examples of Colonial architecture in Philadelphia. Behind its fine period door is a large mansion furnished with authentic 18th century furniture and accessories. The entire house gives the impression that Mayor Powel and his family still reside there.

Mrs. E. Horne Rivins. Party was given in honor of Mr. Levis, presi-

owned by the Landmarks Society.



THE POWEL HOUSE COMMITTEE
requests the pleasure of your company

at a

Garden Party

on

WEDNESDAY, MAY TWENTY-FIRST

from four until six-thirty o'clock

at

THE POWEL HOUSE

Two Forty-four South Third Street

Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

\$5.00 Donation
Includes Tea
Cocktails a la Carte



R.S.V.P.



Needlework Exhibition

Annual Powel House Fundraising



SOME PRIZEWINNERS IN EXHIBIT OF NEEDLEWORK OF TODAY



BEGINNER, but already a prizewinner, Miss Bertha Von Moschzisker displays her needlework which was awarded a ribbon in the exhibit for the benefit of historic Powel House



BACKGAMMON board, an excellent example of modern needlework by Mrs. F. Corlies Morgan, also caught the fancy of the judges at the exhibit of Needlework of Today

Ludlow Photo



NEEDLEWORK EXHIBIT OPENS

Miss Martha B. Newkirk, of 914 Clinton Street, is seen examining the third annual Exhibition of Needlework of Today and Miniature Rooms and Objects, which opened today in the John Wanamaker store, where it will continue to November 19. Proceeds of the exhibit will be turned over to the Philadelphia Society for Preservation of Landmarks to be used for restoration of Powel House, 244 South Third Street

Quilt, Started by Pioneer Settler, 93, Is Being Finished by Phila. Women



The ancient art of quilting has been revived for the exhibition of needlework in the Wanamaker Store Art Galleries. Working daily at their quilting frame may be seen (clockwise from left) Mrs. Thomas R. White, Mrs. F. P. Albright, Mrs. D. D. Wolf, Mrs. F. E. Foertsch and Mrs. William H. Monroe

Ledger Photo

An antique quilting frame containing the quilt which a pioneer Illinois woman started when 93 years old, and which is now being completed by Philadelphia women, is one of the interesting features of the exhibition of needlework and antique and modern dolls now being held in the Wanamaker Store Art Galleries by the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks. The exhibition will be continued through Thursday.

The quilt on the frame in the present exhibition is "Pandora's Box," a simple pattern used in the olden days by young girls making

their first quilt. It was used by Mrs. Elizabeth K. Lambert because she "was getting old" and "wanted something simple."

Mrs. Lambert was a pioneer of Plainfield, Ill., and one of the first settlers in Du Page County, Illinois. Their nearest doctor was in Chicago. He kept Mrs. Lambert supplied with stock drugs and she rode horseback, many miles while, caring for the sick as best she could until the doctor arrived.

At the age of 93 she posed this quilt for her granddaughter, Grace Alice Monroe. Four years later she died from a broken hip. Today, years after the quilt was placed, it is being quilted by Mrs. Lambert's granddaughter (and many other

women) for her daughter, Mrs. William H. Monroe, mother of Grace Alice.

The quilting frame was presented to the Germantown Historical Society by Miss Frances Richardson and Mrs. Wrennan, and was owned by Miss Richardson's grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Yarnall Richardson, who died in 1876, and before that by her mother, Mrs. Harman Haines Thornton Yarnall, born 1786, and died 1822.

The art of quilting is as old as needlework. Cave women padded skins with moss and sewed or quilted them with bone needles. In Colonial days quilting was used on dresses as well as bed covers. Today quilting is popular on hats, pillows, purses and even evening clothes.

Aiding Powel House Restoration



Mrs. Harrold E. Gillingham, of Germantown, working on a piece of needlepoint to be exhibited at the third annual exhibition of needlework which will be held at Wanamaker's Art Galleries, November 9 to 19, under the auspices of the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.



ON COMMITTEE FOR NEEDLEWORK EXHIBIT

Mrs. Harrold E. Gillingham, of Germantown, cataloguing one of the miniature desks that will be shown at the exhibition of "Needlework of Today and Miniature Rooms and Objects," to be held in November under the sponsorship of the Powel House Committee. Mrs. Gillingham is chairman of Museum Loans Exhibits

*Evening Ledger
Friday July 10 1914*

THIS ROOM
RESTORED BY THE
BRIDGE AND TEA COMMITTEE
AND THE
NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

1938

THE WINDOWS RESTORED
IN MEMORY OF
THOMAS FISHER

AND
MIERS FISHER

BY
LYDIA FISHER WARNER

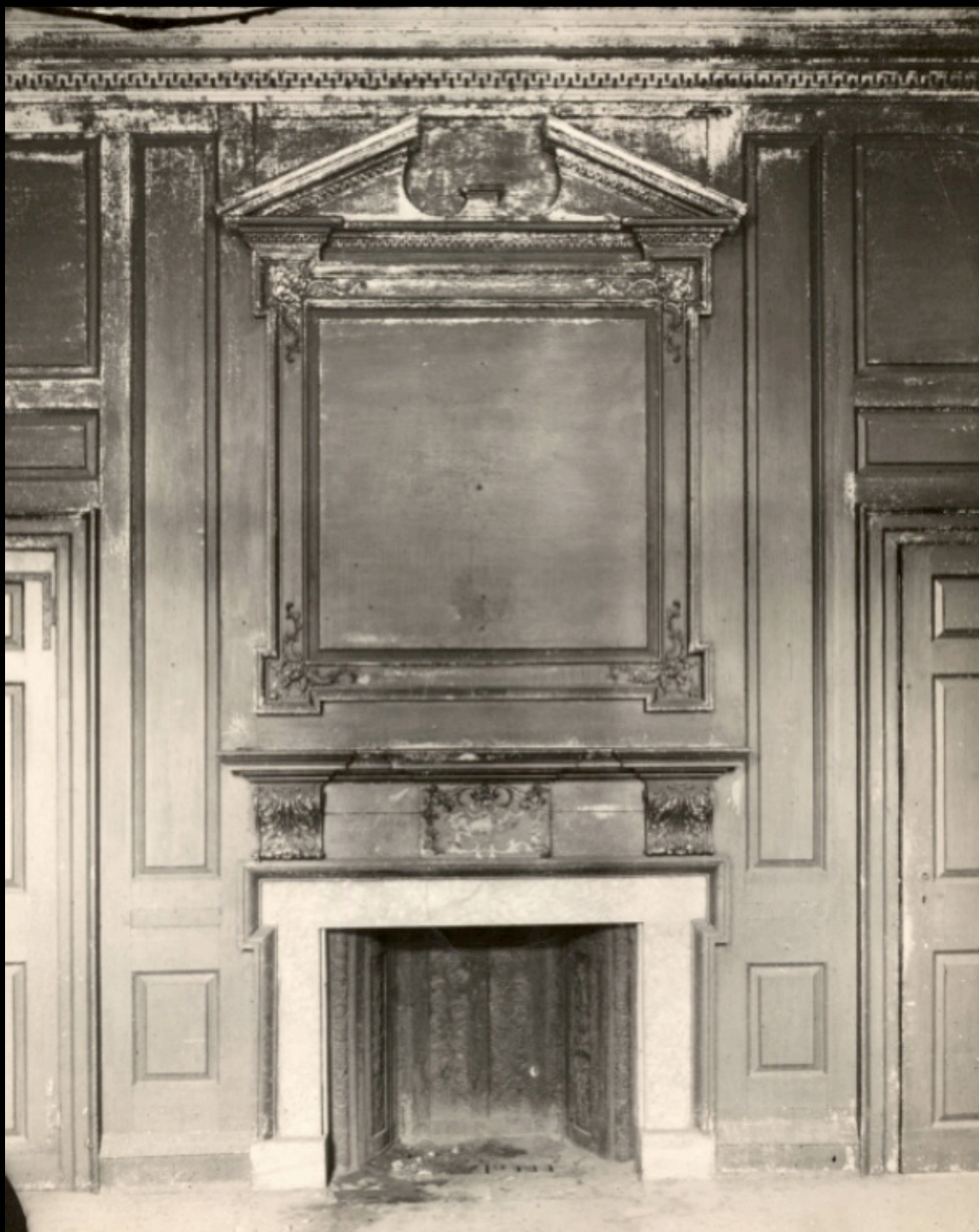
1938



ON COMMITTEE FOR NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION

Mrs. Alexander D. Irwin, of 2014 Delancey Place, and Mrs. George H. Houston, of the Barclay, discuss plans for the fourth annual exhibition of Needlework of Today, to be held in the Wanamaker Art Galleries, from November 8 to 18, inclusive

Withdrawing Room



THIS ROOM RESTORED BY
THE BRIDGE AND TEA COMMITTEE
THE NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION COMMITTEE
AND THE GIFTS OF FRIENDS

1937

THE MANTEL BREASTING RESTORED
BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF
MAGNA CHARTA DAMES
IN MEMORY OF

ETHEL NELSON PAGE LARGE

PRESIDENT • 1929 TO 1934 •

1937

THE NORTHWEST WINDOW RESTORED
BY THE MODERN CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA

1938

THE SOUTHWEST WINDOW RESTORED BY
JEAN KANE FOULKE duPONT

1940

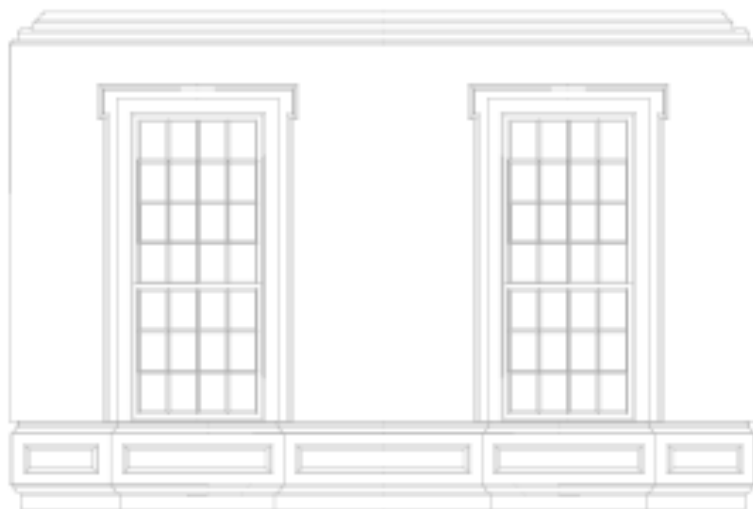
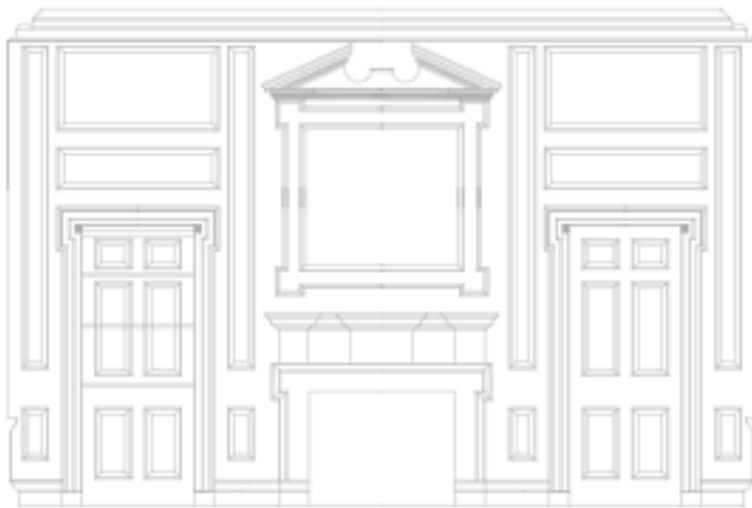
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER



THREE SPONSORS FOR THE NOVEMBER EXHIBITION OF DOLLS AND NEEDLEWORK
Mrs. John B. Thayer, 3d; Mrs. George Stuart Patterson and
Mrs. Robert E. Strawbridge, attending a meeting of the com-
mittee which is completing plans for the annual exhibit opening
on Nov. 8 in the John Wanamaker Art Galleries. The exhibition
will continue through Nov. 18. This will mark the fourth anniver-
sary of the event, given for the benefit of the Fowl House.

