

From: [Kevin R. Eberle](#)
To: [Emmons, Karen](#)
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So here is a BIG fact in the hunt for that weird brick house!

The house was home to Peter Toglio in the 1880s, but the house is older than that. That weird brick surface seems very, very odd but also looks like Victorian flourish from 1885-1905ish. But if the house predated the 1880s, then it couldn't have had that weird brickwork!

The footprint in the 1888 Sanborns is such a perfect match with the trolley track in front is just too perfect to ignore.

How can those things all be true!?!?

Then, my friend Josephine Humphrey came across this!

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In the 1880s, Peter Toglio—the same one who owned 204 Rutledge—got a patent for a process of making a faux-brick surface to cover frame houses in!

This just has to be 204 Rutledge! Peter Toglio must have bought a frame house and used his own technology on it to cover it in that brick covering! That makes perfect sense.

A friend of mine who is a construction expert pointed out that the material in the photo had to be some sort of veneer or fake brickwork. He pointed out some things about the details. For example, a real brick house would have the windows set deeper than the ones in the photos. And, that tower is supposedly built out of bricks and would weigh (literally) a ton, yet was held up on some dinky supports that would have easily buckled under that weight.

That also makes sense that the Sanborns showed it as a frame house since that is exactly what it was!

I'm calling this mystery SOLVED!

Kevin

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