COMMANDING OFFICER’S QUARTERS
(Building 1)

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Springfield, Massachusetts

Historic Structure Report
COMMANDING OFFICER’S QUARTERS
(Building 1)

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

Springfield Armory National Historic Site
Springfield, Massachusetts

By

James J. Lee III
Architectural Conservator
and
Marilou Ehrler
Historical Architect

Historic Architecture Program
Northeast Region, National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior
Lowell, Massachusetts

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The preparation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Historic Structure Report (HSR) would not have been possible without the assistance of the staff members of Springfield Armory National Historic Site (SPAR). Michael Quijano-West, Superintendent, provided direction and coordinated the efforts of his staff. Michael also performed an initial walk through the building to identify issues and concerns. James Roberts, Museum Curator Supervisor, coordinated access to the SPAR Museum Collection and provided background information about the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. James also directed the researcher to the Rediscovery website for historic photographs. Alex Mac Kenzie, Park Ranger, provided access to historic documents and copies of historic photographs, plans, and documents in the SPAR Museum Collection. Joseph Brady, Facility Manager, provided access to the building during the site visits.

Nathaniel Wiltzen, Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Waltham, Massachusetts, provided assistance with the primary source research for the HSR. The current report drew from previous work performed by Derwent S. Whittlesey, John Albright, Robert L. Carper and Richard G. Turk, and Carole L. Perrault and Judith Quinn (now Sullivan) whose previous reports and research contributed greatly to the context of the site and provided some useful information about the building.

James J. Lee III
INTRODUCTION
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose and Scope

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters is one of several extant buildings that were constructed as part of the Springfield Armory in Springfield, Massachusetts. The purpose of this report was to identify significant historic features of the building and provide guidance for treatment. The project included archival research at the local and regional level, and building investigation and research. The archival research was performed by James Lee, Architectural Conservator, Historic Architecture Program (HAP), and the building investigation was accomplished by James Lee and Marilou Ehrler, Historical Architect, HAP. The project was phased over two fiscal years (FY 2008 and FY 2009) and culminated in the Historic Structure Report (HSR). In accordance with National Park Service (NPS) standards and as outlined in Director’s Order – 28, the HSR contains Part 1 “Developmental History,” which includes sections on “Historical Background and Context” and “Chronology of Development and Use,” authored by James Lee, and “Current Physical Description,” authored by Marilou Ehrler. The HSR also includes an additional subsection to Part 1 in the form of “Character-Defining Features (CDFs) and General Recommendations” for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, which was also written by Mr. Lee. Identification of the CDFs will assist in guiding appropriate repairs and improvements, including universal access. Ms. Ehrler also assisted with the recommendations for ADA accessibility. The report does not include a “Part 2. Treatment and Use” or “Part 3. Record of Treatment.”

Brief Description

The Springfield Armory was initially established as an arsenal during the American Revolution. The first structures were erected near the militia training field on the hilltop northeast of the Connecticut River and Springfield town center. This area would later become Armory Square and the location of the Hill Shops for the Springfield Armory. As the Armory developed, the buildings erected on the hill around Armory Square were constructed with masonry materials that conveyed a sense of permanence. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century west of Armory Square near the western slope of the hill overlooking downtown Springfield, Massachusetts. The new quarters were in the vicinity of the Paymaster’s House and Master Armorer’s House, both constructed in the Greek-Revival style in 1833. Its construction was indicative of the growth of the Springfield Armory and the significance of the Armory in the history of the town of Springfield (see subsequent section “Historical Background and Context”).

Construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters began in 1845 and was completed by June 1847. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was designed with classical architectural elements that were influenced by the Greek-Revival style. John Albright’s study of the Springfield Armory, published in 1978, commented on the Greek-Revival style of the
Commanding Officer’s Quarters and observed that it was a noteworthy example of that style. The masonry elements of the quarters were consistent with other buildings around Armory Square, and the formal design with classical elements made it distinctive among the Armory structures.

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed with brownstone foundations, brick walls, slate hipped roofs, and brownstone trim elements. It was built in two sections consisting of a rectangular Main Block with a cupola and a rectangular Ell extending east of the Main Block. The Main Block was the more prominent of the two sections with distinctive architectural elements. The Ell was smaller than the Main Block, with a lower roof-line and fewer decorative elements (see subsequent section “Original Appearance”).

The extant architectural elements of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters include intact historic elements as well as alterations made to the building while the Springfield Armory was still active. Historic elements and some alterations are significant and character defining, and should be preserved (see subsequent section “Character-Defining Features and General Recommendations”).

Research Conducted

This Historic Structure Report documents the evolution of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters relying on physical investigation of extant materials and documentary research using both primary and secondary sources. Primary source research was conducted at the National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, and in the Museum Collection of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site (NHS). In addition to these sources previous research performed by Carole L. Perrault and Judith Quinn (now Sullivan) for the “Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Springfield, Massachusetts, Building 19, Historic Structure Report, Volumes I and II,” DRAFT, was reviewed for this report. The information from these sources was augmented by secondary source materials from various repositories and world-wide websites. A portion of the Springfield Armory NHS photographic collection was available on the Rediscovery website. Repositories consulted and utilized for this project include the following:

Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, Springfield, MA;
National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Waltham, MA;
NPS, Historic Architecture Program Library, Lowell, MA;
NPS, Northeast Museum Services Center, Boston, MA;
NPS, Technical Information Center, Denver Service Center, Denver, CO;
Rediscovery website, URL http://www.rediscov.com/springar/page.htm;
Springfield National Historic Site, Museum Collection, Springfield, MA;
Springfield Public Library, Springfield, MA.

Research Findings

Research of primary and secondary sources provided valuable information on the history and development of the Springfield Armory and the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The Springfield Armory Museum Collection included several historic maps and photographs of the Armory and the Hill Shops, which were used to portray the background history of the site. In addition, previous reports, especially those by Derwent S. Whittlesey, John Albright, Robert L. Carper and Richard G. Turk, and Carole L. Perrault and Judith Quinn Sullivan, contributed greatly to the context of the site and provided some useful information about the building.

Primary documentation from the National Archives included correspondence and contracts, which helped establish a better understanding of the construction and subsequent alterations to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Historic plans, historic photographs, more recent architectural plans, and contracts are primarily housed in the Springfield Armory Museum Collection, and some are available at the National Archives and the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum. Those documents also provided information about the building’s original appearance and later alterations. That information, coupled with the current building investigation, helped determine the extent of the changes to the building. Consequently the research determined that the building has had minimal alterations and retains a high degree of historic integrity.

Additional Research

A significant amount of research materials have been deposited with the Springfield Armory Museum Collection. Future research of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should search for original building plans and additional documents related to the original construction. Correspondence from James Ripley to Chief of Ordnance George Talcott indicated that plans were sent to Talcott for his approval in 1844.² In addition, General James Whitney, Superintendent, submitted drawings of Superintendent’s Quarters to Colonel H.K. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, in 1859.³ Though previous research did not find either set of plans, further research at the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C. might find these documents. Further study at the National Archives should include ferreting out any primary source material pertaining to later twentieth-century alterations to the building by the U.S. Army.

³ Superintendent James Whitney to Col. H.K. Craig, March 10, 1859; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance, Entry 1354, RG 156; microfilm roll 194, SPAR Museum Collection.
Recommended Treatment and Use

It is recommended that the Commanding Officer’s Quarters be preserved through rehabilitation. Rehabilitation of the building should conform to The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, which includes the Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings. The goal of the rehabilitation should be the adaptive use of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters as office space, conference rooms, and programming space. It is important that the specified rehabilitation strive to preserve the character-defining features (CDFs) of the building, and any changes to the building should be undertaken with attention to the CDFs (see subsequent section “Character-Defining Features and General Recommendations”).

The rehabilitation of the building should be done in a manner that does not diminish the historic integrity of the structure. The reuse of the building may require the installation of an accessible Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant route to part of the building. These changes should be made with minimal impact to the CDFs of the building. It is further recommended that any reuse be planned with awareness to the historic elements of the building. The feasibility of any alterations to the exterior or interior should be studied and any alteration should be planned with minimal impact to the CDFs (see subsequent section “Character-Defining Features and General Recommendations”).
Figure 1. Springfield Armory National Historic Site regional map.
Figure 2. Springfield Armory National Historic Site location map.
Location of Site

Springfield Armory National Historic Site (SPAR) is located in Springfield, Massachusetts, which is situated in the western part of the state along the Connecticut River (fig. 1). Of the 54.92 acre historic site, the SPAR comprises approximately 20 acres of the former Armory and includes the Main Arsenal (Building 13), Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 1) and Garage (Building 18), Gatehouse (Building 33), cast-iron fence, and the cultural landscape associated with that portion of the Armory. The remaining acreage on the hill site is owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for use as part of the Springfield Technical Community College campus, which occupies the buildings within the northeastern quadrant of the square.

National Historic Landmark

The Springfield Armory in Springfield, Massachusetts was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on December 19, 1960. The current NHL information includes the following Statement of Significance:

Until 1967-68, this was the U.S. Army's main research and development center and pilot manufactory for small arms. It was formally established as a Federal arsenal in 1794.\(^4\)

The NHL includes the entire 54.92 acres of the former Hill Shops and Armory Square.

National Register of Historic Places

The Springfield Armory National Historic Site was established by Congress on October 26, 1974\(^3\) and was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register on December 12, 1975. The historic site includes 54.92 acres of land and several historic structures that were part of the Hill Shops of the Springfield Armory. The Statement of Significance in the National Register Inventory - Nomination Form (NR 6600898) included the following:

\(^4\) National Historic Landmarks Program website; URL http://tps.cr.nps.gov/nhl/detail.cfm?ResourceId=681andResourceType=District.
Of the extant properties associated with the Springfield Armory the oldest and most significant are concentrated in Armory Square the fifty-four acre area bounded by State, Federal, Pearl, and Byers Streets. Here are located the administrative building, quarters for the commanding officer and the remaining officer complement, and a number of other buildings ranging in date from 1807 through World War II. Despite some recent construction, Armory Square retains its essential character as the administrative center of a major military installation which saw its greatest growth during the first half of the nineteenth century.\(^\text{6}\)

The National Register nomination recognized the period of significance of the site from 1778, when an arsenal was established in that location, through 1968, when the Armory was deactivated, as well as 1794 when the site was designated a Federal Armory. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was included as a contributing resource in the National Register Nomination for having national significance.

**List of Classified Structures Information**

![Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking northeast, 2009.](image)

The following information is excerpted from the List of Classified Structures (LCS) for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters:\(^\text{7}\)

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\(^{7}\) List of Classified Structures - Springfield Armory National Historic Site (NPS website URL, [http://www.hscl.cr.nps.gov](http://www.hscl.cr.nps.gov)).

\(^{8}\) Note: The Structure Number “B-1001-SD” is used in the Facilities Management Software System (FMSS) and corresponds to the building number used by NPS site staff.
LCS information for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters:

Preferred Structure Name: Commanding Officer’s Quarters

Structure Number: HS01

Other Structure Names: Building 1

Commanding Officer’s House

LSC ID: 022705

National Register Status: Entered – Documented

National Register Date: 12/12/1975

Significance Level: National

Short Significance Description:
Springfield Armory listed as NHL 12/19/60; NR documentation prepared 12/12/75, and Commanding Officer’s Quarters individually listed as a contributing feature. Site's period of significance 1794-1968, with significance under architecture, landscape architecture, military, and politics/government.

Short Physical Description:
Fine example of Italianate style; 3-bay, 2-story 50' x 44' brick house w/ raised basement. 2-story 52' x 27' service ell on E. Brick cupola supported by interior brick partitions surmounts hip roof; paired interior chimneys. Elaborate Victorian porches @ S-W w/ cast iron columns.

Management - Category: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

Management – Treatment: Rehabilitation

Proposed Treatment and Use

The 1986 General Management Plan (GMP) for Springfield Armory NHS notes that the National Park Service (NPS) and Springfield Technical Community College would continue to work collaboratively to manage the 54.92-acre Springfield Armory site and extant buildings associated with the Armory.

The overall approach of the GMP was to maintain the Springfield Armory as it was in 1968 when it was deactivated. The plan defined management zones within the site and established that the NPS would manage the historic zone, which emphasized the restoration, preservation, protection, and interpretation of cultural resources. The historic zone was further divided into subzones, and the Commanding Officer's Quarters was included in the “Adaptive Use Subzone.” The exterior treatment for buildings within that category would be limited to preservation maintenance, while interiors could be rehabilitated for adaptive use.

1 Note: The NR documentation, 1978 HSR by John Albright, and the current research determined that the primary classical design of the original building was Greek-Revival style.
The rehabilitation and reuse of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters might require modifications for ADA accessibility and restrooms, upgrading of utilities, and installation of fire-protection systems. Rehabilitation of the building should preserve the exterior of the building as recommended by the GMP, and should strive to preserve exterior and interior character-defining features.

Related Studies

Some publications identified in the Cultural Resources Management Bibliography were consulted in the preparation of this report. For a broader discussion of the history of the Springfield Armory and the historic structures related to the site, consult the publications listed below.


DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

By James Lee
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND and CONTEXT

Introduction

The following discussion of historical context of the site is intended to provide some background for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters (Building 1) in the larger context of the whole Armory. The following review is based on the previous research supplemented by primary and secondary sources from the Springfield Armory NHS and the National Archives. The history of the Springfield Armory has been the subject of several publications including: Derwent S. Whittlesey’s Ph.D. Dissertation, “The Springfield Armory: A Study in Institutional Development”; Constance M. Green, History of the Springfield Armory; John Albright, Historic Structure Report, Historical Data and Historical Base Map, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts; Robert L. Carper and Richard G. Turk, Historic Structure Report, Architectural Data Section, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts; Carole L. Perrault and Judith A. Quinn, “Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Springfield, Massachusetts, Building 19, Historic Structure Report, Volumes I and II,” DRAFT; and Michael S. Raber, et al., “Innovators and Military Small Arms: An Industrial History of the Springfield Armory, 1794–1968.” These publications, among others, provide accounts of the arsenal, arms manufacturing, and social history of the Springfield Armory, as well as the development of the site and buildings. They provided an understanding of the significance of the site and the context for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. For a more in-depth history of the Springfield Armory, the reader should refer to the publications previously listed.

To support the efforts of the Colonies during the American Revolution, an arsenal and workshop were established in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1777. The National Armory at Springfield was established by the federal government in 1794. During its formative years in the nineteenth century, and into the twentieth century, the Armory grew to encompass three separate areas known as the Hill Shops, Water Shops, and Railhead Area. The Hill Shops were located on a bluff northeast of the central business district of Springfield and were comprised of two units, Armory Square and Federal Square, divided by Federal Street. The Water Shops were located a mile southwest of the Hill Shops at the intersection of Walnut Street and the Mill River, and the Railhead Area was northeast of the Hill Shops on Page Boulevard (fig. 2).

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The hill location of the Springfield Armory and its importance to the city of Springfield were aptly described by historian John Albright:

Unwanted by farmers, more easily defensible than any surrounding areas, and located with the growing cluster of firearms manufactories near the Connecticut River, the site on which the Armory began its development, could hardly have been more appropriate. The hill site has been occupied constantly since 1777 by some sort of armory or arsenal activity. It has been a constant factor in the life of the city as well as the sole occupant of the site. Its presence on the commanding slope overwatching Springfield and its stylistic impact on the city’s public buildings are seen at the first glance of the modern city and the Armory, and is formally recognized in the seal of the city of Springfield, which shows the Armory’s Main Arsenal.11

The Armory currently consists of a 54.92-acre parcel that is bounded by Byers, Pearl, Federal, and State Streets and includes Armory Square. Thus, the contextual history will be focused on the development of the Hill Shops and Armory Square.

**Establishment and Early Years of the Springfield Armory (1777–1801)**

During the Revolutionary War, Springfield, Massachusetts, was recommended as a practical site for arms and ammunition storage by Colonel Henry Knox. Springfield’s proximity to the Connecticut River and the regional concentration of gunsmiths were among the reasons for choosing that location. Knox’s assurance so convinced General George Washington that he championed the cause to the Continental Congress, which agreed to establish an arsenal and arms workshop in Springfield in 1777.12

The first structures for the arsenal were erected near the militia training field on a hill northeast of the town center in 1778. The buildings included a storage “magazine, barracks, and accommodations for the operation of the laboratory.”13 Thus the arsenal at Springfield was established in the area that would become the Hill Shops and Armory Square. The barracks and laboratory were constructed on the hill location near Boston Road (presently State Street), while the magazine was apparently built on the low ground north of the hill.14

After the Revolutionary War, Springfield was maintained for the storage of military arms and ammunition, and a new magazine was constructed at the east end of the hill training field in 1782.15 During the 1780s the operations at Springfield continued at a reduced rate. The

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12 Whittlesey, 13 – 18.
13 Ibid., 23.
14 Ibid.
arsenal became a site of conflict during Shays’ Rebellion in 1787 that turned the tide of that rebellion.16 Otherwise the hill site in Springfield was quiet until after the establishment of the National Armory in 1794.

President George Washington authorized an act of Congress for the creation of two National Armories in 1794, choosing Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia), as the southern site and Springfield, Massachusetts, as the northern site. “On April 2, the President approved ‘An Act to Provide for the Erecting and Repairing of Arsenals and Magazines, and for other purposes,’ which authorized the establishment of two arsenals and magazines.”17

The Federal Government did not own the land upon which the Springfield Armory was built until August 24, 1801, when title was received to 30.5 acres from the citizens of Springfield (in 1795 1.5 acres had been purchased by the government for the Lower Water Shops).18 This marked a period of increased construction at Armory Square, starting with the replacement of buildings consumed by fire in 1801 and continuing throughout the nineteenth century. During this time two men were influential in the physical development of the Armory: Colonel Roswell Lee, Superintendent, and Major James W. Ripley, the Armory’s first U.S. Military Commanding Officer.

Colonel Roswell Lee, Superintendent (1815–1833)

When Colonel Roswell Lee took command of the Springfield Armory in 1815, he resigned his military commission and became a civilian superintendent. Lee took over an arms and ammunition manufactory that had witnessed increased activity during the War of 1812 and was considered a large industrial site for that time.19

Soon after his appointment to Springfield, Superintendent Lee was planning to add several buildings to the complex in efforts to transform it into a “Grand National Armory.” At the time Armory Square was surrounded by brick workshops, wooden and brick dwellings, and had a prominent flagpole planted in the center of the green. It was within this setting that Roswell Lee envisioned his ambitious design. By the end of the summer in 1815 he had plans for new buildings, including a brick administration building and a formal landscape that would help fulfill his vision.20

Superintendent Lee’s plans came to fruition over the next several years. A map of the Armory from circa 1821 depicts an industrial complex consisting of at least ten shop buildings and fourteen residences (fig. 4).21 The development of the Hill Shops during this period was focused on the central green that contained a flagpole historically referred to as the “Liberty Pole.”22 At the time the map was made, Roswell Lee had only just begun his campaign to transform the Armory.

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16 Sarles and Meyers, 9; Whittlesey, 36 – 37.
17 Sarles and Meyers, 9.
18 Ibid., 10.
19 Albright, 5.
20 Albright, 5; Perrault and Quinn, 16; Whittlesey, 79.
22 Albright, 6.
Figure 4. National Armory at Springfield, Massachusetts, circa 1821.
An inspection of the Springfield Armory in 1823 by the Ordnance Office in the War Department made the following observations, which described the beginnings of Lee’s grand plan:

The aforesaid buildings are arranged northerly of the great State road leading to Boston, bordering on a large flat square piece of ground, fenced and set out with trees, around which is a road about 60 feet wide, leading to several dwelling houses occupied by the officers and workmen; the whole assuming a handsome and regular appearance.23

Roswell Lee apparently took every opportunity to improve the buildings at the Armory. When the main shop on the hill burned in 1824 he chose to replace it with a brick structure. Lee got approval for two shops, called the North and South Shops, which were completed by 1825 along with other brick buildings.24 A map of the Armory dated 1830 – 31 illustrates the improvements made by Superintendent Lee and also depicts the formality he introduced into the landscape (fig. 6). The historic map identifies the Armory structures around the square; on the southern edge were the “Brick Storehouses for muskets”; on the east side were two “Brick finishing shops” (the North and South Shops) that flanked the “offices”; and north of those was the “Brick forging shop.” Additionally “Old frame stores,” sheds, and the “Old Magazine” were located on the east side of Federal Street, in the present Federal Square. “Frame dwelling houses” lined the north side of the green and the “Old barracks” were situated north of those buildings.

During his tenure Roswell Lee also built a new Superintendent’s Quarters on the west side of the green. The building was depicted on both the circa-1821 and circa-1830–31 maps of the Armory (figs. 5 and 6). A review of the Springfield Armory in 1852 noted that in 1820 the Superintendent had been quartered in a wood-frame dwelling and that Secretary of War John C. Calhoun had suggested that Lee construct better accommodations for himself. The Superintendent got approval for a new building and began construction in the fall of 1820. The brick quarters was completed in 1821 and was described as two stories high with the main part “45 feet front and 40 feet rear” and the back part “35 feet by 18 feet.”25 The Superintendent’s Quarters, which was constructed in part by local real estate developer Charles Stearns,26 was later razed by Major James W. Ripley and is now the site of the Main Arsenal Building (Building 13).

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24 Whittlesey, 100 – 101.


Figure 6. "No. 2, Armory Hill" at the National Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts. "Drawn by 2nd Lieutenant T.B. Linnard, 2nd U.S. Artillery, 1830–1831."
Superintendent Roswell Lee’s tenure ended when he died in 1833. In his final year at Springfield he commissioned construction of the Master Armorer’s House and the Paymaster’s House, which flanked the Superintendent’s Quarters at the west end of Armory Square. Lee’s legacy was a substantial industrial complex on Armory Hill and the beginning of the “Grand National Armory.”

Roswell Lee’s successor John Robb was a political appointee of President Andrew Jackson, and also served as a civilian superintendent. Superintendent Robb was primarily concerned with the continued manufacture of arms, rather than furthering Lee’s plans for the physical plant. During Robb’s seven years as Superintendent the buildings at the Armory were maintained and the exteriors of the brick buildings were painted in “ordnance colors.” However, the condition of the buildings as reported by Major James Ripley when he took command in 1841 suggested that only small sums were spent on building maintenance.

Superintendent John Robb’s tenure did continue the “tradition of excellence in arms manufacturing” that had been established by Colonel Lee. When Robb left the position in 1840 there were eighty-five buildings, including forty-six shops, eight storehouses, and thirty-one quarters, with a combined property value of $209,161.

**Major James W. Ripley, Commanding Officer (1841–1854)**

James W. Ripley was a Major in the Ordnance Department when he was appointed the command of the U.S. National Armory at Springfield in 1841. Major Ripley was a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York and had spent the previous eight years in command of the Kennebec Arsenal, Maine. His background, qualifications, and personality were aptly summarized by Derwent Whittlesey in the following passage:

> Connecticut born, West Point bred, a veteran of 1814 and of the Seminole Wars, afterward Chief of Ordnance during the Civil War, Ripley expressed in his personality the quintessence of military precision and discipline; vigorous, assertive, stubborn, he undertook vast measures, carried them through, and stood by them when they afterward needed defense.

Whittlesey’s description of James W. Ripley provides some insight into the character of the man whose tenure at the Springfield Armory was marked by great accomplishments, but was also fraught with controversy.

Though James W. Ripley was technically a civil Superintendent when first appointed to the Springfield Armory, he retained his rank of Major in the Ordnance Department. In 1842 Congress signed into law that all National Armories would be commanded by military

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27 Albright, 16–17.
28 Ibid., 17.
29 Whittlesey, 120.
30 Ibid., 120–121.
The dispute over civilian versus military superintendence at the National Armories was a national issue that had local consequences for Springfield. The decision to install military commanders was based on the European model with the reasoning that greater efficiency in the manufacture of arms could be achieved by placing the armories in charge of ordnance officers who were practiced in the use and manufacture of the weapons. Thus Major James W. Ripley became the first military Commander of the National Armory at Springfield in October 1842, which marked just one of the controversies during his command at the Armory.

In the intervening year prior to his official appointment as Commander, Major Ripley had already begun to impose his vision for the National Armory and his military discipline upon Springfield Armory. Major Ripley's plan for the Armory was essentially an extension of Roswell Lee's "Grand National Armory," but on an extremely ambitious scale. His goals of improving the appearance of the site and the productivity of the arms manufactory would include the acquisition of additional land at the hill site and the construction of new buildings to support the growth of the Armory. Among the more prominent structures erected during Ripley's tenure were the Commanding Officer’s Quarters and the New Arsenal, both situated at the west end of Armory Square. Major Ripley’s expansion of the physical plant at the Armory resulted in the ordered aesthetic appearance of the hill site in the nineteenth century, which endured through the current century. In addition, his efforts to improve the manufacturing at the Armory accomplished his goal of increased productivity during his thirteen years as Commanding Officer.

Major Ripley’s initial projects on the site included painting the exteriors of the more prominent buildings on the hill, followed by more substantial undertakings. His first estimate for funds for the Armory submitted on October 29, 1841 totaled over $30,000 and included a new trunk and flume for the Water Shop, new machinery, repairs to the Superintendent’s Quarters, and improvements to and fencing of the grounds. Ripley apparently received some of the necessary funding but later determined that the disrepair of the Superintendent’s Quarters required that it be entirely rebuilt (see subsequent section “Chronology of Development and Use”). Though this specific request was denied, Ripley was given the authority to proceed with repairs to the shops and machinery, and to temporarily suspend operations to achieve those repairs. Some workers were soon discharged as a result of the work, and the entire plant was shut down in August 1842 for more extensive repairs. Manufacturing at Springfield resumed on November 1, 1842 and Major Ripley reinstated some, but not all of the workers.

Ripley’s actions in November 1842 were contentious on two levels: first, he released from employment workers who had previously enjoyed the less strict regulations of the civilian superintendence; secondly, he hired many Irish Catholic workers who had followed him from the Kennebec Arsenal. His actions raised the ire of the portion of the Springfield

32 Whittlesey, 124.
35 Whittlesey, 123 – 124.
population that opposed military command, and also created animosity toward the Irish Catholics in a predominantly Protestant town. In his defense Major Ripley argued that he had dismissed workers who had abused their former positions and whose employment was not in the public interest, nor that of the armory. Among his grievances Ripley noted:

“irregular work hours, leaving the shops at pleasure to attend to private concerns, reading newspapers during hours of labor, and smoking in the shops. The most serious abuse of all was the established idea that the men were entitled to their places beyond the term of time for which they were hired, and could not rightfully be discharged without rendering to them satisfactory reason. In truth, the pretentions of the men were such as, if yielded to, placed the establishment under their control.”

Ripley’s actions not only fueled the opposition to his command by the general populace, but also ignited a feud between Ripley and Charles Stearns.

Charles Stearns was a local builder and real estate developer who had been involved in the growth of Springfield and was apparently well connected to the local political scene. Stearns’s opposition to military superintendence and his interest in real estate around the Armory hill site would lead to a protracted conflict between himself and Major Ripley. This was due in part to the fact that Stearns’s real estate interests in the vicinity of the Armory were affected by Ripley’s discharge of workers in 1842. Displaced workers had to move elsewhere for work, which created a surplus of houses near the hill and depressed the market in which Stearns had a large stake. The ensuing conflict between Ripley and Stearns was well documented in correspondence and court records. The feud was exacerbated in 1843 when Ripley demolished the Superintendent’s Quarters. Derwent Whittlesey and John Albright documented the rift that lasted throughout Ripley’s tenure.

The opposition to Major Ripley’s command and the reforms that it embodied did not deter his progress and actually appeared to strengthen his resolve. Major Ripley’s ambitious plan for the Armory was evident in his estimated budget for fiscal year 1843, which included vast improvements to the hill site.

In brief, these plans comprised the purchase of additional land on the north and west of the government holdings on the hill, grading and planting the tract, laying out roads around the margins of it, fencing the remaining ground, and the construction of new buildings on a comprehensive scale.

A rash of fires at the Armory in the winter of 1842–43, including two that were attributed to arson, strengthened Ripley’s request for fencing of the Armory grounds. Among Major

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36 Whittlesey, 124–125.
38 Whittlesey, 125–144.
39 Albright, 22–46.
39 Whittlesey, 129.
Ripley’s initial building projects on the hill was the new Superintendent’s Quarters. Though his first budget had included funds to repair the existing quarters, a subsequent investigation and report found that the building should be abandoned and demolished. Ripley’s request to remove the existing Superintendent’s Quarters was approved in April 1843. However, budget constraints and public scrutiny of the operations at the Springfield Armory delayed the replacement of the quarters until 1845 (see subsequent section “Chronology of Development and Use”).

The construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters on a new site in 1845 marked the beginning of Major Ripley’s building campaign that would continue through 1854, the end of his term as commander. During this same period additional land on the west slope of the hillside was purchased to extend the boundaries of the Springfield Armory. Between the western boundary of the 1801 property and Byers Street several lots were added to the grounds of the Armory between 1841 and 1852, as well as two more lots in 1856 after Ripley’s command. This expanded the Armory hill site and created a buffer west of the new Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

The Mexican War fueled an increase in production at the Springfield Armory. “From July 1846 until July 1847, Springfield produced ‘14,300 muskets complete, spare parts equal to 1,000 muskets, tools, and other items.’” During this period and throughout his tenure at the Springfield Armory, James W. Ripley pursued excellence and expediency in the manufacture of arms and strived to create an impressive facility. “For meritorious conduct, particularly in the performance of his duty in the prosecution of the War with Mexico” Major Ripley was brevetted Lieutenant Colonel (Bvt. Lt. Col.) on May 30, 1848. The increased production during his tenure was accompanied by an expansion of the facilities.

The new Commanding Officer’s Quarters was well underway in 1846 when Major Ripley started planning for two additional buildings on the hill. Plans for the Long Storehouse (Building 19) and the New Arsenal (Building 13) were submitted to the Chief of Ordnance in that year and construction of the buildings would soon follow. The Long Storehouse, which was constructed for storing “musket stocks, box boards, and other lumber,” was begun on September 4, 1846 and was nearing completion by June 30, 1847. In October 1846 Major Ripley forwarded plans of the new Main Arsenal to Lieutenant Colonel (Lt. Col.) George Talcott, Chief of Ordnance, for his approval. As the construction of Ripley’s new quarters

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41 Ripley to Talcott, April 25, 1842; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1847, Vol. I, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
42 Talcott to Ripley, April 20, 1843; Registers of Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance, Entry 1364, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
44 Albright, 26.
46 Perrault and Quinn, Vol. I, 36. The Building 19, Historic Structure Report documented that the first two sections of the Long Storehouse were built between 1846 and 1849. The building was also added to in 1861 and 1862, and achieved its full length by 1864 (Perrault and Quinn, Vol. I, 36 – 39).
47 Ripley to Talcott, Oct. 27, 1846; Letters Received 1812-1894, Entry 21, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; originals at NARA.
was nearing completion in the spring of 1847, the excavation of the foundation for the new Arsenal had begun. The Main Arsenal was constructed on the site of the former Superintendent’s Quarters and was completed in 1850. The Main Arsenal was flanked by the Greek-Revival-style Paymaster’s House and Master Armorer’s House, erected by Roswell Lee in 1833, as well as the Commanding Officer’s Quarters to the north (figs. 7 and 8). The row of buildings defined the west end of Armory Square and helped achieve Major Ripley’s vision for the Springfield Armory.

![Image](image_url)

**Figure 7.** Springfield Armory Main Arsenal looking west, Paymaster’s House to the south (left), Master Armorer’s House to the north (right), and Commanding Officer’s Quarters far to the north, circa 1870.

In addition to these significant structures, the machine shop (Annex/Building 27) at the northeast corner of the site received two two-story additions. One addition extended the building 61 feet, and the second addition was a 50-foot-long wing added to the north side of the building. Though his focus for the Springfield Armory was on the hill, Ripley did make some modifications to the Upper Water Shops during his command as part of the improvements to the manufacturing systems.

Major Ripley’s improvements to the hill site also included numerous projects on the grounds. Annual appropriations were expended on grading newly acquired property, adding turf, planting shade trees, installing stone flagging for the sidewalks around the square, and

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49 Carper and Turk, 11.

50 Whittlesey, 134.

51 Whittlesey, 135.
constructing fences around the perimeter of the Armory. Of these projects, the fencing was probably the most conspicuous addition to the landscape. Though the fence was initially constructed with pickets and high boards, Ripley disliked the appearance and began planning for an ornamental iron fence set in a foundation of native sandstone. The foundation materials were taken from a Longmeadow, Massachusetts, quarry starting in October 1847, but the patterns for the pickets and gates were not approved until May 1852 by then Bvt. Lt. Col. James W. Ripley. Ripley did witness the installation of the iron fence and Main Gate along State Street, but would not see the entire fence completed during his command. The decorative iron fence had not yet been completed at Armory Hill as it was depicted in the 1851 Map of Springfield (fig. 8), nor was it described by journalist James Abbott in the following 1852 excerpt from Harper’s New Monthly Magazine:

On reaching the summit of the ascent, the visitor finds himself upon an extended plain, with streets of beautiful rural residences on every hand, and in the center a vast public square occupied and surrounded by the buildings of the Armory. These buildings are spacious and elegant in their construction, and are arranged in a very picturesque and symmetrical manner with in the square, and along the streets that surround it. The grounds are shaded with trees; the dwellings are adorned with gardens and shrubbery. Broad and neatly kept walks, some graveled, other paved, extend across the green or along the line of the buildings, opening charming vistas in every direction.

James W. Ripley’s thirteen years as Commander may have been marked by controversy, but he had made great strides toward the creation of his vision of the Springfield Armory. During his tenure production was streamlined and increased, and the buildings and grounds were vastly improved. One of his last projects was the painting of the exteriors of most of the buildings around the square with a uniform color from 1852 through 1853. The final inspection report during Bvt. Lt. Col. Ripley’s command found the buildings on the hill in good condition and praised Ripley’s improvements to the Springfield Armory.

As an important manufactory, this Armory, its character, its facilities for fabricating arms, and its products, are not less honorable to the country than useful, and in every view connected with public pride, and utility, it demands the liberal support of the government.

In its plan, construction, and arrangement, it should be such, as to convey the impression of the power of the country to supply an important means for the effective defence [sic], independent of foreign, or private, aid, and like other of our governmental constructures [sic], it should possess both qualities of permanency and architectural perfection.

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52 Whittlesey, 135; Albright, 27.
53 Whittlesey, 136; Albright, 29.
Plans, looking to the future greatness, and consequently increased wants of the country should be adopted for this armory, and executed with skill, and liberal economy.56

During what would be James W. Ripley’s last year as Commander of the Springfield Armory, a special committee was appointed to review the issue of civil versus military superintendence in 1853. The review of the commission and Bvt. Lt. Col. Ripley’s defense of his command and military superintendence was documented by Derwent Whittlesey. The outcome of this commission was the passage of an act repealing the appointment of military officers as superintendents to the National Armories by President Franklin Pierce in August 1854.57 The War Department instructed Ripley to turn over the Armory to his Master Armorer, which he did with expediency, leaving his command at the Springfield Armory on August 16, 1854.58

John Albright has aptly summed up James W. Ripley’s contributions and accomplishments to the Springfield Armory, as well as his legacy evident in the extant facilities and grounds of the Armory.

Lieutenant Colonel James Ripley had taken over an establishment whose basic plan had been conceived by the energetic and competent Major Roswell Lee. Ripley had expanded on Lee’s concept of buildings surrounding the open square, and not only reinforced that appreciation of the relationship of space, landscape vistas, and buildings but had improved the technical and manufacturing process at the site as well.59

Albright concluded:

The Armory contained all the major buildings that the National Park Service would gain responsibility for over 120 years later. No major construction took place after Ripley’s administration in that portion of the Armory which is now a national historic site. The subsequent history of the site is the narration of major changes which include the removal of the two buildings flanking the Main Arsenal, and the modernization and erection of outbuildings. But the major configuration of the 1854 complex and of the 1977 complex are identical.60

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56 Lt. Col. R.S. Baker, Springfield Armory Inspection Report, Oct. 3, 1853; Box 63, Entry 1003, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
57 Whittlesey, 139–144.
58 Albright, 46.
59 Albright, 45–46.
60 Albright, 46.
The Springfield Armory, Later Years (1854–1968)

Pre-Civil War Development

General James S. Whitney, a political appointee, assumed the duties of the Superintendent on October 19, 1854.61 As previously described, Whitney inherited a well-run armory that, with the exception of the Water Shops, was in overall good condition with an efficient

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61 James S. Whitney, Esq. to Lt. Col. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, Oct. 19, 1854; Letters Sent 1835-1860, Entry 1351, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; micro-film reel 159 SPAR Museum Collection; originals at NARA.
During his command James W. Ripley had focused on developing the manufacturing on the hill and allowed the Water Shops deteriorate, which was noted by Lt. Col. R.S. Baker during his inspection in June 1854. Consequently, Superintendent Whitney found the Water Shops in dilapidated condition, and requested funds to rebuild the Upper and Lower Water Shops and raise the Dam. Whitney’s improvements included the sale of the Lower Water Shops, consolidation of the Middle and Upper Water Shops that included the demolition of some existing buildings, and construction of new buildings and dams. Construction of the new Water Shops was started during the summer of 1856, and by 1860 all the new buildings were in place. In June 1860 Lt. Col. Ripley, now Inspector of Armories and Arsenals, reported that there were several improvements near the new Water Shops, including a new magazine for storing powder and the removal of nearly all the old buildings at the former Middle Water Shop. The work at the Water Shops demanded a large percentage of Whitney’s time and effort, but he also managed to continue Ripley’s project of enclosing the hill with iron fencing. In June 1855 he ordered the casting of additional sections of fence, and by the end of fiscal year 1856 the Federal Street side of the fence was completed. Erection of fencing along Byers and Pearl Streets would have to wait until those roads were completed and all the abutting property attained by the Government. In August 1859 Superintendent Whitney authorized the delivery of the stone gate posts for the corner of Byers Street; the fence was installed on that street by mid-1860. Continuation of the fence along Pearl Street would not be completed until 1862, after Whitney’s term as Superintendent.

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62 Whittlesey, 145 – 146.
63 Baker, Springfield Armory Inspection Report, June 16, 1854; Entry 1003, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
64 Whitney to Craig, Nov. 17, 1854; Letters Received 1812-1894, Box144, Entry 21, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
65 Whittlesey, 148 – 149. Perrault and Quinn, 22.
66 Ripley, Springfield Armory Inspection Report, June 20, 1860; Entry 1003, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
67 Whitney to Ames Manufacturing Co., Chicopee, MA, June 20, 1855; Letters Sent 1835-1860, Entry 1351, RG 156. Micro-film reel 159 SPAR Museum Collection; Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
68 Whittlesey, 146.
69 Ibid.
70 Whitney to A.S. Dwelly, Esq., Aug. 26, 1859; Letters Sent Jan. 1858- Aug. 1860, Entry 1351, RG 156. Micro-film reel 159 SPAR Museum Collection; Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.
71 Whittlesey, 146.
72 Albright, 48 – 50.
Figure 9. “Topographical Plan of the Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts, April 1864.”
Civil War Growth and Production

During the Civil War activity at the Springfield Armory increased in response to the destruction of the U.S. Armory at Harpers Ferry in April 1861 and the needs of the Union Army. In May of that year Superintendent George Dwight wrote Lt. Col. Ripley, now Chief of Ordnance, that “The production at this Armory will be by the 10th of June at the rate of one hundred muskets per day.”\(^{73}\) Plans and estimates “for new Work Shops and their Machinery designed when completed, in connection with the other machinery, to produce the required standard of one hundred thousand stands of arms annually” were forwarded to Ripley on June 17, 1861.\(^{74}\) Constructed between 1862 and 1863, the projects included additions to the Long Storehouse, a Steam Stock-Drying House, a Forging Shop, a Tempering and Case Hardening Shop, and an Engine Room and Boiler House.\(^{75}\) The increase in production during this period was represented in the following passage from King’s Handbook of Springfield, “United States Armory” published in 1884:

> When Fort Sumter was fired upon, about 1,000 guns per month was the production; three months after, the number was increased to 3,000 per month; and gradually the number was increased till, as before noticed, in 1864 the product for a day’s work was 1,000; and many days the same number were boxed and shipped to the quartermasters of the army in different parts of the country…\(^{76}\)

Not only did production increase during this period, but the advent of the Civil War gave Chief of Ordnance Ripley the opportunity to enact legislation that would require the appointment of Ordnance Officers as Superintendents for the U.S. Armories.\(^{77}\) The irony of Ripley’s actions seven years after his removal from military command of the Springfield Armory was not lost on historians. Captain Alexander B. Dyer, Ordnance Department, took over superintendence of the Springfield Armory in August 1861 and would oversee the increased production and expansion of the Armory through most of the Civil War.

