

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	JUN 25 1975
DATE ENTERED	JUN 7 1975

**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

~~The~~ Camak House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

279 Meigs Street
CITY, TOWN

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Athens
STATE
Georgia

— VICINITY OF
CODE
13

10th - Robert G. Stephens, Jr.
COUNTY CODE
Clarke 059

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Private Organization

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Athens Masonic Temple
STREET & NUMBER

279 Meigs Street
CITY, TOWN

STATE

Athens

— VICINITY OF

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clarke County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Athens

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

HABS

DATE

1936

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on a four acre city block in Athens, the Camak House is a two story brick, four room central hall Federal influenced structure.

The Federal influence, as seen in the fanlighted front doorway and the brick construction occurs only rarely in the Athens area. In design, the Camak House, has a raised daylight basement, a low hipped roof, and brick pilasters which project at the sides and corners. The raised front porch with intricate iron trim has a staggered open space grille pattern of brick at its base. All four facades of whitewashed common bonded brick have six over six windows with most of the original blinds and hardware still extant. The five bay front has two entrances to the house: the basement door which is located under the porch and the main entrance which has a panelled, wood door with a fanlight treatment and fluted pilasters framing its sidelights.

The five bay rear facade is a simple repeat of the front as seen in the small porch and panelled door with a transom light. However, all of the ironwork is restricted to the front. There are two entrances to the basement from the back.

On the interior, the original four room, central hall floor plan has been altered on each floor. The basement has one new large room made of three original ones. One of the corner rooms, still untouched, is divided diagonally into two rooms with brick floors. The kitchen has been fully modernized. The windows are shadow-box style. The first floor has been changed with the installation of bathrooms between the southeast and northeast rooms. The second floor also has one major room spanning most of the northeast facade. In the altered area, the walls have been extended into the southwest rooms and suspended ceilings have been added.

Little of the decorative woodwork is still extant, if indeed there ever was any. However, the two parlor mantels are significant with almost pattern-book form of pilaster supported Greek fret work designed frieze.

The Camak land continued to Prince Avenue but has since had intrusions built on that frontage. A commercial building has been constructed and a street paved which separates it from the present land. Although it is surrounded by much commercialism, the Camak House, exteriorly unaltered, retains the elegant and stately air it held during its prime.

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 checked="" 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 1834-5

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Camak House, 1834-5, is the first house that was built in the Prince Avenue area of Athens. Its builder, James Camak, was a prominent Georgian, being the first Georgia Railroad president, a University of Georgia professor, a factory owner, and an innovator in agricultural education.

James Camak came to Athens in 1817 and taught math at the University of Georgia until 1819. He married Helen Finley, daughter of Rev. Dr. Finley, the short term president of the University until his death. In the 1830's Camak was a member of the Troup party while it was in the majority. After the incorporation and chartering of the Georgia Railroad in 1833, a stockholders meeting at the Camak Home took place. James Camak served as president of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company. He organized the Camak factory, changed to the Princeton factory in 1834. When a branch of the State Bank was established in 1834, he became president of it also. Camak was a major developer of new farm ideas and he was instrumental in the formation of the county's first Agricultural Society in 1845. He was also the head of the editorial department of the "Southern Cultivator" for a time. He died in 1847. The Camak descendants remained in the house until 1947 when the Masonic Temple bought it.

The Camak house is unique in Athens both architecturally for its federal character and environmentally for the retention of its property.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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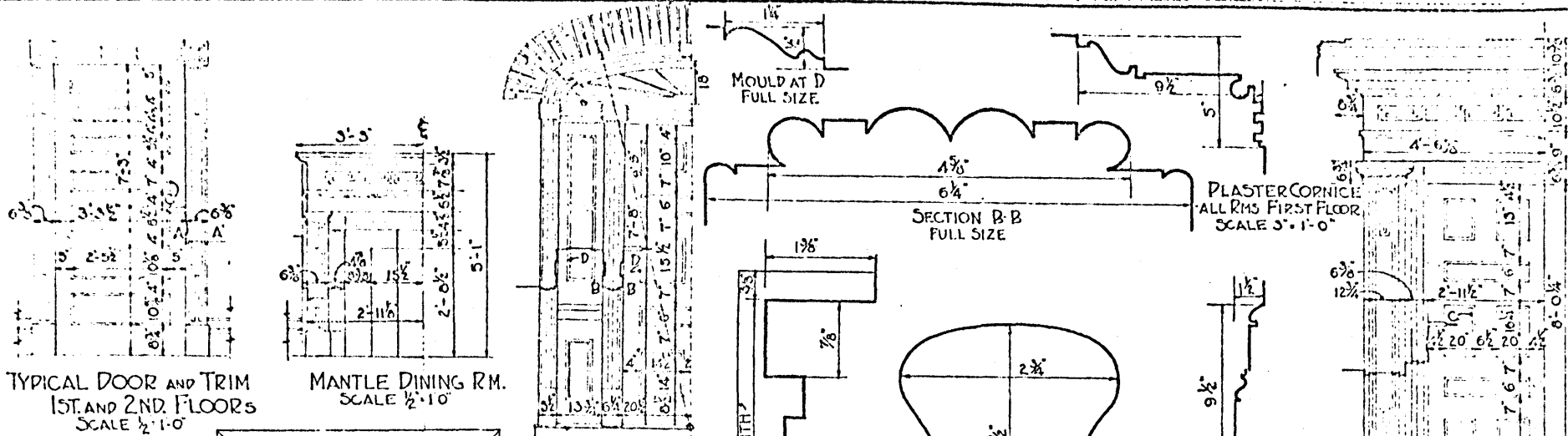
Macgregor, Elizabeth Z., personal inspection, Winter, 1975.

