

Brecknock Manor House

Images

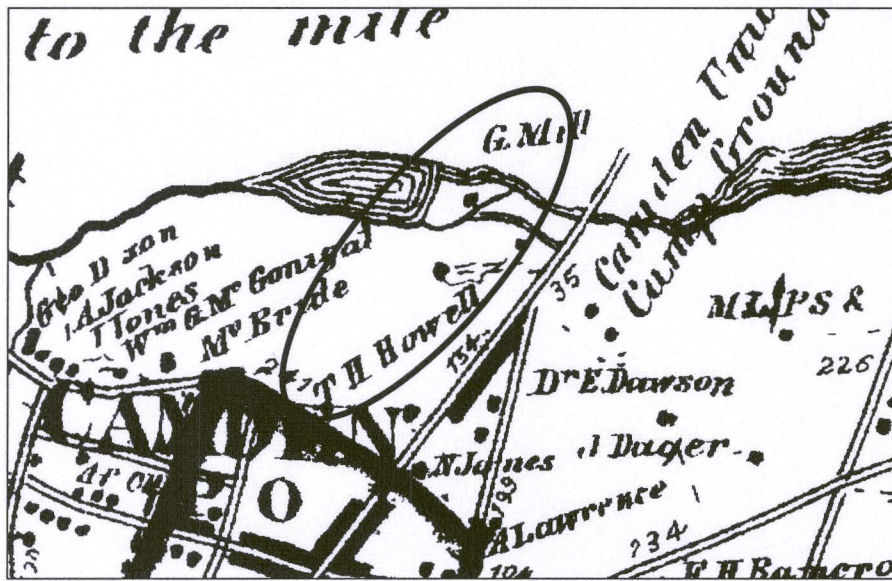


Figure 1. Detail of North Murderkill Hundred, noting the Thomas H. Howell property (Brecknock Manor House) and grist mill. D. G. Beers, *Atlas of the State of Delaware*, 1868, Philadelphia, PA: Pomeroy and Beers, 1868.

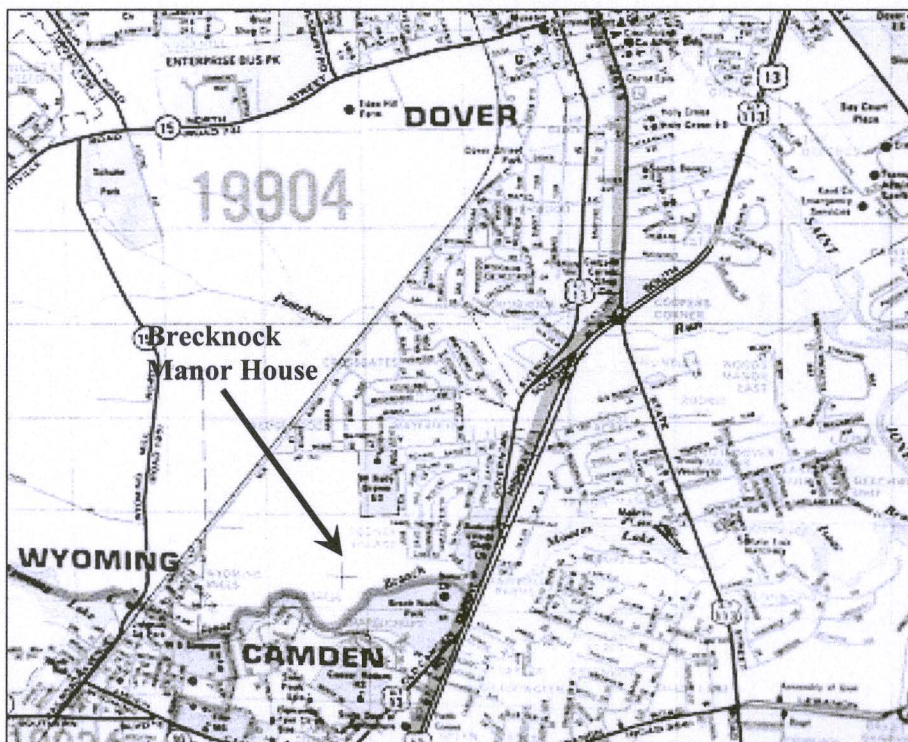


Figure 2. Late twentieth century road map showing relationship between Brecknock County Park, Camden, and Dover. *Kent County, Delaware, Map #17*. Alexandria, VA: Alexandria Drafting Company, 1999.

