

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Ulysses S. Grant House

AND/OR COMMON  
Ulysses S. Grant House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
511 Bouthillier Street

CITY, TOWN  
Galena

STATE Illinois

--- VICINITY OF  
CODE 17

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 16th  
COUNTY CODE Jo Daviess 085

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 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  
State of Illinois, Department of Conservation

STREET & NUMBER  
Division of State Memorials, State Office Building

CITY, TOWN  
Springfield

--- VICINITY OF

STATE  
Illinois

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registrar of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER  
Jo Daviess County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN  
Galena

STATE  
Illinois

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE  
1934

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Div.

CITY, TOWN  
Washington

STATE  
D.C.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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

The Grant House was designed in an "Italinete Bracketed" style by William Dennison, "Engineer and Architect," and constructed in 1859-1860 for Alexander J. Jackson, former Galena city clerk. A prominent home in a city remarkable for having retained so much fine nineteenth century architecture, the house was built on a ridge on the east side of the Galena River, with a commanding view of the city.

In 1865 a committee of Galena citizens paid a reported \$16,000 for A.J. Jackson's house, the lot and furnishings for a gift for General Grant. The house is brick, two-stories with wide overhanging eaves supported by large wooden brackets, a low pitched roof, and a columned, covered piazza with balcony above at the main entrance on the southeast.

The original specifications for the house described the main, front block as "of brick, of 36 feet by 40 feet to be of two storys, each to be 11 feet clear stud." These specifications also ordered the kitchen wing on the rear, "to be an addition on the back of 30 feet by 17 feet one story high, of 9 feet clear height." There are three large interior chimneys with decorative brickwork on the front portion of the house and a tall chimney with corbeled cap on the kitchen wing. All the windows on the house are framed by stone lintels and sills and dark green shutters.

The Grants rented the house in Galena during their residency in the White House, and after 1880 the family rented to a series of occupants until 1904 when the general's son, Frederick Dent Grant presented the house to the City of Galena. A clause in the bequest stated, "This home of our father's, General U.S. Grant, is presented to the City of Galena to be preserved as a Memorial only,... It is to be kept as nearly as possible as it was when General Grant resided in it, with his pictures and furniture placed as they were at that time." In 1932 the Grant Association presented the house to the state, which has maintained it as a historic house museum and park ever since.

With all the original detailed drawings, plans and specifications, the state was able to restore the building, under the direction of Richard Hagen, in 1955-57. At this time they also constructed the one-story brick building housing the restrooms and a small exhibit area, which is located northeast of the house and built low and into the hill behind the house. This building is a non-historic structure which does not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.

## 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> _POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> _OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> _INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES August 19, 1865-1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Dennison

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On August 19, 1865, General U.S. Grant returned to Galena, Illinois, the town from which he had departed four years earlier to rejoin the army at the outbreak of the Civil War. Ten thousand persons greeted the victorious Union commander, and after a triumphant reception, the General was given a home by the proud citizens of Galena. Grant and his family occupied the home until appointed Secretary of War in 1867. Following his years as President and his trip around the world, he returned to his Galena home in 1879. He remained there for two years before moving to New York where he lived until his death.

When Ulysses S. Grant and his family arrived in Galena by steamboat from St. Louis in the spring of 1860, the city had already begun its economic decline. Galena experienced boom town prosperity from the lead mines in the 1820's and became a hustling river port and ambitious mercantile center in the 1840's.

Grant hoped to reverse his economic misfortunes by moving to northwest Illinois. Galena was the site of a leather goods store owned by his father, Jesse R. Grant, and operated by his brothers, Simpson and Orvil. In this store, Grant was nominally a clerk and "... travelled through the Northwest considerably during the winter of 1860-1. (They) had customers in all the little towns in south-west Wisconsin, south-east Minnesota and north-east Iowa." Until he left Galena in the spring of 1861 to serve in the Civil War, Grant and his family rented a modest, brick house on the west side of the river.