Marsh, Blanche, Athens: Georgia Columned City.

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Scruggs, Carrol Proctor, Georgia Historical Markers, U.S.A. Bay Tree Grove, Valdosta.

Strolls Around Athens, p.30



TYPICAL DOOR AND TRIM
1ST. AND 2ND. FLOORS
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

MANTLE DINING RM.
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

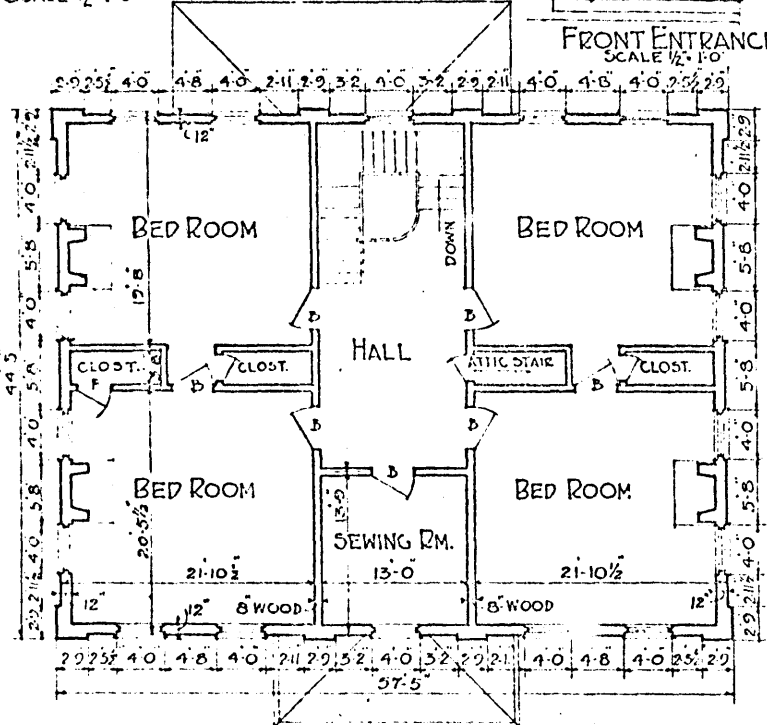
FRONT ENTRANCE
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

SECTION B-B
FULL SIZE

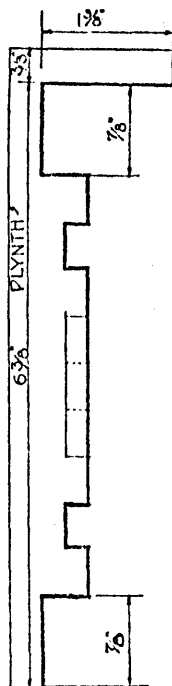
PLASTER CORNICE
ALL RMS FIRST FLOOR
SCALE 3" = 1'-0"

BASE BOARD
FIRST FLOOR
SCALE 3" = 1'-0"

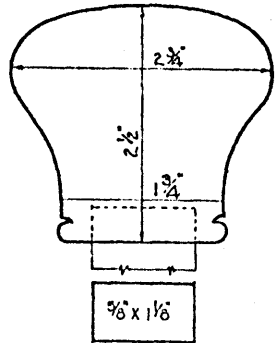
DOUBLE DOORS BETWEEN
LIVING RM AND DINING RM
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



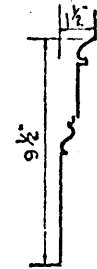
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION A-A
FULL SIZE



HAND RAIL AND BALUSTER
FULL SIZE



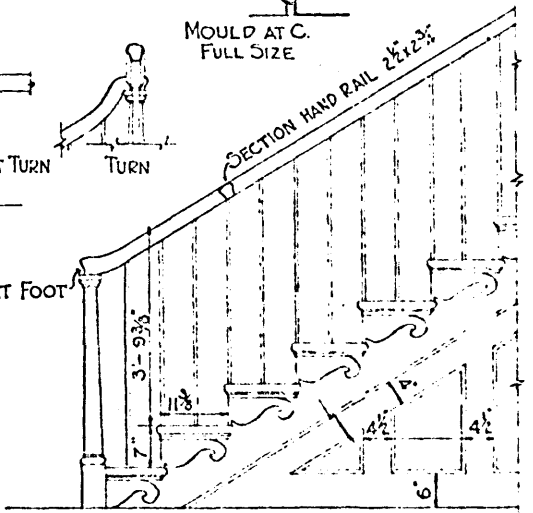
MOULD AT C.
FULL SIZE



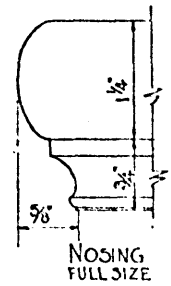
PLAN AT TURN



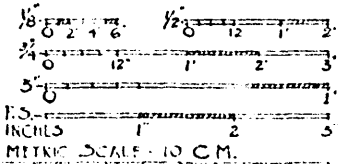
PLAN AT FOOT



START OF STAIR
SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0"



NOSING
FULL SIZE



W.C. POWELL

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BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