The development of the Springfield Armory, and specifically the Hill Shops, during this period is documented by a topographical map surveyed and drawn by Engineers Shedd and Edson in 1864 (fig. 9). The map reflects some of the changes to the site since the 1850s and depicts the concentration of manufacturing on the hill northeast of the square, then known as Union Square. The Armory grounds appear to be graded and completely enclosed by the iron fence, with the main entrance gates on State Street. Another gate was located at the corner of Byers and Pearl Streets, with an access road from the circle in front of the Commanding Officers Quarter’s. The landscape on the hill appears to have an orderly line of trees around the perimeter and a more natural arrangement of trees within the Armory

\(^{73}\) George Dwight to Lt. Col. Ripley, May 20, 1861; Letters Received 1812-1894, Box184, Entry 21, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{74}\) Dwight to Ripley, July 17, 1861; Letters Received 1812-1894, Box185, Entry 21, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{75}\) Perrault and Quinn, 22.


\(^{77}\) Whittlesey, 146. Note: James W. Ripley served as the Chief of Ordnance from April 23, 1861 through Sept. 14, 1863. He was brevetted Brigadier General on July 2, 1861 and received his full commission as Brig. Gen. on August 3, 1861 (Cullum, 119).
grounds where hedges and gardens are also shown. The map also depicts the layout of the roads and walkways at the Armory, many of which survive today.

Near the close of the Civil War, the rural landscape with farms and light development in the neighborhood of the Springfield Armory was beginning to change, as noted by John Albright:

At roughly the same time, the land between downtown Springfield and the Armory, marked today by churches, two cathedrals, museums, and the public library, began to take on the character that the area shows now. The developments bounded the Armory and reflected the careful mix of architectural and landscaping considerations evident in one form or another at Springfield Armory.  

Albright also points out that the development of Springfield and the hill around the Armory was atypical for a New England mill town. The architecture, landscaping, and overall layout of the properties on the hill were aesthetically appealing and not part of the squalor so often associated with mill towns. Indeed, the pleasant appearance of the developing neighborhood was apparently influenced by the Armory, and they became part of the same fabric. The transformation of the neighborhood around the Springfield Armory served to connect the facility with the greater Springfield community, which was illustrated in a birds-eye view of Springfield drawn in 1875 (figs. 10 and 11).

**Post-Civil War Progress**

There were few changes to the Springfield Armory during the 1870s. The quarters at the southeastern corner of the square was replaced with a double Officer's Quarters (Building No. 5 and 6) in 1870. The new duplex quarters was constructed with brick and brownstone with a slate roof in keeping with other buildings on the hill. However, it was designed in the Second Empire style of the Victorian era, which was a departure from the more classical architecture of the earlier buildings.

A map from the Annual Report of the Secretary of War in 1875 documents the relocation of the main entrance gate from State Street to the corner of State and Byers Streets, as well as the addition of the access road for the new entrance that ran southeast of the Paymaster's Quarters (fig. 12). Also evident on this map is the addition of an unidentified building, No. 29, to the Federal Square parcel, which was northeast of the main Armory. A bird's-eye view of Springfield in 1875 shows the hill site of the Armory and the Water Shops in the larger context of the city (figs. 10 and 11). The view depicts the new Byers-Street entrance and an adjacent gatehouse at the Armory. It also illustrates the development of the neighborhood around the Armory, and between the Armory and downtown Springfield, which was previously discussed.

The arrangement of the buildings at the west end of the square changed in 1879 when the Master Armorer’s Quarters was moved to a new site near the west end of the Long

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78 Albright, 57.
79 Albright, 60.
80 Sarles, Myers, et al, 21.
Storehouse. The contract for preparing a new foundation and moving the building was signed by Col. J.G. Benton, Superintendent, on October 27, 1879.\(^{81}\) The contract specified that the work should be done over a two-month period, and on January 3, 1880 the relocated quarters was inspected and approved by the Ordnance Department Assistant Inspector.\(^{82}\)

A map of the Springfield Armory that includes updates through 1882, shows only slight changes to the site, including the relocation of the Master Armorer’s Quarters. Construction at the Armory began to increase near the end of that decade under the direction of Superintendent A.R. Buffington, Lieutenant Colonel, Ordnance Department. The development was focused on Federal Square and began in 1887 when Lt. Col. Buffington contracted for the construction of a fire-proof milling shop.\(^{83}\) A map of Federal Square dated January 1888 shows the new Milling Shop and two additional building complexes that were proposed for the site (fig. 13). These included a “Carpenter and Stocking Shop” in one structure and a “Machine Shop, Assembling, Filing and Polishing, Machine Shop Office and Drafting Room, Hardening and Tempering, Engine, Boiler, and Blacksmith” in another building that was a 430-foot long structure with a central cross section and wings on both ends. The contract for building a fire-proof Stocking and Carpenter Shop was signed in 1888,\(^{84}\) and by the 1890s the facilities at Federal Square had noticeably changed. Though the structures around Armory Square were not extensively altered during this period, the addition of a covered piazza on the Commanding Officer’s Quarters created a noticeable difference in the appearance of that building (see subsequent section “Chronology of Development and Use, Alterations”).

An inspection report for the Springfield Armory in 1892 noted that the post was still lighted by gas.\(^{85}\) In 1894 General Electric Company was contracted to provide two dynamos that would deliver 200 amps at 125 volts.\(^{86}\) Though the contract did not specify the location of the electrical components, they were probably located in the area of new construction at Federal Square (an electric light plant for the Water Shops was constructed in 1899).\(^{87}\)

The improvements to the site in the 1890s are reflected in the 1897 plan of the “Main Grounds of the U.S. Springfield Armory” (fig. 14). The plan depicts the Hill Shops in both Armory and Federal Square, and clearly shows the development of Federal Square. At the west end of the square the Pay Master’s Quarters had been moved in 1895, which left the

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\(^{81}\) Contract by Col. J.G. Benton with H.C. Trask, Oct. 27, 1879; Contracts for Ordnance Supplies and Construction 1806-1918, Series I, Entry 1382, RG 156. Micro-film reel 141 SPAR Museum Collection; Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{82}\) Ibid.; contract file includes a memo by Assistant Inspector (signed name illegible) dated Jan. 3, 1880.

\(^{83}\) Contract by Lt. Col. A.R. Buffington with Darling Brothers, August 1, 1887; Contracts for Ordnance Supplies and Construction 1806-1918, Series I, Entry 1382, RG 156. Micro-film reel 141 SPAR Museum Collection; Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{84}\) Buffington with Darling Brothers, June 27, 1888; Contracts for Ordnance Supplies and Construction 1806-1918, Series I, Entry 1382, RG 156. Micro-film reel 141 SPAR Museum Collection; Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{85}\) Inspection of U.S. National Armory, June 16, 1892; Box 63, Entry 1003, RG 156. Perrault and Quinn, research files; originals at NARA.

\(^{86}\) Contract with General Electric Company, Nov. 11, 1894, Contracts for Ordnance, Supplies and Construction, 1806-1918, Entry 1382, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).

\(^{87}\) Contract with General Electric Company, June 6, 1899, Contracts for Ordnance, Supplies and Construction, 1806-1918, Entry 1382, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
Main Arsenal to form the terminus for that end of the square. As John Albright pointed out, the site plans of the Hill Shops provide consistent documentation of the changes since 1864 and help chronicle the development of the Springfield Armory through the twentieth century.

Figure 10. Detail from bird’s-eye view of Springfield, Massachusetts, 1875 (fig. 11).

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88 Albright, 74 – 75.
Figure 11. “View of Springfield, Massachusetts, 1875.” The hill site of Springfield Armory was listed as “Public Buildings, No. 7 – U.S. Armory” and the Water Shops were listed as “No. 8 – U.S. Water Shops.”
Figure 12. “Springfield Armory, Hill (and) Watershops,” Secretary of War Report, 1875.
Figure 14. “Main Grounds of U.S. Springfield Armory, April 15, 1897.”
Early-twentieth-century changes to the Springfield Armory Hill Shops included updating and modernizing much of the infrastructure. Correspondence documents improvements to the gas, electric, water, and sewer systems, including switching the Commanding Officer’s Quarters from spring water to city water. The installation of fire hydrants during this period was apparently part of the improvements that brought city water to the Armory. Development of the electric service for the site included the construction of the Electric Light Plant and the erection of electric light poles along the Pearl Street side of the Armory.  

Building construction during this period was not extensive and appears to have been limited to just a few structures. Among those was a new Gatehouse at the Byers Street entrance gate, and the construction of two greenhouses, one of which was located northeast of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Otherwise, building improvements in the early-twentieth century were focused on systems improvements and maintenance.

A similar pattern of development apparently persisted during World War I (WWI), leading to the conclusion that efforts at the Armory were focused on weapons development for the Ordnance Department. Though annual reports from 1913 and 1916 reported decreases in the manufacturing, experimentation and development of arms continued. Production at the facility increased in 1917, coinciding with the entry of the United States into WWI. The Annual Report of the Chief of Ordnance for 1918 reported:

> On November 1, 1917, an output of 1,000 rifles per day had been attained. At the close of the fiscal year components are being manufactured at the rate of 1,200 completed rifles…To accomplish this the force has been on two shifts throughout the year, and the plant has been in operation 110 hours per week. The number of employees has been more than doubled, and every effort is being made to train and mold the 5,129 employees now on the roll into a well balanced and efficient organization. Women are at work in the shops and their employment will be continued and extended wherever practicable.

The Chief of Ordnance also reported that new machinery and equipment were purchased and that technology was expanding. Additions to the Hill Shops continued to be focused on the Federal Square section of the Armory and included a new Power Plant, a Metallurgical Laboratory, and a Chemical Laboratory. Meanwhile the buildings around Armory Square apparently remained static, having only minor alterations and maintenance during this period.

Though production of arms slowed after WWI, weapons development and experimentation continued through the 1930s and the M1 rifle was ready for production by 1936.

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89 Albright, 76 – 78.
90 Ibid.
91 Perrault and Quinn, 24.
93 Perrault and Quinn, 25.
94 Ibid.
same time, improvements and repairs to the physical plant and the buildings were carried out by the Works Projects Administration (WPA). Work at the Springfield Armory was reported in the local paper on February 21, 1937:

...there was 350,000 square feet of painting being done; 25,000 square yards of concrete flooring in shops; 20,000 square feet of wooden flooring in shops and houses; construction of three gatehouses where various signals and alarms and watchmen are housed; remodeling an old building into a seven car garage; additions to and renovations of 15 of the housing and storage buildings and the reroofing of two old buildings with slate and copper roofs in addition to the rearranging and cleaning of approximately 1000 tons of stand-by machinery and the replacing of 7000 feet of steam, electric and gas underground mains.\(^95\)

However, all of the improvements by the WPA did not significantly add to the buildings at Armory Square. The garage for the Commanding Officer's Quarters (Building 18) was probably added during this period, as well as the aforementioned gatehouses, but the buildings around the square were retained and not significantly altered or enlarged.\(^96\)

Once again with the advent of World War II (WWII), the Springfield Armory witnessed increased production and was seen as vital to the war effort. The automation of the manufacturing process led to increased production of the M1 rifle, which was the weapon of choice during WWII with nearly 90 percent of those rifles produced at the Springfield Armory.\(^97\)

**Post-WWII through Deactivation**

After WWII and through the 1950s and early 1960s, weapons manufacturing focused more on technology and scientific research. At Springfield Armory buildings were adapted or enlarged in order to accommodate uses for communication technology, metals testing, radiographies, etc. Still, the layout of the buildings around Armory Square remained relatively unchanged. The landscape was slightly altered to accommodate vehicular traffic, but was otherwise unchanged.\(^98\)

The Springfield Armory was declared a National Historic Landmark on March 22, 1963, and was scheduled to be phased out as a military installation by April 1968. Upon the official deactivation of the Armory in April 1968, Armory Square was granted to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for use as the campus for the Springfield Technical Institute. The Institute subsequently occupied the buildings within the northeastern quadrant of the square. The Institute was renamed Springfield Technical Community College in 1968 and retained ownership of 34.61 acres of the 54.92-acre hill site formerly occupied by the Springfield Armory. The site contained former Armory grounds and facilities, including the


\(^{96}\) Albright, 83.

\(^{97}\) Perrault and Quinn, 26.

\(^{98}\) Ibid.
Green/Armory Square, Officer’s Quarters (Buildings 5 and 6), Master Armorer’s Quarters (Building 10), Test Range (Building 28a), Long Storehouse (Building 19), and Buildings 11 and 16, as well as the iron fence within that portion of the site.99

The Springfield Armory Museum, Inc. was established as a non-profit museum in 1968 after the Armory was deactivated. The organization leased property from the State of Massachusetts and displayed a collection of arms in the Main Arsenal (Building 13).100

Establishment of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site

An act passed on October 26, 1974 established a National Historic Site at the former Springfield Armory.101 The legislation stipulated that the arms collection owned by the Department of the Army, which included the collection of Superintendent Col. J.G. Benton started in the 1870s,102 should continue to have a presence at Springfield Armory.103 Springfield Armory National Historic Site was officially opened by the Secretary of the Interior in 1978 under the administration of the National Park Service. The National Park Service is responsible for approximately 20 acres of land, the Main Arsenal (Building 13), Commanding Officer’s Quarters (Building 1) and Garage (Building 18), Gatehouse (Building 33), and the iron fence associated with its portion of the Armory.

Since the deactivation of Springfield Armory, the Armory Square site has retained many of its historic features. Historic structures and landscapes that traditionally defined the space including the Green, the Main Arsenal at the west end of the square, and the Administration Building (Building 16) at the east end, as well as the historic structures along the south side of the square, have been preserved by the National Park Service and Springfield Technical Community College. Construction of modern buildings on the north side of the square and the addition of new roads, walkways, and parking lots has impacted the site, although the nineteenth-century configuration of the Springfield Armory has been preserved at Armory Square.

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99 Perrault and Quinn, 27.
102 Sarles, Myers, et al, 17.
Planning and Construction

Disposition of the Superintendent’s Quarters

The deteriorated condition and ultimate removal of the 1820–21 Superintendent’s Quarters was Major Ripley’s primary argument for constructing new quarters. The declining state of the building was first noted by Superintendent Robb in 1839. In a letter to the Chief of Ordnance he noted that the building required “shingling or slating.” An inspection report by Lt. Col. George Talcott in December 1841 stating that the “Superintendent’s House requires to be slated and furbished up,” suggests that the work was not accomplished during Robb’s superintendence. Indeed, Talcott’s report supported Major Ripley’s request in October 1841 for funds required at the Springfield Armory during fiscal year 1842. Included in the estimates was an item for “Altering and repairing Superintendents quarters” estimated at $2,500. The budget item cited repairs ranging from rebuilding two chimneys to re-plastering and painting, as well as adding a front portico. The scheduling of repairs to the Superintendent’s Quarters signified the beginning of a process that would eventually lead to the construction of a new Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

After closer examination of the Superintendent’s Quarters in 1842, Ripley informed Lt. Col. Talcott, now Chief of Ordnance, that he found the building “to be in a much more dilapidated condition than was anticipated.” This prompted Ripley to delay repairs to the building and have it inspected by several experienced builders. The correspondence from Ripley to Talcott described the major deficiencies of the structure and was accompanied by the reports of the builders. Major Ripley’s conclusion to his letter indicates his desire to construct grander quarters for himself and his successors:

Were the House my own I have no hesitation in saying that instead of making the contemplated repairs I should at once adopt the suggestion of the builders whose names are appended to the Report, and remodel

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108 Ibid.
and rebuild the House. Should this course meet with your approbation and be sanctioned by the Secretary of War, I will as speedily as possible have new plans made and forwarded for his approval. You will recollect that the Paymasters, Master Armorers and four houses for the Clerks have all been built since 1834 and are of more modern construction that the present quarters for the Superintendent. The latter occupies the most central and conspicuous place and should be at least equal in point of architecture with any Public Houses.  

Major Ripley’s request for new quarters was initially rejected by the Secretary of War due in part to the local scrutiny of the Springfield Armory, as well as a shortage of funds. Apparently Ripley was not deterred, and his estimate of funds for the period of January through June 1843 included as item one, $10,000 “For Rebuilding (the) Superintendent’s Quarters.” Major Ripley prevailed and on April 20, 1843, the Superintendent’s Quarters was condemned. At that time permission was granted to remove the building from the site and salvage the materials for the construction of other buildings.

Construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters

Once the old quarters had been demolished, Major Ripley further pursued the construction of his new quarters. “Rebuilding quarters for the Commanding Officer” was again part of the 1843–44 budget, with an estimated cost of $12,000. Major Ripley had architectural plans made for the new quarters, which were forwarded to the Chief of Ordnance on May 31, 1844. Lt. Col. Talcott returned the plans on June 20th that same year, and soon after Ripley initiated construction.

One of Major James W. Ripley’s first actions was to enter into a contract for building materials on July 20, 1844. The contract was between “James W. Ripley for the United States and Luke Kibbe, Jr. of Longmeadow for himself” for stone from Kibbe’s quarry in Longmeadow, Massachusetts (Appendix A). The contract stipulated the following:

Said Kibbe agrees to furnish from the quarry owned by him and known as Kibbe’s north quarry, all the stone required for a certain dwelling house to be erected at the Springfield Armory for the quarters of the

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109 Ripley to Talcott, April 25, 1842. “Public House” in this case refers to federally owned quarters.
110 Whittlesey, 123.
111 Ripley to Talcott, October 1842; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1847, Vol. I, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
112 Talcott to Ripley, April 20, 1843; Registers of Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance, Entry 1364, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
114 Talcott to Ripley, June 20, 1844; Registers of Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance, Entry 1364, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
115 Memorandum of agreement between James W. Ripley and Luke Kibbe, Jr., July 20, 1844; Contracts for Ordnance Supplies and Construction 1806–1918, Series I, box 1 of 15, Entry 1382, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
Commanding Officer – except such rough stone as may be wanted for the cellar wall.  
Said stone shall be of a quality best adopted for tooling, and of uniform color.  
The thickness of the Ashlar Stone shall range from 6 to 11 inches, and the dimensions of all other stone shall be made to conform to a plan to be furnished by the said James Ripley.  

Ripley had wanted the stone delivered in August and September of 1844, but progress was apparently delayed.  A note with the contract indicates that on November 12th the plans had been taken from Kibbe for revisions and that they were returned three days later on the 15th.  Correspondence from Ripley to Kibbe, Jr. dated May 6, 1845 notes that the stone contracted on July 20, 1844 had still not been delivered.  However, Lt. Col. Talcott had evidently given his final approval of the plans for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters in March 1845 and construction had begun by April, as suggested by following note appended to a letter from Major Ripley to Lt. Col. Talcott on April 17, 1845:

I would also designate the new Quarters for the Commanding Officer as an improvement to be effected under the appropriation above referred to – An approved plan of this building was received with your letter of the 7th ultimo, and some progress has already been made in the work.

As in the previous years, Major Ripley included an item for rebuilding the quarters in his estimated budget for 1845.  His annual report of November 1845 notes that two old dwelling houses had been moved from near the site of the new quarters and that progress had been made on the building.  He further observed that the “cellar and basement or underpinning walls” had been laid and that dressing of the stone had begun.  The annual estimates and reports indicate this was a very busy period for construction at the Springfield Armory and that construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters kept pace with other projects.

Additional correspondence and reports from the Springfield Armory track the construction of the new quarters.  Major Ripley wrote on May 25, 1846 that the interior walls were ready for plastering and that he would like to install wallpaper rather than paint them.  Though wallpaper was later hung in the building, further documentation indicates that the interior was initially painted.  Correspondence in 1852 requesting that the interior walls be papered suggests that they were not papered when first constructed (see subsequent section.

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117 Memorandum of agreement between James W. Ripley and Luke Kibbe, Jr., July 20, 1844; Contracts for Ordnance, Supplies and Construction, 1806–1918, Entry 1382, RG 156.  NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
118 Ibid., note attached to contract.  The year was not stated, but it was assumed to be 1844 since the contract was completed by November 1845.
119 Ripley to Kibbe, Jr., May 6, 1845; Letters Sent, Vol. 6 of 26, Entry 1351, RG 156.  NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
120 Ripley to Talcott, April 17, 1845; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1847, Vol. I, Entry 1354, RG 156.  NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
121 Ripley to Talcott, October 1844; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1847, Vol. I, Entry 1354, RG 156.  NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
122 Ripley to Talcott, November 7, 1845; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1847, Vol. I, Entry 1354, RG 156.  NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
“Alterations”). In addition, a list of materials used in constructing the quarters did not include wallpaper, but did have a number of items that would have been used for painting, including linseed oil, white lead, and pigments.

By the end of June, construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was nearing completion. Ripley’s “Statement of Operations” for the year ending June 30, 1846 notes:

The work performed during the past year exclusive of the ordinary operations in the Workshops consists of the completion of the walls, the roofing, and much of the interior of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

The description in the 1846 report indicates that the new quarters was practically complete. Though the documents examined do not elaborate on the final stages of the construction, there is no doubt that work continued on the building during the latter part of 1846 and into early 1847. A contract with A. & S. Tomlinson for stone to construct another building, states that the stone should be taken from Luke Kibbe’s North Quarry, and should be the same kind and quality as was furnished for the “house lately built for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.” That contract, written on April 7, 1847, suggests that the new quarters was either nearing completion or finished by that date.

An accounting of the labor and materials for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters appended to correspondence from Ripley to Chief of Ordnance Craig provides a useful timeline for the construction of building and confirms information in other primary documents (Appendix B). The record indicates that planning began in May 1844, construction was in progress by June 30, 1845, and the project was completed by June 30, 1847. The materials purchased in June 1847, which included slate, lightning conductors, chimney caps, and fire grates, were representative of the final items ordered for the project. Finally noted in “A General Statement of Operations at the U.S. Armory Springfield, During the Year Ending June 30, 1847,” was a report that the “Commanding Officer’s Quarters [was] completed.”

Major Ripley’s annual estimates for constructing the new Commanding Officer’s Quarters did not reflect the actual cost of the building. By all accounts it was a grand structure,
referred to as a “magnificent mansion”\textsuperscript{129} and “Ripley’s palace.”\textsuperscript{130} As had been feared by the Secretary of War, the Armory was scrutinized for the expense of constructing such elaborate new quarters.

In 1852 renewed efforts to reinstate civil superintendence at the National Armories prompted a new bill before Congress and reports on how the armories had been run under the military. Examination of the U.S. Armories included both Springfield and Harper’s Ferry. One report on the management of the Springfield Armory concluded that among other mismanaged projects the construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was beyond reasonable expense and economy. That report estimated the expense of the new quarters to be $72,325 including land purchased, value of the site, cost of the building and fixtures, and the cost of the landscape features.\textsuperscript{131} Reports such as this not only bolstered the position of the opponents of military superintendence, but fueled local indignation toward the Springfield Armory and its Commanding Officer, James W. Ripley.

In response to this and probably similar criticism, (now) Lt. Col. Ripley prepared an accounting of the cost of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters for the Chief of Ordnance and the Congressional Committee on Public Buildings (Appendix B).\textsuperscript{132} In his correspondence addressing the concerns of Representative “R.H. Stanton, Chairman, and the Secretary of War,” Ripley stated that the cost of construction was $21,000. He said that no land was purchased for the project and that the costs of “Improving and embellishing the grounds” were consistent with work done for the entire site and had been charged to the general account. Ripley’s letter also included an accounting of expenses for projects at the new quarters through 1854 and a note conceding that the only land purchased “that can possibly be supposed to have any relation to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters are three parcels which cost in the aggregate $3,115.”\textsuperscript{133} As previously described, the appended list of materials and expenses confirms other primary documents and provides some insight into the project. Again the total was tens-of-thousands of dollars below what had been quoted in the previously cited congressional report.

Upon completion the new Commanding Officer’s Quarters was undoubtedly a palatial structure overlooking the town of Springfield from its position at the west end of Armory Square.

\textsuperscript{129} Whittlesey, 135.
\textsuperscript{130} Albright, 91.
\textsuperscript{131} The National Armories, A Review of the System of Superintendency, Civil and Military, Particularly with Reference to Economy, and General Management at the Springfield Armory. (Springfield, MA: G.W. Wilson’s Steam Power Press, Nov. 1852) 52; Perrault and Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; original document at City Library, Springfield, Massachusetts.
\textsuperscript{132} Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1847–1854, Vol. II, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA). Note: Ripley’s letter and appended accounting were in response to the inquiry of R.H. Stanton, Chairman, and the Secretary of War, forwarded by Colonel Craig. R.H. Stanton was the Kentucky Democratic Representative and Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings (http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=S000806). It is presumed that Stanton’s inquiry was in his capacity as Chairman and therefore Ripley’s response was directed to the Chairman and to that Committee in general (see Appendix B).
\textsuperscript{133} Ibid; with appended note to original letter; Perrault and Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; original documents at NARA.
Figure 15. “Quarters of the Commanding Officer,” Springfield Armory, from Harper’s New Monthly Magazine, No. XXVI, Vol. V, July 1852, depicting original appearance of the building, looking northwest.

Figure 16. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Springfield Armory, depicting original appearance of the building looking northeast, circa 1865.
Figure 17. Commanding Officer's Quarters, front (south) façade, undated drawing depicting the building's original appearance, which is the same configuration as the earliest known photographs (figs. 16 and 25).
Figure 18. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, west elevation (left) and east elevation (right), undated drawing depicting the building’s original appearance with the exception of the east elevation of the Ell that was constructed with the doorway on the south/left side, and the basement and first-story windows that were placed on the north/right side of the wall.
Original Appearance

Introduction

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters has been described as “an excellent example of the Greek Revival style,” which could certainly be said of the building’s original appearance. Later additions and alterations, including the Victorian-era porches, the front/south doorway casing, and an iron snow rail, have all served to mute some of the distinctive Greek Revival design that was originally so prominent. Nonetheless, certain exterior elements still exhibit the original style, which was depicted in historic photographs, drawings, and plans of the building. While the documents record the historic appearance of the south, east, and west elevations, there is little documentation of the north elevation, which is only shown in plan view in the historic architectural drawings.

The following descriptions of original appearance are general in nature and describe the Commanding Officer’s Quarters based on primary source documentation, historic photographs, and historic plans. The overall layout of the building and the descriptions of the rooms are principally based on the 1876 plans of the building (figs. 21-24). Though the current research did not reveal construction period drawings, with the possible exception of an early basement plan (fig. 20), the 1876 plans depict few alterations to the quarters. Since those alterations were well documented, the plans provide a reliable representation of the original appearance of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. A schematic plan dated 1873 confirms the general layout of the first story of the Main Block (fig. 26).

The earliest historic photographs are not dated but, based on alterations to the building, they appear to date before 1873. Primary source documentation indicates that Major Laidley, Superintendent, transmitted photographs of the main buildings at the Springfield Armory to the Ordnance Department in 1865. It seems likely that the earliest photographs of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters are the same photographs sent by Major Laidley.

In addition to the historic photographs and drawings, the previously cited correspondence from Lt. Col. James W. Ripley to Chief of Ordnance Craig was useful in understanding the original appearance of the building. The appended list of materials and expenses provide information about some of the original elements, and the letter notes some alterations. The following sections will reference the correspondence and list of materials as evidence of the building’s original appearance and later alterations (Appendix B).

Investigation of the extant building elements and paint analysis provided additional information regarding original materials and alterations to the quarters. Paint samples were taken from both exterior and interior elements, and the analysis of the samples was used as a comparative dating tool. In order to minimize damage to historic materials, the physical investigation was done in a nondestructive manner. In this respect the investigation was limited, but did yield some useful information.

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134 Albright, 91.
In addition to the historic plans for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, the reader should refer to current plans of the basement (fig. 89), first story (figs. 97 and 98), second story (figs. 115 and 116), attic (fig. 132), and the cupola (fig. 136) for the room, doorway, and window numbers that were assigned for this project. The subsequent sections use the historic room designations from the 1876 plans, but also reference the current room, doorway, and window numbers. The building measurements were taken from the measured drawings in Carper and Turk’s *Historic Structure Report, Architectural Data Section, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts*. Since the building is not sited exactly on a north-south axis, the plan designation for north was adjusted for the purposes of this report. Thus the south elevation is the primary façade, which faces the Main Arsenal; the west elevation overlooks the City of Springfield.

*Exterior Elements*

**Design**

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was evidently designed to be a prominent structure on the hill overlooking Springfield. The new building was located west of the Armory Square and near the western slope of the hill. Major Ripley’s interest in having quarters that were equal to or better than the existing Paymasters, Master Armorer’s, and Officer’s Quarters was realized in the grand design of his new quarters. The exterior design apparently took some cues from nearby Greek Revival-style structures, but was executed in a more formal aesthetic. Likewise, the exterior masonry building materials were consistent with other buildings around the square and thus ensured the building's permanence. The scale and grandeur of the new building were unmatched by any of the existing housing. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed with the more prominent elevations oriented toward the surrounding neighborhood and the less important elevations facing the Armory Square. Major Ripley’s location for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters and the orientation of the building seem indicative of how he wanted the building and his command to be perceived by his neighbors and the general public.

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was designed with two distinct sections: a Main Block and an Ell. The Main Block was distinguished by its larger size, height, and decorative details. The Ell extended east of the Main Block and although it was similar in length, it was narrower, lower, and essentially without decorative details. Both sections of the building were constructed with brownstone foundations, brick walls, and brownstone trim elements. The hierarchy created by the architectural design was evident in the exterior elements and was also carried out in the interior rooms. In both cases, the Main Block was the dominant portion of the building and the Ell assumed a subservient character.

The Main Block was two stories high with a hipped roof capped by one-story cupola. It measured 47 feet 5½ inches wide (north–south) and 53 feet 5½ inches long (east–west). Some of the Greek Revival-style elements that characterized the Main Block were wide pilasters bracketing each elevation, a wide entablature with projecting cornice, tall first-story windows with pedimented lintels, a south portico with Doric columns, and a west porch with Doric columns.
The south façade of the Main Block was symmetrically designed with three bays and exhibited the Greek Revival elements previously described. The corner pilasters and wide entablature surmounted by the hipped roof created the classical temple appearance on the façade. The classical idiom was reinforced by the front portico with Doric columns, supporting a wide entablature similar to the main house. Classical themes were also reflected in the elements of the doorway casing and the window casings and lintels. The symmetry of the elevation was expressed in the arrangement of the first-and second-story fenestration, and was carried through to the roof, the placement of the chimneys, and the design of the cupola.

The same three-bay symmetry and design elements were continued on the west elevation of the Main Block. Here the first story was distinguished by a wide porch that spanned practically the entire elevation. The porch had four Doric columns and was constructed with elements similar to the front portico. Classical elements of the west elevation reinforced the formal Greek Revival style of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

The north and east elevations of the Main Block were constructed with similar classical elements. The north elevation had corner pilasters, a wide entablature, and three windows symmetrically arranged in the first and second stories. The east elevation was mostly covered by the Ell.

The Ell extended from the east elevation of the Main Block and was two-stories high with a hipped roof. The roof of the Ell was much lower than the Main Block’s roof, demonstrating the hierarchy of the two sections. The Ell was a rectangular structure measuring 28 feet ½ inch wide by 56 feet 2 inches long. It was constructed with the same masonry materials as the Main Block, but with a lesser level of detail. The symmetry established on the Main Block was continued on the south elevation of the Ell that was built with six bays. The east elevation had two bays that were symmetrically designed, but the openings in the north elevation were not evenly spaced. The Greek Revival features of the Ell included the exterior doorway elements, a south porch with a colonnade of Doric columns supporting a wide entablature, and a north portico.

Foundation

The foundation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed with brownstone from Luke Kibbe, Jr.’s Quarry in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. The contract specified rough stone for the lower walls and ashlar stone for the upper walls. Historic drawings and extant evidence indicates that the foundations of the Main Block and the Ell were constructed in the same manner. The above-ground portion of the foundation was three courses high and the exposed foundation stones were dressed smooth. The top course of the foundation formed the building’s water table, which had a beveled top edge that sloped away from the exterior masonry walls. Correspondence from Ripley to Kibbe, Jr. in June 1845 requested that four pieces of the water table be 4 feet 7 inches long; the other stones could vary in length.¹³⁶ This suggests that the brownstone for the water table was custom cut at the quarry.

¹³⁶ Ripley to Kibbe, Jr., June 14, 1845; Letters Sent, Vol. 6 of 26, Entry 1351, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
The foundation had above-ground windows on the north and south elevations to emit sunlight into the basement rooms (see subsequent section “Windows”). An entrance to the basement was constructed on the north elevation of the Ell (see subsequent section “Doorways”).

It was evident in the earliest known photographs and drawings of the building that the raised foundation was originally a more prominent feature of the exterior walls (figs. 17, 18, 19, and 20). The exposed brownstone foundation gave more weight to the base of the building and anchored it to the site. Later alterations and additions to the porches would cover large sections of the foundation, especially on the south elevation of the Main Block and the east elevation of the Ell.

Walls

The exterior masonry walls of both the Main Block and the Ell were constructed with red brick on the raised brownstone foundation. The exterior walls of the cupola were also constructed with brick. It is evident from the extant materials that the brick walls were laid in running bond. The list of materials for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters included a large quantity of common brick, as well as a smaller amount of pressed brick. The pressed brick was smooth with sharp edges and may have been used for certain exterior elements such as the pilasters. The common brick would have been primarily used for the exterior walls.

The decorative exterior wall elements of the Main Block were both brick and brownstone. The corner pilasters were brick, measuring 2 feet 9 inches wide by 2 inches deep (about half-a-brick width). The lower portions of the entablature were brick consisting of a flat architrave and frieze separated by two bands of corbelled brick. Those portions of the entablature combined were 3 feet 8 inches wide. The cornice of the entablature was brownstone and composed of a lower flat corona with a drip edge and an upper cymatium. The section of cornice above the cymatium appears as a flat band in early illustrations, but is presently covered with flashing and could not be seen. The cornice projected 8¾ inches beyond the plane of the frieze and was 1 foot 2¾ inches wide. A wooden cyma-recta bed molding separated the frieze and the projecting cornice.

The brick walls of the cupola were crowned by a simplified entablature. The entablature echoed that of the Main Block, but with a narrower profile. It was made of brick with flat architrave and frieze separated by a single corbelled band of brick. A simple brick cornice projected above the frieze and had what appeared to be a wooden cymatium below the edge of the roof.

The brick exterior walls of the Ell were unadorned and lacking the wide entablature of the Main Block. The Ell did have a projecting brownstone cornice with a flat profile and a drip edge.

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137 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; appended statement of “Labor and Materials Expended in constructing Commanding Officer’s Quarters Springfield Armory;” Perrault and Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; original documents at NARA.

138 Harris, 762.
Doorways

When the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was originally constructed it had four first-story entrance doorways. The Main Block had one exterior doorway that was located on the south façade, and the Ell had three doorways: one in each of the exposed elevations, as well as the basement.

The main doorway in the Main Block was trimmed with a wooden architrave of the Greek Revival design. The architrave had Doric pilasters with flat capitals supporting a pedimented lintel with an ovolo cap molding. The bottoms of the pilasters rested on the brownstone water table and were without plinths at the bases. Two brownstone steps led to the recessed doorway. The first step was level with the water table and flush with the face of the water table. The second step was within the reveal of the architrave. The doorway was surmounted by a six-light horizontal transom and flanked by sidelights. Since the sidelights were later altered, the original configuration is not known. The historic photographs and all but one of the earliest known elevation drawings indicate that the sidelights had three lights over a single wooden panel. However, one drawing depicted the doorway with four sidelights (fig. 17). The weight of the evidence suggests that each of the sidelights had three vertical lights. The earliest known drawings also depict the original door leaf, which had four vertical panels: two long panels over two short panels. The Greek Revival design of this doorway complemented the attached classical portico.

The doorway in the south elevation of the Ell was offset to the west side. It also had Greek Revival elements, but was less elaborate than the main doorway. A brick reveal and a pedimented brownstone lintel were flush with the exterior brick wall. Within the reveal two brownstone steps led to the wooden doorway. A plain wood casing enframed a seven-light transom and the side lights set over wood panels. A four-panel door was similar to that of the main doorway. The doorway was covered by a porch that extended the length of the elevation.

The doorway in the north elevation of the Ell was constructed with elements similar to those of the south elevation doorway. It had a transom and sidelights set within the brick reveal and a pedimented brownstone lintel. A set of two brownstone steps led from the ground level to the doorway. The historic plans indicate that the doorway was protected by a portico that was later removed.

The doorway in the east elevation of the Ell was offset to the south side. The opening had a brick reveal and a pedimented brownstone lintel. Two steps, the first being level with the water table, led to the doorway within the reveal. The doorway had a plain wooden casing and a four-panel door leaf similar to the other doorways. Brownstone steps led from grade to the opening. There was portico or porch above this doorway.

The basement doorway was located in the north elevation of the Ell. The doorway was set into the foundation and accessed from ground level via a set of brownstone steps. The steps were installed in a stairwell that extended north of the building and had brownstone walls. The doorway opening in the masonry foundation was framed with a plain wood casing with a slightly pedimented head. The extant evidence suggests that the doorway originally had double doors, which have since been removed. The earliest known plans suggested that this doorway was constructed without a cover or bulkhead, but this could not be confirmed by any photographic documentation or other drawings.
Windows

The windows of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were originally constructed with wooden sashes and masonry trim elements. Some of the original windows and related elements are evident in the historic photographs and drawings. Missing wooden shutters are also documented by historic photographs and surviving shutter hardware. Many of the historic elements are extant and are described in the subsequent section “Current Physical Description.”

The basement windows were set in the brownstone foundation below the water table. All were above grade and had brownstone sills. The basement windows generally lined up with the windows in the upper stories, but not all bays had corresponding basement windows. The basement windows in the Main Block had double-hung, four-over-four sashes. The four lights in each sash were horizontally aligned. The basement windows in the Ell were narrower and had double-hung, three-over-three sashes.

The first-story windows in the Main Block were tall, floor-to-ceiling openings with masonry architraves in the Greek Revival style. The architraves had brick pilasters that were approximately 1 foot wide by 2 inches deep. The pilasters supported pedimented brownstone lintels with a molded ovolo cap. The lintels projected 2 inches from the wall and were flush with the pilasters. These windows were not constructed with distinct sills, but were framed with wooden window stools that rested directly on top of the brownstone water table. Within the masonry architrave the windows had wooden casings and triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three sashes.

The second-story windows in the Main Block were less detailed. These had brick reveals along the sides, flush brownstone lintels, and projecting brownstone sills. Double-hung, six-over-six sashes were set within the masonry openings. The south, west, and north elevations each had three windows that aligned above the openings in the first-story of the Main Block.

The windows in the Ell were relatively plain and narrower than those of the Main Block. The first-story windows were constructed with brick reveals, brownstone lintels, and projecting brownstone sills. The windows held double-hung, six-over-six sashes within wooden casings and frames. With the exception of one window, the second-story windows aligned with and were similar to those in the first story. The one exception was the south elevation western-most window above the first-story doorway. This was a wide opening with a brick reveal, pedimented flush lintel, and projecting brownstone sill. Double-hung, six-over-six sashes were flanked by double-hung, two-over-two sashes. The lights in the two-over-two sashes were vertically arranged. The center sashes were separated from the flanking sashes by plain wooden mullions. This was the most elaborate window in the Ell.

The windows in the cupola were similar in design to the other upper-story windows. These had brick reveals, flush brownstone lintels, and projecting brownstone sills. The sashes were double-hung, six-over-six with wooden casings.

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Porches, Porticos, and Steps

The original porches and porticos of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were important features of the original Greek Revival design. Historic photographs and drawings depict the porches and associated elements, providing important documentation of these historic elements that were later removed. However, information regarding the building materials of the porches and porticos is less well documented. There is extant evidence of the brownstone steps, and other elements may have been constructed from wood. The list of materials for the building did include over 4,500 feet of tin roofing, which was probably used for the porch roofs. Though the types of materials may remain unknown, what is apparent from the early documentation is the distinct Greek Revival style of these features.

