

John Coblentz Farm  
Middletown  
Private

1809  
John Coblentz

The John Coblentz House is an extremely important building both for its fine vernacular Federal detailing and for its associations with the Coblentz family which has greatly influenced the settlement and development of the Middletown Valley in Frederick County.

The entrance to the five bay wide residence is most impressive with a recessed paneled entranceway, original twin four panel doors and rectangular fanlight transom. Jack arches are located over each of the five bays of the main block of the residence which is built on a high brick foundation with molded brick water table.

A two story brick addition added at a later period extends to the rear of the main block.

The interior of the residence is a center hall floor plan with two room flankers.

Coblentz acquired the land upon which the house is located from John Smith on April 22, 1805. Coblentz built his house in the latest Federal style with colonnaded mantelpieces, elliptical fanlight and bull's-eye corner blocks. Much of the woodworking can be matched to line drawings which appeared in The American Builders Companion by Asher Benjamin, 1827, including the twin panel doors, elliptical fanlight, and mantelpiece treatment.

John Coblentz owned and presumably lived in the house until his death in 1846 at which point the property reverted to his sons, David, Elias, and Joseph. The Coblentz family continues to own the property today and is restoring the building for continued use as a farmhouse.

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INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC John Coblentz Farm

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

North Side Cherry Lane

CITY, TOWN

Middletown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

M 75 P 49

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Austin Coblentz

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

4435 Deer Spring Road

CITY, TOWN

Middletown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

21769

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #: 862

Folio #: 209

STREET & NUMBER

North Court St.

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The John Coblentz House is a fine painted vernacular Federal style banked brick residence laid in common bond which faces south from the north side of Cherry Lane near Middletown.

The principal facade is five bays wide. The main entrance, original twin four panel doors with replaced hardware and two upper panels replaced with glass is located in the third bay. The doors are located in a paneled recessed entranceway with single stone slab doorstep, and original Federal rectangular fanlight transom.

Located in the remaining bays on the first and second levels are double hung 6/6 windows with original frames and many original leaded glass panes. Located over each window bay and the doorway are jack arches.

An early twentieth century porch once extended across the entire front of the residence, but has been removed.

An original slatted frame cellar vent with jack arch is located immediately beneath the main entrance. Another frame vent once located beneath the area between the first and second bays has been removed.

The main block of the building extends two bays deep with double hung 6/6 windows with jack arches occupying each bay on the first and second levels on the east and west gable ends. A replaced cellar entrance is located in the southwest corner of the building. This area has been subjected to severe deterioration caused by water damage.

A two story brick addition added at a later period extends to the rear of the main block. This section of the building which once accommodated a two story open porch on the east elevation has been substantially altered except for two remaining 9/6 window sashes on each side. Water problems have created severe damage to the west wall of this section.

A one story cinder block addition built in the 1920's extends to the rear of the addition.

Both sections of the house built on a high brick foundation with molded brick water table are covered by a replaced standing seam tin roof with corbeled brick cornice. Two large corbeled brick chimneys rise from the east and west gable ends of the building. The west chimney has recently been replaced. A single chimney which once accommodated a large kitchen fireplace once extended from the north gable end of the addition.

The interior of the residence is a center hall floor plan with two room flankers. Original panelled windows, colonnaded mantelpieces, bull's-eye corner moldings and chair railing exist throughout the residence.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1809	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	John Coblentz
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Coblentz House is an extremely important building both for its fine vernacular Federal detailing and for its associations with the Coblentz family which has greatly influenced the settlement and development of the Middletown Valley in Frederick County.

There is no doubt of the building date of the residence since the initials "JK" for John Koblentz with the date 1809 is located beneath the risers of the main stairway.

Coblentz acquired the land upon which the house is located from John Smith on April 22, 1805.<sup>1</sup> Coblentz built his house in the latest Federal style with colonnaded mantelpieces, elliptical fanlight and bull's-eye corner blocks. Much of the woodworking can be matched to line drawings which appeared in The American Builders Companion by Asher Benjamin, 1827 including the twin panel doors, elliptical fanlight, and mantelpiece treatment.