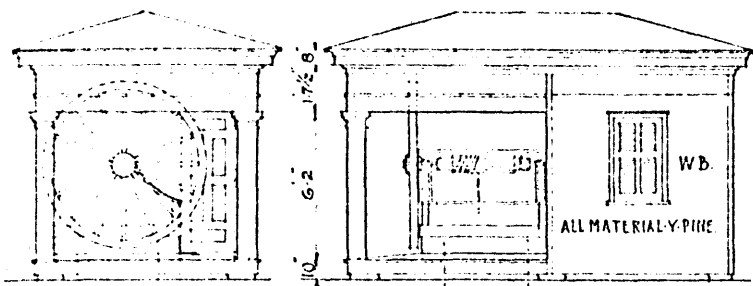
THE CAMAK HOUSE

NAME OF STRUCTURE

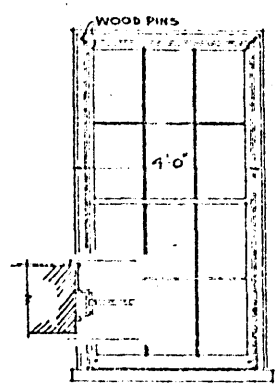
ATHENS - CLARKE COUNTY
GEORGIA

SURVEY NO.
14-67

HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 2 OF 5 SHEETS

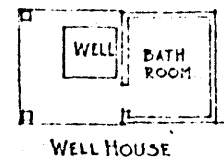


EAST ELEVATION NORTH ELEVATION
WELL HOUSE AND BATH ROOM.
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

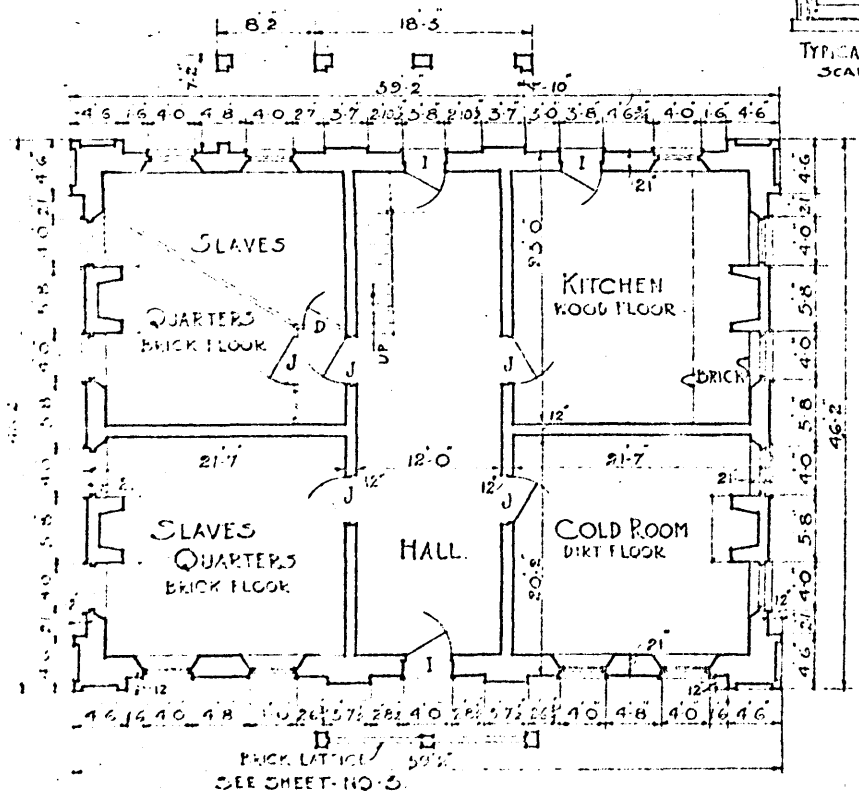


TYPICAL WINDOW
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

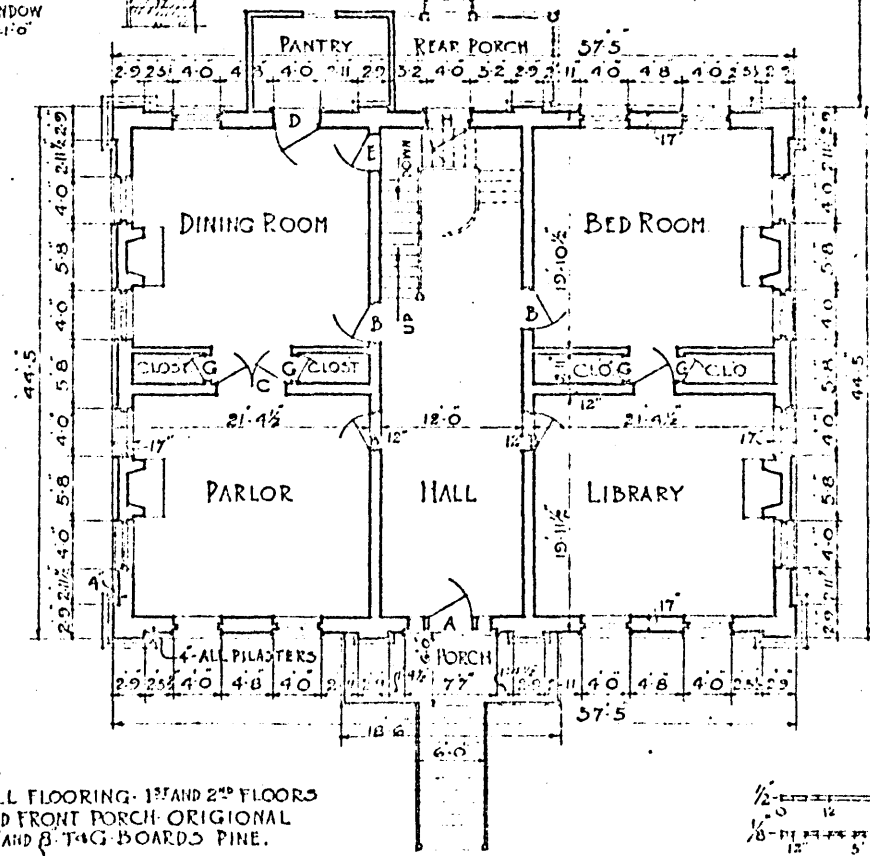
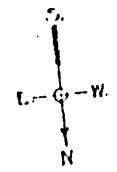
- DOOR SCHEDULE-
- A-3-0x7-0x1 1/2
 - B-3-4x7-5x1 1/2
 - C-2-5-0x8-0x1 1/2
 - D-3-0x7-0x1 1/2
 - E-3-0x6-6x1 1/2
 - F-3-0x7-4x1 1/2
 - G-2-2x6-8x1 1/2
 - H-3-4x6-7x1 1/2
 - I-5-4x7-0x1 1/2
 - J-4-0x7-0x1 1/2