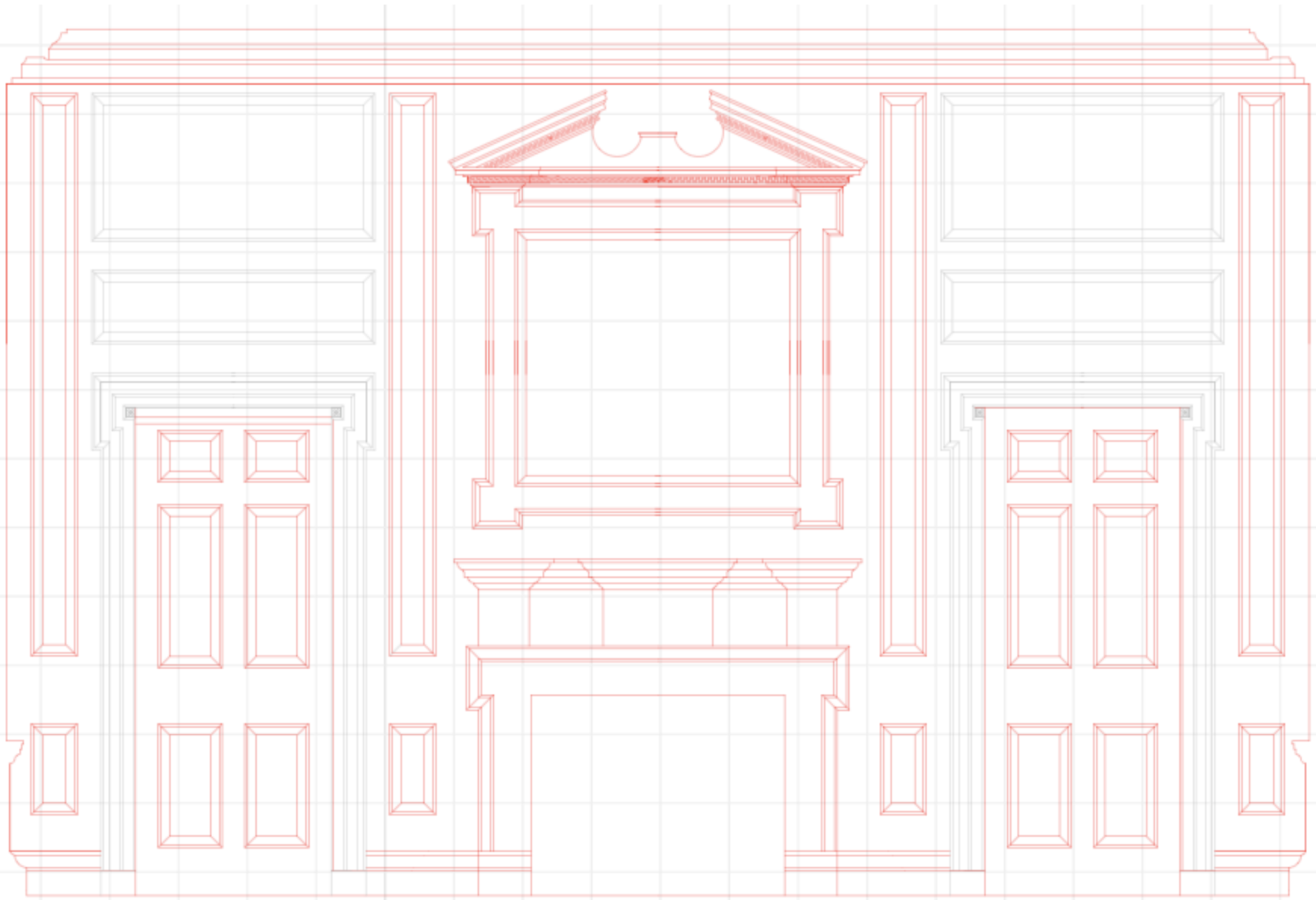
Dining Room

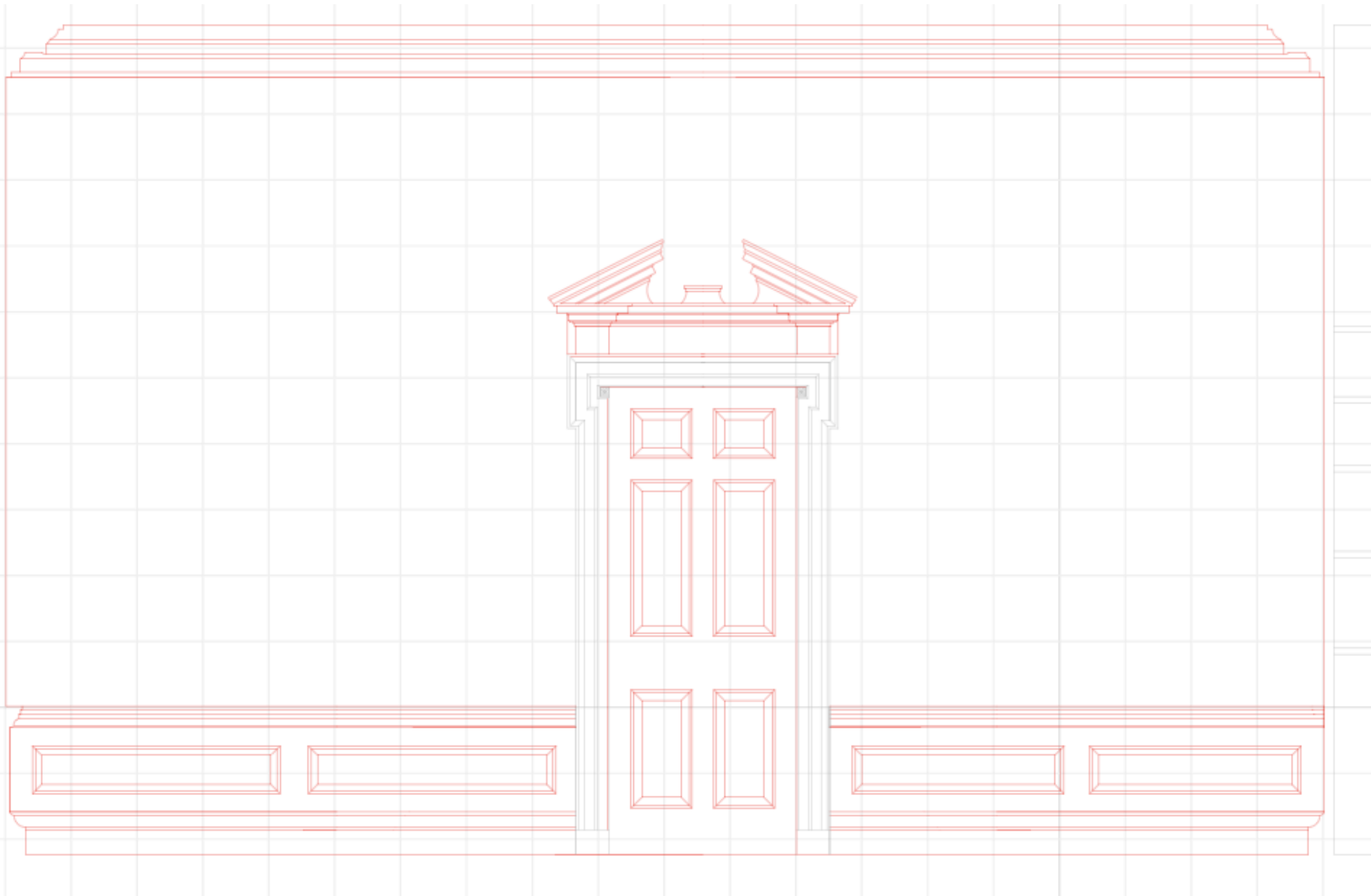


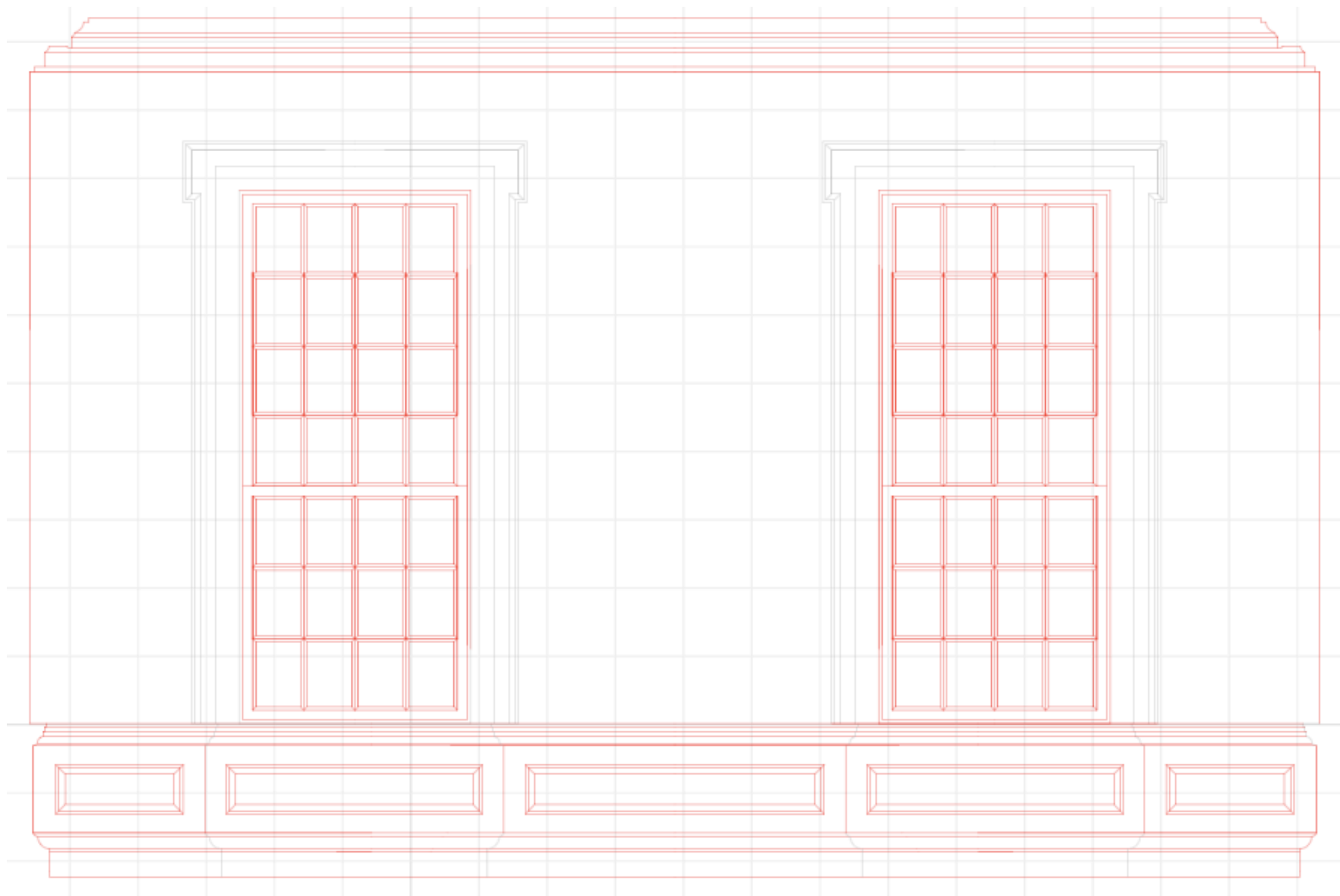


DINING ROOM

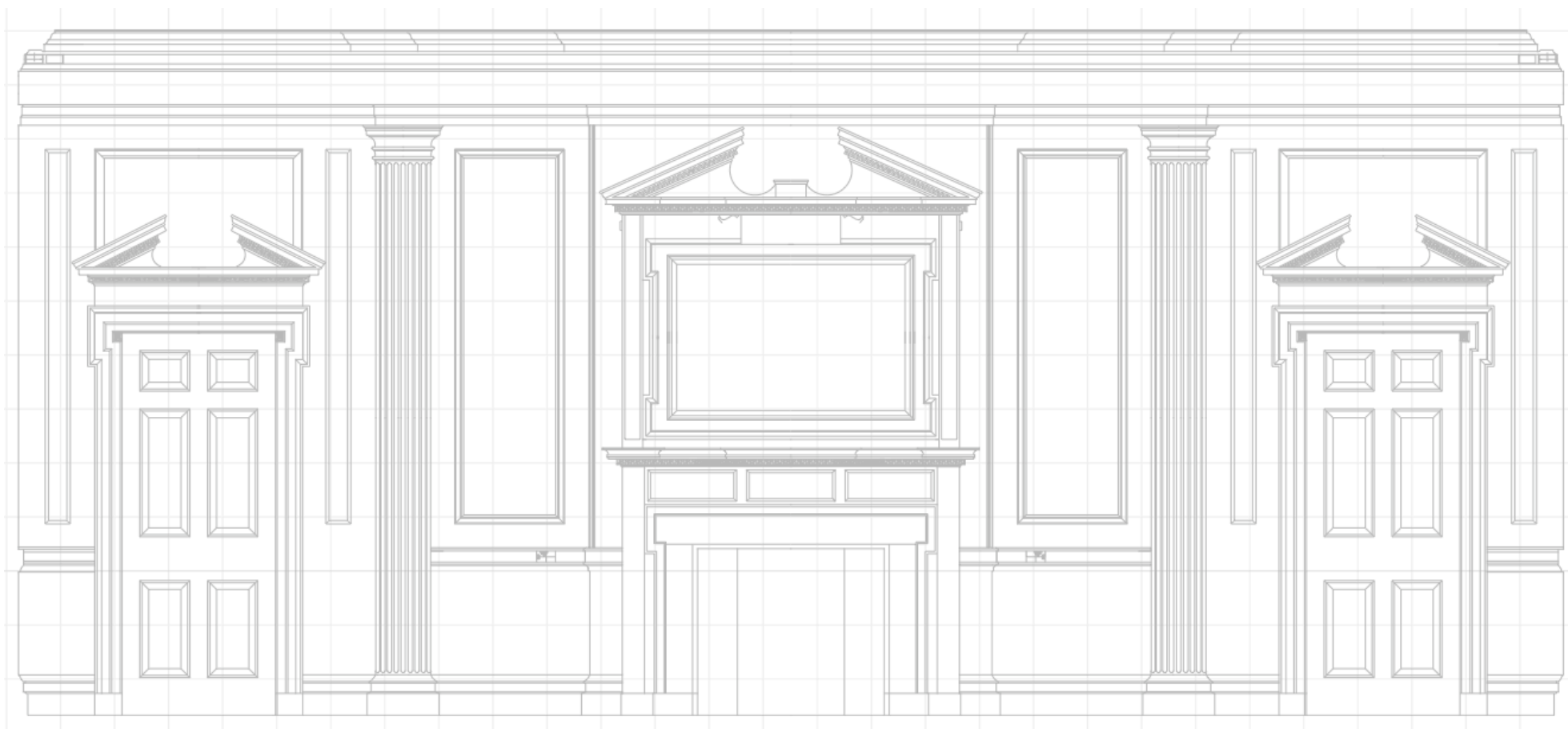
reconstructed

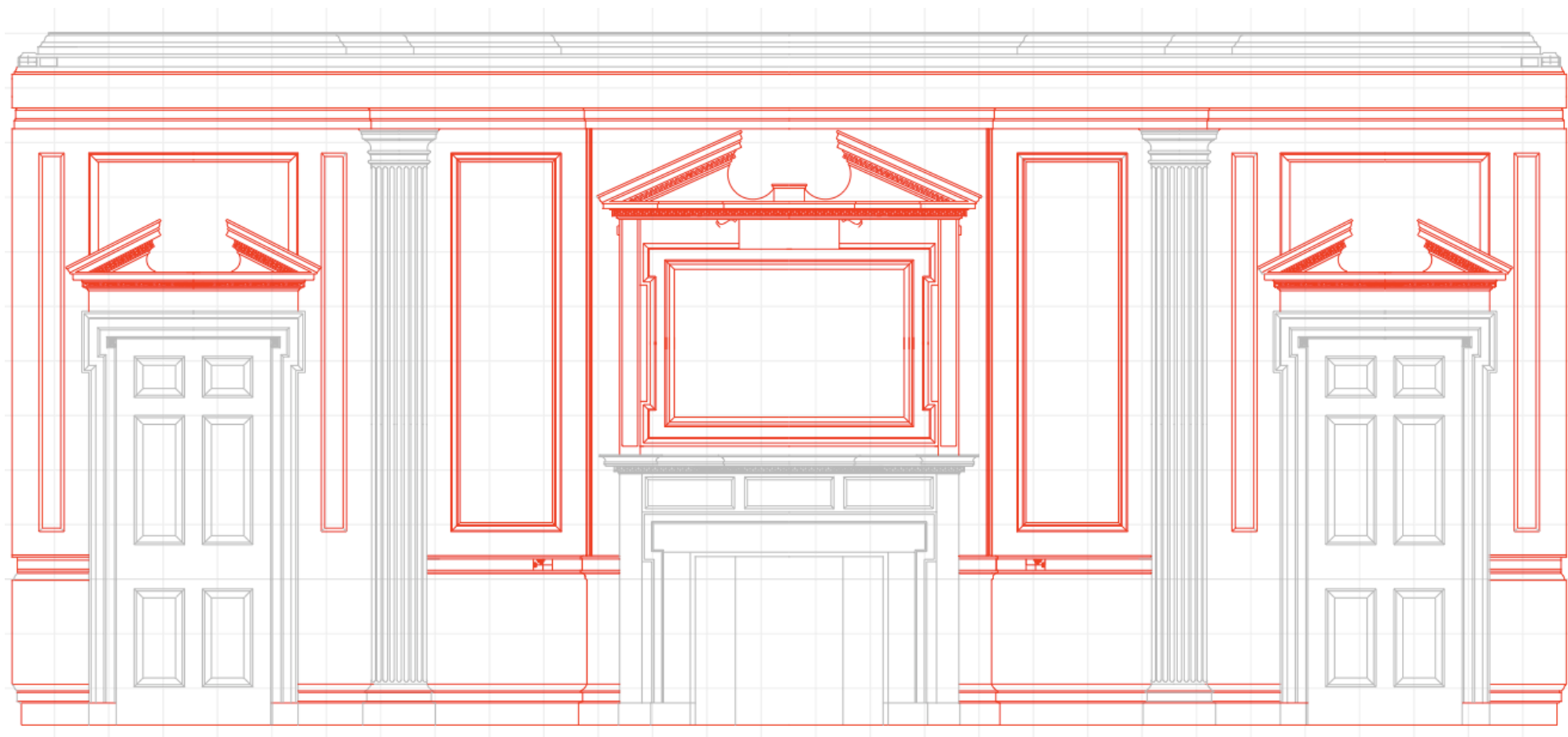




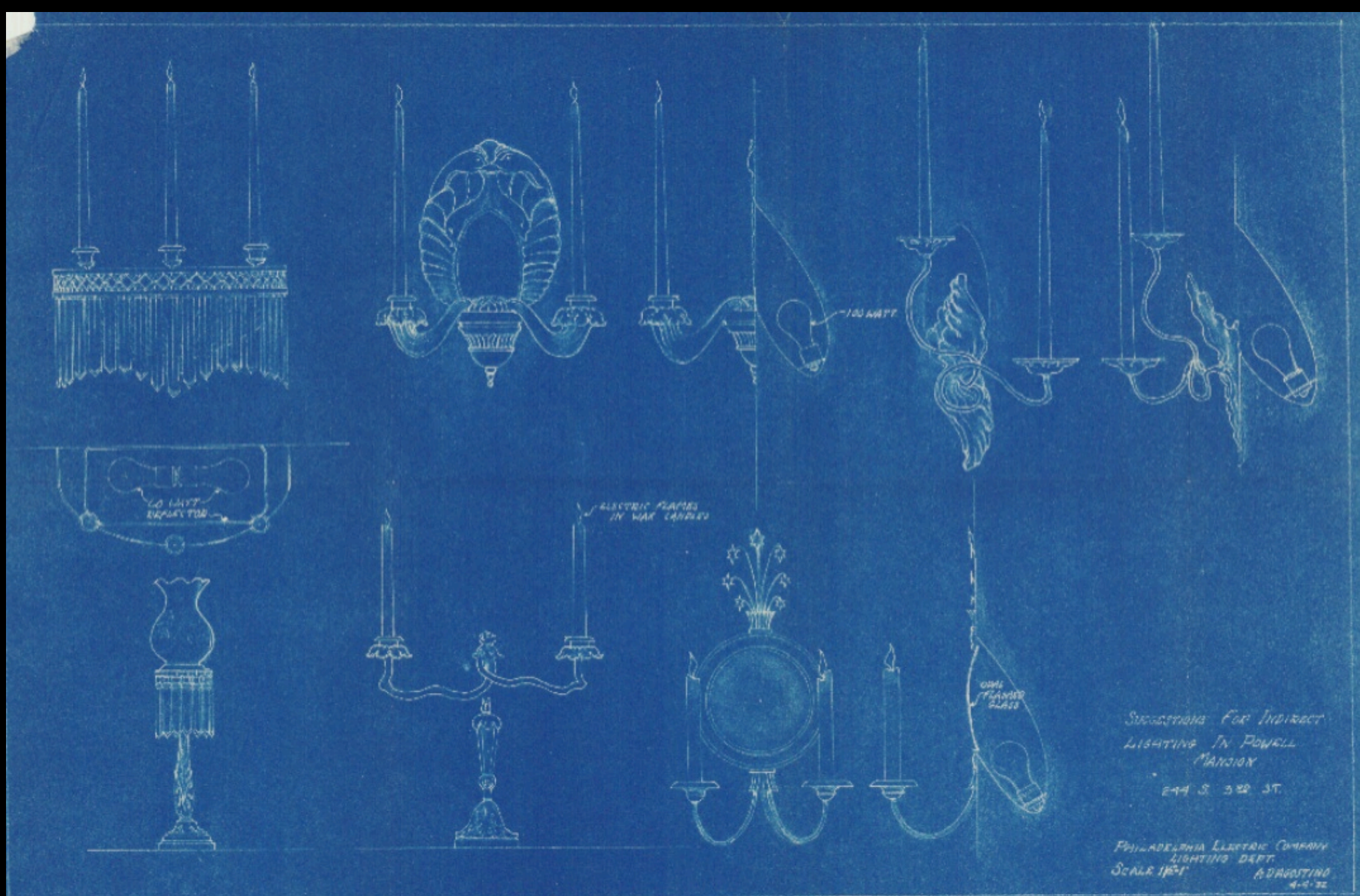








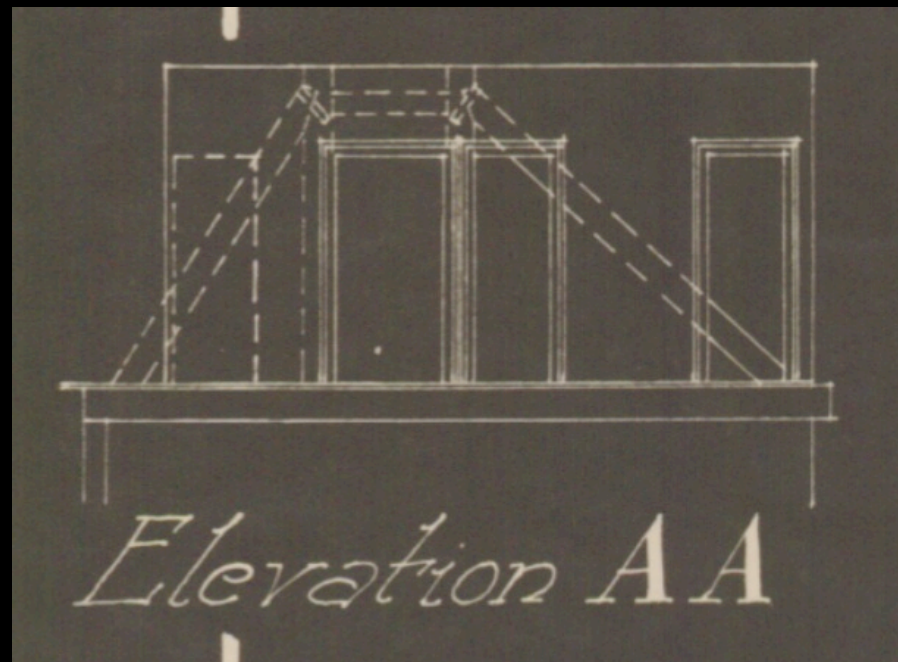