John Coblentz owned and presumably lived in the house until his death in 1846 at which point the property reverted to his sons, David, Elias, and Joseph.<sup>2</sup> The Coblentz family continues to own the property today and is restoring the building for continued use as a farmhouse.

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<sup>1</sup>Frederick County Survey Records, Liber TH0 1; Folio 488.

<sup>2</sup>Frederick County Probate Records, Liber GME 3; Folio 292.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

clh

Cherilyn Widell, Sites Analyst

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation

7/23/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

12 East Church St., Winchester Hall

694-1063

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Frederick

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

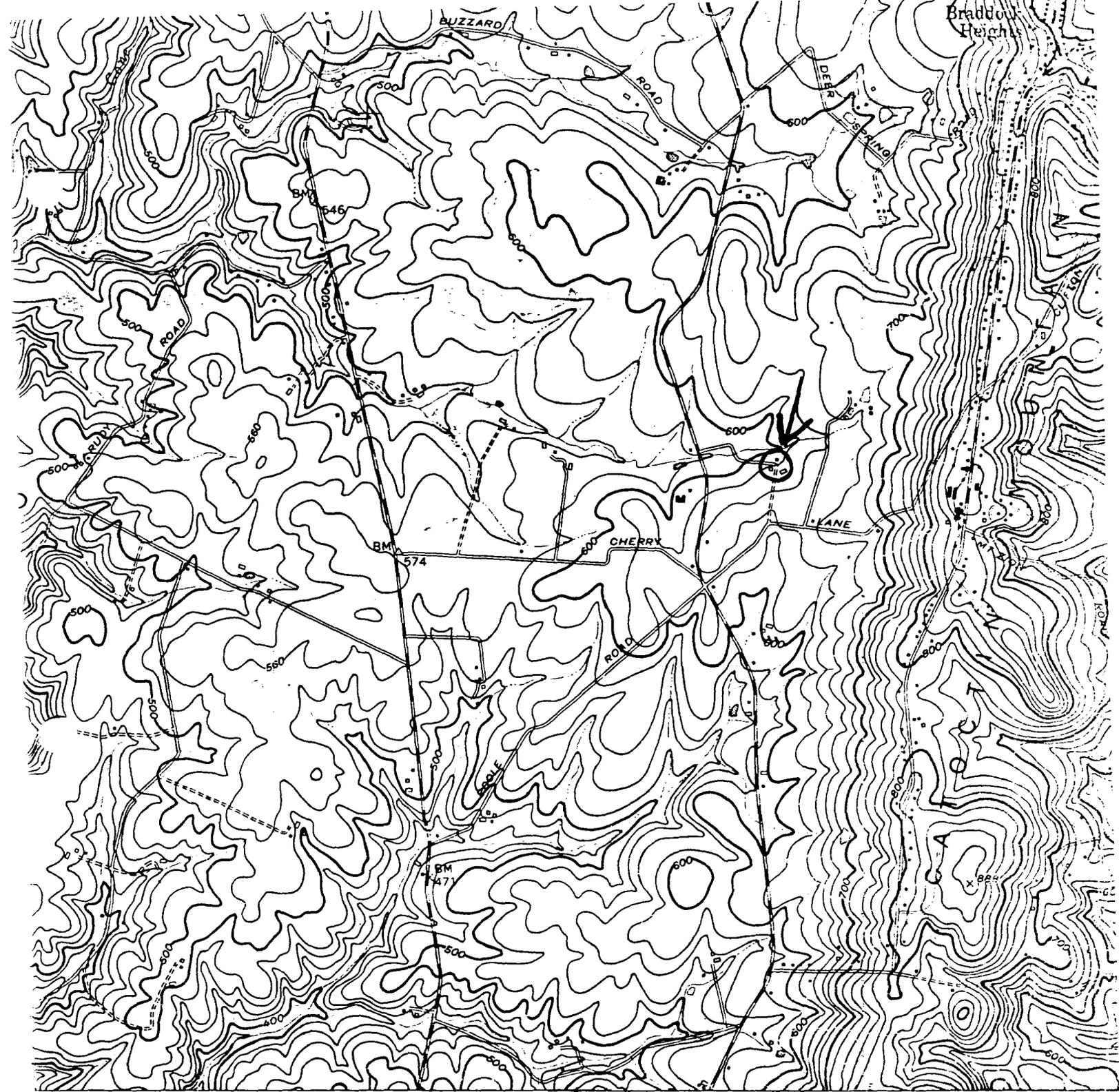
## DESCRIPTION (continued)

