

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **OCT 7 1985**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic BRICK STORE

and/or common Brick Store

2. Location

street & number Main Street (approximately 125' from the Bath Village Covered Bridge, at Main & West Branch Rd.) not for publication N/A

city, town Bath vicinity of

state New Hampshire code 33 county Grafton code 009

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Andrew and Joan Magrauth

street & number Main Street

city, town Bath, see #2 vicinity of state New Hampshire 03740

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Grafton County Courthouse
Grafton County Registry of Deeds
street & number Route 10

city, town North Haverhill, state New Hampshire 03774

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in the center of Bath, NH near the Bath Covered Bridge (built in 1832), which spans the Ammonusuc River, is the venerable Brick Store. A granite foundation supports the two story rectangular building of a basically Federal commercial design and massing with Greek Revival detailing. It is "constructed with double course brick and hand hewn beams 9-1/2" by 9"; the windows are deep set, 12 inches from the inside walls." (1) The extended parapet end gables with single crowning chimneys rise two feet above the tarred metal roof.

The six bay road front (east) elevation has two solid Greek Revival raised panel double doors (the outside door being half the size of the inside door) surmounted by Federal elliptical fan lights. Each is flanked by a two over two double hung sash window. Solid double folding shutters flank each of the first level windows. Windows on the entire front elevation have granite splayed lintels and sills. The four windows on the second level, directly above the first floor windows, are 21 over 21 double hung sash. A brick chimney extends from the roof flush with the front elevation between the third and fourth bay. Extending from the front elevation is a Greek Revival portico with four twenty two foot white twelve sided doric columns and a second level porch. Granite steps offer access to the two entrances to the store. A small unobtrusive skylight lies flush with the roof at the ridge directly above the southern most bay (south).

The north gable elevation is solid brick except for a centered door on the second level. A covered staircase extends up to the door from the lower left corner flush with the building. The south gable elevation is completely solid.

The rear elevation (west) has a 28 over 21 double hung sash window at each end bay and a nine pane glass raised panel door at the fifth bay from the left (north). Windows on the rear elevation have granite splayed lintels and wooden sills. A stationary 21 pane window and an opening for a ventilation fan form the third and fourth bay (from the left), respectively. As indicated by brick work, these two openings were originally the same size as the existing 28 over 21 pane windows. On the second floor, a combination casement-fixed window is directly above the first floor window at the right (south) bay. A casement window is above the the left (north) bay window; and another is above and slightly to the left of the first floor third bay window. Two additional skylights lie flush with the roof above the north bay. Access to the basement is through a door near the left (north) center of the building. Evidence of old advertisement signs for Lady Poor's Ointment and Morrison's Old English Liniment, which were painted in the mid 1800s, are visible on the north and west elevations.

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 checked="" 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 1804 **Builder/Architect** not known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Brick Store built in the early 1800s is significant because of its architecture and commercial relationship with the town of Bath, New Hampshire. The building is the only example of Federal Style commercial architecture in Bath and may well be the oldest continuously run general store in America.

The precise date of the Brick Store's construction has not been fully documented, however a reference book written in 1938 states that the structure was built in 1804.(1) The overall Federal style architecture substantiates this date. In any event, deed progression indicates a store on the site prior to 1814. There is reference made to a fire on February 11, 1824 and a subsequent six month repair process.(2) This offers the most likely explanation for the Greek Revival detailings, e.g., the front portico.

Since its construction, the Brick Store has been a general merchandise store, "but ...[it] has [also] been much more than a mere mart for the sale of goods. It has been, in an informal way, to Bath, what the Union League Club has been to New York City, except that it has been strictly non-partisan (without prejudice in either politics or religion), without "dues", a place for social exchange, passing of amenities and sometimes not."(3) It was "also the post office, bringing daily a gathering of citizens at mail time to indulge in social exchange while the mail [was] being distributed."(4)

The second recorded owners of the store were James and Samual Hutchins, sons of Jeremial Hutchins, one of the first settlers of the town of Bath. They also operated a store and the Jeremial Hutchins' Tavern (entered in the National Register for Historic Places, September 7, 1984) in the Upper Village. In 1829 James's son, William acquired the Brick Store and ran it until 1848. Throughout the 1800s and to the present the Brick Store has continuously been operated as a general merchandise store. From the mid 1800s until 1943 it also housed the Post Office. The two large rooms (offices) upstairs "have housed lawyers' rooms, a millinery shop [and] a press."(5) Today, with the exception of a small convenience store, built in the 1950s, the Brick Store is the only retail establishment in Bath Village.