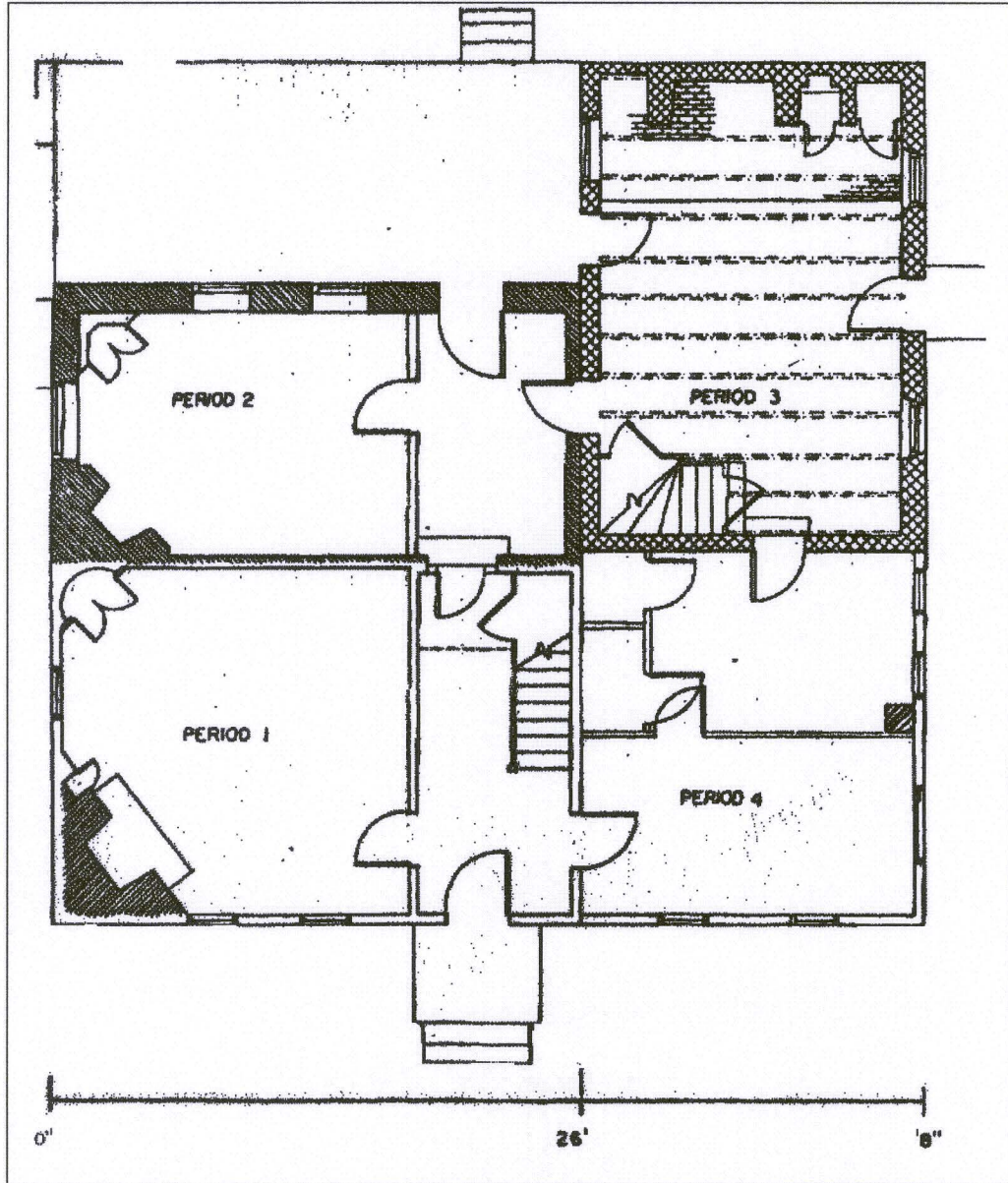


Figure 3. *Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) drawing of first floor, Brecknock Manor House. Gabrielle Lanier.*



Figure 14. Rehabilitation work on the house during summer 2000 included the partial replacement of clapboard to the Period 4 southeastern and northeastern façades.



Figure 15. Several wall materials were exposed during the rehabilitation, summer 2000: (R to L) lath, brick chimney stack, and dry wall supported by studs and a deteriorated sill plate.



Figure 18. The corner post in the foreground marks the area of most concern. The interior wall of this room is severely marred by stress cracks and fissures in the plaster, indications that this corner of the building is settling. Efforts were made in 2000 to investigate the cause of the structural stress.



Figure 19. Clapboard to the left of the corner post was also removed.

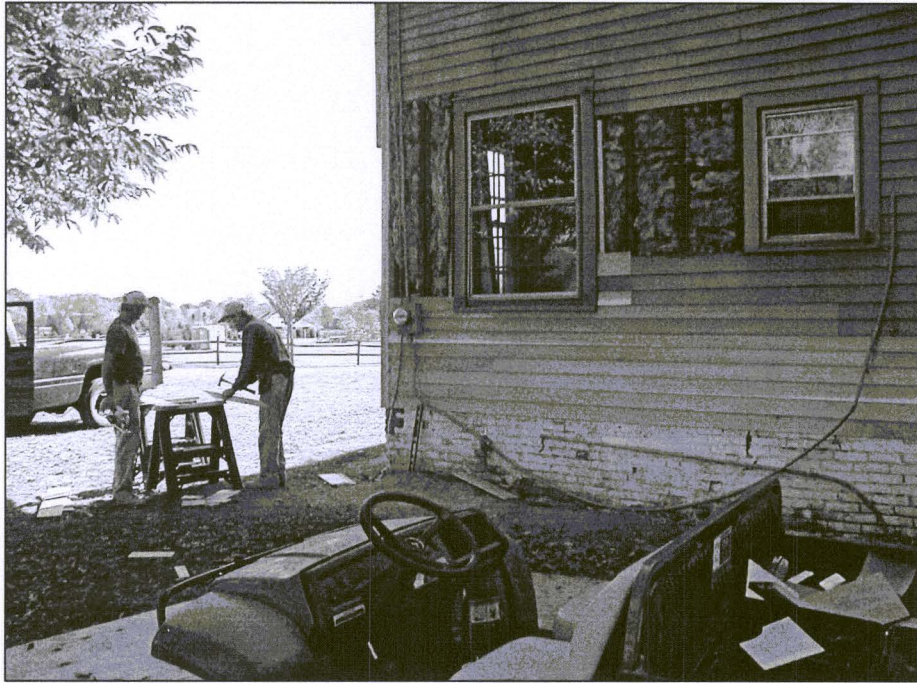


Figure 20. Insulation and new clapboard was installed during the rehabilitation, summer 2000.



Figure 21. Although the new clapboard was slightly wider than the original, every attempt was made to align the new material with the old.

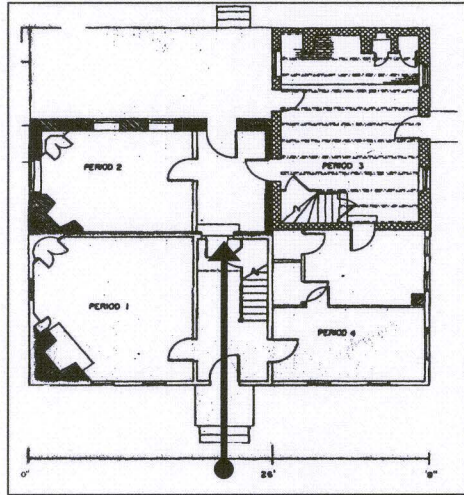


Figure 24. First floor hallway with HABS plan.



Figure 25. Period 2, first floor, south corner.

