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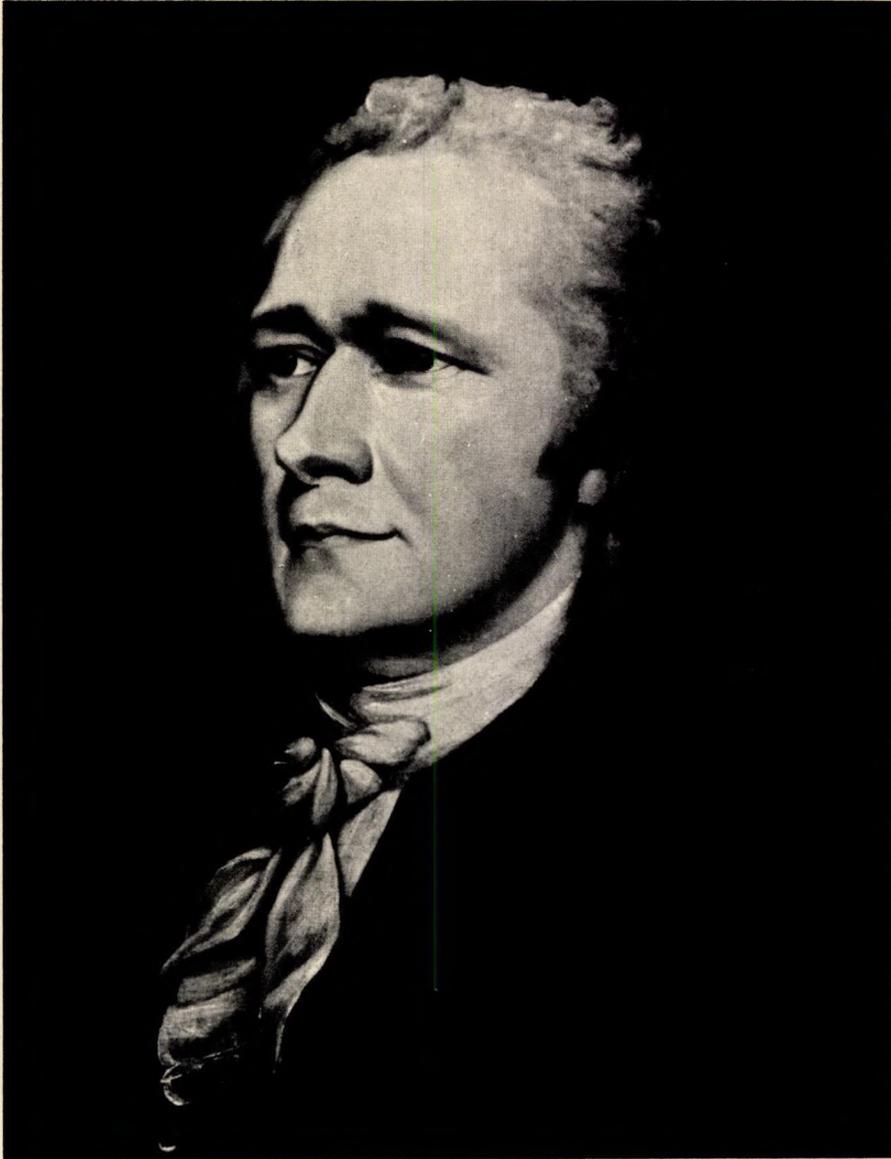
DIVISION OF CULTURAL

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PORTRAIT BY JOHN TRUMBULL

TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
of
ALEXANDER HAMILTON

1757 - 1957



Engraved by Geo. Hayward, 12, Wall Street.

For D. T. Johnson's Manual, 1817.

