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April 10, 2024

By Hand

Glenn Richards, Chair
Historical Commission
City of Newburyport
City Hall
60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950

Re: Request for Advisory Review - Demolition Control Overlay District;
25 Ashland Street, Newburyport, MA (the "Property")
Assessor's Map: 66 Lot: 21

Dear Mr. Richards and Members of the Commission:

Reference is made to the above-captioned matter. In that connection, this firm represents Andrew and Louise Simonds (the "Applicant") and owner of the Property relative to proposed renovations of the residential structure (the "Structure") on the Property. The Applicant requests that the Commission submit a written report to the Zoning Board regarding: (a) the significance of the Structure; and (b) the relative importance of the Structure in the context of the block where it is located.

The Property is located in the R2 Zoning District ("R2 District") and Demolition Control Overlay District ("DCOD") under the Ordinance and is improved with the Structure, which is a single family home. There is also an accessory structure on the Property. The Structure is comprised of the original structure built in or around 1765 (the "Historic Home"), an addition completed sometime between 1884 and 1924 (the "First Addition") and another addition completed in 1998 (the "1998 Addition"). Both additions are on the rear of the Historic Home. The Applicant proposes to remove the First Addition and the 1998 Addition and add a new addition in their place. The accessory structure on the Property will be removed and a new shed will be built as shown on the Applicant's plans (the "Plans"), which are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. The accessory structure shed was constructed in or around 1932¹ and is not listed as Contributory on the District Data Sheets and therefore does not fall under the jurisdiction of the DCOD or Historic Commission Review.

The lot area of the Property is nonconforming with 9,690 square feet, where a minimum of 10,000 square feet is required for single-family use. The Property has 53.79 feet of frontage. The Property's frontage is pre-existing nonconforming, as the R2 district requires a minimum frontage of 90 feet for single-family use. The Structure is pre-existing nonconforming for side yard setback, as it encroaches into the side yard setback. The setback for the right side of the Structure is 7.5 feet. Single-family use in

¹ See **Exhibit B** which shows an inscription of the year "1932" at the shed.

Millis Office

730 Main Street, Suite 1F
Millis, MA 02054
Phone/Fax 508.376.8400

New Bedford Office

227 Union Street, Suite 606
New Bedford, MA 02740

the R2 district requires 10-foot side yard setbacks. Similarly, the Structure encroaches on the front yard setback, with a setback of 9.2 feet where 25 feet is required. The Property meets all other Zoning requirements.

The Applicant proposes to remove the First Addition and the 1998 Addition with other minor modifications to openings, which would result in the removal of 40.57% of the exterior walls as defined under the DCOD as shown on the sheet entitled "DCOD" in the Plans. The Applicant is adding 1045 square feet of living space.

History

The Historic Home likely was built in 1765 on the land that is now Atkinson Common². It was the home of Eunice Atkinson Currier ("EAC") and was previously the home of her grandmother, Eunice Atkinson. See **Exhibit C**. In 1854, Moses A Currier ("MAC") purchased the land that would become the Property. See **Exhibit F**³. However, we are informed that that in 1856 MAC of 27 Ashland Street and George E. Currier of 21 Ashland street purchased the land between their houses. See **Exhibit G**. In 1858, EAC was living with her husband, Moses C. Currier ("MCC") in his house at 259 Merrimac Street. See **Exhibit G**. MCC decked vessels built by the firm of Currier and Townsend and later worked in the yard of John Currier. **Exhibit D**. In 1859, EAC purchased the Property from her stepson, MAC. See **Exhibit G**. At some point prior to 1860, it is presumed that the Historic Home was moved from Atkinson Common to the Property.⁴ By 1860 EAC was living at 25 Ashland Street, presumably in the house moved from Atkinson Common. See **Exhibit G**. EAC gave the land for Atkinson Common to the City in 1873.⁵ In 1873, EAC bequeathed the Property to her step-granddaughter and namesake, Eunice Atkinson Currier (EAC-2) by her will. See **Exhibit G**. However, the Form B states that she left the house to MAC. See **Exhibit D**. EAC-2 was a child, eight or nine years old, at that time. See **Exhibit C**.

In 1882 or 1883, EAC-2, around 18 years old, married Samuel G. Williams ("SGW") and they lived at 27 Ashland Street by 1884 or 1885. See **Exhibit J**. MAC was charged to assume management of the Historic Home until EAC-2 turned twenty-one. See **Exhibit G**. We are informed that the City Directory indicates that EAC-2 and her family likely began living at the Property 1900 ±. The Property was rented out prior to that. This may indicate that the First Addition was constructed around 1900. EAC-2 lived at the Property until her death on February 14, 1943. See **Exhibit C**.

An 1872 map of the City prepared by D.G. Beers & Co. shows the Historic Home, without the First Addition yet constructed. An 1884 map of Ward 6 of the City from the Newburyport Public Library Archival Center still showed the Historic Home without the First Addition. **Exhibit K**. The Property first appeared on a Sanborn Map in 1924 and 1924 Assessors' Maps which show the First Addition. **Exhibits L, M and N**.

In 1993, Andrew Simonds purchased the Property. In 1998, the Applicant completed the 1998 Addition.

² See **Exhibit C**; the Form B, attached hereto as **Exhibit D**, which states a date of construction of 1830; and the District Data Sheet, attached hereto as **Exhibit E** which includes dates of 1765 and 1850 and lists the Structure as Contributory.

³ As recorded in the Salem Registry of Deeds at Book 502, Page 275.

⁴ See Deed recorded at the Salem Registry of Deeds at Book 569, Page 132 attached at **Exhibit H** which states "with the Buildings thereon..." But see also **Exhibit G** which indicates that in 1859, it was possible that the Original Home was not yet moved, and referred to out buildings.

⁵ See **Exhibit I**, excerpts from the *History of Newburyport Mass.* by John J. Currier; see also: <https://historynewburyport.com/atkinson-common/>

Condition and Proposed Plans

As described in the letter from Joseph Fix, P.E., Structural Engineer addressed to the Newburyport Zoning Board of Appeals, attached hereto as **Exhibit O**, the brick and rubble foundation of the First Addition is in poor condition, with large cracks, possibly due to shifting and settlement of the soil under the foundation.⁶ The letter states: “[t]he poor conditions and cracks in the foundation of the ell indicate poor structural integrity and the foundation requires repair, regardless of any other plans for renovation.” Preserving the First Addition while repairing the foundation, whether for renovations or simply for repair, would require much difficulty, danger, and expense.

As shown in **Exhibit A**, the Applicant proposes no changes to the Historic Home, only to the two additions. The Historic Home contains the weight of historical significance in the Structure. The Historic Home sat on Atkinson Common and then was, presumably painstakingly, moved from the land that is now Atkinson Common. The two additions came after the interesting history of the Atkinson and Currier families, at least a decade (if not three or four) after the donation of the land for Atkinson Common.

The Historic Home has been the center of much change since its construction; including changes to its location, surroundings, and additions — all presumably without changes to the actual Historic Home.⁷ In the same manner, the Applicant intends to honor that history by improving the overall Structure with a new addition, without changing the Historic Home.

Importantly, the proposed addition is to the rear of the Historic Home in much of the same footprint as the First and 1998 Additions. The proposed addition is stepped in from the side of the historic home and lower in height, thereby making it subservient to the historic structure. The design picks up on the important architectural details of the existing Historic Home such as the corner boards and window design and trim. In fact, the proposed addition gives more deference to the original historic structure than does the first addition.

⁶ The poor condition of the foundation can be seen in the photographs attached at **Exhibit P**, taken at the time of the 1998 Addition.

⁷ But note that the Obituary at **Exhibit C** states a date of 1765, the Form B at **Exhibit D** lists 1830, and the District Data Sheets at **Exhibit E** lists dates of 1765 and 1780.

Requested Advisory Determination

As a result, the Applicant requests that the Commission submit a written report to the Zoning Board regarding: (a) the significance of the Structure; and (b) the relative importance of the Structure in the context of the block where it is located.

A copy of the site plan and architectural plans for the proposed renovations are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. Exterior photographs of the Structure and the surrounding neighborhood are attached hereto as **Exhibit Q**. The project will be completed in accordance with all other requirements of the Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew and Louise Simonds
By their Attorney,



Lisa L. Mead
Benjamin J. Roberts

Exhibits
cc: client

Exhibit A

THE SIMONDS RESIDENCE
25 ASHLAND STREET NEWBURYPORT, MA 01950



2 EXISTING WEST (RIGHT SIDE) ELEVATION
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"



1 PROPOSED WEST (RIGHT SIDE) ELEVATION
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

REVISION & REISSUE NOTES

No.	Date	Notes

Project # 2023-41	Project Manager X.X.	Date 4-5-24
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Scale: AS NOTED

PROPOSED/EXISTING ELEVATIONS

A4

Exhibit B



Exhibit C

OPS AID ARAB VICTIM OF NAZI RAID



CLOTHING and army helmets carry off an Arab who was injured when Nazi h Morocco. He was hurt by bomb fragments a few days after American Africa. This is an official U. S. Signal Corps photograph. (International)

**ELKS TO MARK
75TH ANNIVERSARY**

Newburyport Elks this week join their half-a-million fellow members of 1400 lodges throughout the United States, Alaska, the Canal Zone, Puerto Rico and Hawaii in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the order on February 16, 1868, in New York city, by Charles Vivian and a group of fellow actors and theatrical men.

Keyed to the spirit of the times, observance of the diamond jubilee will be marked here and throughout Elksdom by intensification of the myriad roles the order is playing in winning the war and by special meetings in every lodge home to pay tribute to the founders of the Order. One of the highlights in Tuesday's observance will be a 15-minute address by the grand exalted ruler, E. Mark Sullivan of Boston, over the nation-wide network of the Columbia Broadcasting system. He will be heard locally over station WEEI at 5.30 p. m.

Of special significance Tuesday night will be the traditional "11 o'clock toast" which will be dedicated not only to the "absent brothers" as is customary wherever Elks are gathered at that hour, but to the more than 55,000 members of the order serving in the armed forces and to the 546 members of the lodges at Manila, Philippine Islands, and Agana, Guam, who were taken captive or perished when these two American possessions fell to the Japanese.

Secretary William P. Soucie of Newburyport lodge 909 declared that many members of the lodge are participating in the war effort today, some in uniform and others on the home front.

**MRS. EUNICE A.
WILLIAMS DIES
IN 79TH YEAR**

Mrs. Eunice Atkinson (Currier) Williams, a lifelong resident of Belleville, died suddenly at her home, 25 Ashland street, yesterday morning, at the age of 78 years, 5 months and 24 days. She was the widow of Samuel G. Williams.

She had always been active in the affairs of the Belleville church, of which she was a member, and in the activities of several organizations, including the Belleville Ladies' Home circle, and Belleville Improvement society, of which she was a member from the time of its inception. She was a member of the Newburyport Woman's club. For many years she was a teacher of the piano, and took a keen interest in musical affairs.

Mrs. Williams' Ashland street home, built in 1765, was originally located on land now a part of Atkinson Common. It was the house of her grandmother, Eunice Atkinson, who gave the land to the city for park purposes.

She is survived by two sons, Moses H. Williams of Worcester and Richard C. Williams of this city; two daughters, Mrs. Olin L. Vance and Mrs. Ernest H. Addison of this city; the following grandchildren, Elinor Williams of Boston, Robert A. Williams of Worcester, Priscilla D. Williams, Mrs. Joanne (Vance) Smith, Mrs. Judith (Vance) Burnham, and David W. Addison, all of Newburyport; a sister, Mrs. Orra L. Williams of this city; and three nieces.

Funeral services will be at the home, at 2.30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and burial will be in the Belleville cemetery.

Exhibit D

Area	Form no.
	502

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

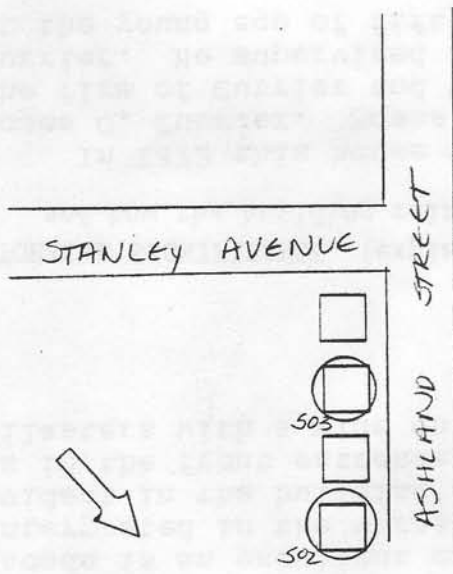


City Newburyport
 Address 25 Ashland Street
 Historic Name _____
 Use: Original Residence
 Present Residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Unknown

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1830
 Source Building Fabric
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect Unknown
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
 Outbuildings Garage
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
 Moved _____ Date _____
 Approx. acreage 9,430 sq. ft.
 Setting in residential area of eighteenth and nineteenth century dwellings near the banks of the Merrimack River.



Recorded by Mary Jane Stirkwolt
 Organization Office of Community Development
 Date 01-06-81

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

This two story house with pitched roof and symmetrical five bay facade is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style as interpreted in the vernacular. The influence of the Greek style is evident in the building's bold classically inspired cornerboards as well as in the front entrance. This door is flanked by sidelights and pilasters with a wide entablature above.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

In 1872 this house was owned by Mrs. Eunice A. Currier, widow of Moses C. Currier. Moses Currier had decked all of the vessels built by the firm of Currier and Townsend and later worked in the yard of John Currier. He supervised a crew of sixty or seventy men at times. He died at the young age of fifty-two.

When Mrs. Currier died, she left this property to Moses A. Currier for his use until his death. In 1943 the heirs of Mrs. Currier sold the house to Henry Duggan.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessor's Records 1890-1980
1872 Map of the City of Newburyport, Mass. D. G. Beers and Co.
1871 City Directory

Exhibit E

NEWBURYPORT
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

Street Address	Map & Parcel	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Style	Status
971 3 2929	67-17		ca 1875	Italianate	C
972 5 2930	67-18		ca 1800; ca 1910	central-chimney Federalist; Colonial Revival	C
973 7 2931	67-19		ca 1850-1875	mid-Victorian cottage	C
974 11 2932	67-20		ca 1870	Italianate	C
✓ 13-15 # 233	67-21		ca 1845	Greek Revival	C
17	67-22	yard			
✓ 19-21 # 235	67-23		ca 1850	Greek Revival	C
476 23 2934	66-20		pre 1875	timber-frame(?) & mid-Victorian	C
✓ 25 # 502	66-21		ca 1765; ca 1850	central-chimney timber-frame; Greek Revival	C
477 27 2936	66-22	House & Stable	ca 1850	sidehall Greek Revival	C
✓ 29 # 503	66-23		ca 1850	sidehall Greek Revival	C
478 31 2938	66-24	Double House	ca 1850	Greek Revival	C

Exhibit F

and convey the same to the said William D. Smith his heirs and assigns forever as aforesaid: and that I will and my heirs, executors and administrators, shall warrant and defend the same to the said William D. Smith his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. Provided Nevertheless, That if the said Hershey Barabee his heirs, executors or administrators shall pay unto the said William D. Smith his executors, administrators or assigns, the sum of one hundred dollars in one year from date with interest annually thereon to be paid, as also a certain note bearing even date with these presents, signed by the said Hershey Barabee whereby he promises to pay to the said William D. Smith or order the said sum and interest at the time aforesaid shall both be absolutely void to all intents and purposes. In witness whereof, I the said Hershey Barabee together with — wife of said Hershey who in consideration as aforesaid relinquishes all right to dower in the premises have hereunto set our hands and seals this first day of November in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty four:—

Hershey Barabee, Seal.