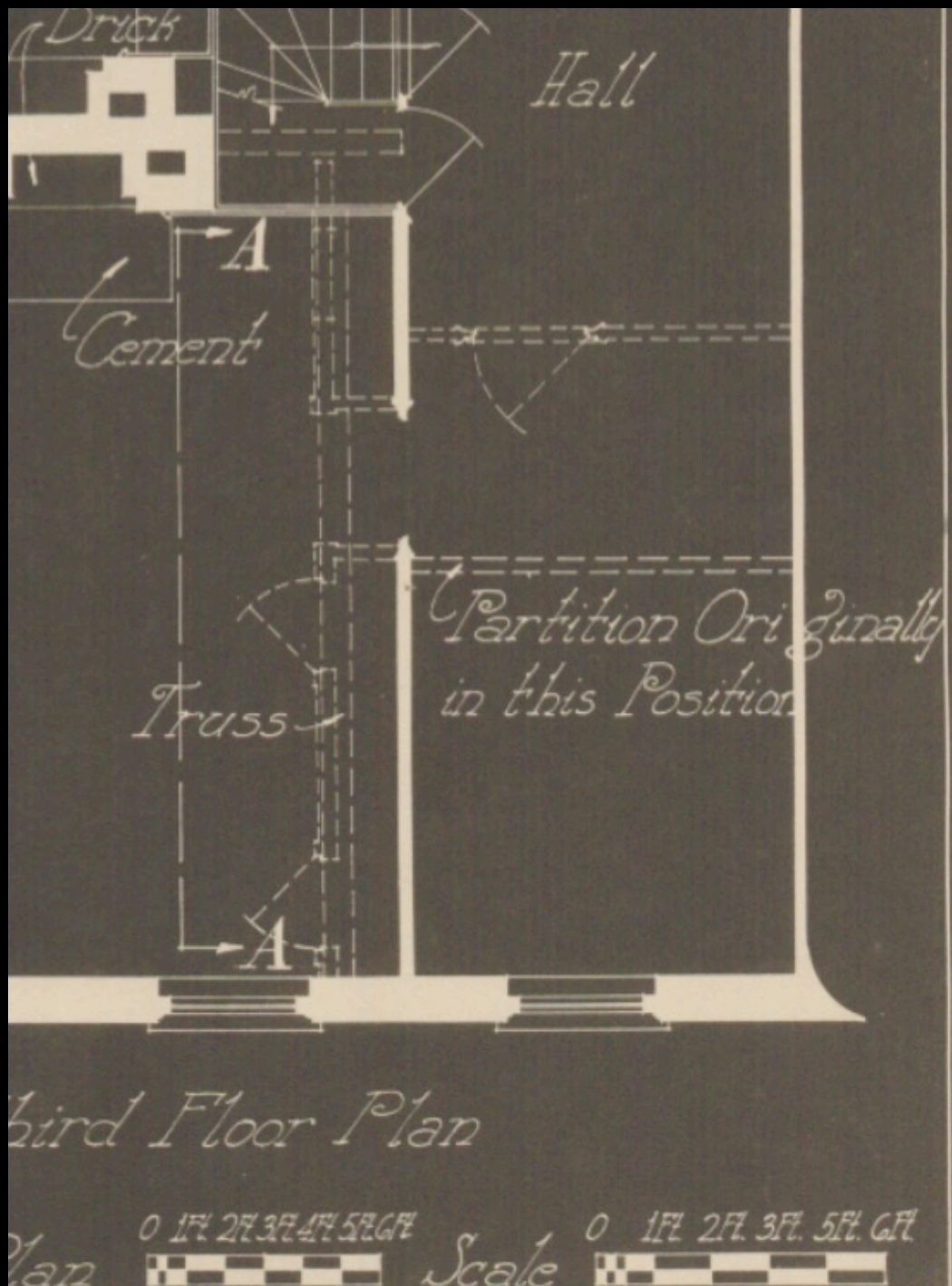




Suggestions for Indirect lighting in Powel Mansion. April 4, 1932







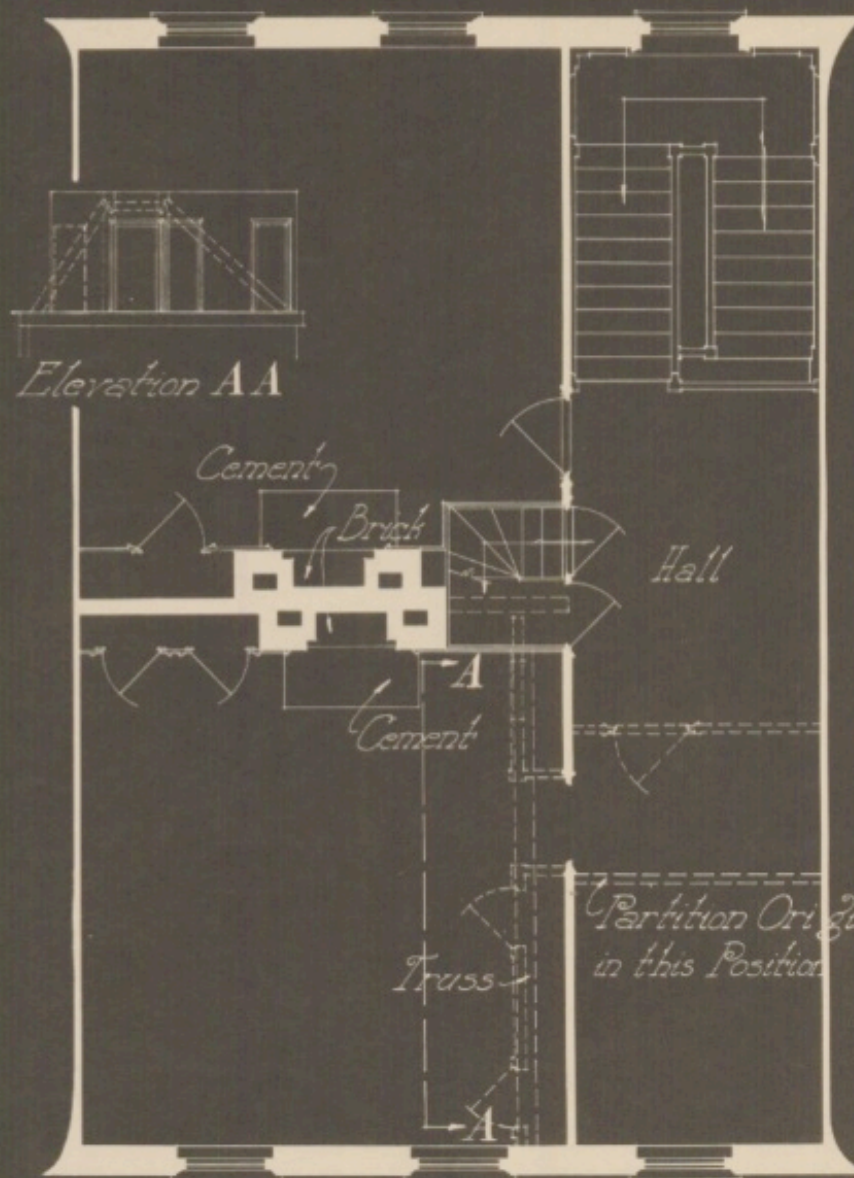


*End Elevation Third Floor Partition
Front Room*



*End Elevation Third Floor
Rear Room*

POWEL HOUSE
*244 South Third Street
Philadelphia*



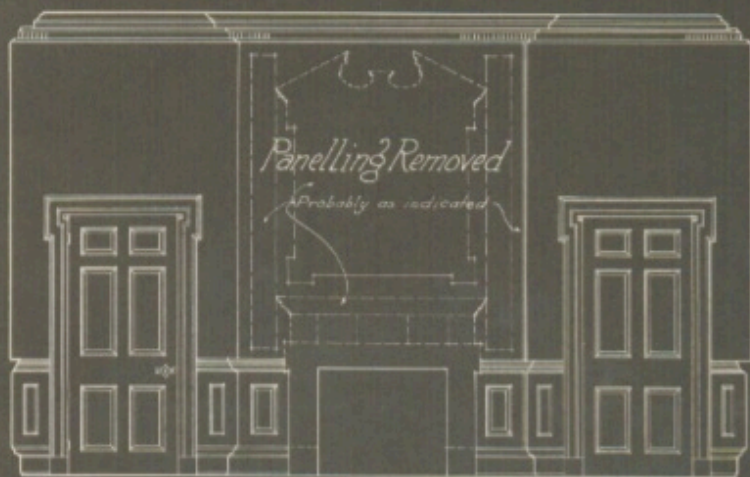
Third Floor Plan