## John Coblentz Farm

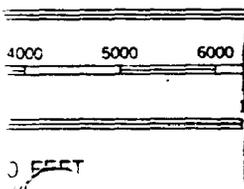
There is evidence of early wood marbling and on the mantelpiece carpentry methods which utilize the natural grain of the wood for ornamentation. The original paneled staircase with simple straight balusters and turned pilaster is located in the center hall. Original brass hardware exists on part of the first level.

Much of the interior woodwork bears close resemblance to the Asher Benjamin drawings of The American Builders Companion.

The building date for the house is indicated under the risers of the main stairway, "J 1809 K."



F-2-7  
 John Coblenz House  
 Frederick County  
 USGS Middletown, Md.  
 Corrected location and Inventory number  
 (Formerly F-4-8)



0 FEET  
 VI

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
1964	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

MIDDLETOWN, MD.  
 NE/4 ANTIETAM 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3922.5—W7730/75

P ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
 SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1953  
 PHOTOREVISED 1971  
 AMS 5462 I NE—SERIES V2



~~F#8~~ John Cobbletz HSE

F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LAKE

MIDDLETOWN

CEW 6/79

SOOTANIBST ELEVATION



~~F-4-8~~ John Coblitz t/SE

F-2-7

N/3 CHERRY LANE

MIDDLESEX

OPEN 6/79

NORTH ELEVATION



~~F-4-8~~ John Colbert HSE

F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LAKE

MIDDLETOWN

OPEN 6/79

EAST ELEVATION



~~K-4-8~~ John Cobblez #BE

F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LAKE

MIDDLETOWN

CREW 6/79

EAST ROOM WINTER PIECE



F-48 John Coblenz HSE  
N/S CHERRY LANE

F-2-7

MIDDLETOWN

CREW 6/79

SOUTH WEST ELEVATION



~~E-48~~ Joh Colbert 1/5E

F-2-7

N/3 CHERRY LANE

MIDDLETOWN

OPEN 6/79

2ND FLOOR EAST

MANTEL PIECE



~~F-4-8~~ John Collins 2 N/SE

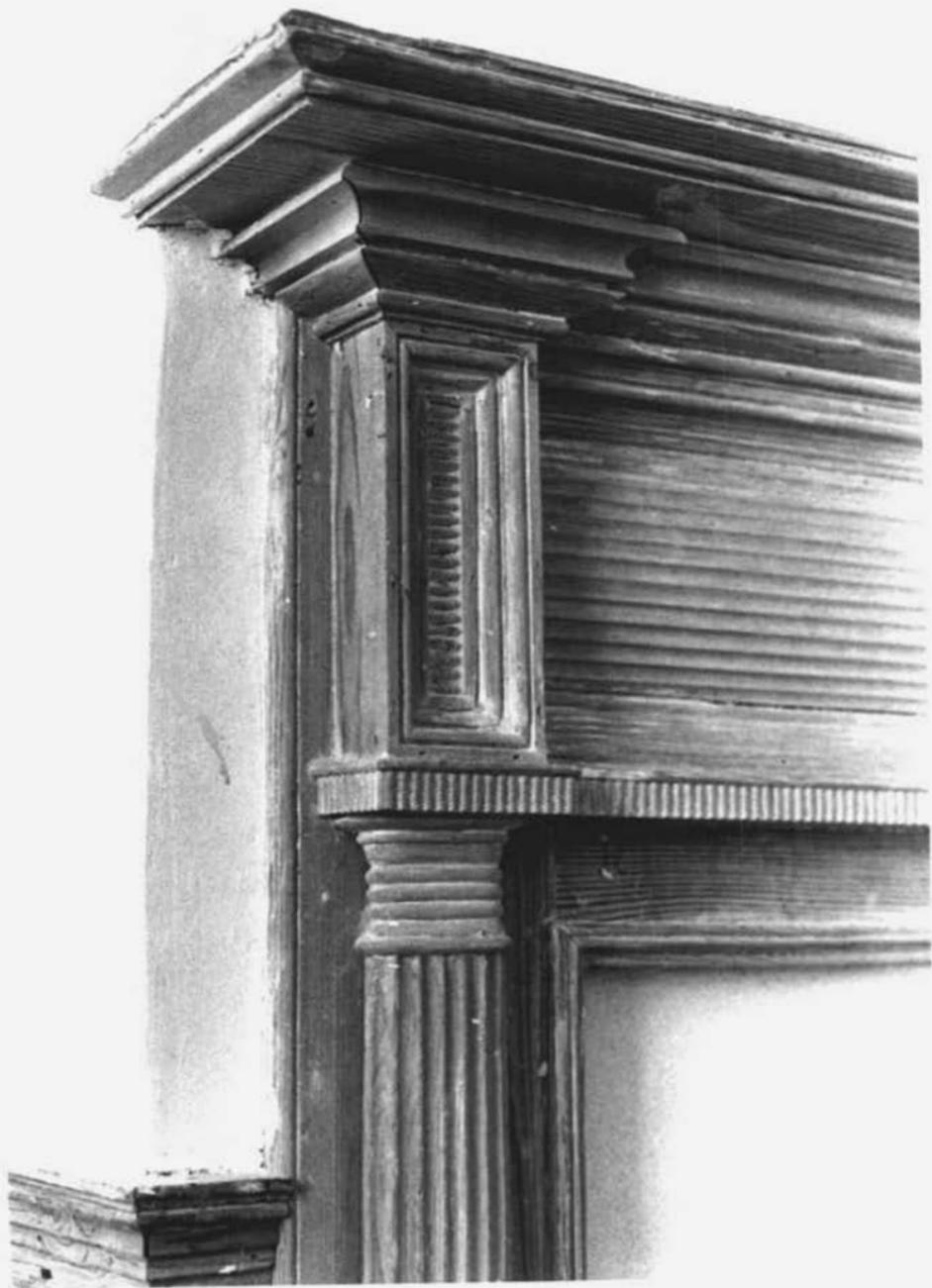
F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LODGE