Figned sealed and delivered, }
 Olive M. Barabee, Seal.
 in presence of, Jerse G. Budget } Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Essex

23. Nov. 4, 1854. Then personally appeared the above named Hershey Barabee and acknowledged this above instrument to be his free act and deed:— before me, Ephm. Brown, Justice of the Peace,

Essex. ss. Dec. 4, 1854. 30m. post 10 o'clock P.M. Taken by Ephm. Brown Depy

502-275

J. W. Pierce }
 M. A. Currier }
 Know all men by these presents, That J. Jacob W. Pierce of Boston County of Suffolk & Commonwealth of Massachusetts Merchant, in consideration of one hundred & eighty nine Dollars $55\frac{1}{10}$ paid by Moses A. Currier of Newburyport County of Essex & Commonwealth aforesaid, this receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Moses A. Currier, a certain lot of land in the City of Newbury

port, aforesaid on a way leading from High Street, bounded as follows. Beginning at the Southerly corner of land now owned by Moses A. Currier & running Northerly 3 Rods & 11 links, thence turning & running South Easterly 10 Rods & 21 links to aforesaid way, thence turning & running South Westerly 3 Rods & 11 links, thence turning & running North Westerly 11 Rods & 5 links to point of beginning making in all thirty seven & $\frac{91}{100}$ Rods. To have and to hold the above granted premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Moses A. Currier his heirs and assigns, to his & their use and behoof forever. And I the said Jacob W. Pierce for myself and my heirs, executors, and administrators, do covenant with the said Moses A. Currier his heirs and assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee simple of the aforesaid premises that they are free from all incumbrances that I have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Moses A. Currier his heirs and assigns forever as aforesaid, and that I will and my heirs, executors and administrators shall warrant and defend the same to the said Moses A. Currier his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. In witness whereof, I the said Jacob W. Pierce & Mary B. Pierce wife of said J. W. Pierce, in consideration of one dollar paid — receipt of which is acknowledged, I hereby relinquish all claim to do with, to the within granted premises have herunto set our hands and seals this nineteenth day of October in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty four:—

Signed, sealed and delivered } J. W. Pierce. seal.
 in presence of, S. Robinson witness to } M. B. Pierce seal.
 J. W. P.
 Mary B. Pierce: — } Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
 Suffolk, ss. October 20th 1854. Then personally appeared the above named J. W. Pierce and acknowledged the above instrument to be his free act and deed: before me John S. Wright, Justice of the Peace.

3124

Exhibit G

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Another old tradition that is in evidence here is the importance placed on the naming of namesakes. Notice that it went so far as to name later born infants with the same name as earlier deceased sibling.

As an example, notice how many late Eunice Atkinsons preceeded Eunice Atkinson Currier Williams, and then how generously that namesake was treated.

Biographical Sketch:

Eunice was born 29 Sep 1782 [1]. She was the daughter of Matthias Atkinson, a joyner, (skilled woodworker who constructs articles with elements joined together) and landowner, and his wife Abigail Bayley [2].

From the notes on her father, she was brought up the next to youngest in a family of at least three sons and two daughters. Her brother Joseph died when Eunice was 20; Sally, still single, when she was 29; and George when she was 33 [3].

Her father owned marsh and uplands where hay was cut and sold. Her grandfather Ichabod was a Deacon, and her father and brother both owned pews in the Meetinghouse, so she probably attended church regularly.

Like her sister Sally, she had not been asked for in marriage, and by the age of 33 she probably assumed the care of her mother when her father died in 1815, as was then the protocall. Her mother Abigail died five years later in 1820.

She was well taken care of in her father's will. As we know she became the owner of her father's dwelling and adjacent land, at the corner of High and Mosley streets; and co-owner, with her brother Moses, of all her late father's other real estate.

With Moses, Eunice started immediately trying to agree on how to divide up their jointly owned property. In an agreement written 8 weeks later in Feburary 1816, they trade Moses' pew in the Meetinghouse, \$150 cash, more land adjoining her house, and land adjoining and under the hayscales; for her part of 2 1/2 cow rights in Common pasture and her half of the 12 acres of the salt marsh in Salisbury [4]. When the buy and sell deeds were signed, the monies to Eunice increased to \$185, and 136 sq. rods of land on the SW side of High street are also given up by Eunice; and pew # 5, not being real estate, is excluded [5] [6].

In September of the year 1835, Eunice married Moses Coffin Currier. She broke all conventions as a 53 year spinster, and married a man 14 years her junior, widowed only 9 months prior, and with three young sons; aged 13, 9 and 1 year. Without knowing anymore, one would have to conclude there was some earlier association between Eunice, Moses and/or his deceased wife Prudence; or their families. Moses C.s' oldest son had already been named Moses Atkinson Currier, and a deceased daughter, Eunice Atkinson Currier [7].

In fact there was, the late Prudence B. Rogers Currier, first wife of Moses C., was the daughter of Prudence (Bayley) Rogers, whose sister was Abigail (Bayley) Atkinson, Eunice's mother. Both were daughters of Moses and Mary (Ordway) Bayley [8, 8a, 8b, 8c]. So she married the widower of her late cousin to assist him raising his sons; more the proper thing to do than one's first impression.

Eunice and Moses C. probably lived at 259 Merrimac Street from their marriage until his death [9]. No tax payment record by him on this property can be found for years 1812-1817 [10].

(This conflicts with Eunices records of moneys spent on her "husband's house" that started in 1845. See footnotes 20 and 21.)

By 1845 brother Moses lived in Salem, MA, with wife Betsy, and worked as a merchant [11]. Perhaps he too was a widower, as a Betsey, wife of Moses

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Atkinson died in Salem in 1813 [12]. This is argued by an undated listing of furniture "...taken by Mrs. B. Atkinson .." was prepared after his death [13]; also by a tax payment on the Essex Street property, as his as his widow, in 18__ [14]; that she outlived him.

Nevertheless, Moses like his father was successful at his trade. In June of that year he passed away at the age of 72, and left \$5123 in notes (due him), cash and securities to Eunice [15]. The size of this estate left her tends to confirm his widower status. Eunice followed sound practice and held the principal of these assets for 27 years, and used only the interest [16].

One interesting item on that list was a \$900 note to J. Frothingham dated 1 Jan 1845, perhaps secured with half of a three story house at 41 Boardman St., Newburyport [17] [18].

Frothingham soon died, and on 10 Jan 1850 still owed the estate of Moses Atkinson \$977.10. In a probate auction to liquidate his assets for debt payments, Eunice was high bidder, and current grantee of the mortgage (note), on the property, and became the owner [19].

In 1845 in keeping with her business-like style, she started to record her expenses to furnish and improve her husband's house [20] [21], and her own expenses [22].

In 1855 the Newburyport Public Library wrote a receipt to her husband for "A collection of Books" he had donated [23].

In 1856 her step-son Moses A. who then lived at 27 Ashland St. [24], with his neighbor George E. Currier, known to live at 21 Ashland St. in 1855 [25] together purchased about 72 sq. rods of land between their two properties [26]. (Appears to be what is today # 23 and # 25 Ashland St.)

In 1858 her husband Moses C. Currier died "...at his late residence No. 259 Merrimac Street .." [27]

In 1859 Eunice bought from Moses A., some 35+ sq. rods of the property, adjoining his land, that he purchased jointly with George E. Currier. The deed shows Geo. E. still owning the adjoining land to Eunice on the "down the street" side. (Now # 23) [28]. (The size of this property agrees with current size of # 25 Ashland lot [29].)

(From what is now known, it was at this point that Eunice moved her house to this lot of land- now # 25. One confusing factor is that the deed includes the comment "...with building thereon", but may not refer to a dwelling but rather out buildings, or refers to something that was razed. Another is that no tax bills or city tax records were found on the house when on High St.)

By the year 1860, Eunice is living in her home at 25 Ashland St. next door to her step-son Moses A. Currier at 27 Ashland. From this source, she continued to show in residence there until her death [30].

On small pieces of scrap paper and in the margins of her personal journals, she noted many items, including:

Preacher visits:

Sat. 4 June 1864 ".. Mr. Fiske called and stopped ten minites"

Fri. 14 Jul 1865 ".. Mr. Fisk called and stopt ten or twelve minits"

Mon. 14 May 1866 ".. Mr. Fish called stop ten minits"

Wed. Jun 1868 ".. Mr. Fisk call stop twenty minets"

Loans to her husband's son; as she tried to make him responsible and tried to keep track of her money.

1 Nov 1866 "...borrowed and received \$40 from Mother"

28 Dec 1866 do 10 do

Jun 1867 do 10 do

All signed John Atkinson

She generously supported the Belleville Congregational Society:

1867- contributed \$100 to fund for rebuilding Meetinghouse

(after the second fire set by arson in 1866)


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=====
1868- tax on pew # 107 in the Meetinghouse $9.50
1869- do
1870-72 1/2 pew # 107 do 4.75
Her receipts included:
1872- 1/2 ton Scranton coal, put in (#25) 4.40
Newburyport, Real Estate, Eunice A. Currier
1867 25 Ashland $164.00
69 do 167.32
70 do 192.08
72 do 162.08
Newburyport, Real Estate, Eunice A. Currier
1879 27 Ashland ? 7.75 ? amount
80 25 Ashland 7.80
City of Boston, Bank Share Taxes, Eunice A. Currier, N'port
1871 6 shares Natl Eagle Bank 9.75 @ 11.53/ 1000
2 do Columbian Natl Bank 3.41 do
    
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In 1867 she added \$900 to the mortgage on the 1/2 house on Boardman St. and bought #259 Merrimac St. from John Currier Jr. for \$800, and incurred \$61.31 in related expenses [31]. No deed was found.

(This had been her husband's home. Why is she buying it? Perhaps he and John Jr. were related and Moses C. left it to John Jr. or Moses C. leased it from John Jr.?)

Also in 1867 Eunice wrote a ten page will; a two page codicil was added in 1870 [32]. She, as one would have expected, dispositioned a then impressive estate.

She first stated "... conscious of the uncertainty of human life and desiring while I am in health and of sound and disposing mind to dispose of all my worldly goods and estate, which God has blessed me with ..." She then proceeded with thirteen items, abbreviated herein to:

1- Executor to sell Essex and Charter street property, half to Moses A. Currier, her late husband's son, her legatee, other half into trust, with income to John Currier, my late husband's son during his lifetime, then this half to the officers of Belleville Cemetery Assoc., hereinafter BCA, item 13.

2- To Eunice Atkinson Currier (namesake), daughter of Moses A. Currier, if she is living at my death, and when she is 21, that land and buildings at 25 Ashland street; if not living, to any son of Moses A. Currier, having the name of my late husband, Moses C. Currier, or if none to Moses A. Currier.

3- To Moses A. Currier in trust \$500 for the use of Eunice A. Currier (namesake), then to her at 21, in the event of her death, then the income to him, and at his death, the amount to BCA per item 13.

4- To Leonard Currier, son of my late husband, one year following my death \$100.

5- To my executor, \$400 into trust, the income for benefit of Leonard Currier, if needed in opinion of trustee, then at his death, the amount to BCA per item 13.

6- Executor to sell at auction 41 Boardman Street, proceeds to American Home Missionary Assoc. for their charitable use.

7- As testimonial to my native place and as monument to memory of my late father Matthias Atkinson, a piece of land, to be used as a "common" public and free, to be known forever as Atkinson Common, provided my wishes are fully carried out, to the city of Newburyport, the land and pasture in Newburyport, between High Street and Merrimac Street, and on High Street between late Wm. Merrill, and Moses Chase on Dexter St. and adjoining Thos. Merrill on Merrimac St., and another lot of land on High Street, and nearly opposite and lying between that of Robt. Dodge and Geo. Roaf, to be sold by

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the City, but first offered to Robt Dodge, proceeds to be used to purchase lot now owned by heirs of Wm. Merrill on High Street and contiguous to and to be added to Common, any surplus to City for improvement of Common. City to accept within one year; and build no hospital, alms house, asylum, schoolhouse or other offensive building; and no street be built to pass through it. If not acceptable to City, lot to revert to Joseph Atkinson of Newbury, Vermont.

8- To an Atkinson relative in Vermont; the salt marsh in Salisbury.

9- To Elizabeth Goodwin Currier; wife of Moses A. Currier, \$150, "...in consideration of the care I have been to her", and to six others, a total of \$350 "... to be free of legacy tax".

10- To officers of BCA, \$500, for "... improvement and repair forever the lots in cemetery in which are buried the remains of my late father Matthias and my late husband Moses C."

11- In event sale of Essex street property is less than \$4000, then to my executor, any other property not otherwise disposed, together with \$2000 of proceeds from said sale, into trust, with income semi-annually to stepson John Currier.

12- Household furniture except "old family clock" and that of my late husband, equally to (three individuals), late husband's, to his sons, and "...old family clock shall not be separated from the house, but be regarded as a part there of."

13- All rest to officers of BCA, in trust, with income to step-sons Moses A., John and Leonard, "...if by sickness or other misfortune they shall be necessitators, to be expended for their relief according to the discretion of said trustees"; and if not used, upon their decease, invested, and income for improvement and repair as above, and if not required, then to general use.

The Codicil changed item 6 and redirected the proceeds to payoff "...the mortgage made to cancel a claim on the estate now occupied by my step-son John Currier 3rd", any balance to BCA, and also to same John, use of the place at 259 Merrimac street, by him now occupied, during his life and that of his widow, then to the officers of BCA, in trust, income for their use.

In an undated request she also dispositioned some of her lesser personal belongings [33].

Her step-son Moses A. Currier was named Executor when will was probated [34]; and he assumed ownership of #25 Ashland under terms of the will until the 21st birthday of his daughter Eunice A. Currier [35].

She died 18 May 1873, at 25 Ashland street, and was interred next to her father in the Atkinson lot. Her husband Moses C., interred earlier, next to his first wife Prudence B., in his Currier lot.

In 1874 the estate of Eunice A. Currier still owned and insured the house at # 259 Merrimac Street [36].

Obituary: "In this city, May 18th, Mrs. Eunice A. Currier, widow of the late Moses C. Currier, a.cd 90 years and 6 mos.

Funeral on Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, from her late residence, No. 25 Ashland street. Relatives and friends are invited to attend [37]."

Interment: Belleville Cemetery

More About the House:

The conclusion one can make about the history of the house at 25 Ashland street from this data is; that the data does not contradict the family legend, as stated in the beginning.

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 From the source documents used here, and in the notes for MMatthias Atkinson, the logical speculation can be made that;

1- Matthias built his dwelling on land he purchased in 1764 from Joseph Cottle. Re: Matthias Atkinson, source [4]

2- The house is/ was always (?) marked "1765" above the front door.

3- This was the dwelling willed to Eunice by Matthias which included adjoining land described so as to match at least some of the current Atkinson Common location. Re: Matthias [15]

4- Eunice and brother Moses jointly inherited and traded land adjoining and across High street from her dwelling, purchased earlier by Matthias. Re: Matthias [15], Eunice Atkinson [6]

5- Eunice resided at 259 Merrimac street following her marriage to Moses C. Currier. Re: Eunice [9]

6- Upon Moses C.'s death in 1858, she bought land, in 1859, next to her step-son Moses A. Currier of 27 Ashland street, in 1859. Land description matches description on contemporary 25 Ashland deeds. Re: Eunice [6]

7- Newburyport city directory showed her living there the following year, 1860. Re: Eunice [9]

8- She willed the High street land to the city, and the dwelling and land at 25 Ashland to her step-grand daughter. Re: Eunice [32]

Two major omissions in the source data are; one, no record of tax payments on her High street property and/or dwelling could be found, for any period before 1859/60, the year the house moved, in the above scenario; and two; what house was purchased and repaired in the record Eunice [41] and by whom. If this record was kept by Eunice, the house was not "in the family" since 1765.

The logic presented is challenged without arguments to these questions; but it is not currently planned to attempt continued research to answer them here. At this stage I am personally willing to continue to accept the family legend; as "confirmed" above; and also confirmed in the obituary of her name sake and step grand daughter Eunice A. Currier Williams; "Mrs. Williams Ashland street home, built in 1765, was originally located on land now part of Atkinson Common. It was the house of her grandmother, Eunice Atkinson, who gave the land to the city for park purposes." [42]

More About Atkinson Common:

Not much appears to be available on the historical development of Atkinson Common.

