

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Providence	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Corliss-Carrington House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
66 Williams Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Providence

STATE: Rhode Island CODE: COUNTY: Providence CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Washington Irving

STREET AND NUMBER:
66 Williams Street

CITY OR TOWN: Providence STATE: Rhode Island CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:
Kennedy Plaza

CITY OR TOWN: Providence STATE: Rhode Island CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (55 sheets and 3 photos)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1937, 1956, 1962 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington 20540

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edward Carrington House is a large square three-story brick town house with balustraded and hipped roof, parapeted roof deck, and a two-story porch. Built of gray-brown brick laid in Flemish bond and trimmed in brownstone, the structure is 45 feet 9 inches square and has a rear two-story ell at the northwest corner which was added by 1815.

The main (south) facade is five-bays wide and is dominated by a large (24 by 7 feet), elaborate, two-story porch with **superimposed** Corinthian and Ionic capitals of wood, carved by B. Sturges, and topped by a balustraded roof. First story columns are of iron and the four upper ones are of wood. The corners of the house are marked by large brownstone quoins; window frames on the south elevation are rusticated with brownstone quoins and topped by flat arch rusticated lintels with keystones. Windows on the other three elevations are similar, except that their brownstone trim is not rusticated. Third-story windows are reduced in height and the third-floor level is marked by a prominent brownstone belt course. The cornice is modillioned and a carved wood balustrade extends around the roof at the eaves. The hip roof is cut off to form a flat deck in the center and the deck is enclosed by a wood parapet. A pair of tall end chimneys rise from each side wall. The center door in the main facade is flanked by two pair of engaged columns; the doorway is framed with rusticated brownstone quoins, topped by a wide elliptical fan light, and flanked by sidelights. The five-bay west (side) elevation also has a center door with fan light and is sheltered by a one-story pedimented portico with two columns.

The first-story plan of the house has a wide central hall extending through from front to rear, dividing the four rooms on this floor into pairs. The two rooms on the west side are further **separated** by a lateral hall that leads from the center hall to the west door. The fine spiral staircase is located in the center of the house in the main hall and was **separated** from full view of the entrance hall by a wall treated as a half door. This partition has been removed, revealing the staircase, but the leaded glass arched fanlight of the partition has been left in place. To the east, or right, of the hall are double parlors, and the room in the northeast (rear) corner served briefly (until 1815) as the first dining room. To the west of the hall, in front, is a parlor that was once utilized as a library, and in the northwest (rear) corner, the first kitchen which became the present dining room in 1815, when the existing kitchen was built in the added rear ell.

The southeast parlor is the most elaborate room in the house and its decorations have been attributed to John Holden Greene, a Providence Architect. The walls are hung with a handsome Chinese handpainted paper said to have been made about 1823; this paper has been carefully cleaned and restored. The overmantels, overdoors, and recessed windows are elaborately decorated with broken-scroll pediments. The original Adamesque first-floor mantels were removed and replaced around 1845 by the existing Greek Revival styled white marble mantels.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1810-11, 1812

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
 Built in 1810-12, the Edward Carrington House is a superb example of a large brick Adamesque-Federal styled town house. The exteriors and interiors are little-altered.

History

Built by John Corliss as a two-story brick residence in 1810-11, the house was acquired by the wealthy merchant Edward Carrington in 1812. Carrington enlarged the structure by adding a third story and the porches. The house remained in the possession of the Carrington family to June, 1936, when it was given to the Rhode Island School of Design. The residence was acquired by the present owner in 1961.

The few changes made during the Victorian period have been removed: gas chandeliers have been replaced by Federal period chandeliers and later bookcases have been removed from the southwest first-floor library (now a parlor).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Antoinette F. Downing, Early Houses of Rhode Island (Richmond, Va., 1937), 350, 365, 367, 383, 387.

Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Rhode Island Architecture (Providence, 1939)

Rhode Island, A Guide to the Smallest State (American Guide Series) (Boston, 1937), 278.

Dorothy and Richard Pratt, A Guide to Early American Homes - North(New York, 1956), 92.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		41° 49' 20"	71° 24' 09"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 170 feet by 207 feet, 35,190 square feet

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles W. Snell, Survey Historian

ORGANIZATION: Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER: 801-19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D. C.

DATE: 7/20/70

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Edward Carrington House.

7. Description (1)

The northeast (rear) parlor has simpler woodwork and is hung with an original French scenic wallpaper by Joseph Dufour and Company of Paris, entitled Indian Landscapes, printed in 1815. The dining room in the northwest corner has another Dufour paper, The Adventures of Telemachus on the Island of Calypso, printed in 1825. This paper was originally hung in the library in the southwest corner, where it was almost concealed by Victorian period bookcases. This paper has also been cleaned and restored. In the former southwest library the bookcases have been removed and the room restored as a parlor.

On the second and third floors the central hallways do not follow the plan of the main floor, but run parallel with the front of the house. The second floor rooms, which include three large bedrooms and a dressing room, have their original Adamesque mantels. The third floor contains three more chamber and a storage room.

The Edward Carrington House has been carefully restored since 1960 and is in excellent condition. Used as a private residence, the house is not open to visitors.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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9. Major Bibliographical References for the Carrington House, Providence:

Wayne Andrews, Architecture, Ambition, and Americans (New York, 1955). 93.

Knowlton Mixer, Old Houses of New England (New York, 1927), 335.

Hugh Gourley, III, "Carrington House, Providence, Rhode Island," Antiques
February, 1961, 1962.

Richard Pratt, Second Treasury of Early American Houses (New York, 1954).

Antoinette F. Downing, "The Fate of Carrington House," Rhode Island History
Vol. XVI (January, 1962), 1-7.

Museum Notes, Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence
Vol. 3, No. 4, April, 1945.