On August 18, 1865, Galena greeted the return of its victorious general with a grand celebration. There was a jubilant procession, decorated arches, speeches and a holiday atmosphere. From a triumphal arch spanning Main Street, thirty-six young ladies dressed in white waved American flags and threw bouquets. During the ceremonies the citizens of Galena presented the furnished house on Bouthillier Street to the general.

That evening there were fireworks, "transparencies and brilliantly lighted windows." General Grant held a levee in the Custom House Hall (U.S. Post Office Building) followed by a reception ball at the DeSoto House.

General Grant and his family left for Washington, D.C. on September 12, 1865, where he continued his duties as commanding general of the Army. As most of his later trips, this visit was relatively short. The Grants returned to Galena in the fall of 1868 and remained throughout his successful campaign for the presidency.

During the next fifteen years the Grant family used their Galena home as a haven during the course of campaigns and long journeys. The general enjoyed these brief periods renewing old friendships in Galena and the surrounding area.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bale, Florence G. Galena's Historic Yesterdays (Waukegan, 1936).  
 Badeau, Adam. Grant in Peace (Hartford, 1887).  
 Campbell, Thomas A., Jr. "Plans and Specifications for the Ulysses S. Grant Home, Galena, Illinois" APT Journal Vol VI, No. 1, 1975  
 Grant's Home, pamphlet prepared by Illinois Department of Conservation, Information and Education Division.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA approximately

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	711950	4698420	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Grant House landmark is coterminous with that of the present plat owned by the State. The restroom-museum facility to the northeast of the house does not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.

As plotted September 27, 1971, the boundary is described as a part of the Southeast 1/4 of the northwest 1/4 of section 20, Township 28 North, Range 1 East of the Fourth (cont'd)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Blanche Higgins Schroer, Landmark Review Project; Charles E. Shedd, Jr., 1960

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

11/29/75

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1100 L Street NW

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Washington

D.C. 20240

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE     

LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Designated: 12/19/60  
date

TITLE

Boundary Certified  
*[Signature]*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Chief. Hist. & Arch. Surveys  
DATE Nov 24, 1977

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST: *[Signature]* 12/7/77

Boundary Affirmed:  
DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Director, OAHF date

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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CONTINUATION SHEET

House

ITEM NUMBER #8

PAGE #2

After two terms in office, ex-President Grant and his family embarked, in May 1877, on a trip around the world. The Grants were warmly received by dignitaries in all of the countries they visited. Returning to San Francisco in September, 1879, the Grants made a triumphant journey to Galena. Their arrival "home" on November 5 prompted a large civic reception and celebration. Leaving in December, the general and his family returned to Galena only for short visits in 1880. As far as present research can tell, U.S. Grant left for New York City in September, 1880, and never stayed in his Galena house again, even though he and his wife visited Galena for the last time in May, 1883.

Ulysses S. Grant finished writing his Memoirs a short time before his death on July 23, 1885, at Mt. McGregor, New York.

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History by Illinois Department of Conservation, Information and Education Division