WELL HOUSE

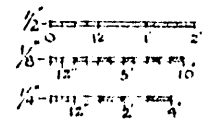


1936
BASEMENT PLAN.
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

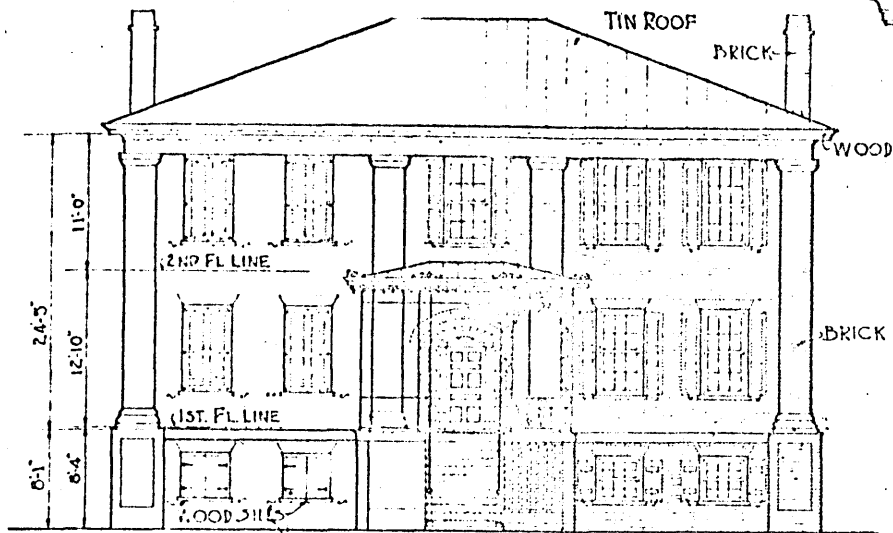


FIRST FLOOR PLAN.
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

NOTE-
ALL FLOORING-1ST AND 2ND FLOORS
AND FRONT PORCH ORIGINAL
7" AND 8" T&G BOARDS PINE.

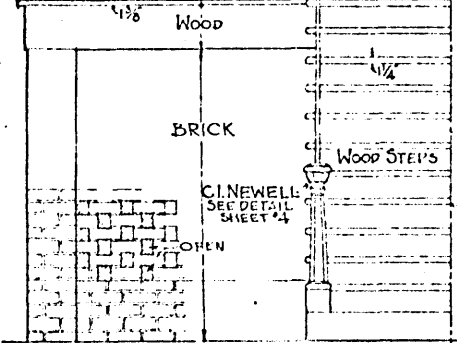
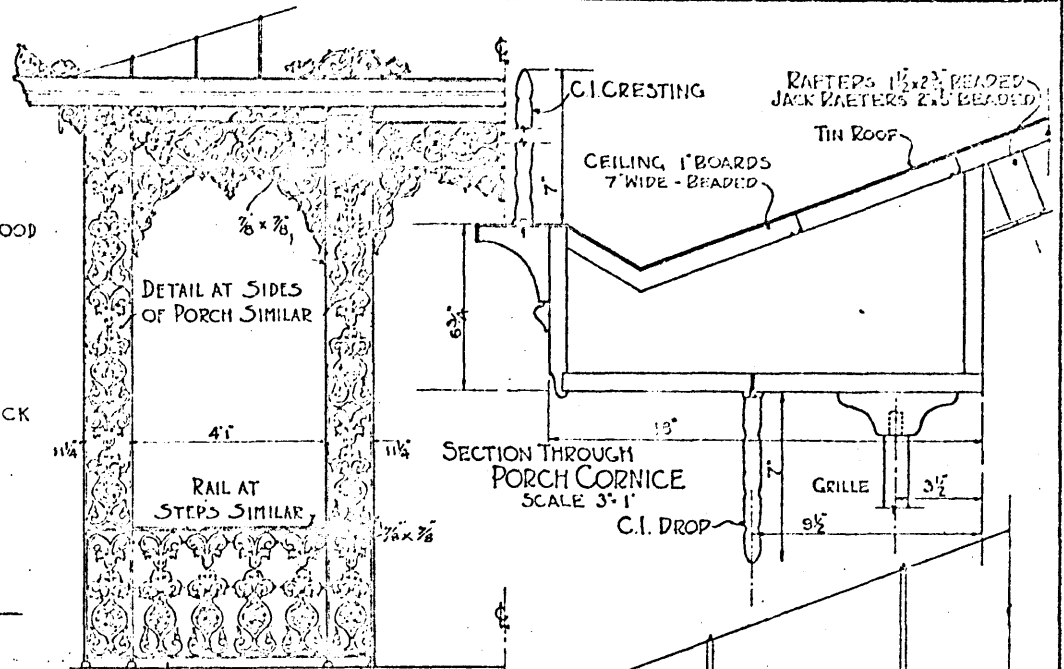