MIDDLETOWN

CEN 6/79

FRONT DOOR DETAIL



E48 John Coblenz HSE

F-2-7

N/3 CHERRY LANE

MIDDLETOWN

CREW 6/79

DETAIL EAST

MANTEL PIECE



~~F-4-8~~ John Collett d/SE

F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LANE

MIDDLEBTON

CEN 6/79

Center Hall Interior



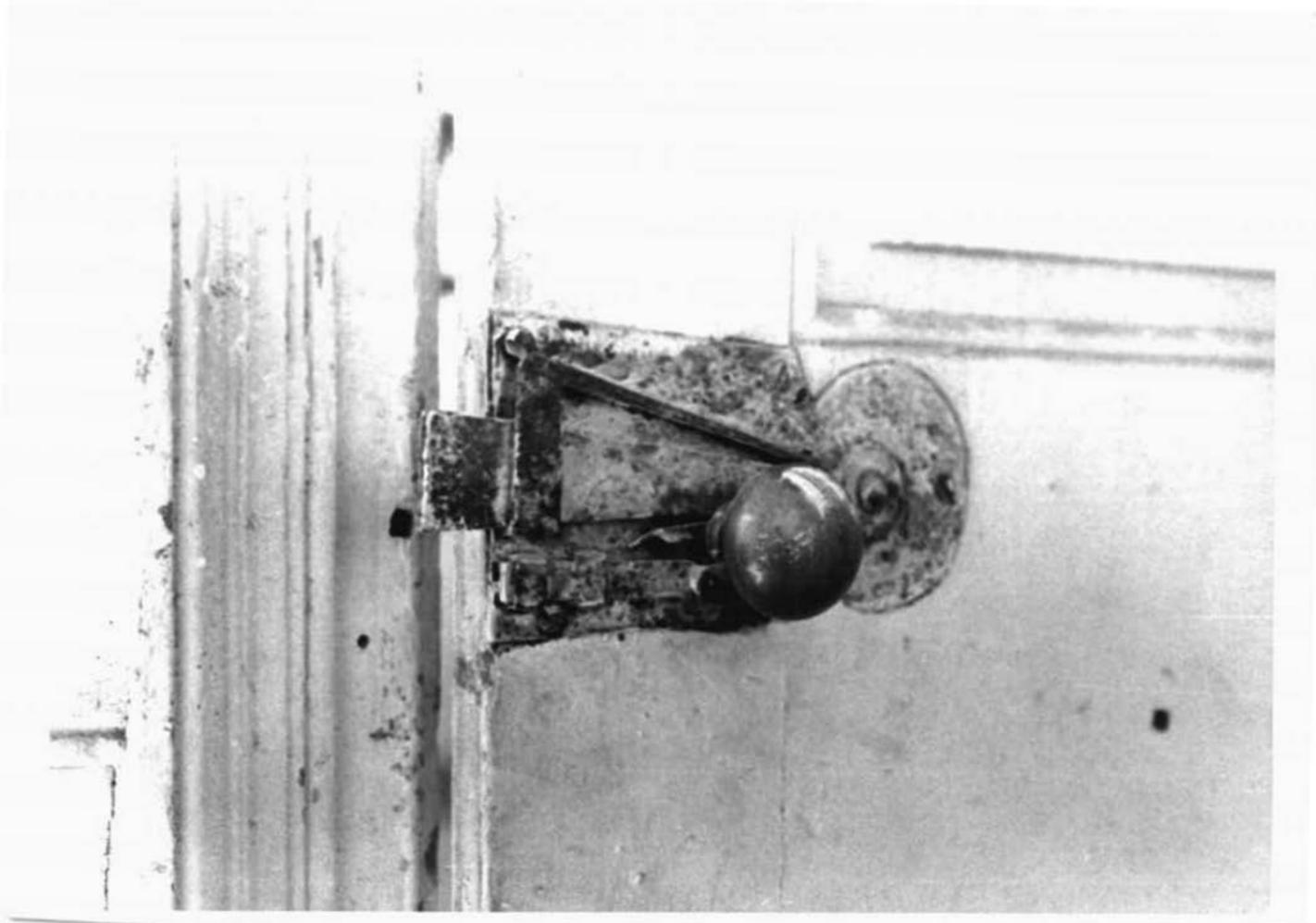
~~F4-8~~ John Coblenz HSE F-2-7

N/S CHERRY LODGE

MIDDLETOWN

CEW 6/79

Center Hall Interior



~~R48~~ Joh Cablitz JSE

F-2-7

N/3 CHERRY LAKE

MIDDLEBURY

CRW 6/79

HARDWARE DETAIL



~~PE-48~~ John Coblenz #31E

F-2-7

N/3 CHERRY LANE

MIDDLETOWN

OPEN 6/79

EAST FIREPLACE