Scale of Plan 0 1ft 2ft 3ft 4ft 5ft 6ft *Scale* 0 1ft 2ft 3ft 4ft 5ft 6ft





West Side



West Side



North Side



East Side



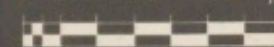
South Side

*POWEL HOUSE
244 South Third Street
Philadelphia*

Reception Room First Floor Front

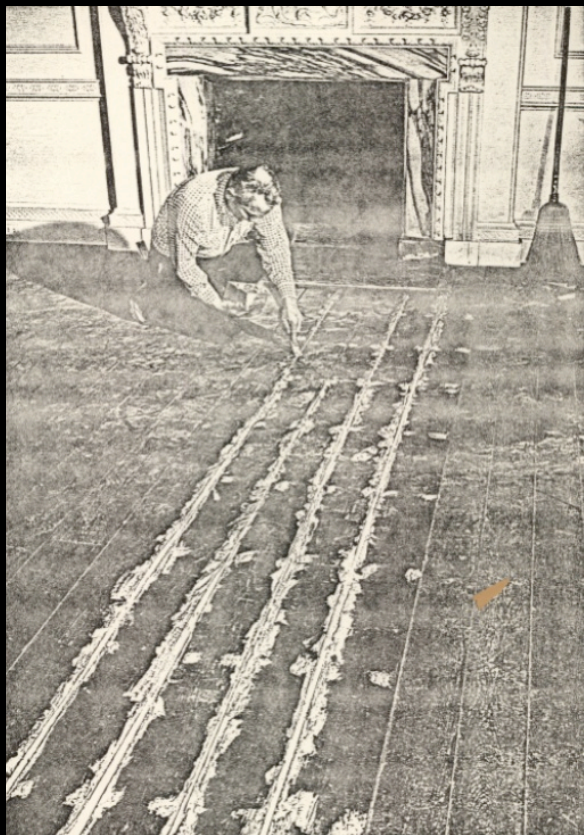
Scale

0 1ft. 3ft. 5ft. 7ft.