The distyle portico on the south façade protected the front doorway and was constructed with classical elements. Five brownstone steps with brownstone side walls led up to a sixth step onto the floor of the portico. Doric columns were installed at the tops of the steps on either side of the doorway. The columns were fluted and had no plinths and plain capitals with an ovolo echinus molding below a block-shaped abacus. The columns supported a wide entablature and roof that spanned the portico and were attached to the building. The entablature echoed that of the Main Block with a flat architrave and frieze separated by a band molding and a projecting cornice above the frieze. The portico had a shallow-pitch hipped roof that was probably constructed with copper. The finer details of the elements were not discernible in the early documents and some materials are unknown. Based on the extant pilasters and lintel of the main doorway, the columns and entablature may have also been constructed with wood. Other elements such as the flooring and other trim were also probably made of wood.

The porch on the west side of the Main Block was a prominent feature facing downtown Springfield. It was also constructed in the Greek Revival style. Here the porch spanned practically the entire elevation and had four fluted Doric columns. It is evident from the historic photographs and drawings that the porch had the same columns and entablature as the façade portico. Above the entablature was a shallow-pitch hipped roof. The earliest known drawings of the porch foundation suggested that it was constructed with brownstone, but since the porch has been altered the materials could not be confirmed. The photographs do depict a light-colored skirt board along the top of the foundation that appears to be wooden. On the south side of the porch were wooden steps with open risers; the porch floor was also probably wooden.

The porch on the south side of the Ell extended the length of the Ell and continued the Greek Revival style established by the Main Block porches. The Ell porch had a colonnade of six fluted Doric columns that supported an entablature and hipped roof. At the west end of the porch five brownstone steps ascended to the floor of the porch and the south Ell doorway. The steps were flanked by the Main Block on the west side and a brownstone side wall on the east side. The bases of the columns rested on the porch floor and had no plinths. However, on this porch the columns were supported at the foundation level by brownstone faced, brick piers that are evident in historic documentation and extant today. Wooden lattice work filled the spaces between the supporting piers, and a skirt board was installed at the floor level.

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139 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; appended statement of “Labor and Materials Expended in constructing Commanding Officer’s Quarters Springfield Armory;” Perrault and Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; original documents at NARA.
The porch and colonnade provided some Greek Revival details to the south elevation of the Ell.

A set of brownstone steps led to the east exterior doorway of the Ell. There were six steps flanked by brownstone side walls. The side walls were constructed in a stepped manner with the top of the lower portion of the side wall level with the third step and the upper portion level with the sixth step. The steps were originally open with no portico or porch (fig. 19).

Another set of brownstone steps led from ground level to the north exterior doorway of the Ell. Six steps were flanked by stepped brownstone walls that were constructed in the same manner as the walls of the east steps. The historic plans indicate that a portico originally covered the top three steps and the north doorway. The portico was supported by two columns and had a hipped roof. However, that was only shown in plan, and there were no known elevation drawings or photographs of the portico, which was later removed.

**Roofs and Related Elements**

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed with hipped roofs over the Main Block and the Ell, as well as the cupola. All of these roof surfaces were covered with gray slate. The hipped ridges of the Main Block roof were flashed with copper and extended up to the corners of the cupola, which was located in the center of the roof. The Main Block had three skylights on each slope of the roof that aligned with the lower-story windows. The skylight opening in the center of the east elevation of the roof was a circular opening with a laylight, which provided light to the interior attic stairwell. The Main Block roof was pierced by four chimneys, two on the south elevation and two on the north elevation.

The Ell had a half-hip roof with a hip at the east end and a center ridge running east-west. The west end of the roof abutted the east elevation of the Main Block and was flashed along the gable slopes. Historic photographs depict either a skylight or hatch in the east hip that has since been removed. The Ell chimney was located near the center of the Ell and extended through the center ridge of the roof.

The brownstone cornices of both the Main Block and Ell had an integrated gutter system around the perimeter of both roofs. Downspouts for conducting the water were installed on the east and west corners of both the south and north elevations of the Main Block. The leaders for the Ell gutters were installed in both corners of the east elevation.

Both the Main Block and Ell roofs were originally constructed with a parapet or snow guard installed along the lower edge of the roofs just above the cornice. In the historic photographs the parapet appeared to be constructed with plain boards with squat temple-like elements aligned with the lower-story bays and at the corners. The original parapet complemented the Greek Revival-style elements of the building.
Chimneys

Four brick chimneys pierced the roof of the Main Block of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters near the corners of the cupola. The rectangular chimneys were symmetrically placed with two located on the south slope of the roof and two on the north slope of the roof. There were two courses of corbelled brick near the top of the chimneys. Drawings of the building indicate that each chimney had three flues. Lightning conductors were historically attached to the chimney stacks and, since they were part of the materials list, may have been installed soon after the chimneys were constructed.

The Ell had one chimney located near the center of the Ell that protruded through the center ridge of the roof. The Ell chimney was built in a similar manner as the other four chimneys and had three flues. Two historic photographs clearly show that the Ell chimney had two chimney pots installed at the top of the stack (fig. 19). It was not known whether the chimney pots were part of the original construction or a later addition.

Figure 19. “Superintendent’s House, U.S. Armory, Springfield, MA” looking west, from stereograph circa 1880.

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140 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; appended statement of “Labor and Materials . . .”
Figure 20. Early plan of “Cellar in Quarters of Commanding Officers,” drawing possibly from ca. 1845–1847 period of construction depicting basement plan, as well as section of foundation and basement walls, and section of subterranean coal storage room.
Interior Elements

Basement

Plan

Two early plans depict the basement of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. One is the aforementioned 1876 plan and the other is an undated plan (fig. 20). The undated plan may be a construction drawing, because it includes wall thicknesses and has a section drawing with similar information. Both plans essentially show the same layout for the basement, many elements of which remain today.

The basement of the Main Block had four rooms and two hallways. The rooms were situated in the corners; one center hallway ran north-south, while the other ran east-west and connected with the basement of the Ell. At the south end of the center hallway was a furnace chamber and south of that was a small anteroom to the furnace. In addition, a subterranean coal storage room was constructed along the south wall of the Main Block foundation. That room was accessed from the furnace anteroom.

The basement of the Ell had five rooms, three of which spanned the width of the basement. The fourth was a small room in the northeast corner of the basement. The fifth room occupied the rest of the east end of the building.

In the 1876 plan the primary basement rooms were designated as cellars and the northeast room was a Milk Cellar (Room B05). The staircase to the first story was located in the Ell basement room adjacent to the Main Block (Room B08). The center Ell basement room was designated as the Laundry and was the only basement room with a fireplace. At the east end of the Ell basement were a water-closet and a Wood Cellar.

Floors

All of the basement room floors were covered with red brick, including the coal storage room (Room B01A). In the Main Block and a portion of the Ell, the brick floor was covered with wood planks set on sleepers. The extant evidence suggests that the eastern-most rooms in the Ell (Rooms B10, B11, and B11A) did not have wooden floors. Records of the construction and extant evidence suggest that the floor in the Milk Cellar (Room B05) was originally concrete. The inventory of materials documents that at least three casks of cement were purchased during the construction of the Quarters, some of which could have been used for the cellar floor. Literature from that period advocated masonry floors for milk cellars and suggests that stone and cement were preferred to brick, which was porous and would absorb spills. Publications also indicate that concrete or cement floors were used in milk cellars. Based on that information, it appears likely that the extant concrete basement floor in Room B05 was the original floor.

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141 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; appended statement of “Labor and Materials....”
Based on extant evidence, only a portion of the floor in Room B03 was covered with planks, and the same was true of the Laundry. In the southwest room (Room B02) a brick tunnel for the furnace was constructed below ground level. This tunnel was apparently a fresh-air intake for the original hot-air furnace. The tunnel was covered with wood planks, as was the rest of the floor, and a tunnel access hatch was built into the floor.

**Walls**

The interior basement walls formed the supporting walls for the structure of the upper stories and followed the basic layout of the upper story rooms. The interior walls were constructed with red brick laid in common bond with somewhat random rows of headers. The north-south walls in the Main Block incorporated the bases of the four chimney stacks, while the base of the Ell chimney was built into the north-south wall near the center of the Ell. The walls in the coal storage room were constructed with rough-cut brownstone at the base, with brick above that. The plans indicate that the walls at the perimeter of the building were constructed with an air space between the foundation walls and the interior brick walls. Though the exact nature of that air space is not known, previous research has suggested that it was either a vapor barrier or related to the gravity-hot-air furnace. The early plans indicate that there were at least two openings in the furnace that might have connected with the wall cavities, but the physical evidence is inconclusive.

**Ceilings**

The 1876 plans of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters show the basement ceiling height as 8 feet 6 inches. Extant evidence indicates that the ceilings in both the Main Block and the Ell were covered with lath and plaster. The only exceptions were the furnace anteroom (Room B01) and the coal storage room (Room B01A). Both of those rooms had vaulted brick ceilings. At both ends of the ceiling in Room B01A were octagonal holes connecting with the exterior. The holes were labeled in the 1876 plan as “Coal Hole” and “Coal” and were evidently used for coal deliveries.

**Doorways**

The basement doorways in both the Main Block and the Ell were typically constructed with flat casings and slightly pedimented heads. Most doorways had raised-panel doors with four panels arranged as two-over-two. The doors were typically hung with five-knuckle cast hinges and had box locks with wooden doorknobs. Three doorways had metal doors with metal knobs set within the brick openings. Those were located in Rooms B01 and B07 and were hung with three-knuckle hinges. There was one exterior doorway located in the basement Room B09. The interior casing of that doorway was similar to the other basement doorways. The Milk Cellar (Room B05) was constructed with three closets along the west wall, all with flat casings and slightly pedimented heads matching the other basement doorways.

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145 Ibid.
Windows

The basement windows were typically constructed with flat wood frames within the masonry opening. The interior of the opening was enframed with brick and had a shallow brick arch over the top of the opening. In the Main Block the window sashes were double-hung, four-over-four, and in the Ell they were double-hung, three-over-three. Extant evidence suggested that the sash muntins had quirked-cavetto with fillet profiles. Most of the windows were not originally covered by porches, thus allowing light into the basement rooms.

Staircases

The staircase from the basement to the first story was located in Room B08. It was an enclosed stair that ascended at the north wall of the kitchen. The doorway at the top of the staircase opened near the northeast corner of the kitchen. The stair was constructed with wooden treads and risers, as well as wooden trim. The stairwell had plastered walls with a handrail installed along the south side. The ceiling was also plastered and was constructed with a slight arch.

Chimneys and Fireplaces

The primary furnace for the building was situated toward the south end of the center hallway in the basement. The furnace chamber was essentially a separate room with floor-to-ceiling brick walls constructed between the two south chimney stacks. There was a doorway from Room B07 into the furnace chamber that appears in the historic plans and survives today (D16). However, the extant evidence suggests that another passage further into the furnace was bricked over. Plans, physical evidence, and previous research have determined that the original furnace was a coal-fired gravity-hot-air system.\footnote{Commanding Officer’s House, Historic Heating System, 9.} The small anteroom south of the furnace had an opening in the north wall for feeding coal to the furnace. The 1876 plans indicate that there were two other furnaces that were round in shape: one in Room B04, and one in Ell Room B10. Since they were later replaced, the make-up of those furnaces is not known.

The foundations of the four Main Block chimneys were incorporated into the interior north-south walls and projected into the basement rooms. According to the plans and surviving materials, they were constructed with brick and contained flue cavities. The tops of the walls were arched and supported barrel-vaulted ceilings.

A basement fireplace was located in the Laundry Room of the Ell. Two large vaulted chambers extended east of the fireplace and chimney, which apparently supported the chimney mass and the fireplaces in the upper story.
First Story

Plan

Current and previous research has identified the 1876 floor plan as the earliest full plan of the first floor. A first-floor plan of the Main Block was also depicted in an 1873 schematic plan that was used in planning alterations to the building. Both plans document the historic layout of the first floor which, with the exception of a bay in the Dining Room, was representative of the original appearance.

The first-story plan of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters also documents the historic use of the rooms and the hierarchical distinction between the functions of the Main Block and the Ell. The Main Block held the more formal rooms, such as the Parlors and the Dining Room, and the Ell held the service rooms.

The Main Block had a double Parlor on the west side that consisted of two large rooms separated by a partition wall with a wide doorway and sliding doors. The center section of the Main Block was divided onto three rooms. At the south end was a 10-foot-square Vestibule that opened into a long Center Hallway. The hallway provided access to the first-story rooms, the staircase to the second story, and a hallway to the Ell. At the north end of the center section was a pantry that was approximately 10-feet square, which was accessed from the Dining Room. The Dining Room occupied the northeast room and had access to the Center Hallway and the Ell. The southeast room was the Library. Between the Dining Room and Library was a hallway with a staircase to the second story and access to the Ell.

The Ell was planned with a long hallway on the north side (Room 112), with most of the rooms arranged on the south side. The rooms at the west end connected the service wing to the Main Block. A Vestibule for the south exterior doorway was situated in the southwest room of the Ell (Room 109). The Vestibule had access to the Main Block hallway and a doorway in the north wall accessing a small hallway that led to the Dining Room and a small closet connected to the Dining Room; the Kitchen and the north hallway could also be reached from this small hallway. The 1876 plans indicate that the Ell had two kitchens, both on the south side. The main Kitchen was a large room (Room 120) with a store-room in the northeast corner and access to the basement staircase opposite that. East of the Kitchen was a smaller kitchen, as well as the store room and a pantry. The Second Kitchen had a large range and a doorway to the pantry. A doorway in the east wall of Room 119 led to a back room that was not named in the 1876 plan. That room had an exterior doorway and a doorway to a store-room in the north wall. Adjacent to the store-room was a water closet at the end of the north hallway. The materials list for the building included fixtures for three water closets,147 of which this was probably one (the other two being located in the second story).

Floors

The original flooring in the Commanding Officer’s Quarters consisted of wood floorboards ranging from 2 to 3 inches wide. The possible exception may have been the façade entry Vestibule, but later alterations removed evidence of the original flooring in that area. Since the list of materials for the building did not include floor tiles, it appeared that the Vestibule

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147 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854; appended statement of “Labor and Materials….”
also had a wood floor. The flooring in the Main Block was more elaborate than that in the Ell, which again illustrates the difference in the use of the two areas of the building.

The flooring in the Main Block was two-tone, consisting of alternating light and dark wood strips and decorative fretwork. The list of materials included both mahogany and oak planks, which were probably used to construct the two-tone floors. The surviving examples in the Center Hallway, Library, and stair hallway are representative of other original floors that were later altered. In the Center Hallway some of the floorboards were arranged to form large diamond patterns, with diamond-shaped fretwork along the perimeter. The diamond pattern was repeated in the center of the Library floor; here the outer edges were decorated with Greek key fretwork. There were two floor registers for the hot-air furnace in the Center Hallway floor and one register in the Dining Room floor. The registers had circular metal covers that could be turned to adjust the heat. All three registers were set in black soapstone casings that were flush with the wood floor. The 1876 plans indicated that the Parlors and Library had the registers built into the fireplaces.

The floors in the Ell were originally constructed with tongue-and-groove wood floorboards. The extant evidence indicates that the floor of the Vestibule (Room 109) was laid with a two-tone border. This would have created a transition from the two-tone wood floors of the Main Block to the single-color wood floors of the Ell. However, it does not appear that the rest of the Ell floors continued with two-toned borders. Given the utilitarian nature of the first-story Ell rooms, it seems likely that the floorboards were monochromatic.

Walls

The interior walls of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were generally finished with wood lath and plaster. The walls in the Main Block were typically trimmed with a wide wooden baseboard with a molded cap and a wide plaster crown molding with a complex molded profile. A picture rail molding was installed below the crown molding. The center hallway trim included plaster pilasters on either side of the opening to the staircase hallway and on either side of the doorway to the Vestibule.

With the exception of two rooms, the interior walls in the Ell were also finished with lath and plaster. In the Second Kitchen (Room 119) and the original water closet (Room 116) there is evidence that the lower sections of the walls had wainscoting. Room 119 retains wainscoting on the east wall, which may have continued on other walls, but no longer survives. Room 116 has wainscoting on two walls, but none was evident below the window. Based on paint evidence, the wainscoting appears to have been original to the room. The walls of the Ell had simple baseboards and the wainscoting had a shoe molding. Based on extant evidence, there were no crown moldings.

Ceilings

The ceilings in the first story of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were finished with wood lath and plaster. The Main Block had high ceilings that were typically 12 feet 8 inches high with some slight variations. The 1876 plans indicate that there were center-mounted light fixtures in all the Main Block rooms, with the exception of the Vestibule. Historic photographs and extant evidence indicate that the Center Hallway and the Parlors had center plaster medallions with acanthus leaf designs. Based on the design and physical evidence, it
seems likely that the medallions were installed at least as early as 1851, when gas was introduced to the building, and may have been original ceiling elements.

The ceilings of the Ell were lower than the Main Block, being typically 9 feet 8 inches high. The lower ceiling height was indicative of the hierarchy between the Main Block and the Ell. There were probably no ceiling light fixtures in the Ell when it was first constructed.

Doorways

The interior doorways in the Main Block were constructed with wooden architraves and doors. The architraves consisted of channeled pilasters with plain plinths. Above the doorways the architrave had a stepped-pedimented heads capped with molded trim. The doors had four-raised panels, mortised locks, and were hung with cast-iron butt hinges, of which a quantity was purchased during the construction of the building. The wide doorway between the front and back Parlors was constructed with a similar architrave and had sliding doors. Although the doors were later removed, the list of materials included brass door rails that were apparently used for the sliding doors. Extant evidence indicates that the rails were installed along the floor to guide the doors. Although several doors have been removed, hinge and door latch scars provide evidence that doors historically hung in the first-story doorways.

The interior doorways in the Ell were of simpler design than those of the Main Block. They had plain wooden casings with plinths and plain pedimented heads with cap moldings. The doors had four panels, mortised locks, and were hung with cast-iron butt hinges.

Windows

The first-story windows in the Main Block were practically floor-to-ceiling openings with triple-hung sashes. The windows were set within recessed bays that extended from the floor to the top of the windows, measuring about 9 feet 11 inches high. The recessed bays were constructed with splayed jambs and trimmed with wooden casings that were similar to the doorway casings with pilasters supporting stepped-pedimented heads. The jambs of all the windows held interior bi-fold window shutters. The saws were folded into recesses of the splayed jambs on both sides of the window, with a set of shutters for each of the three sashes. That the shutters are original is suggested by the inclusion of interior shutter hardware on the list of original building materials.

The windows in the Ell had double-hung, six-over-six sashes. Like the doorways in the Ell, the windows had simple wood casings. The jambs were trimmed with flat casings and the heads were trimmed with shallow-pitched pediments.

Staircases

There were two staircases leading from the first story to the second story. One was located in the side hallway of the Main Block (Room 107) and one was in the north hallway of the Ell (Room 112). Both staircases were constructed of wood, but were otherwise dissimilar. The distinction between the Main Block and the Ell was once again evident in the details and design of the staircases.
The Main Block staircase ascended the north wall of the side hallway in a straight run to a large landing that led to the second story of the Ell. From the landing the staircase returned along the south wall of the hallway and climbed a short flight of steps to the second story of the Main Block. The staircase had wooden treads and risers supported by a wooden carriage and stringer. The staircase had a continuous balustrade that went from the first story to the attic story. It was constructed with turned balusters and a molded hand rail with a turned newel post at the base of the staircase on the first story. A baseboard similar to that used in the Center Hallway was installed as a stringer along the north side of the staircase and was continued on the south wall from the landing to the second story.

The Ell had an open staircase that ascended east along the south wall of the north hallway to the second-story hallway. The original staircase had a straight run to the second story and was constructed with wooden treads and risers supported by a wooden carriage and stringer. Though this staircase was later altered, the historic plans indicated that the original newel post was turned with a square base. The extant balusters appear to date from the original construction and were also turned and supported a simple molded rail. At the second-story hallway the handrail was continued where it ran west then turned north extending to the south wall of the hallway in order to enclose the stairwell.

**Fireplaces**

In the Main Block of the building, fireplaces were installed in the interior north-south walls. Each of the primary rooms had one fireplace that was generally centered on the interior wall. The list of materials for the building included ten “marble c(himney) pieces” and ten “marble hearths” that were purchased in September 1846 and installed in that same month. Marble fireplace elements survive in the second story, but the first-story fireplaces have been altered since the original construction (see subsequent section “Alterations”). Though the design of the marble fireplace elements in the first story is not known, they may have been similar to the extant elements of the second-story fireplaces. Those include marble surrounds with pilasters supporting an arched mantel below a marble shelf and crowned with a pedimented head (see subsequent section “Second Story, Fireplaces”).

**Built-ins**

The 1876 plans depict a number of built-in elements that were probably original to the building. The list of materials included five soapstone sinks that were also labeled on the 1876 plans. The Main Block pantry (Room 105) was constructed with a sink on the east wall and shelving on the other two interior walls. There was also shelving along the east wall of the closet off the Dining Room. In the Ell shelving was installed in the Kitchen store-room and the pantry off the Second Kitchen. The Second Kitchen included a sink and shelves along the south wall, as well as a range installed at the west wall. The southeast room (Room 118) also had some built-in shelving and cupboards along the south wall. The documentary and physical evidence suggest that the soapstone sinks and the built-in shelves depicted in the 1876 plans were original to the building.
Second Story

Plan

The second-floor plan of both the Main Block and the Ell followed the same basic layout as the first floor. However, the second-floor of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was unique in that the Main Block and the Ell had different floor levels, which related to the difference in the first-story ceiling heights between the two sections. Since the first story of the Ell was constructed with lower ceilings, the floor framing for the second story was lower, and the opposite was true of the Main Block. The difference in floor levels reinforced the separation of the Main Block from the Ell.

The Main Block had four large bedrooms and a Center Hallway. The bedrooms over the double Parlors were separated by small rooms with closets. The small rooms had wash “basins” and appear to have been wash rooms or dressing rooms that were later converted to bathrooms. Similarly, small rooms with closets were constructed over the first-story Vestibule and pantry. Again the small rooms had “basins” and may have been washrooms or dressing rooms. The northeast bedroom (Room 207) had access to an adjacent bathroom (Room 208) located at the west end of the Ell. The 1876 plans depict that bathroom as one step down from the bedroom floor level and three steps up from the Ell floor level. Since this room was extensively altered, the historic appearance can only be conjectured based on the 1876 plan. The Center Hallway was open and had access to all four bedrooms and the staircase hallway. The stair hall had an open staircase to the attic story and a short flight of steps down to the large landing (Room 217).

A large landing at the top of the first-story staircase (Room 217) served as the transition between the second story of the Ell and the Main Block. A small hallway north of the landing provided access to the second-story Ell rooms and the bathroom previously described. The second story of the Ell had a long hallway along the north side of the building and three bedrooms arranged over the first-story kitchens and storage areas. A bathroom for the Ell was located in the northeast room (Room 214) and included an adjacent closet with a bathtub. Both of the second-story bathrooms included a “W.C.,” which, including the first-story water closet, accounted for the three water closet fixtures noted in the materials list.

Floors

The extant evidence indicates that the second-story floors in both the Main Block and the Ell were originally covered with wood flooring. Most of the floors are currently covered with wall-to-wall carpeting, but in some places where the carpet could be removed for inspection, wood floors were observed. There is also some documentary evidence of the historic flooring materials. Historic photographs of two bedrooms in the Main Block (Rooms 204 and 207) depict parquet flooring with a wooden-strip border, which was confirmed by the extant floor in Room 207. Historic photographs also document the floor in Room 205 as wood-strip flooring. Though it is not possible to precisely date the installation of these floors, it appears from the physical evidence that these are the original floors. In addition there is no documentation of replacing the floors in the second story.

The 1876 plans of the second story depict floor heat registers in Rooms 204, 205, and 207. The registers were located next to the fireplaces and had cast-iron grates, some of which
survive today. Based on previous research the registers appear to have been part of the historic hot-air heating system.

**Walls**

The second-story walls of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were constructed of wood lath and plaster. This was confirmed by a letter from Ripley to Talcott stating that the walls were ready for plastering, and by the list of materials that included wood lath and plaster. The bathrooms had wainscoting on the lower portions of the walls. The Main Block walls were trimmed with baseboards with molded caps and with plaster crown moldings. In the Center Hallway pilasters were installed on either side of the opening to the staircase hallway in a similar manner as in the first story. The wall trim in the Ell rooms consisted of plain baseboards and there was extant evidence of cornice moldings in Rooms 211 and 212. Paint samples from the extant bead-board wainscoting in the Ell bathroom (Room 214) suggest the wainscoting was probably original to the room. Wainscoting may have also been used in the bathroom at the west end of the Ell (Room 208), which would be consistent with the other bathrooms in the building. However, later alterations removed all evidence of the early wall elements in that bathroom.

**Ceilings**

The ceilings in the second story were constructed with lath and plaster. Like the first-story ceilings, the second-story ceilings in the Main Block were higher than the Ell ceilings. Based on the existing ceilings, the ceiling height in the Main Block bedrooms was approximately 12 feet 3 inches and the ceiling height in the Ell bedrooms and hallways ranged from 9 feet 3 inches to 10 feet 1 inch. The ceiling in Room 209 sloped up at the west end of the hallway to meet the head of the doorway from Room 207. Similarly the ceiling from the landing (Room 217) was sloped to transition to the stair hall ceiling.

**Doorways**

The second-story doorways were constructed with elements that matched those of the first story. In the Main Block these included block plinths, channeled pilasters, and stepped pedimented heads. The Ell doorways had simpler casings with flat plinths and casings, and flat pedimented heads with cap moldings. The original surviving four-panel doors have two long panels over two squat panels. The doors were hung from cast butt hinges and had mortised locksets.

**Windows**

Each second-story window in the Main Block of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was set within a recessed bay from the floor to the top of the window. The window bays had splayed jambs and were framed with channeled pilasters on plinths and stepped pedimented heads with crown moldings. The tops of the windows were 6 feet 10 inches above the floor level. Below the double-hung sashes were single raised panels, and the splayed jambs of the bays held bi-fold interior shutters. All of the splayed jambs also had a single raised panel below the interior shutters.

The second-story windows of the Ell generally held double-hung sashes with simple casings. The casings were comprised of flat casings and plain pedimented heads with cap moldings.
The windows in Room 211 and Room 214 were set within recessed bays with bi-fold shutters in the jambs. The triple-window in the landing (Room 217) was constructed with plain mullions separating the three windows and a single windowsill below the entire opening. The interior trim matched that of the windows in the Main Block.

**Staircases**

The Main Block staircase from the second story to the attic was a half-turn open-stringer staircase. It ascended east along the north wall of the hallway to an intermediate landing where it turned 180 degrees to continue west along the south wall to the attic. The staircase was constructed with wooden treads and risers, supported by a wooden stringer and carriage. The balustrade of the first-story staircase continued to the second story and was constructed with turned balusters and a continuous molded hand-rail. There were no newel posts at the second story or the landings. In the attic the balustrade turned at a right angle to the north to protect the stairwell and terminated at the north wall.

In the Ell an enclosed staircase from the second story to the attic was accessed from the back hallway (Room 216). The doorway to the attic staircase was constructed with the typical elements found on other Ell doorways and had a two-panel door with a surface-mounted box lock. A steep set of stairs ascended to the unfinished attic. The staircase was constructed with wooden treads and risers set within the enclosed stairwell. A wooden handrail was attached to the north wall of the stairwell.

**Fireplaces**

There were six fireplaces in the second story of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. All of the fireplaces were originally constructed with marble mantels and hearths; all the mantels remain today. In the Main Block there were fireplaces in all four bedrooms. Each of the fireplaces was surrounded with white marble mantel with chamfered pilasters and astragal molding at the top supporting a pedimented arch with a chamfered edge. A marble mantel shelf was installed above the arch and a shallow-pitched pediment crowned the mantel. The list of building materials documents marble hearths, some of which are extant today. In the 1876 plan, Room 202 had the only second-story fireplace with a heat register in the firebox. As with the first-story fireplace registers, this may have been a later alteration, but no documentation of those changes has been found.

Two bedrooms in the Ell had fireplaces (Rooms 211 and 212) with mantels less decorative than those of the Main Block fireplaces. The fireplaces in both rooms had marble mantels with plain pilasters supporting a pedimented arch. Both fireplaces had marble mantel shelves, and the mantels were capped with pedimented heads. The fireplace in Room 211 had a white marble mantel similar to the Main Block bedrooms, while the fireplace in Room 212 had a gray marble mantel.

**Built-ins**

The built-in elements shown on the 1876 plans of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were probably original to the building. Each of the two second-story bathrooms had a “W.C.” (water closet) that was included in the list of materials, as well as a bathtub. The Ell bathroom was also depicted with a “sink.” In addition to the bathroom fixtures, the small washrooms off the Main Block bedrooms and two of the Ell bedrooms had “basins.” Since a
distinction was made on the plans between a “basin” and “sink,” it seemed likely that the basins did not have plumbing and that the sinks were attached to plumbing.

The second-story plan shows a bookcase on the large landing (Room 217), which remains today. The bookcase was installed on the east wall of the landing and was constructed with wood stained dark brown. The bookcase had three vertical sections from floor to ceiling and had channeled pilasters flanking the bookcase and a pedimented head above. Each section had two glazed doors at the top over a single drawer and cabinet doors at the bottom. Each of the glazed doors had three lights with wood stiles, rails, and muntins. The top rail of each door leaf was arched. Wood shelves behind the glazed doors ran the full width of the bookcase. The back of the bookcase was tongue-and-groove bead-boards. The center section had a fold-out writing desk at the drawer level, and the lower cabinet concealed a roll-out seat. The materials list for the building included hardware for a bookcase, suggesting that this was part of the original construction.

Attic Story

Plan

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed with two separate attic spaces. The Main-Block attic had habitable rooms with finished floors, walls, and ceilings. The Ell attic was a sparsely finished space that was apparently utilitarian. There was no connecting passage between the two attic spaces.

The Main Block attic was accessed via the second-story staircase at the center of the east side. The attic had bedrooms in the southeast and northeast corners and a square room at the center. The two bedrooms (Rooms 303 and 305) were roughly square and each had a corner jog at the doorway. The center room (Room 302) was square and contained the stair to the cupola. The rest of the attic was open and formed a large C-shaped space around the center room. Four chimney stacks came up through the attic rooms and were parged with plaster. The 1876 plan shows three closets built along the interior walls of the large room. The physical evidence suggested that the two closets on the interior east wall were original and the closet on the north wall was added (see subsequent section, “Alterations; Post Civil War through the Nineteenth Century; Interior”)

The Ell attic was accessed via a steep staircase from the second-story back hallway (Room 216). The attic space was divided by three brick walls that ran north-south and corresponded with the structural walls of the lower stories.

Floors

The floors in the Main Block attic were constructed with tongue-and-groove boards that varied between approximately 3 and 5 inches wide. All of the floorboards ran north-south and were face nailed with cut nails.

The only floors in the Ell attic were installed in the section with the staircase. There the floors were laid with wide, random-width boards. The floor on the south side was raised 1 foot 6 inches above the other floor and was also covered with wide boards. The 1876 plans indicate that a water tank was located in this section of the Ell attic.
Walls

The walls in the attic of the Main Block were constructed with wood lath and plaster. The perimeter walls were about 3-feet high from the floor to the sloped ceiling below the roof. The walls were trimmed with wooden baseboards with molded caps, and there was no trim between the top of the wall and the sloped ceiling.

The Ell attic had plaster walls in the section at the top of the stairs. The north and south walls in that section were interior partitions with small hatchways to the eaves of the attic. The other sections had unfinished brick walls.

Ceilings

The ceilings in the Main Block attic conformed to the pitch of the roof and sloped up from the outside walls toward the center of the block where they leveled off at 8 feet 8 inches above the floor. The ceilings were covered with wood lath and plaster and featured three skylights in each elevation.

The only section of the Ell attic with a finished ceiling was at the top of the stairs. The ceiling followed the pitch of the hipped roof and sloped up from the interior walls to the ridge with a small section of the east ceiling following the slope of the hip. This ceiling was finished with wood lath and plaster. A wood-framed hatch was in the east slope of the ceiling and roof. Other sections of the Ell attic were open to the roof framing, which consisted of 2½-by-5-inch rafters supported by 5-by-8½-inch principal purlins.

Doorways

The 1876 plan of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters shows the locations of the original doorways in the attic of the Main Block. From the hallway at the top of staircase were doorways north and south connecting to the adjacent sections of the attic, and a doorway to the center attic room. There were also doorways to the two attic bedrooms. All of the doorways had plain casings and pedimented heads with cap moldings. The doors had four-panels, were hung with cast butt hinges, and had mortised locksets with wooden knobs above the keyway.

The doorways in the Ell attic featured plain casings and heads, and had tongue-and-groove, board-and-batten doors. The doors were hung with small cast-butt hinges and had toggle latches.

Skylights

The attic of the Main Block was constructed with twelve skylights, three at each elevation. With the exception of the laylight on the east side, the interior walls of the skylight recesses were covered with lath and plaster. The openings were trimmed plain boards on three sides, while at the top the plaster of the skylight recess transitioned to the ceiling plaster. Based on historic photographs it appears that each skylight historically had a six-light, tilting wooden sash; these no longer exist today.

The laylight was installed in the center of the east ceiling and lit the attic stairwell. The laylight was set within a round recess with plaster walls. The extant laylight has twelve lights.
around a circular center light and has a round cover with glazed lights along the sides. Whether the extant elements of the laylight are original elements is not known, but the laylight is documented in early photographs and the 1852 sketch of the quarters.

Staircases

The staircase from the attic story to the cupola was constructed in the center room of the attic (Room 302). It was a quarter-turn staircase with wooden treads and risers and an open stringer. The stair started at the east wall of the room, climbed to a lower landing where it turned 90 degrees, and ascended west along the north wall to the floor level of the cupola. The staircase was constructed with a turned newel post and turned balusters supporting a molded handrail. At the level of the cupola, the handrail was continued as a railing in order to enclose the stairwell. As depicted in the 1876 plans, the staircase led to the “observatory.”

Built-ins

Two of the attic closets appear to be original built-in elements. They were built along the east interior wall that partitioned Room 304 from Room 302. The closets were adjacent to one another and were constructed with bead-board walls. The closet doorway casings had elements similar to the other attic doorways. The doors had four-panels, were hung from cast-butt hinges, and had surface-mounted box locks.

In the attic of the Main Block, small openings were built into the outside walls. The openings resembled small doorways and were trimmed with flat casings and a pedimented head. Metal doors with lever latches were hung with two hinges. Though the 1876 plans show only two such openings, there are currently eight openings, all of which appear to be similar. Previous research has speculated that these openings could have been related to the hot-air heating system, but concluded that they were more likely installed to control moisture.148

Cupola

The cupola surmounted the Main Block of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters and was labeled the “observatory” in the 1876 plans. It was square in plan with a stairwell on the north side of the room that was enclosed by a railing.

The floor of the cupola was constructed with variable-width tongue-and-groove planks running east-west. The edge of the floor along the stairwell opening was trimmed with a narrow board finished with a bull-nose.

The cupola’s interior walls and ceiling were wood lath and plaster. All of the walls were built with wooden baseboards with molded caps. Plaster crown molding was installed along the tops of the walls. The crown moldings transitioned to a flat plaster ceiling.

The cupola had two windows in each of its four walls, providing a panoramic view of the Armory and downtown Springfield. Each window had plain casings with a slightly pedimented head, and a plain windowsill above a stepped apron. The original sashes were double-hung, six-over-six lights.

148 Commanding Officer’s House, Historic Heating System, 19.
Figure 21. "Basement" Plan of Commanding Officer's Quarters, 1876, depicting original basement plan with addition of north-elevation bay. North arrow added for clarification of plan (not to scale).
Figure 22. “First Floor” Plan of Commanding Officer’s Quarters, 1876, depicting original first-floor plan with addition of north-elevation bay. North arrow added for clarification of plan (not to scale).
Figure 23. “Second Floor” Plan of Commanding Officer’s Quarters, 1876, depicting original second-floor plan with addition of the “Conservatory” and the roof of the north-elevation bay. North arrow added for clarification of plan (not to scale).
Figure 24. “Attic” Plan of Commanding Officer’s Quarters, 1876, depicting original attic plan with addition of the large “Closet” in the attic of the Main Block. North arrow added for clarification of plan (not to scale).
Alterations

Introduction

The Commanding Officer's Quarters was completed by June 30, 1847 and was continuously occupied by the Superintendent of the Springfield Armory until the Armory closed in 1968. Since then the building has been used for offices, a conservation laboratory, a maintenance shop, programs, and special functions.

The history of alterations and maintenance of the Commanding Officer's Quarters was recorded in correspondence, historic photographs, historic architectural plans, and other primary and secondary source documents. The 1876 plans of the building provided a reliable source pertaining to original appearance and alterations to that date, and other plans provided additional details of alterations. In general, the records document additions and alterations, as well as routine maintenance, such as exterior painting. The most significant building alterations included the addition of the north-elevation bay, the addition of the Victorian-era porches, changes to the front doorway surround, and the installation of an iron snow rail on the roof. In addition to the information gleaned from various documents, the following section includes alterations based on a physical investigation of building, including materials analysis.

Figure 25. Commanding Officer's Quarters, Springfield Armory, south elevation, circa 1865.
Improvements to “Ripley’s Palace,” 1847–1854

Exterior

Correspondence from James W. Ripley to Chief of Ordnance Craig in 1854 listed the cost of constructing the Commanding Officer’s Quarters through June 1847, in addition to some other expenses through 1854. 149

The first repairs to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters apparently occurred about the time the building was being completed. Ripley’s correspondence notes that there was damage to some of the tin roofing during a gale. The document indicates that it cost $534.56 to repair the damage, which was inventoried before June 30, 1847. Since it was a repair and not part of the original construction cost, Ripley subtracted the cost of the roof repairs from the total cost of constructing the building. 150

The same correspondence records the cost of labor and materials through June 30, 1848. The list of materials notes that $300.61 was spent on sundry expenses between June 30, 1847 and June 30, 1848. These were probably minor repairs and improvements to the building and included some slate repairs to the roofs. 151

Lt. Col. Ripley’s accounting notes that “Water is conveyed from the Steam Shop to these quarters by the same pipes that supply the stables and the principal reservoir in the Square.” 152 Iron pipe was installed for the water supply in 1845, and a portion of that was replaced with lead pipe in 1849. A quarter of the total cost for supplying the water was charged to the construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Thus it appears that some of the pipes supplying the quarters were replaced during the 1849 project.

Ripley’s correspondence also documents that from 1852 through 1853 most of the buildings on the hill were painted, including the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The cost of painting both the exterior and the interior of the building was $1,566.19. 153

The Statement of Operations at the Springfield Armory for the year ending June 30, 1855 notes that painting of the public buildings continued. It listed the Superintendent’s Quarters among the buildings painted during the year. 154 The documentation indicates that the building had been painted in 1853 and then again prior to June 1855, further indicating that there was a specific budget item for the exterior painting during both those fiscal years that would have been completed under two different superintendents (Ripley and Whitney). The note that the 1855 project was a “continued” painting project could indicate that it was part of the 1852–53 painting that was continued over several years.

149 Ripley to Craig, May 31, 1854, with appended list of materials.
150 Ibid.
151 Ibid.
152 Ibid.
153 Ibid.
What is evident both in historic photographs and rendered drawings is that the exterior paint accentuated the decorative details of the building (figs. 16-19, and 25). This was especially true on the Main Block where the pilasters, entablature, doorway casings, and window trim appears darker than the exterior walls. Previous exterior paint analysis determined that the walls were originally painted a medium orange-brown and the brownstone trim elements were unpainted. Later treatments included a light brown-orange followed by yellow-brown with brown trim, which appears to be the color scheme depicted in the earliest historic photographs (figs. 16, 19, and 25).

Interior

Piping gas into the building was among the other expenses incurred before 1854. “Gas was introduced into the quarters in 1851 at a cost, including pipe, fixtures, and labor of $267.93.” Some evidence remains of the early gas lighting, including a gas light fixture in the back of the second-story bookcase. That fixture has a floral escutcheon plate with a decorative valve stem. Gas was apparently used for lighting the building until the early twentieth century when electricity was introduced (see subsequent section “Alterations; Twentieth-Century Alterations”).

