

HABS

PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

PLAT 10  
LOT 132

RECORDS OF  
# 62 BENEFIT STREET...WOOD

1866-#62      1847=#56      1844-#42      1824-#42      1798 NOT NUMBERED

~~1865~~

no 1814/1798

1773      JOSEPH WHIPPLE SELLS FOR 30<sup>6</sup> LAWFUL MONEY TO AMOS ALLEN, HOUSEWRIGHT, "A CERTAIN LOT OF LAND FRONTING E/LY ON BENEFIT STREET: BEGINNING AT THE NE CORNER OF STAR AND BENEFIT STREET 120' UNTIL IT COMES IN RANGE WITH THE N LINE OF THE CHURCH BURYING GROUND, THENCE W/LY IN THE RANGE AFORESAID 50', THENCE N/LY HOLDING WIDTH OF 50' TO STAR LANE, THENCE 50' TO FIRST MENTIONED CORNER.      20.132

1798  
1812      *see \**  
DIVISION OF AMOS ALLEN ESTATE. "WE ASSIGN TO CALEB FULLER AND HANNAH FULLER IN RIGHT OF SAID HANNAH AND MARY ALLEN A LOT OF LAND WITH DWELLING HOUSE, BEING #4 AND #5. VALUED AT \$2400.      36.27

1832      CALEB FULLER AND WIFE HANNAH FOR \$1500 SELL TO CLARISSA L. FULLER, UNDIVIDED  $\frac{1}{2}$  PART OF HOUSE AND LOT AT THE CORNER OF STAR AND BENEFIT STREET, SAID PROPERTY GIVEN HANNAH IN THE DIVISION OF THE ESTATE OF HER FATHER, AMOS ALLEN.      60.47 $\frac{1}{2}$

1857      HANNAH FULLER FOR \$1500 TO DAUGHTER, CYNTHIA SPRINGER, ONE UNDIVIDED  $\frac{1}{2}$  PART OF DWELLING HOUSE AND LOT OF LAND--BEING THE SAME ESTATE WHICH DESCENDED TO ME FROM MY FATHER, AMOS ALLEN--RESERVING TO MYSELF THE USE OF PREMISES DURING MY LIFE TIME.      149.349

1863      CLARISSA L. FULLER, SPINSTER, TO MY SISTER CYNTHIA SPRINGER--"ONE UNDIVIDED  $\frac{1}{2}$  PART OF DWELLING HOUSE WHEREVER THE SAME STANDS. SAID ESTATE IS SITUATED AND IS # 56 BENEFIT STREET (NOW # 62). THE DWELLING HOUSE IS 33' x 28' AND IS 2 STORIES HIGH IN FRONT AND 3 IN REAR.      165.341

1887      MARY C. LOTHROP TO MARY A. LOTHROP (MY DAUGHTER) THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO ME BY MY MOTHER, CYNTHIA SPRINGER, AND CAME TO ME AS ONLY CHILD AND HEIR OF MY MOTHER, CYNTHIA. LIFE ESTATE RESERVED.      342/28

1899      M. ALINDA LOTHROP      15.142

1907      JAMELIA Z. NOUMAIR      \* 1798 CHACE NOTES: Amos Allen  
E on Benefit st

1927      JAMELIA F. ZAINY      N on Star Lane

1945      RHODE ISLAND EPISCOPAL CONVENTION      33' x 27' - 2st - wood

1959      THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND      workshop 20x16' - 2st - wood  
occ. by Cornelius G. Bowler  
*from Prov. Dir.*

1824 Cornelius Bowler lived here

1844 James Mumford, collect. of Tapes

1866 Mrs " " kept a Boarding House

AMOS ALLEN HOUSE

Address: 62 Benefit Street, Providence, Providence  
County, Rhode Island.

Flat 10, lot 132, not numbered in 1798; 42  
Benefit Street in 1824; 56 Benefit Street  
in 1847; 62 Benefit Street in 1866.

Present Owner: The Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island,  
101 Benefit Street, Providence 3, Rhode  
Island.

Present Occupant: Leased to various tenants

Present Use: Old people's home.

Brief Statement  
of Significance: This is a medium sized, well-preserved house from  
the late eighteenth century.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History

## 1. Original and subsequent owners:

1773 Joseph Whipple calls for 30 E lawful money to  
Amos Allen, housewright, "a certain lot of land front-  
ing E/ly on Benefit Street; Beginning at the NE corner  
of Star and Benefit Street 120' until it comes in range  
with the N line of the Church Burying Ground, thence W/ly  
in the range aforesaid 50', thence N/ly holding width  
of 50' to Star Lane, thence 50' to first mentioned corner.  
Deed Book 20, page 132, in Providence City Hall.

1798 Amos Allen, owner house and store. Cornelius  
Bowler, occupant. E on Benefit; N on Star Lane; House  
33' x 26' - 2 stories front, 3 stories rear, wood.  
Taxed \$1,200. Henry R. Chase, Owners and Occupants of  
the Lots, Houses and Shops in the Town of Providence,  
Rhode Island in 1798 Located on Maps of the Highways  
of that Date (Providence, 1914).

