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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (II known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a large, irregularly rectangular house, about eighty by sixty feet, two-and-one-half storeys high under steep, many-gabled roofs. Timber-framed, the house is faced with brick, clapboards and shingles, in that order from the ground floor upwards. These materials are well combined, without argumentative contrasts in colour or texture. Vertical accents are created in this example of the American "Queen Anne" or "shingle" style by the towering, pilastered chimneys, while strong interlocking patterns are created by the roof slopes and gable forms, the half-timbered and panelled wall surfaces and the window mullioning. Equally strong horizontal shadow patterns are created by the long and deep porch, with turned columns on brick pedestals, which stretches across the front of the house and at the entrance breaks forward into a porte-cochère. The New York/New Jersey architects Potter and Robinson indeed achieved by the above means the lively (but here self-contained) form and the picturesque silhouette coming into vogue when this house was built in 1877-1878.

The principal interior spaces are large, and the planning very open. The entrance vestibule leads into a large and dramatically conceived central hall ("living-hall") which originally rose the full height of the building's interior, open to galleries on the second and third levels, but which is now closed off between the second and third floors. This central hall opens to a broad stair-hall, a dining-room across the back of the house, and to drawing-room and library at either side. Service rooms are placed to one side of the house, running out beside and beyond the dining-room; bedrooms consume the second and third floors. The principal rooms of the lower floors are richly decorated, particularly with wood detail which is characterised by the free combination of Colonial Revival and Queen Anne motifs.

Originally a single-family dwelling, the house is now divided into three separate apartments, but this has been done with a minimum of alteration to either structure or trim. The original dark, stained woodwork is now painted over in light colours in many areas, and only a few traces of the original flocked wallpapers of red, vertically-striped pattern survive. With the few exceptions mentioned, the house remains a large, generally intact and valuable example of its period.

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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	🗇 🔲 'lóth Century	18th Century	20th Century
📋 15th Century	📋 17th Century '	🛣 19th Century	:
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1877–187	78	· •
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
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Prehistoric	Engineering	—	Other (Specify)
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X Architecture	Landscape	 Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
	Literature	itarian	
Communications	🔲 Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The house was constructed from the designs of Potter and Robinson-a firm which "came early to the Queen Anne stye and grew with it"--as a summer residence, only, for Commodore Charles H. Baldwin, U. S. N., of New York. It was built as a part of the development of Bellevue Avenue and the adjoining areas as a summer colony.

The house is particularly interesting as an example of the Shingle, or American Queen Anne, Style and has been documented as such. It is characterised by richly textured, decorative surfaces, revival detail freely used, open planning with dramatic interior spaces. Besides its importance as a specific example of an architectural period, it is significant and vital as a link in the Bellevue Avenue urban setting, reflecting the development of that area of Newport on a grand and prosperous scale.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Downing, Antoinette F., and S <u>Heritage of Newport, Rhod</u> 1967), pp. 158, 394, 395.	le Islan	Vincent d, 1640-	J., Jr 1915,	2nd ed	e Architec • (New Yo	ctural ork,
Scully, Vincent J., Jr.: The and London, 1955), pp. 75	Shingle-76.	e Style	<u>•••</u> (New Hav	ren, Conne	ecticut,
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STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	N				ER VERIFICA	
As the designated State Liaison Officer for t tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Pul 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for i in the National Register and certify that it ha evaluated according to the criteria and proce	blic Law inclusion as been	Nationa	l Registe	r.	coperty is incl	

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