On March 19, 1852, Lt. Col. Ripley wrote Chief of Ordnance Craig that the interior walls were filled with cracks that would be difficult to hide with paint. His solution was to paper the walls to better hide the cracks. This was his second request for wallpaper (see previous section “Planning and Construction, Construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters”). The previous reference to interior painting and the absence of wallpapering from the list of expenses suggests that Ripley’s initial request in 1846 for wallpapering had been denied. The Chief of Ordnance authorized repairs to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters on March 23, 1852. Though this correspondence does not specifically mention wallpapering, approval of the repairs suggests that at least some of the rooms were papered at that time.

An inquiry by Lt. Col. Ripley in July 1852 indicates his interest in installing a tile floor in the front Vestibule. His letter to Miller, Coats and Youle, New York City, New York, requested information regarding the expense of installing “Minton’s Tiles” “plate fourth” containing “buff hexagons” in the floor of a 10-foot-square vestibule. Ripley was apparently referencing decorative floor tile manufactured by Herbert Minton’s tile company in England. Of the documented buildings from that period, the Vestibule in the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was the only one that was roughly 10 feet square. Therefore it seems likely that Ripley was inquiring for his quarters. However, no other documentation has been found regarding the tiles and it is not known whether they were ever installed. The present slate

156 Ibid.
158 Chief of Ordnance to Ripley, March 23, 1852; Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance, 1816 -1900, Entry 1365, RG 156; Microfilm roll #57, SPAR Museum Collection.
159 Ripley to Miller, Coats and Youle, New York, NY, July 5, 1852, Letters Sent, Vol. 7 of 26, 1847-1858, Entry 1351, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
floor in the vestibule was more recently installed and has covered most of the evidence of the earlier floors. A strip of marble under the front doorway suggests that the historic Vestibule floor was marble, but the extent of that flooring is not known.

Post–Civil War through the Nineteenth Century Alterations

Exterior

Windows

The first significant alterations to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters occurred in 1873. On June 12, 1873, Superintendent Major J.S. Benton requested authority to add a first-story bay window on the north side of the Dining Room, and a balcony on the south side connecting to the west porch (Appendix C).161 Preliminary drawings of the proposed additions include a schematic floor plan and south elevation, which were approved by Stephen V. Benét on June 14, 1873 (figs. 26, and 27).162 Detailed plans and elevations of the bay window that appear to have been drawn for construction purposes are dated June 19, 1873 (fig. 28).

The new bay window had truncated parallel sides connecting to the north wall of the Main Block. The foundation was brownstone to match the original structure and included a basement window on the north side. The upper portion of the bay had three floor-to-ceiling windows with triple-hung sashes. The center sashes were six-over-six-over-three flanked on either side by four-over-four-over-two sashes. The exterior trim of the bay had a molded wooden base supporting the windowsills, plain window casings, and a wide entablature. A projecting cornice with cyma-reversa profile, crowned a stepped frieze. The roof was hipped with five facets, a shallow pitch, and covered with metal roofing. The bay window was probably constructed in the summer of 1873, and was included in the 1876 plans of the quarters.

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161 Major J.S. Benton to Chief of Ordnance, June 12, 1873, Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance, Vol. IX, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
162 “Commanding Officers Quarters, Springfield Armory, Showing proposed balcony and bay window for Dining Room,” signed by J.S. Benton, June 11, 1873 and approved by Stephen V. Benét on June 14, 1873; S.A. 1434, Case 4, Drawer M, Folder 2, SPAR Museum Collection. Note: The correspondence was addressed to the Chief of Ordnance who was Brig. Gen. Alexander Dyer in 1873, but the plans were approved by Stephen V. Benét who became Chief of Ordnance in 1874.
Figure 27. “Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Springfield Armory, Showing proposed balcony and bay window…” signed Major J.G. Benton, June 11, 1873, and approved by S.V. Benét on June 14, 1873.
Figure 28. “Plan and Elevation of Bay Window for Commanding Officer’s Quarters, U.S. Armory, June 19, 1873.”
Porches and Balconies

The balcony proposed by Superintendent Benton also appears to have been constructed circa 1873. The balcony is shown on the 1876 plans and other nineteenth-century drawings. The schematic drawing of 1873 indicates that the balcony was to be 5 feet wide, but a notation on the drawing suggests that it should be at least 6 feet wide. Though the balcony does not appear in the earliest photographs or rendered drawings, it was depicted in the 1876 plans as a 6-foot-wide open deck along the south elevation with a balustrade (fig. 22). In that plan a short section of the balcony extended east of the façade portico, and a longer section extended to the west and turned north at the west elevation to join the original west porch. Both the proposed plan and later nineteenth-century drawings show the balcony balustrade with vase-like turned balusters supporting a molded railing (fig. 29). The balcony was most likely in place from circa 1873 until 1887, when the south- and west-elevation porches were significantly altered (see subsequent description).

The 1876 plans not only depict the 1873 bay window and south balcony, but also provide evidence of other alterations. A “Conservatory” was shown on the second-floor plan of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters (fig. 23). It was situated at the south east corner of the house where the Ell joins the Main Block. Access to the new room was through the triple window in the Ell. This feature appears in one other nineteenth-century drawing (fig. 29), but was not depicted in any historic photographs or the 1887 drawings of the south elevation (fig. 30). The only remaining physical evidence was the slight wear on the interior windowsill, suggesting that it might have been a step in to the “Conservatory.” Assuming that the plans of the building were accurate, the “Conservatory” appears to have been constructed circa 1876 and removed prior to 1887.

One of the more significant exterior alterations to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters was constructed during the superintendence of Lt. Col. A.R. Buffington, who later served as Chief of Ordnance. Correspondence from Lt. Col. Buffington to the Chief of Ordnance on April 5, 1887 requested authority to construct a piazza or porch on the south and west sides of the building with “plain open iron work, to be used for the piazza, corresponding to the general design of the quarters.” The blueprint included with the correspondence depicts the proposed porch in plan and elevation (fig. 30). The drawings indicate that the new porch would be constructed along the south and west elevations, replacing the original portico and west porch, as well as the later balcony. The new porch was 9 feet wide with paired-iron columns, iron railings, brackets, and frieze, as well as an iron crest on the porch roof. The project was apparently approved by the Chief of Ordnance, and on April 13 advertisements for the project appeared in the Springfield and Boston newspapers. On June 7, 1887 the project of fabricating the iron work and erecting the new porch was awarded to C.W. Walls and Co. of Worcester, Massachusetts (Appendix D). The contract documents include specifications and details for the porch, as well as a second blueprint that provides details of the iron columns (fig. 31). The specifications note that the cresting was not required and that the columns at the corners should be constructed in three parts connected by iron fittings per

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163 Ibid., notation at the bottom of the drawing that appears to be the handwriting of S.V. Benét.
164 Lt. Col. A.R. Buffington to Chief of Ordnance, April 5, 1887; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance, Vol. XIV, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
the detailed drawing. Buffington’s letter to the Chief of Ordnance on July 23, 1887 states that
the project was completed in accordance with the contract.166

Two elements of the extant porch are not depicted in the 1887 drawings. The plan of the
south elevation shows the stone steps to the front entrance in their original configuration,
about 4 feet from the entrance doorway. However, the existing steps begin at the edge of the
porch, which is 9 feet from the doorway. Based on the current physical evidence, it appears
that the steps were moved when the porch was constructed in 1887.

The other difference between the 1887 plans and the extant porch was the extension of the
porch to the west. The plan depicts the porch as 9 feet wide and wrapping around the
building’s south and west elevations. The current porch has a 14-by-10-foot extension at the
southwest corner that is not consistent with the 1887 plans. Paint evidence and the
construction details of the extant piers supporting the porch suggest that this portion of the
porch was constructed after the 1887 porch was built.

Paint samples were taken in 2009 from three areas of the porch ceiling: one from the south
side; one from the west side; and one from the west extension. The paint layers in the first
two samples are identical and included a dark resin, followed by four applications of light
blue paint, and then several off-white paint layers. The third sample had a thin light colored
resin (possibly a factory coating) followed by only two layers of light blue paint, and then
several off-white paint layers. The paint evidence therefore suggests that the ceiling of the
west extension was added later. There is the possibility that the ceilings were altered, but
other evidence indicates that the entire west extension of the porch was a later addition.

Two foundation piers under the existing porch are evidence of an earlier porch configuration
in which the south portion extended to the west. Both piers are made of brick faced with
brownstone, and were apparently meant to be exposed. The northern-most pier was
brownstone-faced on the west side with a later pier supporting the west extension of the
porch butted up to it (fig. 33). The southern-most pier was faced with brownstone on both
the south side, which is still exposed, and the west side, indicating that it was an outside
corner pier (fig. 34). The physical evidence is consistent with the paint evidence, suggesting
that the 1887 porch did not include the west extension when first constructed. Site plans of
the Springfield Armory that include the Commanding Officer’s Quarters appear to confirm
that the porch did not originally extend to the west (fig. 32). Historic photographs indicate
that the porch extension was added by circa 1918 (fig. 38), while the paint evidence suggests it
was constructed circa 1910.

The alteration of the Ell porch apparently occurred when the front porch was altered in 1887.
These alterations were less elaborate and only involved replacing the original Doric columns
with paired cast-iron columns. There was no balustrade between the columns and no cast
iron frieze. The columns supported a wooden frieze that was narrower than the original
entablature. Examination of the paint layers on the extant frieze suggests that it was altered
when the new columns were installed but the projecting cornice above the frieze was
evidently retained. Paint analysis also indicates that the historic porch ceiling was retained,
which suggests that the roof was also retained, although the metal roofing has been replaced.

166 Lt. Col. A.R. Buffington to Chief of Ordnance, July 23, 1887; Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance,
Vol. XIV, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
Figure 29. Undated (circa 1880) drawing of Commanding Officer’s Quarters, depicting 1873 balcony, south-elevation conservatory, and proposed cast-iron snow rail.

Figure 30. “Commanding Officer’s Quarters, National Armory, Springfield,” depicting proposed south elevation and plan of the porch. From blueprint that accompanied correspondence from Lt. Col. A.R. Buffington to the Chief of Ordnance, April 1887.
Figure 31. Detail of porch cast-iron columns and connections between columns for Commanding Officer’s Quarters, 1887.

Figure 33. Brick pier with brownstone facing on west face. The pier is currently under the existing porch, with a more recent pier installed on its west side.

Figure 34. Brick pier with brownstone facing on south and west faces. The south face is currently exposed, but the west face is under the west extension of the porch.
Replacement of the roof parapet wall with cast-iron snow rails apparently took place between 1873 and 1887. An undated (circa 1880) drawing of the quarters appears to be a proposal for replacing the parapet with a cast-iron snow rail (fig. 29). The drawing depicts the south elevation of the building with the proposed iron rail drawn above the existing structure. There are no notations on the drawing, but it does show the post-1873 additions of the balcony and conservatory, suggesting that it was drawn sometime after that date. A faint outline of decorative porch columns on the left side of the drawing indicates that it might have been made during preliminary planning of the 1887 porch alterations. The drawings of the porch alteration depict the iron snow rail (fig. 30), but the 1887 contracts and specifications do not mention it. Therefore it appears that the snow rail was installed circa 1880, before the 1887 porch alterations.

Interior

The 1876 plans also show changes to the interior of the building. Among them were alterations to the Main Block associated with the addition of the north-elevation bay window. The changes to the basement appear to be minimal. The original basement window was left intact and a crawl space created beneath the bay window. In the Dining Room the wood flooring was extended into the bay. Based on the physical evidence of the extant flooring, it appears that the entire Dining Room floor was replaced at that time. The wall opening at the bay window was enlarged and new trim elements installed. On either side of the opening were splayed pilasters supporting a segmental arch that was also splayed. Both sides had a second pilaster on the jambs of the opening that supported the spring of the segmental arch. Within the bay was a flat base trim supporting plain windowsills below the three windows. The windows were trimmed on the sides and heads with simple molded casings. The walls above the windows were plastered, as was the flat ceiling.

The 1876 first-story plan depicts registers for the gravity-hot-air heating system within the fireplaces of both Parlors and the Library. In the floor next to the fireplace of the back Parlor is evidence of an earlier floor register that had been closed off. This suggests that fireplace was altered when the heat register was installed. Previous research concluded that the heat register in the Library fireplace was a later alteration of an ash chute. Based on the 1876 plans, extant evidence, and the conclusions of the previous research, it appears that some alterations had been made to the heating system and the first-story registers prior to 1876.

The 1876 attic plan depicts three closets in Room 304 of the Main Block. Two of the closets appear to be original, but the large closet on the south side of the room appears to be added. Since there are no earlier plans or descriptions of the attic space, verification of this alteration is based on the following physical evidence. The walls of the closet are painted a tan-orange color, while most of the woodwork in the attic is grained. The closet door is hung with two loose-joint hinges and has a mortised lock, while the other closets have butt hinges and surface-mounted locks as seen in the basement closets. In addition, the doorway casing has a plain header, while the other closets had casings with pedimented headers similar to others in the building. The plans indicate that the south closet was constructed by 1876, but a precise date of construction could not be determined from the physical evidence.

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167 Commanding Officer’s House, Historic Heating System, 10.
Twentieth–Century Alterations

Exterior

Probably the most conspicuous alteration of the building’s historic appearance during the twentieth century was removal of its exterior paint. This occurred in 1937 and was performed by the crews from the Works Progress Administration (WPA, renamed the Work Projects Administration in 1939). Documentation indicates that the exterior brick walls had been painted since 1853. Historic photographs and paint analysis provided additional information regarding changes in the exterior colors over time. A 1931 photograph shows the last paint scheme on the building, which had changed from the earlier light body with dark trim to dark body with light trim (figs. 25, and 35). This is the last known photograph before the paint was removed by the WPA (fig. 41). The _Springfield Republican_ reported on February 21, 1937, “Brick buildings once painted with a sickly brown coating are being cleaned by sand blasting, thus restoring the beauty of the original brick.”¹⁶⁸

Doorways

Early in the twentieth century the center window in the north elevation of the Main Block was converted to a doorway. The new doorway, called a “French window,” was depicted in a drawing dated May 4, 1907 (fig. 36). The new doorway retained the trim elements of the former window and added the glazed doors within the existing jambs and header. Each door

¹⁶⁸ _Springfield Republican_, February 21, 1937, Springfield Armory Scrapbook No.1; Microfilm roll #51, SPAR Museum Collection.
leaf had ten glazed lights and was hung on butt hinges. The east door leaf had an oval brass door knob. A transom window above the doorway held an eight-light sash with a wide center mullion that visually separated the sash into two four-light sashes, one above each door leaf. A set of open-riser steps was added for access to the new doorway. The steps were constructed with wooden treads supported by decorative cast-iron stringers. A concrete step was constructed as the bottom step, and the stringers were anchored to the concrete.

Alteration of the historic front doorway transom and sidelights occurred sometime before 1918, possibly as early as 1910, as explained below. The horizontal transom was replaced with a fanlight with radiating lead came s. The sidelights were replaced with leaded lights, in which the lead came s were designed in alternating oval and diamond patterns that were vertically arranged. The new elements appear to have been installed within the original framing of the doorway casing.

Determining the date of the façade doorway alterations through the physical evidence was inconclusive. However, the documentary evidence indicates that the transom and sidelights were altered in the early-twentieth century. The drawings prepared for the porch alterations in 1887 depict the original transom and sidelights, indicating that these changes were not part of that project. The changes may have coincided with other projects in the early-twentieth century, but were not specifically mentioned in the documents reviewed. The first known record of the new transom and sidelights is a 1918 photograph of Superintendent Hoffer (March–September 1918) on the front steps of the quarters (fig. 37). Thus it appears that the alteration of the transom and sidelights occurred prior to 1918.

Two additions to the north elevation circa 1932 included a covered entry over the basement doorway and an entryway for the first-story north-elevation doorway (D107). Both of these additions were first documented in circa-1950 photographs (figs. 43 and 44) and the 1954 plans (figs. 48 and 49). The structure over the basement doorway enclosed the original basement staircase and doorway. It was a rectangular wooden box that had full-height double-leaf doors on the north side and windows on the east and west sides. The windows held fixed sashes with twelve lights. The corners of the enclosure were adorned with flat pilasters that supported a plain entablature. The structure had a shallow-pitched gable roof with metal roofing.

The north entryway in the first story replaced the original portico and enclosed the doorway. The entryway was a narrow glassed enclosure with an exterior doorway. The doorway was flanked by sidelights and had transom lights. The narrow side walls of the entryway were also glazed. The entryway had a shallow-pitched gable roof with metal roofing.

Analysis of paint samples from both the basement doorway enclosure and the first-story entryway indicates that they were constructed at the same time. The paint evidence in comparison with other exterior elements indicates that these two features were added to the building around 1930. This was consistent with records for the building, which noted an addition to the building in 1931–33 and an increase in repair costs in 1932. Therefore, the documentary evidence, combined with the paint evidence, suggests that the enclosures were added to the building circa 1932.

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169 “Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, Historical Record, Building No. 1,” June 30, 1932; SPAR Museum Collection.
Windows

The only addition to the existing windows during this period was an oval window that was added to the south wall of the Ell (W104). Based on the physical and documentary evidence, a date of circa 1925 has been assigned to this addition. The window has an oval tilting sash and was installed when a half-bathroom was added to the first story of the building (see subsequent section “Twentieth-Century Alterations, Interior”). The building records indicate that the bathroom was installed before 1930. Paint evidence on the window elements determined that the earliest colors were cream and off-white, which coincides with the paint scheme depicted in early twentieth-century photographs. That evidence, consistent with the documentary evidence, suggested that the half-bathroom and oval window were added circa 1925.

The previous paint study indicated that all the sashes in the building had been replaced. Review of the paint layering and colors in comparison with the historic photographs confirmed that the sashes had been changed by the 1950s. Since most of the new sashes were similar in appearance to the historic sashes, it was difficult to determine a precise date of replacement. However, the replacement of the cupola sashes could be narrowed further by the comparison of two photographs taken in 1937 and 1938. A photograph dated May 1937 documents the windows as having six-over-six sashes (fig. 41), and the photograph taken in September 1938 depicts the existing one-over-one sashes (fig. 42). While there was no further documentation of the sash replacement found, it was apparent that the cupola sashes were replaced between 1937 and 1938. It seems plausible that the work was part of the WPA improvements. Other sashes in the building may have been replaced at the same time.

Porches and Balconies

Another change that was documented by circa 1918 photographs was the addition of a second-story balcony on the roof of the west elevation porch. The balcony was evident in a circa 1918 exterior photograph and even more evident in a 1920 photograph (figs. 38 and 39). As depicted in the 1920 photograph and in later drawings (fig. 49), the balcony was a rectangular structure with wooden knee-walls and corner posts supporting a shed roof. The photographs also document the balcony and the second-story windows with awnings during that period. The balcony was accessed through the west window in Room 205, which had three steps leading up to it as depicted in a circa-1918 interior photograph (fig. 59). Photographs and plans document that the balcony remained in place through 1954; it is missing today.

A porch was apparently added to the east elevation of the Ell during this same time period. As with the dormers, the addition was not documented in any known sources, but was evident in the 1920 photograph of the building. The porch extended across most of the east elevation of the Ell, covering the historic doorway and brownstone steps. It was constructed with dimensional floor framing that carried a wood floor. Four columns supported a shallow-pitched hipped roof. The floor framing and columns were supported by the existing brownstone steps and two additional brick piers. The southeast corner column was supported by three pieces of brownstone that were added to the original brownstone steps. The column north of that was supported by wood framing that was carried by the brownstone steps. Lattice was installed around the base of the porch, and railings with balusters were installed between the columns. Since the porch was evident in the 1920 photograph (fig. 40), it was probably constructed around 1910.
Roof and Related Elements

The addition of the two dormers on the roof of the Main Block was not specifically mentioned in the documents reviewed, but the evidence suggests that they were added circa 1918. They are not depicted in early plans or historic photographs, but are evident in a 1920 photograph (fig. 40). A contract with the Boston Lightning Rod Company in January 1919 had among the items for Quarters No. 1 two dormer rods and points. All the other items for that contract appeared to have been repairs to existing lightning protection, but the dormer rods were new items suggesting the dormers had been recently constructed. Based on the documentary and physical evidence the dormers were apparently added circa 1918.

Both dormers appear to have replaced former skylights. The exterior walls of the dormers projected above the roof line on all four sides and the roofs were hipped. The exterior walls were covered with gray slate and the roofs with copper. Each dormer had one window with double-hung, two-over-two sashes. The windows were trimmed with chamfered pilasters with scroll brackets. Similar brackets were installed on all four corners and supported a plain soffit below a molded cornice with cyma-recta profile.

The slate roofs of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were apparently replaced in 1936, which was evident from the dated signatures of roofers in the plaster of a skylight. The records for the building also showed an increase in expenditures for repairs in 1936, which was consistent with the repair of the roof. The roof the Ell was also repaired in 1957, which was indicated by a slate etched with that date.

The skylights were also replaced during this period. A 1937 photograph depicts skylights with three vertical divisions, but a circa-1950 photograph shows skylights with two vertical divisions, as exist today (figs. 41 and 43). Thus it appears that the skylights were replaced between those two dates. However, in the absence of conclusive physical or documentary evidence, it is difficult to narrow that time frame.

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170 Contract with the Boston Lightning Rod Company, Contracts for Ordnance, Supplies and Construction, 1806-1918, Entry 1382, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
171 Carper and Turk, 70.
172 “Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, Historical Record, Building No. 1,” June 30, 1938; SPAR Museum Collection.
Figure 36. "French Window for Quarters No. 1, May 4, 1907."
Figure 37. Colonel Jay E. Hoffer, Ordnance Department, Springfield Armory Superintendent March–September 1918, on front steps of Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Note the leaded fanlight transom and sidelights.

Figure 38. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking northeast, circa 1918.
Figure 39. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking northeast, January 1920. Note the second-story balcony on the west elevation.

Figure 40. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking west, January 1920. Note the attic dormer on the east elevation of the Main Block roof.
Figure 41. “Bldg. #1 - C.O. Quarters. Showing progress of alterations. W.P.A. Project. May 1, 1937 - SA-1530.”

Figure 42. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking northeast, tree damage from hurricane, September 1938. Note the one-over-one sashes in the cupola.
Figure 43. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking southwest, circa 1950. Note the north-elevation entry enclosure on the Ell.

Figure 44. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking west, circa 1950. Note the basement entry enclosure on the north elevation of the Ell.
Figure 45. Commanding Officer's Quarters looking southwest, circa 1950.

Figure 46. Commanding Officer's Quarters south elevation, circa 1955.
Interior

Plan

Comparison of the historic plans of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters indicates that the building was not extensively altered from 1876 to 1954 (figs. 47, 48, and 49). The most significant changes occurred in the first story and were related to the extension of the Center Hallway (Room 102) into the former pantry (Room 105). The alteration of the north-elevation window to a doorway in 1907 was apparently done in connection with plans to extend the hallway, which included the addition of a wide doorway between Rooms 102 and 105. The interior alterations were first documented in circa-1918 photographs that show the new opening to Room 105 and the newly opened hallway (fig. 51).

As a result of the 1907 project, the Dining Room pantry was eliminated. However, the closet shown east of the Dining Room in the 1876 plan was later converted to a pantry. The creation of the new pantry (Room 111) was apparently a consequence of the removal of the historic pantry. When the new pantry was created, the east wall of the closet was shifted eastward to make a larger room. Based on the plans it appears that the doorways in Room 111 remained in the original locations. The documentary evidence was supported by paint evidence indicating that the changes took place in the early-twentieth century. Since the historic pantry was eliminated in 1907, it seems plausible that the extant pantry (Room 111) was constructed about the same time.

Again based on comparison of the 1876 and 1954 plans, the alteration of the east wall in Room 111 appears to have also impacted the first-story Ell hallway (Room 112). After that alteration there was no longer direct access from Room 110 to Room 112. In addition the staircase to the second story of the Ell had to be altered. That was accomplished by changing the straight-run staircase to a staircase with winder steps at the bottom of the run. The extant staircase has four winder steps in the first story that were apparently installed when the pantry was altered circa 1907.

Another change to the first story was the addition of a walk-in cold-storage room (Room 117A) or refrigerator. Records note that the Commanding Officer’s Quarters had a permanent refrigerator in 1930. The apparent reference to a walk-in cold-storage room (Room 117A) indicates that it was installed prior to 1930. The 1876 plans depict a small storeroom in this area. The current configuration suggests that the original wall was removed and a new wall built between Room 118 and Room 117/117A, south of the original location. A walk-in cold-storage room was then constructed within Room 117. This room (Room 117A) had an exterior opening for the delivery of ice and a lead-lined box for storing ice. Construction of the east porch may have coincided with the addition of Room 117A since it would have provided easier access to the ice delivery doorway. Paint evidence confirms that the doorway from Room 118 to Room 117 was a later addition. The number of paint layers suggests the alteration was made in the late-nineteenth to early twentieth century, confirming the documentary evidence.

173 “Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, Historical Record, Building No. 1,” June 30, 1930; SPAR Museum Collection.
According to the records, the Commanding Officer’s Quarters had seven bathrooms by 1930. The installation of additional bathrooms on the second floor probably coincided with improvements to the water and sewer utilities in 1902 and 1904 (see subsequent section “Utilities”). The 1876 plans depict one bathroom/water closet on the first floor (Room 116) and two on the second floor (Rooms 208 and 214). Building records from the 1930s and the 1954 plans document additional bathrooms constructed during the early-twentieth century.

In addition to the two existing bathrooms on the second floor, it appears that three full bathrooms were added at the time of the plumbing improvements, around 1902. Room 203, which had a basin in the 1876 plan, was converted to a full bathroom by 1954. Room 205A was also converted to a full bathroom by 1954. The installation of a bathtub in Room 205A required moving the partition between Rooms 205A and 204A eastward. The previous paint analysis determined that this alteration took place in the early-twentieth century, which was consistent with the date of the plumbing upgrades. The alterations to the partition in Room 204A also meant that the basin in that room had to be removed. However, Room 204 had access to the new bathroom in Room 203, so removal of the basin was probably not an issue.

A third new bathroom was installed in Room 206 circa 1902, and was accessed from Room 207. Room 206 is depicted with a basin in the 1876 second-floor plan; by 1954 it had been remodeled as a full bathroom. A related alteration in Room 205 indicates that the bathroom was installed about the same time as the plumbing improvements. Paint evidence suggests that the closet in the northeast corner of Room 205 was added in the early-twentieth century. When that closet was installed, a partition separating the closet and Room 206 was constructed. The doorway to the closet is shown in a circa-1918 photograph (fig. 60), and both the closet and new bathroom are depicted in the 1954 plans. The physical and documentary evidence suggests that they were constructed circa 1902.

It appears that the addition of a half-bathroom on the first floor (Room 109A) occurred later than other bathroom additions, probably in the 1920s. Room 109A was a small rectangular room constructed along the east wall of Room 109. The doorway to Room 109A was constructed with the typical casings and head, and the room was trimmed with the typical baseboard. The construction of Room 109A blocked off the doorway from Room 109 to Room 120. An oval window with a tilting sash was installed in the south wall of the Ell when the bathroom was constructed. The building records indicate that the bathroom was installed before 1930, and also document increased spending in 1925 and 1926, which may have been related to the bathroom installation as well as other projects. The exterior paint evidence on the oval window elements indicates that the window for the bathroom was installed circa 1920. Though no other documentation of the construction of Room 109A was found, the associated oval window is depicted in a 1931 photograph (fig. 35). It therefore appears from the records and the paint evidence that the half-bathroom was built around 1925.

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174 “Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, Historical Record, Building No. 1,” June 30, 1930; SPAR Museum Collection.
176 Ibid., 106.
Few changes appear to have been made to the first story since 1954, based on a review of the 1954 plans and the current configuration of the building. Likewise the second-floor plan was indicative of the present layout, but with some minor alterations and additions.

What appears most evident in the 1954 second-story plan are the changes to the bathrooms since the 1876 plan, which were previously discussed. These include the alteration of the partition between Rooms 205A and 204A, the addition of the northeast closet in Room 205, and alterations of Room 208.

Room 209 had also been altered in the early twentieth century. The 1954 plan shows that the staircase to Room 207 had been eliminated and a hallway closet installed. The doorway in Room 207 (D212) was left intact, but appears to be blocked off in the 1954 plan. These changes may have coincided with the bathroom alterations; the physical evidence was inconclusive. The hallway closet has since been removed and a new staircase to Room 207 constructed prior to 1978.

**Flooring**

Decorative wood flooring in Rooms 102, 107, and 108 appears to survive from the construction of the building; the wood floor in Room 106 was apparently altered when the bay window was added in 1873. Other flooring in the first and second stories, such as the Parlors, has a thin veneer that appears to have been a later alteration. The difference between the parquet and wood strip flooring in the Parlors and the decorative wood flooring in Rooms 102, 107, and 108 was one indication that changes had been made to the Parlor floors. The replacement of the flooring in the both Parlors (Rooms 103 and 104) was further evident from the covered hot-air vent in Room 104. The 1876 plans suggest that the air vent had been abandoned by that time, because the plan showed the heating register in the fireplace. However, there was no documentation to confirm that the floors were changed at that time. Interior photographs from circa 1918 show the existing wood floors in both the first and second stories of the building. The photographic evidence therefore suggests that the flooring changes took place before 1918. No earlier documentation of the flooring alterations has been found.

**Doorways**

The new double-leaf “French window” installed in the north wall of Room 105 was documented in a 1907 drawing (fig. 36). The opening retained the interior trim of the former window. The doorway from Room 105 to Room 102 was trimmed with elements matching the doorway casings and heads in Room 102. Paint analysis indicates that the new doorway on the north wall of Room 105 was altered at the same time as the construction of the wide doorway between the Center Hallway and Room 105, suggesting that both alterations were made in 1907.

The 1876 plan depicts five doorways in the Dining Room (Room 106). A plan of the Dining Room in 1914 indicates that several of the doors were blocked off in the early-twentieth century (fig. 50). The doorway between Room 105 and the Dining Room was blocked off when Room 105 was altered in 1907. The doorway between the Dining Room and Room 110 was also closed off during this period, which was evident in historic photographs and the 1914 plans. The plans indicate that cabinets were installed in both of these former doorways prior to 1914 (see subsequent section “Built-ins”).
Also evident in the 1914 plan of the Dining Room is the doorway to the side hallway (Room 107) that had been closed off. In one of the circa-1918 photographs of the Dining Room there appears to be no evidence of the former doorway (fig. 55). Presently the doorway is not discernible in the Dining Room, but is evident in the small closet in Room 107. The documentary evidence indicates that this was done before 1914, and it seems possible that the doorway was closed off when other alterations were made to Rooms 105 and 106 in 1907. The previous paint study and current analysis determined that the small closet in Room 107 that enclosed the former doorway appears to have been added at the same time.\textsuperscript{177}

The circa-1918 photographs of the Center Hallway (Room 102) and the front Parlor (Room 103) show that the doors had been removed from the doorways between the hallway and both Parlors (figs. 51 and 52). It is also apparent that the sliding doors in the double doorway between the Parlors had been removed. At the time of the photograph the pockets for the sliding doors had been covered with trim boards. It is not known exactly when the doors were removed, but the section of floor in the doorway between the Parlors did not have tracks for the sliding doors. The physical evidence therefore indicates that the tracks and sliding doors were removed when the floor was installed. That alteration was earlier than circa 1918. It was not possible to date this change with any more specificity based on the documentary and physical evidence.

Another alteration that appears to date from the same period was the installation of a doorway between Rooms 109 and 120. This would have improved circulation between the Main Block and the Ell. The new opening may have been installed when the circulation from the Dining Room was changed by the elimination of two doorways previously discussed. The doorway was not shown in the 1876 plans, and paint evidence on the extant casing in Room 120 suggests it was installed in the early-twentieth century. The doorway has since been closed off.

\textit{Windows}

The circa-1918 photographs of the interior document the interior appearance of the window casings, which appear to be original based on the paint. Twentieth-century additions include an oval window and dormer windows (see previous section “Exterior, Windows”).

The oval window, located in Room 109A, was installed circa 1925. It had tilting oval sash and was trimmed with a flat casing.

Dormers were added to the building circa 1918. They were constructed for Room 305. Openings in the ceiling for the dormers may have been enlarged from the earlier skylights when the dormers were installed. Double-hung, two-over-two window sashes were trimmed with flat casings. The interior walls of the dormers were finished with tongue-and-groove bead-board. Plain trim was installed around the dormer openings in the ceiling of Room 305.

\textsuperscript{177} Paint and Mortar Analysis, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, 62.
Built-ins

The 1914 plan of the Dining Room (Room 106), as well as the circa-1918 interior photographs of the room depict china cabinets in place of two former doorways and base cabinets within the bay window (figs. 50, 55, and 56). The china cabinets were installed in the doorway between the Dining Room and Room 105 and in the former doorway to Room 110. These cabinets were set within the existing doorways and had two single-panel doors at the base and two leaded-glass doors in the top half of the cabinet. The base cabinets within the bay window were framed with wood and had leaded-glass doors below a knee-high shelf. The cabinets were first documented in 1914 but could have been installed as early as 1907, when other alterations were made to the Dining Room. The china cabinets remain today, but the base cabinets have been removed.

In Room 110, base cabinets and glass-door upper cabinets were installed on the west wall. This change may have also taken place when the doorway to the Dining Room was closed off between 1907 and 1914. The installation of cabinets made Room 110 an extension of the new pantry, as well as a circulation hallway to the Ell.

In the second-story Center Hallway (Room 201), glass-door cabinets were installed on the north, south and west walls. The cabinets on the north and south walls were matching and were composed of three units each with a set of double-leaf glazed doors. The center unit was taller and the front of the unit projected beyond the plane of the two flanking units. The cabinet on the west wall was constructed as a single unit with three glazed doors. A corner of the west wall cabinet is visible in one of the circa-1918 interior photographs (fig. 58). Review of the previous paint study suggests that the cabinets were installed near the time of the photographs, circa 1918.

Fireplaces

Paint analysis indicates that the extant fireplace mantelpiece and paneling in the Dining Room was installed at the same time as the china cabinets. Comparison of paint samples from the base of the Dining Room cabinet and the paneling and scroll work on the mantelpiece found similar paint layering, suggesting that these elements were installed at the same time. Documentation indicates this was between 1907 and 1914.

Paint analysis further indicates that all of the first-story fireplace mantelpieces were altered at the same time. The list of materials for constructing the building in 1845 suggests that the hearths and mantelpieces were constructed of marble. The circa-1918 interior photographs clearly depict the two parlors with ornamental mantelpieces, portions of which remain today (figs. 52, and 53). These had narrow fluted columns, decorative mantel shelves, and mirrored overmantels suggestive of the Colonial Revival style. The fireplace elements in the Dining Room and Library were constructed with similar decorative details. Comparison of paint samples from all four fireplace mantelpieces determined that they had a similar number of paint layers. Though it is possible the rooms were not painted at the same time, this seems unlikely. Based on the additional evidence of the Dining Room, the time period was narrowed to between 1907 and 1914. When the interiors were photographed circa 1918, the first-story fireplace mantelpieces had been recently altered.
Building Systems

Plumbing

The early-twentieth-century changes to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters included upgrading some of the building systems. The records of the Springfield Water Department indicate that the spring-water system was abandoned and the quarters switched to a municipal water supply in July 1902. It seems likely that the municipal sewer lines to the quarters were also installed about that same time. The records reviewed did discuss problems with the sewer lines in 1904. A plan of the site prepared in May 1904 depicts both public sewer and water lines leading to the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Suggesting that they were installed prior to that date and probably at the same time the water supply was switched in 1902.

The plumbing fixtures were most likely updated and second-story bathrooms added when the water and sewer utilities were upgraded circa 1902. At that time the first-story bathroom (Room 116) was probably still equipped with the original fixtures and was possibly updated. Records and plans indicated that the plumbing fixtures have been changed since the circa-1902 upgrade, which made the conjecture of the earlier changes more difficult. However, the physical evidence indicates that the changes to the second-story bathrooms were made in the early-twentieth century.

The original second-story bathrooms (Room 208 and 214) were also probably altered at the time plumbing was improved circa 1902. In addition three more second story bathrooms (Rooms 203, 205A, and 206) appear to have been added during this time, as previously described. The 1876 plans depict Room 214 with a water closet, and a sink with a bathtub in an adjoining closet that was also accessible from Room 215. The adjoining closet was later blocked off from Room 214, which was first documented in 1954 plans of the building (fig. 49). Paint analysis indicates that the wainscoting on the south wall of Room 214 that covered the opening to the adjoining closet was installed in the late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century. Documentation of the plumbing changes in 1902 suggests that the bathroom was also altered at the same time. The evidence also indicates that the extant claw-foot bathtub in Room 214 was installed circa 1902, when the wainscoting was installed and the bathroom was updated.

Room 208 was the other original second-story bathroom depicted in the 1876 plans. At that time the bathroom had a water closet and a bathtub. Since then, Room 208 has been extensively altered. Based on comparison of the 1876 plan and the 1954 plans the alterations to Room 208 included moving the doorway to the southeast corner of the room, making the floor level with the second story of the Ell, and eliminating the doorway from Room 207 to Room 208. The circa-1918 photographs of Room 207 indicated that the doorway to Room 208 was closed off by that time (figs. 61 and 62). Due to the removal of bathroom fixtures and the installation of tiling that is covering physical evidence, other changes were more difficult.

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178 City of Springfield, Massachusetts, Water Department, “Preliminary estimates for use of city water,” General Correspondence, 1900-1915, Box 5, Entry 1367, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
179 September 1904, General Correspondence, 1900-1915, Box 5, Entry 1367, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
180 “Plan of Main Grounds of Springfield Armory,” May 2, 1904, Ordnance Department; Perrault and research file, copy at SPAR Museum Collection.
to specifically date prior to documentation in 1954. However, it does seem likely that most of the bathroom alterations coincided with the improvements to the plumbing.

Building records document the upgrading of some bathroom fixtures in the 1930s and early 1940s. The documents also record the installation of new hot water heaters and changes to the electrical system. The system and utility upgrades appear to have been routine; there were apparently no other significant alterations during this period.

Electrical

In August 1903, General Electric Company was contracted to provide a generator, switchboard, and other components for an electric light plant at the Armory. Though the contract did not specifically mention the Commanding Officer's Quarters, a contract in 1913 specified that the wires from pole number 13 to Quarters No. 1 be changed to one pair of copper, rubber coated. That contract indicates that wiring already existed to the building, which may have been installed in 1903 when the electric light plant was built. Interior photographs from circa 1918 depict electric lights and provide the most reliable documentation of the early electric lighting for the building. As mentioned in the previous section, routine upgrades were also made to the electrical system in the 1930s and early 1940s.

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181 "Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, Historical Record, Chronological Building No. 1," June 1933 through June 1942; SPAR Museum Collection.
Figure 47. "Basement Plan" of Commanding Officer's Quarters, 1954.
Figure 48. "First Floor Plan" of Commanding Officer's Quarters, 1954.
Figure 49. "Second Floor Plan" of Commanding Officer's Quarters, 1954.
Figure 50. “Plan of Dining Room, Quarters No. 1. J.N.G. 1-19-14,” showing early-twentieth-century alterations and china cabinets, January 1914.
Figure 51. Room 102, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 52. Room 103, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.
Figure 53. Room 104, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 54. Room 108, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.
Figure 55. Room 106, Commanding Officer's Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 56. Room 106, Commanding Officer's Quarters, circa 1918.
Figure 57. Room 204, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 58. Room 204, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.
Figure 59. Room 205, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 60. Room 205, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.
Figure 61. Room 207, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.

Figure 62. Room 207, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1918.
National Park Service Alterations

Exterior

The National Park Service (NPS) has preserved and maintained the Commanding Officer’s Quarters since the establishment of Springfield National Historic Site in 1974. Construction projects at the site have been focused on repairing existing elements and rehabilitating the building.

Several reports generated by NPS in the 1970s and 1980s contributed to the understanding of the site and buildings. These included Historic Structure Report, Historical Data and Historical Base Map, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts, written by John Albright in 1978 and the 1984 Historic Structure Report, Architectural Data Section by Robert L. Carper and Richard G. Turk. Carper and Turk’s report provided a comprehensive view of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters and included the 1978 drawings by Peter Dessauer. These and more specific studies helped guide the rehabilitation of the building.