METRIC SCALE-10 C.M.

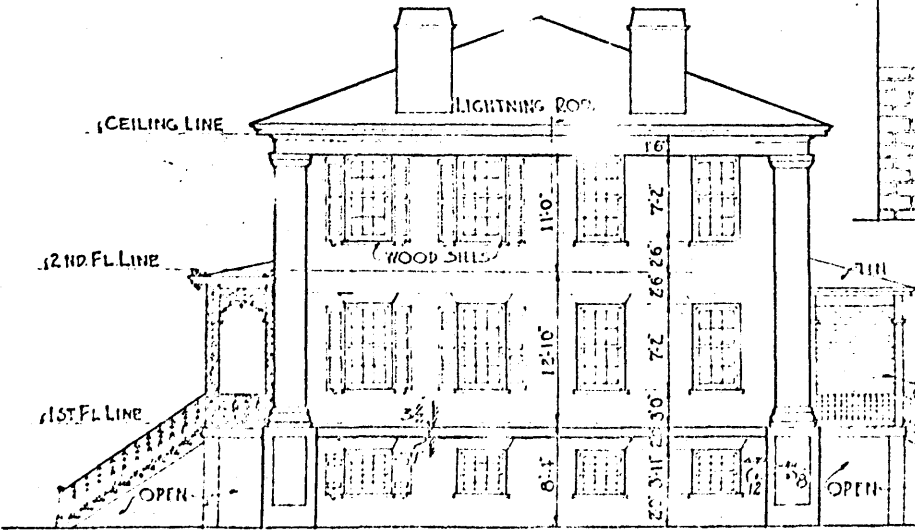
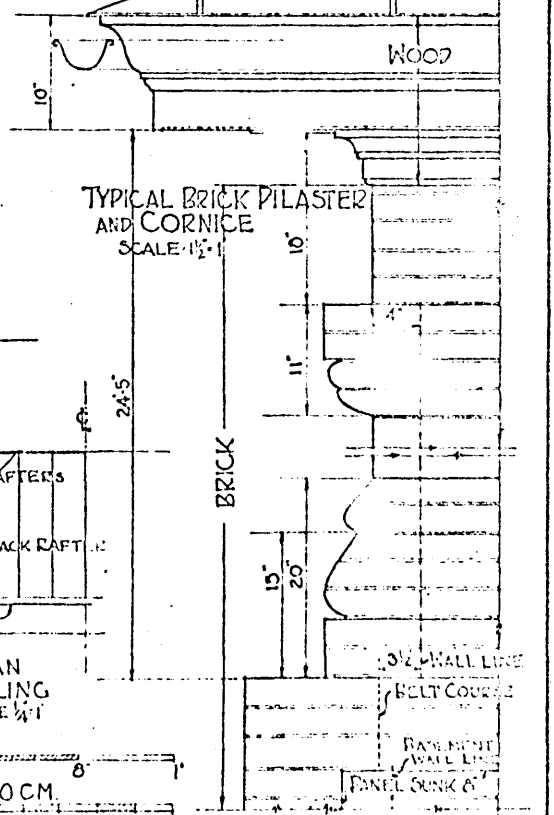


SEE DETAIL SHEET-24

NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'



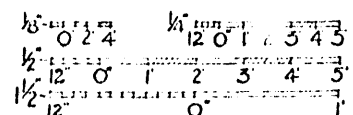
DETAIL PORCH C.I. WORK
SCALE 1/2" = 1'

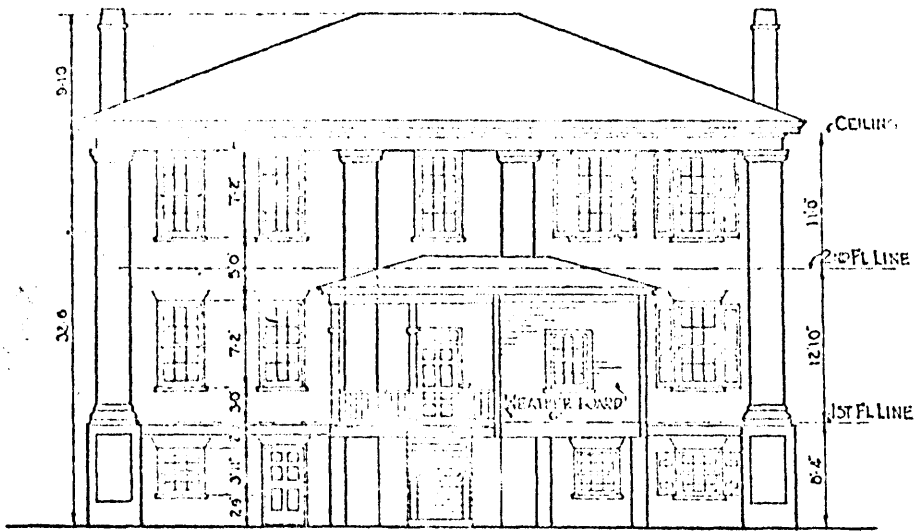


WEST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'

