

BURNED

F-3-17
Edward McPherson House
Frederick
Private

Circa 1820
Edward McPherson

The Edward McPherson House, a two and a half story flemish bond and common bond brick structure, was built in the 1820's by Edward McPherson. The home was owned by a number of prominent citizens in Frederick County history including George R. Dennis, state director of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The house was built in three separate sections. The principal facade constructed of flemish bond laid brick, is five bays wide. The main entrance, a double four panelled wooden door set in a recessed panelled doorway, is located in the third bay. It is crowned by a fan shaped transom framed by rope design trim. Fluted columns frame the main entrance, one on either side of the door with Composite capitals. The remaining bays are occupied by 6/6 original pegged windows. A row of five pedimented lintel dormers lie above the boxed cornice decorated with scroll and supportive brackets and drop pendants.

A five bay entrance porch supported by plain wooden columns spans the facade of the structure. It is covered, like the structure as a whole, by a standing seam tin roof.

A two story rear addition forms the second section. It is laid in common bond brick and covered by a standing seam tin roof. A one story connecting structure connects the two story addition to the brick kitchen at the rear of the structure. It features the brick oven and bolt fastenings intact.

Three corbeled brick chimneys rise from the structure, one from the rear two story addition and two from the main structure. The entire structure rests on a coursed quarried stone foundation. A number of distinctive outbuildings add to the Edward McPherson House making it one of the most significant historic sites in Frederick County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Edward McPherson House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side of Opossumtown Pike

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6 M /P

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Frederick Business Properties

Telephone #: 662-6273

STREET & NUMBER

1209 East Street

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21701

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #: 901

Folio #: 358

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

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edward McPherson House, a two and a half story Flemish bond and common bond laid brick structure, faces south on the east side of Opossumtown Pike.

The house was built in three separate sections. The imposing facade section is laid in Flemish bond brick. The principal facade is five bays wide. Occupying the third bay is the main entrance. It consists of a recessed panelled doorway with double four panelled doors. Egg and dart trim decorates the area between the door and the fan shaped transom. Rope-like trim frames the doorway and transom. The doorway is framed by columns, one on either side of the door, crowned by Composite columns. Occupying the remaining bays are original pegged 6/6 windows crowned by flat arches. There is evidence of shutters that once framed the windows, but are now missing. A row of five pedimented dormer windows is found above the wooden boxed cornice trimmed with decorative brackets and drop pendants.

A five bay entrance porch spans the facade of the structure. It is supported by eight plain wooden columns framed by slatted railing. The columns are trimmed by decorative brackets. A dentil cornice lies beneath the standing seam tin roof which covers the porch.

Two corbeled chimneys rise from the main structure; one from the east and one from the west gable ends. The structure is covered by an original standing seam tin roof. The structure rests upon a raised basement lying on a coursed, quarried stone foundation.

The second section of the house consists of a two story original rear addition constructed of common bond laid brick. The west side is seven bays wide. Occupying the seven bays are original 6/6 windows crowned by flat arches. Two pedimented dormer windows are found on the west side of the structure. The 6/6 dormer windows are arched and topped by pedimented lintels.

The east side of the two story rear addition features a two story open porch supported by plain wooden columns. Plain wooden railing frames the columns on the second floor. A boxed cornice with decorative brackets and drop pendants continues on the east side of the structure. A corbeled brick chimney rises from the west end of the two story addition. The structure is covered by a standing seam tin roof.

The third section of the structure consists of a brick kitchen with a one story connecting building between the two story addition and the rear structure. The brick kitchen is laid in common bond brick with a row of headers every six rows of brick. It rests upon a coursed, quarried stone foundation and is covered by a standing seam tin roof, a replacement of the wooden shingles visible from the east side of the structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1820 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Edward McPherson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward McPherson House, a two and a half story Flemish bond and common bond brick structure, was built circa 1820 by Edward McPherson.

Edward McPherson was the son of Col. John McPherson, a prominent Fredericktonian. Col. McPherson was born in Pennsylvania and came to Frederick in 1781.¹ He was president of the Common Council in 1817, and a landowner of some of the most choice lands in the Frederick County area and Frederick City itself.² He was also a one-time owner of the Catoctin Iron Works. Edward McPherson acquired the land on which the house was built in his father's will.³ A house had been built on this land previous to that time, however.