John J. Currier in his history of Newburyport, [38] described city parks and wrote: Mrs. EA Currier in will 23 May 1867, proved 17 Jun 1873 gave to City several acres on High Street, near junction of Moseley, Storey Avenues and Ferry Road, to be known as Atkinson Common.

On 1st day of September following, ordinance passed by city council for appointment of board to take charge and superintend the laying out of the common.

No improvements to uncultivated fields until 4 Sep 1893 when Belleville Improvement Society, hereinafter BIS, was formed and "...began the work that has transformed the neglected field into a beautiful park, by grading the land, deepening the soil, laying out walks and planting trees and shrubs."

In 1895 the BIS became interested in a plan to erect a monument to soldiers and sailors that served in the Civil War. A monument association was formed of veterans and civic groups and contributions made from these groups and a few friends interested in this work. A statue of "a soldier returning from the war" was selected, cast in bronze and placed on a rough

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boulder facing the High street entrance. The work was presented to the city with an "imposing ceremony" on 4 Jul 1902.

A 1900 map of Newburyport from Marlborough to Jefferson streets, from the same source, blocked-in the Common, essentially consistent with what one would expect from the bounds described by the later deeds.

A program from Atkinson Common Day held 4 Aug 1898 by the BIS described the event "as the work of the Pagoda Committee who have worked untiringly to provide a resting place and point of observation from which the beauties of the common may be enjoyed". The program included "marching and exercises by the children and speeches by invited guests, interspersed with selections by the full Cadet Band". In the evening a band concert was held in the new pavilion at Plum Island. Trolley cars were available for transport and were "conducted by the belles of Belleville, who will be pleased to receive heavy fares.." [39].

A post card sized pictorial booklet of "Atkinson Park and Other Newburyport Views" was published by the BIS and contained six photographs including the Pagoda in the completed park [40].

The card file at the Newburyport Public library contain three articles, of relative benefit, from the Newburyport News:

16 Aug 1894	Monument presented
5 Jul 1902	New fountain given- adjacent to common
22 Jun 1985	Effect of acid rain on statues

Sources:

- [1] VR dates, Laura Williams Vance, ANCESTRAL RECORD, photocopy dtd. 18 Nov 1991, Newburyport, MA, Judy and Reuben Burnham, hereinafter, LWV Record.
- [2] A940812- Gravestone Inscriptions: confirm dd., notes.
- [3] VR Newbury- Relationships, d./ b. dates, notes.
- [4] Agreement- Eunice and Moses Atkinson, dtd. 27 Feb 1816, original document in possession of writer, hereinafter, document.
- [5] Quit Claim- Eunice Atkinson to Moses Atkinson, dtd. 10 Jul 1816, document.
- [6] Deed- Moses Atkinson to Eunice Atkinson dtd. 10 Jul 1816, document.
- [7] LWV Record.
- [8] VR Newbury births- Relationships.
- [8a] Noreen C. Pramberg, FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN ATKINSON, p.32, confirms Eunice's mother was daughter of Moses and Mary Rogers, same parents as Prudence Currier's mother, Newburyport (MA) Public Library, photocopy.
- [8b] Letter dtd. 3 May 1820, Prudence B. Rogers to (Moses C. Currier), "...from there I expect to go to Aunt Atkinsons..", "...Cousin Eunice sends her best respects to you and says she hopes she shall have the pleasure of seeing you soon", document.
- [8c] Letter dtd. 31 Aug 1822, Prudence Currier to Dear Husband (Moses C.), "...when it becomes knight I am quite sick of home; joann Jackman has been with me this week, I expect to spend next week with Eunice..", document.
- [9] Newburyport City Directories, 1853-1905, notes.
- [10] Newburyport Tax Records, notes.
- [11] See [6].
- [12] VR Salem deaths.
- [13] Inventory: "Articles of furniture to be taken by Mrs. B. Atkinson", appraised at \$360.64, undated, document.
- [14] Newburyport Tax record, 18__, ibid., year not recorded!
- [15] Legacy: Division of estate of Moses Atkinson, deceased, assigned to Mrs. Eunice A. Currier, hand written list, undated, document.
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29 shares Merchants Bank Newburyport $986
 4 Ocean Bank Newburyport 208
 8 Traders Bank Boston 744
 6 Eagle Bank Boston 600
 3 Globe Bank Boston 300
 2 Colombian Bank Boston 200
 2 Portland Saco & Portsmouth RR 206
 7 Newburyport Bridge 210
JP Frothingham mortgage 900
Saml S Plumber mortgage 200
Clock and china 14
Half expense to transfer stock 1.25
Cash to balance 553.75
5123.00
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[16] Pass Book: "The following sum of money and stock was left me, Eunice A. Currier, by my Brother Moses Atkinson in 1845", listing amounts of interest received in years 1845 to 1872, document.

[17] Frothingham note, document.

[18] Deed: Frothingham to Guardian of Estate of Moses Atkinson dtd. 1 Jan 1845, w/ mortgage terms on reverse of deed; Guardian of Estate of Moses Atkinson to Frothingham, document.

[19] Deed: Frothingham estate to Eunice A. Currier highest bidder and now Grantee of the mortgage, dtd. 10 Jun 1850, document.

[20] Personal Journal: "Furniture that Eunice A. Currier has bought with her own money to furnish her Husband's House", Oct 1845- 1854, document.

[21] Personal Journal: "I Eunice Atkinson, the wife of Moses C. Currier have paid for him October 1845 for furnishing the upper chamber in his house..., and to help him pay for altering and repairing his house", Oct 1845- 1849, document.

[22] Personal Journal: Untitled, listing of her expenditures, listing of income, other notes on special events, document.

[23] Receipt, form letter, Newburyport Public Library, document.

[24] See 9.

[25] See 9.

[26] Deed: Currier and Townsend to Moses A. Currier and George E. Currier, a lot (72 rods+/-), on Ashland St. situated between their two properties, \$396, dtd. 9 Dec 1856, document. (Larger than 25 Ashland, probably 23 & 25 combined, since W. corner still against Moses A.)

[27] Obituary, Moses C., The Daily Herald, Newburyport, MA, 25 Sep 1858, photocopy.

[28] Deed: Moses A. & Elisabeth G. Currier to Eunice A. Currier, a piece of land and building thereon, 35 66/100 rods, \$250, dtd. 10 Jan 1859, document. (Boundries same as current 25 Ashland, shows Geo. E. Currier against SE side)

[29] Deeds: 10 May 1943, Richard, Laura, Elizabeth and Moses (Eunice A. Currier Williams children) and their spouses to Henry M. Duggan, Atty.; Duggan to Ernest H. and Elizabeth W. Addison, 35 & 66/100 sq. rods., size of current # 25 Ashland St. lot, reference for understanding earlier deeds, documents.

[30] See 9.

[31] Note, handwritten on scrap of paper, dtd. 28 Aug 1867, document.

[32] Will: Eunice Atkinson Currier, dtd. 3 Mar 1867, including codicil dtd. 8 Mar 1870, document.

[33] Request: Informal request, Eunice A. Currier, dtd. 6 Apr 1872, ... "to have furniture, clothing, and everything herein mentioned dispoitioned as follows, after I am done with them", unsigned, document.

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 [34] Probate: Court order appointing Moses A. Currier, trustee, under will of Eunice A. Currier, late of Newburyport, widow, deceased and testate..., document.

[35] Executor's Deed: Under power of will of Eunice A. Currier, and Moses A. Currier her trustee, to said Moses A. Currier..., not for his own ... but in trust for the uses and purposes named in said will..., a lot of land (35 66/100 rods) and buildings thereon..., dtd. 17 Jun 1874, putting 25 Ashland St. in trust for her grand daughter Eunice Atkinson Currier (Williams) until she reaches 21 years, document. (Boundries same as current 25 Ashland. See 29.)

[36] Premium- Home Insurance Policy, 259 Merrimac St. Newburyport, estate of Eunice A. Currier, dtd. 9 Jun 1874, amount due \$10.80, document.

[37] Newburyport (MA) Daily Herald, 20 May 1873, DEATHS column, photocopy.

[38] John J. Currier, HISTORY OF NEWBURYPORT, MASS. 1764-1905, published by the author, Newburyport, 1906, pp. 219-221, 334, possession of BC French.

[39] Program, Belleville Impr. Society, dtd. 4 Aug 1898, document.

[40] Booklet, undated, document.

[41] Record, 3 pages of itemized expenses, untitled, unsigned, for the period 1822-1845, including the comment "...when I first bought the house in 1822 it cost \$450"; and showing some \$1400 in improvements to the main house, ell, barn and fences.

[42] Obituary, Newburyport (MA) Daily News, 15 Feb 1943, document.

Other sources not referenced:

[] Accounting of monies spent on repair/ improvements on "my house", original.

[] Map: Newburyport, MA, Ashland St., Atlas of Essex County, GH Walker, 1884, photocopy.

[] Personal Journal: Untitled, notes on special events, document.

[] Account Book: OM Akerman & Son (Grocer) and Moses A. Currier 5 Apr 1871 to 30 Sep 1873, document.

[] Deed: Moses A. & Dolly E. Currier to John Pearson 3rd, guardian for his son John Mills Pearson, land and buildings thereon, (36 rods 195 links, between Pilsbury St., Wm Currier Jr. on SE, late David Wood on SW and Saml. Somerby on NW), \$500, dtd. 30 Jan 1847, document. (Land at 27 Ashland St., house built ca. 1850?)

End

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Exhibit H

all dower in the premises have hereunto set our hands and seals
this third day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and fifty three.

Samuel Gilbert seal.

Signed, sealed and delivered in }
presence of us. Joshua P. Trask } Mary H. Gilbert seal.

Essex, ss. Sept. 3. 1853. - Then the
above-named Samuel Gilbert acknowledged the above Instrument to
be his free act and deed, before me Joshua P. Trask Justice of the Peace
Essex, ss. Rec^d. June 17, 1859. 5m. before 10. A.M. Rec^d. v. l. by Green Brown Reg.

Homesad Certificate.

Know all men by these Presents, that I, Solomon Burnham of
Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachu-
setts, yeoman, pursuant to the act of the Legislature of said Com-
monwealth passed May thirtieth eighteen hundred fifty seven,
entitled an act to exempt from levy on Execution the homestead
of a householder, being Chapter two hundred ninety eight of the
acts of the year eighteen hundred fifty seven, I hereby give no-
tice that I intend to hold the house and land now occupied by
me and my family, situated a "Kettle Cove", so called, in said
Gloucester, said land being bounded Easterly by the road lead-
ing to Grays Beach, Northerly & Westerly by land of Daniel
Buller, and being the same land conveyed to me by Samuel Gil-
bert, by deed dated Sept 3^d 1853. to which deed reference is had, as
a homestead to the amount of eight hundred dollars. In testi-
mony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this six-
teenth day of June in the year eighteen hundred fifty nine.

S. Burnham

In presence of J. P. Trask Solomon Burnham seal.

Essex, ss. 16th A. D. 1859. Personally appeared Solomon Burnham and
acknowledged the foregoing instrument by him subscribed to be his
free act and deed, before me, Joshua P. Trask Justice of the Peace
Essex, ss. Rec^d. June 17, 1859. 5m. before 10. A.M. Rec^d. v. l. by Green Brown Reg.

56A-132

M. A. Burrier
to
E. A. Burrier

Know all Men by these Presents, That I, Moses A. Burrier
of Newburyport in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of

Massachusetts, Shipwright. In consideration of Two hundred fifty dollars to me paid by Eunice A. Burrier of Newburyport aforesaid widow; the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Eunice A. Burrier Grantee and to her heirs and assigns, forever; a certain piece of land situated in said Newburyport and bounded as follows (viz.) Beginning at the Westerly corner thereof on Ashland Street thence by said Street North $60^{\circ}15'$ east Three rods six and an half links to land of George E. Burrier thence by said George E. Burrier land South 29° East ten rods and thirteen links to land formerly owned by David Wood; thence by said Woods land South $59^{\circ}30'$ West three rods and twelve links to my own land thence by my land north 28° west ten rods and fifteen links to the first bound on Ashland street containing thirty five rods and sixty six one hundredths of a rod with the Buildings thereon. To have and to hold, the above granted premises, with the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Eunice A. Burrier Grantee and to her Heirs and Assigns, to her and their use and behoof forever. And I the said Moses A. Burrier Grantor for myself and my Heirs, Executors and Administrators, do covenant with the said Eunice A. Burrier Grantee, her Heirs and Assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee of the afore-granted premises; that they are free from all incumbrances, that I have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Eunice A. Burrier, Grantee her Heirs and Assigns, forever as aforesaid; and that I will, and my Heirs, Executors and Administrators shall Warrant and Defend the same to the said Eunice A. Burrier, Grantee her Heirs and Assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. In witness whereof, we the said Moses A. Burrier, and Elizabeth B. Burrier, wife of said Moses A. Burrier relinquishing right of dower in the premises have hereunto set our hands and seals this tenth day of June in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty nine.

Buildings thereon

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of }
 Justice of Tristram Boffin. }
 Moses. A. Burrier Seal
 Elisabeth G. Burrier Seal

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Essex, ss. June 13th 1859. Then personally appeared the above named Moses A. Burrier and acknowledged the above instrument to be — free act and deed:

before me, Tristram Boffin Justice of the Peace.

Essex, ss. Rec^d June 17, 1859. 30m past 12. M. Rec^d & Ex^d by Gihm Brown Sec^y

Know all Men by these Presents, That we Henry A. Gracia of Salem, in the County of Essex, and Sophia M. Gracia his wife in her own right in consideration of six hundred dollars to us paid by Nehemiah Ames of said Salem, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, sell and convey unto the said Nehemiah Ames the messuage situate on Barr street in said Salem where we now reside with the land under and adjoining, and bounded on one side by said street and on the other sides by land of Dr Saunders and one Smith, or however otherwise said estate may be bounded. To have and to hold, the afore-granted premises to the said Ames his heirs and assigns, to his and their use and behoof forever, And we do covenant with the said Ames his heirs and assigns, that said Sophia is lawfully seized in fee of the afore-granted premises; that they are free of all incumbrances: that we have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Ames. And that we will and our heirs, executors and administrators shall warrant and defend the same premises to the said Ames his heirs and assigns forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons. Provided nevertheless, That if the said Henry A. Gracia or his said wife their heirs, executors, or administrators, pay to the said Ames his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, the sum of six hundred dollars in one year, then this deed, as also a certain promissory note, bearing even date with these presents, given by the said

H. A. Gracia et ux
 to
 Neh. Ames.
 Discharged
 Sec^y
 B603.229

Exhibit I

singing of two original hymns, one written by Miss Hannah F. Gould and the other by Hon. George Lunt.

In 1855, a way leading from State street to Brown street was extended to the cemetery, and in July, 1864, an imposing granite gateway was erected at this new entrance,— a memorial gift from John S. Tappan, Esq., of New York city.¹

In 1894, additional land was purchased, extending the southern limit of the cemetery to Parker street where another gateway was erected by John T. Brown, Esq., who subsequently gave, in his will, dated August 7, 1900, and proved December 5, 1901, the rest and residue of his property, after the payment of certain bequests, to the trustees of the cemetery to be used in the erection of a memorial chapel.² When the amount due from Mr. Brown's estate becomes available the chapel will probably be erected on land that has recently been graded near the main entrance to the cemetery.

CATHOLIC CEMETERY.

St. Mary's cemetery, on Storey avenue, was laid out in 1874, and consecrated by Archbishop Williams of Boston, in 1876, as a burial place for the communicants of the Roman Catholic church residing in Newburyport and vicinity. It has an area of twenty-three acres, and contains over fifteen hundred burial lots, with well-graded avenues and paths, aggregating two or three miles in length.

ATKINSON COMMON.

Mrs. Eunice Atkinson Currier, in her will, dated March 23, 1867, and proved June 17, 1873, gave to the city of Newburyport several acres of land on High street near the junction of Moseley avenue, Storey avenue, and the Ferry road "to be known forever as Atkinson Common."