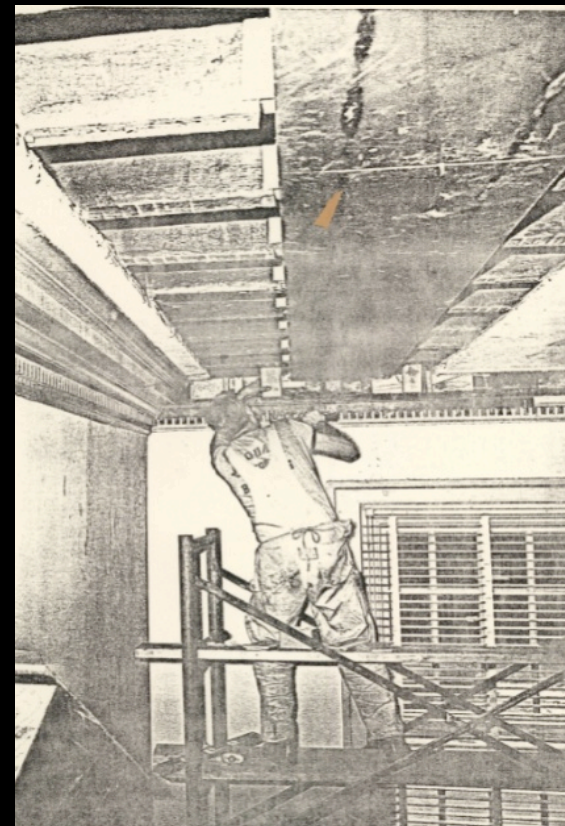


Measured & Drawn by George B. Roberts



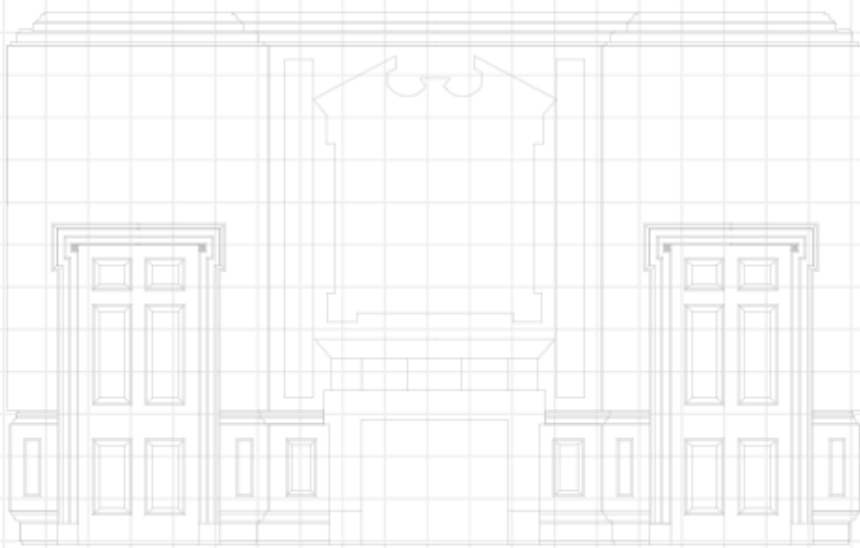


(7) A carpenter fits spacers between the joists. Both spacers and joists rest on an oversized steel plate welded to the bottom of the I-beam. Later angle irons, fastened with bolts and lag screws, bonded joists and spacers. (Photo 3/6/ 78)

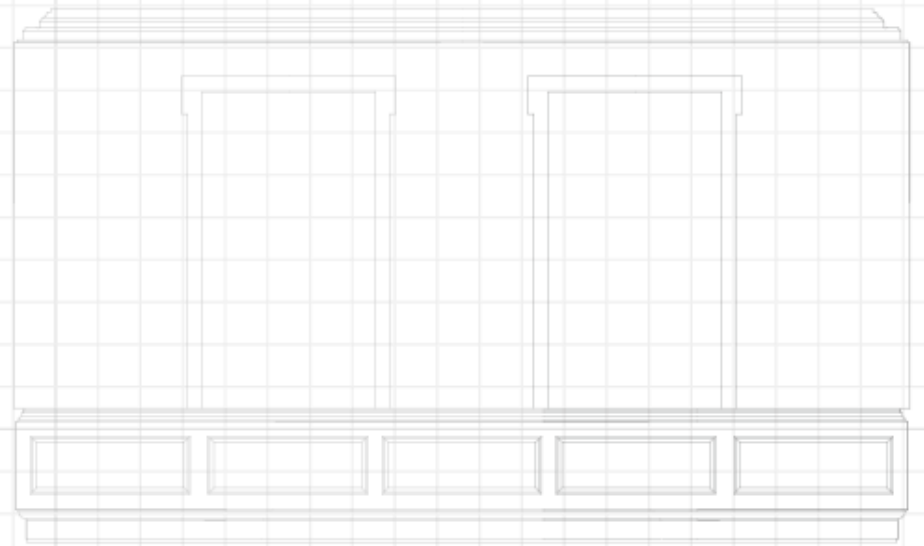
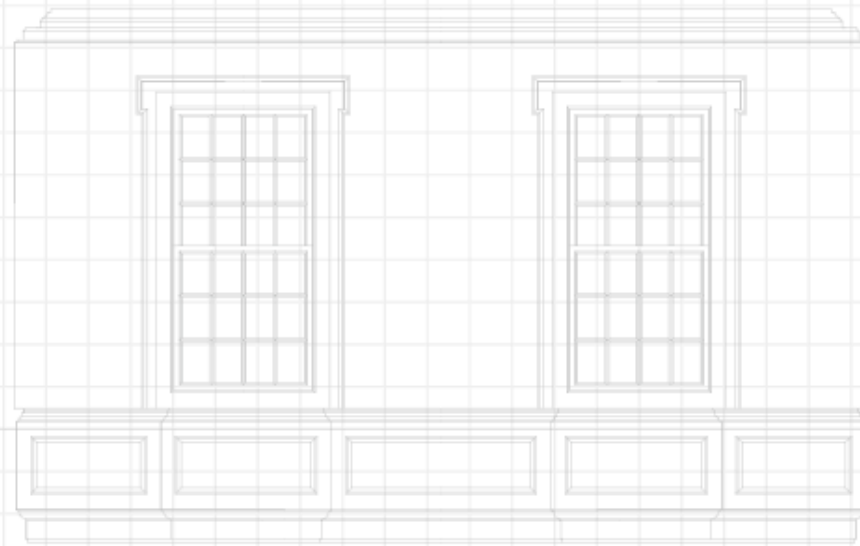
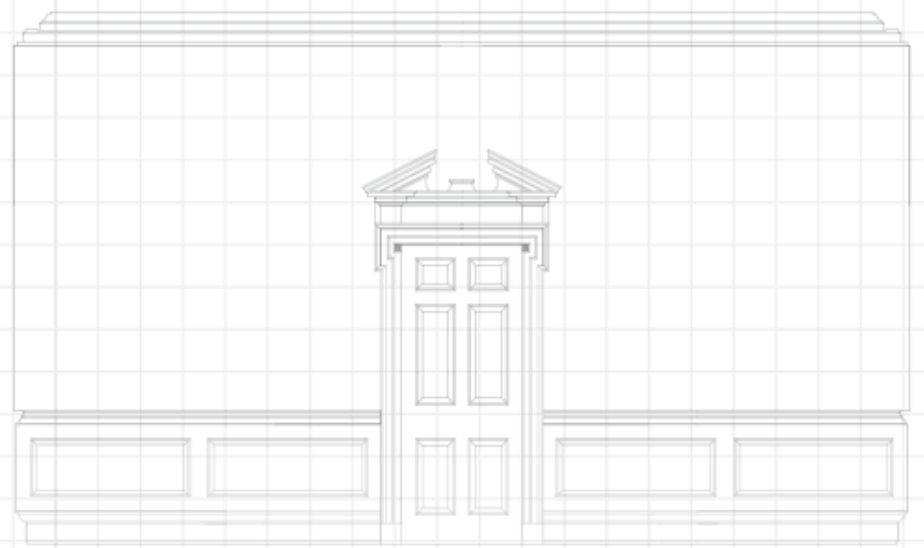




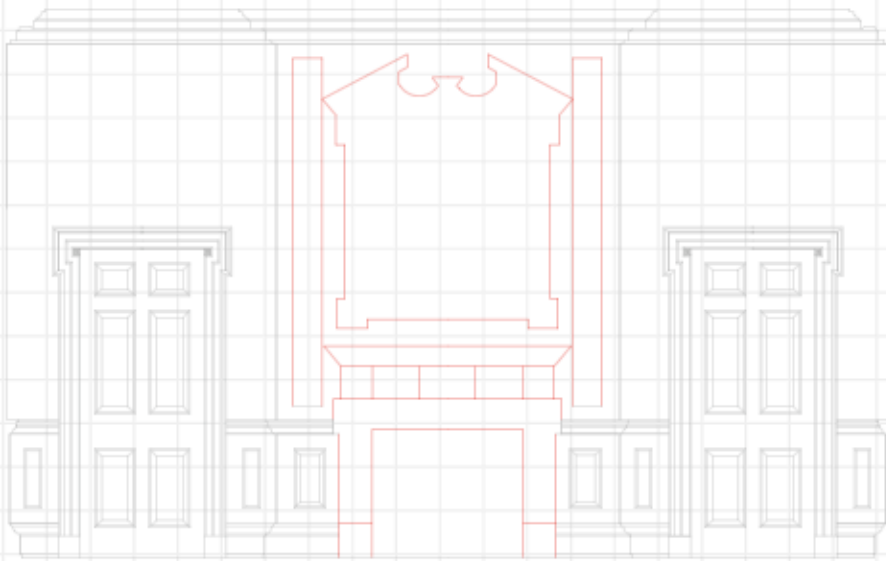
(9) A plasterer applies a rough coat to the ceiling of the reception room, while a carpenter (right) removes the sag in the dentils prior to replacing them on the north wall of the reception room.