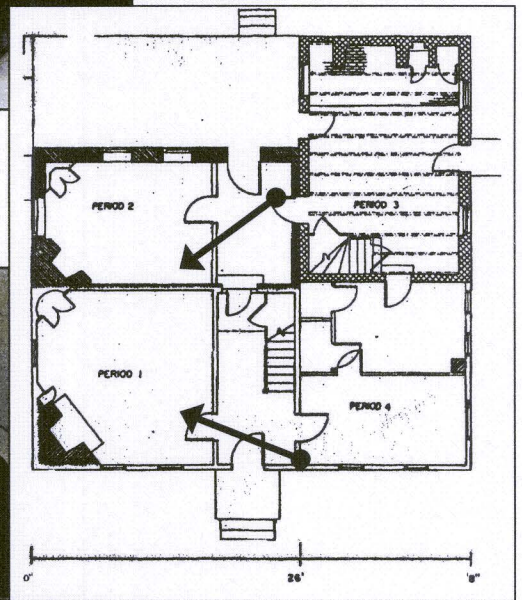


Figure 26. Period 1, first floor, south corner fireplace and west corner cupboard.



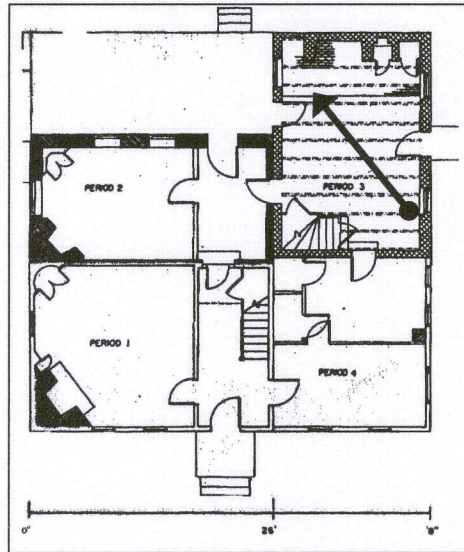


Figure 27. Period 3, first floor, west corner. Note hearth, exposed ceiling joists, and closet containing stove flue.

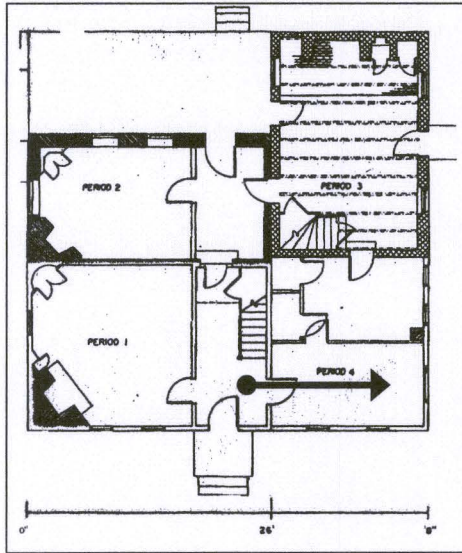


Figure 28. Period 4, first floor, east corner.



Figure 42. Period 4, second floor (rear room). This room displays the most evidence of structural stress. Measurements of these wall fractures indicate that building's foundation may be settling.



Figure 43. Period 4, second floor (rear room). Opposite view.

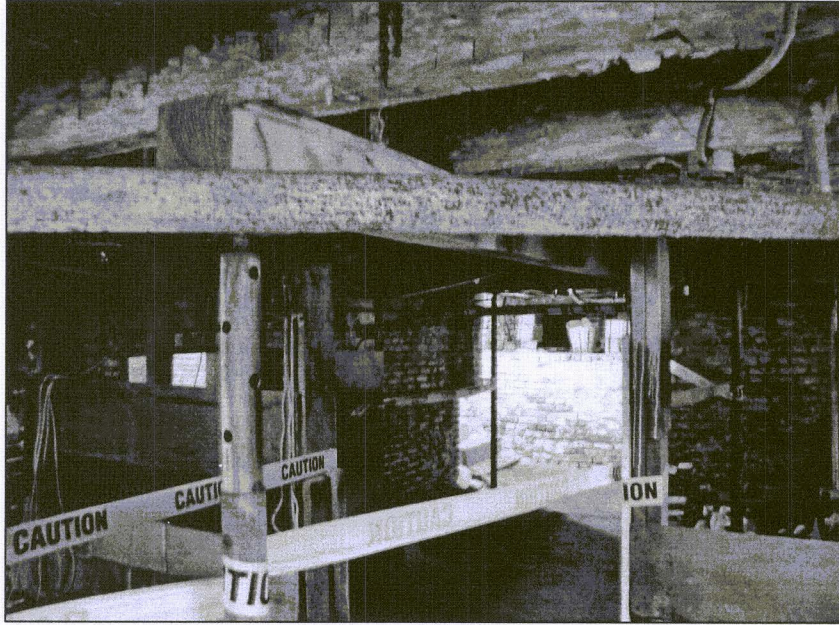


Figure 44. Basement. Notice the hand-hewn ax marks on the floor joists, as well as the numerous secondary support posts.

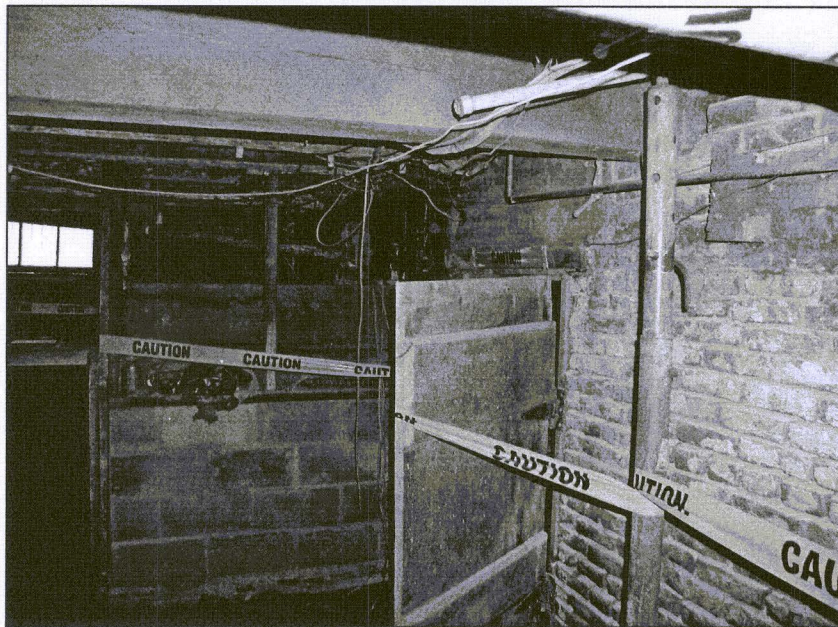


Figure 45. A combination of materials can be found in the basement, including hand hewn, pit-sawn, and circular sawn wood, concrete block and molded brick, and steel support posts.