On the first day of September following, an ordinance providing for the appointment of a board of commissioners, to take charge of and superintend the laying out of this common, was passed by the city council. No attempt, however, was

¹ "Ould Newbury," pp. 701-705.

² Probate Records, book 585, leaf 250.

EUNICE (ATKINSON) CURRIER, daughter of Matthias and Abigail (Bayley) Atkinson, was born in Newbury September 29, 1782.¹ She married, September 15, 1835, Moses Coffin Currier, a widower with three sons, Moses Atkinson, John and Leonard. Her husband died September 23, 1858. She died May 18, 1873, and gave, in her will, to the city of Newburyport, upon certain conditions, several acres of land on High street, near the junction of Moseley and Storey avenues and the Ferry road, so called, "to be known forever as Atkinson Common."²

In addition to the gifts and bequests named above, several statues, drinking fountains, tablets and other memorials of value have been presented to the city of Newburyport by the following-named persons.

DANIEL INGALLS TENNEY, son of Richard and Ruth (Ingalls) Tenney, was born in Newburyport May 2, 1800, and gave, in 1877, the bronze lamp-posts, with plate-glass lanterns, that stand in front of City hall, and, in 1879, the statue of Washington at the southeasterly end of Bartlet mall. Mr. Tenney was for twenty-five or thirty years a wholesale and retail dealer in silver ware and jewelry in New York City, where he died, unmarried, November 23, 1881.

WILLIAM H. SWASEY, son of Henry S. and Sarah (Rogers) Swasey, who gave the statue of William Lloyd Garrison, in Brown square, designed and modeled by David M. French of Newburyport, was born in Thomaston, Maine, May 15, 1823, and came with his father, mother and brothers to Newburyport when he was only seventeen years of age. He found employment as shipping clerk with the firm of John Wood &

¹ Matthias Atkinson was a soldier in Capt. Moses Little's company that marched from Newbury, April 19, 1775, to re-inforce the colonial troops at Lexington and Concord. He was a lineal descendant of John Atkinson, who settled in Newbury in 1662.

² History of Newburyport (Currier), volume I, pages 219-221.

Exhibit J

INDIVIDUAL DATA

RIN:46

 Name:Moses(8) ATKINSON CURRIER Sex:M ID No: 14
 Birth: 6 Aug 1822 Place:Newbury,,MA
 Chr: Place:
 Death: 8 Feb 1875 Place:
 Burial: Place:Newburyport,,MA

 Father:Moses(7) Coffin CURRIER-57 Mother:Prudence Bayley ROGERS-58

MARRIAGE(S)

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MRIN	Spouse Name	Marriage Date
14	Dolly E. BLAISDELL-48	17 Nov 1844
13	Elisabeth Goodwin CURRIER-47	14 May 1850

NOTES FOR MOSES(8) ATKINSON CURRIER

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Biography:

Moses(8) A. was born in Newbury, MA 14 August 1796 [1]. He probably grew up at 259 Merrimac street, with his father and step-mother; and worked at ship building as did father and grandfather [2].

He was a shipwright and/or a ship's carpenter and worked at the Currier & Townsend Co. yards at the foot of Ashland street.

These yards operated there from 1843 to 1857 and constructed 51 vessels; 11 being barks, 37 ships, 2 brigs and 1 schooner [3]. Among them was the world famous ship Dreadnaught launched in 1853 [4].

Moses was credited with having decked all their vessels [5].

He first married in Newburyport, 17 Nov 1844, Dolly E. Blaisdell of Salisbury, MA [6]. They had three daughters who each died at infancy.

Mary Putnam b. 19 May 1846 [7]

Prudence d. 1 Nov 1847 @ 2 mos. [8]

Hannah Maria b. 26 Nov 1849 [9]

In 1847 Moses and Dolly borrowed \$500, and used a lot of land they owned on Pilsbury Lane [10], now Ashland Street [11], as colateral. The land was described to probably be the lot at 27 Ashland [12]. The loan must have been repaid since the lot was soon used for his dwelling, built around the year 1850 [13]. Perhaps the note was the mortgage for the construction of this house.

Dolly may not have seen their home completed as she followed her daughters to her death 24/29 Jan 1850, leaving Moses with his fourth loss, in but a little more than five years [14].

Moses second married in Newburyport, 14 May 1850, Elisabeth Goodwin Currier, daughter of John and Mehitable Colby Currier of Newburyport, but formerly of Amesbury, and another ship building family as well [15].

Note that he remarried within months of his first wife's death, as had his father Moses C.

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 They had six children; but only three lived to adulthood [16].

John Atkinson	b. 27 Aug 1851	
Orra Leslie	b. 16 Aug 1854	
Eunice Atkinson	b. 11 Nov 1858,	d. 11/18 Jun 1862 *
Moses Coffin	b. 31 Dec 1860,	d. 26 Jun 1862 *
Unnamed daughter	b. 21 Apr 1860/63	
Eunice Atkinson	b. 21 Aug 1863/4	

* Note d. dates; probably from the same illness.

In 1857 Currier & Townsend terminated business; and Moses moved to another employer, and again put in decks at the John Currier, Jr. yards on Merrimac Court [17]. John(7) Jr. was his uncle, the brother of his father, Moses(7) C. [18].

He and Elisabeth entertained, and probably boarded, ship Captains who were present during the final fitting out of their vessels. Certain of these became life-long family friends who would often visit and correspond [19], [19a], [19b].

In 1856 he, and his next door neighbor George E. Currier, together purchased the land that lay between them on Ashland street; from the assignees of his former employer, Currier & Townsend [20]. George E. was a cousin, the son of William(6), a brother to John(6), the grandfather of Moses(8) A. [21].

Later, in 1859, he sold the half adjoining his property to his step-mother, Eunice Atkinson Currier, his late father's widow [21a].

She subsequently moved her High Street (Atkinson) house there; to be "...close to him in her old age" [22]; and resided there by 1860 [23].

About 1860 portraits of Moses A., Elisabeth G., John and Orra L. were painted; the work of an itinerent painter, according to family legend. The paintings decorated his house at 27 Ashland street; and were eventually stored in the attic. They were then rediscovered by Orra L.'s husband, Edward A. Williams, repaired, and enjoyed again by subsequent generations of the family [24]. The John and Orra portraits can be seen in several old photographs [25].

Following his step-mother's death in 1873, Moses A. was named executor of her estate. Given the size of the estate, and complexity of her will; he had considerable work to do. Property was sold, proceeds invested in trusts, and the income dispursed. (See Eunice Atkinson [32])

One provision was he take ownership of her late property at 25 Ashland street until his daughter Eunice A. Currier reached the age of 21 years. This was done in 1873 when Eunice was only 9 years old [26].

The property was rented to several others until his daughter moved there about 1901/2 [27]. An early map, perhaps year 1884, showed names in the immediate neighborhood: #19-23, GE Currier, #25, Mrs. William Currier (tenant), and #27, Mrs. MA Currier.

Moses A. was active in affairs at Belleville church, he was superintendent of the Sunday School; was president of the Belleville Cemetery Assoc., and worshiped from pew no. 78. On 22 Oct 1862 he paid his pew assessment; on 4 Dec 1863 he was reimbursed \$2.20 "...for passage to Boston for lamps for church..." [28].

He purchased a lot in Belleville Cemetery in the summer of 1864 [29]. He used this lot, as did his two wives, his late infants; later by his daughter Orra L. Currier Williams, her husband, and their children.

(Purchase date later than death of wife Dolly, and daughters ?)

He and three other gentlemen are shown to have patented an "Improved Paddle Wheel with diagonal curved Floats", in 1865 [30].

Letters from his elder son John, and wife Elisabeth showed him in New York city, 8 Feb 1866. Much tenderness was expressed between them.

15 Mar 1995

Page 3

John wrote " My dear father, we have just received the letter from you and are very glad to hear that you are well."

Elisabeth wrote " My darling husband, I have just received your letter with unspeakable joy, and I can not tell you how glad I am to hear...".

One comment on an injury to Moses was found, "...I must know how you are and I want to know how your neck is...". Moses had suffered a fall "between decks" probably before this time. He was left with injuries that led to his premature death, according to his grand daughter [31]. No other confirmation of this was found, except one comment in his obituary; that "... failing health compelled him to cease from active labor about six years ago" (1869).

On 30 Aug 1873 he wrote his will. He directed his widow, as his executrix, to pay first his just debts and funeral expenses, then gave to "... my three beloved children" the sum of \$25 each, and all remaining property "of every kind", to "my beloved and devoted wife" [31a].

In 1874-75 his occupation was recorded in the city directory as a bracket manufacturer. The meaning of this is not understood unless it deals with the improved decking methods also described in his obituary.

Moses A. died Monday 8 February 1875 at aged 52 years, 6 mos. [32]. His obituary was unusual in that most deaths during this period were only tabulated; granting no space for such a tribute as he received.

His wife Elizabeth G. continued to live at 27 Ashland. His daughter Orra L. married Edward A. Williams that same year; and both resided with Elisabeth until they removed to Springfield, MA in 1894/5.

In 1884/5 his youngest daughter Eunice A., now married for two years to Samuel G. Williams; moved back home from Gloucester; and also resided with Elisabeth G. [33].

Several 1898/9 photographs show this period. Perhaps Elizabeth G. is one of the elderly women who appeared in them [34].

After Elisabeth's death in 1900, their son John, then married to Sadie Alexander, returned to Newburyport and reoccupied his childhood home [35].

Photographs:

Moses A. can be seen in four old photographs taken at an unrecorded age or date. One hung in the parlor at 25 Ashland, the others were found in the middle room desk. A copy of one, and a color enlargement of the Elisabeth G. portrait, taken by the current owners, hang today at 27 Ashland.

Obituary: C940909a

Interment: Belleville Cemetery

Sources:

[1] LWV Records, b. date, confirmed VR Newbury p. 132, photocopies.

[2] Newburyport City Directory, Newburyport Public Library, hereinafter, City Directory, year 1853, occupations, notes.

[3] 940905- JJ Currier, ship building, pp. 449-470, compilation.

[4] Ship Dreadnaught, JJ Currier, pp.454-456, one of the famous ships of the 19th century; first employed in the N. Atlantic trade between New York and Liverpool; made trip from Sandy Hook to Queenstown in unequalled time of 9 days, 13 hours; never passed by anything in over a 4 knot breeze; nicknamed the Wild boat of the Atlantic and Flying Dutchman by her sailors; twice carried the latest news to Europe, slipping in between the steamers; sailed from Liverpool to San Francisco in 1869 and wrecked on Cape Penas, off the island of Terra del Fuego.

[5] C940909B- RK Cheney, p. 327, occupation and explorer.

15 Mar 1995

Page 4

- =====
- [6] LWV Records, int. 19 Oct 1844, conf. VR Newbury p. 130, photocopies.
 [7] Ibid. LWV Records.
 [8] VR Newbury, p. 577, photocopy.
 [9] Ibid. p. 132, photocopy.
 [10] JJ Currier- Pilsbury Lane, p. 348, A lot of land was owned by Josiah Pilsbury in 1735, one side was "bounded by a drift way extended from High street to the Merrimac River"; the drift way thereafter called Pilsbury Lane until changed to Ashland Street after this section was annexed from Newbury in 1852.
 [11] Ibid. p. 204-208, Newbury/Newburyport Boundries- care not taken herein to be always correct distinguishing between these two locations in the older references; dates before 1764 should refer to Newbury; between 1764 and 1851, Newburyport consisted of only 647 acres generally located between Bromfield, Oakland, High streets and the Merrimac River; after 1851 Joppa, from Bromfield to Rolfe's Lane; and Belleville, from Oakland to the Artichoke River were annexed from Newbury, and Newburyport's present boundries made.
 [12] Note dtd. 30 Jun 1847, Moses A. & Dolly E. Currier to John Pearson 3d.; for \$500, with a lot of land on Pilsbury Lane as collateral, document.
 [13] Historic Register, Newburyport Public Library, photocopy.
 [14] PJ Currier, p. 156.
 [15] Ibid.
 [16] Ibid.
 [17] RK Cheney, p. 327, notes.
 [18] VR Newbury, writer's conclusion.
 [19] Conversation, Elizabeth W. Addison, his granddaughter.
 [19a] Picture of Captain Kelly, identified by EWA.
 [19b] Letter and picture of retired Captain Benjamin F. Davis, written to Samuel (G.) Williams 8 Mar 1910, after Samuel's death in 1906, in which he states "...in years gone by I have often thought of you all and regretted that I did not keep in correspondence with the family after my retirement from a seafaring life. I often live over in memory the pleasant months we spent in your Mother Currier's home in Newburyport... I think it must be just about twenty years since I was in Newburyport last and it is eighteen years this month since I made my last trip in the Rose Esterbrook..."
 JJ Currier p. 468 shows the Rose Esterbrook to be a schooner, 618 tons, built in 1883, the 17th of 26 vessels from the George E. Currier yards, in business from 1873 to 1892 at the foot of Ashland street.
 Capt. Davis probably did not know Moses A., but only his widow Elisabeth G. as Moses died in 1875. Elizabeth must have carried on the practice of boarding, and met Samuel G. who also resided there by 1884/85, and certainly visited his mother-in-law before that year.
 [20] Deed dtd. 9 Dec 1856, Geo. W. Jackman and Jos. Nickerson, trustees, to Moses A. Currier and Geo. E Currier; for \$396, 72 sq. rods of land on Ashland street, document.
 [21] PJ Currier, writer's conclusion.
 [21a] Deed dtd. 10 Jun 1859, Moses A. Currier to Eunice A. Currier, widow; for \$250, a piece of land with buildings thereon on Ashland Street, document.
 [22] See [19].
 [23] City Directory, 1860, notes.
 [24] Portraits, Moses A.; first to Moses H. Williams, then to Robert A. Williams. Elisabeth G.; first to Eunice A. Williams, then to Elisabeth W. Addison, now with writer. Orra L.; first to Orra, next to Laura Williams Vance, then to Judith Vance Burnham. John; first to Richard C. Williams, then to Pricilla Williams Hempstead.
-

NOTES FOR MOSES(8) ATKINSON CURRIER

15 Mar 1995

Page 5

- =====
[25] Photo album, 1899-1900, Edward A. Williams, in possession of writer.
[26] Deed dtd 17 Jun 1873, under will of late Eunice A. Currier, land
and buildings at 25 Ashland street until his daughter Eunice is 21, document.
[27] City Directory, 1902, notes.
[28] Receipts, document.
[29] Deed, Belleville Cemetery lot no. 52, dtd. 25 Jun 1864, document.
[30] Business card, William Choate & Co., Wm. Choate, J Whitmore, OW
Clarke, MA Currier, Patentees, document.
[31] See [19].
[31a] Will, dtd. 30 Aug 1873, proved 22 Mar 1875, document.
[32] PJ Currier, p. 156.
[33] City Directories, 1877-1901, notes.
[34] See [25].
[35] See [19].