The most extensive exterior rehabilitation was performed in 1980 through 1981. Contract documents and project photographs recorded repairs to the foundations, walls, and roofing materials, as well as other minor repairs. The brownstone foundations and brick walls were extensively repointed using mortars specified for that project. The records indicate that the roofs on the Main Block and Ell were repaired: deteriorated roof sheathing was replaced, broken and missing slates were replaced, copper roof panels were re-soldered, lightning rods were installed on the southeast chimney, and the copper-lined gutters were repaired. In addition, touch-up painting was performed on the porch elements and repairs were made to some of the windows. Project photographs depict roof framing repairs, new copper step flashing and lead flashing on the skylights, repairs to the copper roofing, and new flat seam roofing on the two dormers. The rehabilitation project included repairs to a deteriorated section of the porch floor near the southwest corner of the Main Block porch.

Maintenance of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters has been ongoing since the 1980–81 project and may have included some minor repairs. However, no significant rehabilitation or repair work has been performed on the exterior since 1981.

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Figure 63. Commanding Officer’s Quarters looking southwest, depicting 1980 repairs to roofs and chimneys.

Figure 64. “Bldg 1–East eave, Main roof: Cornice stone, brick gutter backing/firestops, rafters, sheathing. Note new press[ure] treated snowrail stanchion anchor blocking, gutter apron beyond. 7/1/80” (handwritten on back of photograph).
Interior

Interior construction projects have been undertaken by NPS in order to preserve the house through rehabilitation and reuse. Most projects were concerned with routine maintenance, and minor repairs. The previously cited reports helped guide the interior rehabilitation projects and the 1978 plans provided baseline documentation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

There have been no significant interior alterations since the establishment of the Springfield Armory NHS in 1974. Twentieth-century changes to the floors, walls, and ceilings were documented in the 1984 HSR and in the subsequent section “Current Physical Description.” In 1977 all of the first-story floors in the Main Block, except Room 101, were covered with carpeting. Some of the second-story rooms were also carpeted around this same time (see subsequent section “Current Physical Description”). Many of the interior wall surfaces were painted in 1977, and a contract for additional interior painting and minor repairs was completed in 1985. In some first-story rooms the earlier layers of wallpaper and paint were kept beneath the more recent paint applications. Acoustical tiles have been installed on some of the ceilings, and while some retain the earlier plaster finishes. Decorative ceiling medallions that were shown in the circa-1918 photographs have either been removed or covered with modern materials.

The 1978 first-floor plan depicts a temporary partition between the Center Hallway (Room 102) and the Staircase Hallway (Room 107). It was not known when the partition was built, but it has since been removed. The plaster soffit spanning the opening between Room 102 and Room 107 has been repaired with plaster.

The contract files for the Commanding Officer’s Quarters document upgrades to the heating and electrical systems in the 1980s. It seems likely that the basement partition separating Rooms B09 and B09A dates to the installation of the new heating system in 1981 and 1982. The addition of surface-mounted electrical conduit and outlet boxes within the window bays of the first story was probably done during electrical upgrades from 1982 through 1983. Other electrical upgrades included the addition of fluorescent ceiling fixtures throughout the building, and more recently the addition modern lighting in the double Parlors in 1997.

A fire and intrusion alarm system was added in 1985. Components include a main panel in the small closet of Room 107, ceiling smoke detectors, and motion sensors in most of the rooms.

Interior storm sashes have been added to the windows to improve energy efficiency. The basement windows are covered with Plexiglas for insulating purposes. Interior storm sashes in the upper-stories have double-pane glass within aluminum frames custom-fitted to the

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185 Carper and Turk, 86–96.
186 Ibid.
188 Springfield Armory National Historic Site, contract No. CX-1600-15-9005, July 30, 1982; Quarters No. 1 Project Files, SPAR Museum Collection.
189 Springfield Armory National Historic Site, contract No. CX-16002-9001, 1982; Quarters No. 1 Project Files, SPAR Museum Collection.
windows. These interior storm sashes preserved the exterior appearance of the windows, but hindered the operation of the interior shutters.

Some bathroom alterations were evident by a comparison of the 1954 and 1978 plans. The changes were primarily related to upgrades of the plumbing fixtures. Shower stalls were added to the small closet adjoining Room 203 and the closet next to Room 206. Few substantive changes have been made to the bathrooms since 1978 (see subsequent section “Current Physical Description”).

Changes to some of the door hardware are evident based on physical clues, such as scars of the earlier hinges on the door jambs. However, the extent and the timing of these changes are unclear. Paint samples indicate that the doorway casings and doors were contemporary, which eliminates the possibility of the doors being replaced. It is possible that the hinges were replaced, but the evidence is inconclusive. These changes do not have a significant impact on the historic appearance of the building.

Other alterations to the interior are related to maintenance and minor repairs by contractors and NPS personnel. Among these were minor repairs to the plaster, which were completed in a traditional three-coat system. Some of these repairs were performed by volunteer craftsmen, supervised by park staff. Carpeting in the first-story rooms of the Main Block was removed in 2001 and 2002, exposing historic flooring (fig. 65).190 Most recent projects have reversed some of the twentieth-century alterations in efforts to rehabilitate the building.

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190 Interview with James Roberts, Museum Curator Supervisor, Springfield Armory NHS, June 11, 2008.
CURRENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

By Marilou Ehrler
INTRODUCTION

The Current Physical Description section of this Historic Structure Report has been developed to describe in detail the existing elements of the building. An assessment of the condition of these elements was specifically excluded from the scope of the project, but where dangerous and extensive deterioration was found, it has been noted.

This section is organized into two subsections: a description of the current physical exterior elements, and a description of the current physical interior elements. Each section begins with a general discussion of the overall design.

The description of the exterior is organized by element. For the interior, a detailed inventory of the interior spaces has been developed. The inventory is organized by story and by the area of the building, Main Block or Ell. Each room is identified by number and each element is described. Where necessary and appropriate, the descriptions have been supplemented by photographs and sketches.

General Description

Construction of the Commanding Officer's Quarters began in March 1845 and was completed in June 1847. As originally designed and as it currently exists, the house is a large, brick masonry structure with wood floor and roof framing. Designed to read as two separate parts, the three-bay symmetry of the decorated two-story main building block, or Main Block, with its hipped slate roof and cupola, is in contrast to the two-story Ell, which extends out to the east. The Ell is smaller in scale, unsymmetrical, unadorned, and subordinate to the Main Block.

Despite alterations, such as the main entry door, porches, and cast-iron snow rails, the building has retained many details of the original classic Greek Revival design. Surviving exterior elements in the Greek Revival style include the bold simple design of the Main Block; pilasters, which frame each elevation and support the simple entablature above; pedimented brownstone lintels above the tall first-story windows; the strong, simple moldings of the projecting brownstone cornice; and the transoms and sidelights, which remain at the Ell entrances. Greek Revival details are also exhibited within the interior. At the first-story entrance, plaster pilasters with Doric capitals support a simple architrave with guttae; the doorway and window casings in the Main Block have articulated pilaster jambs; and in the Main Block as well as the Ell, the heads of the casings are pedimented, and the pediment details are carried through to the details of the fireplaces.

Although alterations detract from the original Greek Revival design, they do not compromise the integrity of the structure. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters retains a high degree of integrity. The building has integrity of location, having never been moved. The exterior has integrity of design, material, feeling, and setting; the interior has integrity of design, material, and workmanship.
EXTERIOR ELEMENTS

Design

The original two-part design with a decorated Main Block and a simpler Ell, extending to the east at a right angle to the Main Block, remains evident today.

The Main Block faces south and is almost square, measuring 47 feet 5½ inches wide (north–south) and 53 feet 5½ inches long (east–west). The walls are constructed of red brick in running bond with projecting end pilasters supporting a full entablature. The entablature includes a projecting three-part brick architrave with a flat unadorned base (five courses of brick) capped by two brick corbels, each two brick courses high, with a plain brick frieze, six to seven courses tall, all capped by a brownstone cornice with built-in gutter. A simple cyma-recta wooden bed molding provides the transition from the brick frieze to the projecting brownstone cornice. The two-part cornice has a flat corona with drip edge at the soffit, and a cymatium. The profile detail of the cymatium has been covered by the gutter flashing and is not visible. Above the cornice, a hipped slate roof rises and is capped by a one-story brick cupola with a simplified entablature of projecting brick courses and a low-pitched hipped roof. Four brick chimneys surrounding the cupola at all four corners.

With the exception of the east elevation of the Main Block, elevations are all symmetrical with three bays. The east elevation is mostly covered by the attached Ell. The original symmetry of the north elevation has also been altered by the installation of a bay window.

To the east the lower rectangular wing, the Ell, is devoid of decoration except for the brownstone cornice, windowsills and lintels, and the water table. The running bond red-brick unadorned walls are capped by a simple projecting brownstone cornice; the brownstone foundation forms a water table at the first floor. The two-part cornice has a flat corona with drip edge at the soffit, and a cymatium. As on the Main Block, the details of the cymatium, if any, have been covered by the gutter flashing and are not visible. This elevation is also without a bed transition molding between the flat brick walls and projecting cornice. In contrast to the symmetrical elevations of the Main Block, the Ell elevations are not symmetrical.

Although the exterior has undergone some significant changes including construction of the porches, alteration of the main entrance, and the addition of snow rails at the roof, the exterior maintains a high degree of integrity. The exterior retains integrity of design, material, feeling, and setting; the form of the original two-part design remains evident; the significant materials, including the brick walls and brick and brownstone detailing, remain intact; and the strength of the building and its details has been maintained. Finally the building, which is set apart from the others on the site, continues to read as a significant structure within the setting of the original armory site.

A detailed description of each element of the exterior of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters follows.
Foundation

The foundation is of brownstone ashlar with a brownstone water table. The top edge of the foundation is chamfered and forms a water table, which projects beyond the face of the brick walls above. According to documentation, the brownstone is from the Longmeadow Quarry in nearby Longmeadow, Massachusetts. This quarry is no longer active.

Walls

The Main Block has two primary stories, set upon the raised brownstone foundation. The first story is taller than the second story above. All of the elevations are constructed in red brick in running bond. Projecting end pilasters support projecting brick entablatures with brownstone cornices above. On the east elevation, the north-end pilaster is cut off by the Ell. The pilasters project one brick depth out beyond the face of the wall.

The main entry in the south façade of the Main Block is three bays with a central entrance (fig. 66). This entry has an ornamental wooden casing with a pedimented head and engaged Doric pilaster jambs (fig. 68). In the first story projecting brick pilasters frame the windows and support pedimented brownstone lintels. In the second story the windows are set into the masonry and have brownstone sills and horizontal brownstone lintels. A one-story porch runs the width of the façade, extending beyond the west elevation (figs. 66 and 70). At each end, mounted to the face of the brick pilasters, are fluted metal leaders connecting with the brownstone cornice with built-in gutter.

The west elevation of the Main Block is also three bays (fig. 70). In the first story the end bays are windows, while the center bay is a blind opening infilled with brick. A wooden bed molding serves as a transition between the infill and the brick casing; there is no evidence of a former sash. In the first story, projecting brick pilasters frame the windows and the blind opening, and support pedimented brownstone lintels. In the second story, the windows are set into the masonry and have brownstone sills and lintels. A one-story porch with a projecting bay in the southwest corner runs the full width of the elevation. Near the middle of the porch is a set of steps leading down to the grade. The steps have five brownstone treads with brownstone wing walls and wrought-iron handrails.

The north elevation of the Main Block is also three bays (figs. 71 and 72). Here the symmetry found on the south and west elevations has been altered. The three bays of the first story are all different. The two bays on the west end have brick pilaster casings with pedimented brownstone lintels. The western-most bay is a window with triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sashes. In the middle bay, a pair of multi-light wooden doors with a transom above is set within the opening. A surface-mounted floodlight is located in the center of the brick wall above the doors; surface-mounted conduit runs from the fixture down to the basement. The doors are accessed by a simple wooden stair supported by open decorative cast iron stringers (fig. 74). The eastern-most bay has been modified; the brick casing and brownstone lintel have been removed, and a projecting bay with a projecting brownstone foundation and simple wooden entablature, including cornice, covered by a metal hipped
roof has been installed in its place. The symmetry of the original three-bay design remains at the second story where the windows are set into the masonry and have brownstone sills and horizontal brownstone lintels. At each end, mounted on the face of the brick pilasters, painted fluted metal leaders run down from the brownstone cornice with built-in gutter above. At the west end a second round cast-iron leader with scupper also runs down the face of the pilaster.

Unlike the remaining elevations, the east elevation of the Main Block is not three bays, but is truncated by the Ell (figs. 77 and 78). There is a single bay on the first story, to the south of the Ell. It is decorated by a projecting brick pilaster and a single window set into the masonry. The window has brick pilasters and a brownstone pedimented lintel casing. To the north of the Ell, the main building block projects slightly beyond the Ell, where a portion of the projecting brick end pilaster is visible. The second story of the east elevation is a single bay, undecorated; here the projecting brick pilasters support the brick entablature and brownstone cornice with built-in gutter. All match the design of the other elevations.

The Ell is also two stories tall and constructed in red brick in a running bond. The first and second stories of the Ell are similar in height; the first story is not significantly taller than the second story. The Ell is undecorated; there are no pilasters or an entablature. Simple projecting brownstone cornices cap the brick walls; at the base the brownstone foundation forms a water table at the first-floor level.

The south, main entry façade of the Ell is six bays; the west bay adjacent to the main building block is larger than the remaining bays (fig. 77). On the first story, there is an entrance in this bay (fig. 80). The entry doorway is set into the masonry and has a pedimented brownstone lintel above. Adjacent to the entry between the first and second bays is an oval window. On the second story in the west bay, three window sashes are set within a single window with a single brownstone sill and pedimented lintel. The remaining bays on the first and second stories all have single windows set into the masonry with brownstone lintels and sills. A one-story porch with a staircase at the west end and a staircase at the east end, facing east, runs the length of the south façade.

The east elevation is two bays with a one-story porch running the width of the elevation (fig. 75). On the first story there is a single entrance doorway at the south end with a single window at the north. Both are set into the masonry façades and have flat brownstone lintels. The window has a brownstone sill. Between the first and second bays, closer to the window bay, there is a smaller access doorway with a brownstone lintel and sill. The door is of wood with two flat panels. At the second story, single windows are set into the masonry and have brownstone sills and horizontal brownstone lintels. At each end, mounted on the face of the masonry, painted fluted metal leaders run down from the brownstone cornice with built-in gutter above. At the south end a second round cast-iron vent pipe runs up to end above the cornice line.

The north elevation of the Ell is four bays unequally spaced across the elevation (fig. 72). Moving across the elevation from east to west, the rhythm of the elevation is as follows: single window bay, blank brick wall, single window bay, blank brick wall, and finally two single window bays. All of the windows on the first and second story are set into the masonry and have brownstone sills and horizontal brownstone lintels. On the first story there is a single entrance doorway in the second bay at the west end, nearer the Main Block. The entrance door has been enclosed. The enclosure has a gable roof, with a flat transom above. An
aluminum storm door with sidelights is set under the gable end. The entrance is accessible via brownstone-colored concrete steps and sidewalls. Just to the east of the first-story entry is a wooden structure with a gable roof and a pair of doors. The structure encloses the entrance to the basement below. At each end, mounted on the face of the masonry, painted fluted metal leaders run down from the brownstone cornice with built-in gutter above. At the east end is a surface-mounted painted fluted metal leader; adjacent to the leader is a surface-mounted floodlight.

**Doorways**

There are five exterior doorways in the Commanding Officer’s Quarters; two in the south façade, one in the east elevation, and three in the north elevation, one of which is a basement entrance.

The main entrance doorway is centered in the south façade of the Main Block with access from the front porch (fig. 68). The main doorway has a wooden door with six raised panels flanked by sidelights and a fanlight above. There is a doorknocker in the center of the paneled wood door. The sidelights have five leaded lights with alternating diamond and oval shapes above two raised panels. An elliptical fanlight with leaded glass is above the door. The door, sidelight, and fanlight are set within a decorated exterior wooden casing. The casing has engaged Doric pilasters that support a pedimented head with a cap molding. There are two lighting sconces, one on each pilaster. The pilasters do not have plinth blocks, but are set on top of the brownstone water table. The brownstone water table forms the bases for the pilasters and a sill at the door; there is a second brownstone threshold on top of the water table at the door. A wooden screen-and-storm door, with a single light above a paneled base, is on the exterior.

A second south-elevation entrance doorway to the first story is located in the west-end bay of the Ell with access from the Ell porch. The doorway has a wooden door with four raised panels. It is flanked by sidelights and has a horizontal transom (fig. 80). The sidelights have four lights above a single raised panel, and the transom has seven lights. There is also a later aluminum storm door. The wooden door, sidelights, and transom are set with the masonry; the opening has a pedimented brownstone lintel. The brownstone water table forms the sill at the door and is topped by a second brownstone threshold.

Located in the south bay of the east elevation of the Ell is a third, first-story entrance. Five well-worn, deteriorated, brownstone steps flanked on one side by a brownstone wall (the other side the brownstone porch foundation) lead up to the door (fig. 76). At the door the brownstone water table forms the sill and step; there is one final brownstone step into the door. The door is of wood with four raised panels. The doorway opening has a flat brownstone lintel. An aluminum storm door covers the entrance; exposed conduit is surface-mounted on both sides of the masonry opening and on the lintel.

There are three entrances in the north elevation. The entrance into the basement is located in the Ell. It is a wood-framed structure with a gable roof, projecting out from the plane of the elevation. To the west of the basement entrance, still in the Ell, is a fourth entrance to the first story. The entrance door has been enclosed. The enclosure has a gable roof, with a flat
transom above the aluminum storm door with sidelights. The entrance is accessible via brownstone colored concrete steps and sidewalls. The door into the first story is a wooden door with three raised panels, sidelights, and a horizontal transom. The third north elevation entrance is located in the center bay of the Main Block and leads to the first story. Here a pair of multi-light wooden doors with a transom above are set within a masonry opening. Brick pilasters flank the masonry opening and support a pedimented brownstone lintel above. Simple wooden stair treads supported by open cast iron stringers lead up to the doors. The stringers are hung from the brownstone foundation and rest at the bottom on concrete blocks that are set behind a single stone step (fig. 74).

Windows

The window sashes in the Commanding Officer’s Quarters are for the most part, of wood, double-hung, with varying light patterns. There are no surviving shutters.

The windows in the first story of the Main Block have triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three sashes with sills at the floor level. Flat stepped wooden exterior trim casings are set within the brick masonry casing. The window casings include projecting brick flat pilasters, which support pedimented brownstone lintels with simple cap moldings. Each opening has a brownstone sill formed by the foundation water table. Each window has six shutter pintles, all painted, and two black-painted cast-iron shutter dogs. The shutter dogs are set into the brownstone water table (fig. 69).

On the second story of the Main Block, the windows have double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes. Each window, set within the masonry, has a stepped flat wooden exterior casing and four shutter pintles. The windows have brownstone sills and horizontal brownstone lintels. The lintels are flush with the masonry; the sills project beyond the face of the masonry.

In the cupola, the windows have double-hung, one-over-one wooden sashes. They have flat stepped wooden exterior casings and are set within the masonry. The masonry openings are framed by brownstone sills and lintels. The lintels are flush with the masonry; the sills project beyond the face of the masonry.

With two exceptions on the south elevation, being the western-most window on the second story and the oval window on the first story, the windows in the Ell have all double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes. All have stepped flat wooden exterior casings and four shutter pintles. All are set within masonry openings that have rectangular brownstone lintels and sills. The lintels are flush with the masonry; the sills project beyond the face of the masonry. The western-most window on the second story of the south façade has three sets of sashes. The two outer sets of window sashes are double-hung, two-over-two wooden sashes; the center set has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes. They are separated by simple flat mullions and are set within a single masonry opening with a pedimented brownstone lintel and brownstone sill. The center window casing has four shutter pintles.
Porches

The Commanding Officer’s Quarters has three porches: one on the Main Block, which wraps from the south façade around to the west elevation; one on the south elevation of the Ell; and one on the east elevation of the Ell. All have low-pitched hipped roofs covered by flat seam metal; the metal appears to have been coated.

The primary south porch is a one-story porch that runs the width of the Main Block façade and turns north along the west elevation with an extension in the southwest corner (figs. 66 and 70). The porch is set on brownstone foundation piers. Between the piers is wooden lattice; the lattice is constructed from overlapping strips, set into a frame that is trimmed with a plain fascia board. The fascia board has a bead at the bottom edge and a transition molding between the fascia and the deck above. The porch has a painted wooden deck that extends over the top of the fascia board. On the west elevation, the end of the porch deck is finished with a nosing. The porch has painted cast-iron colonettes and railings around the perimeter. The colonettes sit on cast-iron bases with cast-iron octagonal plinth blocks. They have a molding near the top and cast-iron capitals. The colonettes are paired, and tripled at the corners, with circular moldings between the paired colonettes. The railing between the colonettes is decorated, with vertical members separating back-to-back S-shapes; where they meet, there is a circular medallion. The handrail continues as a molding around each colonette to divide the colonette into a base and shaft. The colonnade supports a decorated cast-iron frieze that sits on top of the colonette capitals below a wooden cornice. The porch has a painted bead-board ceiling with surface-mounted light fixtures. At the southwest corner, four eye-hooks, possibly from an earlier swing, are mounted to form a rectangle on the ceiling. The porch has a shed roof, hipped at the ends. At the west elevation, where it extends past the façade, there is a cross gable; the wooden cornice follows around to form a pediment with the gable end. An aluminum gutter hangs from the edge of the roof with painted metal leaders located between some of the colonette pairs. On the south side five brownstone steps, with brownstone sidewalls and black metal railings, lead to the porch and front doorway. On the west elevation five cast-concrete steps with concrete side walls and black metal railings lead to the west side of the porch.

The porch on the south façade of the Ell is similar to the main porch (fig. 77). It is single-story and runs the length of the Ell. The porch is set on brownstone foundation piers with wooden lattice between the piers. The lattice is set into a frame; the strips are let one into the other, not overlapping. A fascia board runs along the top of the lattice. The fascia board has a bead at the bottom edge and a transition molding between the fascia and the deck above. The porch has a painted wooden deck that extends over the top of the fascia board. The porch has painted cast-iron colonettes similar to the main porch with circular moldings between the paired colonettes, but with no railing. Here the paired colonettes support a wooden entablature and cornice. The porch has painted bead-board ceiling and a shed roof, hipped at the east end. An aluminum gutter hangs from the edge of the roof, and painted metal leaders are located between some of the colonette pairs. At the west end of the porch four brownstone risers, with a brownstone sidewall on the east and main building foundation on the west side, lead to the porch and the south Ell doorway. At the east end of the porch are five wooden steps with open risers and a black metal handrail.

The east porch is again single-story and runs the width of the elevation (fig. 75). At the south end, a brownstone wall and steps form the edge of the porch. Masonry piers encased in
wood support the porch; all are painted gray. Wooden lattice spans between the piers. A wooden frame is set on top of the lattice, which is constructed of overlapping wooden strips. The wooden porch deck extends over the top of the fascia board below. The fascia board has a bead at the bottom edge. On this porch, single wooden columns with Doric capitals support a hipped roof. The deck is painted wood, the ceiling is painted bead-board, and the railing is of wood with square balusters. There is a single surface-mounted light fixture on the ceiling that is connected to surface-mounted conduit which runs down the face of the masonry.

**Roofs and Related Elements**

The roof of the Main Block is a single hipped style with a center ridge running east to west. It is covered with slate shingles of medium-gray color, which are not original to the building. Snow guards installed circa 1880 have three horizontal rails and decorated vertical support posts, set approximately 4 feet on center, and decorate all elevations (fig. 67). The snow guards are located just above the projecting cornice. The hipped roof is decorated by skylights, dormers, chimneys, a single laylight, and a central cupola. Set on the ridge, in the center of the Main Block, the cupola is single-story and has a hipped roof (fig. 67). There are nine two-light skylights: three on the south and west elevations, two on the north elevation, and one on the east elevation. There are two dormer windows with slate sides and low hipped or clipped gable roofs; one is located on at the east end of the north elevation and one at the north end of the east elevation (fig. 73). The single laylight is in the center of the east elevation.

The Ell has a single gable roof with the ridge running east to west. The gable is clipped or hipped at the east end and is of medium-gray slate. Snow guards similar to the snow guards on the Main Block roof are set at the eaves just above the projecting brownstone gutters.

**Chimneys**

There are five red brick chimneys, each with two rows of projecting corbelled bricks forming a cap. Four are located on the Main Block and are set in a square, just off each corner of the cupola. The fifth brick chimney is located in the center of the Ell. Some of the chimneys, but not all, have lightning rods. The rods and cable are surface mounted on the face of the chimneys.
Figure 66. Commanding Officer’s Quarters south façade, 2009.

Figure 67. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, cupola, west elevation, also depicting slate roof, skylights, and snow rails, 2009.
Figure 68. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, south façade, entrance doorway, 2008.

Figure 69. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, first-story window, depicting shutter dogs set into brownstone water table, 2008.
Figure 70. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, west elevation, 2009.

Figure 71. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, west and north elevations, and north elevation of Ell, 2009.
Figure 72. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block and Ell, north elevation, 2009.

Figure 73. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, typical dormer (W301), north and west elevations, 2008.

Figure 74. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, north elevation, steps to D129, 2008.
Figure 75. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Ell, east elevation, 2008.

Figure 76. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Ell, east elevation, deteriorated brownstone steps leading to D116, 2008.
Figure 77. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block and Ell, south and east elevations, 2009.

Figure 78. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, east elevation, 2008.
Figure 79. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Main Block, cornice and brownstone gutter, 2008.

Figure 80. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Ell, south elevation, brownstone steps and entrance doorway at D124, 2008.
INTERIOR ELEMENTS

Design

The two-part design featuring a decorated Main Block with a simpler Ell to the east, evident on the exterior of the building, continues on the interior. The Ell is smaller in scale, unadorned, and less prominent than the Main Block. The overall plan is followed through in the use of the spaces and the details. The first story of the Main Block houses the public greeting rooms including parlors and dining room. The second story houses bedrooms, each with a fireplace and a private bath. The first story of the Ell houses utility and service rooms such as the kitchen and storage areas. The second story of the Ell houses bedrooms, some with fireplaces, and hall baths.

The primary role of the Main Block and the subordinate role of the Ell are exhibited in the details. In the Main Block the doorway and window casings are complex, paneled pilasters supporting stepped-pedimented heads with profiled crown moldings (fig. 81). In the Ell the casings have simple flat jambs that support flat pedimented heads with simple “ovolo” cap moldings (fig. 82).

This distinction in the details continues through to the fireplace mantelpieces. On the first story of the Main Block, the fireplace mantelpieces have detailed overmantels (figs. 83 and 84). On the second story, mantelpieces are marble with distinguishable pilasters, architraves, and pedimented fireboxes and crowns (fig. 85). The fireplaces in the second story of the Ell have simple flat, unadorned marble mantelpieces (fig. 86).

There are five staircases in the building. One staircase leads from the first story to the basement, and one from the second story to the attic; both are simple wooden staircases enclosed by walls on both sides; both are located in the Ell. The details of the remaining three staircases are similar. The primary staircase in the Main Block is an open-stringer, bracketed wooden stair, with turned wooden balusters and a turned newel post at the first story (fig. 87a). The stair runs from the first story to the attic. The second stair is located in the Ell. It is an open-stringer wooden stair, with turned wooden balusters and a turned newel post at the bottom (fig. 87b). This stair runs from the first to the second story only. The last stair, which is also located in the Main Block, connects the attic to the cupola. Again this stair is an open-stringer stair with turned-wood balusters and a turned newel post at the bottom (fig. 87c). The turned wooden balusters from each staircase are similar. Each baluster has two sets of moldings creating a base and a shaft. The base on the staircase to the cupola is elongated, and the spacing between the moldings is greater; the balusters sit directly on the finish flooring without a base (fig. 88c). The balusters on the main stair have square bases; the balusters on the stair in the Ell have round bases (figs. 88a and 88b). The newel posts are also similar to one another but vary (figs. 87a–87c). The newel post at the base of the Ell stair is very similar in detail to the newel post of the primary stair but has an additional ring of moldings. The primary stair newel post is slightly bolder, simplified, and larger in scale than the newel post in the Ell. The newel post at the base of the cupola stair is similar to the others, but the cap appears to have been modified. On this stair a knob sits on top of a block,
which sits on the newel post. At the other stairs the handrail forms the top of the newel posts; there is no additional block or knob.

Like the exterior, the interior of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters has undergone changes, such as modification and replacement of doors; installation of interior storm sash over the window sash; installation of bathrooms; and changes to the electrical and mechanical systems, including the installation of lighting. These changes, although more numerous, do not detract from the overall integrity of the structure. The interior of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters has integrity of design, material, and workmanship. The overall two-part design, with the distinctive center-hall plan of the Main Block, and the railroad-type layout of the Ell, remains; so too does the prominence of the details in the Main Block compared with the lesser details in the Ell. With few exceptions (such as the installation of the electric lighting for the office use and the removal of some plaster ceilings), the materials evoke the building’s period of significance: wood and marble mantelpieces, patterned wood floors, plaster crown moldings, plaster window and doorway casings, and the staircase detailing. The workmanship of the plaster detailing, the wood plank flooring, and the plaster crown moldings contributes to the integrity of the interior.

A detailed inventory of the interior spaces follows. The inventory is organized by story and by the area of the building, Main Block and Ell. Each room is identified by number, and each element is described. An introductory paragraph begins each story section. The paragraph outlines the general layout, use, details, and specialties of each story.
Figure 81. Main Block, typical doorway and window casing with articulated pilaster jambs, stepped-pedimented head, and crown molding.

Figure 82. Ell, typical doorway and window casing with flat jambs, pedimented head, and cap molding.
Figure 83. First story, Main Block, Room 108 fireplace mantelpiece, 2008.

Figure 84. First story, Main Block, Room 106 fireplace mantelpiece with overmantel, 2008.

Figure 85. Second story, Main Block, Room 202, typical fireplace mantelpiece, 2008.

Figure 86. Second story, Ell, Room 212, typical fireplace mantelpiece, 2008.
Figure 87a. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, first story, Main Block staircase newel post, 2008.

Figure 87b. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, first story, Ell staircase newel post, 2008.

Figure 87c. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, attic staircase newel post, 2008.

Figure 88a. First story, Main Block, staircase balusters at intermediate landing, 2008.

Figure 88b. Second story, Ell, staircase balusters in Room 210, 2008.

Figure 88c. Cupola, staircase balusters in Room 400, 2008.
Figure 89. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, basement floor plan with room numbers, and doorway and window numbers assigned for current project.
**Basement**

*General Description*

The basement is predominantly unfinished or minimally finished and houses numerous generations of building system installations. In contrast to the upper stories, there is little distinction between the finishes in the Main Block and the Ell. The rooms in the Main Block are laid out around a short hall, Room B06. In the Ell the rooms are railroad style, one connecting through to the next, with no hall (fig 89). Exterior and interior walls are predominantly brick; the floors are brick or wood planks on sleepers set on top of the brick; the ceilings are exposed first-floor wood framing and flooring. The basement windows have double-hung, three-over-three or four-over-four wooden sashes. The doors are predominantly of wood with four raised panels, with box locks (fig. 92). The box locks are of two different designs: one articulated, one flat (figs. 90 and 91). A few of the doors are metal, paneled doors. There is one twelve-light door with two panels below (fig. 93).

*Main Block Basement Elements*

**Room B01A**

Room B01A has a rectangular plan with a barrel-vaulted ceiling below the entry porch and a single doorway in the center of the north wall.

**Floor:** The floor is brick with a coating of concrete. Three brownstone steps lead down from the main basement level to B01A at door D17A.

**Walls:** The walls have a brownstone-rubble base with mortar, brick above. The walls adjacent to the doorway are brick.

**Ceilings:** Room B01A has a brick barrel-vaulted ceiling with parging (fig. 94). Two octagonal openings, located on either side of D17A, are set into the center of the vault; both have rusted metal covers. Two courses of brownstone are set on top of the brick arch to support the covers (fig. 95).

**Doorways:** D17A, a metal flat four-panel door with a surface latch and round knobs, is hung on a pair of short three-knuckle strap hinges surface-mounted on the Room B01 face of the door. The metal door is fabricated with visible metal connectors. The casing is flat metal without detail or profile.

**Room B01**

Room B01 has a rectangular plan with doorways in the south and east elevations. An access doorway to mechanical area is set into the north wall.
Floor: The floor is red brick laid in a running-bond pattern, east to west.

Walls: The walls are red brick with remnants of a painted finish.

Ceilings: The ceilings are brick, barrel-vaulted, running east to west.

Doorway: D17 is a metal door with four flat panels, with a mortised lock and round knobs, hung on a single pair of three-knuckle hinges. The metal door is fabricated with visible metal connectors. The casing is metal, without detail or profile.

Room B02

Room B02 has a rectangular plan with a doorway in the center of the north wall, a window in the center of the south wall, and a doorway at the north end of the east wall.

Floor: The tongue-and-groove finished wood-plank floor runs north to south. Patches in the floor are evident. The floorboards are wider at the west side and at the patches. An access door to a mechanical tunnel below, constructed of finished wood floor planks, is located in the center of the room.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is gypsum board, painted, with a smoke detector in the center.

Windows: W001 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The window has a double-hung, four-over-four wooden sash. The interior of the window is covered with a paper film.

Doorways: D12 is located in the center of the north wall, with the doorway opening to Room B03. The door is of wood with four raised panels and a cast box lock. The box lock is flat, unarticulated, and has wooden knobs on both sides. The lock keeper is painted. A ghost of a previous larger lock is evident. The door is hung on a single pair of five-knuckle hinges. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

D13 is a masonry opening with a casing only; there is no door. A keeper for a box lock remains in the south jamb. One three-knuckle hinge remains on north jamb. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

Room B03

Room B03 has a rectangular plan with a single window in the center of the north wall, a single doorway in the center of the south wall, and a doorway at the south end of the east wall.

Floor: The finished floor is wood plank running north to south at the east and west ends. At the center of the room, the floor is brick, laid in a running bond, east to west.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.
Ceiling: The ceiling is gypsum board, painted, with a smoke detector in the center. A floor grille from the room above is visible near the east wall just north of D11 adjacent to the fireplace foundation. The floor grille has been blocked up.

Windows: W015 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The wooden sashes are double-hung, four-over-four, with a flat casing and an interior Plexiglas storm. There is a sash lock at the meeting rail.

Doorways: D11 is located at the south end of the east wall and leads to Room B04. The door is of wood with four raised panels and a cast box lock. The box lock is flat, unarticulated, and has wooden knobs on both sides. A ghost of an earlier lock is evident on the south stile. The door is hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

Built-ins: A wooden storage rack for doors, constructed from nominal wood framing members, is located along the east wall. Two wood shelves are mounted on the west wall.

Room B04

Room B04 has a rectangular plan with a brick rectangular structure, possibly a former boiler, in the center. Two doorways are set into the west wall; one doorway is set into the east wall; and a single window is located in the center of the north wall.

Floor: Room B04 has a brick and wood floor. There is a tongue-and-groove wood floor at the south and north ends, with planks running north to south. The floor is deteriorated adjacent to D10. The wood floors sit on wood sleepers, which rest on the brick floor below. The brick floor below is exposed in the center of the room adjacent to the boiler. The bricks are set in a running bond, running north to south. The brick floor is lower than the wood floor.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing with cross-bridging. The floor joists run east to west, with the flooring above running north to south.

Windows: W014 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The wooden sashes are double-hung, four-over-four, with a flat wooden casing set within a brick arch. There is an interior Plexiglas storm.

Doorways: D10 is a masonry opening with a casing; there is no door. A keeper for a box lock remains mounted on the south jamb. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

Built-in: A brick-structure “boiler,” rectangular in plan, is located in the center of the room. The bricks are painted; numerous ducts run out from the top of the structure.
Room B05

Room B05 is square in plan, with closets built in on either side of the fireplace foundation on the west wall and into the fireplace foundation arch at the center.

Floor: The floor is concrete.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing with cross-bridging. The 3-by-12-inch floor joists run east to west at 16 inches on center; two 5-by-12-inch joists run east to west on either side of fireplace foundation. The flooring above runs north to south. Everything is painted.

Windows: W012 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The wooden sashes are double-hung, four-over-four, with a flat wooden frame set within a brick arch. There is an interior Plexiglas storm.

Doorways: D07, the doorway to Room B06, is located in the center of the south wall. The door is of wood, with twelve lights over two raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, and has a box lock with wooden knobs. The casing is of flat wood with a slight pedimented head.

D08, the door to the north closet, is a wooden door with four raised panels, with a cast box lock and wooden knobs on both sides. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

D09, the door to the center closet, is located beneath the fireplace foundation. The wooden door has four raised panels and a cast box lock. The box lock is flat, unarticulated, hung on the room side of the door with a keyway; everything is painted white. The knobs are missing. A second articulated box lock, with wooden knobs, is also mounted on the door. It, too, is painted. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head.

D09A, the doorway to the south closet, is a masonry opening with a casing; there is no door. The wooden casing is painted. There is a scar from a previous box lock keeper on the jamb.

Room B06

Room B06 is an interior hall with a rectangular plan and doorways located in the center of each wall.

Floor: The finished floor consists of wood planks of varying widths, face-nailed. Planks vary in width from 7 to 9 inches wide.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted. The bricks are laid with seven rows of stretchers and one-row headers (typical common bond is a header row every fifth or sixth course).
Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing with cross-bridging. The 3-by-8-inch floor joists run north to south at 16 inches on center. The flooring above runs east to west.

**Room B07**

Room B07 is almost square in plan, with closets built in around the fireplace foundation on the west wall. South of the fireplace foundation is a doorway to Room B01.

Floor: The finished wood-plank floor is laid running north to south; the width of the planks varies.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing with cross-bridging. The framing runs east to west, with the flooring above running north to south.

Windows: W002 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The wooden sash is double-hung, four-over-four, with a flat wooden casing set within a brick arch. There is an interior Plexiglas storm sash.

Doorways: D16 is a metal door with four flat panels and a surface latch with a round knob. The door is hung on a pair of short three-knuckle strap hinges surface-mounted on the Room B07 face of the door. The hardware is painted. The casing is flat metal.

D15 is a wooden door with four raised panels and an articulated box lock, with wood knobs; all is painted except for the knob, which is not fully painted. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The doorway has a flat wooden casing, painted. The masonry opening has a brick arch at the head, painted.

**Ell Basement Elements**

**Room B08**

Room B08 has a rectangular plan with the long dimension north-to-south, a single window in the north wall, and doorways in the east and west walls. A slop sink is installed at southeast corner with a single wooden shelf above.

Floor: The finished floor is built of 2½-inch-wide wood planks running east to west.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted. The east and west walls have seven rows of stretchers, one row of headers.

Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing, running east to west. The flooring above runs north to south. Mortar is visible above the underside of the flooring.
Window: W011 is a single window set into the masonry wall. The wooden sash is double-hung, three-over-three, with a flat wooden casing.

Doorways: D04 is a masonry opening with a casing; there is no door. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight wooden pedimented head, drilled through with holes. The masonry opening has a brick arch. There is a wooden threshold. A keeper for a box lock remains on the north jamb of this face.

Doorway D05 leads to the staircase to the first story. The door is a painted wooden door with twelve lights over two raised panels. The door is hung on one pair of five-knuckle hinges and has an articulated box lock with a painted wooden knob. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head. The first stair riser with nosing forms the door threshold, all painted.

D06 is a masonry opening with a casing only; there is no door. A keeper for a box lock remains in north jamb. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head. There is a wooden threshold.

Built-ins: A single wooden shelf is hung on the east wall. The shelf is supported by two wooden brackets.

Room B09

Room B09 has a rectangle plan with an Ell. A staircase is located at the northwest end, a closet to the north.

Floor: Room B09 has a brick and wood floor, with 2½-inch-wide tongue-and-groove wood plank flooring at the southwest end; planks run north to south. The rest of the floor has 3¾-by-8-inch bricks set in the dirt in a running bond, north to south; they are not set in mortar.

Walls: The north, east, and west walls are all brick, painted. At the stair in the northwest corner the wall is plaster, painted. The south wall is gypsum board except at the east end where it is again brick, all painted.