Figure 46. This curious cantilevered wall section in the basement appears next to an abutting wall, mortar dust, and fallen brick.



Figure 4. Southeast (front) elevation, summer 2002.

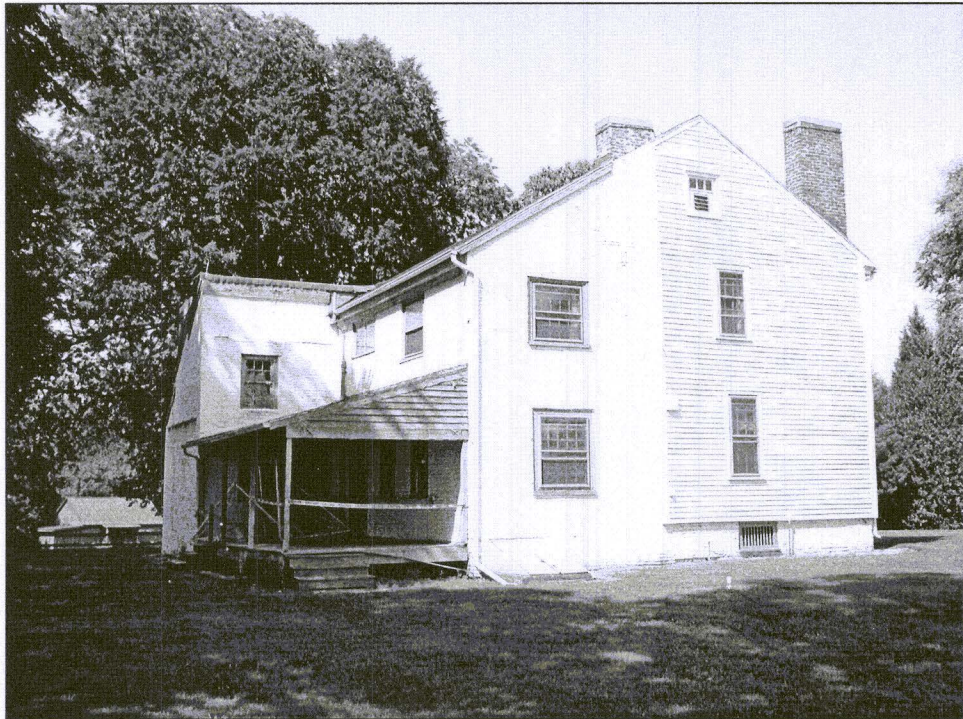


Figure 5. Perspective photograph of northwest (rear) and southwest elevations, summer 2002.



Figure 6. Perspective photo showing southeast and northeast elevations, circa 1998.



Figure 7. Perspective photo showing northwest and southwest elevations, circa 1998.



Figure 8. Southeast (front) elevation, no date.



Figure 9. Northwest (rear) elevation, circa 1965.





Figure 10. Perspective photo showing northeast and northwest elevations, circa 2000. Note chimney height.

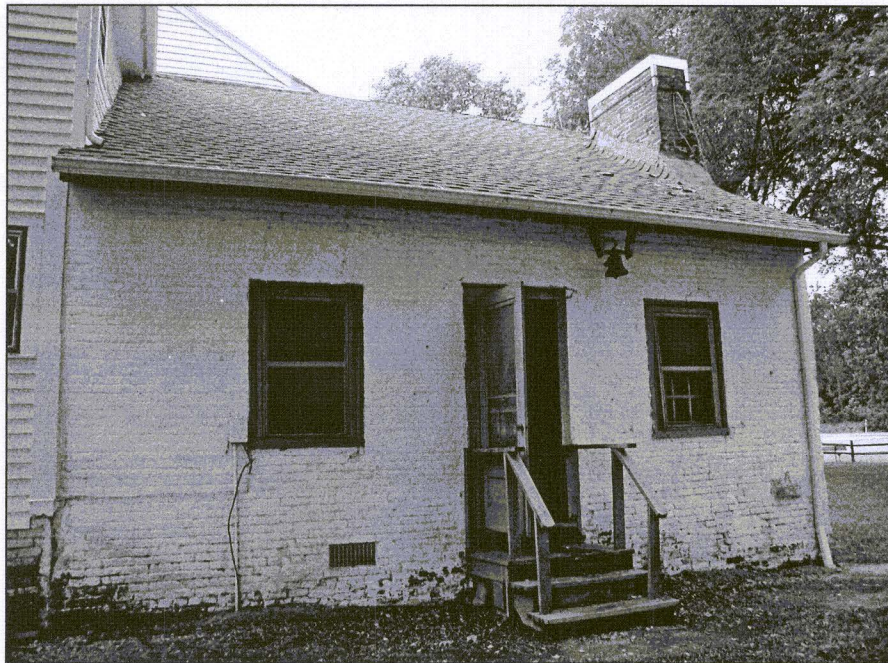


Figure 11. Northeast elevation of Period 3, summer 2002. The chimney stack noted above appears to the right of the photo. Several courses of brick were removed in 2000 due to the instability of the stack.



Figure 12. Detail of chimney stacks: Period 1 (right) and Period 2 (left), 2000.