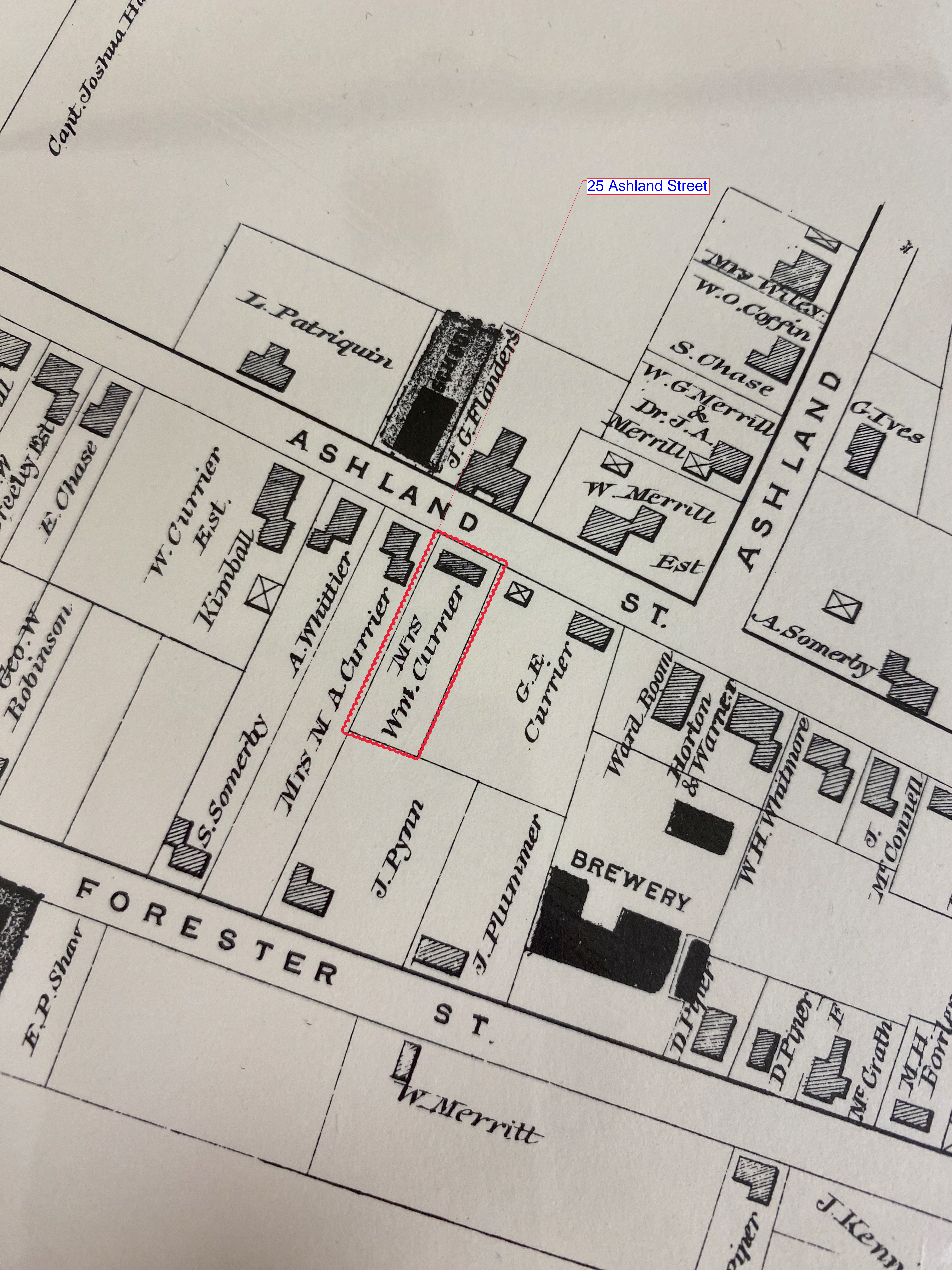
End

=====

Exhibit K

Capt. Joshua H.

25 Ashland Street



L. Patriquin

W.O. Coffin

S. Chase

W.G. Merrill & Dr. J.A. Merrill

W. Merrill Est

G. Ives

ASHLAND ST.

ASHLAND ST.

A. Somerby

E. Chase

W. Currier Est.

Kimball

A. Whittier

Mrs Wm. Currier

G.E. Currier

ST.

Geo. W. Robinson

S. Somerby

Mrs M. A. Currier

Ward Broom

Horton & Warner

W.H. Whitmore

J. McConnell

FORESTER ST.

J. Pynn

J. Plummer

BREWERY

E.P. Shaw

ST.

W. Merritt

D. Pinner

D. Pinner

Mr. Grath

M.H. Fowler

Pinner

J. Kenn

NBPT MAP

1-1884

WARD 6

Exhibit L

COOLIDGE

ASHLAND

6" W. PIPE

ASHLAND

33-31

29

27

25

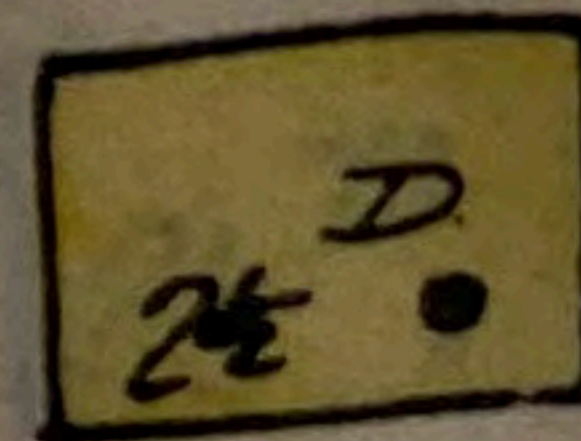
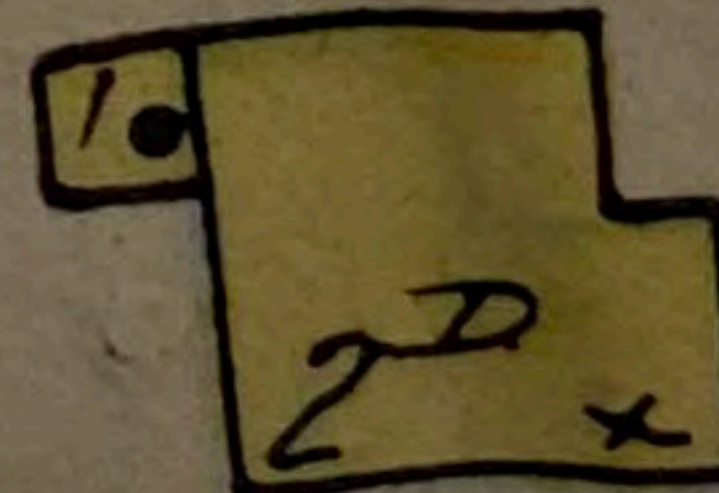
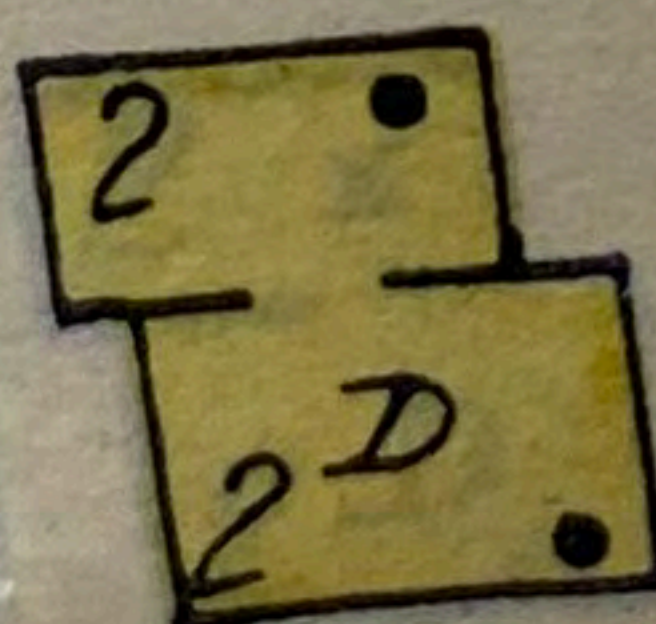
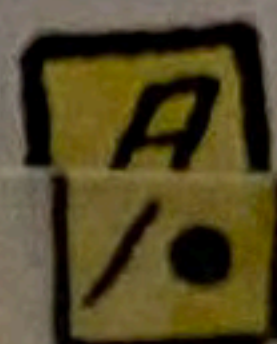
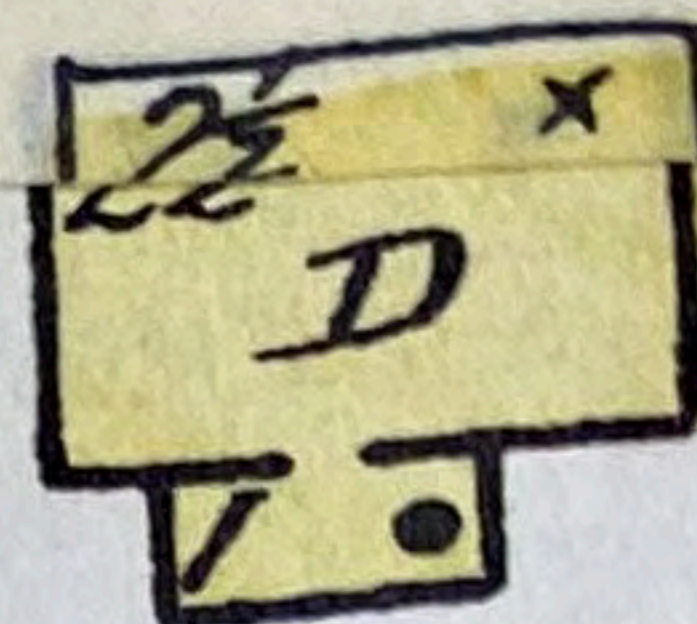
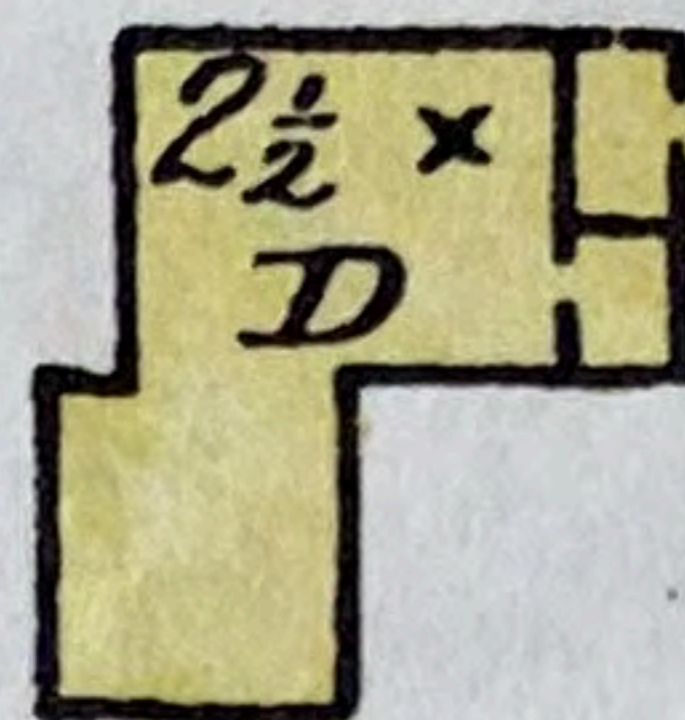
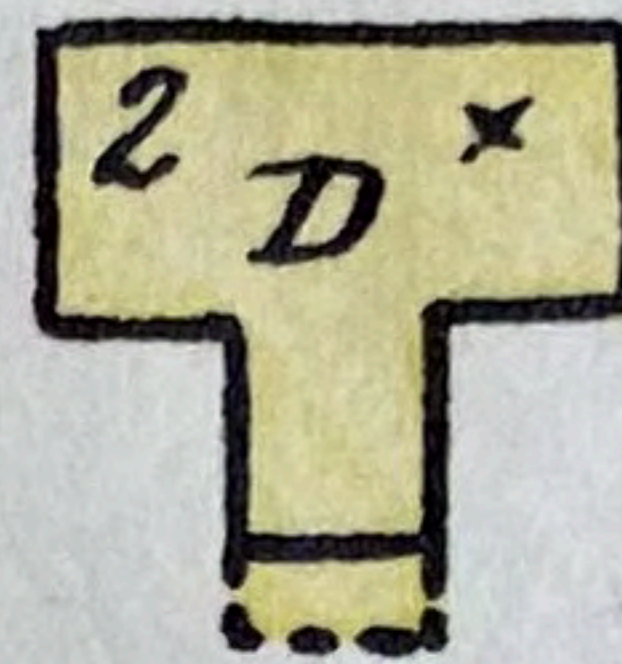
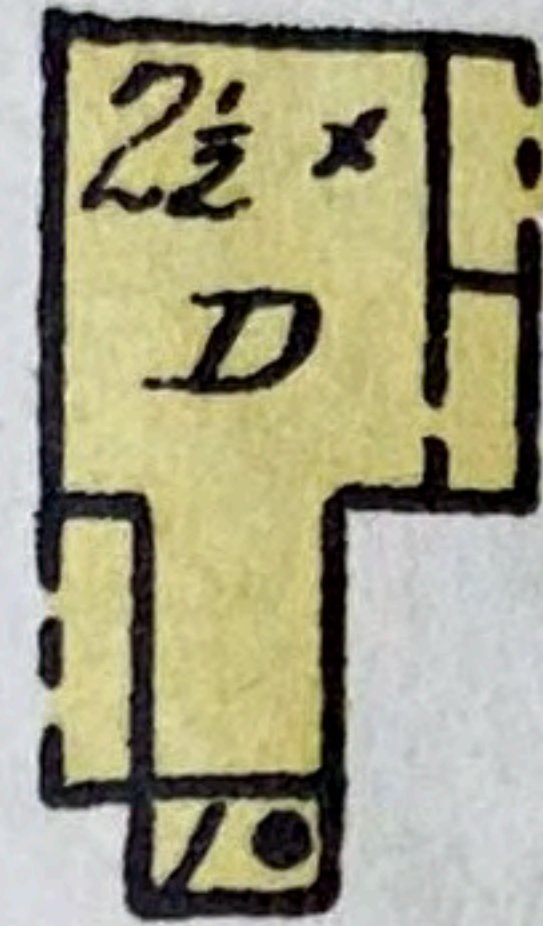
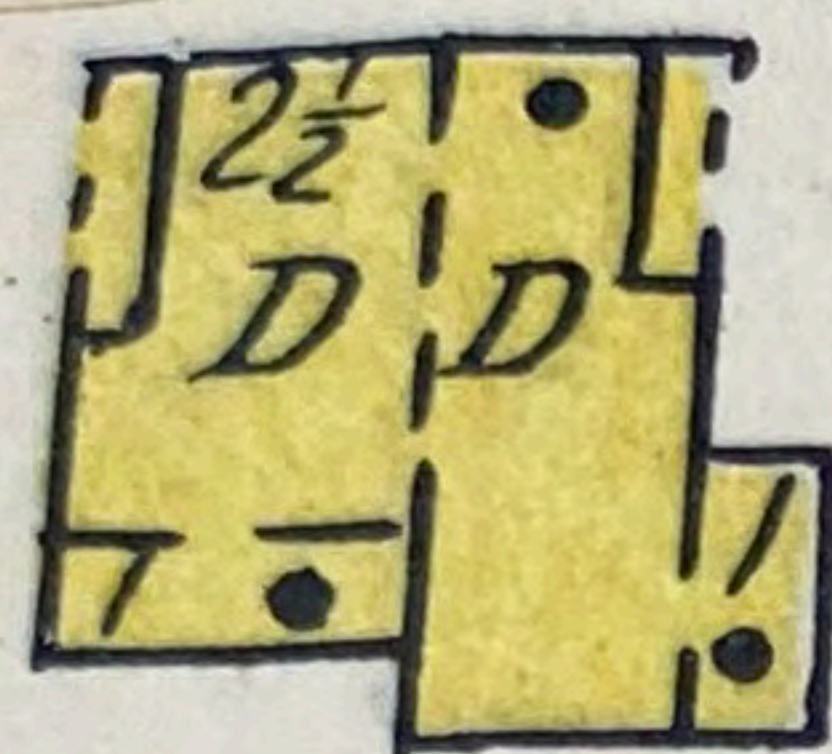
23

21-19

T.M. ASH

50'

STANLEY AV.



