

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

RECORDS OF

PLAT 10
LOT 524

#2 ANGELL STREET.....BRICK

BUILT.... 1857
By.... Thomas A. Jencks

1852 INDENTURE: ANNA ALMY JENKINS CONVEYS TO SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY, ^{as trustee} ALL OF HER PROPERTY FOR HER NATURAL LIFE AS UNDER THE WILL AND TESTAMENT OF HER LATE MOTHER, ANNA ALMY...128.85

1856 INDENTURE: BETWEEN SAMUEL B TOBEY AND MOSES BROWN JENKINS; WITNESSETH: "THAT WHEREAS BY TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CODICIL TO THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF MOSES BROWN, DECEASED, IT IS PROVIDED AS FOLLOWS THAT: "WHEREAS MY GRANDDAUGHTER, ANNA ALMY JENKINS, WIFE OF WILLIAM, SINCE THE EXECUTION OF MY LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT HAS BORNE A SON, WHOSE NAME IS MOSES BROWN JENKINS, IT IS MY WILL THAT SHOULD THE AFORESAID MOSES BROWN JENKINS LIVE TO THE AGE OF 21 YEARS, I BEQUEATH TO HIM THE WHOLE OF MY HOMESTEAD FARM WHERE I NOW LIVE IN PROVIDENCE NECK, AFTER THE LIFETIME OF MY SAID GRANDDAUGHTER, HIS MOTHER, TO WHOM THE FARM IS GIVEN IN MY SAID WILL AND TESTAMENT."...140.401

1856 INDENTURE: SAMUEL B TOBEY, TRUSTEE U/W ANNA A JENKINS, GRANT, BARGAIN AND QUIT CLAIM TO MOSES B JENKINS THE FOLLOWING "...THE LOT ON THE CORNER OF BENEFIT AND ANGELL STREETS, OPPOSITE THE HIGH SCHOOL BEING LOT #524 IN THE ASSESSOR'S PLAT #10, TOGETHER WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS."...140.403 See X

1856 MOSES B JENKINS SELLS FOR \$18000 TO THOMAS A JENCKES A CERTAIN LOT OF LAND TOGETHER WITH ALL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS. BOUNDED:

W BY BENEFIT STREET 43 1/2' E BY JONATHAN CONGSON 100'
S BY ANGELL STREET 200' N FORMERLY DAVID HOWELL 123 1/2'

BEING LOT #524, PLAT #10 AND RECEIVED BY ME THROUGH THE PARTITION DEED BETWEEN SAMUEL B TOBEY TR, AND MYSELF OF THE ESTATE OF MY MOTHER THE LATE ANNA A JENKINS...143.457

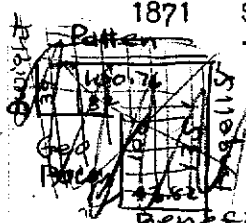
* 1857
1857. FIRE RECORD: see*

1870 THOMAS A JENCKES AND WIFE MARY JANE SELL THE ABOVE PROPERTY TO SAMUEL W PECKHAM, ALL THE REAL ESTATE OF WHICH SAID T A JENCKES IS NOW SEIZED CONSISTING OF HIS ESTATE ON THE CORNER OF ANGELL AND BENEFIT STREETS CONVEYED TO HIM BY MOSES B JENKINS IN 1856...193.36

1871 SAMUEL PECKHAM SELLS TO STEPHEN WATERMAN THAT LOT OF LAND AND BRICK DWELLING HOUSE AT THE S/E CORNER OF BENEFIT AND ANGELL STREETS...196.223

1871 STEPHEN WATERMAN SELLS FOR \$31000 TO ANNE J HAM WIFE OF ALBERT E HAM THE ABOVE PROPERTY BOUNDED:

S BY ANGELL STREET 125' W BY BENEFIT ST & FORMERLY DAVID HOWELL 39.43
E BY ELIZA B PATTEN 100.76 AND GEORGE BACON 32.85
N BY GAMALIEL DWIGHT 100
N BY GEORGE BACON 100 3/4



1871 Albert E Ham lived here for the 1st time PD
PROPERTY STILL IN THE HAM FAMILY AND TAXED TO MISS ANNETTE M HAM

* 1857 Thomas A Jenckes lived here for the 1st time & until 1867 PD more ->

2 ANGELL STREET ...continued

Thomas Allen Jenckes LL.D. was born in Cumberland R I in 1810 Son of Thomas B and Abigail (Allen) Jenckes. Graduated from Brown 1838 Admitted to the bar in 1840. Was representative in the General Assembly. In 1857 he helped revise the statutes of the State. In 1862 and for ~~ten~~ years R I representative to Congress. Obtained passage of a bill requiring applicants of cadets to West Point based on competitive exams. Later resumed practice of law in Providence and New York.

Married in 1842 Mary Jane, daughter of Zelotes Fuller. Issue: Four daughters and one son. He died in 1875 /..Biographical Encyclopedia of R I...page 414...R I Hist Soc.

