

NARRATIVE OF EVOLUTION OF STRUCTURE

1835

Original house built on lot 6 for Dr. Richard Eells and his wife. It was a modest Greek Revival House of four rooms. It had a full two story main block with a one story rear wing of two rooms with shed roof behind parapet wall. Windows were 6 over 6 sash, with shutters and two panel exterior doors. Unusual feature was a combination of window and door in the south wall of the original kitchen, which faced Jersey Street. A narrow set of back stairs ascended up from the north along the west wall of the kitchen into a storage room under steep shed roof with access to front steps and to front bedroom. Doors were 6 panel cross and bible doors. A porch probably extended along the north wall of the kitchen protecting the door and the outside cellar entrance under the west window in the wall. Porch floor was ground level with stone and brick pavers and walks.

1841

Dr. Eells had the house enlarged by raising the north wall by 6 feet and making the shed roof start under the eaves of the north side of the main block. This created space for two bedrooms over the first floor rooms. The back stairs may have remained in place at this time. Board wall may have separated bedrooms and stairs and there were two doors into the main block. A cross hall was created off the north end of the main bedroom to provide access to rear bedrooms from front stairs. This created a salt box appearance to the west side of the house, but the east side had a parapet wall to south and east. (These sections of the parapet remain in place, including reglets for original flashing for the shed roof.) Small windows were in the east and west wall, but full size second floor windows were used in the north wall, sills at floor level. Chimney of kitchen fireplace and bake oven raised above new roof line. Mrs. Eells rented the house in 1848 and then returned to Connecticut with the children.

1852-55

Mrs. Jane Bestor Eells sold the house to A E Savage, a real estate developer. The house remained essentially as it was in 1841 but was plumbed for gas when it was available in Quincy after 1854. It remained in use as a rental.

1859

The Savage Brothers remodeled the house late in 1859. The original kitchen was remodeled by removing the bake oven and cooking fireplace and replacing it with one for gas or coal. The back stairs were removed from the west side of this room and the wall moved to the east. The double doors of the parlor were centered and similar doors were made for a double opening between the old dining room and original kitchen, now dining room? The floors of the rear bedrooms were raised to match front level and the rear walls raised to height of main block and a new gable roof built over both sections. Ceiling level of back rooms raised to match main block. East extension was possibly a small gable. A