1812 Division of Amos Allen Estate. "We assign to  
Caleb Fuller and Hannah Fuller in right of said  
Hannah and Mary Allen a lot of land with dwelling house,  
being #4 and #5. Valued at \$2400." Deed Book 36, page  
27, in Providence City Hall.

- 1832 Caleb Fuller and wife Hannah for \$1500 sell to Clarissa L. Fuller, undivided 1/2 part of the house and lot at the corner of Star and Benefit Street, said property given Hannah in the division of the estate of her father, Amos Allen. Deed Book 60, page 471, in Providence City Hall.
- 1844 James Mumford, collector of taxes, leased property til 1866. Deed Book 152, page 342, in Providence City Hall.
- 1857 Hannah Fuller for \$1500 to daughter, Cynthia Springer, one undivided 1/2 part of Dwelling House and lot of land--being the same estate which descended to me from my father, Amos Allen--reserving to myself the use of premises during my life time. Deed Book 149, page 349, in Providence City Hall.
- 1863 Clarissa L. Fuller, spinster, to my sister Cynthia Springer--"one undivided 1/2 part of Dwelling House wherever the same stands." Said estate is situated and is #56 Benefit Street (now #62). The Dwelling House is 33' x 28' and is 2 stories high in front and 3 in rear. Deed Book 165, page 341, in Providence City Hall.
- 1887 Mary C. Lothrop to Mary A. Lothrop (my daughter) the same premises conveyed to me by my mother, Cynthia Springer, and came to me as only child and heir of my mother, Cynthia. Life estate reserved. Deed Book 342, page 28, in Providence City Hall.
- 1899 M. Alinda Lothrop. Deed Book 15, page 142, in Providence City Hall.
- 1907 Jamelia E. Nussair.
- 1927 Jamelia F. Zainey.
- 1945 Rhode Island Episcopal Convention.
- 1959 The Diocese of Rhode Island; leased to tenants.
2. Date of erection: Between 1773 and 1798.

Prepared by Antoinette F. Downing and Elvira Gowdey  
for the Providence Preservation Society  
August, 1961.

**PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION**

**A. General Statement**

1. Architectural character: Typical medium-sized frame building with a well-preserved exterior.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

**B. Technical Description of Exterior**

1. Overall dimensions: 33' (4 bays) x 28', two stories high plus attic, and cellar at ground level in the rear. Faces east.
2. Foundations: Squared stone
3. Wall construction: Heavy timber frame, plank walls, clapboards, beaded corner boards.
4. Steps: One granite step at front, small wood stoop at the north side.
5. Chimney: Brick center chimney.
6. Openings:
  - a. Doors: Door does not appear original; frontispiece with fluted pilasters and pediment with modillion cornice.
  - b. Windows: Two windows south of entrance, one window north of entrance; double hung windows have six over one light double hung sash, probably originally had twelve over 12 light sash as on similar neighboring house. Plain window frames with molded heads.
7. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof; rolled roofing.
  - b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed eaves, molded cornice; molded heads of second floor windows continuous with the bed mold.

**C. Technical Description of Interior**

1. Floor plans: Center chimney type, five room plan, with secondary entrance on north side.

2. Stairway: U-shaped, open well, closed string stair in front entrance hall; molded face stringer; heavy railing with nearly square handrail; turned newels and baluster. Winding back stairway by north side door.
3. Flooring: Wide boards.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster with molded wood cornice.
5. Doorways and doors: Six- and eight-panel, raised-panel doors in plain frames with thin molded trim.
6. Trim: Simple molded wood trim; beaded edges on expanded frame.
7. Hardware: Not original.
8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Modern central heating with radiators. Original fireplaces closed off, mantels in place. Parlor mantels have columnettes and deeply projecting, stepped marble shelves; plainer mantel in kitchen.

**B. Site**

1. General setting and orientation: House east on the sidewalk on a corner lot (southwest corner of Benefit and Star Streets) with a small rear yard.
2. Enclosures: Wire fence on the side toward the rear of the property.
3. Walks: Brick at the front, asphalt on the side.
4. Landscaping: Untended back yard.