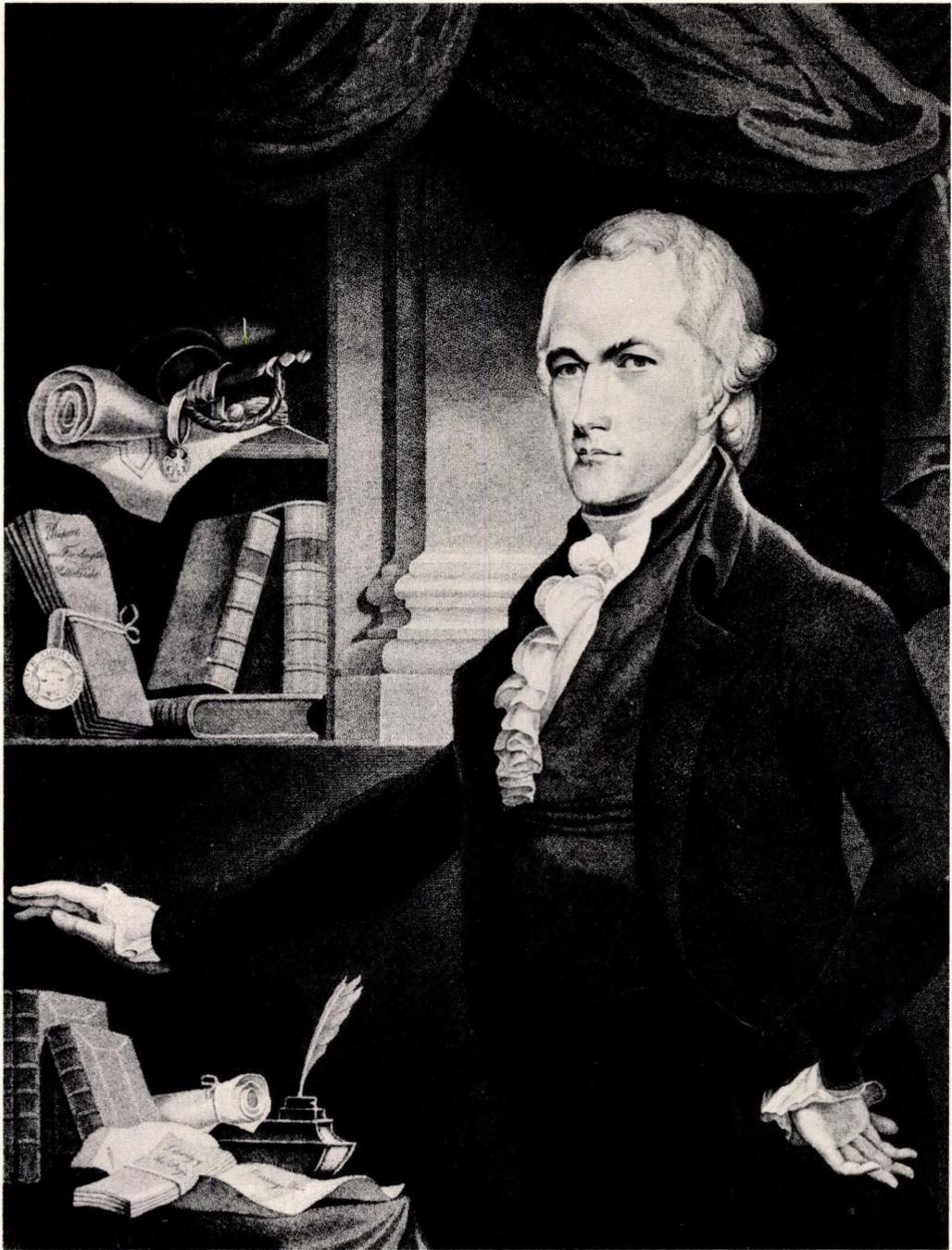
THE GRANGE, KINGSBRIDGE ROAD, N. Y.
Residence of Gen^l. Alex^r. Hamilton.

TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
of
ALEXANDER HAMILTON

1757 - 1957

AH

THE GRANGE
RELOCATION & RESTORATION
AMERICAN SCENIC & HISTORIC
PRESERVATION SOCIETY



Alexander Hamilton as a lawyer, from an engraving by William Rollinson after a painting by Archibald Robertson.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

Soldier Statesman Patriot

First Secretary of the Treasury

*T*here is one man in the political history of the United States whom Daniel Webster regarded as his own intellectual superior. And this man was Alexander Hamilton; not so great a lawyer or orator as Webster, not so broad and experienced a statesman, but a more original genius, who gave shape to existing political institutions. And he rendered transcendent services at a great crisis of American history, and died, with no decline of popularity, in the prime of his life, with a brilliant future before him. He was one of those fixed stars which will forever blaze in the firmament of American lights, like Franklin, Washington, and Jefferson; and the more his works are critically examined, the brighter does his genius appear. Alexander Hamilton will be remembered and will be famous for laying one of the corner-stones in the foundation of the American structure.