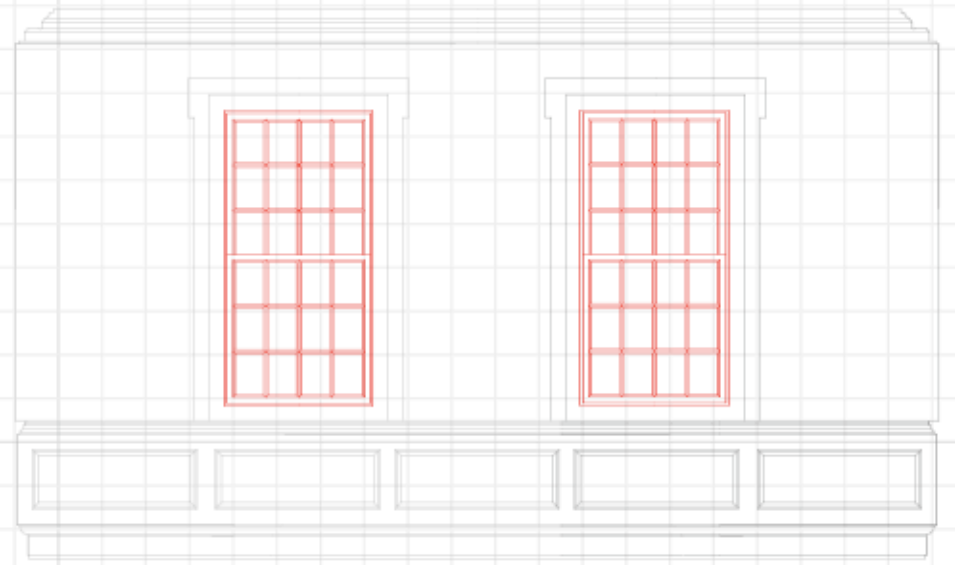
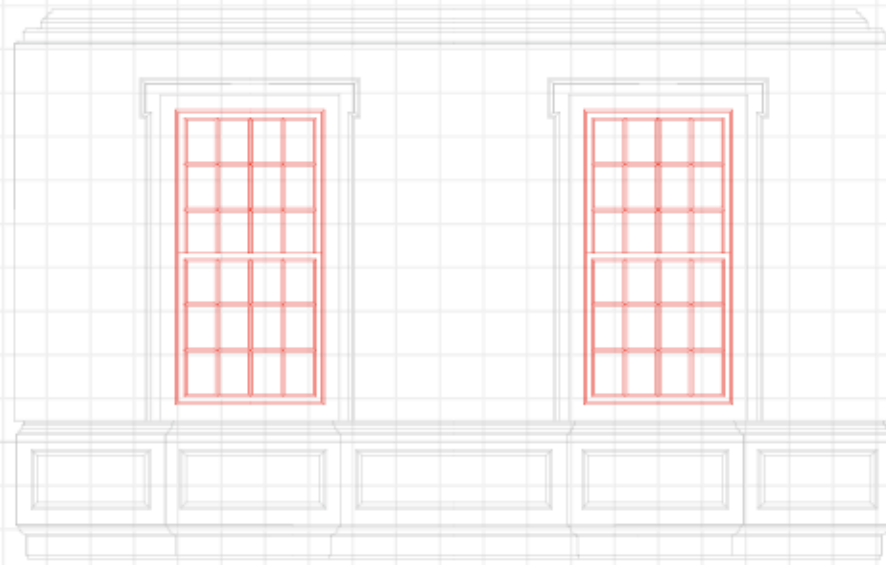
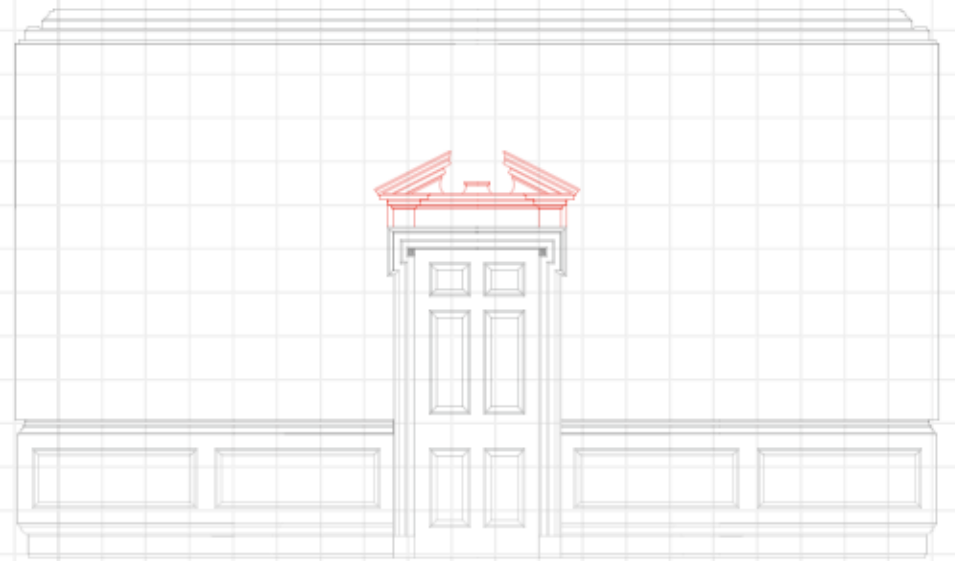
Original Pennsylvania Pine floor



RECEPTION ROOM

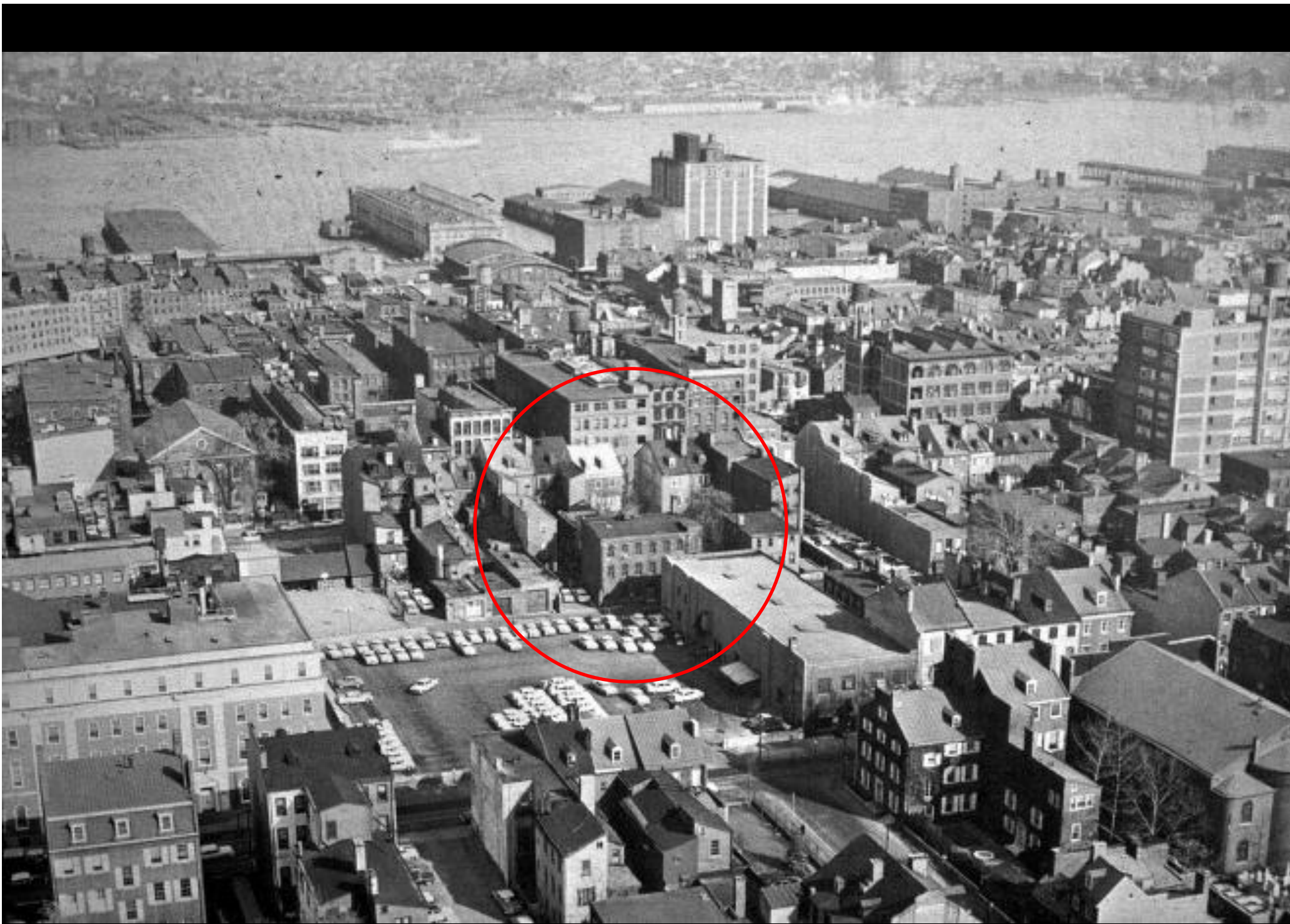


Original Pennsylvania Pine floor



Part II. Powel House & Society Hill Redevelopment

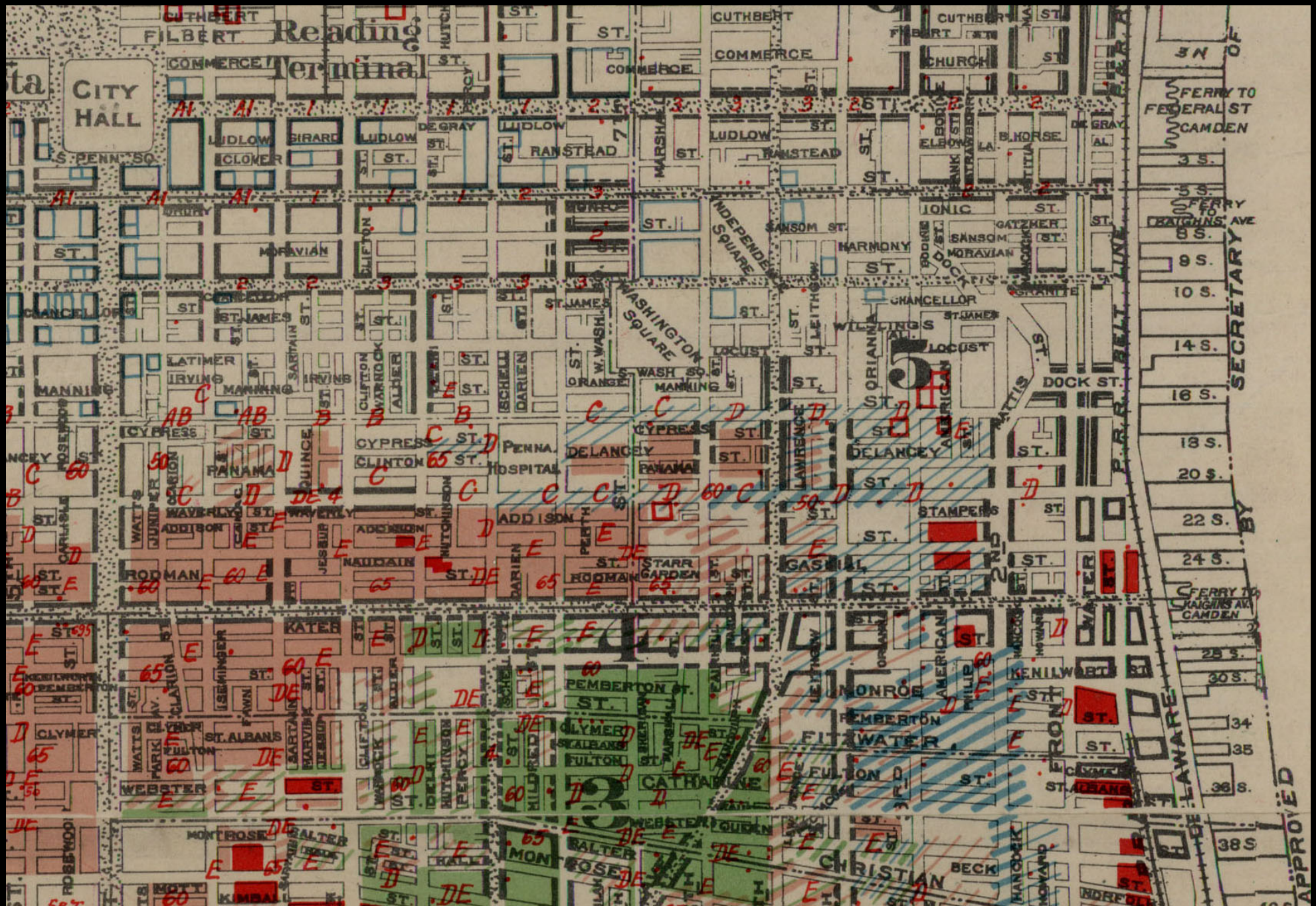
Thoughts on Preservation



Photograph with assistance of Dr. David Brownlee

Table 5.3. Selected demographic data for Society Hill in 1950 and 1980 (Source: Cybriwsky 1986, p. 29)

Demographic feature	Society Hill	Percentage City of Philadelphia	Society Hill	Percentage City of Philadelphia
	1950	1950	1980	1980
Population	6,982	0.3% of the total city	5,213	0.3% of the total city
Average family income	18,600 US \$	62.9% of what an average Philadelphia family earned	41,412 US \$	Increase of: 252.7%
Percentage with high school degree	23.9%	--	91.8%	--
Average home value	5,224 US \$	--	168,300 US \$	Increase of: 716.2%
Percentage of houses without running water	24.1%	--	0.7%	--



J. M. Brewer Survey of Philadelphia, Racial and Ethnic Concentrations Map, 1934

Legend for maps in the J.M.BREWER SURVEY of PHILA.