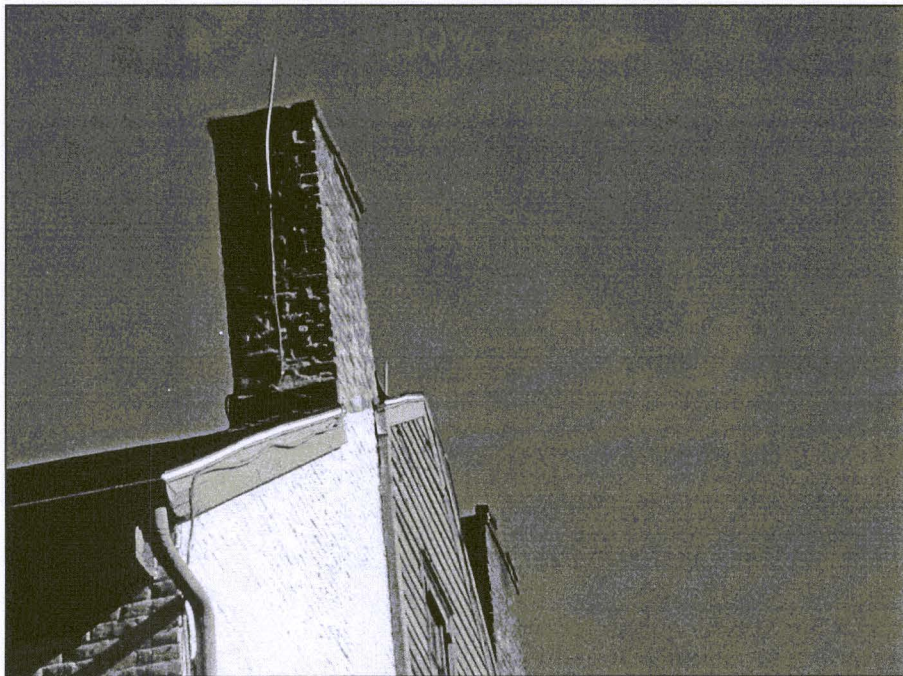


Figure 13. Details of corbelling (Period 2 foreground) and missing bricks (Period 1) on the Manor House stacks.



Figure 16. The rehabilitation of the original clapboard extended around the eastern corner of the property.



Figure 17. Detail of the sill plate, Period 4.



Figure 22. The replaced clapboard is visible along the right edge of the façade above.



Figure 23. Front elevation of the Brecknock Manor House.



Figure 29. Second floor landing.

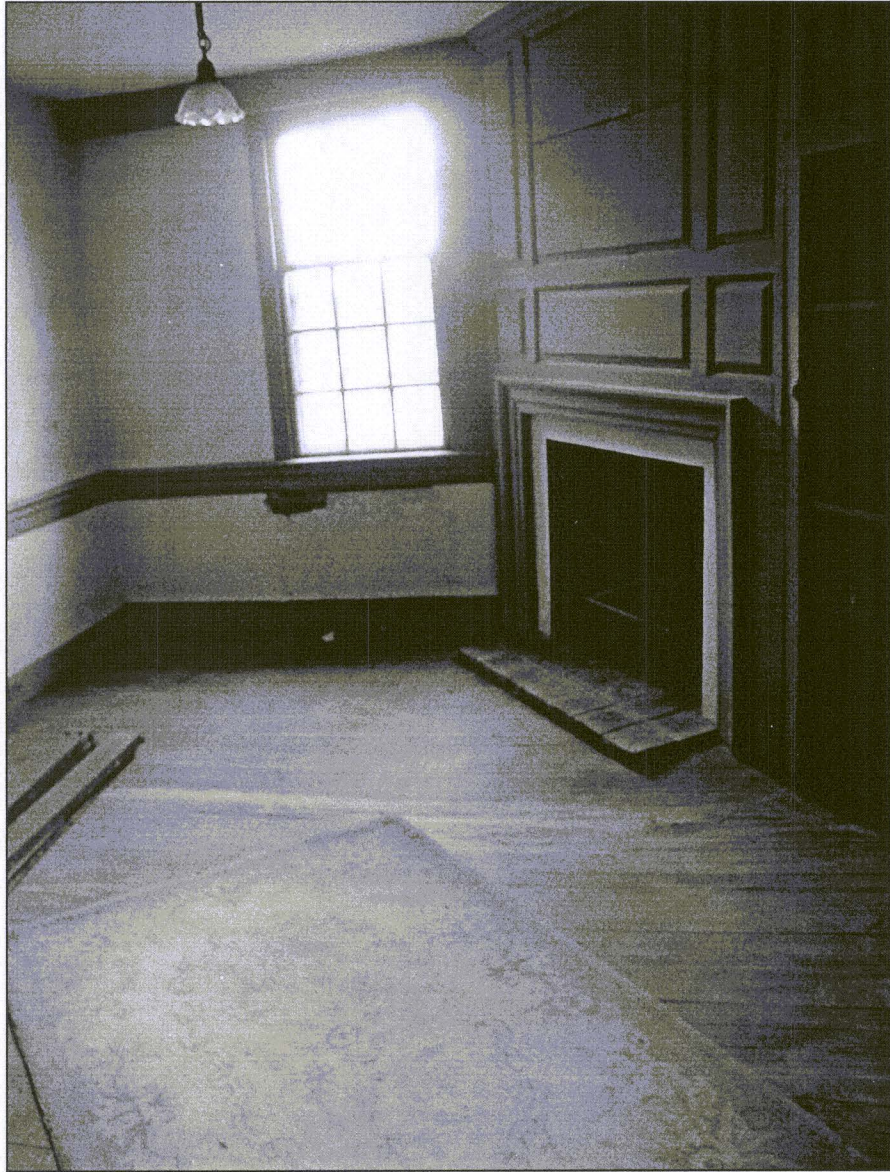


Figure 30. Period 1, second floor. Note water damage to window sill and floor.