1857 * POLICY RECORD: Thomas A Jenks...corner Angell and Benefit Streets... Brick and stone 38' x 45'...part three and part four stories high. Circular addition 3½' x 16' four stories high and another addition 12' x 17' three stories high and another 13' x 16'...1½ stories high. Occupied for a Dwelling House...PR 62.27377

Property taxed to:...

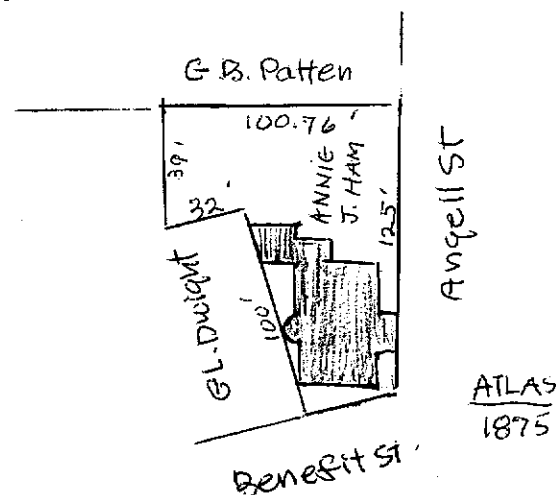
1872 Anne J Ham wife of Albert E
1905 Albert E Ham for life
1917 Livingstone and Annette Ham
1923 Annette M Ham
1963 Annette Ham dies



NOTE:

#193-197 Benefit Street, Records show:
(Property of Gamaliel Dwight)
(next N of #2 Angell Street)

GAMALIEL DWIGHT...S "by the old house of Moses Brown"
DB 193.320



THOMAS A. JENCKES HOUSE

2 Angell Street, northeast corner Angell and Benefit Streets, Providence, Providence County, Rhode Island, Flat 10, Lot 524

Thomas A. Jenckes House, 2 Angell Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Built 1852. Original owner: Anna A. Jenkins. Subsequent owners: Samuel B. Tobey, Moses Brown Jenkins.

Brief Statement of Historical Significance: This is a large, brick house, built in the 1850's. It was the home of Congressman Thomas A. Jenckes.

1. ORIGINAL AND SUBSEQUENT OWNERS:

1852 DEEDBOOK: Anna A. Jenkins conveys to Samuel B. Tobey all of her property for her natural life as under the will and testament of her late mother, Anna A. Jenckes. - Deed Book 128, page 85, in Providence City Hall.

1854 DEEDBOOK: Between Samuel B. Tobey and Moses Brown Jenkins. Witnesseth: "That whereas by terms and conditions of the Deed to the last Will and testament of Moses Brown, deceased, it is provided as follows that: "Whereas my granddaughter, Anna A. Jenkins, wife of William, since the execution of my last Will and testament has borne a son, whose name is Moses Brown Jenkins, it is my will that should the aforesaid Moses Brown Jenkins live to the age of 21 years, I bequeath to him the whole of my Homestead Farm where I now live in Providence Neck, after the lifetime of my said granddaughter, his Mother, to whom the farm is given in my said will and testament." - Deed Book 140, page 402, in Providence City Hall.

1856 DEEDBOOK: Samuel B. Tobey, trustee w/w Anna A. Jenkins, grant, bargain and quit claim to Moses B. Jenkins the following "...the lot on the Corner of Benefit and Angell Streets, opposite the High School being lot #104, in the Assessor's Plat #10, Together with the buildings and improvements."... Deed Book 140, page 409, in Providence City Hall.



1856 Moses B. Jenkins sells for \$18000 to Thomas A Jenkins a certain lot of land together with all buildings and improvements. Bounded:

W by Benefit Street 15-1/2'
S by Angell Street 80'

E by Jonathan Congdon 100'
N formerly David Howell
123-1/2'

being lot #10, Plot #10 and received by me through the Partition Deed between Samuel B. Talbot Tr, and myself of the Estate of my Mother the late Anna A Jenkins. - Deed Book 143, Page 430, in Providence City Hall.

1857 Thomas A. Jenkins - 27577 Irish and stone 30' x 45' part three and part four stories high. Circular Addition 3-1/2 X 16' four stories high and another addition 12 X 17' three stories high and another 13 X 16' - 1-1/2 stories high, occupied for a dwelling house. - see. Fire Insurance records of the Providence Mutual Insurance Company at the Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, Rhode Island.

1857 T. Jenkins listed at this address, Providence Directory.

1870 Thomas A. Jenkins and wife Mary Jane sell the above property to Samuel W. Peckham, all the real estate of which said T. A. Jenkins is now seized consisting of his estate on the corner of Angell and Benefit Streets conveyed to him by Moses B. Jenkins in 1856. - Deed Book 193, page 36, in Providence City Hall.

1871 Samuel Peckham sells to Stephen Wetmore that lot of land and THOMAS JENKINS HOUSE at the N/E corner of Benefit and Angell Streets. - Deed Book 196, page 283, in Providence City Hall.