REFLECTED PLAN NORTH PORCH CEILING
SCALE 1/4" = 1'

NOTE
ALL BRICK THROUGHOUT-HAND MADE BY OWNERS SLAVED-SIZE ABOUT 2 1/2" X 8" X 4" CORNICES-50" X 53" VERTICAL-16" X 58" HORIZONTAL-42"
ALL BRICK WORK PAINTED WHITE.

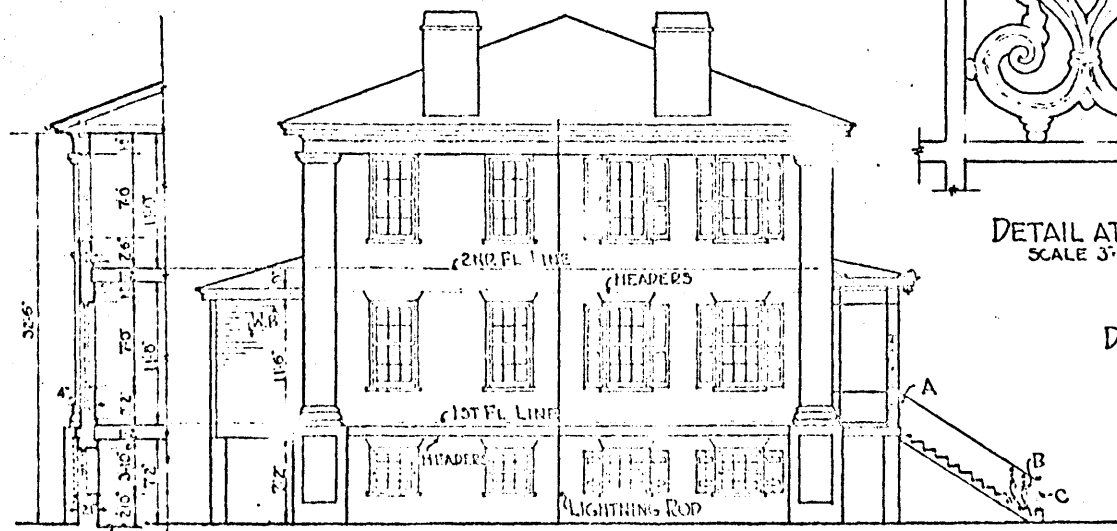




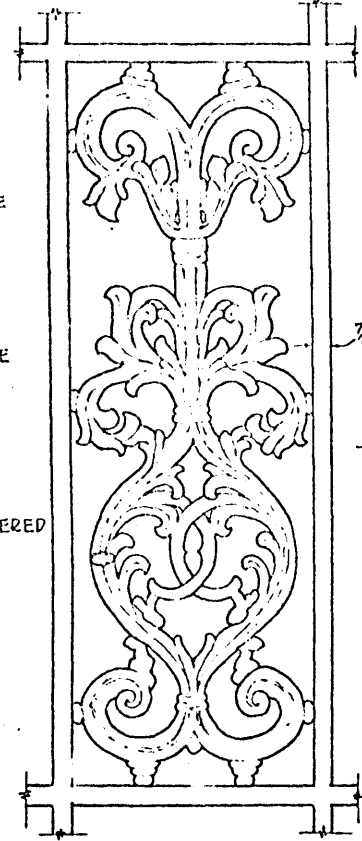
SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8"=1'