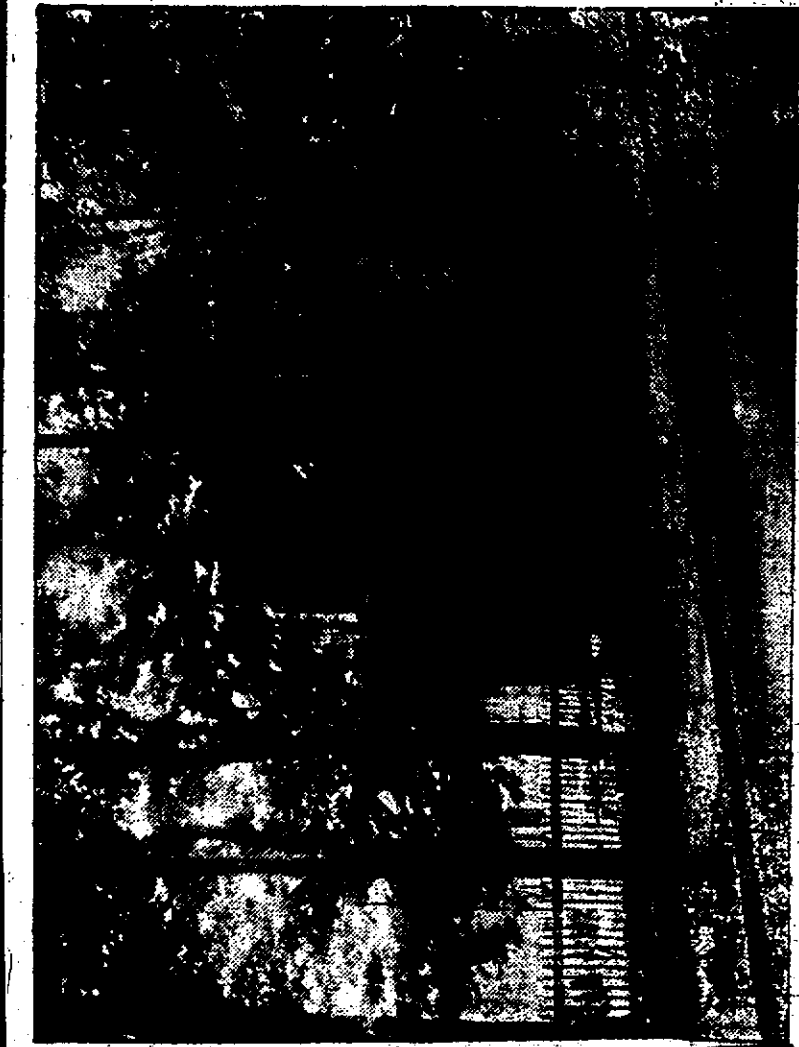
Prepared by Oswald E. Overly, Architect  
National Park Service  
August 1961

# The Providence Journal

ON FRONT PAGE

VOLUME LXXIV. NO. 142.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1910.



The Slater Mansion on Benefit Street.

Proposed gift of Mrs. Horatio N. Slater as a dormitory for the Woman's College and a contribution to the endowment fund of Brown University.

## A VALUABLE GIFT

Slater Mansion on Benefit Street to be Presented to Woman's College

## AS A CONTRIBUTION TO UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT FUND

A notable accession in itself and a welcome aid toward the million.

## SEVERAL RECENT ADDITIONS BRING THE TOTAL WELL UP

The Old-Fashioned Brick Mansion will be purchased, it is understood, by Mrs. Horatio N. Slater and transferred to the University.—Eminently suited for the purpose, as indicated, of a dormitory for women. Endowment fund total now \$215,000.00

The proposed gift to the Woman's College of the Slater Mansion on Benefit Street by Mrs. Horatio N. Slater has aroused much favorable comment. Although on definite arrangements have yet been made, it is understood that Mrs. Slater will purchase the home of the Slater estate and thoroughly renovate it as a dormitory for the Woman's College, the gift counting as a contribution to the endowment fund of the University.

The house, which has not been occupied for a long time, is a roomy, old-fashioned brick mansion, eminently fitted for the use to which it is to be put, and will meet a pressing want of the Woman's College, among students of which have too long been driven from pillar to post in search of boarding places within walking distance of Pembroke Hall.

The maker of the gift is the widow of Horatio N. Slater, a former trustee of Brown University, and the college has already been the recipient of more than one gift from her. A bust of Mr. Slater which may be placed in a room of the mansion is one of these.

Mrs. Slater is the daughter of William Morris Hunt, the famous artist, and a sister of Paul Hunt, who, it is understood, will have general supervision of the renovation and decoration of the new dormitory.

This gift makes a very handsome addition to the endowment fund. It may be difficult to assess it properly, as improvements are contemplated, but it brings the million-dollar mark much nearer in sight. The fund can be worked on the part of Brown men, rich and poor men, each giving according to his means.

The fund now stands as follows:

Previously acknowledged	\$11,000.00
U. S. State, Peckham, Peckham Co.	50.00
William H. Low Estate Co.	100.00
Friend of Woman's College	100.00
Jonathan Chase	1,000.00
Friend	50.00
Graduate	25.00
W. D. Edgell	150.00
H. J. Wells	25.00
William Grosvenor	200.00
Rosa H. Grosvenor	1,000.00
Edward S. Clark	400.00
Albert Harriman	100.00
John D. Slater	1,000.00
Emily M. Slater for Woman's College	1,000.00
Joe Leary, the college tiler	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$215,000.00</b>