1. Racial Concentrations

Jewish Italian Colored



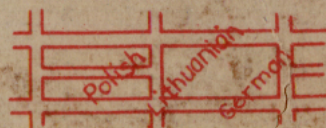
Complete or substantially complete concentration



Predomination



Minority



Conspicuous nationality

2. Location Ratings

A = Highest class residential

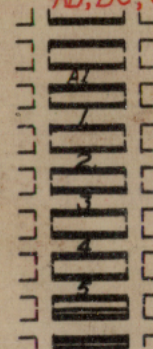
B = Upper middle class " "

C = Middle class residential

D = Lower or working class " "

E = Decadent

AB, BC, CD, DE = Intermediate to above



Business block (retail)

Highest class central retail

First class retail (i.e. dept stores, large chain stores etc.)

Second class retail (good chain store location).

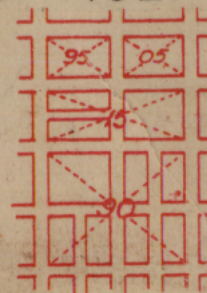
Third class retail (fair business location).

Fourth class retail (very mediocre location).

Fifth class or very poor business

Wholesale business block.

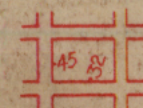
3. AGE.



Approx. date of development

(Dotted lines show area referred to by placement of age figure.)

4. Real Estate Sales Prices (as inferred in d



Approx. location of property sold and price in hundreds of dollars.

5. Industrials



Heavy industrial of type tending to control character of neighborhood.

Industrial affecting but not controlling character of neighborhood.

Small industrial or commercial of no effect on location.

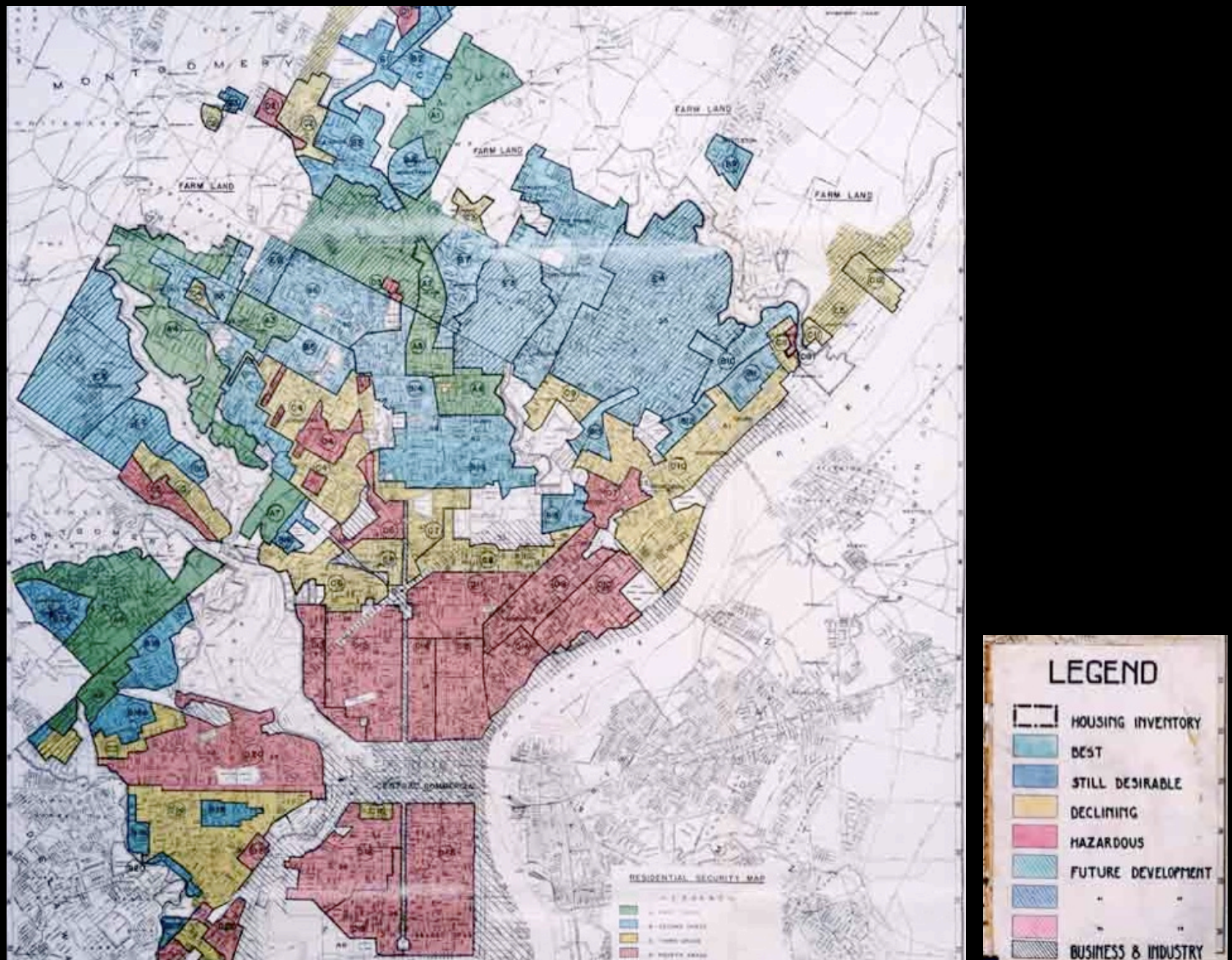


Office buildings, department stores & prominent theatres.

Arterial highways or streets

Note:- All location ratings and racial concentrations quoted are the opinion only of J.M.Brewer after careful investigation of the location.

J. M Brewer Survey of Philadelphia, Racial and Ethnic Concentrations Map, 1934



Home Owners Loan Corporation, Philadelphia Map showing "desirability of home ownership", 1937

Group Seeks Backers To 'Save' Society Hill

By THOMAS WERNER
Of The Inquirer Staff

The restoration of Society Hill as a first-class residential quarter will be complete within six or seven years, but it still must be determined which way that restoration goes: toward a semblance of its original Colonial elegance, or "modern" and meaningless neighborhood.

The prediction was made by Frederick Hemsley Levis, city investment counselor whose avocation is the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.

STEP UP CAMPAIGN

In the wake of the society's annual meeting, Levis revealed that the group is planning to take a new tack in its fight to preserve the city's oldest and most historic dwellings.

This decision to step up its campaign happily coincides with the 200th anniversary of the society's most cherished session and most successful project: the Powel House at 244 3d st.

Instead of snarling from a distance," Levis told some 200 members at the annual meet-

"we are going to try to come down with the planning commission and redevelopment people and try to work something out."

The Powel House, Levis revealed, was the rallying point around which the society was informed in 1931. The house — in deplorable condition at the time — was saved. The society remained intact, to the

benefit of a number of buildings since then.

Today, it has 1200 members, more than ever before, and its leaders detect a change. They feel public opinion is beginning to favor them.

'MORE WILLINGNESS'

"In the past," Levis said, "city officials have looked down on us as laymen not to be taken too seriously. It may have made us a bit less willing to listen than we should have been.

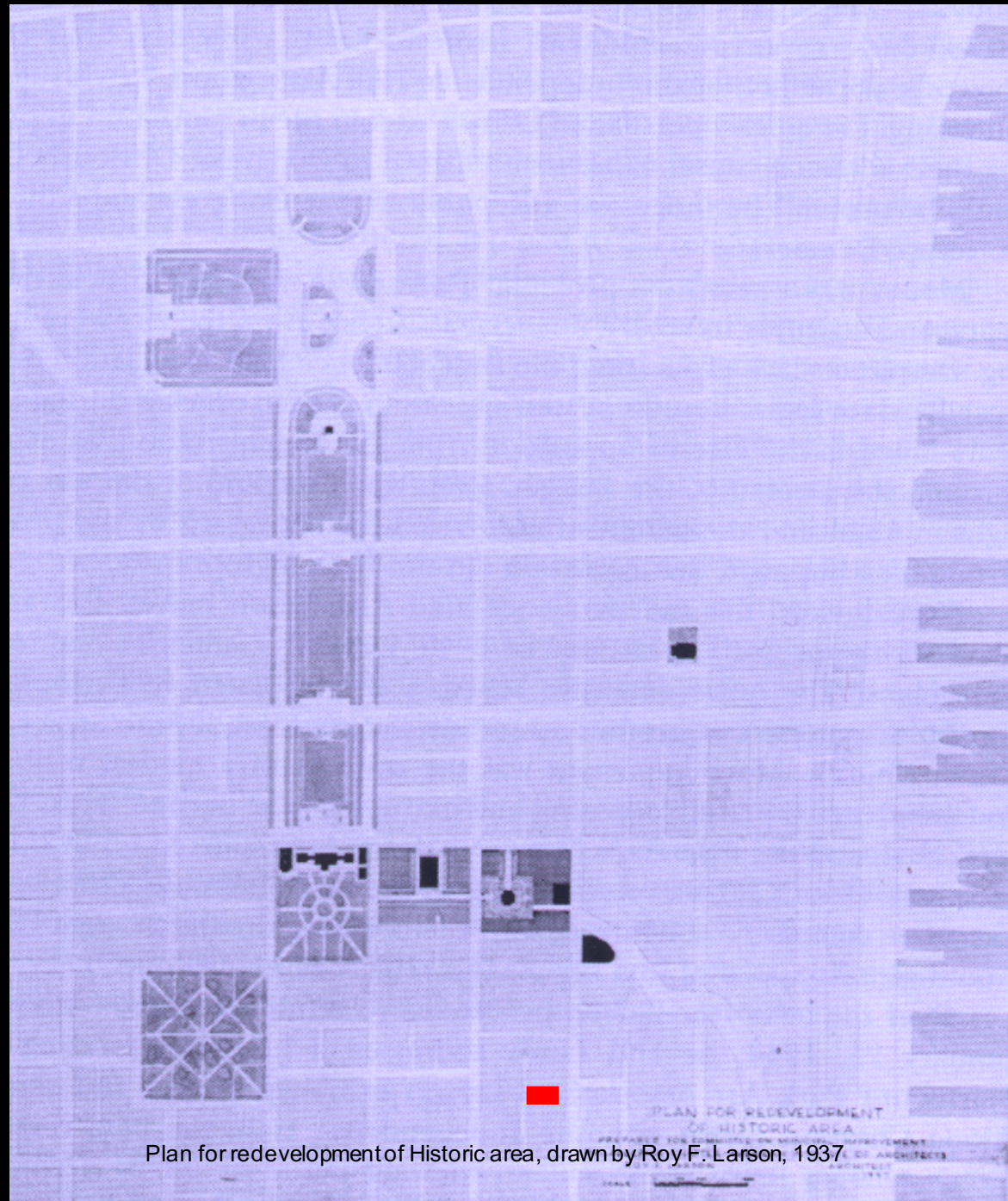
"However, we have detected more of a willingness to listen. We hope only that we can join with the planners in a cooperative effort. We don't want controversy."