Ceilings: The ceilings are exposed 3-by-12-inch wood floor framing, run east to west; spacing varies with 5-by-12-inch girders. The flooring above runs north to south. The floorboards are wide.

Trim: There is a flat wooden baseboard 3¼ inches high b¾ inches thick along with south wall at the gypsum board.

Doorways: D01 is a masonry opening with a casing; there is no door. The doorway has a painted wooden casing with a slight pedimented head. There are scars from previous hinges on the east jamb. Seven brownstone risers lead up to exterior. The first riser is in Room B09.

D02 is a masonry opening only; there is no door. The opening has a flat wooden casing with a slight pedimented head, painted. Holes are drilled through the wooden pedimented head casing. A keeper for a box lock remains mounted on the north jamb B10 face.
D03 has a wooden door with four raised panels, an articulated box lock, and wooden knobs. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The B09 face of the lock has a keyway. Everything is painted.

D18, the door to the boiler room (Room B09A), is a flush hollow metal door with a wire-glass vision panel set in a hollow metal frame. The door is hung on one-and-a-half pairs of five-knuckle hinges and has a mortise lock set with a missing knob.

Built-ins: There is a closet constructed in the niche north of the stair. The north and west walls of the closet are brick, painted. The south wall at the stair is plaster, painted. The east wall is wood planks, painted.

Room B09A

Room B09A is a boiler room with an L-shaped plan.

Floor: Room B09A has a brick floor laid north to south.

Walls: The north wall is gypsum board, painted. An electrical panel is located on the north wall with an electrical switch plate on the north wall adjacent to the doorway. The west wall is brick laid with seven rows of stretchers and a one row of headers, painted. The south wall, the exterior wall, is brick laid in a running bond, painted. The east wall is brick, painted, with openings into masonry. A hearth-type opening is located at the north end, at the floor (fig. 96). There are two metal eyes located within the opening. Two additional openings are located in the center and to the south in the same wall; these openings are located higher up on the wall, not at the floor.

Ceilings: The ceilings are gypsum board, painted.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, 3¼ inches high by ⅞ inch thick, along the north gypsum-board wall.

Windows: W003 is a masonry opening with a wooden window frame. The window sash has been removed, and the opening is used for air intake/exhaust for the boiler.

W004 is located under the porch. The window is set into the masonry. The window has a double-hung, three-over-three wooden sash with an interior Plexiglas storm.

Other: Two Weil-McLain boilers are located in the room. Ducts and conduits connect to the boilers.

Room B10

Room B10 has a rectangular plan with a brick structure, possibly a boiler, at the north end. Along the west wall there are two brick chambers built into the fireplace foundation.

Floor: The floor is brick set in a running bond, laid north to south. Some brick patches run east to west.
Walls: All of the walls are brick, painted. At the south wall the brick is laid with seven rows of stretchers and a row of headers. The north wall is laid in a running bond. The east wall is laid in a running bond with some headers. The location of the headers is inconsistent.

Ceilings: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing, running east to west, with exposed flooring above running north to south. The floorboards are wide.

Windows: W010 is set into the masonry. The wooden sash is double-hung, three-over-three. Windows W005 and W006 are located under the south façade porch. The sashes are double-hung, three-over-three wood, each with interior Plexiglas storms.

Doorways: Doorway D02A is a masonry opening only; there is no door. The opening has a flat wooden casing with a slight pedimented head, painted. Holes are drilled through the wooden pedimented casing. The masonry opening has a brick arch at the head. There is a lock box keeper on the jamb.

Built-ins: A rectangular brick structure, a boiler, with an arched cement ceiling is located in the northeast corner of the room.

Other: Along the west wall there is an arched opening into the back of the fireplace. The opening has a cast-iron frame for a door, with a keeper for a latch and pintles located on the jamb; all are rusted. There is no door in the frame; the opening has been closed off with new sheet metal.

Room B11

Room B11 has a rectangular plan running north to south.

Floor: The floor is brick laid in a running bond east to west.

Walls: All the walls are brick, painted. There is an electrical panel at south end of the east wall.

Ceilings: The ceilings are exposed wood floor framing, running east to west. The flooring above runs north to south. The floorboards are wide.

Windows: Windows W007 and W008 are located under the south and east porches. The sashes are double-hung, three-over-three wood, each with interior Plexiglas storms.

Other: A large brick chamber is located along the north wall. The brick is laid in a running bond, and is painted.
Room B11A

Room B11A is a chamber that connects to the “boiler” in Room B10.

Floor: The floor is concrete, elevated above the floor level of the adjacent room.

Walls: The walls are brick, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is exposed wood floor framing, running east to west, with exposed flooring above that runs north to south.

Windows: W009 is set into the masonry. The windows have double-hung, three-over-three wooden sashes.
Figure 90. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, typical articulated box lock found in basement and attic (Room 304, closet door), 2008.

Figure 91. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, flat box lock found predominantly in the basement, 2008.

Figure 92. Basement, typical basement doorway with four-panel wood door and a flat box lock, 2008.

Figure 93. Basement, Room B09, D05, with articulated box lock, 2008.
Figure 94. Basement, Room B01A, barrel vaulted brick ceiling with brick walls and brownstone foundation, 2008.

Figure 95. Basement, Room B01A, octagonal shaft in barrel vaulted ceiling with rusted cover, 2008. The 1876 historic plans indicated that the shaft was historically used for coal delivery.

Figure 96. Basement, Room B09A, east wall, brick fireplace, 2008.
First Story

General Description

The distinction between the Main Block and the Ell is clearly articulated in the first story. The first story of the Main Block houses the public greeting rooms including parlors and dining room. The first story of the Ell houses utility and service rooms such as the kitchen and storage areas. The height of the Main Block first-story ceiling is significantly greater than the ceiling height in the Ell. The plans of the two wings of the building are significantly different. The Main Block has a center hall plan with double-pile rooms on both sides. A side hall set between two rooms to the east houses the main staircase and connects the Main Block to the Ell. The rooms in the Ell are predominantly railroad style, with one room accessed through another. There is a rear hall that connects one end of the Ell to the other. This hall houses the secondary staircase (fig. 97).

Although the doors are similar throughout, they are predominantly of wood with four raised panels; the doorway casings, as well as the casings of the windows, vary greatly. The Main Block casings are decorated with pilasters, stepped pediments, and crown moldings; the Ell casings are of plain flat trim with pedimented heads and simple “ovolo” cap moldings (fig. 82). The first-story windows in the Main Block have triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sashes with sills at the floor level opening the interior to the first-story porch. All have interior storms. The first-story windows in the Ell have double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes. All of the window sashes have interior storms and exterior shutter pintles.

The flooring throughout the first story is predominantly wood; the walls and ceilings are painted flat plaster. In the Main Block the wood floors are parquet or planks with patterns articulated by color variations in the wood. The wood floors in the Ell, where visible, are simple plank floors. In the Main Block detailed plaster crown moldings cap the walls and provide a transition to the ceilings. In the Ell, most of the rooms are without crown moldings. The one exception is the Ell entry hall, Room 109, where the plaster crown molding is similar to that found in the Main Block.
Figure 97. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, first floor plan with room numbers assigned for current project.
Figure 98. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, first floor plan with doorway and window numbers assigned for current project.
Main Block First-story Elements

Room 101

Room 101 has a rectangular plan with a doorway to the exterior at the south end and a framed opening to Room 102 at the north end.

Floor: The floor is slate, varying in color and size, with metal transition strip at the entrance to Room 102.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a fire alarm pull box on the west wall and a motion detector mounted in the southwest corner.

Ceiling: The ceiling is acoustical tile, approximately 12 inches square, with a pendant light hanging in the center and a smoke detector mounted above door D100.

Crown Molding: There is a plaster entablature with an architrave, frieze, and cornice. Cylindrical dentils, or guttae, hang below the frieze and decorate the architrave. The bed molding below the architrave is of wood. The entablature is supported by engaged pilasters with plinths and simple Doric capitals. The pilasters are articulated, similar to the doorway and window casings, but here the pilasters turn the corner and flank each side of the opening into Room 102 (similar to fig. 100).

Baseboard: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below (fig. 101).

Doorways: There is a framed opening into Room 102. It has a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs.

D100 has a six-panel wooden door with leaded-glass sidelights and an elliptical fanlight. The door is hung on three five-knuckle hinges and has one mortise lock with a rectangular escutcheon and brass knob. The leaded glass sidelights have alternating ellipses and diamonds with a rectangular border. There is a single wooden panel below the glass lights. The doorway jambs are articulated pilasters that rise to support the full entablature (fig. 102).

Room 102

Room 102 has a rectangular plan with framed openings to Room 101 at the south end and Room 105 on the north wall.

Floor: The floor is built of wood planks set in a pattern. The field is 3-inch-wide wood planks running north to south, in a two-color pattern, set within a decorative wooden border. The border is a series of rectangles divided by two darker-toned diamonds. In the center of the field is a larger diamond pattern. Round heat register grilles flank the opening to Room 101 (fig. 111).

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted.
Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a simple plaster medallion in the center.

Crown Molding: There is a plaster entablature with an architrave, frieze, and cornice. Cylinder dentils, or guttae, hang below the frieze and decorate the architrave. The bed molding below the architrave is of wood. The entablature is supported by engaged pilasters with plinths and simple Doric capitals. The pilasters are articulated, similar to the wooden doorway and window casings. At the entrance to the stair hall Room 107, the pilasters turn the corner and are paneled on two faces. At the entrance to Room 101, the pilasters are used more like door casings and do not turn the corner.

Baseboard: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below (fig. 101).

Doorways: At the north end of the room is a framed opening to Room 105. Here pilaster jambs support a stepped-pedimented head with a crown molding. All are of wood, painted.

At the entrance to the Stair hall Room 107, the opening is framed by engaged plaster pilasters, which support the entablature above. There is a security panel mounted on the north pilaster with a blank switch plate above.

Room 103

Room 103 has a rectangular plan with sliding pocket doors to Room 104 at the north end, windows on south and west elevations, and a fireplace and doorway to Room 102 along the east elevation.

Floor: The floor is patterned wood. The border is wood parquet, 2 feet 6 inches wide. The field is 2-inch-wide wood planks running north to south.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. Surface-mounted conduit, electrical switches and a surface-mounted thermostat are affixed on the wall adjacent to D101. A motion detector is mounted in the southwest corner. There is a wall-mounted heat register grille adjacent to fireplace.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted, with surface-mounted track lighting laid out in a square in center of the room. A pendant light with fan is hung from the center of the ceiling. A 1-foot-by-4-foot fluorescent fixture running east to west is also hung from the ceiling just inside the track lighting. There is a smoke detector mounted on the ceiling near D101.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth blow (fig. 101).

Crown Molding: The crown molding is plaster, with a frieze and a cornice. The bed molding at base of the frieze is of wood.

Windows: W101 and W119 have triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sashes with interior storms. The jambs are splayed and have paneled interior shutters. The shutters are blocked by the interior storms and do not operate. The casing has articulated pilaster jambs
that support a stepped-pedimented head. The casing matches the doorway casing. The windowsills are at the floor level and open the room to the outside porch. At window W119, surface-mounted conduit is mounted on the jamb and runs to a surface-mounted outlet.

Doorways: D101 is a framed opening with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. There is no door.

D102 is a wide framed opening with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. The doorway is for pocket doors; there are currently no doors.

Fireplaces: A single fireplace is located on the east wall. The mantelpiece is of wood with a projecting mantel approximately 4 feet above the floor. The mantel has a wooden crown molding and frieze. A band of bead molding divides the frieze one-third to two-thirds; the band is broken in the center by a raised carved ornament, the center of which is an acanthus leaf projecting down from the crown molding. Paired colonettes with egg and dart echinus set on plinths support the mantel. A bolection molding surrounds the brick firebox. The face bricks are painted black. The firebox and cheeks are cast-iron in a scallop pattern painted black, with a decorated trim surrounding the box. The hearth is brick, painted black.

Room 104

Room 104 has a rectangular plan with a wide doorway to Room 103 at south end, windows on north and west walls, and a fireplace and a doorway to Room 102 along the east wall.

Floor: The floor is patterned wood. The border is wood parquet, 2 feet 6 inches wide. The field is 2-inch-wide wood planks running north to south.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. Surface-mounted conduit is visible adjacent to D103, a surface-mounted thermostat is installed near D102, and a motion detector is installed in the southwest corner fed by surface-mounted wires.

Ceilings: The ceiling is acoustic tile with surface-mounted track lighting laid out in a square in the center of the room. A pendant ceiling-mounted fan is located in the center. A single 1-foot-by-4-foot fluorescent fixture is installed running north to south just inside of the track lighting.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below.

Crown Molding: There is plaster crown molding with a frieze and a cornice. The bed molding at base of the frieze is of wood. A wooden molding has been added above the crown.

Windows: W118 and W117 have triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sashes with interior storms. The jambs are splayed and have paneled shutters that are inoperable. The casing has articulated pilaster jambs that support a stepped-pedimented head. The casing matches the doorway casing. The windowsills are at the floor level and open the room to the outside porch. Surface-mounted conduit runs to surface-mounted outlets stubbed up from below within both window openings.
Doorways: D103 is a framed opening with a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs. The door has been removed.

Built-ins: Wooden shelves are installed along the north, west, and part of the east walls. Each unit has three shelves; the lowest shelf is the deepest; the highest shelf is the narrowest, making the shelves appear to step back toward the wall. All are painted white.

Fireplaces: A single fireplace projects into the room from the east wall. The projecting wooden mantel is located approximately 4 feet above the floor and is supported by a flat undecorated casing. Below the mantel is a crown molding with dentils. A wooden bolection molding surrounds the brick firebox. The hearth, fireback, and cheeks are all brick, painted black. The hearth brick is 4 by 12 inches; the fireback and cheek bricks are 8 by 2¾ inches; the face brick between the fireplace box and wooden casing is 1½ by 8½ inches.

Room 105

Room 105 is almost square in plan with a doorway on the north elevation, a blocked-up doorway on east elevation, and a framed opening to Room 102 in the south elevation.

Floor: The floor is of wood planks 2⅝ inches wide, running north to south. The flooring is a single color, and is without a border. A single floor grille is located adjacent to D102.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. At the northwest corner, the corner has been boxed in to create a pipe shaft. The walls in this area are gypsum board. There is an electrical switch on the south wall, and surface-mounted conduit on the east wall up to a surface-mounted blank plate. On the east wall there is also evidence of an earlier opening. Wood lath that is painted to match the walls fills the opening.

Ceilings: The ceilings are acoustic tile, painted. On the ceiling is surface-mounted conduit that runs to a surface-mounted smoke detector near D102. There are two pendant-mounted one-by-four fluorescent light fixtures running east to west.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below. At the new pipe shaft there is no baseboard.

Crown Moldings: There is no plaster crown molding in this room, but here the walls have been painted and wood moldings added to emulate a plaster crown molding.

Doorway: D129 leads to the exterior. The paired doors are each ten-light wooden doors with two four-light transoms above. Each door is hung with three five-knuckle hinges. There is a single oval escutcheon with a keyway and a small oval knob on one door. The casing matches other doorway casings with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. A motion detector is mounted on the jamb casing.
Room 106

Room 106 has a rectangular plan with a full-height bay extension on the north wall; there is a doorway to Room 102 and a fireplace along the west wall, and a doorway to Room 111 at the north end of the east wall. There are also two built-in cabinets in the room, one along the west wall and one along the east wall.

Floor: The floor is 1½-inch-wide wood plank flooring running east to west, with a simple plank border. There is a floor register along the south wall near D104.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. A motion detector is installed in the northwest corner and a switch plate is installed on the north wall adjacent to D104.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted, with a center carved plaster medallion. A single pendant light hangs from the center medallion. A smoke detector is mounted on the ceiling above D104.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below.

Crown Molding: There is plaster crown molding with a frieze and a cornice.

Windows: Windows W114, W115, and W116 are all in the projecting bay. The opening into the bay is of wood, arched and framed by pilasters. W114 and W116 have triple-hung, four-over-four-over-two sash with interior storms. W115 has a triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sash with interior storm.

Doorways: D105 has a wooden door with four raised panels. It is hung from a “Rixson”-type hinge at the floor and the head to allow the door to swing in both directions. The doorway casing on the Room 106 elevation has a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs. The casing on the Room 111 side has a simple pedimented head that is not stepped. Kick plates are installed on the bottom of both sides of the door.

D104 has a wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung with a pair of five-knuckle hinges. It has a mortised lockset with round knobs and a keyway. The casing is of wood with a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs.

Built-ins: There are two built-in cabinets in the room (fig. 109). Each has a pair of single-raised-panel doors set atop a flat base with paired leaded glass light doors above. The raised-panel and leaded-glass doors are separated by a shelf with a bullnose edge. All are set within casings similar to those of the doorways, with stepped-pedimented heads and articulated pilaster jambs.

Other: The fireplace includes a mantel and an overmantel or chimneypiece (fig. 84). Here paneled pilasters with a floral decoration in the architrave support a small cornice. Paired wall light sconces with circular back plates and glass chimneys are mounted in the center of the panel of each pilaster. At the center of the fireplace overmantel above the cornice, a flat molding projects out in a half circle and is supported by a keystone. Between the architrave and the firebox is a single panel with a floral decoration set in the ears at the four corners. Below the central panel is a simple mantel with a dentil cornice, and a flat frieze with concave 162
curves at the outside edges. A simple bolection molding surrounds the fireplace opening itself. The flat cheeks and hearth are of terra-cotta tiles. The fireback is brick, painted black. A narrow floriated trim, of iron, surrounds the firebox opening.

**Room 107**

Room 107 has a rectangular plan with a framed opening to Room 102 in the west wall, a single doorway to Room 109 in the east wall, and a stair running up along the north wall. Below the stair a closet projects out from the north wall at the east end of the room. Within the closet a former doorway to the adjacent room is visible in the north wall.

**Floor:** The flooring is 3-inch-wide tongue-and-groove wood, finished in two colors alternating light and dark.

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted. A six-gang switch plate is mounted on the south wall near the opening to Room 102. Along the north wall, following the rise of the stair, a simple profiled wooden handrail is mounted on the wall with simple brass brackets. Below the stair on the north wall, a gray metal electrical box and conduit are surface-mounted.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, along the hall and the underside of the stair. A single [smoke? motion?] detector is mounted on the ceiling.

**Crown Molding:** The crown molding is plaster, with a frieze and a cornice.

**Doorways:** D127 to Room 108 has been blocked up. The casing is in place and has a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs. The doorway has been in-filled with plywood, painted.

D125 leads to Room 109 and is located under the stair landing. The wooden door has two divided lights over two raised panels. The door casing has a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock, round wooden knobs, and a keyway. A surface-mounted closer with arms mounted on the Room 109 side is installed at the top of the door and on the casing.

D126, the doorway into the closet below the stair, has a wooden door with five raised panels. The top of the closet is finished with a wooden cornice that also forms the head of the casing. The jambs are pilasters. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock, round wooden knobs, and a keyway.

The opening to Room 102, without a door, has paneled plaster pilasters with a simple cornice. The pilasters turn the corner to Room 102 and support a plaster crown molding with architrave, frieze, and cornice. Cylindrical dentils or guttae set below a flat molding and separate the frieze and architrave. The soffit or head of the opening is flat plaster.

**Built-ins:** The main staircase is an open, bracketed wooden stair with seventeen risers up to the second floor of the Ell. The staircase stringer is decorated with scrolls. The balustrade has turned wooden balusters, a wooden handrail, and a turned newel post at the bottom. The handrail is of wood and forms the top of the newel post. The balusters, handrail, and newel post are stained; the bracketed stringer is painted white; the stairs are carpeted.
Other: A closet built around a former doorway opening is constructed beneath the staircase. The walls of the closet are bead-board, painted white. A fire extinguisher is surface-mounted on the west wall. The closet has a simple, flat stepped cornice. Within the closet an earlier doorway to Room 106 is visible. An alarm panel is surface-mounted on the wall.

Room 108

Room 108 has a square plan with a fireplace centered on the west wall, a doorway to the entrance hall to the right, single windows on the south and east walls, and a single entrance, now covered over, centered on the north wall.

Floor: The flooring is 2-inch-wide wood planks, tongue-and-groove, finished in two colors alternating light and dark. The field, which runs east to west, is surrounded by a two-tone Greek key or fret border (fig. 114). In the center of the floor is a large diamond detail constructed of alternating light and dark planks set in alternating directions. A cast-iron floor grille is set into the floor adjacent to the window along the east wall.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. A surface-mounted electrical switch and conduit are on the wall adjacent to the hall doorway. There is a motion detector in the southeast corner.

Ceilings: The ceiling appears to be sheetrock, painted. Surface-mounted track lighting is laid out in a rectangle in the center of the ceiling. A pendant-mounted ceiling fan is hung at the center, and a single one-by-four fluorescent fixture running north to south is mounted inside the track lighting. Surface conduit connects all of the electrical devices.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below.

Crown Molding: There is plaster crown molding with a frieze and a cornice.

Windows: W102 and W103 have triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three wooden sashes with interior storms. The window jambs are splayed and have paneled shutters. The windowsill is at the floor level. The interior shutters are blocked by the storm windows and do not operate. The window casings match the doorway casings with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. At window W103 electrical conduit is stubbed up from the floor and connects to a surface-mounted electrical outlet.

Doorways: D128 has a wooden door with four raised panels. The casing is similar to the window casing and has a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges and has a mortised lock, round knobs, and a keyway.

Fireplace: The wooden mantelpiece has Ionic colonettes that support a simple projecting cornice and mantel (fig. 83). Below the cornice, the frieze is decorated with garland. A wooden bolection molding surrounds the firebox. The flat cheeks and hearth are of terra-cotta tiles; the flat cheeks are painted white; the hearth remains unpainted terra-cotta color. A cast-iron register grate, painted black, is set within the firebox. The cast-iron register grate frames the masonry opening with a bullnose cast-iron trim.
Ell First-story Elements

Room 109

Room 109, the Ell entry hall, has a rectangular plan with doorways located on all elevations. The room has a wooden baseboard and a plaster crown molding.

Floor: The flooring is 2-inch-wide tongue-and-groove wood, installed with the long dimension running east to west. The plank field is framed by a border of varying-width boards, 1¼ and 2 inches wide, finished, in two colors alternating light and dark. The wider boards are lighter in color.

Walls: The south, north, and west walls are flat plaster, painted. The east wall is fiberboard, painted. One light switch and an alarm panel are located on the north wall and connect to a surface-mounted conduit.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted. Wood lath is exposed where the plaster has fallen. A single one-by-four fluorescent fixture is mounted on the ceiling, as is a [smoke? motion?] detector; both are connected to a surface-mounted conduit.

Trim: The wooden profiled baseboard is painted. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below (fig. 101).

Crown Molding: There is plaster crown molding with a frieze and a cornice.

Doorways: D124 has a wooden door with four raised panels, sidelights, and a transom light. The wooden sidelights have four lights above a single raised panel; the transom has seven lights. The door is hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges, which have been painted and are without tops. The locking devices include a stainless-steel deadbolt, surface-mounted; one mortised deadbolt, brass, with a toggle on the interior and a keyway on the exterior; and a single mortised lockset with a wooden knob and a keyway, but no escutcheon plate. All are set within a casing with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. The left or east jamb is covered by the east wall and is visible in Room 109A.

Doorway D122 has a wooden door with two divided lights over two raised panels. The casing is typical, with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs. The right or east jamb is covered by the east wall and is visible in Room 109A. The door is hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges and has a mortised lock with round wooden knobs and a keyway. The door appears to be a four-raised-panel wooden door that has been modified by removing two of the solid panels and adding lights.

Room 109A

Room 109A is a half bath with a rectangular plan. There is an oculus window in south wall; a single doorway in west wall; fixtures at the north and south ends; and a wall-mounted radiator on the east wall.
**Floor:** The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile.

**Walls:** The west wall appears to be fiberboard or gypsum board, painted. All other walls are flat plaster, painted. Two soap dispensers and a wall sconce are located on the west wall. There is an electrical outlet north wall above the sink.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a surface-mounted [smoke? motion?] detector and conduit.

**Trim:** The trim is typical wooden profiled baseboard with a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a stepped plinth below (fig. 101), on the north, south and east walls.

**Windows:** There is a single window (W104) with a flat wooden casing, 2⅛ inches wide, painted. The window has a center-pivot oval sash with a single light.

**Doorways:** D123 has a wooden door with four raised panels. It is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lock with round knobs and a keyway. There is a slide bolt and robe hook mounted on the interior of the door. Room 109A has 5-inch-wide flat wooden casing, painted, with a bullnose on the stop. On the Room 109 elevation there is a decorated wooden casing with a stepped-pedimented head and pilaster jambs.

**Other:** There is a mirrored medicine cabinet surface-mounted on the north wall, along with a single marble shelf supported by painted wooden brackets. On the east wall is horizontal piping looped to form a wall-mounted radiator, with a wooden shelf above.

**Plumbing:** There is a single white porcelain sink set on chrome legs, on the north wall. The faucet is by Crane; the drain pull has a lever handle (fig. 99). A floor-mounted flush-valve toilet is located at the south end beneath the window.

**Room 110**

Room 110 has a rectangular plan with a built-in cupboard on the west wall, and three doorways, one each in the west, south, and north walls.

**Floor:** The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile.

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted. There is a switch plate adjacent to D121 and a wall sconce mounted on the east wall.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted. There is a single one-by-four surface-mounted fluorescent light fixture in the center with a [smoke? motion?] detector and a blank electrical box, all connected by surface-mounted conduit.

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*Figure 99. Room 109A, Crane lavatory fixtures, 2008.*
Trim: The baseboard is of wood, painted, and is a smaller version of the typical baseboard. There is a wooden knob-type doorstop mounted on baseboard east wall.

Doorways: D120 is an opening with a casing only; there is no door. The casing has simple flat jambs that sit on plinth blocks. The head is of flat wood with a slight pediment, and a cap molding finishes the top of the casing. There is a large wooden stop that appears to have been added to the jamb and evidence of a floor hinge to allow the door to swing both ways. A metal bottle opener is mounted on the jamb.

Built-ins: There is a built-in wooden cupboard with a base and upper cabinets along the west wall. The base cabinets consist of a pair of flat vertical panel doors with a center toggle and three drawers to the north. Drawer pulls are metal surface-mounted half-moons, painted. The countertop is of wood, painted. The backsplash is bead-board, painted. A simple turned post set in the middle of the counter supports the center of the upper cabinets. The upper cabinets are four, with one-over-one-light doors. Behind the doors are three wooden shelves and bead-board backs. Upper cabinets are secured with small surface-mounted box locks with turn knobs, all painted. A simple wooden cornice completes the cabinets.

Room 111

Room 111 has a square plan with a window on the north wall and built-in cupboards along the east wall.

Floor: The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile. At doorway D105, tile is missing and the mastic is visible.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. On the south wall west of D121 and on the west wall to D105 there is a wood wainscoting made of 2⅝-inch-wide wood planks. The wainscoting is 3 feet 10⅝ inches above the floor with a 2⅛-inch wooden crown molding. On the west wall a simple wood towel rack with wood mounting brackets and a wall sconce are mounted above the wainscoting. Along the south wall adjacent to D121, two large conduits run up the wall from the floor.

Ceiling: The ceiling is of wood planks running east to west, painted. There are two surface-mounted fluorescent fixtures, a smoke detector, and surface-mounted conduit on the ceiling.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, similar to the baseboard in Room 101, but smaller. There is no baseboard at the wood wainscoting. At the top of the walls, there is a small wooden crown molding, painted.

Windows: W113 has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The window has a wooden casing with simple flat jambs and a flat pedimented head with a cap molding.

Doorways: D121 is a trimmed opening, but there is no door. The casing has simple flat jambs set on plinth blocks and a flat pedimented head with cap molding. There is some evidence that a stop was removed from the jambs, indicating that there may have been a door in this opening at one time.
Built-ins: A built-in wooden base and upper cabinets are installed along the east wall and turn the corner to run along the north wall (fig. 110). The base cabinet consists of a pair of single-raised-panel wooden doors with a center toggle latch. There are four drawers in the center and eight drawers to the south. Drawer pulls are metal surface-mounted half-moons, painted. Two simple turned posts set on the wooden countertop support the upper cabinets. There are five upper cabinets, each with one-over-one-light doors with three wooden shelves. The edges of the shelves are detailed with beads and quirks. The upper cabinets are secured with small surface-mounted box locks with turn knobs, all painted. A simple wooden cornice completes the cabinets. Along the north wall the base cabinet consists of open shelves with a single-light glass door cabinet above.

Other: A large porcelain sink with drain board set on porcelain legs is located along the west wall.

Room 112

Room 112, the back hallway, has a long rectangular plan with a doorway to the exterior along the north wall at the west end, a staircase up to the second story along the south wall, a doorway to the kitchen in the middle of the south wall, with an adjacent interior window and a doorway at the east end.

Floor: The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile. There is a floor grille adjacent to the interior window.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. There are numerous system devices mounted on the walls, including the following: two wall sconces adjacent to D107 and D109, similar in design, one with a shade, one without; a fire alarm pull station on the wall adjacent to D107; two generations of thermostats installed adjacent to D109; a motion detector installed on the west wall near the staircase.

Ceiling: The ceiling is 12-inch-square acoustic tile with a simple cove molding at the wall junction. There are two smoke detectors, one adjacent to D107 and one adjacent to window N105. A surface-mounted conduit connects the detectors.

Windows: W112 has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The casing is of wood with simple flat jambs with plinth blocks and a flat pedimented head with cap molding.

There is an interior window in Room 112. The wooden sashes are double-hung, six-over-six. The casing is of wood with simple flat jambs and a flat pedimented head. In Room 112, the head has a cap molding. In Room 113, the closet, the head is pedimented but does not have a cap molding.

Doorways: D107 is to the exterior. The door is of wood with three raised panels, sidelights, and a transom. Each sidelight has four lights above a single raised wood panel. The transom is horizontal with seven lights. (The east sidelight is missing a muntin, appearing to be three lights.) The door is hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges, painted. The locking devices include a surface-mounted stainless-steel deadbolt; one mortised deadbolt, brass, with a toggle on the interior and a keyway on the exterior; and a mortised lockset with wooden
knobs and no escutcheon plate. The doorway has a wooden casing with simple flat jambs set on plinth blocks, and a pedimented head with a cap molding.

D109 to Room 120 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, painted, with a mortised lock, round wood knobs, and a keyway, painted. The doorway has a wooden casing with simple flat trim set on plinth blocks with a pedimented head and cap molding.

D111 to Room 115 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock and a keyway, all painted. The doorknobs are missing. The doorway casing is of wood with a simple flat jambs set on plinth blocks with a pedimented head. The casing on Room 112 side has a cap molding, whereas on the Room 115 elevation it does not.

**Built-ins:** There is an open-stringer wooden stair with seventeen risers up to the second story. The stair has turned wooden balusters and a turned newel post at the bottom. The bottom five risers are winders and turn the staircase to the north. The balusters and newel post are stained; the stringer is painted white; the stairs are carpeted. The balusters are similar to the balusters on the primary staircase in Room 107; the newel post has two rings of turns. Room 107’s stringer is decorated, i.e. a bracketed stair, and the nosing return molding is painted white. The profile of the nosing molding on this stair is similar to Room 107’s stair, but it is finished to match the nosing and balustrade, not painted white to blend with the stringer.

**Other:** There are two doorstops in the room. Both are of wood, painted; one is adjacent to D111, the other adjacent to D112. The wooden stops are flat on the floor, extending out from the bottom of the baseboard with a curved detail on the outer edge.

**Room 113**

Room 113 has a square plan with a shaft cut into one corner. The room is a closet off of the kitchen, Room 120.

**Floor:** The floor is sheet vinyl.

**Walls:** The walls are wood planks installed horizontally at the shelving to approximately 5 feet above the floor, painted. Wood bead-board is installed on the south wall behind the shelving and at the chase in the northeast corner. Above the shelving the walls are all plaster, painted. One large duct rises up to the second story in the southwest corner of the room.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted. There is a single one-by-four fluorescent light with a smoke detector and surface-mounted conduit.

**Trim:** There is a baseboard on a portion of the west wall and the north wall, where visible, and a chair rail. The chair rail is different than the one in the adjacent Room 120. There is a wood corner board on the southwest corner of the chase. The corner board detail is simple, almost like cove molding, different than the corner board in Room 119.
Doorways: Doorway D110’s opening has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, painted. There is a single mortised lock with round wooden knobs and a keyway, painted. The casing is of wood with a simple flat jamb trim set on plinth blocks and a pedimented head. In Room 120 the head has a cap molding. In Room 113, there is no cap molding at the head. A towel rack is mounted on the closet side of the door; a latch for an earlier box lock is mounted on the Room 120 side.

Built-ins: There are shelves on the east and south walls. All are of wood, painted, of varying detail.

Room 114

Room 114 is a closet off Room 119 and has a rectangular plan.

Floor: The floor is sheet vinyl.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. At the south wall, painted wood planks have been installed over the plaster.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted. A single one-by-four fluorescent light, a smoke detector, and surface-mounted conduit are mounted on the ceiling.

Trim: The trim is flat wooden baseboard, 1 inch by 9¾ inches tall, painted.

Doorways: D118 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, painted, with a mortised lock, round wooden knobs, and a keyway, painted. The door has a wooden casing with simple flat jambs set on plinth blocks and a simple pedimented head. On the Room 119 side the casing head has a cap molding. On the Room 114 side, the closet face, the head does not have a cap molding.

Built-ins: There are shelves constructed from wood planks, all painted. The number of shelves varies on each elevation.

Room 115

Room 115 is a passageway between the hallways at the east end of the Ell. The room has a square plan with a doorway in each elevation except the north.

Floor: The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted.

Trim: There is a two-part wooden baseboard with a stepped profiled cap, painted.
Room 116

Located at the northeast corner of the Ell, Room 116 is a half bath with a rectangular plan. The hall doorway is located in the west wall, with a single window on the north wall. A pipe shaft cuts into the northeast corner of the room. At the southeast corner above the wainscoting, the plaster is eased at the corner.

Floor: The floor is 12-inch-square vinyl tile.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, above vertical bead-board wainscoting, which is also painted. The wainscoting is approximately 4 feet high with a simple bullnose cap. There is no bead-board below the window.

Ceiling: The ceiling is wood plank, painted. A single one-by-four fluorescent light fixture, a smoke detector, and a surface-mounted electrical box and conduit are on the ceiling.

Trim: There is a baseboard beneath the window only. The baseboard is similar to that in Room 115. There is no baseboard at the wood wainscoting, just a quarter-round shoe molding.

Windows: W111 has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The casing has simple flat jambs with a flat pedimented head.

Doorways: D112 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock. The lockset has bronze knobs with a flat rectangular escutcheon plate. The window casing has simple flat jambs set on plinth blocks, and a simple pedimented head. There are no cap moldings on either side of the door casing.

Built-ins: A porcelain toilet with flush valve is set at the east end of the room; there is a porcelain sink at the southeast end.

Room 117

The plan of Room 117 is L-shaped. The room is a hallway connecting the north and south ends of the Ell. There are doorways at each end of the long leg and a window at the short end. One additional doorway located along the east wall leads to an adjacent cold-storage room.

Floor: The flooring is sheet vinyl.

Walls: The north wall has a horizontal wood-plank wainscoting approximately 3 feet 8½ inches above the floor with a simple bullnose cap. The planks vary in width. Above the wainscoting there is flat plaster, painted. The west wall and the east wall at the end of the L are brick, painted. The south wall and the remaining section of the east wall are wood bead-board, painted.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted.
Windows: W110 has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The casing has simple flat jambs with a flat pedimented head. The right (south) jamb is covered by the adjacent wall.

Doorways: D113 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on one pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lock, round wooden knobs, and a keyway, all painted. All are set within a casing with a simple flat trim with jamb plinth blocks, and a simple pedimented head.

D115 is a trimmed opening only; there is no door. The casing has simple flat trim with jamb plinth blocks and a pedimented head, painted.

Built-ins: There are two wooden shelves below window E101, and wooden shelving along the south wall.

Room 117A

Room 117 is a cold-storage room and has a rectangular plan, with shelving on all elevations except the west.

Floor: The floor is 3½-inch-wide wood planks running east to west. The floor is raised above the adjacent room floor.

Walls: The walls are 4-inch-wide wood horizontal planks.

Ceiling: The ceiling is wood planks running north to south. At the east end there is a soffit.

Windows: There is a single interior window in north wall. The window has a single wooden sash with Plexiglas; the casing is flat wood trim.

Doorways: D114 is the only doorway into the room. The door is of wood, with four flat panels on the exterior. The interior face of the door has been covered with wood planks matching the room installed on a diagonal. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The exterior, Room 117 casing is a simple flat trim with jamb plinth blocks, and a simple pedimented head. The interior, Room 117A casing is simple flat wood boards matching the adjacent planks. Various lock and opening hardware has been installed on the exterior. This includes a significant cast lever handle, a simple pull handle, and a bar lock, all painted white.

Built-ins: Slotted shelves, built of 1⅞-inch-by-¾-inch wood planks spaced 1⅛ inches apart, are located on all walls except the west.

Room 118

Located at the southeast corner of the Ell, Room 118 is an entrance “hall” with a rectangular plan. There is one window on the south wall and a single doorway to the exterior in the east wall, and interior doorways on the west and north walls. A vertical metal duct runs up in the northwest corner; a pipe shaft has been constructed at the southwest corner to infill the corner on an angle.
Floor: The floor is sheet vinyl, with one floor register, not decorative, along the west wall adjacent to D117.

Walls: The north wall is flat plaster, painted. All of the remaining walls are brick, painted. There is significant paint loss, mold, and efflorescence in the southeast corner of the room.

Ceiling: The ceiling appears to be sheetrock, painted, with two, one-by-four fluorescent light fixtures, a smoke detector, and surface-mounted electrical box and conduit.

Trim: There is a flat, painted wooden baseboard along the north wall only.

Windows: W109 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The casing is of wood with simple flat jambs and a flat pedimented head.

Doorways: D116 has single wooden door with four raised panels hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock. The lock has bronze knobs with a flat rectangular escutcheon plate. The door is set within a wooden casing with simple flat trim with jamb plinth blocks, and a pedimented head. A chrome surface-mounted deadbolt and a mortised deadbolt with a toggle have been added to the interior face. In addition, one exit light has been installed on the pedimented head, and a fire alarm bell, two security contact devices, a switch plate, conduit, and a fire extinguisher have all been surface-mounted on the right jamb casing. Adjacent to the doorway on the brick wall is a fire alarm pull station.

Room 119

Located off the kitchen, Room 119 has a rectangular with doorways on the north, east, and west walls and two windows on the south wall of the room.

Floor: The floor is sheet vinyl.

Walls: The walls are plaster, painted, above wood wainscoting. The wainscoting, located on the south, east, and west walls, varies in height and detail. The south wall, the west wall to the doorway frame, and the east wall all have bead-board wainscoting with a wooden cap, painted. On the west and the east walls to the doorway, the bead-board has simple bullnose caps set at the height of the windowsills, with a single 9¾-inch-wide flat wood plank above. North of D117, the bead has been removed from the top of the bead-board wainscoting, and a plank added with a quarter-round cap molding at the top. In this location the plank above the bead-board is wider than in other areas in the room.

Ceiling: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted, with a one-by-four fluorescent light fixture, a smoke detector, and surface-mounted electrical box and conduit.

Trim: There is a flat painted wooden baseboard ⅞ inch by 5⅛ inches tall, with a beveled edge at top.

Windows: W107 and W108 both are single windows with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior storms. Their casings have simple flat jambs with flat pedimented heads and cap moldings. The east jamb of W108 is cut off to accommodate the wall.
Doorways: D117 to Room 118 has a solid-core wooden door with modern five-knuckle hinges and a lockset. The door is set within a wooden casing with jamb plinth blocks and a pedimented head. The casing on the Room 119 face has a cap molding at the top of the pedimented head; in Room 118 the head has no molding.

D119 to the kitchen is a trimmed opening only; there is no door. The wooden casing is flat trim with jamb plinth blocks, and a pedimented head with cap molding. Evidence for earlier hardware, including a mortised lock keeper and hinges, is visible on the casing.