Architecturally the Brick Store is "one of the finest early commercial buildings in New Hampshire".(6) The imposing structure with its Greek

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Lisbon, NH

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	9	2	6	2	8	0	0	4	8	9	4	4	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundaries of the nominated property are highlighted in yellow on the accompanying map, being part of Bath, NH Tax Assessor's Map #46. These boundaries represent the property historically associated with the Brick Store.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James Peters

organization Bath Historical Society

date 12 July 1985

street & number P.O. Box 23

telephone (603) 747-2445

city or town Bath

state New Hampshire

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.

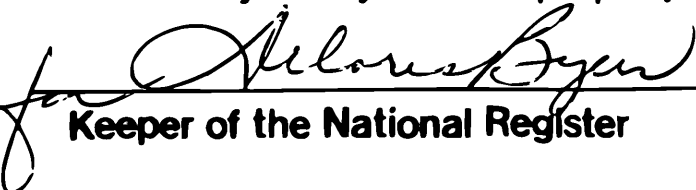
State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9/26/85

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 11-7-85

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO
New Hampshire Iron Company	Samuel & James Hutchins	12/21/1814	65	139-40
James Hutchins & Sons	James Hutchins, Jr. & William V. Hutchins	6/2/29	111	12
James Hutchins, Jr., George Hutchins & Sullivan Hutchins	William V. Hutchins	9/1/32	122	177
William V. Hutchins	James H. Johnson & William Mattock	1/10/48	193	266
J.H. Johnson & William Mattock	David G. A. Foster	8/13/63	274	506
D. G. A. Foster	James Foster	—/—/88	—	—
Mary Foster (widow)	Benjamin A. Stymest	4/27/1931	625	126
Desdemona Stymest (widow) & Doris S. Whitcomb d/b/a Stymest Co.	Doris S. & Harry D. Whitcomb	3/29/33	637	464
Doris S. Whitcomb	Russell & Olga Armstrong	11/27/62	978	564/66
R. V. & Olga Armstrong	Gary M. Shoemaker	10/15/75	1260	148
Gary M. Shoemaker	Vincent DiCarlo & Dorothy Callahan	3/7/77	1303	423-4
Vincent DiCarlo & Dorothy Callahan	Andrew & Joan Magrauth	10/7/83	1485	128

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The building measures 32 feet by 52 feet and is essentially one large room on the first level. The ceiling is supported by four columns, spaced equally between the gable ends. The left-most column is imbedded in a wall which sections off a small room at the south end, which was formerly the town's post office. In the back of this room (southwest corner) are the enclosed stairs up to the second and third floor and down to the basement. The ceiling of the store and the post office walls and ceiling are tongue and groove, single and double beaded boarding. The double beaded boards are 2-1/2" wide and the single, 1-1/2" wide

The second floor, formerly two large rooms used as offices and storage, is now used as living quarters by the store owners. One room (south) is the kitchen, living room and dining space. The other room (north) is divided to form a study, bedroom and bath. The third floor attic is used for two additional bedrooms and a bath.

Dominant interior fixtures of the store include the small post office room which still includes the original postmaster's window and 14 boxes. Early "hoop" variety counters across the front of the store and a brick match safe remains intact. On the second level, there is an eleven foot bullwheel which was "used to hoist barrels of sugar, flour and molasses through a trap door" (2) which also remains functional. Patched floor boards indicate that a staircase may have been located near the center of the store between the first and second floors.