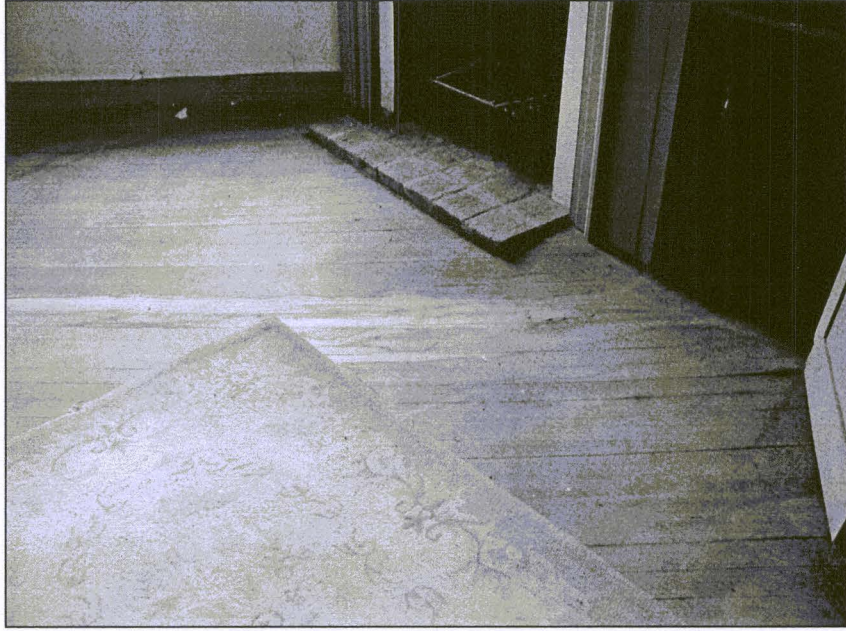


Figure 31. Detail of water damage to floor, Period 1, second floor.

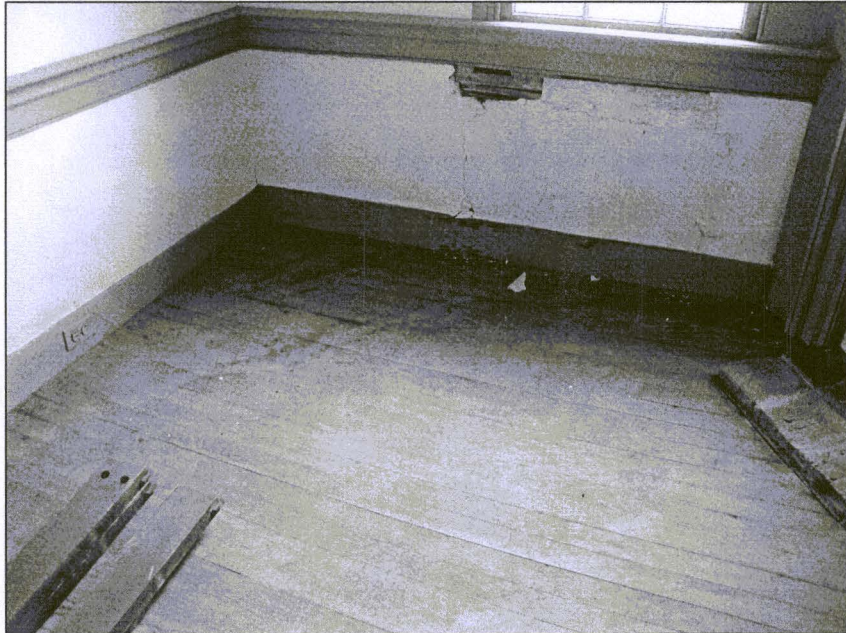


Figure 32. Detail of water damage to window sill, Period 1, second floor.