The house passed through a number of prominent owners until 1855 when it was purchased by George R. Dennis.⁴ George Dennis was married to the daughter of Col. John McPherson until her death when he married her sister, Fanny.⁵ George Dennis was a notable citizen of the area. A Lt. Col. during the Civil War, Dennis filled a number of positions and posts during his lifetime including state director of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and president of the Central National Bank of Frederick.⁶

The property was sold at the time of George Dennis' death and again passed through the hands of a number of owners to its present use as a tenant farm.

The Edward McPherson House is a significant structure in Frederick County history. In its association with a number of prominent Frederick citizens its significance is assured. Architecturally the house is a jewel of decorative trim work. The interior alone represents some of the finest decorative work found in Frederick County. The structure and impressive outbuildings together form one of the most significant sites in the Frederick area.

¹T.J.C. Williams, History of Frederick County Maryland (1910; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967) Vol. I, p. 180.

²Ibid.

³Frederick County Record of Wills, Liber G.M.E. 1; Folio 101 Codicil.

⁴Frederick County Land Records, Liber E.S. 5; Folio 502.

⁵T.J.C. Williams, History of Frederick County Maryland, Vol II, p. 809.

⁶Ibid.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Frederick County Land Records.
 Frederick County Record of Wills.
 Williams, T.J.C., History of Frederick County Maryland, (1910; rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967) Vol. I, p. 180.
 Williams, T.J.C., History of Frederick County Maryland, Vol. II. p. 809.
 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

Deborah Sheetenhelm

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation	10/18/79

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

- 2 -

The Edward McPherson House (continued)

The original bake oven with all original hardware is intact within the structure.

The interior of the Edward McPherson House is as ornately decorated as the exterior. The main entrance is trimmed by starburst design trim in the area between the door and the transom; that is repeated in the various places throughout the house. A three floor rounded stair is the central feature of the main hall. The stairway features plain stair railing with ornamental brackets.

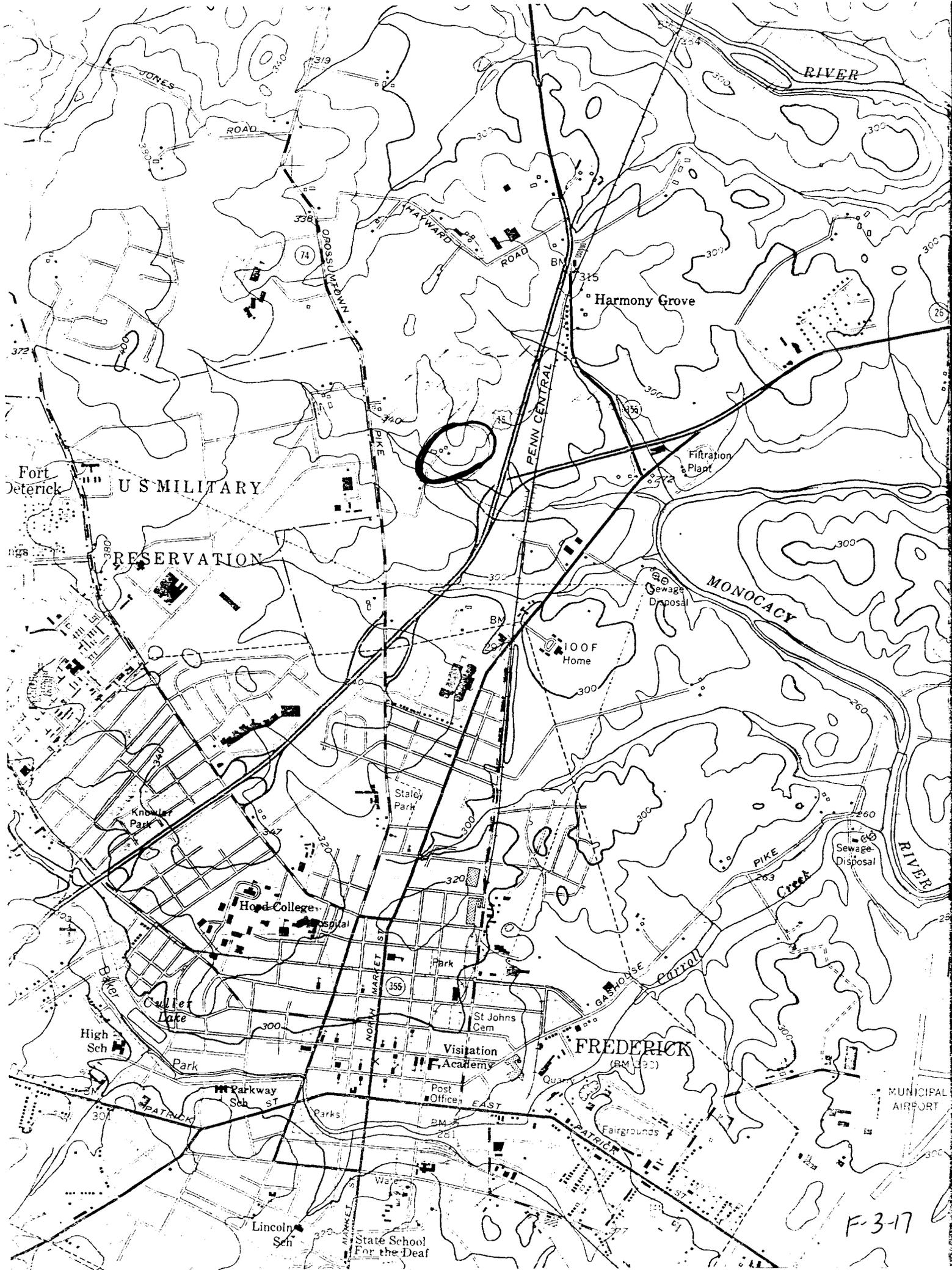
The doorframes throughout the house are carved with fluted trim. The doorframes on the interior of the rooms are fluted as well.