1871 Stephen Wetmore sells for \$31000 to Anna J. Han wife of Albert J. Han the above property bounded: - Deed Book 99, page 43, in Providence City Hall:
S by Angell Street 125' W by Benefit St. &
E by Elias B. Patten 100.76 Formerly David Howell
N by Samuel Deigo 99' and George Bacon -
E by George Bacon 125' Deed Book 32, page 55

1902 Property still in the Han Family and taxed to Miss Annette M. Han

2. Date of creation: c. 1856

J. Sources of Information:

Biographical Encyclopedia of Representative Men of Rhode Island (Providence: National Biographical Publishing Company, 1901), p. 414.

John Hutchins Cady, The Civil and Architectural Development of Providence (Providence, Rhode Island: The Book Shop, 1907), p. 140.

John F. White, The History of Domestic Architecture in Rhode Island, Master's Thesis, Department of Art, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 1909, pp. 66-67.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Following is from the Biographical Encyclopedia of Representative Men of Rhode Island, p. 414:

Thomas A. Jenckes was born in Cranston Rhode Island, November 2, 1818 the son of Isaac B. and Abigail W. (Allen) Jenckes.

He graduated from Brown University in 1838, then studied law with the Hon. Samuel Y. Smith and was admitted to the bar September 24, 1840. He became a partner of Edward H. Hazard Esq., and was a most successful lawyer.

For several years he was a Representative to the Rhode Island General Assembly. In 1848 he was sent to Congress as a Representative of Rhode Island and served eight years. Among the committees he served was the Judiciary and Patents of which he was the chairman. His greatest efforts were for civil reform and in carrying through the Bankrupt Law, because passed throughout the country. He succeeded in obtaining passage of a bill that made the appointment of cadets to the Military School at West Point dependent upon competitive examination. After leaving Congress he resumed the practice of law in Providence and New York.

A degree of Doctor of Laws was given him 1873 by Brown University.

His wife was Mary Jane daughter of Zeletis Fuller of Middleborough, Massachusetts whom he married in June 1842. They had five children, four daughters and a son.

He died November 4, 1875.

C. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: Thomas A. Jenckes papers: legal papers kept at the Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence, all other papers kept at the Library of Congress, Washington.

PART I--Prepared by Margaret Fletcher
for the Providence Preservation Society
March 1968

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

1. General Statement

1. **Architectural character:** The house is one of a number of conservative "Italian Villa" type houses which follow in general the general hall plan of the Early English houses of Providence. Its curving steps and reserved detail are noteworthy.

2. **Condition of fabric:** Good

2. Technical Description of Exterior

1. **Overall dimensions:** Square block 45' (five bay south front) x 30' (four bay west side), with semicircular bay $7\frac{1}{2}'$ x 15' wide on north, with two rear wings to northwest. Three stories with basement at ground level on west on Benefit Street.

2. **Foundations:** Granite, regular ashlar.

3. **Wall construction:** Brick laid with narrow mortar joints, smooth dark red surface, running bond.

4. **Chimneys:** Brick and chimneys.

5. **Openings:**

- a. **Entrances and doors:** Basement entrance on Benefit Street with bracketed, three-bay porch, bracketed cornice and balustrade. Main entrance on Angell Street, first floor, bracketed porch with square Corinthian columns, curved two-way steps, iron rail.

- b. **Windows:** Six over six light double hung windows, wide milled caps with brackets. Third story heads curved into frieze of roof cornice

6. **Roof:**

- a. **Shape, covering:** Low hipped roof

- b. **Cornice:** Milled cornice with denticulated bed mold and wide frieze board.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Typical central hall, four-room plan, with double parlors at the west side.
2. Stairways: Main stairway, straight run with winders at the top, open string, shadow rail, heavy newel post, turned balusters, scrolled carving on riser ends similar to Early Republican detail.
3. Flooring: Wide board floor
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted.
5. Doors: Mahogany doors, recessed panels.
6. Trim: Heavy moldings. Inside window shutters. Dining room walls paneled about 6' high.
7. Lighting: Electric.
8. Heating: Central heat with radiators. One-story marble mantels, semicircular curved openings, carved or paneled spandrels, flat or scrolled keystones, shaped mantel shelves.

D. Site

- a. General setting and orientation: Northeast corner Angell and Benefit Streets, main entrance facing south on Angell Street. At sidewalk on Benefit; set slightly back on Angell Street to accommodate double flight of curving steps to main entry.
- b. Enclosures: High brick wall around yard east of house.

Prepared by Antoinette F. Downing and John H. Cady
for the Providence Preservation Society
and Oswald R. Overby, Architect
National Park Service
April 1962

2 Angell St. Residence of Dr. & Mrs. John C. Ham

1856 Moses B. Jenkins sold land to Thomas A. Jencks

1857 Thos. A. Jencks built house.

1870 Owned by Samuel W. Reckham and Stephen Waterman

1871 Sold to Anne J. Ham

1923-1963 Owned by Miss Annette Ham

Architecture

Italian Villa Style popular in the mid 19th century on Benefit St., but with use of the central hall plan as in earlier Federal houses. Low hip roof. Molded cornice and wide frieze board. Six over six windows. Molded caps (on windows) with brackets. The curving exterior stair a feature of the Italian style. The straight interior stair with scrolled carving on the riser ends similar to earlier style. The wide board floors also an earlier feature. The clever use of the hillside which challenged the builder was excellent.