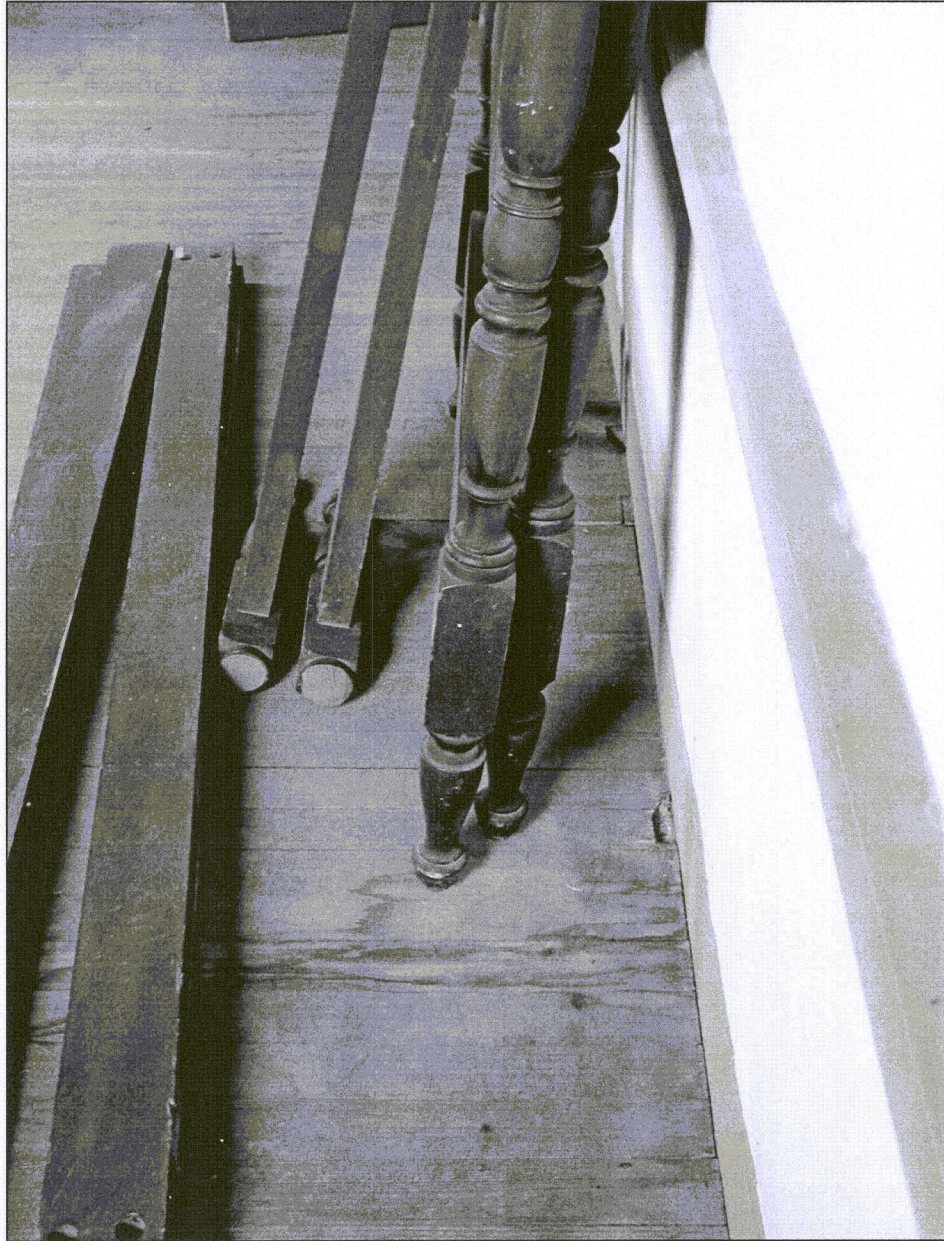


Figure 33. Period 1, second floor. The notches in the floor boards near the wall indicate the former presence of another entryway into this room.





Figure 34. This room is believed to be part of the original Period 1 construction. Located on the second floor, this partition wall divides the Period 1 space, but does not line up with other walls below. Therefore, this wall is considered a “floating wall,” as it relies only on the floor joists and one plate for support.

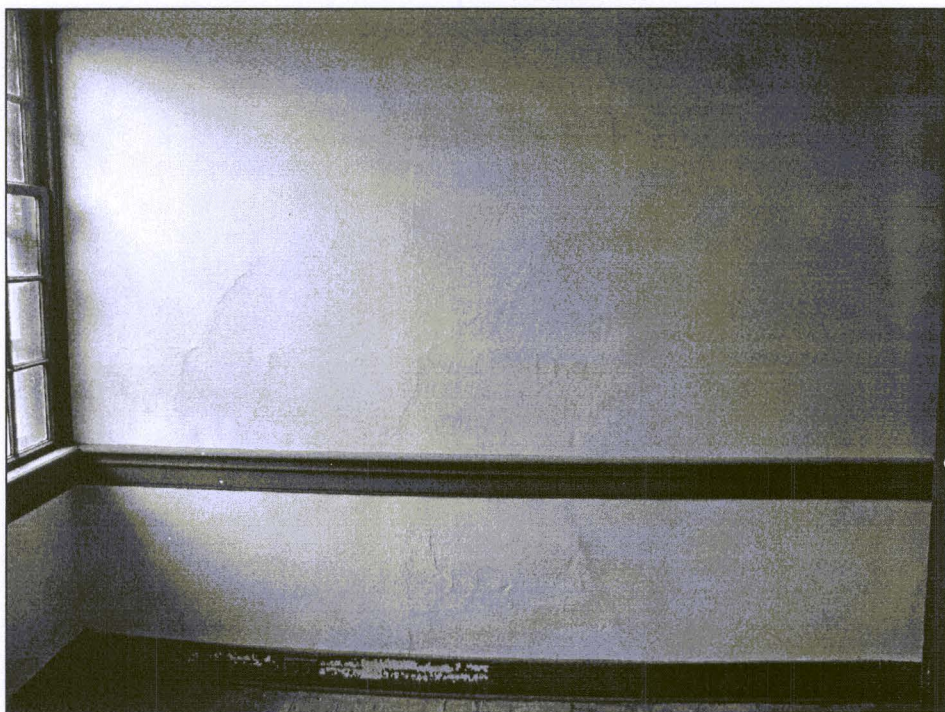


Figure 35. Close examination of this partition wall reveals evidence of a patch. This patch corresponds with notches in the flooring, on the opposite side of this wall.

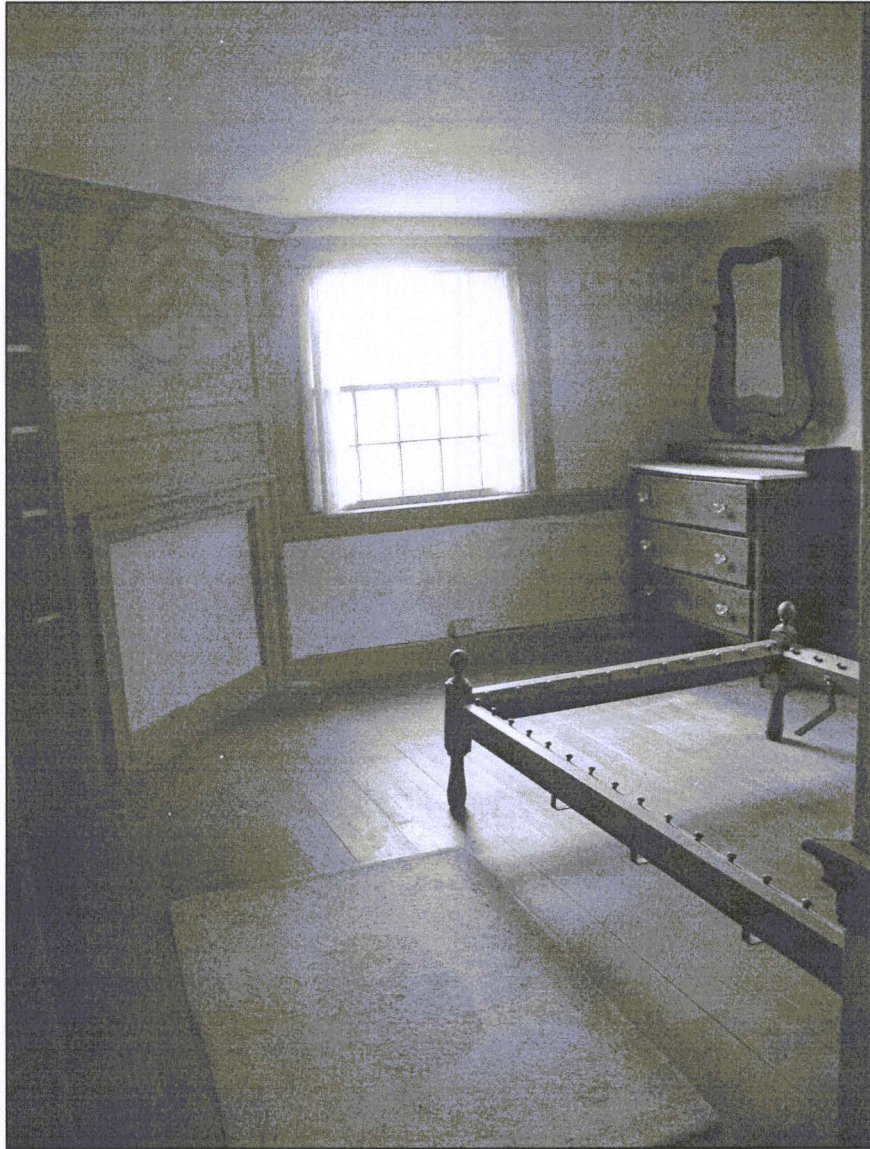


Figure 36. Period 2, second floor, southwest wall.

