open Market all my right title & Interest in a Lease hold with the improvements thereon of a Certain lot in Ellery Street belonging to the Estate of Nath[l]. Russell the possession of the same Secured to myself until the last November & then in the event of my paying said note in full this Memorandum of Sale to be null & Void. Charleston S[o] C[a] June 24 1824 Russel Warren." [5]

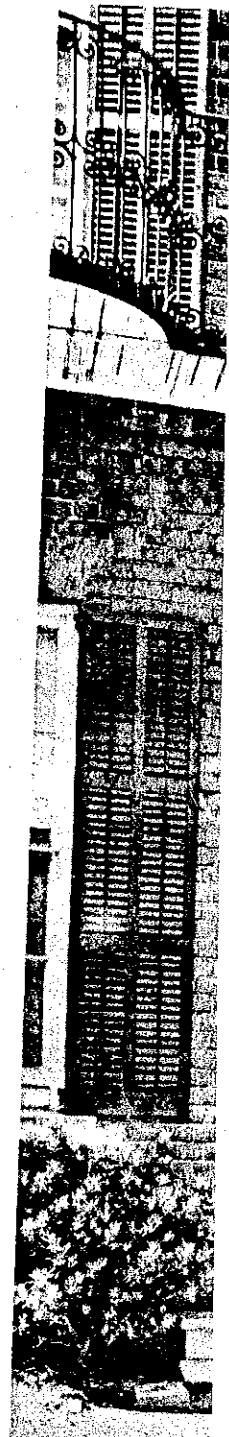In the next year he sold the property:

"Russel Warren to Arthur Middleton, Conveyance . . . . Know all men by these presents that I Russel Warren of Bristol in the State of Rhode Island Housewright in consideration of the Sum of two thousand & six hundred Dollars to me in hand paid by Arthur Middleton of the City of Charleston in the State of S[o] Carolina Gentleman" . . . [hereby transfer] "all those two dwelling houses erected by me on Ellery Street in the City of Charleston aforesaid and on the land of Mrs. Sarah Russell together with all the fixtures placed by me erected as aforesaid to him the said Middleton his heirs and assigns . . . . 6 September 1825 . . . Signed Sealed, Delivered in the Presence of Nath[l]. Bullock State of Rhode Island." [6]

These houses no longer exist, all that neighborhood having been swept by fire in the 1830's.[7] The street itself, which ran between East Bay and Anson Street, was closed in 1840.[8]

From the similarity of names, one might suppose a relationship or connection to have existed between Russell Warren and Nathaniel Russell, mentioned above, who was likewise a Rhode Islander by birth, though he made Charleston his home.[9] The next step would be to wonder whether Warren designed the Nathaniel Russell house, 51 Meeting Street, built by 1809,[10] one of the loveliest dwellings in the city. No evidence, written or even traditional, exists to show that he did, but the house resembles the buildings of his early style, and the splendid staircase, set in a well at the side of the hall, is strikingly like that which he placed in The Mount, James De Wolf's magnificent house at Bristol, designed by Warren in 1808, and destroyed by fire in 1904.[11]

On the other hand, similarities of Russell's house to other Charleston buildings, particularly the Blacklock house and Vanderhorst Row, both dating from 1800, make it doubtful that Russell Warren was its architect.

One Charleston building may possibly be a product of his Classic Revival period. This is the brick Miller house, now 138 Went-

worth Street, new in 1842.[12] In its Temple of the Winds type of columns, (which here somehow have a faint Egyptian feeling, with the foliage seeming as much lotus as acanthus), in the heavy row of dentils under the roof, and in the shape, size, and disposition of panes in the second story windows, it resembles the wooden Shepard house, 19 Charles Field Street, in Providence, Rhode Island, designed by Warren about 1840.[18] The Miller house had a "very large Cistern, and well of water, the waters of which are conducted by means of pipes into the various buildings, where use and comfort may require them." (*Courier*, March 7, 1842.) This was an early mention of plumbing for Charleston although it was usual there by the 1850's.

The Miller House, 138 Wentworth Street, new in 1842. Perhaps by Russell Warren. (*Tom Peck*)

CYRUS L. WARNER

Working 1839

BETH ELOHIM SYNAGOGUE, AT 90 HASELL STREET, is a beautiful and stately example of the Classic Revival, with an imposing portico and a domed ceiling. Built 1840-41, it replaces a Post-Revolutionary building which burned in the fire of 1838.

The building contract, still in existence, was signed in 1839 by the trustees and David Lopez, the contractor, a Charlestonian. It specifies that the structure be "of the plan and construction set forth in the design furnished to the Trustees by Cyrus L. Warner, architect, New York."

It is uncertain whether Warner visited Charleston or merely sent his plan. No other work of his is known locally, which is to be regretted, for his synagogue ranks high among the buildings of the city.