The land surrounding the Brick Store includes paved road and parking in the front (east), with the Bath Common beyond. There is lawn on the north and west sides with a white picket fence in the rear. An eight foot alley runs the length of the south elevations and separates the store from another building. The property is comprised of approximately 1/10 of one acre.

1 Edwin Chamberlin, Louise Bailey, et. al., Historical Notes of BATH New Hampshire 1765-1965, (Courier Printing Company, Littleton, New Hampshire, 1982), p. 17.

2 Chamberlin, op. cit., p. 17.

3 Chamberlin, op. cit., p. 15.

Note: This nomination reflects one contributing building.

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Revival portico is the only Federal Style commercial building in Bath. Numerous brick buildings were built in Bath during the early nineteenth century--almost exclusively Federal in style. Only residential remain. One, built in the Upper Village by the Hutchins family in 1816, has similar extended parapet gables to the store. Although not brick, another building in Bath Village, built in 1804, has an almost identical Greek Revival portico and upstairs porch.

The Brick Store is in excellent condition and contains many of the features of earlier times. Of specific note is the "hoop" variety counter, "so called because the angled upright sides enabled the hoop-skirted ladies to get nearer to the displays of merchandise."(7) The old post office boxes and the delivery window remain intact. A eleven foot bullwheel (still functional) dominates a second floor room. Still viable on the back outside walls (facing the covered bridge) are "painted advertisements for Lady Poor's Ointment and...Morrison's Old English Liniment."(8)

Today, although necessary modernization has occurred, the Brick Store maintains its early charm and architectural integrity. It serves the same function as it did in days past--a gathering place for residents and visitors to buy goods and for social exchange.

1 Workers of the Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration for the State of New Hampshire, NEW HAMPSHIRE--A Guide to the Granite State, (Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1938), p. 404.

2 Rev. David Sutherland, Address Delivered to the Inhabitants of Bath..., (Press of George C. Rand & Avery, Boston, 1855), p. n.a.

3 Stanley Johnson, "Centenary of Old Brick Store." The Courier, (Littleton, NH, September 20, 1923), p. 2.

4 "Bath, The Old Brick Store's Centennial." The Courier, (Littleton, NH, September 20, 1923), p. n.a.

5 Bryant F. Tolles, Jr. New Hampshire Architecture, (University Press of New England, Hanover, NH, 1979) p. 310.

6 Louise C. Bailey, "The Little Brick Town of Bath." Yankee Magazine, (May 1971), p. 167.

7 Bailey, op. cit., p. 17.

8 Bailey, op. cit., p. 15.

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Bailey, Louise C. "The Little Brick Town of Bath." Yankee, May 1971, p. 102.

"Bath, The Old Brick Store's Centennial." The Courier, (Littleton, NH), 20 September 1923, p. n.a.

Chamberlin, Edwin; Louise Bailey; et.al. Historical Notes of BATH New Hampshire 1765-1965. Courier Printing Company, Littleton, NH (1982).

Johnson, Stanley. "Centenary of Old Brick Store." The Courier, (Littleton, NH), 22 January 1925, p. 2.

Sutherland, Rev. David. Address Delivered to the Inhabitants of Bath.... Press of George C. Rand & Avery, Boston (1855).

Tolles, Bryant F., Jr. New Hampshire Architecture. University Press of New England, Hanover, NH (1979).

Workers of the Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration for the State of New Hampshire. NEW HAMPSHIRE A Guide to the Granite State, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston (1938).