The mantelpieces are the most ornated features of the interior. The first floor east room features an Adam mantelpiece. The mantelpiece has a rectangular opening with beaded trim along the mantel shelf. A row of acanthus leaf trim is framed by bead and reel trim. A decorative urn is found on either side of the mantel crowning double carved columns with Corinthian capitals.

The master bedroom on the east side of the second floor is trimmed by carved chair railing. The mantelpiece is likewise ornately carved. The mantelpiece has a rectangular opening with sunburst design trim along the mantel shelf. This is the same design used in the trim of the interior of the main entrance. A row of bead and reel trim lies beneath the starburst design trim. A single acanthus leaf crowns the column with acanthus capitals that are found one on either side of the rectangular opening.

The west bedroom features a third ornately carved mantel piece. The starburst trim is again found framed by bead trim. A single acanthus leaf crowns the single columns with acanthus capitals that frame the rectangular opening of the mantelpiece.

A number of distinctive outbuildings are found on the grounds of the Edward McPherson House. A stone barn entirely constructed of coursed quarried stone is found to the west of the house on the approach to the house. A second barn is found on the property. This barn is constructed of brick with decorative work haystacking and is covered by a standing seam tin roof. These outbuildings form an impressive entranceway to the imposing brick facade of the Edward McPherson House.