Hamilton was eighteen when the battle of Lexington was fought. He left Kings College to join a volunteer regiment of artillery, of which he soon became captain, from his knowledge of military science which he had been studying in anticipation of the contest. In this capacity he was engaged in the battle of White Plains, the passage of the Raritan, and the battles of Princeton and Trenton.



*Alexander Hamilton, as a Colonel of Infantry in the American Army, at the siege of Yorktown.
from an original painting by Chappell.*

When the army encamped at Morristown, in the gloomy winter of 1776-1777, his great abilities having been detected by the commander-in-chief, he was placed upon Washington's staff, as aid-de-camp with the rank of lieutenant-colonel,—a great honor for a boy of nineteen. Yet he was not thus honored and promoted on account of remarkable military abilities, although had he continued in active service, he would probably have distinguished himself as a general, for he had courage, energy and decision; but he was selected by Washington on account of his marvelous intellectual powers.

At the age of twenty-three, after having been four years in the family of Washington as his advisor rather than subordinate, Hamilton, resigned his situation—he obtained a battalion, with the brevet rank of general, and distinguished himself in those engagements which preceded the capture of Lord Cornwallis; and on the surrender of this general,—feeling that the war was virtually ended,—he withdrew altogether from the army, and began the study of law at Albany.

After six months of study he was admitted to the Bar. His legal career was opened by a difficult case which attracted great attention and brought him into notice. In this case he rendered a political service as well as earned a legal fame. It was the incipient contest between Federal and State authority. It was one of those cases which settled the great constitutional question that the authority of the Nation was greater than that of any State which composed it, in matters where Congress had a recognized jurisdiction.

It was the privilege and glory of Hamilton to be one of the most influential of all the men who founded the policies on which our nation has become so great. We can see his hand in the distinctive features of our Constitution, and especially in that financial policy which extricated the nation from the poverty and embarrassments bequeathed by the war, and which, on the whole, has been the policy of the Government from his day to ours. Greater statesmen may arise than he, but no future statesman will ever be able to shape a national policy as he did.

Twelve States sent delegates to [the Constitutional Convention] Philadelphia who met in the year 1787. The great public career of Hamilton began as a delegate from the State of New York to this illustrious assembly. He was not the most distinguished member, for he was still a young man; nor the most popular, for he had too much respect for the British constitution, and was too aristocratic in his sympathies, and perhaps in his manners, to be a favorite. But he was probably the ablest man of the convention, the most original and creative in his genius, the most comprehensive and far-seeing in his views,—a man who inspired confidence and respect for his integrity and patriotism, combining intellectual with moral force. He would have been a great man in any age or country, or in any legislative assembly,—a man who had great influence over superior minds, as he did over that of Washington, whose confidence he had from first to last—when quite a young man he was incidentally of great use in suggesting to influential members of [Continental] Congress certain financial measures which were the germ of that fiscal policy which afterwards made him immortal as Secretary of the Treasury; [1789-1794] for it was in finance that his genius shone out with the brightest lustre.

His influence was predominant in the draughting of the Constitution of the United States. His was the guiding counsel to General Washington in War and to our first President in Peace. His was the wisdom and sagacity that redeemed the early nation from depression following the Revolution, and set our financial policy on a firm foundation.

Excerpts from "BEACON LIGHTS OF HISTORY," article on "*The American Constitution*"

