

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Records of

Plat 17
Lot 262

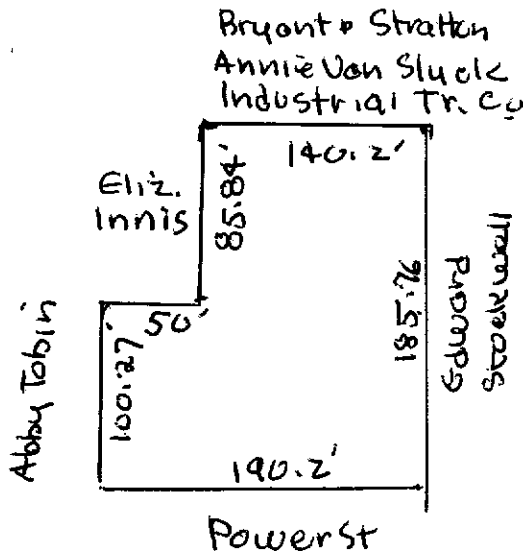
#154 POWER STREET....Wood

- 1821 Joseph S Cooke sells for \$4000 to John H Greene a certain lot of land containing 40' front and rear of Lot of #5, 50' front and rear being the whole of Lot #6, and 10' front and rear of the W/ly part of Lot #7 on Plat of house lots laid out by grantor in the Young Orchard (so-called)...(39.297)....DB 44.349
- 1824 John H Greene sells for \$5000 to James Fenner a certain lot of land with DWELLING HOUSE et al buildings thereon standing, bounded: S by Power Street 100'; E and W 184' by Joseph S Cooke; N by Sarah Olney 100', being the same lot or parcel of land conveyed to grantor by Joseph S Cooke in 1821...DB 49.124
- 1840 James Fenner sells for 100 shares in the capital stock of the Arcade Bank to Cyrus Dyer a certain lot of land with Dwelling House and other buildings thereon standing which grantor purchased of John H. Greene in 1824...DB 76.194
- 1840 Joseph S Cooke sells for \$400 to Cyrus Dyer a lot of land in the Young Orchard, so-called, being #7 on Plat of Lots (39.297) the remaining 10' of front and rear of said lot being before owned by said Dyer... ..DB 76.235
- 1840 Cyrus Dyer sells for \$7750 to Hezekiah Anthony a certain lot of land w with Dwelling House et al buildings thereon being the same I purchased of James Fenner and Joseph S Cooke bounded: S by Power Street 140'; W by Joseph S Cooke 184'; N by heirs of Colonel Jeremiah Olney 140'; E by Burroughs 184'...DB 78.129
- 1851 Hezekiah Anthony sells to Mary B A Vial his one equal undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part with one equal undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part of all buildings and improvements thereon of the above property being the same grantor purchased of Cyrus Dyer in 1840...DB 123.323
- 1852 Hezekiah Anthony sells to William Viall one equal undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part of a certain lot of land and of all buildings and improvements, meaning to convey the undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part of the Estate which grantor purchased of Cyrus Dyer in 1840...DB 129.222
- 1880 WILL: Mary B A Viall, widow of William,..."all the rest of my real estate to my two daughters, nancy A Dyer, wife of Elisha jr and Jane A Harris share and share alike...also all my furnitre and other household goods and clothing in my present residence at 154 Power Street. ...Wills 29.50
- 1884 Property taxed to Nancy A Dyer wife of Elisha jr

more....

#154 POWER STREET....continued

- 1921 Property taxed to H Anthony and George R Dyer
- 1939 H Anthony Dyer sells to Nathaniel and Rita Frucht one undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part of that parcel of land with all buildings and improvements bounded: S by Power Street 190.2'; W by Abby J Tobin 100.27'; N 50' and E 85.84' by Annie Van Slyck and Industrial Trust ~~Co~~ Company; N by Bryant and Straton 140.2'; E by Edward Stockwell 185.76'...DB 823.7
- 1939 Walter Gurnee Dyer et al and Charles Madison trustee u/w George R Dyer sell to Nathaniel and Rita C Frucht the one undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ part of the above property....DB 823.368
- 1955 Property taxed to Rita C^g Frucht
- 1956 Bryant College of Business Administration taxed for this property



JOHN HOLDEN GREENE HOUSE**Address:**

New #154
 190 Power Street, Providence, Providence County,
 Rhode Island

Present Owner:

Bryant College of Business Administration, 154
 Hope Street, Providence, Rhode Island

Present Occupant:

Bryant College students

Present Use:

Men's dormitory

**Brief Statement
of Significance:**

This house, built in 1822, was designed for his
 own use by John Holden Greene, leading Providence
 architect in the early 19th century. It was later
 the home of two governors of Rhode Island, Elisha
 Dyer, and Elisha Dyer, Jr.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION**A. Physical History**

1. Original and subsequent owners: Original owner, John Holden Greene.

Later owned by Elisha Dyer, Governor of Rhode Island,
 1877-1879, and Elisha Dyer, Jr., Governor of Rhode
 Island, 1897-1900.