Room 120

Room 120 is rectangular in plan with windows on the south elevation, doorways on all elevations, and a small cutout for the staircase to the basement at the northwest corner. There is a bump-out in the center of the east wall.

Floor: The floor is predominantly 12-inches-square vinyl tile. In one location in the center of the room, the various generations of flooring are visible. The vinyl tile is set on a subfloor, which sits on top of sheet vinyl, which is again set on a subfloor, which sits on a wood plank floor.

Walls: All of the walls are flat plaster, painted. A wooden chair rail with a flat plank above has been installed on all of the walls, with the exception of the east wall at the bump-out. The plank chair rail trim consists of a flat wood plank approximately 8½ inches tall with an eased top edge that is set on a projecting 1¼-inch fillet with eased edges, set on a flat fascia, 1½ inches tall; the fascia is finished on the bottom edge with a 1-inch cyma-reversa molding that returns to the plaster. Along the west wall, near the southwest corner, there is a blocked-up doorway to Room 109A. The casing, a simple flat trim with jamb plinth blocks and a simple pedimented head with cap molding, remains in place. The door has been removed and the opening infilled with plywood.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with two one-by-four fluorescent light fixtures, a smoke detector, and surface-mounted conduit. The plaster has a paper liner. Above D108 the door to the basement the ceiling is curved, to ease the underside of the stair above to the flat ceiling.

Trim: At the bump-out, the baseboard is a wooden clamshell molding. On all other walls, the baseboard is flat board 3½ inches tall with fillets at each end and an eased edge at the top.

Windows: W105 and W106 are both single windows with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior storms. Their casings are of wood with flat jambs and pedimented heads with cap moldings. The chair rail forms the apron of the wooden sills. The windows have sash locks.

Doorways: D108 to the basement staircase has a single wooden door with four raised panels hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, painted. The door has a mortised lock, round wooden knobs, and a keyway, all painted. The wooden casing has flat trim with jamb plinth blocks, and a simple pedimented head with cap molding. The right jamb is cut off in the adjacent
wall. A modern slide bolt has been installed. The casing on the basement staircase side is a simple flat trim with a bullnose on the interior, door edge.

**Built-ins**: There are multiple generations of metal and wooden cabinets with soffits above. Along the north stair wall, there are metal upper cabinets, three pairs of flat-faced doors, a base metal cabinet with a laminate countertop to the west, and a newer solid-surface countertop and wooden cabinet in the center. On the west wall, there is a tall metal cabinet, with two pairs of flat doors on the bottom, flat panels above, and two pairs of flat-faced doors above. At the southeast corner is another tall metal cabinet with one pair of flat-faced metal doors top and bottom.
Figure 100. First story, Main Block, typical plaster crown molding, 2008 (Room 103).

Figure 101. First story, Main Block, typical baseboard, 2008 (Room 103).
Figure 102. First story, Main Block, Room 101, entry doorway (D100) at south wall, 2008.

Figure 103. First story, Ell, Room 109, entry doorway (D124) at south wall, 2008.
Figure 104. First story, Ell, typical raised four-panel door and simple doorway surround with pedimented head, 2008.

Figure 105. First story, Ell, typical four-panel door and doorway surround with pedimented head with cap molding, 2008.

Figure 106. First story, Main Block, Room 102 depicting doorway surrounds and crown molding, 2008.
Figure 107. First story, Main Block, Room 104, W117 with typical triple-hung, six-over-six-over-three sashes. The surround has a stepped pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs, 2008.

Figure 108. First story, Ell, Room 120, W105 and W106, typical double-hung, six-over-six sashes with simple surrounds with pedimented heads, 2008.
Figure 109. First story, Main Block, Room 106, built-in cabinet in Dining Room, 2008; note cabinet surround is similar to first-story doorway surrounds with a stepped-pedimented head and articulated pilaster jambs.

Figure 110. First story, Ell, Room 111, built-in cabinets at east wall, 2008.
Figure 111. First story, Main Block, Room 102 typical circular cast-iron floor register with stone surround set in the decorative wood floor.

Figure 112. First story, Main Block, typical cast-iron floor register.

Figure 113. First story, Main Block, Room 102 decorative wood floor with two-tone wood strip flooring, a central diamond, and triangular fretwork, 2008.

Figure 114. First story, Main Block, Room 108 fretwork in decorative wood flooring, 2008.
Second Story

General Description

The second story of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters is distinct in that the floor is at two different levels. Because the first-story ceiling heights in the Main Block are significantly greater than the height of the first-story ceilings in the Ell, the second-story floor levels vary. The change in the levels is most evident in the Stair Hall, Room 217, and the adjacent Hall Room 209.

The second story of the house historically contained bedrooms. Each of the bedrooms in the Main Block has a fireplace and a bath. In the Ell most of the bedrooms have fireplaces, but there are shared hall baths.

As in the first story, the second-story doors are similar throughout, predominantly of wood with four raised panels. The windows on the second story, with one exception, have double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes. All of the windows have interior storms and exterior shutter pintles. The casings for the doors and windows vary with their location, decorated with pilasters, stepped pediments, and crown moldings in the Main Block; plain flat trim with pedimented heads and simple “ovolo” cap moldings in the Ell.

The flooring throughout most of the second story is carpet, which covers wood flooring. In the bathrooms the floors are tile in the Main Block, sheet vinyl in the Ell. In the Main Block, detailed plaster crown moldings finish the walls; and, in the Ell, most of the rooms are without crown moldings.
Figure 115. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, second floor plan with room numbers assigned for current project.
Figure 116. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, second floor plan with doorway and window numbers assigned for current project.
Main Block Second-story Elements

Room 201

Room 201 is a stair landing hall with a rectangular plan, a framed opening to the staircase at the center of the east wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms, two interior doorways on the west elevation, and built-in cabinets between the doorways.

Floor: The floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. There is a motion detector in the southwest corner, and a fire extinguisher surface-mounted on the plaster pilaster in the northeast corner.

Ceiling: The ceiling is acoustic tile, with one surface-mounted detector centered on the opening to the staircase and two one-by-four fluorescent fixtures, surface-mounted, connected by surface-mounted conduit.

Trim: The baseboard trim is visible adjacent to D211; the remaining baseboard, if it is in place, is hidden behind the built-in cabinets (fig. 117). The wooden baseboard has a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth. The cabinets are scribed to the wall.

Crown Molding: There is plaster crown molding with architrave, frieze, and cornice (fig. 121). Cylindrical dentils (guttae) hang below the frieze and decorate the architrave. The cornice at the top, maybe of wood, has been modified to accommodate the acoustic tile ceiling. The crown molding is supported on each side by paneled plaster pilasters with plinths and simple Doric capitals. The pilasters turn the corner and are paneled on two faces, the entrance jamb and the Room 201 face.

Doorways: D200, D204, D208, and D211 all have single wood doors with four raised panels, each hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a single mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. D211 is missing its knobs. The wooden casings are the same for all the doorways and have articulated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and stepped-pedimented heads with crown moldings. D208 appears to have evidence of earlier hinges.

Built-ins: Cabinets along the north, south, and west walls. The cabinets at the north and south ends are similar with a three-part design (fig. 122). The central section is taller, stands above, and projects farther out from the wall than the flanking side cabinets. The center cabinet has a pair of one-over-one-light doors hung on a pair of three-knuckle cabinet hinges with an architrave with bull’s-eye corner blocks finished with a detailed cornice above. The side cabinets have a single pair of one-over-one-light doors hung on a pair of three-knuckle hinges with a cornice and bull’s-eye border.
cabinet hinges, capped by a simple crown molding. The back walls of the cabinets are painted bead-board; the shelves are simple and of wood, painted.

The cabinet along the west wall has three single-light glass doors, each hung on a pair of bronze five-knuckle cabinet hinges, capped by a single crown molding (fig. 123). Each door has a bronze turnbuckle cabinet knob. The interior back wall is bead-board, and the wooden shelves are all painted.

**Room 202**

Almost square in plan, Room 202 has single windows on the south and east elevations, and a fireplace centered on the west wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms.

**Floor:** The floor is carpeted.

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted. There is a motion detector in northwest corner and a switch plate adjacent to the fireplace and doorway. Wire mold and wiring are surface-mounted on the trim and walls.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is painted wood furring strips with two, one-by-four fluorescent light fixtures and a surface-mounted detector and surface-mounted conduit.

**Trim:** The room is trimmed with plaster crown molding with architrave, frieze, and cornice. The cornice molding at the top is of wood, modified to accommodate the removal of the plaster ceiling. The wooden baseboard is similar to the baseboard in Room 400, with a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

**Windows:** W203 and W204 are single windows, each with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and interior storm sash. The window sash is recessed; the recess runs to the floor with a raised panel below the window. The window sash does not have a sill or apron. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and stepped-pedimented heads with cornices (fig. 124).

**Doorways:** D201 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover; the keyway cover is missing on the room side. The doorway casing is of wood with decorated pilasters jambs set on plinth blocks, and stepped-pedimented heads with crown moldings.

**Fireplace:** There is a fireplace with a white marble mantelpiece with a stone hearth and a cast-iron insert and basket grate (fig. 85). The fireback insert is decorated with a leaf motif. The firebox opening has a pedimented head. The opening is flanked on either side by pilasters with chamfered corners. The pilasters are separated from the architrave by simple chamfered astragal moldings. The architrave is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf. Above the mantel crown is pedimented.
Room 203

Room 203 is a bathroom, divided into two spaces. The outer space along the south wall is rectangular in plan with doorways on the east, west, and north elevations and a window on the south elevation. The second room to the north of the outer space is a long, narrow rectangular shower room.

Floor: The floor is ceramic hex tiles.

Walls: The walls have ceramic subway-tile wainscoting with a decorated frieze band and bullnose cap. There is flat plaster, painted, above the wainscoting. A recessed medicine cabinet is located on the north wall above the sink, with electrical plate covers flanking either side. It is likely that wall sconces were installed on either side of the medicine cabinet and have been removed. A picture molding is located on all walls.

Ceiling: The ceiling is acoustic tile, painted, with one surface-mounted overhead fixture and one-by-four fluorescent fixture. A simple cove molding has been installed at the ceiling wall junction.

Windows: W202 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and storms. The window begins at the floor and is tiled below the window sash. The window sash does not have a sill or apron. The casing is of wood with decorated pilaster jambs with plinth blocks and a stepped-pedimented head with cornice.

Doorways: D202 is a trimmed opening without a door. The casing is of wood with decorated pilasters jambs set on plinth blocks, and a stepped-pedimented head with crown molding on the Room 201 side. On the Room 203 side the casing has flat plain jambs and head, without a pediment. The door has been removed; evidence of previous hardware is visible.

Other: The shower room is located at the east end and is enclosed by a glass door. The outer, dressing area has plaster walls, painted, with a 1½-inch-tall wooden chair rail at wainscoting height and a ceramic tile floor that matches the flooring in the adjacent room. Here there is a wooden baseboard, 3½ inches tall. Three wooden shelves are hung at the west end of the room. The ceiling is painted flat plaster throughout. There is one recessed light fixture in the ceiling.

Room 204

Room 204 has a rectangular plan, with single windows on the south and west elevations, a fireplace centered on the east wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms and a single interior doorway on the north wall.

Floor: The floor is carpeted, with a floor grille between the D204 and the fireplace.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a motion detector in the northwest corner, a clock surface-mounted above the fireplace, a blank plate covering a recessed electrical box for a wall sconce in the west wall, and a push-button switch plate on the east wall adjacent to the doorway.
Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted, with two, one-by-four, fluorescent light fixtures and a surface-mounted smoke detector.

Trim: The trim is plaster crown molding. The wooden baseboard is similar to the baseboard in Room 400, with a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

Windows: W201 and W222 are single windows, each with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and interior storm sash. The window sash is recessed; the recess runs to the floor with a raised panel below the window. The window sash does not have a sill or apron. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and stepped-pedimented heads with cornices. Drapery hardware remains in place.

Doorways: D203, D204, and D205 are all single doorway openings, each with a single wooden door with four raised panels. Each is hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The keyway cover is missing on the closet side of D205 and the room side of D203. All are set within wooden casings with decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and stepped-pedimented heads with crown moldings.

Built-ins: There is a single fireplace with a white marble mantelpiece similar to the mantelpiece in Room 202, but there is no cast-iron insert. The mantelpiece is white marble, with a stone hearth, brick firebox, and floor, each of which has been painted black. The firebox opening has a pedimented head. The opening is flanked on either side by pilasters with chamfered corners. The pilasters are separated from the architrave by simple chamfered astragal moldings. The architrave is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf. Above the mantel crown is pedimented.

Room 204A

Room 204A is a closet with two spaces, the outer and inner closet. Both rooms are rectangular in plan. The entry room has a single doorway on the south wall, and a doorway on the east wall to the inner closet.

Floor: Room 204A has a wood-plank floor running north to south, with thinner strips of darker wood inset to form a border.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with two wooden shelves supported by wooden brackets on the west wall and a wall sconce, an exposed bulb, with a back plate on the south wall. The smaller closet has painted horizontal plank walls.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted. The smaller closet has a painted wood-plank ceiling.

Trim: The wooden baseboard has a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth. There is no baseboard in the adjacent smaller closet.

Doorways: D205 is single doorway with a wooden door with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and a stepped-pedimented head with crown molding. The adjacent closet opening has a similar casing on
the exterior face, but is trimmed with a simple flat casing inside of the closet. The interior opening has no door.

**Built-ins:** The interior adjacent, smaller closet has a continuous shelf overhead, with four additional shelves on the south elevation. An electrical panel is mounted on the east wall.

**Room 205**

Room 205 has a rectangular plan, with single windows on the north and west elevations, a fireplace centered on the east wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms and a single interior doorway on the south wall leading to an adjacent bathroom.

**Floor:** The floor is carpeted, with a round floor grille between the fireplace and doorway (fig. 127).

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a motion detector in the northeast corner. There is surface-mounted conduit running along the baseboard in the northwest corner to surface-mounted outlet boxes, one on each wall.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with one surface-mounted [smoke, motion?] detector and two, one-by-four fluorescent light fixtures.

**Trim:** There is plaster crown molding. The wooden baseboard is similar to the baseboard in Room 400 with a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

**Windows:** W219 and W220 are single windows, each with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes, interior wooden shutters, and interior storm sash. The window sash is recessed; the recess runs to the floor with a raised panel below the window. The window sash does not have a sill or apron. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and stepped-pedimented heads with cornices.

**Doorways:** Doorways D207, D208, and D209 each have wooden doors with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The wooden casings have decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and stepped-pedimented heads with crown moldings.

**Fireplace:** There is a single fireplace with a marble mantelpiece. The mantelpiece is similar to the mantelpiece in Room 202, but only a small section of the cast-iron insert remains in place. The mantelpiece is white marble, with a stone hearth, brick firebox, and floor, each of which has been painted black. The firebox opening has a pedimented head. The opening is flanked on either side by pilasters with chamfered corners. The pilasters are separated from the architrave by simple chamfered astragal moldings. The architrave is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf. Above the mantel crown is pedimented. What remains of the cast-iron inset is the faceplate and some molding; the decorative fireback and basket grate have been removed.

**Closet:** The adjacent closet has a wood parquet floor with flat plaster painted walls and ceiling. A decorative wall sconce with a fluted glass globe is mounted on the back wall. A built-in dresser fills the north wall, with three open plywood shelves at the south end. A
single shelf with rod runs north to south. A portion of the casing for the window in the adjacent room extends into this closet.

Room 205A

Room 205A is a bathroom with a rectangular plan and a single window in the west wall.

Floor: The floor is 1-inch-square ceramic tile.

Walls: The walls have four-by-four ceramic tile wainscoting with a bullnose cap. There is painted flat plaster above the wainscoting. A recessed medicine cabinet is located on the south wall above the sink, with an electrical outlet adjacent to the cabinet. A picture molding is located on all walls.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a single surface-mounted light fixture.

Windows: W221 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes, with interior wooden shutters and an interior storm sash. The window is recessed into a full-height opening to the floor with a tiled panel below the window. The window does not have a sill or apron. The wooden casing runs to the floor and has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice.

Doorways: D207 has a single wooden door with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and a stepped-pedimented head with a crown molding.

Room 206

Room 206 is a bathroom with two spaces. The outer space along the north wall is almost square in plan, with doorways on the east and south elevations and a window on the north elevation. The second room to the south of the outer space, with a long rectangular plan, is a shower room.

Floor: The floor is ceramic hex tiles.

Walls: The walls have ceramic subway-tile wainscoting with a half-round chair rail cap. There is painted flat plaster above the wainscoting. A hole for a recessed medicine cabinet is located on the south wall above the sink, with electrical plate covers flanking either side. It is likely that wall sconces were installed on either side of the medicine cabinet and have been removed. A picture molding is located on all walls.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted.

Windows: W218 is a single window with six-over-six wooden double-hung sash, with interior wooden shutters and interior storm sash. The window is full-height to the floor, with a raised panel below the window. The window does not have a sill or apron. The casing
is of wood with decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice.

**Doorways:** The opening between the main room and the shower room is framed; the casing matches the doorway casings.

**Shower Room:** The north and south walls are four-by-four ceramic tiles with a clamshell cap wainscoting, with painted plaster above. A prefabricated shower with curtain is set within the room at the west end. At the north end a dresser is built into the wall. The ceiling is painted flat plaster throughout. There is a single socket surface-mounted in the center of the ceiling.

**Room 207**

Room 207 is almost square in plan, with a single window on the north elevation, a fireplace centered on the west wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms and a single interior doorway on the east wall at the south end.

**Floor:** The floor is wood parquet squares set on the diagonal bordered by wood parquet squares, set square, bounded by plank flooring with thin strips of darker wood. On the north side of the fireplace, a square heating register is set in the floor (fig. 128).

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a motion detector in the northeast corner and electrical plate covers on the north wall. A clock is mounted on the east wall. On the west wall adjacent to the doorway there is a push-button switch.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with two surface-mounted fluorescent fixtures and a surface-mounted detector.

**Trim:** Trim consists of a wooden baseboard and plaster crown molding.

**Windows:** W217 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and interior storm sash. The window is full height, recessed to the floor, with a raised panel below the window. The window does not have a sill or apron. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice.

**Doorways:** D210, D211, and D212 all have single wooden doors with four raised panels, hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The casings are of wood with decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks and stepped-pedimented heads with crown moldings.

**Fireplace:** There is a fireplace with a marble mantelpiece, similar to the mantelpiece in Room 202, but there is no cast-iron insert. The mantelpiece is white marble with a stone hearth, brick firebox, and floor, painted red. The firebox opening has a pedimented head. The opening is flanked on either side by pilasters with chamfered corners. The pilasters are separated from the architrave by simple chamfered astragal moldings. The architrave is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf. Above the mantel crown is pedimented.
Room 217

Room 217 is the stair hall and has a rectangular plan. The staircase leads up to the third story and down to the first story. The room, located in the Main Block and the Ell, has two floor levels. The lower level or stair landing at the south end is at the level of the Ell floor. The west end is up five risers and is level with the second story of the Main Block.

Floor: The wood plank floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted.

Ceiling: The ceiling is acoustic tile with wood trim added at the stair wall junction.

Trim: The wooden baseboard has a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

Windows: W205 is located at the east end on the stair landing; the triple window is comprised of larger center sashes with smaller sashes on either side (fig. 126). The center has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes, and is flanked by double-hung, two-over-two wooden sashes, all set within a single wooden casing with decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice. A single interior storm covers the three windows. The center window has four shutter pintles on the exterior.

Doorways: D227 is a trimmed opening only, without a door. The wooden casing has decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice on the Room 117 elevation, with a simple flat jamb with plinth blocks with flat pedimented head with cap molding on the Room 109 elevation.

Staircase: There is a bracketed wooden staircase with five risers up to the second story of the Main Block and seventeen risers down to the first story. At the west end the staircase continues up to the attic story. The staircase has a balustrade with turned wooden balusters and a molded handrail (fig. 88a). Both are stained; the bracketed stringer is painted white; the stairs are carpeted. The balustrade turns the corner to run continuously from one stair run to the next. There are no newel posts at either second-story landing.

Built-ins: There is a built-in cabinet along the east wall (fig. 118). Three paired three-light sashes, the top light with a pedimented head, set atop flat-panel drawers, above three paired flat-panel cabinet doors; the panels have pedimented heads. Three wooden shelves continue behind all three pairs of doors; the wall behind the shelves is bead-board. The center cabinet has a gas light fixture mounting bracket with a decorative escutcheon plate on the rear wall (fig. 119). The center drawer is actually a fold-out writing desk, and the lower cabinet conceals a roll-out seat. The cabinet is stained a natural wood finish. The entire cabinet is set within a wooden casing with decorated pilaster jambs with plinths and a stepped-pedimented head with a cornice.
Figure 118. Room 217, built-in cabinets on east wall.

Figure 119. Room 217, built-in cabinets, gas lighting fixture.
Ell Second-story Elements

Room 208

A rectangular room with a single window at one end and a doorway at the opposite end, Room 208 was a bathroom. The toilet has been removed, the bathroom sink has been replaced with a slop sink, and plywood has been installed over the tub to create a shelf.

Floor: The floor is ceramic tile.

Walls: The walls have four-by-four ceramic tile wainscoting with painted plaster above. There is a surface-mounted medicine cabinet with lights above the sink, a ceramic tile towel bar, and soap and toothbrush holder, all on the east wall. On the north wall there is a single ceramic tile toilet paper holder.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with one surface-mounted detector.

Windows: W216 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and storm sash. The window does not have a sill or an apron. The casing, which runs to the floor, has flat pilaster jambs with plinths and a flat pedimented head with a cap molding.

Doorways: D213 has a wooden door with four flat panels, hung on a pair of two-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover. The wooden casing has flat pilaster jambs with plinths and a flat pedimented head with a cap molding.

Room 209

Room 209 has a rectangular plan that is almost square. The room serves as a transition space between the Ell and the Main Block, with five full-width steps along the west wall leading up to D212 and Room 207. A framed opening on the south wall leads to the main stair hall; interior doorways on the north and south lead to adjacent rooms.

Floor: The floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a surface-mounted fire extinguisher on the north wall and a blank plate covering an electrical box at wall sconce height along the south wall.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with one surface-mounted detector and one abandoned smoke detector, surface-mounted. Above the stairs on the west wall, the ceiling curves up to meet the west wall.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, painted.

Doorways: D212 has a single wooden door with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover. The
wooden casing on the Room 207 elevation has decorated pilaster jambs set on plinth blocks, and stepped-pedimented head with a crown molding. In Room 209, the wooden casing is simple with flat pilaster jambs with plinths and a flat pedimented head with a cap molding.

Room 210

Room 201 is a stair hall with a rectangular plan. The staircase runs along the north interior wall down to the first story. The room has a closet in the northwest corner, a single window in the north elevation, interior doorways at either end of the stair on the south elevation, and a single doorway on the west elevation.

Floor: The floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with two blank electrical box plates at wall sconce height along the north and west walls and two electrical switch plates on the east wall.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a surface-mounted one-by-four fluorescent light fixture, a surface-mounted detector, and a gas pipe stub at the west end.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard.

Windows: W215 has double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The wooden casing has flat pilaster jambs with plinths and a flat pedimented head with a cap molding.

Staircase: There is an open-stringer wooden staircase with seventeen risers leading down to the first story. The staircase has turned wooden balusters and a profiled wooden handrail (fig. 88b). The balusters and handrail are stained dark in color; the stairs are carpeted.

Closet: There is a built-in closet at the northwest corner of the room. The exterior walls are bead-board, painted. There is a single wooden door with four flat panels (D215) hung on a pair of three-knuckle cabinet hinges with a lock box with wooden knobs, set into the center of the elevation. There is no door casing. The closet wall is capped by a simple crown molding. Inside the closet there is a wood plank ceiling, painted; the carpet continues to cover the floor, and there are hooks mounted on painted wood trim on each side.

Room 211

Room 211 is almost square in plan, with two windows on the south elevation, and a fireplace centered on the east wall, flanked by two interior doorways to adjacent rooms and an interior doorway on the west wall.

Floor: The floor is carpeted, with a metal floor grille adjacent to the fireplace (fig. 129).

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a motion detector in the northeast corner, a switch plate on the west wall, two blank-plate electrical box covers on the south wall at wall sconce height, and surface-mounted conduit to an electrical box on the south wall along the baseboard that is also surface-mounted.
**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with one surface-mounted detector and a one-by-four fluorescent light fixture. There is an applied molding at the wall/ceiling junction that is painted; it is a simple molding, not a crown molding.

**Trim:** There is a wooden baseboard, painted.

**Windows:** W206 and W207 have double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and storm sash set within a recess to the sill. The wooden casing has flat jambs and a simple pedimented head with cap (similar to fig. 125).

**Doorways:** D225, D216, and D226 all have single wooden doors with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The door to D226 is missing one keyway cover. The casings are of wood with flat jambs and simple pedimented heads with cap moldings. Doorway D225 to the closet has a casing of simple flat trim without a pediment.

**Fireplace:** There is a fireplace with a marble mantelpiece that is similar to the mantelpiece in Room 202 but with no cast-iron insert. The mantelpiece is white marble with a stone hearth; the brick firebox and floor are painted black. The firebox opening has a pedimented head. The opening is flanked on either side flat pilasters, which are capped by a simple chamfered astragal molding. The architrave is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf. Above the mantel crown is pedimented.

**Closet:** Carpeting continues into the closet. The closet ceiling and walls are flat plaster, painted. At the north end, a dresser has been built into the closet. Two wooden shelves are located on the south and east walls. An electrical panel and large vertical metal duct rise in the southeast corner. The baseboard from the room continues into the closet.

**Room 212**

Room 212 is almost square in plan, with two single windows on the south elevation, and a fireplace and interior entrance doorway on the west wall. This room is accessible from the rear hall or through an adjacent room.

**Floor:** The floor is carpeted.

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a motion detector in the southwest corner, a clock over the doorway, and a switch on the north wall.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is rough-finished plaster, painted, with a single surface-mounted one-by-four fluorescent light fixture and a surface-mounted detector.

**Trim:** There is a wooden baseboard, painted. A plaster corner molding, similar in design to the paneled pilaster doorway and window casings, is located on the southwest wall adjacent to the fireplace. The paneled pilaster design turns the corner, similar to the framed opening into the main stair.
Windows: W208 and W209 are each single windows with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior storms. The wooden casings have flat jambs with flat pedimented heads with cap moldings. There are no interior shutters on these sashes.

Doorways: D222, D223, and D224 all have single wooden doors with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The wooden casings are simple with flat jambs and pedimented heads with cap moldings.

Fireplace: The mantelpiece is similar to the mantelpieces found throughout the second story, but simpler (fig. 86). There are no pilasters or astragal moldings; the firebox opening as well as the trim above the mantelpiece is flat without a pediment. The mantelpiece is gray marble. The brick firebox is painted black; the brick hearth is natural beige in color. The architrave, which projects out slightly over the jambs, is unadorned and supports a projecting marble mantel shelf.

Closet: Carpeting continues into the closet. The closet ceiling and walls are flat plaster, painted. Wooden shelves are installed along the east wall. There is a single surface-mounted fluorescent fixture mounted on the ceiling. The baseboard from the room continues into the closet.

Room 213

Room 213 is a hall with a rectangular plan and one window along the north wall and doorways at each end.

Floor: The floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a corner molding of flat wood, painted, on the southwest corner leading to Room 216. There is a single grille located in the south wall (fig. 130).

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a single surface-mounted light and detector.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, painted.

Window: W214 is a single window with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with an interior storm. The casing is of wood with flat jambs and a flat pedimented head without any cap molding.

Doorways: D217 has a single wooden door with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. All set within a wooden casing with flat jambs and a pedimented head with cap moldings. There is an additional lock on the door Room 210.
Room 214

Room 214 is a bathroom with a rectangular plan, a single window in both the north and east walls, and a doorway in the west wall.

Floor: The floor is sheet vinyl.

Walls: The walls have bead-board wainscoting with a bullnose cap along the west, south, east, and north walls (north wall to the window only). Above the wainscoting is painted plaster. A medicine cabinet is surface-mounted above the sink in the south wall. There is a single wall sconce above the medicine cabinet.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with a single surface-mounted detector.

Trim: The wooden baseboard varies in this room. At the south wall it is a simple flat board; the east wall has no baseboard; and the north wall has a profiled wooden baseboard similar to that in Room 216.

Windows: W212 and W213 are single windows each with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior wooden shutters and interior storms (fig. 125). Each is set within a full-height recess to the floor. Below W213 is a raised wood panel. Each has a wooden casing with flat jambs with plinths and simple pedimented heads with cap moldings.

Doorways: D218 has a wooden door with four raised panels, hung from a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway cover on this face only. The wooden casing has flat jambs and a simple pedimented head with cap moldings.

Other: There is a claw foot tub along the south wall, a painted radiator adjacent to window W213, and a small pipe chase in the northeast corner.

Room 215

Room 215 has a rectangular plan with windows in both the south and east walls and two doorways along the north wall.

Floor: The floor is carpeted, with a grille along the west wall.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a single wall sconce plate along the south wall and switch plates on the north wall.

Ceiling: The ceiling is acoustic tile, painted, with a painted wooden crown molding at the wall/ceiling junction. There is a single one-by-four fluorescent light fixture and a surface-mounted detector on the ceiling.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, painted, similar to that in Room 216, with a single wooden door bumper.

Windows: W210 and W211 are single windows with double-hung, six-over-six wooden sashes with interior storms. There are no interior shutters. The wooden casings have flat
jambs with plinths and flat pedimented heads with cap moldings. The windows have sills and aprons.

Doorways: D220 and D222 both have wooden doors with four raised panels, hung from a single pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lockset with wooden knobs and keyway covers. The wooden casings are simple with flat jambs and a simple pedimented heads with cap moldings.

Closet: The closet floor is carpeted; the walls are painted plaster; the baseboard matches that in the room. The ceiling, like the room, is acoustic tile painted with a single surface-mounted light fixture. There are two shelves and a built-in cabinet on the west wall, and hooks mounted on a trim board on the east wall.

Room 216

With an L-shaped plan, Room 216 is a hall that leads to hall 213. There are two doorways on the south elevation and a single doorway leading to the attic at the north end of the west elevation.

Floor: The floor is carpeted.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted, with a light switch between the doorways on the south wall.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted, with two dropped beams, both running east to west; one is of wood, the other of plaster. There is a single surface-mounted light fixture.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard, painted, similar to that in Room 216, with a single wooden doorstop (fig. 120).

Doorways: D219 leads to the attic. The door is of wood with two raised panels hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, with one surface-mounted box lock similar to those found on the attic closet doors. The casing is of wood with flat jambs and a simple pedimented head.
Figure 120. Room 216 baseboard.

Figure 121. Second story, Main Block, Room 201, crown molding at opening to staircase hallway, 2008.
Figure 122. Second story, Main Block, Room 201, built-in cabinets on north wall, 2008.

Figure 123. Second story, Main Block, Room 201, built-in cabinets on west wall, 2008.
Figure 124. Second story, Main Block, W204, typical window with articulated pilasters and stepped-pedimented head with cap molding, 2008.

Figure 125. Second story, Ell, W213, typical window elements, 2008.

Figure 126. Second story, Room 217, W205 triple window, 2008.
Figure 127. Second story, Main Block, Room 205, cast-iron circular floor register with stone surround, 2008.

Figure 128. Second story, Main Block, Room 207, cast-iron heating register set in wood floor, 2008.

Figure 129. Second story, Ell, Room 211, cast-iron floor register, 2008.

Figure 130. Second story, Ell, Room 213, cast-iron wall register set in wall above baseboard, 2008.
Attic Story

General Description

The attic of the Commanding Officer’s House is comprised of two distinct areas, one above the Main Block, the other above the Ell. The areas are not connected.

The attic of the Main Block is accessible from the primary staircase. It is divided into a series of interconnecting rooms. The largest room has built-in closets and skylights. One room on the northeast corner has dormer windows. The dormers have double-hung, two-over-two wooden sashes. Above the primary staircase there is a decorative round twelve-light laylight (fig. 131). The attic doors are of wood with four raised panels. The casings of the primary doorways are hybrids with articulated pilaster jambs, flat pedimented heads, and simple cap moldings. The closet doorway casings are, for the most part, simple flat moldings with pedimented heads and cap moldings. In each room the ceiling follows the line of the hipped roof above, sloping down toward the exterior walls. Access doors to the ventilation/heating shafts are located in the outside walls (fig. 133).

The attic above the Ell is accessible via a narrow staircase from the second-story hallway, Room 216. The space above is basically two rooms, one an attic space with exposed framing, the second a crudely finished space with a raised floor.

Figure 131. Circular laylight over main staircase to attic story, 2008.
Figure 132. Commanding Officer's Quarters, attic floor plan with room numbers, and doorway and window numbers assigned for current project.
Main Block Attic Elements

Room 301

Room 301 has a rectangular plan with a staircase at the east side, and a stair landing hall at the west.

Floor: The attic has a painted tongue-and-groove wood plank floor running north to south, with plank width varying from 3⅛ to 5⅛ inches.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. There is a surface-mounted conduit on the south wall to a switch plate; the switch is missing.

Ceiling: The ceiling is flat plaster, painted; it is flat at the landing, sloping down to the east over the staircase. There is a single surface-mounted detector near D 309, surface-mounted conduit and wiring, and an abandoned detector.

Trim: The wooden baseboard has a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

Windows: Above the staircase landing at the east end of the room is a round laylight with twelve light divisions around a center circular light. An articulated plaster casing encircles the laylight. On the exterior the laylight is covered by a protective roof/light structure, visible from below (fig. 131).

Doorways: D300 and D308 both have single wooden doors with four raised panels. Each door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, and has a mortised lock with wooden knobs and a keyway. The wooden casings have articulated pilaster jambs 6⅞ inches wide with flat pedimented heads, 6½ inches wide at the low point, with cap molding.

Built-ins: There is a bracketed wooden staircase, leading down to the Main Block second-story level at the east end of the room. The balustrade has turned wooden balusters and handrail. Both are stained; the bracketed stringer is painted white; the treads are of wood. The balustrade turns the corner at the top to form a guardrail and terminates at the north wall. There is no newel post at the landing.

Room 302

Room 302 has a rectangular plan that is almost square. A staircase that begins on the east wall turns and runs up the north wall to the fourth story. There is a single doorway on the east wall.

Floor: Room 302 has a painted and stained tongue-and-groove wood floor running north to south; plank width varies.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. The south and west walls have a picture molding approximately 5 feet 2¼ inches above the floor. The picture molding is 2⅛ inches wide with a
bead and quirks at top and bottom. There is a light switch with exposed conduit on the east wall adjacent to doorway.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is rough finish plaster, painted. There is a single surface-mounted one-by-four fluorescent light fixture with surface-mounted conduit.

**Doorways:** D309 has a single wooden door with four raised panels. The door is hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges and has a mortised lock with wooden knobs and a keyway. The casing is of wood with articulated pilaster jambs 6⅞ inches wide with a flat pedimented head, 6½ inches wide at the low point, and a cap molding.

**Staircase:** An open-stringer staircase goes up three risers along the east wall to a landing where it turns to run up along the north wall. The staircase has a turned-wood newel post at the bottom that is approximately 3 feet 5 inches tall (fig. 87c). The wooden risers are painted, the wooden treads stained. The stair stringer is of painted wood, undecorated except for a corner bead at the underside of the stair ceiling.

**Trim:** The wooden baseboard has a beak molding set on a cyma reversa on an 8-inch-tall flat plinth.

**Room 303**

Room 303 has a square plan with a cutout at the entry and a chimney along the west wall.

**Floor:** Room 303 has a tongue-and-groove wood floor running north to south; plank width varies. Batt insulation has been installed over the top of the wood floor.

**Walls:** The walls are painted flat plaster on wood laths. There is a flat corner board ⅞ inch thick, protecting the southeast outside corner.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster on wood laths, painted. The ceiling is sloped down to the outside wall. The plaster is failing in a few locations. There are two detectors and surface-mounted conduit on the ceiling.

**Trim:** The baseboard is a ¾-inch thick, 8½-inch flat board, grained. There is no crown molding.

**Windows:** Two metal-framed skylights with wire glass and center vertical mullions are located in the east and south ceilings. The casings are of wood, 3½ inches wide, with slightly curved center and a bead on the outside edge (fig. 135).

**Doorways:** D301 has a wooden door with four raised panels, hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges. The door has a mortised lock with wooden knobs and a keyway. The door is grained on both sides. The wooden casing is of simple flat boards with a pedimented head and cap molding.

There are metal doors located in the short knee walls at the exterior walls. The doors open to ventilation shafts. The doors are set into flat wooden casings with pedimented heads and
cased, splayed walls. The door is 12 inches wide by 11 inches tall, hung on a single hinge with a latch (fig. 133).

**Room 304**

Room 304 has a C-shaped plan with two chimney stacks, one in each leg of the C, and built-in closets along the interior north and east walls.

**Floor:** Room 304 has a 1-inch-thick, tongue-and-groove wood floor running north to south; plank width varies. Batt insulation has been installed over the top of the wood floor in some locations. There is a second layer of 1⅛-inch-thick wood subfloor below the exposed flooring that runs in the same direction. There is an electrical panel mounted on the one wall. On the interior south wall, there are possible remnants of an early call system remaining on the wall.

**Walls:** The walls are painted flat plaster on wood lath. A section of the east wall adjacent to D304 is bead-board, painted.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat at the center, sloping along the roof line down to the exterior walls. There are electrical junction boxes with exposed light bulbs and conduit, all surface-mounted.

**Trim:** The wooden baseboard is similar to the baseboard in Room 303. It is a flat board, grained. There is no crown molding.

**Windows:** Room 304 has five metal-framed skylights with wire glass and center vertical mullions (fig. 135). There are two in the north and south elevations, three in the west elevation. The casings are of wood, 3½ inches wide, with slightly curved center and a bead on the outside edge.

**Doorways:** D300 has a wooden door with four raised panels, hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with a mortised lock, wooden knobs, and a keyway. The wooden casing has articulated pilaster jambs 6⅞ inches wide with a flat pedimented head, 6½ inches wide at the low point, with cap molding.

D302 has a wooden door with four raised panels hung on a pair of two-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lock with wooden knobs and a keyway. The wooden casing is grained on both sides, but otherwise unadorned.

D303 and D304 each have a single wooden door with four raised panels, each hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges with articulated box locks with wooden knobs. The wooden casings are of simple flat boards with pedimented heads and cap moldings, and are grained on both sides.

D305 is a trimmed opening only; there is no door. The casing is of simple flat wood.
There are two flat metal doors set in the short knee walls at the exterior north and south walls. The doors open to ventilation shafts. The doors are set into grained wooden casings with pedimented heads and cased splayed walls. The doors are 12 inches wide by 11 inches tall, hung on a single hinge with a latch (fig. 133).

**Built-ins:** Room 304 has a series of closets constructed along the interior walls. The walls of the closets are constructed of bead-board and are grained. The width of the bead-board varies (fig. 134).

**Room 305**

Room 305 has a square in plan, with a cutout at the entrance in the southwest corner and a chimney along the west wall.

**Floor:** Room 305 has a tongue-and-groove wood floor running north to south; plank width varies. Batt insulation has been installed over the top of the wood floor in some locations.

**Walls:** The walls are flat plaster on wood laths, painted.

**Ceiling:** The ceiling is flat plaster on wood laths, painted; from the entrance the ceiling slopes down to the outside wall. There are two detectors and surface-mounted conduit on the ceiling.

**Trim:** The baseboard is similar to the baseboard in Room 303 and is a flat wood board, grained. Along the south wall and a portion of the east wall a profiled molding has been added to the top of the flat board. There is no crown molding.

**Windows:** W301 and W302 are dormers. The dormers have double-hung, two-over-two wooden sashes without storms. The dormers are trimmed out at the ceiling with flat trim boards; the side walls of the dormers are bead-board.

**Doorways:** D306 has a wood door with four raised panels hung on a pair of five-knuckle hinges, with a mortised lock, wood knobs, and a keyway. The casing is of wood unadorned boards on all sides.

D307 has a door with four raised panels hung on a pair of three-knuckle hinges with a box lock without knobs. The casing is of wood with unadorned flat boards on all sides.

There is a single metal door in the short knee walls at the exterior east wall. The door opens to a ventilation shaft. The door is set into flat wooden casings with pedimented heads and
cased splayed walls. The door is 12 inches wide by 11 inches tall, hung on a single hinge with a latch (fig. 131).