PRESERVATION of our AMERICAN HERITAGE

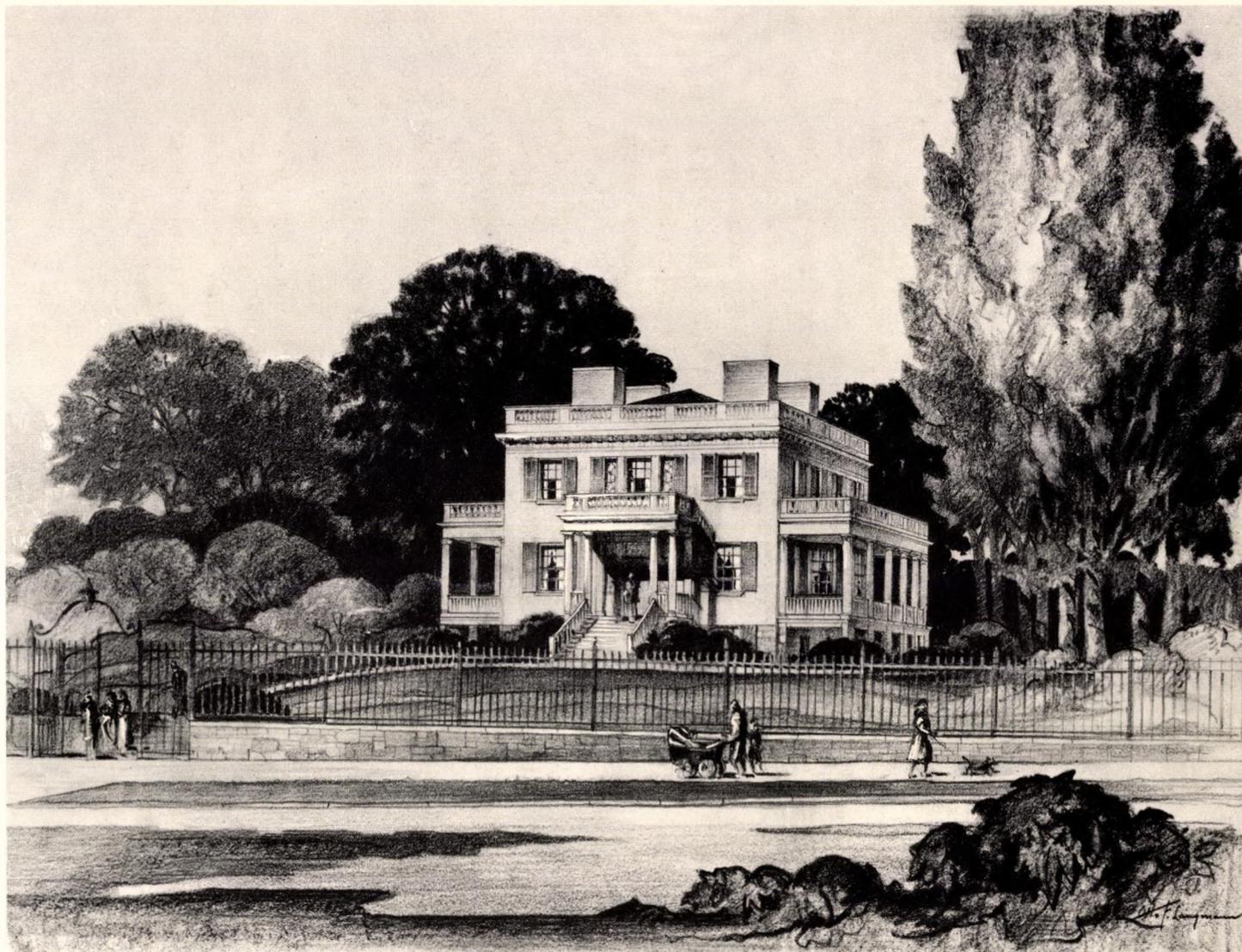


The homes of Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Monroe are in the custody of authorities who have assumed the mandate that they shall be forever held sacred to these immortal founders of our Republic.

Alexander Hamilton was the brilliant financier who "smote the rock of national resources and abundant streams of revenue gushed forth." So accustomed have we become to the daily enjoyment of blessings derived from his intelligence and foresight that we accept them as gifts from God—as, in fact, they are! The multitude of great services he rendered entitle his memory to recognition among the immortals.

Therefore it is fitting that on the
TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
of his birth we have his beloved
HAMILTON GRANGE
relocated in suitable surroundings
& restored to its original splendor?





Perspective view of Hamilton Grange in its proposed new location on St. Nicholas Terrace at West 130th Street, New York.

HAMILTON GRANGE

Residence of Alexander Hamilton

The only home that Alexander Hamilton ever owned, was built in 1801 on what was then a farm in upper Manhattan. The house is still standing, crowded and overshadowed by modern structures, shorn of its graceful porches and robbed of the dignity of its spacious grounds and superb view.