One drawback to the society's effectiveness, Levis said, is its minuscule annual budget, less than \$15,000.

But even with that severe fiscal limitation, the society has poured several times its annual operating budget into the Powel House, mostly through appeals to persons with some knowledge of the building's background.

Samuel Powel, for whom the house is named, was mayor of Philadelphia for only two years. But they were two crucial years: 1775-1776 and 1789-1790. Washington slept there — more than he slept in any other building excluding his home, many historians claim.

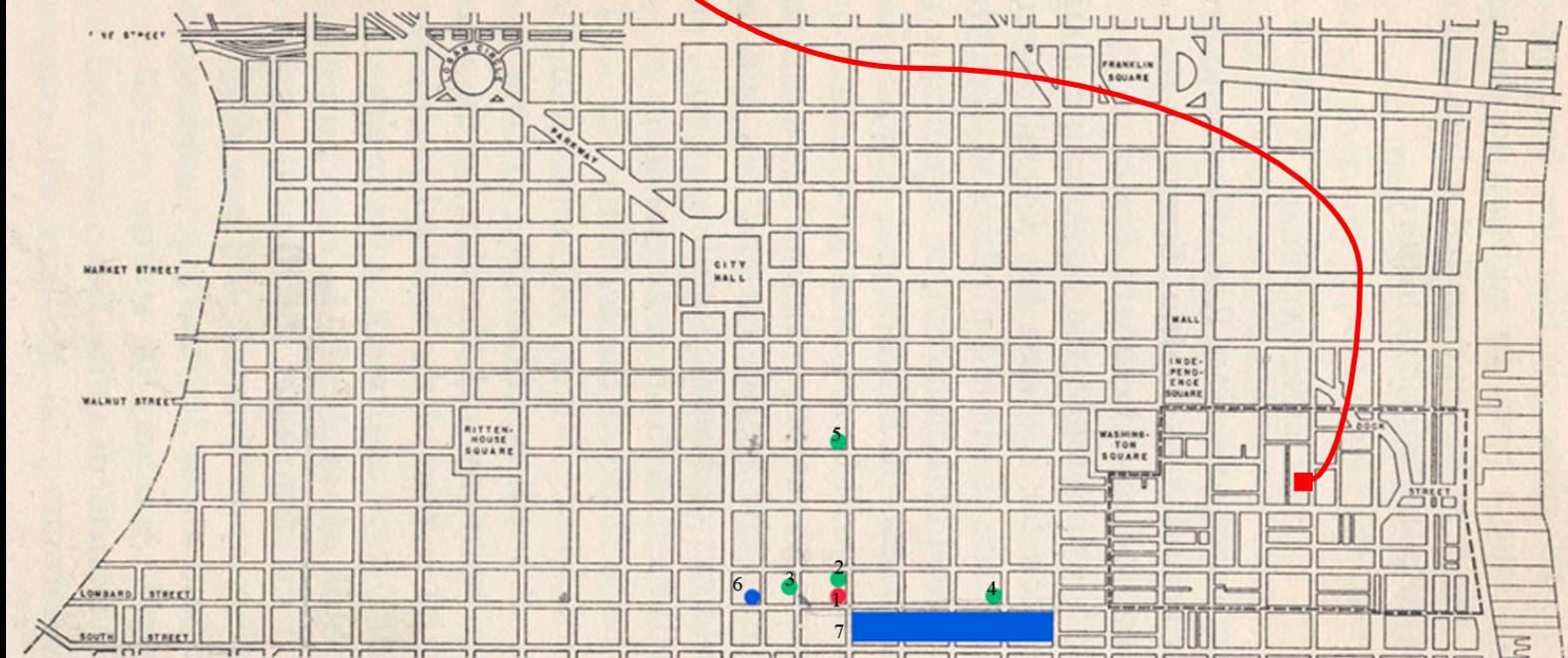
The Philadelphia Inquirer
Monday, January 25, 1965



Plan for redevelopment of Historic area, drawn by Roy F. Larson, 1937



CENTRAL DISTRICT AND THE SOCIETY HILL REDEVELOPMENT AREA



TSundayODAY

The Philadelphia Inquirer
Magazine
August 8, 1965



Society Hill Garden

T**DAY** **Sunday**

The Philadelphia Inquirer
Magazine
February 21, 1965



**The Luxurious
Powel House:
Washington
Dined There**

Pages 2, 8, 9

**Just As C
As Mom**

Pages 16-17

**Very Special
Budget Recipes**

Pages 22-23

Labor Of Love





Photograph with assistance of Dr. David Brownee





Photograph with assistance of Dr. Paula Spilner: Landmarks Walking Tours Slide Archive



Photograph with assistance of Dr. Paula Spilner: Landmarks Walking Tours Slide Archive



Photograph with assistance of Dr. Paula Spilner: Landmarks Walking Tours Slide Archive











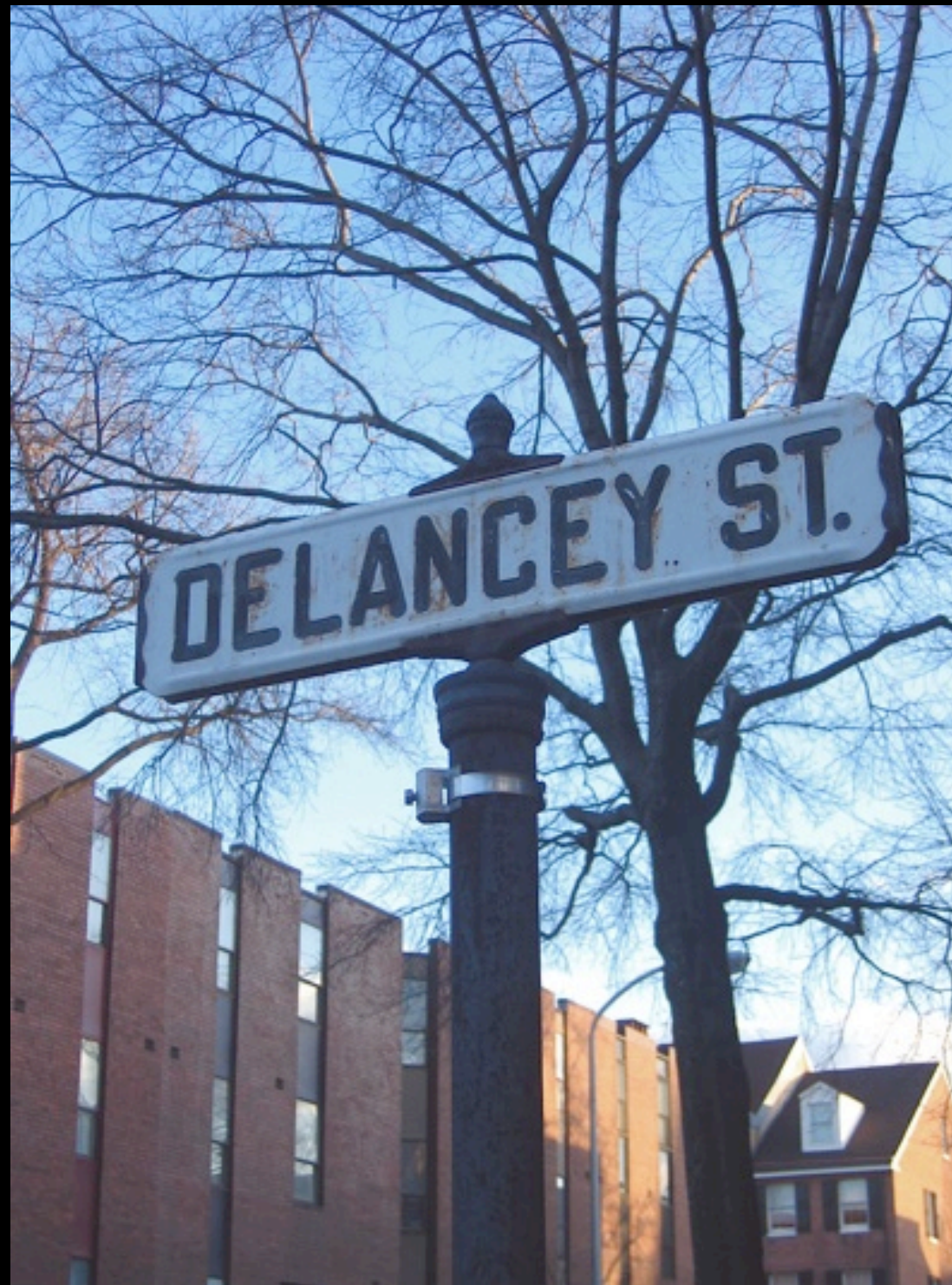






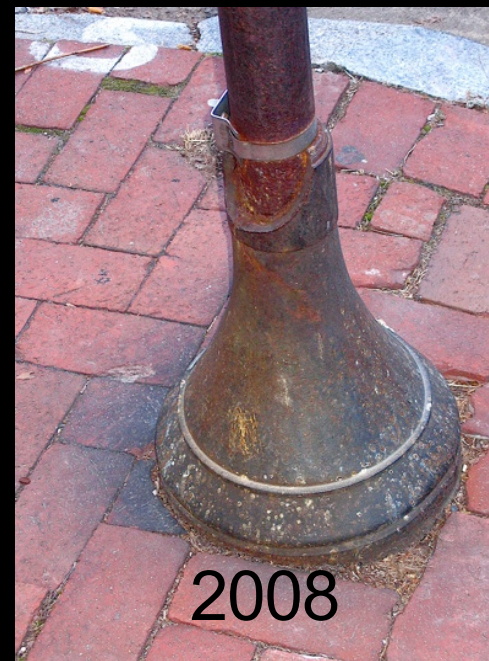
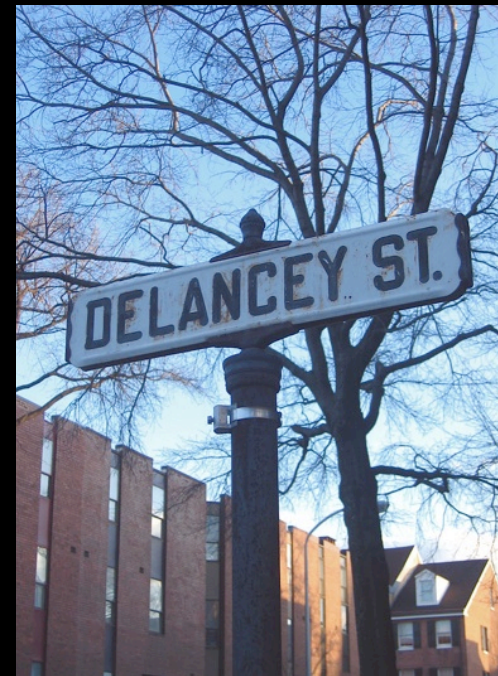








1931



2008

100 lifetimes of research

1. The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks: The History and Impact on the Philadelphia Preservation Movement.
2. Life and Impact of Ms. Frances Anne Wister.
3. Role of women, minorities and marginalized sub-cultures in the historic preservation movement of Philadelphia.
4. The Social History of Society Hill
5. The Washington Square east Redevelopment Process and results. Greenbelts vs density.
6. The role of the Powel House in the re-development of Society Hill.
7. Immigrant Populations and the impact of Society Hill redevelopment.
8. The inclusion of the ordinary and the discarded in preservation.
9. Historic interpretation as a “decorated shed”.
10. History and impact of Elizabeth Willing Powel and women on the forming of the nation.