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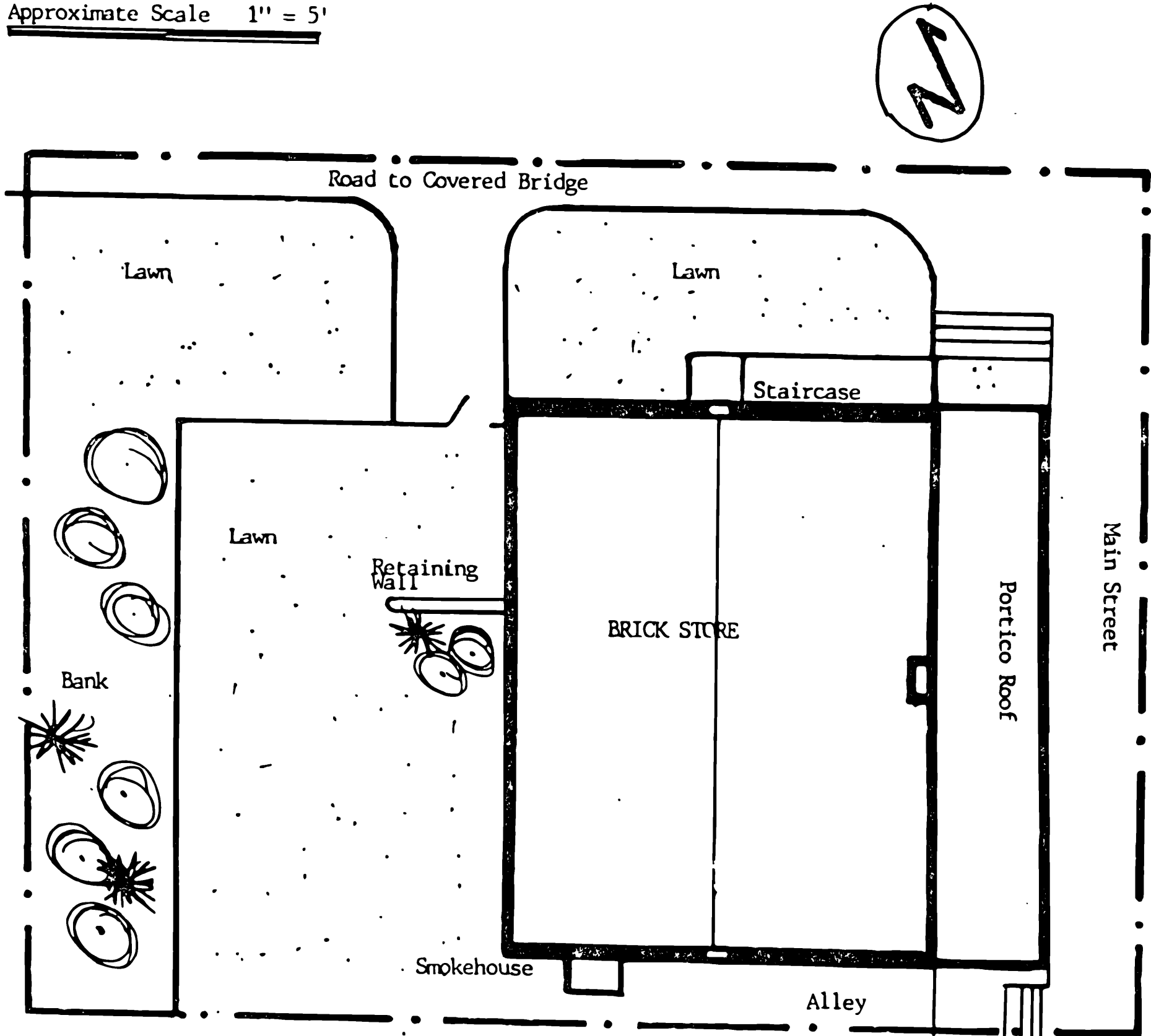
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Approximate Scale 1" = 5'



THE BRICK STORE
of
BATH, N.H.

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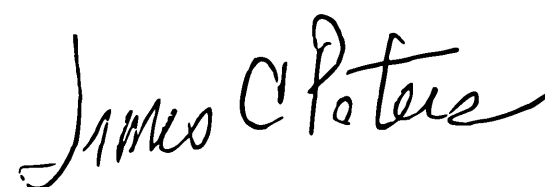
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JUL 16 1985

In reference to the accompanying photographs: The appearance of the Brick Store has not been altered since the photographs were taken in January of 1985.



James C. Peters