Hamilton had purchased the land for his country retreat in 1800. It was in pleasant wooded hills overlooking the Hudson, and for relaxation there was hunting and fishing. The location was close enough to New York City to attend the courts there, and for him and his wife to go to the theater occasionally. It was on the Albany Post Road leading to the new State capital, through counties east of the Hudson where much of his practice was centered.

The house was built in the following year and named after the seat of his grandfather, Alexander Hamilton, Laird of The Grange, Ayrshire, Scotland. John McComb, a leading architect of the day, who designed the City Hall and other distinguished buildings in New York City, was employed, but certain of its architectural features were worked out by Hamilton himself.

The design of The Grange is simple but dignified. It is today one of a very few Federal period houses still standing in the city. It is a two-story frame house, with brick-filled walls and partitions. The timber came from the estate of Hamilton's father-in-law, General Philip Schuyler.

The grounds were ornamented with native trees and shrubs, and with a group of thirteen gum trees, the gift of Washington from Mount Vernon, typifying the thirteen states. Elaborate ornamental gardens which Hamilton planned were never completed.



Portrait of Mrs. Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, made in 1787 by Earle.

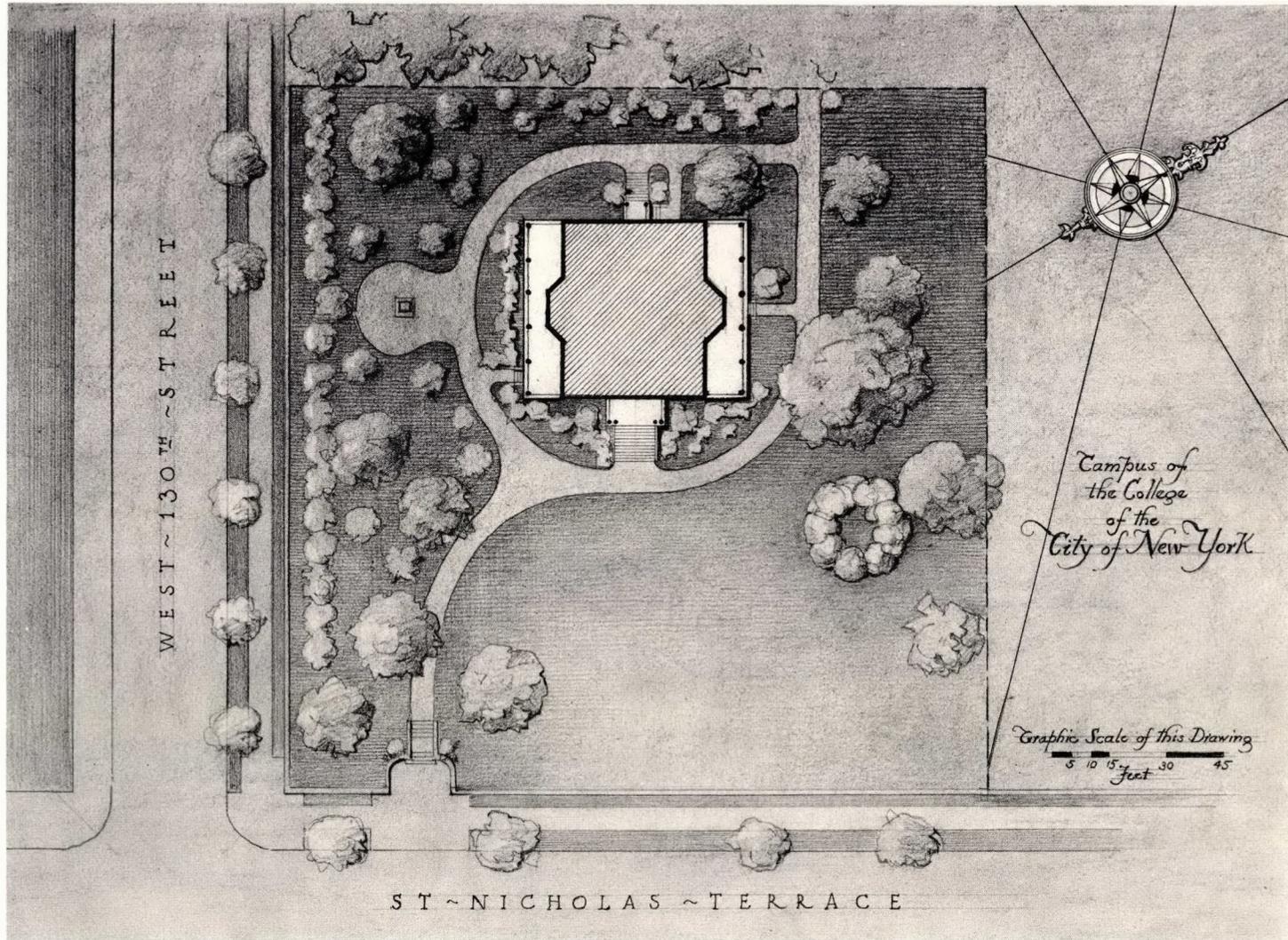
GRACIOUS LIVING at THE GRANGE

Old accounts tell us of the gracious entertainment which the Hamilton family provided their distinguished guests. Fine silver, worthy examples of the Sheraton and Hepplewhite furniture, graceful mantel ornaments, and fine crystal chandeliers lent grace and distinction to the handsome interior. The doorway, flanked with glass panels, remains unchanged, even to the great lock, key and brass doorknob. Many visitors to The Grange have described the famous octagonal dining room, its lofty chamber lighted by great windows opening onto the veranda.

The architecture might be classified as a simplified expression of late classic based freely on the Adam style of England, which was evolved in the latter half of the 18th century. In other words, it is an American interpretation of its prototype.