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House

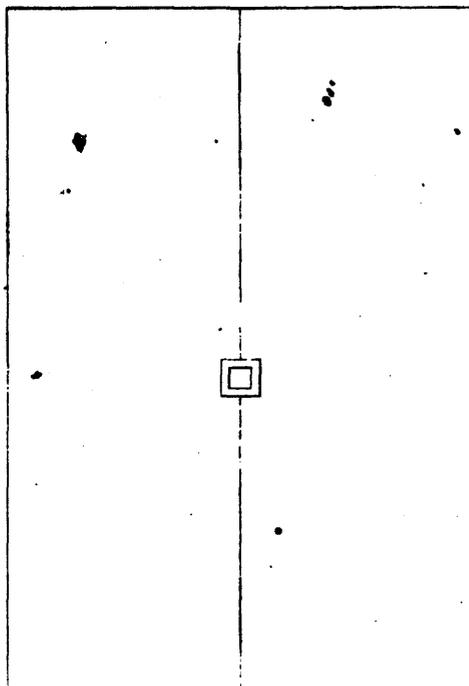
ITEM NUMBER #10

PAGE

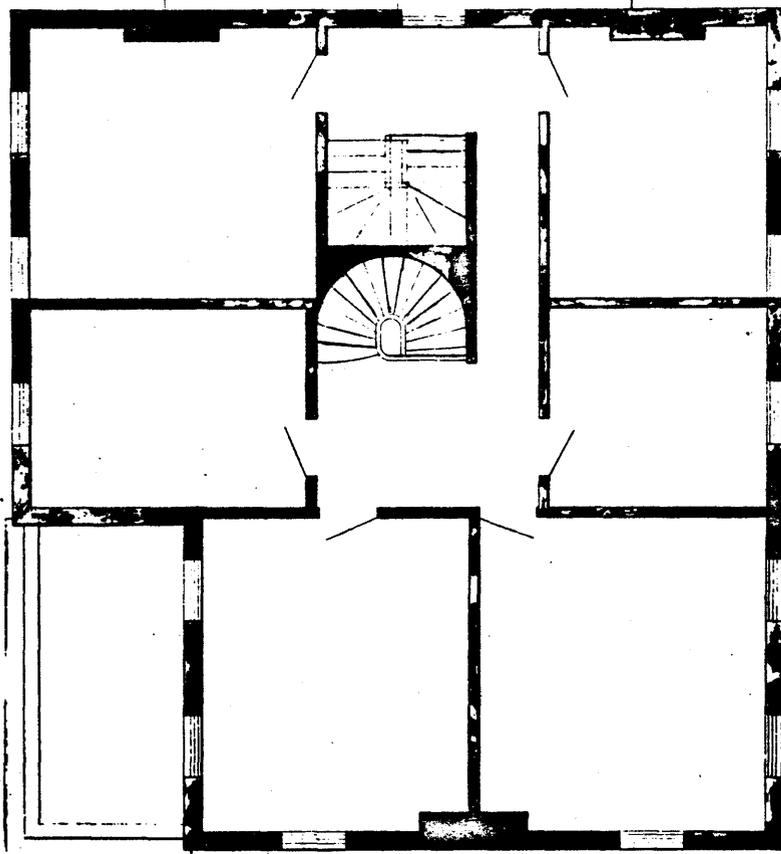
#2

Principal Meridian Lot No. 1 Bouthillier Row, located in the City of Galena, County of Jo Daviess, Illinois, beginning at a concrete marker at the corner of Fourth Street and Bouthillier Street and bearing N 59°30' E a distance of 207 feet to a concrete marker, thence East 45.6'; thence S 28°W a distance of 174'10" to Bouthillier Street; thence West a distance of 145 feet to the point of beginning.