50'

60'

6" W. PIPE

32

28 FORRESTER

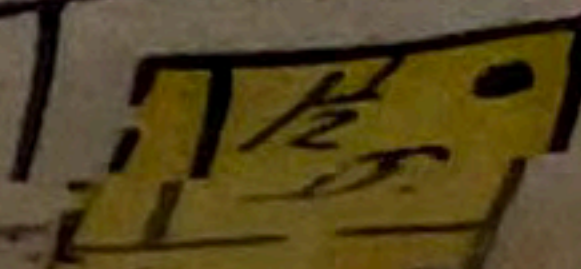
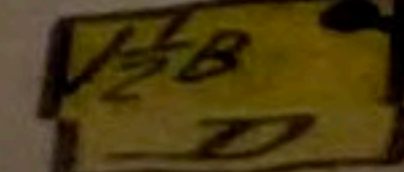
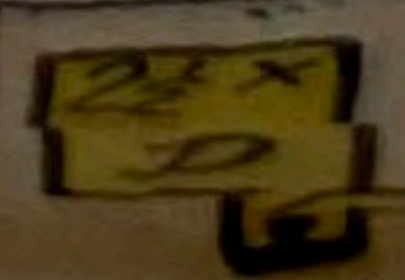
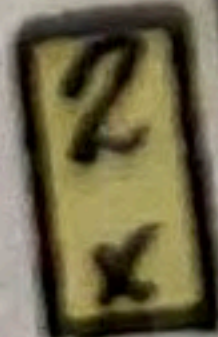
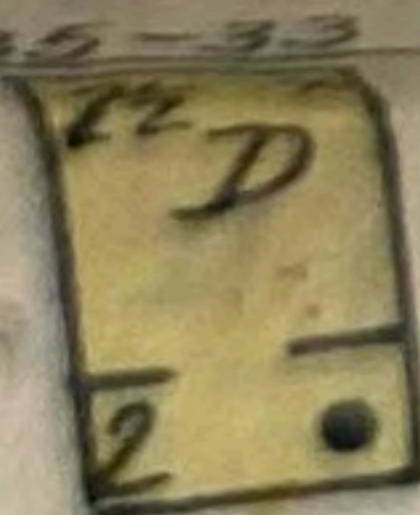
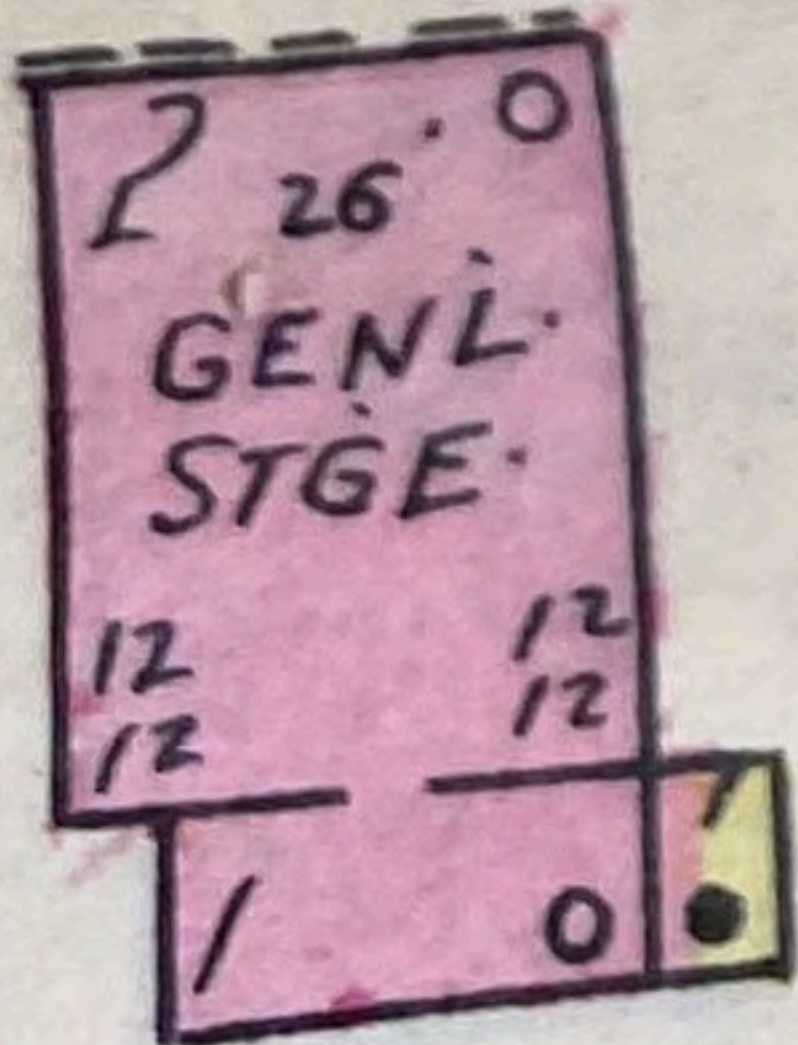
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FOR

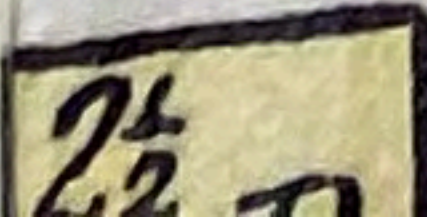
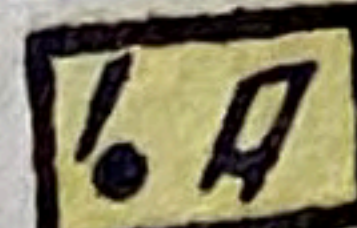
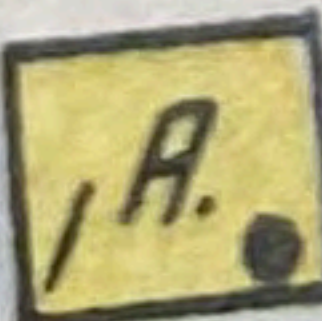
17 FORRESTER

21

19



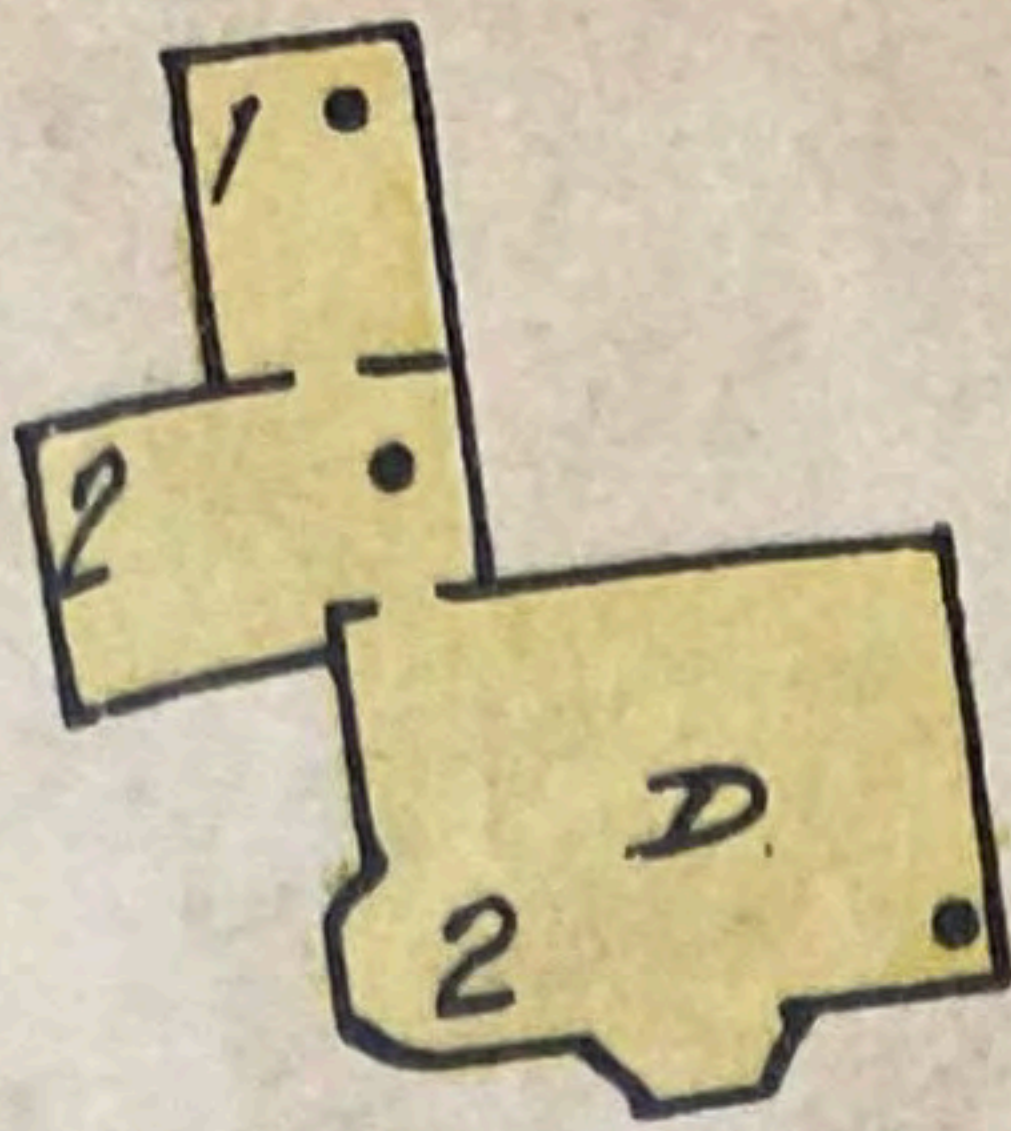
Handwritten note: v not in with



204

2029

A 1/2



A 1

8" W. PIPE

6

L.A.

15

FA

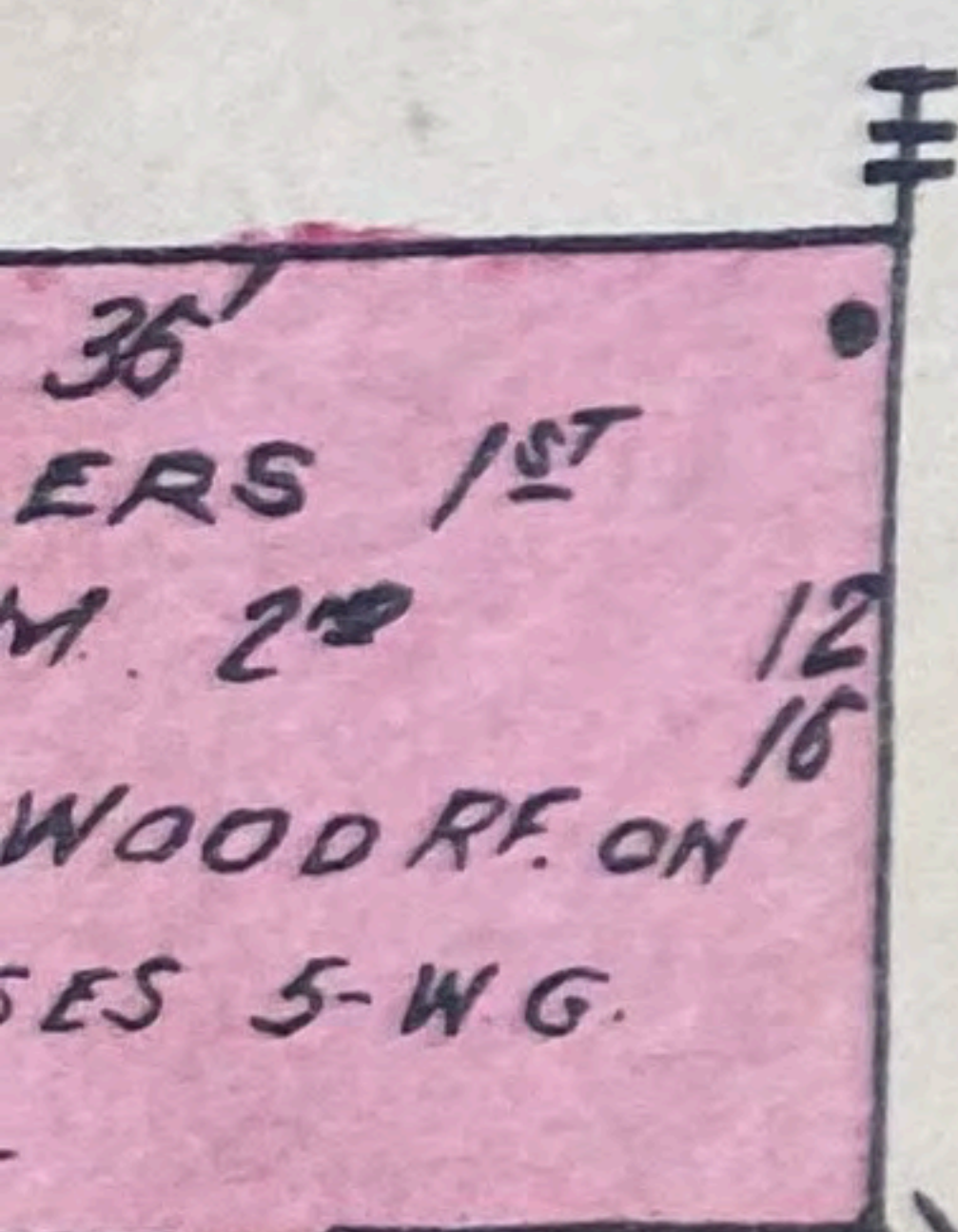
T.H.

12" W. PIPE

70'