The refined character of the classic frieze and the cornice of the exterior, the delicate treatment of the ornamental plaster cornices on the interior, and the elegant mantel pieces clearly signify that this was the home of a cultured gentleman. His natural discernment and that of his wife were everywhere in evidence in the dignified interior of this country mansion.

During the time the Hamiltons lived in The Grange, they seem to have enjoyed their country retreat. The large octagon dining room must have witnessed some pleasant gatherings of Hamilton's friends and associates in politics, business and science. General Schuyler and his sons and daughters with husbands, wives and children were frequent visitors, and there were merry gatherings in the big house and on the sunny eastern slope among the old trees.



Plan of the grounds of Hamilton Grange at its proposed new location including thirteen gum trees recalling those originally presented by George Washington.

RELOCATION & RESTORATION
of
THE GRANGE

Manhattan is situated on an island of solid rock with a number of promontories affording excellent locations for memorial structures such as Grant's Tomb and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on the Riverside; Gracie Mansion, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and Columbia University on the Morningside. One of these natural promontories has recently been acquired by the City of New York in the purchase of the Convent property as an extension of the Manhattan Campus of the College of the City of New York.

The southern extremity of this property is located at 130th Street and along St. Nicholas Terrace, high above St. Nicholas Park with an outlook across East River embracing Long Island, the Sound, and parts of the Bronx and the morning sunrise. No finer location could possibly be found for a fitting memorial to New York's most distinguished son.

It is fortunate indeed that this magnificent property became available at this most auspicious moment. Through the whole-hearted approval and co-operation of Mr. Joseph Cavallaro, President, Board of Higher Education, and Dr. Buell Gallagher, President of the College of the City of New York, and the recommendation of Park Commissioner Robert Moses, this site is offered to the Society subject only to the final approval of the Board of Estimate of the City of New York.



Courtesy of New York Times.
Hamilton Grange as it now stands in its constricted location on Convent Avenue at West 140th Street, New York.