F-3-17



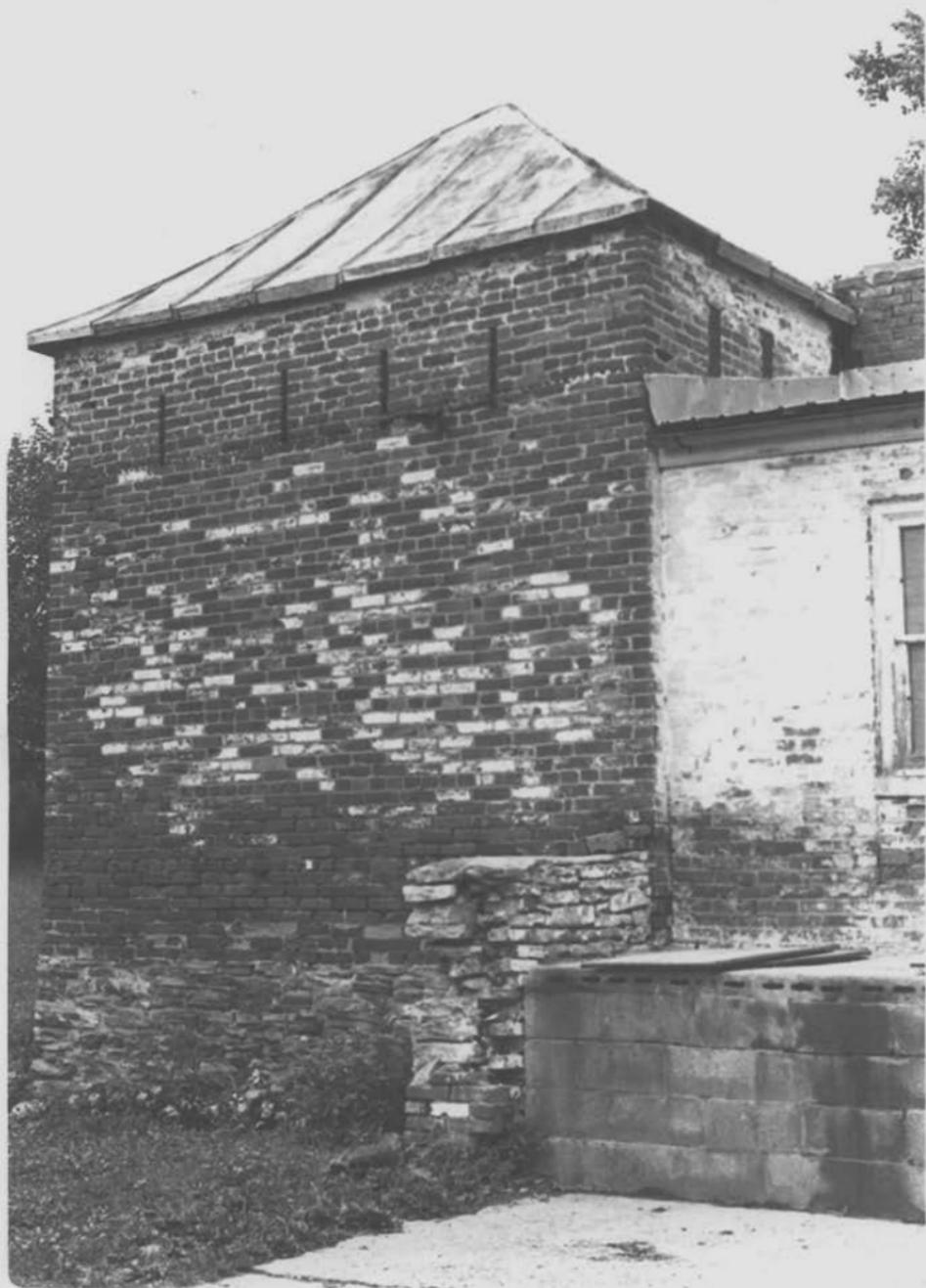
F-3-17

Edward McPherson

Ase.

Detail/convict

CEW 7/27/79



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson

Age:

Buck Kitcher

CEW 7/27/77



F-3-17

Edward McPherson
Ase.

Detail - Colonnade
Composite Capital

CEW 1/26/79

eps Oppenheimer
Pike



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson

Acc.

Detail - main
entrance

CEW 7/27/79



F-3-17

Eduard

McPherson Hse.

Detail - Stairway

Interior

CEW 1/31/79



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson
Hse.

Detail

mantel w/ acanthus
leaves & sunburst
design

CEW 7/31/79



F-3-17

Eduard

McPherson Hb.

Detail - mantle
staircase trunk?

Acanthus leaf

CEW 1/31/79



F-3-17

Eduard
McPherson
Asst.