NOTE ORIGINAL PORCH WAS UNCOVERED ROOF AND PANTRY ADDED ABOUT 1900

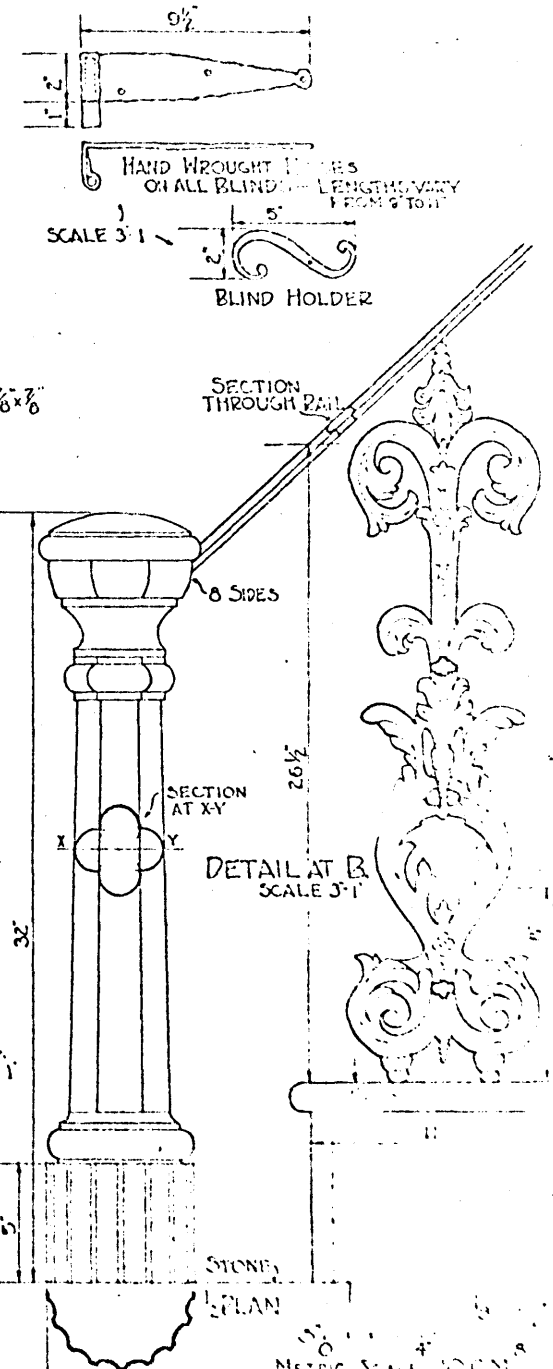
NOTE BLINDS ON ALL WINDOWS



EAST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8"=1'



DETAIL AT A.
SCALE 3"=1'



DETAIL AT B.
SCALE 3"=1'

DETAIL AT C.
SCALE 3"=1'

J.P. MERRILL, JR. ARCHT.