**Built-ins:** A closet has been constructed along the south wall adjacent to the entry doorway. The closet walls are constructed of bead-board and are grained. The width of the bead-board varies.

**Other:** The chimney has a flue pipe opening in the east elevation.

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**Ell Attic Elements**

**Room 306**

Room 306 is an attic space with a rectangular plan. There is a chimney at the west elevation, an area of raised floor to the south, and a staircase down running along with north wall.

**Floor:** The floor is laid of wide wood planks, ¾ thick, of varying widths from 11⅛ to 13 inches. A portion of the floor along the south wall is raised.

**Walls:** The walls are plaster, painted.

**Ceilings:** The ceilings are painted flat plaster on wood laths, following the ridge of the roof line above. A roof scuttle is located in the north elevation. The scuttle and its frame are of wood. A surface-mounted junction box with an exposed light bulb, smoke detector, and conduit are all visible on the ceiling.

**Doorways:** There are three attic access doors, all constructed from bead-board, all with simple flat casings, painted. The access doors in the north and south walls are each hung on a pair of three-knuckle hinges and have toggle latches. The access door in the east wall has a hook-and-eye lock.

**Built-ins:** An unfinished wooden stair runs down along the north wall eleven risers to the second story. Two of the stair treads have a series of holes drilled in them. A simple wooden handrail is mounted on the wall.

**Other:** The adjacent room is an open attic area with exposed roof and ceiling framing. Here tongue-and-groove wood plank sheathing is set on 2½-inch-by-5-inch rafters at 2 feet 4 inches on center supported by 8½-inch-by-5-inch purlins. At the ridge a single plank is set between the rafters; there is no ridge beam. At the floor the exposed second-floor ceiling framing is 3-inch-by-10⅞-inch joists running east to west at 1 foot 11 inches on center.
Figure 134. Attic, Main Block, Room 304, built-in closet along interior north wall and D302, a four-raised-panel door that opens into the closet, 2008.

Figure 135. Attic, Main Block, Room 304, typical skylight and skylight trim, 2008.
Cupola Elements

General Description

The cupola level has a single room, Room 401 (fig. 136). The room is accessible by a single staircase and has windows on all four elevations.

Floor: The cupola has tongue-and-groove wood plank flooring, running east to west, painted. Plank width varies from 4¼ to 10 inches wide.

Walls: The walls are flat plaster, painted. The east wall has surface-mounted conduit and exposed wire.

Ceilings: The ceilings are flat plaster, painted, with a surface-mounted junction box, a surface-mounted smoke detector, and exposed conduit to each.

Trim: There is a wooden baseboard along all four walls. The baseboard has a bird’s-mouth molding set on an ogee molding with a flat stepped plinth below. The baseboard is painted.

Windows: There are two windows on each elevation, W401 through W408 (fig. 137). All have double-hung, one-over-one wooden sashes with interior storms. The casings are flat wooden casing; the heads are pedimented and have cap moldings. The cap molding is an ovolo molding with flat top. The jambs are ¾ inches wide. All windows have a projecting sill with eased edges and a stepped apron below.

Staircase: The staircase is an open-stringer stair. The stair runs down along the north wall with thirteen risers; the risers are painted. The balustrade has turned wooden balusters, painted, with a stained wooden handrail (fig. 88c). The handrail is 3 feet 5½ inches tall.

Crown Molding: There is full plaster crown molding with a flat plaster frieze and molded cornice (fig. 138). The crown molding has a cavetto molding (or conge) with flat fascia below with drip, set atop a cyma reversa, with a stepped-flat frieze below.
Figure 136. Commanding Officer’s Quarters, cupola floor plan with room numbers and window numbers assigned for current project.
Figure 137. Main Block, cupola, Room 401, typical window elements, 2008.

Figure 138. Main Block, cupola, Room 401, crown molding, 2008.
CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES and GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

By James Lee
INTRODUCTION

A historic structure may be significant for its architectural features and/or its association with historic events and persons. The Commanding Officer’s Quarters was recognized by the National Register for its architectural features and as a contributing historic structure to the Springfield Armory National Historic Site (see the previous section “Introduction, National Register”). The character-defining features (CDFs) of a structure are those visual features and elements that define the structure and contribute to its historic integrity. To retain the historic integrity of the structure, it is important to retain and preserve those CDFs.

The proposed treatment of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters is rehabilitation with reuse as offices for Park use and leasing to community groups and/or non-profit organizations. The rehabilitation of a structure includes the retention of CDFs. The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation address this in the definition of “rehabilitation”, which is “the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.” The Secretary of the Interior further addresses rehabilitation in the following standards:

1. A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

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6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.¹⁹³

The following sections will identify the character-defining features and make general recommendations for the rehabilitation and reuse of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The general recommendations are meant to guide the rehabilitation of the building. The rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should be done in a manner that does not diminish the historic integrity of the structure and should be planned with minimal impact to the CDFs. The rehabilitation of the building should conform to the appropriate fire, safety, and accessibility codes for historic buildings.

¹⁹³ NPS website URL – http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/stanguide/rehab/rehab_standards.htm
CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Exterior Elements

Design and Context

- Site and location of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters in relation to Armory Square and the surrounding neighborhood of Springfield, which was indicative of how Commander James W. Ripley wanted the building and his command to be perceived by his neighbors and the general public.

- The original Greek Revival-style design of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, which was reflected in certain exterior elements (see subsequent sections). The building design followed the examples of other Greek Revival-style buildings, but was distinct in its more formal application of the style.

- The overall massing of the masonry Commanding Officer’s Quarters with the large rectangular Main Block with a cupola and the attached Ell extending east of the Main Block.

Walls

- Exterior masonry walls that were constructed to harmonize with other brick buildings at the Springfield Armory and to make the Commanding Officer’s Quarters a sustainable permanent structure.

- The foundation walls constructed with brownstone from a local quarry in Longmeadow, Massachusetts, including the brownstone water tables dressed with beveled top edges.

- The red brick exterior walls of the Main Block, cupola, and Ell, including the decorative elements constructed with red brick. Some of these elements were indicative of the Greek Revival design, including the brick pilasters on the Main Block, and the brick entablature elements on both the Main Block and the cupola.

- The projecting brownstone cornice of the Main Block and the Ell.
Porches

- On the Main Block the south-elevation 1887 porch that wraps around to the west elevation was a significant alteration during the historic period. The extant elements, including the paired cast-iron columns, cast-iron balustrade, cast-iron frieze, brownstone steps, and wooden floor and ceiling elements, are all CDFs.

- The south-elevation Ell porch, including the historic elements and later alterations during the historic period. The historic elements were identified as the porch piers, brownstone steps, lattice, ceiling, and cornice. The later alterations included the paired cast-iron columns and the wooden frieze. The floor was apparently replaced when the porch was altered and has probably been repaired since then. The roof retains the original configuration, but the framing may have been repaired since the original construction and the copper roofing material was more recently replaced.

Doorways

- The doorway locations in relation to the overall design and the function of the interior spaces.

- The façade entry doorway, including the original doorway casing and the early-twentieth-century alterations that included leaded sidelights and a leaded transom fanlight.

- The extant original doorway materials in the south, east, and north elevations of the Ell, including the casings on all three doorways, the sidelights, and the transom lights on the south and north doorways.

- The north-elevation doorway on the Main Block that was altered from a window to a doorway with French doors during the historic period. The CDFs include the doorway casing, double leaf doors, transom sash, and the wooden steps with cast-iron stringers.

Windows

- The overall design, proportions, and locations of the exterior windows. This includes original and altered windows that are extant at the Commanding Officer's Quarters.
• The extant original window architraves on the Main Block, cupola, and Ell. The architraves on the Main Block include brick pilasters with pedimented brownstone lintels on the first-story windows, and brick reveals with brownstone sills and lintels on the second story and cupola. The architraves on the Ell include brick reveals and brownstone sills and lintels on both stories.

• The floor-to-ceiling windows with triple-hung sashes on the first story of the Main Block.

• The second-story triple window (W205) on the south elevation of the Ell.

• The north elevation first-story bay window (W217), which was one of the earliest alterations to the building and was added during the historic period.

• The oculus window (W104) on the south elevation of the Ell, which was added during the historic period.

**Roof and Related Elements**

• The slate hipped roofs on the Main Block and the Ell of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

• The metal roofs on the porches, cupola, and dormers.

• The skylights in the roof of the Main Block, especially the round laylight on the east elevation of the roof.

• The two dormers on the Main Block, which were added during the historic period.

• The roof gutters incorporated in the brownstone cornice and installed along the edges of both the Main Block and the Ell roofs.

• The cast-iron snow rail on the Main Block and Ell roofs that was added during the historic period.

• The four brick chimneys symmetrically placed on the roof of the Main Block and the single brick chimney on the roof of the Ell.
Interior Elements

Plan

- The overall layout of the rooms on all stories of the Main Block and Ell of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The extant plan is representative of the original plan, with few alterations, all of which were made during the historic period.

- The extant plan of the attic that has not been significantly altered since the building was constructed and is essentially the same as the 1876 plan.

- The configuration of the first-story Center Hallway (Room 102) that includes the extension of the hallway into Room 105, which was altered during the historic period.

Floors

- Historic wood floors in Rooms 102, 107, and 108, constructed with two-tone floor boards with decorative patterns and fret work along the outer edges.

- The basement floor materials, including the brick floors and wood floors installed over the brick in some rooms.

- Wood floors throughout the first, second, and attic stories of the Main Block, the cupola, and the second story of the Ell.

Walls

- The plaster walls throughout the upper stories of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

- Brick partition walls in the basement of the building.

- Interior wall trim elements, including baseboards, crown moldings, and the pilasters in the first and second-story openings to the Main Block staircase hallway.
Ceilings

- The high ceilings on the first story and second story of the Main Block of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.
- The extant ceiling medallion recess or cove in Center Hallway (Room 102) and the extant ceiling medallion in the Dining Room (Room 106).

Doorways

- The location of the interior doorways, reflecting the historic plan of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters with few alterations.
- The elements of the interior doorways in the Main Block and the Ell, including the extant casings, heads, and door leaves.
- The interior doorway and closet doorway hardware including the surface-mounted box locks, the mortised locks, and the butt hinges.

Windows

- The splayed window jambs on the first and second stories of the Main Block of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.
- The extant interior shutters in the windows in the Main Block and some windows in the Ell.
- The extant historic interior window elements in the Main Block and the Ell, including the wooden casings, and pedimented heads, as well as the wooden windowsills in the cupola and Ell windows.
- The bay window in the Dining Room (Room 106), including the trim elements of the bay opening and the elements of the three windows within the bay.
**Staircases and Related Elements**

- The elements of the open staircase in the Main Block that begins on the first story, ascends to the landings at the second story, and continues to the attic, including the first-story newel post, the continuous balustrade, and the bracketed stringer with continuous scrollwork.

- The elements of the open staircase from the attic story to the cupola, including the newel post, the balustrade that encloses the stairwell at the level of the cupola, and the stringer.

- The open staircase from the first story to the second story of the Ell, including the newel post, the balustrade, and the stringer, as well as the alteration of the lower section of the staircase to a winder staircase during the historic period.

**Built-ins**

- The walk-in cold-storage/refrigerator (Room 117A) in the first story of the Ell and the associated elements, including the interior doorway elements, the materials and shelving in Room 117A, and the ice-delivery doorway in the east elevation of the Ell.

- The bookcase built into the east wall of the second-story landing (Room 217), the pilasters and pedimented head surrounding the bookcase, and the bookcase elements including the glass doors, two drawers, fold-out writing desk, lower cabinets, and roll-out seat.

- The three cabinets built into the walls of the second-story Center Hallway (Room 201), which were added during the historic period.

- The closets and related elements located in Room 304 of the attic including the double closet on the west wall that appears to be original and the single closet on the south wall that was added during the historic period.

**Utilities**

- Elements of the historic hot-air heating system, including the furnace chamber, the coal storage room, the brick tunnel for the fresh-air intake in Room B02, and the heat registers on the first and second stories, especially the earliest registers in Rooms 102 and 106.

- Evidence of the early gas lighting system, especially the gas bracket in Room 217.
GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Exterior Elements

Design and Context

- The existing site and location of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were specifically chosen by Commander James W. Ripley when the building was constructed and are important in the context of the history and growth of the Springfield Armory. The rehabilitation of the building should not alter the existing location and should preserve these CDFs.

- The original Greek Revival-style design of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters is important to the history of the building and the context of the surrounding buildings, and should be preserved. The original design is reflected in certain exterior elements, which are also CDFs. The extant elements on the Main Block include the brick pilasters at the corners of each elevation, the brick entablature, the projecting brownstone cornice, the brick pilasters and pedimented brownstone lintels surrounding the first-story windows, as well as the brownstone lintels above the second-story windows. The extant elements on the Ell include the south and north doorway casings, especially the side lights and transom sashes. These elements should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building according to the recommendations in the subsequent sections.

- Though later alterations have muted some of the Greek Revival-style design elements, these CDFs were more evident in historic photographs and drawings. The earliest exterior paint scheme highlighted some of the decorative elements of the buildings formal Greek Revival-style. The rehabilitation and reuse of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should include an exhibit and/or published materials that describe the importance of the original design elements.

- The overall massing of the masonry Commanding Officer’s Quarters, creating two distinct sections, is an important design element. This massing established a hierarchy between the two sections in which the Main Block was the dominant portion of the building and the Ell assumed a subservient character. The massing of the two sections of the building is an important CDF that should not be altered during rehabilitation.
Walls

- Exterior masonry elements, including the brownstone foundation, brick walls, decorative brick elements, and brownstone cornice, should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. Any rehabilitation projects should retain the extant configuration of the masonry elements. The installation of fire-protection systems, such as alarms and exterior emergency lights, and ADA-compliant access should be done in a manner that has minimal impact on the exterior wall elements. The deficiencies and deterioration of the exterior mortars should be repaired in accordance with the specifications presented in the analysis of the brick and brownstone mortars prepared by Stull Associates, Inc. and Building Conservation Technology, Inc.\(^\text{194}\)

Porches

- The design and materials of the south-elevation porch, wrapping around to the west elevation of the Main Block, are important exterior features of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters added during the historic period, and should be preserved. The rehabilitation of the building should retain the extant porch elements, and any repairs to the porch should be performed with in-kind materials. Repairs to the mortar of the brownstone steps should be done according to the specifications for brownstone mortars prepared by Stull Associates, Inc. and Building Conservation Technology, Inc.\(^\text{195}\) The construction of an ADA-compliant ramp and entrance should be planned with attention to the preservation of the historic elements of the porch. The feasibility of alternate locations for ADA-compliant access should be carefully studied, with consideration for minimal impact on the Commanding Officer’s Quarters CDFs (see subsequent section “Accessibility”).

- The original elements and later alterations of the south elevation Ell porch should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building. Repairs to the porch elements should be performed with in-kind materials to match the historic elements. The construction of ADA-compliant access along the south elevation of the Ell should be planned to have minimal impact on the historic elements of the porch (see subsequent section “Accessibility”).

- The brownstone steps on the east-elevation Ell porch should be retained and rehabilitated. The erosion of the brownstone steps does not appear to threaten their structural stability. If feasible, the deteriorated steps should be replaced with new steps constructed with brownstone to match the original materials. Repairs to the mortar should be done according to the previously cited mortar analysis by Stull Associates, Inc. and Building Conservation Technology, Inc.


\(^{195}\) Ibid.
Doorways

- The extant façade entry doorway elements should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The doorway architrave, leaded side lights and fanlight transom, and wooden door leaf should be retained as part of any rehabilitation projects. If necessary, these elements should be repaired with in-kind materials.

- The rehabilitation of the building should retain the extant original doorway elements in the south, east, and north elevations of the Ell. Repairs to the doorway elements should be performed with in-kind materials. Any projects that would affect these doorways should be planned to have minimal impact on the extant original elements.

- The north-elevation doorway on the Main Block was an early-twentieth century alteration, which should be retained and preserved during the rehabilitation of the building. All repairs to the doorway elements should be done with in-kind materials. The wooden steps leading to the doorway are deteriorated and should be replaced in kind. The cast-iron stringers should be properly prepared and painted as part of the building rehabilitation.

Windows

- The rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should retain the existing locations, design, proportions, and extant historic elements of the exterior windows. Though the window sashes were replaced, with the exception of the cupola sashes, the replacement sashes match the number of lights in the original sashes and should be retained. The cupola sashes were replaced during the historic period and should also be retained. All wooden elements should be properly prepared and painted. Deteriorated wooden elements should be rehabilitated with an epoxy consolidant, prepared, and painted. If necessary, severely deteriorated wooden elements should be replaced with in-kind materials milled to match the historic window elements. If sashes require replacement, the new sashes should match the materials of the extant sash, as well as the number and size of glazed lights.

- The floor-to-ceiling windows with triple-hung sashes on the first story of the Main Block are especially distinctive and are important CDFs. These windows should be rehabilitated according to the previously described practices.

- Likewise the second-story triple window on the south elevation of the Ell is an important CDF that should be retained. The rehabilitation of the window elements should be performed in the same manner as the other windows.

- The north-elevation first-story bay window was an early alteration and should be retained and preserved in the same manner as the other windows. The metal roof covering the bay window should be retained, and necessary repairs should be performed with in-kind materials.
Roof and Related Elements

- The roofs and roof materials of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building. Repairs to the roof materials should be performed with in-kind materials, especially the replacement of broken or missing roof slates. Repairs to the metal roofs should also be done in kind and should avoid the application of temporary tar/bituminous patches and the use of synthetic membrane to replace the extant metal roofs.

- The skylights in the roof of the Main Block, including the laylight, should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building. The extant skylight elements were replaced during the historic period and should be retained in their current form. The laylight appears to retain historic elements and should be preserved. If necessary, the skylights should be repaired with in-kind materials to match the extant elements.

- The two dormers on the Main Block should be retained and rehabilitated. Repairs to the elements of the dormers, including the slate side walls, the wooden trim, windows and sashes, and the flat-seam metal roof, should be performed with in-kind materials. Repair of deteriorated wooden elements should be done with an epoxy consolidant. Any wood replacement materials should be milled to replicate the extant elements. Upon repair or replacement, all wooden elements should properly prepared and painted.

- The extant roof gutters incorporated in the brownstone cornice along the edges of both the Main Block and the Ell roofs should be retained during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer's Quarters. The gutters were repaired in 1980 and are currently lined with copper and connected to copper downspouts. Repairs to the gutters should be done in the same manner as the 1980 repairs and should be performed in kind with copper materials. All gutters and downspouts on the building should be properly maintained through bi-annual inspections and cleaning. At that time any deficiencies that are noted should be repaired. Gutter and drainage failure and moisture infiltration are a serious threat to any historic structure. All efforts should be taken to avoid and mitigate problems associated with the buildings drainage system.

- The cast-iron snow rail on the Main Block and Ell roofs was added during the historic period and should be retained. Since the replacement of the snow-rail elements with cast iron may not be feasible, any repairs should be performed with similar materials that replicate the appearance of the historic elements. The physical and documentary evidence indicated that the snow rail was historically painted. Therefore the snow-rail elements should be properly prepared and painted during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters.

- The locations and extant elements of the brick chimneys on the Commanding Officer's Quarters should be preserved. Repair and replacement of extant elements should be done with in-kind materials. Rehabilitation of deteriorated mortar should be performed according to the previously cited analysis by Stull Associates, Inc. and Building Conservation Technology, Inc.
**Interior Elements**

**Plan**

- The rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should preserve the overall layout of the rooms in the Main Block and the Ell. The extant floor plans of all stories of the building are indicative of the historic plan and historic use of the building, as well as alterations to the building. This is especially true of the extant plan of the attic story and cupola, which have not been significantly altered and should be retained in their current configuration.

- The reuse of the building may require the addition of ADA-compliant access and restroom facilities. It is recommended that several options be reviewed and that the pros and cons of any alterations be considered when determining the feasibility of rehabilitating the building. Any rehabilitation of the interior should strive to preserve as much of the extant plan as feasible.

**Floors**

- The extant wood floors throughout the Commanding Officer’s Quarters were identified as CDFs in the previous section and should be retained during the rehabilitation and reuse of the building. The decorative wood floors in Rooms 102, 107, and 108 are especially significant and should not be altered. Likewise the wood floors in the attic and cupola appear to be original and should not be altered. The installation of additional utilities and systems should be planned with minimal alteration of the existing wood flooring. Existing chases and closet spaces should be used to conceal additional conduit and pipes for new systems. If feasible, wall-to-wall carpeting on the second story should be removed and carpet runners and area rugs installed that would better highlight the historic flooring.

- Samples from the wood floors in Rooms 102, 107, and 108 were tested for shellac with denatured alcohol. The floors in all of these rooms tested positive for shellac. If those floors require refinishing they should be thoroughly cleaned, coated with shellac, and waxed. Alternately, for high-traffic areas the floors could be cleaned, and coated with polyurethane. The extant floors did not appear to be excessively worn and should not require sanding (the thinner veneer flooring cannot be sanded). Other wood floors in the building were probably treated with shellac and wax and could be refinished in the same manner. However, the existing finish should be verified prior to any treatment. Damaged flooring should be repaired with in-kind materials that match the extant flooring material, size, and color.

- The brick and wood floors in the basement of the building should be preserved during the rehabilitation. These floors appear to be historic elements and any necessary repairs should be done with in-kind materials.
Walls

- The extant wall elements, including the plaster walls and the plaster and wood trim elements identified as CDFs, should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The installation of additional utilities should be planned to have minimal impact on the extant wall materials. When feasible, existing chases and closet space should be used to conceal additional conduit and pipes for new systems. Damaged wall elements should be repaired with in-kind materials that match the material, texture, and color of the extant materials.

- If feasible, the alteration of walls to comply with ADA accessibility should be minimized. When possible, rehabilitation projects should reuse extant wall and trim elements and new elements, should match in-kind the extant original materials.

Ceilings

- The ceiling height on all stories of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building. The rehabilitation of the building should avoid the installation of suspended ceilings in any rooms, because they would lower the extant ceiling heights. If feasible, acoustical tiles and other more recently added ceiling materials should be removed and the ceilings repaired with plaster materials to replicate the historic ceiling materials.

- The installation of fire-suppression systems, alarms, and additional utilities should be planned to have minimal impact on the extant ceiling materials. Openings for the installation of additional utilities should be thoughtfully located and their impacts minimized. Fire-suppression systems should be surface-mounted. When feasible, existing chases and closet space and existing holes in these spaces should be used to conceal additional conduit and pipes for new systems.

- The extant ceiling medallion recess or cove in the Center Hallway (Room 102) and the extant ceiling medallion in the Dining Room (Room 106) should be preserved. If feasible the acanthus leaf medallion depicted in historic photographs should be restored to the medallion recess in Room 102. Also the ceiling medallions in the two Parlors (Rooms 103 and 104) should be restored if feasible and appropriate for the reuse of the building. However, this would require removing the more recently added tiles and some light fixtures. Repairs to the ceiling medallions should be done to match the materials and design of the historic elements.
Doorways

- When feasible, the rehabilitation and reuse of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters should preserve the locations, extant elements, and extant hardware of the interior doorways. If it is necessary to alter existing doorways for ADA access, the extant doorway elements should be reused, when feasible. Repair and replacement of doorway elements should be performed with in-kind materials.

Windows

- The location and size of the windows, as well as the extant interior elements including the bay window elements identified as CDFs, should be preserved and retained. Rehabilitation of the windows and the repair of any window sashes should be accomplished with minimal impact on the extant window casings and associated elements. Repair and replacement of interior window elements should be performed with in-kind materials. The interiors of the existing sashes appear to be in good condition and should be prepared and painted when necessary.

Staircases and Related Elements

- The extant elements of the staircases in the Main Block, the cupola, and the Ell should be retained and preserved during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The elements of the staircases are currently intact and should not be altered. Repair and replacement of the staircase elements should be performed with in-kind materials milled to match the extant elements.

Built-ins

- The walk-in cold storage/refrigerator (Room 117A) on the first story of the Ell was added during the historic period and should be retained. The elements of Room 117A appear to be in good condition and should not be altered. Likewise the doorway to Room 117A (D114), including the door leaf specifically constructed for the room and door hardware, as well as the ice-delivery doorway and associated elements, should be preserved during the rehabilitation of the building.

- The bookcase built into the east wall of Room 217 and the related elements should be retained and preserved during the rehabilitation of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters. The existing wood finish should be left intact and should not be painted over. If the wood requires refinishing, a furniture conservator should be consulted for the proper procedure.
• The three cabinets in Room 201 that were added during the historic period should be retained during the rehabilitation of the building. The cabinets appear to be in good condition, and any repairs should be done with in-kind materials.

• The closets and related elements located in Room 304 should be retained in their extant condition and not altered during the rehabilitation of the building. The closets have intact historic finishes and hardware that should be preserved. The closets and related elements are in good condition and should not require any repairs.

Utilities

• Elements of the historic hot-air heating system, including historic registers, should be retained and preserved. The elements of the historic heating system appear to be in good condition and should not be altered. Rehabilitation projects that might affect these elements should be performed in a manner that minimizes the impact and does not alter the elements. Since these are fairly unique elements, it is not feasible to replace them; minor repairs might be undertaken with in-kind materials if necessary.

• Evidence of the early gas lighting system, especially the gas bracket in Room 217, should be retained during the rehabilitation of the building.
Accessibility

Compliance with ADA accessibility requirements is planned as part of the rehabilitation and reuse of the Commanding Officer's Quarters. Since the building is included in the National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the Springfield Armory, by ADA definition, it qualifies as an historic building. It is recommended that the requirements for an ADA-compliant building be reviewed and the feasibility of alternate access routes to the building be studied. The following recommendations should help guide the placement of ADA-accessible facilities at the Commanding Officer's Quarters.

- The building should have at least one accessible route from an ADA-compliant parking space or spaces into the building. There are currently handicap-access parking spaces on the east side of the Arsenal Building. Additional parking spaces could be created on the parking circle northeast of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, near the garage. An ADA accessible route should include accessible sidewalks, an access ramp or lift to the first story of the building, and an ADA-compliant entrance and doorway. The requirements for an ADA-compliant access route should be reviewed, and alternate routes to the building should be considered.

- One option for an ADA-compliant access route could be planned through D116 on the east elevation of the Ell allowing access to the first story of the building. An access ramp with switchbacks could be constructed along the east-elevation Ell and incorporated into the east porch, which was an early-twentieth century alteration. The porch floor would have to be removed and an access ramp constructed within the footprint of the porch. In addition, the ramp would have to rise above the existing floor level of the porch to access the doorway. Though this porch was added during the historic period, the alteration of this feature may be preferable to the subsequent alternative that would require the alteration of the south Ell porch, which was identified as a CDF. The historic brownstone steps leading to the east-elevation doorway, which are deteriorated, should be retained and could be covered by the access ramp. The east-elevation doorway (D116) could be made ADA compliant and would allow access to the first story of the Commanding Officer's Quarters.

- As an alternative, an ADA-compliant access route could be provided along the south elevation of the Ell. In this location the existing porch floor would need to be removed and an access ramp could be partially concealed behind the existing shrubs. The length of the ramp required to reach the doorway on the south elevation (D124) would extend east of the building into the side lawn and would require at least two 5-foot-long level sections, one for every 30 feet of rise. In addition, the ramp would have to rise above the existing floor level of the porch to access the doorway. This would require alteration of the brownstone steps that lead to D124. New piers would be constructed to support the new ramp, but the existing piers could remain in place and the ramp could be set tight to the south wall of the building. This would allow for a small shelf at the line of the original porch, which would retain the historic lines of the porch. Alternately, a ramp could be built in front (south) of the existing porch and the shrubbery moved to the south to conceal the ramp. In either case, the existing

196 http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/index.htm
porch columns, entablature, and roof elements would remain intact. D124 would require alteration to an ADA-compliant doorway.

- Compliance with ADA regulations requires the installation of an accessible restroom. The construction of any restrooms should be accomplished with the least amount of alterations to historic elements as possible. One possible location for an accessible restroom would be in the location of the existing restroom (Room 116). The restroom could be expanded to incorporate part of Room 117 in order to meet the ADA clearance requirements. It may be necessary to widen doorways and hallways to provide an accessible route to the new ADA-compliant restroom. Based on the national plumbing code, it may be necessary to provide one male and one female accessible toilet. However, one unisex accessible toilet may be accepted with a variance. The number of toilets is based on occupancy load.

- The reuse of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters may include public meeting and office spaces. Access would need to be provided to the second story, or an accessible office would need to be created on the first story. If public meeting spaces are included in the second story, accessible routes to the second story would be required. The installation of a Limited Use Limited Access (LULA) elevator in Room 113 or 111 could provide access to the second story of the Ell; adding an additional lift at the stair in Room 209 could provide access to the second floor of the Main Block of the building. Installing a lift on the primary historic staircase would impact that CDF and is not recommended. It is therefore recommended that an accessible office be created on the first story of the building, and if possible, public meeting spaces should be limited to the first story.

- If the construction of ADA-compliant entrances, offices, and restrooms should require alterations to the doorways, walls, ceilings, trim and/or related elements, the replacement elements should be constructed to replicate the appearance of the historic elements.

- The ADA-accessible area should include exhibit space and interpretive materials. Interpretive panels that describe the history of the site and building should be installed in the accessible space.
PRIMARY SOURCES

Primary source documentation related to the Springfield Armory was reviewed at the National Archives and Records Administration—Northeast Region, Waltham, Massachusetts [NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA)]. In addition, primary source materials from the Springfield Armory NHS Museum Collection (SPAR Museum Collection) were also used in the preparation of the HSR. Those materials included original records, records that were copied from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and microfilm records that included NARA documents and five volumes of Springfield Armory scrapbooks.

Primary source materials compiled by Carole L. Perrault and Judith Quinn Sullivan are stored in the Historic Architecture Program Library, Lowell, Massachusetts, and were used in researching portions of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters HSR.

Records of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, General Records, Record Group 156:

- Registers of Letters Received, 1827–1889, Vol. 16, Entry 20, RG156.
- Letters Received 1812–1894, Entry 21, RG156.
- Reports of Inspection of Arsenals and Depots, 1832–1860, 1892; Entry 1003, RG156.
- Name and Subject Indexes to Part of Letters and Endorsements Sent to the Chief of Ordnance Series, 1884–1887, 1889–1891, Entry 1353, RG156.
- Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance 1836–1895, Volumes 1, 2, 3, 9, and 14 of 20, Entry 1354, RG156.
- Name and Subject Indexes to Part of Registers of Letters Received, Springfield Armory, 1886–1894, Entry 1360, RG156.
- Name and Subject Index to Registers of Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance and Other Officers of the War and Treasury Departments, 1833–1855, 1864–1873, 1894–1900, Entry 1363, RG156.
- Registers of Letters Received from Chief of Ordnance, Springfield Armory, 1833–1855, 1864–1873, 1894–1900, Entry 1364, RG156.
- General Correspondence, Springfield Armory, 1900–1915, Entry 1367, RG156.
- General Correspondence, Springfield Armory, 1916–1925, Entry 1369, RG156.
Contracts for Ordnance, Supplies and Construction, Springfield Armory, 1806–1918, Entry 1382, RG156.


Other primary source documents:


In addition to the previously cited primary documents, primary source materials from the Springfield Armory NHS Museum Collection included historic maps, historic architectural drawings, and historic photographs.


Kirkham, Albert. “United States Armory,” *King’s Handbook of Springfield,* 1884


*Springfield Gazette, Vol. XV – No. 16,* April 22, 1846. Copy at SPAR Museum Collection, microfilm reel 151, scrapbook #1, 1846 – 1941.

*Springfield Sunday Union and Republican,* February 21, 1937 “Many Improvements Are Effected by WPA at Springfield Armory.” Copy at SPAR Museum Collection, microfilm reel 151, scrapbook #1, 1846 – 1941.


APPENDICES
APPENDIX A

Contract between Major James W. Ripley and Luke Kibbe, Jr. for stone from Kibbe’s quarry, Longmeadow, Massachusetts.\textsuperscript{197}

\textsuperscript{197} Memorandum of agreement between James W. Ripley and Luke Kibbe, Jr., July 20, 1844; Contracts for Ordnance Supplies and Construction 1806-1918, Series I, Box 1 of 15, Entry 1382, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA).
Memorandum of an agreement made at Springfield, Mass., this 20th day of July, 1844, by and between James W. Ripley, for the United States, and Seth Hobbs Jr. of Longmeadow, Jr., himself.

Said Hobbs agrees to furnish from the quarry owned by him and known as Hobbs' north quarry, all the stone required for a certain dwelling house to be erected at the Springfield Arsenal for the Quartermaster's Office except such parts of stone as may be wanted for the cellars and wall.

Said stone shall be of a quality best adapted for footing, and of uniform color. The thickness of the blocks shall range from 6 to 9 inches; and the dimensions of all other stone shall be made to conform to a plan to be furnished by the said James W. Ripley. The delivery of the stone shall be commenced on or before the 1st of August, and be completed by the 30th of September.

For the Cape and Billy, said Hobbs shall receive 15 cents per foot running measured, and for all other stone, 10 cents for superficial foot, measuring on the hammerer's surface. A bill for the same shall be at the said factory, day and date above written.

(Signed) J.W. Ripley

Seth Hobbs Jr.
APPENDIX B

Correspondence from Lt. Col. James W. Ripley to Col. H.K. Craig, Chief of Ordnance, May 31, 1854, accounting for the construction of the Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts.\

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Appended note and statement of “Labor and Materials Expended in constructing Commanding Officer’s Quarters Springfield Armory;” Carole L. Perrault and Judith A. Quinn, research files for Building 19, HSR, Draft, HAP, Lowell, MA; original documents at NARA.
U.S. Armory
Springfield, May 31, 1857

Sir,

In furnishing the information called for in the communication of Hon. A. H. Stanton, Chairman of the Secretary of War, a copy of which was transmitted to me with your letter of the 20th inst. from the honor to submit the following upon the points specified:

1. "Cost of removal of old quarters" [from site now occupied by the new arsenal] — — — — $75.00

The removers' materials saved from old quarters and worth, used in building the "Steam Shop."

2. "Labor & materials used in construction of new ones."

The gross amount expended for labor & materials to June 30, 1849, time of completion, as per detailed statement hereunder:

$21,554.56

Less amount depreciated for damage by gale — $325.56

The amount at which inventories were made by 31st, 1849 — $21,229.00

3. "Cost of additional lands, if any, purchased to enlarge grounds connected herewith."

No land has been purchased for the object stated.

4. "Improving & ameliorating the grounds."

The improvements of grounds connected herewith have been of the same general character with those of other parts of the Army grounds in their vicinity, having been made simultaneously with them; from year to year, and changed in the same general account, to separate them...
as this time would be impracticable. Work has been
now where needed & the description required.
[See annual statement of principal operations,

5. "Enclosing the same."
The interior fences connected with greatness consist of about 22½ rods of common wooden fence, timed & barked cost about $122.00

6. "Conveying water."
Water is conveyed from the "Steam Sheds" to those
quarters by the same pipes that supply the station &
the principal reservoir in the square. It was designed
to introduce water through the same pipes, in the pa
ty of the Master Houses of Clerks, whenever a sufficient
supply should be obtained. The cost of all the pipe in
the system (laying the same was

1855. Iron pipe 14, 450½ ft. $0.03 $413.02
Labor
80.00
1856. Lead pipe 1000½ ft. $0.08 $83.21
Labor
50.00
Total $516.23

One fourth of which is estimated to be partly chargeable to the Bond. Off. Quarter. or $208.19

7. "All other expenses incurred upon said building."
1. Gas was introduced in 1857, at a cost, including
pipe, fixture, labor, of $257.93
2. Painting. In the estimate of furnace repaired
for 1852 an appropriation was made for
painting public buildings. Accordingly, in 1862-63 most of the building on the Hill was painted—-the County Office quarters among others. The cost of painting exterior, interior of the latter was $1566.19.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Mr. Col. Sumt.

S. M. Ripley

Col. U.S.A.

To,

Col. W. H. Corby, U.S.A.,

Ordnance Department

Washington

D.C.
If all the fines are of Land, the account of the Commissary Office Presents, the only ones that can be made to be assessed to the Crown, must state there are three parcels which cost in the
Agreement of 3/11.
Labor and Materials
Expende in Constructing
Commanding Officer's Quarters
Springfield Armory.
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Furnished for Tent Roof, Moon off in Jake
Inventoried June 30, 1847

1848

Finished

Costs of removal to

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171
2.8 19

$24,000.00

Summary: June 30, 1847

Inventoried

Costs of removal to T. R.

Total: $21,283.25
APPENDIX C

Correspondence from Major J.S. Benton to Chief of Ordnance, Brig. Gen. Alexander Dyer, June 12, 1873, for the proposed balcony and bay window additions to the Commanding Officer's Quarters, Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts (see previous section “Alterations,” figs. 26, 27, and 28). 199

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199 Major J.S. Benton to Chief of Ordnance, June 12, 1873, Letters Sent to Chief of Ordnance, Vol. IX, Entry 1354, RG 156. NARA Northeast Region (Waltham, MA)

Note: the correspondence was addressed to the Chief of Ordnance who was Brig. Gen. Alexander Dyer in 1873, but the plans were approved by Stephen V. Benét who became Chief of Ordnance in 1874 (fig. 27).
National Armory, June 13th, 1873.

Chief of Ordnance U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

Sir: I have to request authority to add the following named improvements to the Commanding Officer's quarters at this post viz:

1st A balcony 5 feet wide, on the south front and extending around and communicating with the piazza on the west front. Estimated cost $233.00.

2nd A bay window in place of the present ordinary window of the dining room. Estimated cost $350.00.

A drawing showing these improvements is sent to the Ord. Office by today's mail. These improvements are much needed for the comfort & convenience of those quarters, and it is proposed to make them out of the appropriation that may be available next year.

Very respectfully your obedient
(Signed) J. L. Clinton
Major Ord. Comdg.
APPENDIX D

Contract and specifications with C.W. Walls and Co., Worcester, Massachusetts for porch addition, Commanding Officer’s Quarters, Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts (see previous section “Alterations,” figs. 29 and 30). 200

Articles of Agreement entered into this 1st day of June, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, between A. W. Gates and Company of Springfield, in the county of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, of the first part, and the United States, by W. S. Burgeington, Chief Ordnance of Ordnance, subject to the approval of the Chief of Ordnance, acting under the direction and by authority of the Secretary of War, for and in their behalf, of the second part.

1st. This agreement witnesseth, that the said parties of the first part, for themselves and successors, heirs, executors, and administrators, and the said parties of the second part, for and in behalf of the United States of America, have mutually agreed, and by these presents do mutually covenant and agree, to and with each other, as follows, viz:

Under advertisement dated April 13th 1887, the said party of the first part does hereby contract and engage with the said United States to furnish the party of the second part and put up complete, the iron work for one piece on the Commanding Officer's Battery, at the National Armory, Springfield, Mass., in accordance with the specifications and drawings of their proposal dated April 28th 1887 hereto attached and made a part of this contract, for the sum of Seven Hundred and Fifty (750) dollars.

The work herein contracted for shall be fully completed by the party of the first part, on or before the 30th day of June 1887, and subject at all times, during the progress of the work, to inspection and final approval of the Commanding Officer of the station, before acceptance for payment.
Specifications

To furnish for a piazza, of size and character shown on accompanying blue print No. 1, columns, frieze, railing, and brackets (casting shown on blue print not required) and put them up complete at the Commanding Officer's Quarters, National Armory, Springfield, Mass.

Details

Accompanying blue print No. 1, give details of columns, commencing gas pipe four and one-half (4 1/2) inches (outside) diameter, firmly connected all pairs, except the two corner columns, which must be six (6) pairs connected, in like manner, by joint fittings, bolted, or pinned. The top of posts to be connected at the distance of four (4) feet below the top; the lower part to be connected at the top level of railing. The lower ends of posts to enter the rustion bases and rest upon the bottom of said bases. The railing, frieze, and brackets (1/2") over entrance, to be of open iron work, of pattern to correspond with the posts and connections.
Historic Architecture Program
Northeast Region
Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 4th Floor
115 John Street
Lowell, MA 01852

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ™
Commanding Officer’s Quarters, circa 1865,
Springfield Armory NHS, Museum Collection, SA 700.