2. Date of erection: 1822

3. Architect: John Holden Greene

4. Notes on alterations and additions: The house was moved from the next lot east, 154 Power Street, about 1960. The interiors have been altered somewhat to accommodate the present use of the building as a dormitory, with additional bathrooms, modern tile floors, etc. Only one of the original fireplaces remains.

5. Sources of information: Norman Morrison Eaton, John Holden Greene, unpublished mss. in possession of John Hutchins Gady, Providence, Rhode Island. HABS Inventory prepared by John Hutchins Gady, November 20, 1956.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. **Architectural character:** This two-and-a-half story, frame house, built in 1822, was designed for his own use by John Holden Greene, leading Providence architect in the early 19th century. The house is traditional in its layout like Greene's other work, but is very free and inventive in some of its details, particularly the stairway and the tripartite windows on the front.
2. **Condition of fabric:** The house is in sound condition, the exterior largely preserves its original appearance, many interior features have been removed or covered over.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. **Overall dimensions:** Main block, c. 36' x 45' (three-bay south front) two-and-a-half stories, short two-story projection added on west side later, rear wing.
2. **Foundations:** Modern concrete and concrete block, new foundations and basement date from recent moving of the house.
3. **Wall construction:** Frame, clapboards, wood quoins
4. **Porches:** Wooden front porch nearly the width of the house, one story, six Doric columns spaced unequally.
5. **Chimneys:** Originally four chimneys in main block, only one remains on east wall.
6. **Openings:**
 - a. **Doorways and doors:** Main entrance on south front, large door with ten panels, side lights and elliptical top light, wood mullions, deeply molded trim.
 - b. **Windows and shutters:** Three-bay front, with tripartite windows in heavily molded frames with deeply projecting cornices. Single windows with similar frames on the sides, - simple frames in rear. Shuttered under-window aprons on lower front windows, extend to floor and apparently opened originally.
7. **Roof:**
 - a. **Shape and covering:** Hip roof with high monitor, about half the area of the main roof.

- b. **Cornices, eaves:** Formerly had double balustrades on eave of main roof and on eave of monitor roof. Moulded cornices, foliated scrolled brackets in the eaves.
- c. **Capitals:** Monitor topped by a high capital.

6. Technical Description of Interior

- 1. **Floor plans:** Central hall plan, double connected parlor on east side, new apartment, dining room on southeast, large kitchen in rear wing to northwest. Bathrooms on second floor in similar arrangement. Small bedrooms on third floor in the monitor. One room in cupola with doorway to the roof. Original kitchen and library remodelled as bedrooms, and several bedrooms added.
- 2. **Stairways:** Central hall divided by archway with main stair at back, U-shape with semi-circular landing. Open string stair with shell motif step and ornaments. Unusual turned balustrade with large knobs, round fluted newels, heavy moulded handrail ramped and curved in unusual ways.
- 3. **Flooring:** Modern asphalt tile or later hardwood
- 4. **Wall and ceiling finish:** Plaster, painted
- 5. **Doorways and doors:** Deeply moulded plaster door trim, with curved corner blocks in principal rooms. Six-panel doors, flat-work panels.
- 6. **Trim:** Moulded archway in central hall supported on foliated consoles. Double parlors divided by four fluted columns with Ionic capitals with unusual pattern of base and bellives carved on surfaces of the volutes and the listels. Frieled under-window aprons. Moulded plaster cornices in most rooms.
- 7. **Hardware:** Some original silver-plated hardware in front rooms.
- 8. **Lighting:** Electric
- 9. **Heating:** Central heat. Only one fireplace survives, in southeast room, two-story wooden mantel, lower part with fluted engaged columns supporting arch-lature with Adam festoons, paneled over mantel with fluted pilasters, and broken scrolled pediment with an urn.

D. Site

Faces south on narrow level lot, surrounded by other buildings of Bryant College.

Prepared by Oswald E. Gentry, architect
National Park Service
February 1962