BROAD

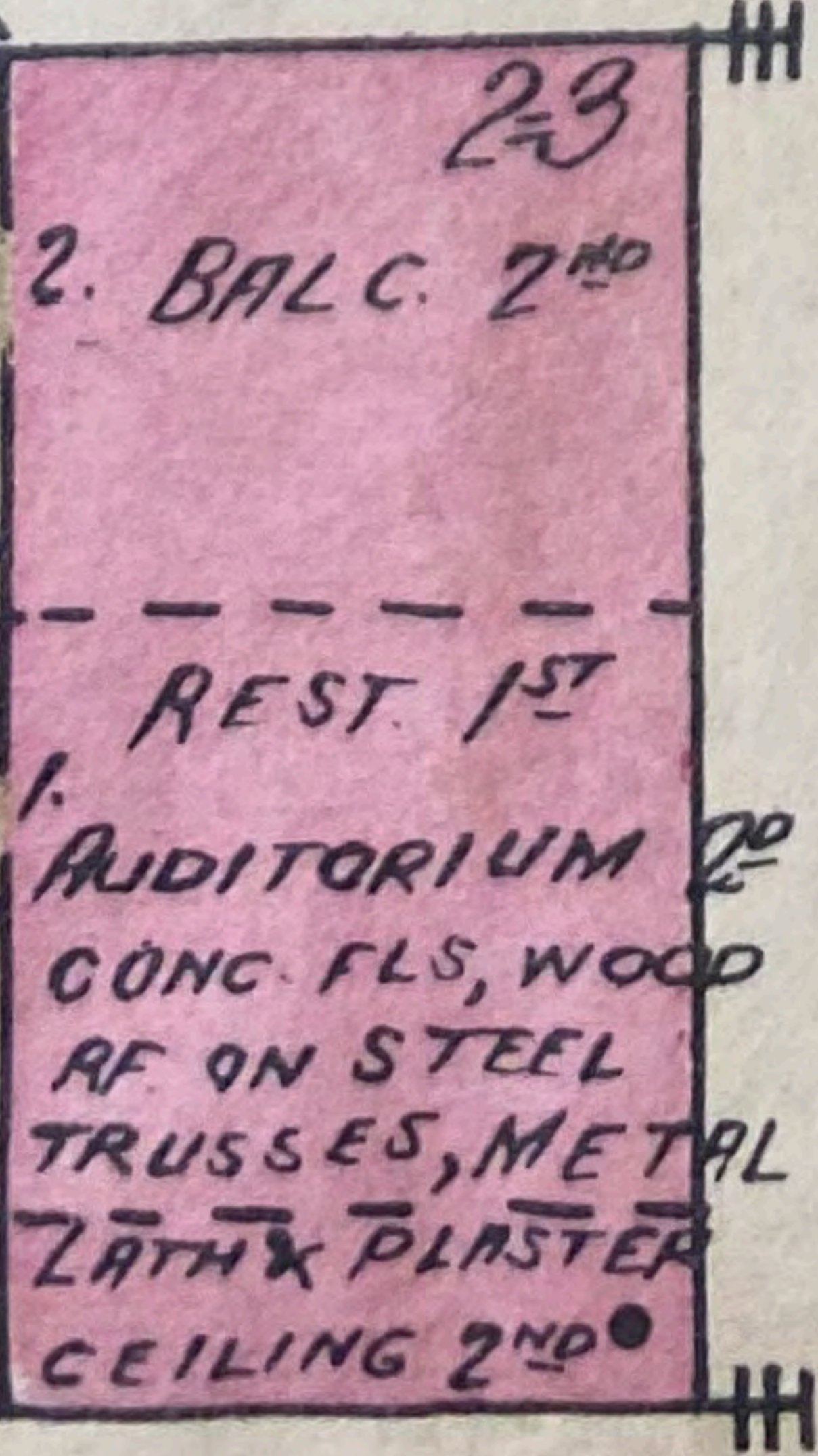
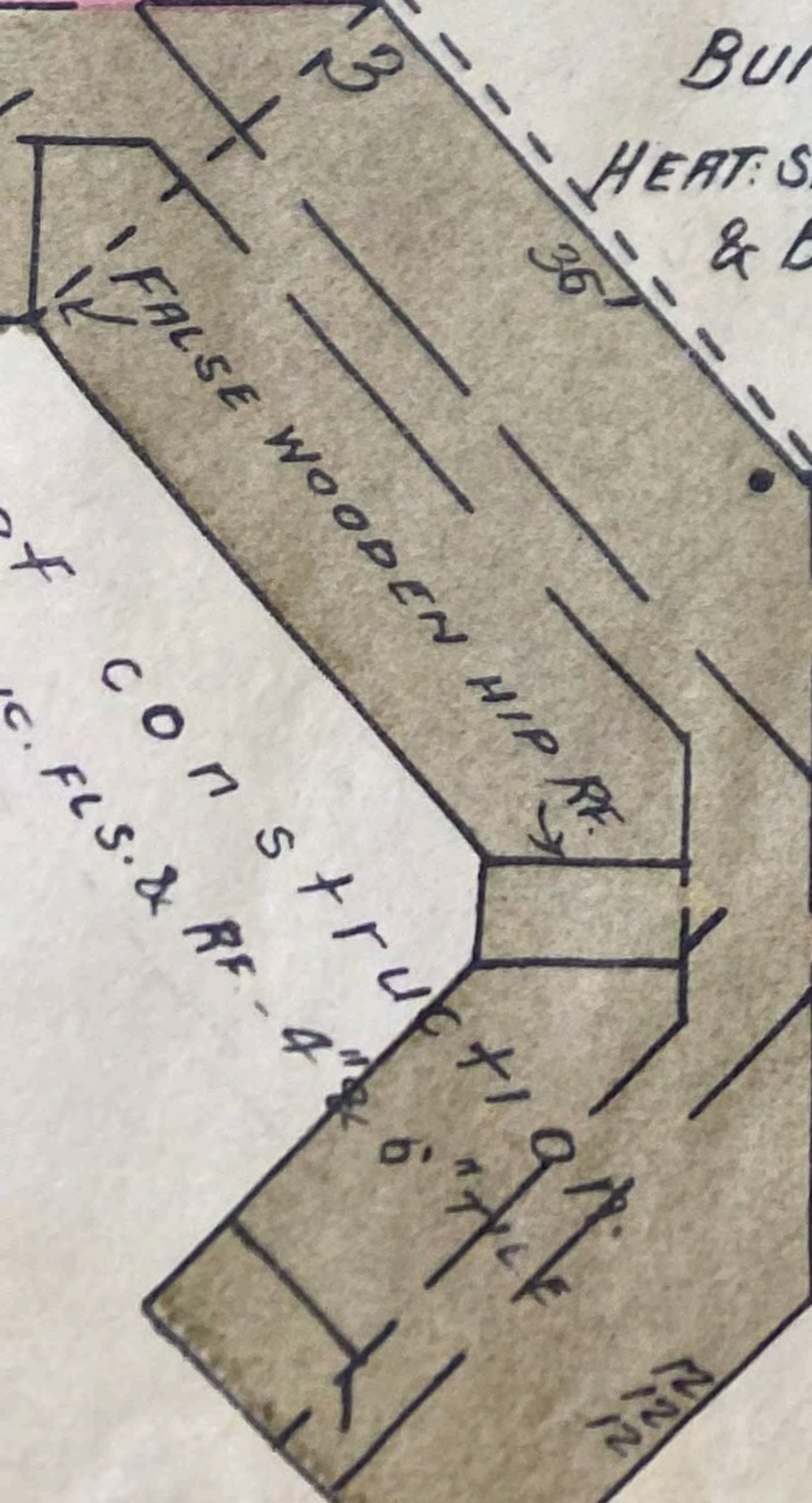
JAN. 1924 NEWBURYPORT MASS.



HIGH SCHOOL

BUILT-1935

HEAT: STEAM & HOT AIR DUCTS & BLOWERS-



241

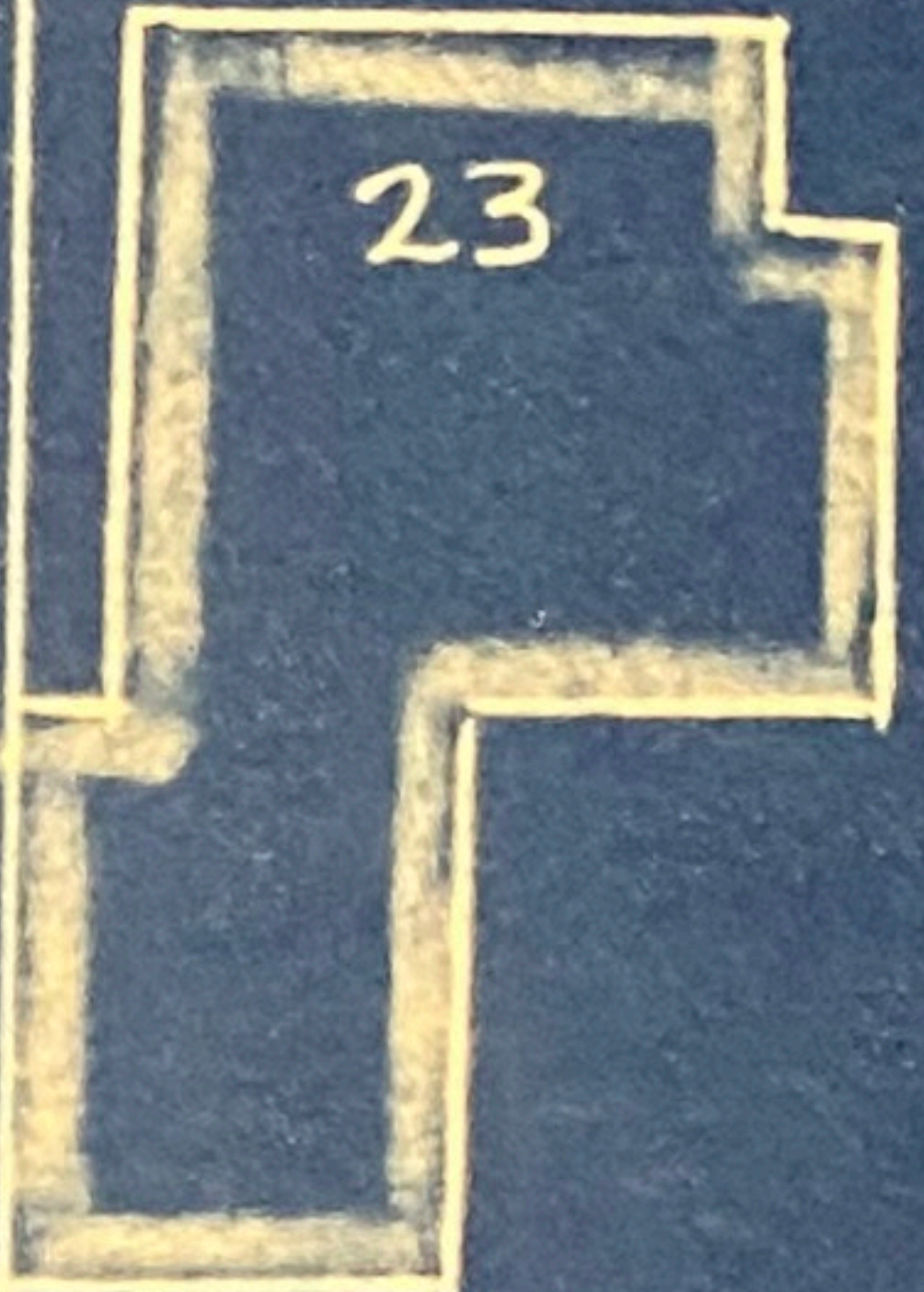
T.H.