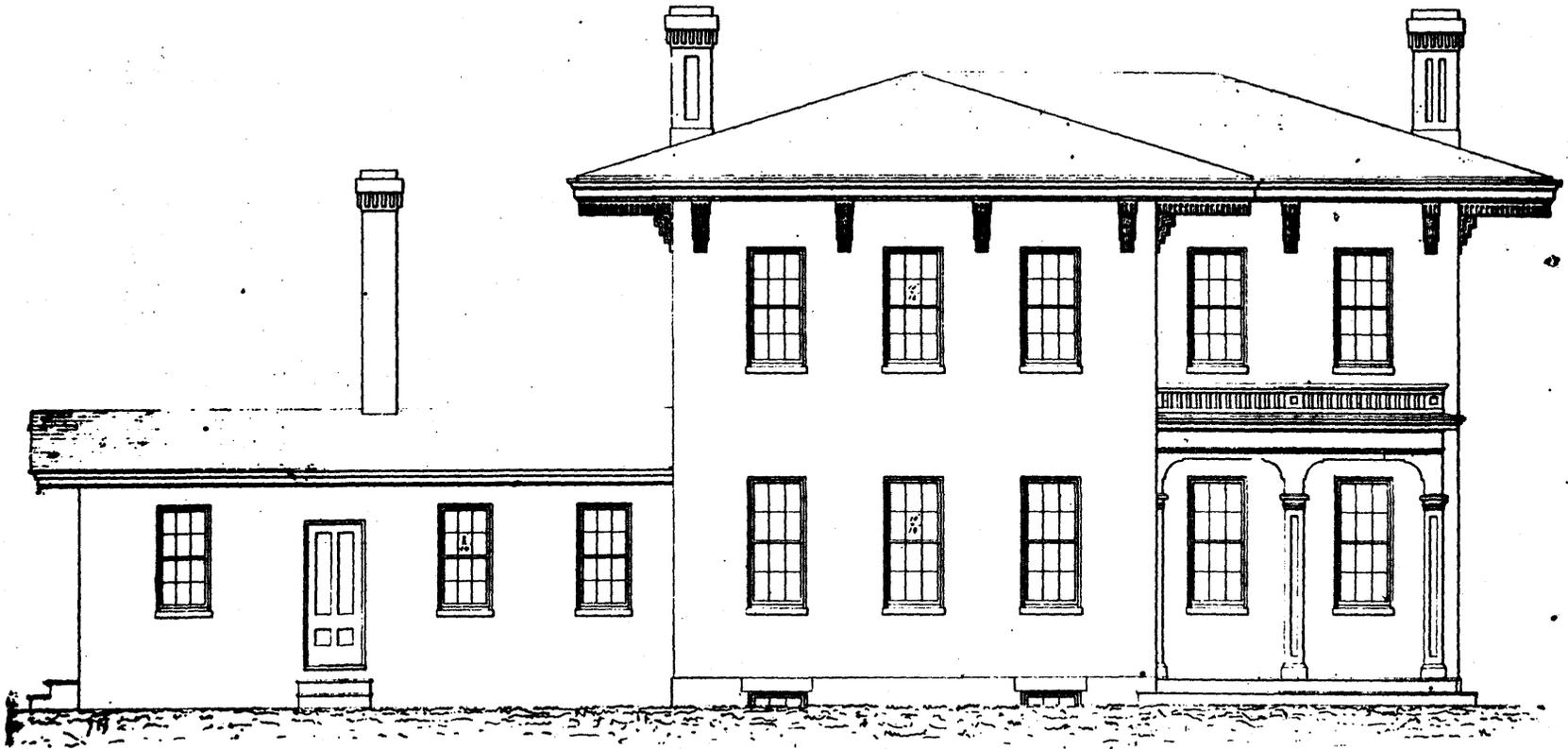


*Plan of Second Story.*  
*Scale, 1/4" = 1'.*



"Plan of Second Story," U. S. Grant Home, Galena, Illinois (built 1859-60 for A. J. Jackson), drawn by William Dennison, "Engineer and Architect."  
Courtesy Illinois Department of Conservation.