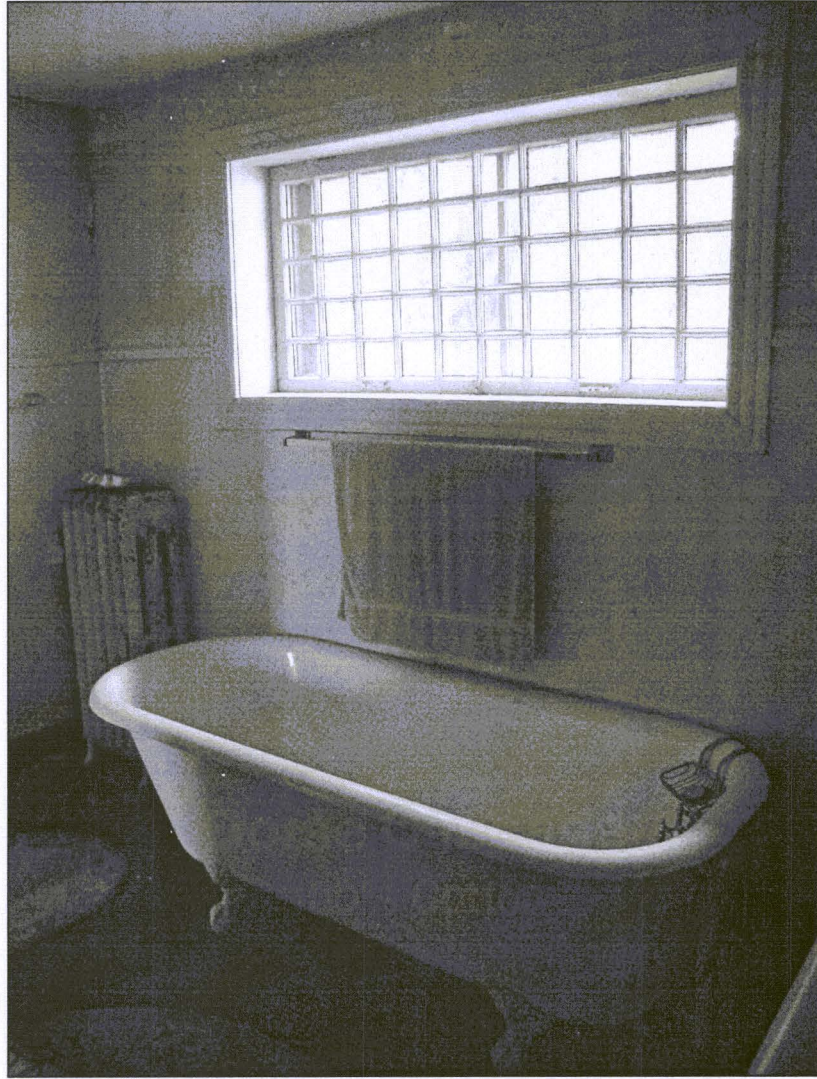


Figure 37. Bathroom, second floor. This bathroom is located on the second floor between Periods 2 and 3.

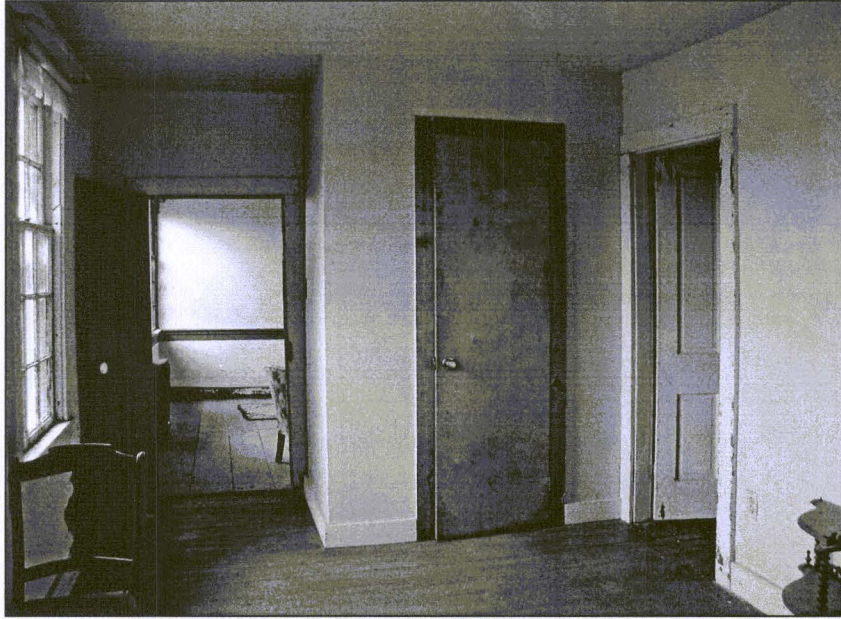


Figure 38. Period 4, second floor. This photo is taken from the eastern corner of the room.



Figure 39. Period 4, second floor. Closet space (shown in the left of this photo) and a partition wall divide the Period 4 addition into two rooms.



Figure 40. The east corner of Period 4, second floor, (front room) shows signs of structural stress. This detail is found in the rear right-hand corner of the room photographed above. The lath and plaster have pulled away from the corner post.



Figure 41. The partition wall divides the Period 4 space into two rooms.