CHATELAIN

22

Exhibit M

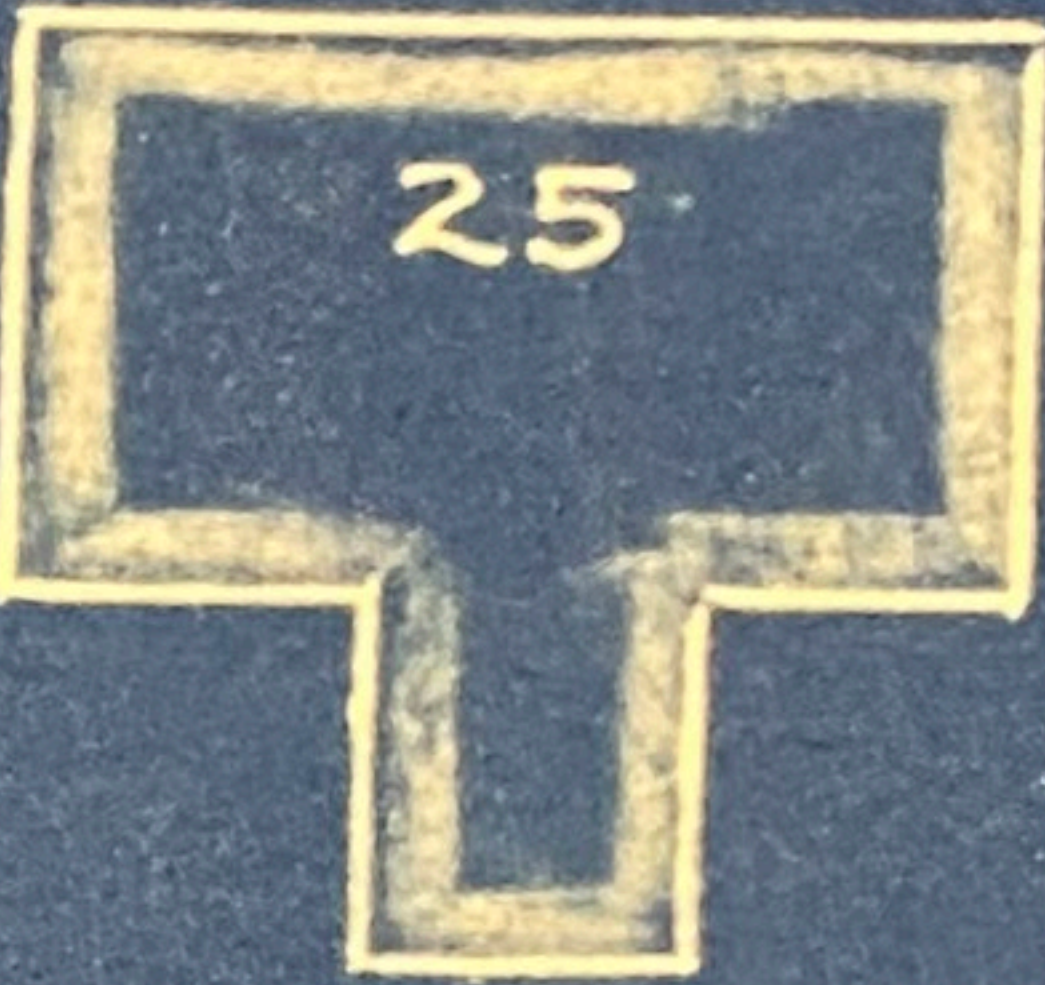
Emola E. Keizer



9340

Micha

Eunice A. Williams



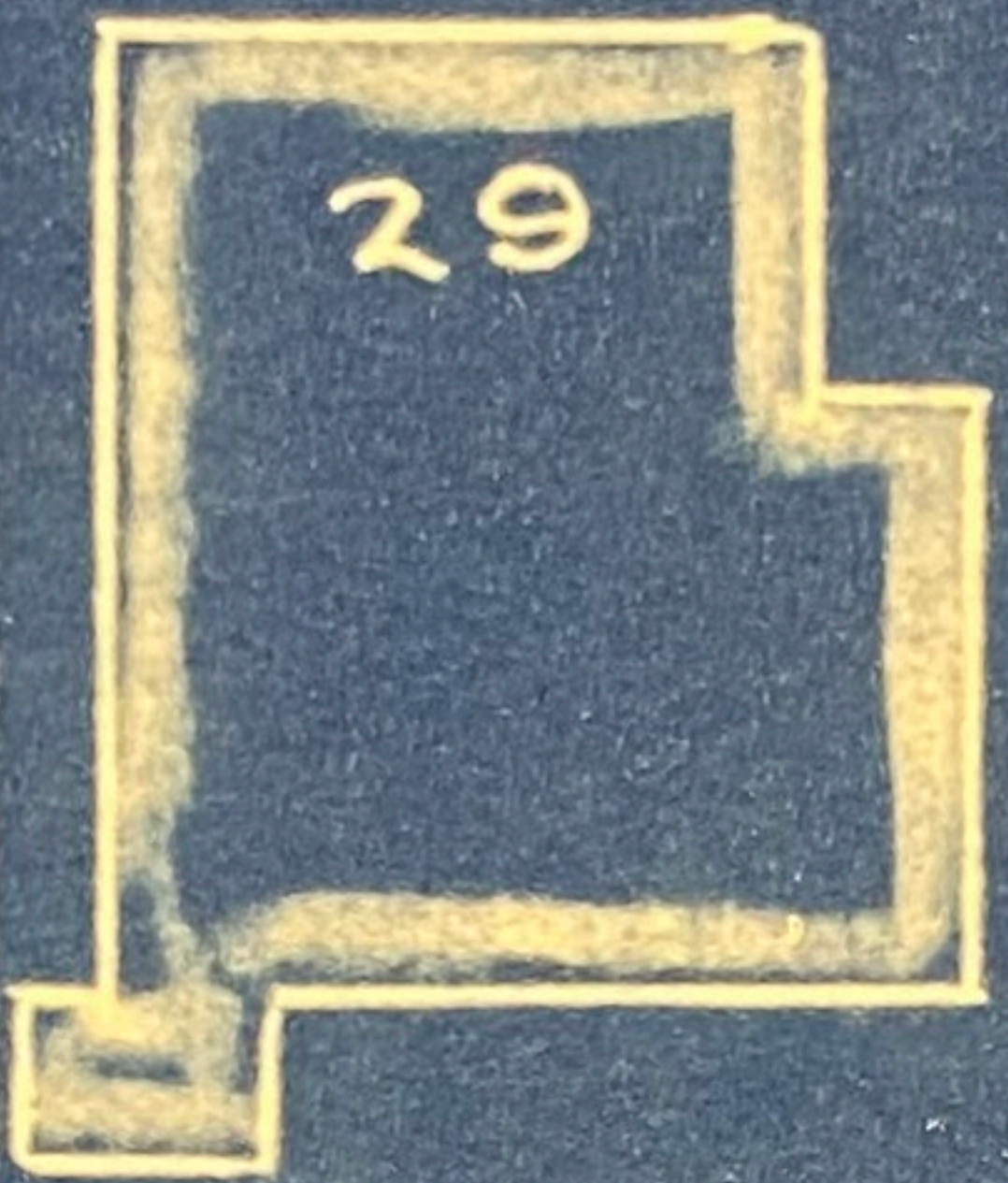
9430

19-

Sadie M. C



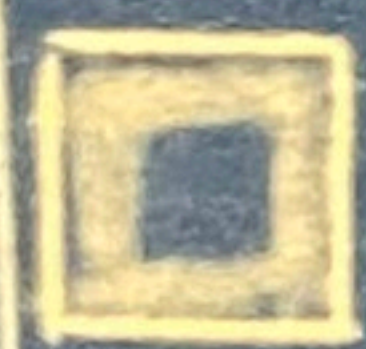
Chas. M. Watson



11,63

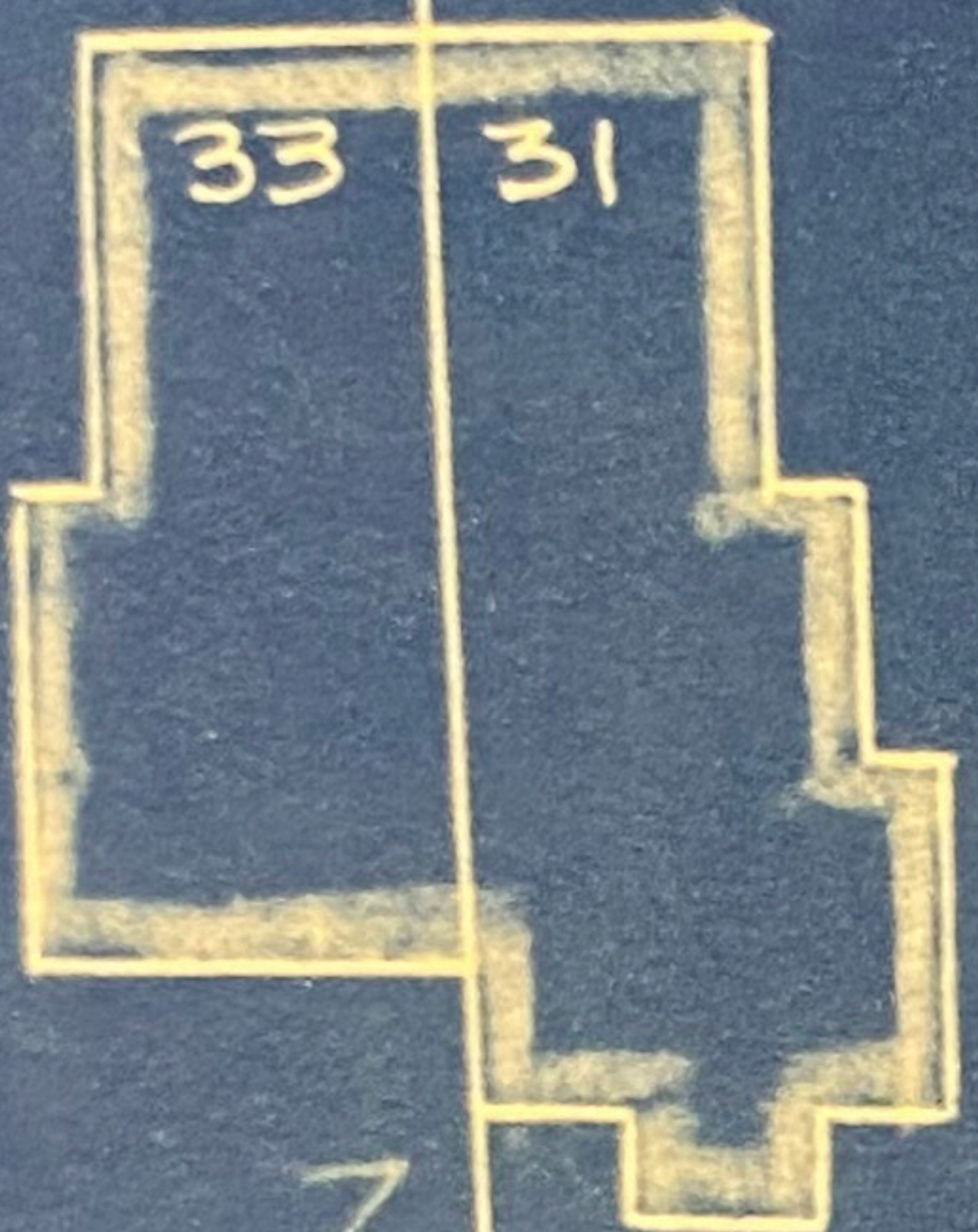


Maria

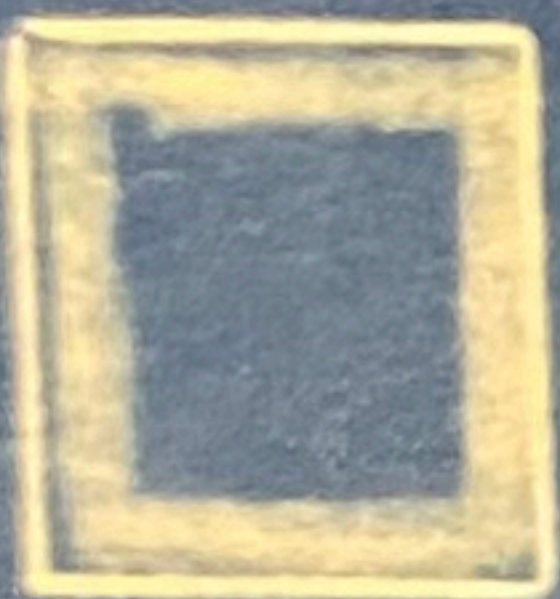


Earibino

6760



Mary W. Currier



8010

ST.

STANLEY



ASSESSORS' PLANS
CITY OF
NEWBURYPORT
MASS.

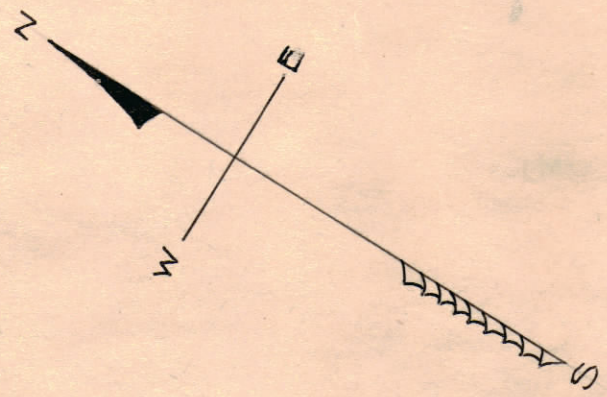
1924.

EIGHTY PLANS AND INDEX.

*From Surveys in 1922 and 1923 by John T. Desmond,
Haverhill, Mass.*

Drawn by Harold T. Mc

Exhibit N



25 Ashland

ST.

ST.

STANLEY

AVE.

WAY

MAPLE ST.

ASHLAND

FORRESTER

HIGH

ST.

NO. ATKINSON

ST.

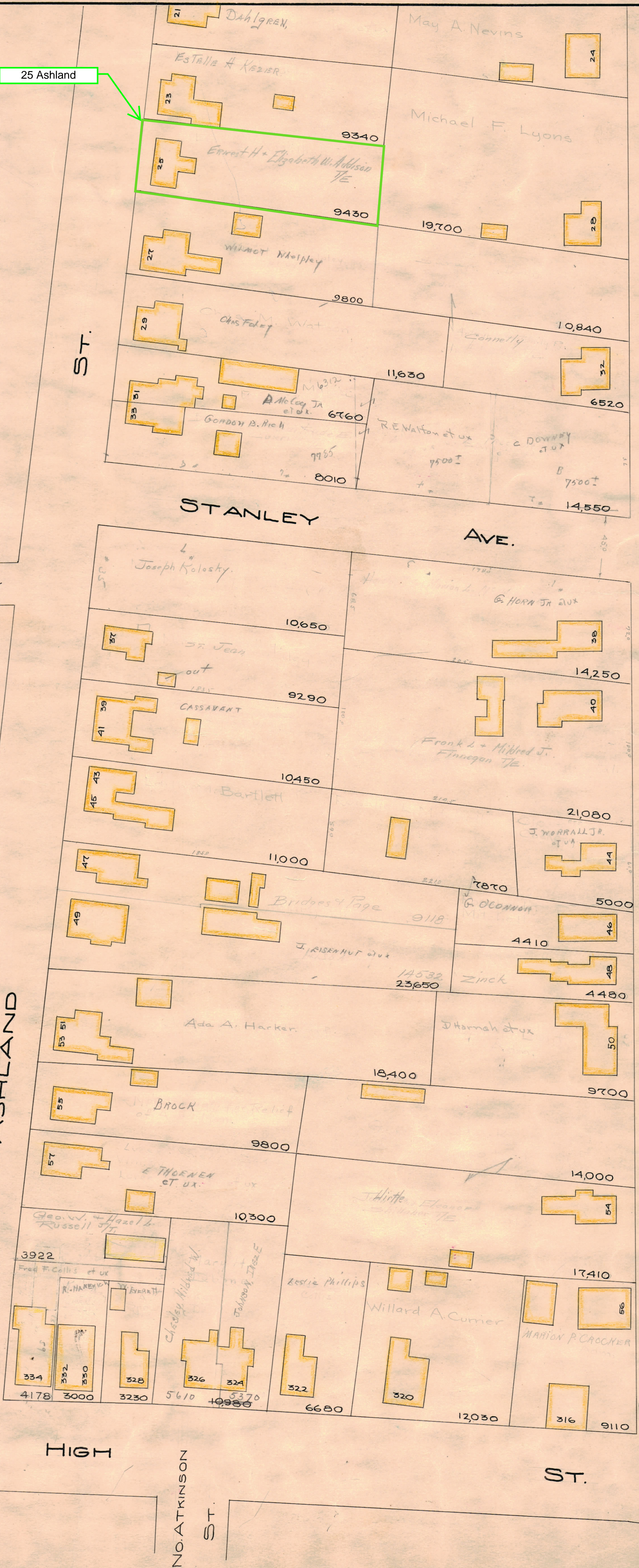


Exhibit O

FIX ENGINEERING

2 Silver Ledge Road, Newbury, MA 01951

Office: 978-462-4331 Cell: 978-973-2366 email: joe@fixengineering.net

April 6, 2024

Newburyport Zoning Board of Appeals
60 Pleasant Street
Newburyport, MA 01950

Re: Rear ell of existing residence at 25 Ashland St., Newburyport, MA
Evaluation of existing structure

Dear Zoning Board:

The existing residence at 25 Ashland St. consists of a two-story dwelling built in 1765, a two-story rear ell built between 1884 and 1924, likely circa 1900, and an addition to the ell built in 1998. The two-story ell occupies a footprint of approximately 11'-8" x 11'-4". The ell is built on a brick and rubble perimeter foundation which encloses a very shallow, inaccessible crawl space with an earthen floor.

The current proposed plans call for the removal of the 1998 addition, the 1900 ell, and their replacement with a larger addition. An alternate plan to keep the existing 1900 ell was considered. This alternate plan requires underpinning the ell so that a full-height basement can be installed under the ell to accommodate new stairs and to connect the cellar of the 1765 main house to the basement of the proposed addition. The underpinning of the ell would also allow it to be insulated. Due to the inaccessibility of the crawl space under the ell, it is currently not practical to insulate this area.

I have made recent observations of the existing rear ell structure of the residence at 25 Ashland St. and I have looked at photos that were taken during the construction of the 1998 addition to the ell. Based on these observations, it is apparent that several areas of the brick and rubble foundation are in poor condition, with large cracks, possibly due to shifting and settlement of the soil under the foundation. The poor condition and cracks in the foundation of the ell indicate poor structural integrity and the foundation requires repair, regardless of any other plans for renovation.

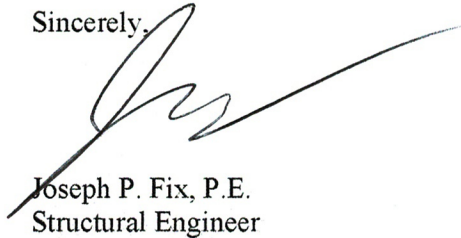
I envision the underpinning operation to consist of inserting several large steel "needle" beams under the first-floor frame of the existing ell in order to temporarily support the two-story structure so that the existing foundation can be removed. But, in my opinion, this operation would likely be difficult, hazardous, and costly. First, the existing first-floor structure would need to be exposed in order to assess the framing to determine if and how it can be supported on the needle beams. This assessment would need to be done by removing sections of the existing floor since the underside of the framing isn't accessible. Then sections of the existing foundation would need to be removed in order to install the needle beams. This would further weaken the already compromised foundation. The underpinning operation would be further complicated by the presence of the concrete foundation of the 1998 addition which is connected to the brick and rubble foundation of the 1900 ell. Throughout the underpinning operation, extraordinary – and costly – precautions would need to be taken to ensure the stability of the existing two-story structure and to keep workers safe.

Page 2 of 2
25 Ashland St.

In summary, in my opinion any attempt to keep and maintain the wood-framed structure of the 1900 ell would be fraught with difficulty, peril, and extreme expense. Further, the foundation of the ell requires repair that would involve similar difficulties. I cannot recommend the alternate plan that would include keeping the 1900 ell.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Fix', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joseph P. Fix, P.E.
Structural Engineer

Exhibit P













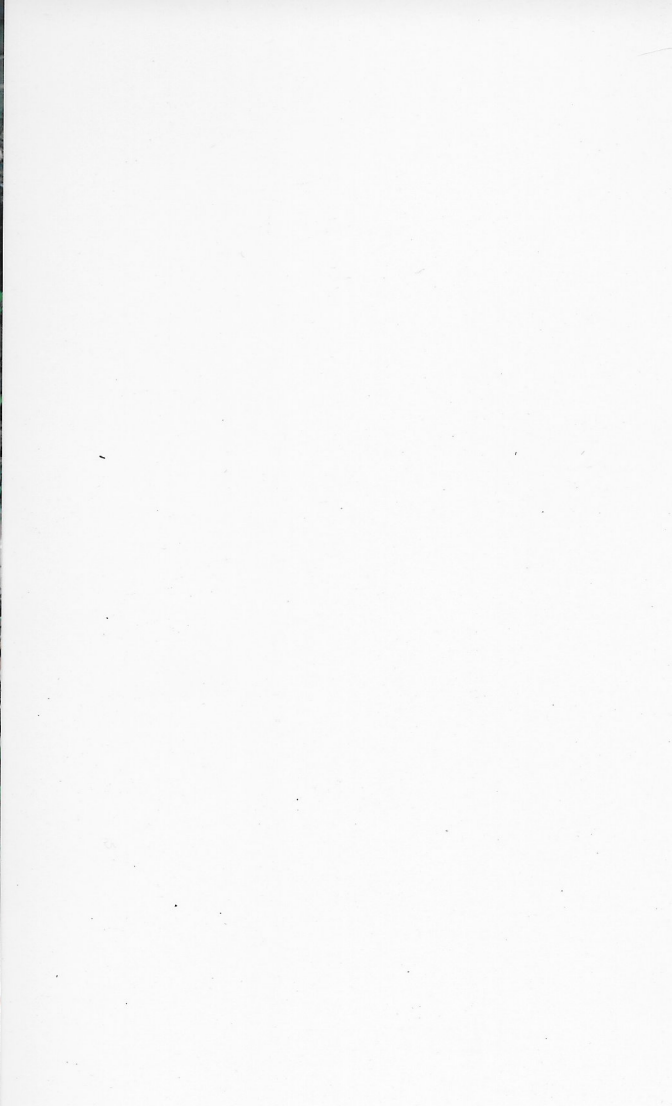






Exhibit Q

25 Ashland Street



25 Ashland Street

View of East Side
Elevation



25 Ashland Street

View of East Side
Elevation





First Addition

Historic Home



1998 Addition

First Addition

Foundation Cracks



First Addition
Foundation





First Addition
Foundation

First Addition
Foundation



25 Ashland Street

View of West Side
Elevation



Historic Home

First Addition

1998 Addition



1998 Addition

First Addition

Historic Home



27 Ashland

25 Ashland

23 Ashland

21 Ashland





23 Ashland

25 Ashland

27 Ashland

19 Ashland

21 Ashland





27 Ashland

29 Ashland





31 Ashland

30 Ashland

28 Ashland



22 / 24 Ashland



20 Ashland