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THE CAMAK HOUSE

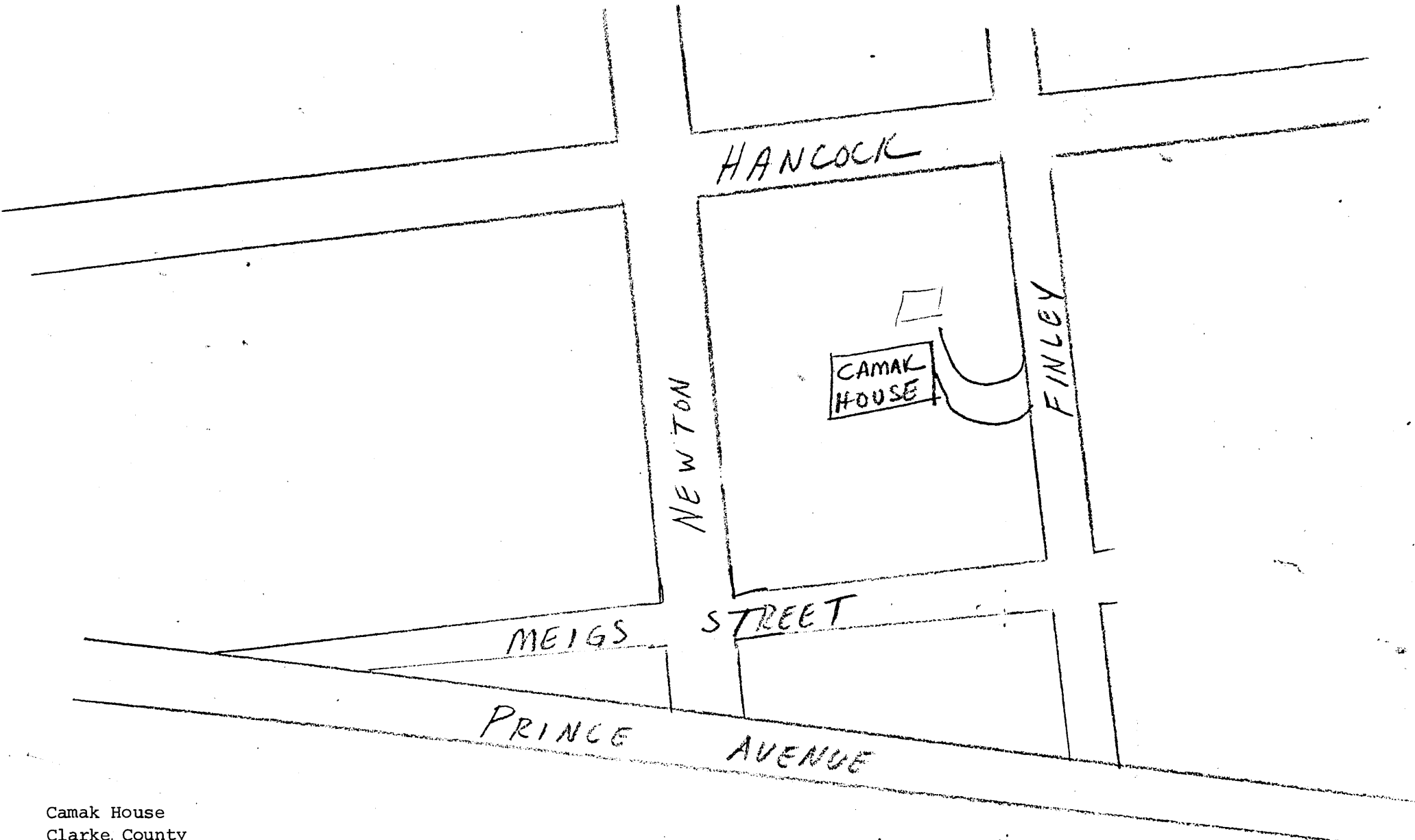
NAME OF STRUCTURE

**ATHENS - CLARKE COUNTY
GEORGIA**

NO. 11-67

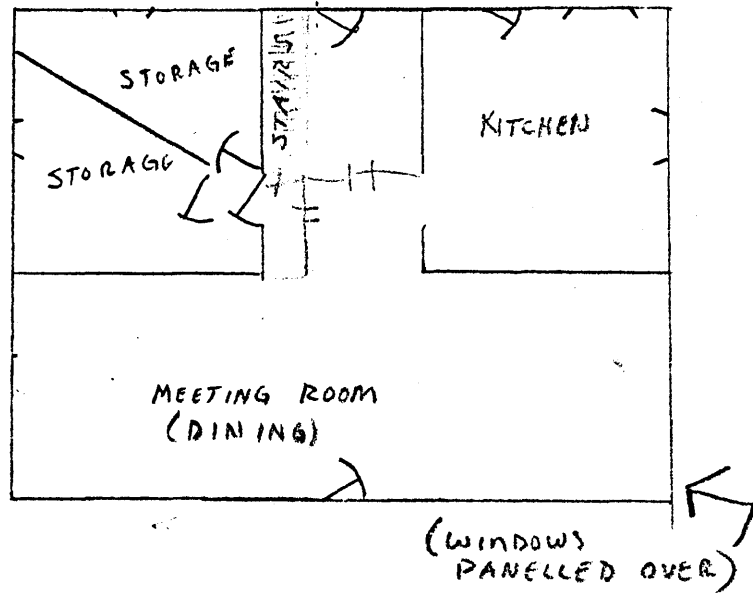
HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY

METRIC SCALE 1:1000

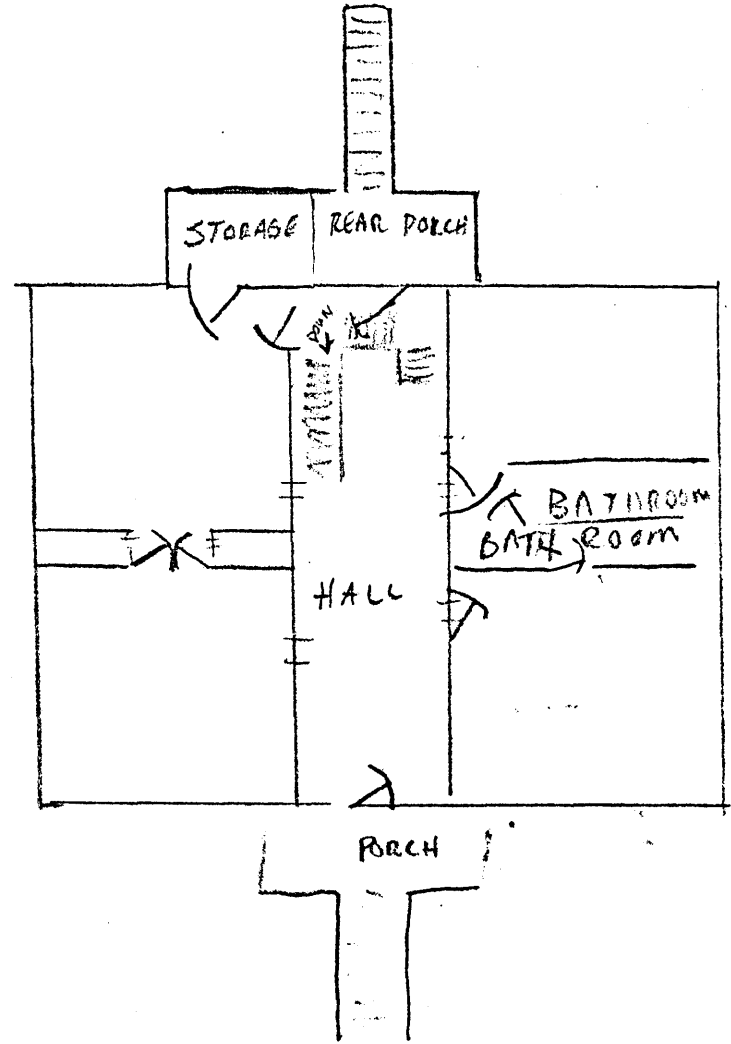


Camak House
Clarke County
Athens, Georgia
1975

Camak House
Clarke County
Athens, Georgia
1975

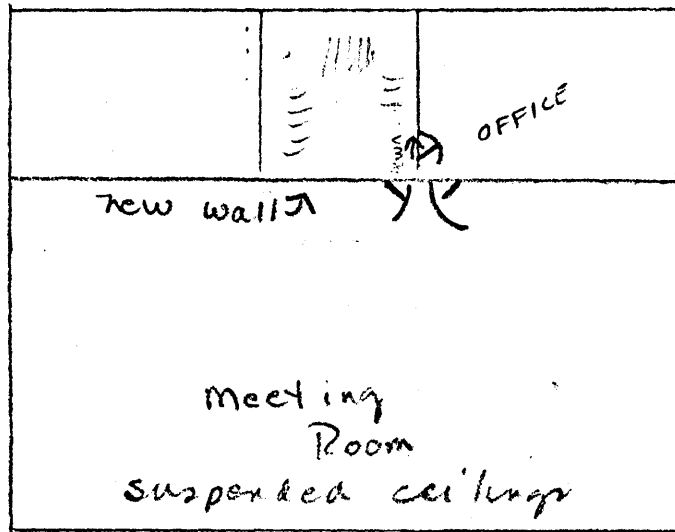


BASEMENT PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Camak House
Clarke County
Athens, Georgia
1975



SECOND FLOOR PLAN