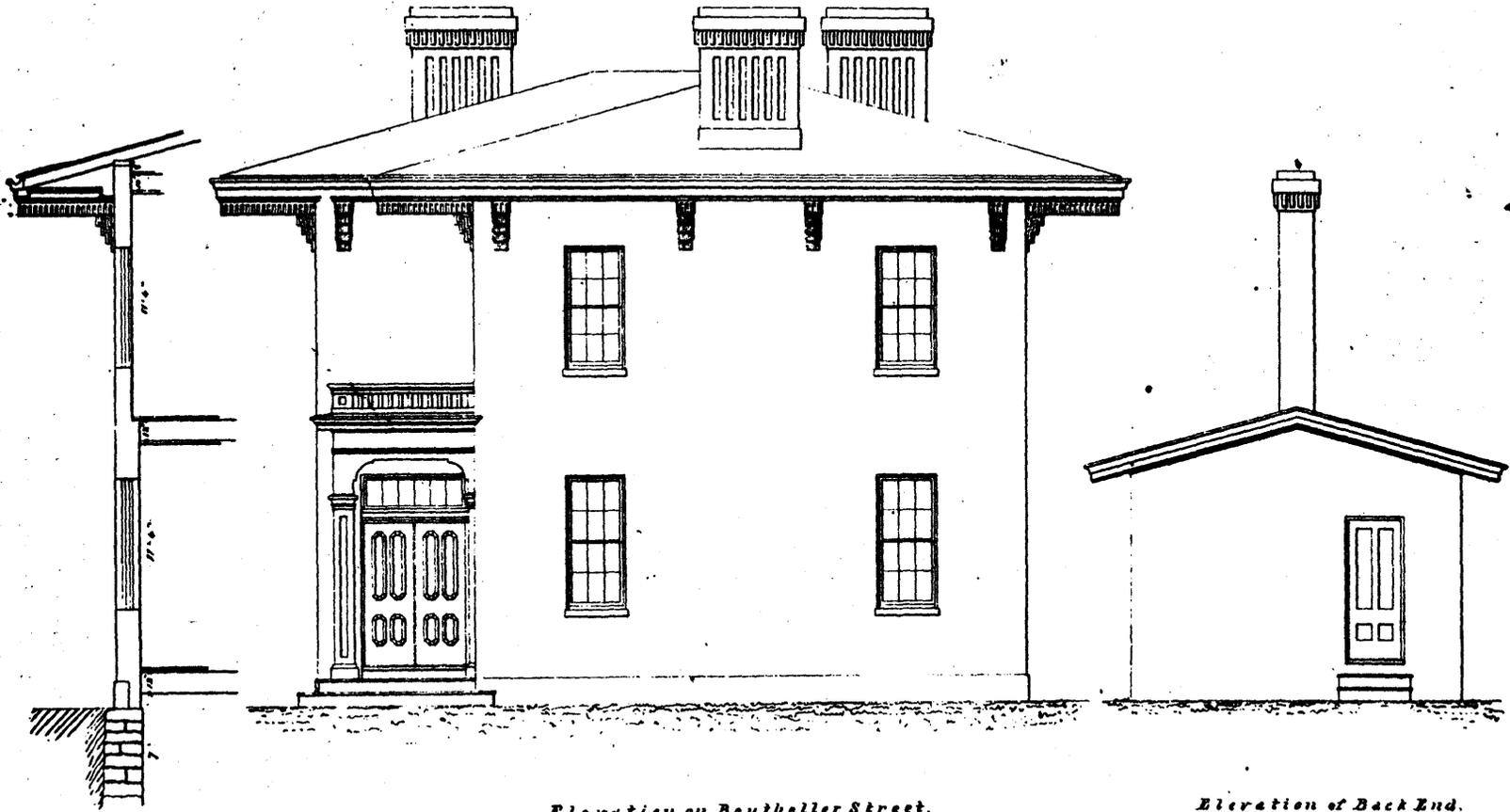
*Design of Dwelling House  
for A. J. Jackson Esq.  
By William Dennison.  
Scale, 1/2 in. to 1 ft.*



*Elevation on Fourth Street*

"Design of Dwelling House for A. J. Jackson Esq.,  
By William Dennison" (now known as the Grant Home),  
Galena, Illinois. Courtesy Illinois Department  
of Conservation.

*Design of Dwelling House  
for A. J. Jackson Esq.  
by William Dennison.  
Scale, 1/2" to 1".*



*Elevation on Boutheller Street.*

*Elevation of Back End.*

"Elevation on Boutheller [sic] Street," and  
"Elevation of Back End," by William Dennison.  
Courtesy Illinois Department of Conservation.