Detail-mantel
sunburst design
& leaded trim
CEW 1/31/79



1-2-11

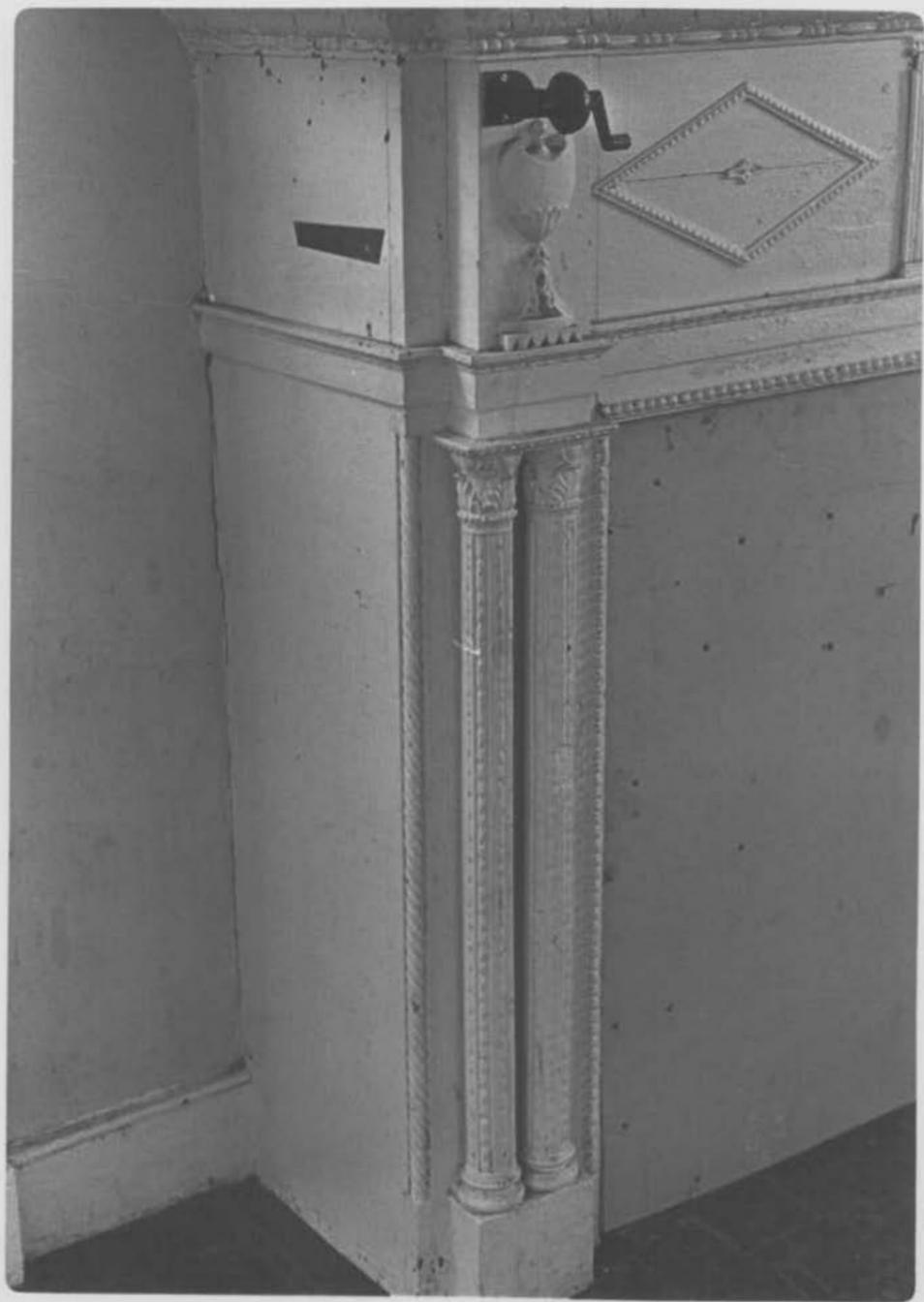
Eduard McPherson

Hse.

Detail - work on

Mantel

CEW 7/31/79



F-3-17

Eduard
McPherson

Hse.

Detail - urn on
mantel

CEW 7/31/79



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson
Asst.

Brick Lane

CEW 7/26/79

e/5 Oppounton
Pike



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson

Hse.

Stone Linn

CEW 7/27/79



F-3-17

Eduard McPherson

Age

Detail - ^{Master} Bedroom

Chair, railing w/
sunburst design

CEW 7/31/79