



THE WEGMAN-HOLMES HOUSE
(Formerly the John Casken House)
32 Charlotte Street
c. 1820-25
Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ridler Page

1998

The three story, hipped roofed house in the Regency style was constructed by John Caskin, a carpenter who purchased the lot in trust for Catherine Wegman. Built of Charleston grey brick laid in the Flemish bond, it is a typical single house with the side porch facing west to catch the summertime breezes.

The original house contained 2 rooms on either side of a central hall and stairs. In 1849, William C. Holmes purchased the property and his family owned it until 1931. They modernized the house in the Victorian style (dependencies were connected to the main house by a 2 story addition to the rear and a new front door was probably added).

By the mid-20th century the house had fallen on hard times and began to deteriorate. The present owners purchased it in 1988, and completely restored it over a seven year period.

The street wall is original, while the fence and ironwork were made by the Old Charleston Forge.

ENTRANCE HALL

Sideboard, Sheraton reproduction
Clock, English
Mirror, reproduction

LIVING ROOM

The most noticeable feature is the exquisite original Adamesque woodwork, window surrounds, and cornice which the owners have restored. The fireplace mantel was replaced in the Victorian period by a marble mantel similar to the one in the dining room. However, the owners found it inappropriate and had a local artisan recreate a mantel more suited to the room.

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LIVING ROOM - Continued

The furniture is mostly original and reflects the owner's New England background.

Highboy, Tiger maple, Queen Anne style, Massachusetts, c. 1800
Lowboy, Chippendale, c. 1800, a family piece
Sofa, Charleston, reproduction
Tea table, Charleston, reproduction
Pier table, Victorian
Mirror, Queen Anne
Clock, Seth Thomas reproduction
Painting, Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, over the mantel
Portrait, Daniel Webster
Painting, Sailboats, English, depicts 1898 America's Cup off Sandy Hook
Chandelier, Victorian, brass, took 4 months to clean

DINING ROOM

The mantel is Victorian. Similar to the one in the living room when the owners purchased the house.

Table, Queen Anne, reproduction
Chairs, Queen Anne, reproductions
Chandelier, modern, Czechoslovakian

FAMILY ROOM

This room, added in the Victorian period, is distinguished by the vertical beaded boarding on the walls. The owners have remodeled this room by relocating the outside door and installing the double french doors leading to the patio.

Chest on chest, c. 1800
Pictures, watercolors, done by a friend of the owners
Photographs, of owners children and grandchildren, the house is their former home in New England

OUTBUILDINGS

The outbuildings were in ruinous condition when the owners purchased the property. Now they have been restored and are an apartment. The patio was constructed by the owner as was the garden. Over fifty trees and overgrown bushes had to be removed to open the rear yard to light and air.