PRESENT LOCATION

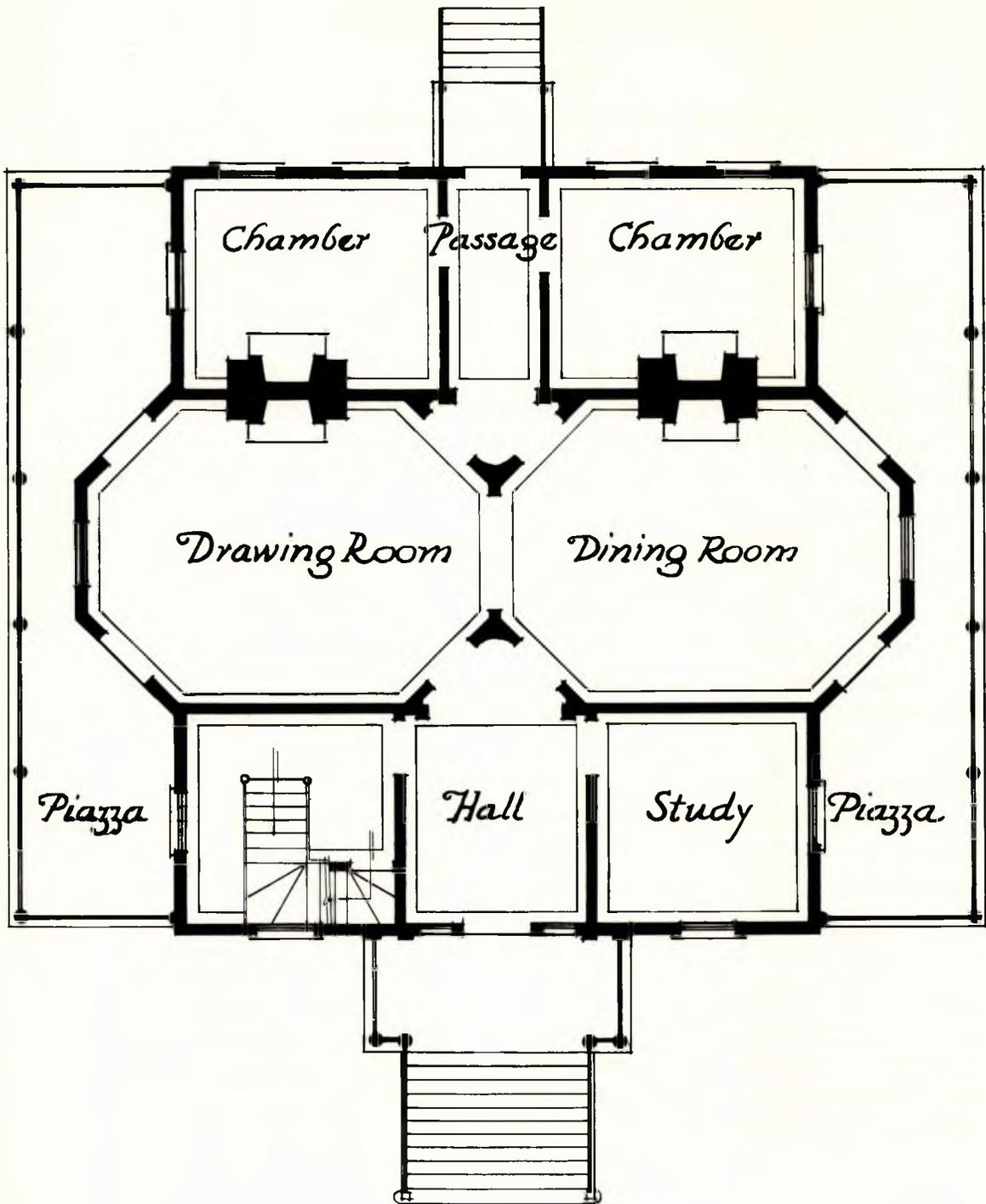
After Hamilton's death the grounds were whittled away in various transactions over the next half century. In 1889 St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church bought the house, then very much neglected, and moved it a short distance to its present location near 140th Street, adjoining the church. In the process, the front and rear porches were removed. The Grange was used for a time as a temporary chapel, while the new church building was under construction, and this entailed other minor alterations.

Nevertheless, the basic structure is still intact. The original hand-split lath and ornamental plaster mouldings are still intact in the interior. The original siding is in place on the exterior. In the attic the sturdy hand-hewn beams of the frame are visible. All of the rooms are served by fireplaces feeding into two massive brick chimneys.

The Grange, first used by St. Luke's as a chapel, was later the parish house. As the neighborhood developed and property values increased, the problem of its future became acute. In 1924 George F. Baker, Sr., and J. P. Morgan generously intervened and title to The Grange was conveyed to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. A trust fund of \$50,000 was created for the maintenance of The Grange as a memorial to Hamilton and a museum of his time.

The continued growth of the vicinity, including the building of a large apartment house immediately adjoining The Grange, constituted a further encroachment.

It is planned to move The Grange to a more appropriate location, where its original appearance will be restored and where it will be made available to the American people as a memorial to one of the great founders of the Nation.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 Graphic Scale  Feet

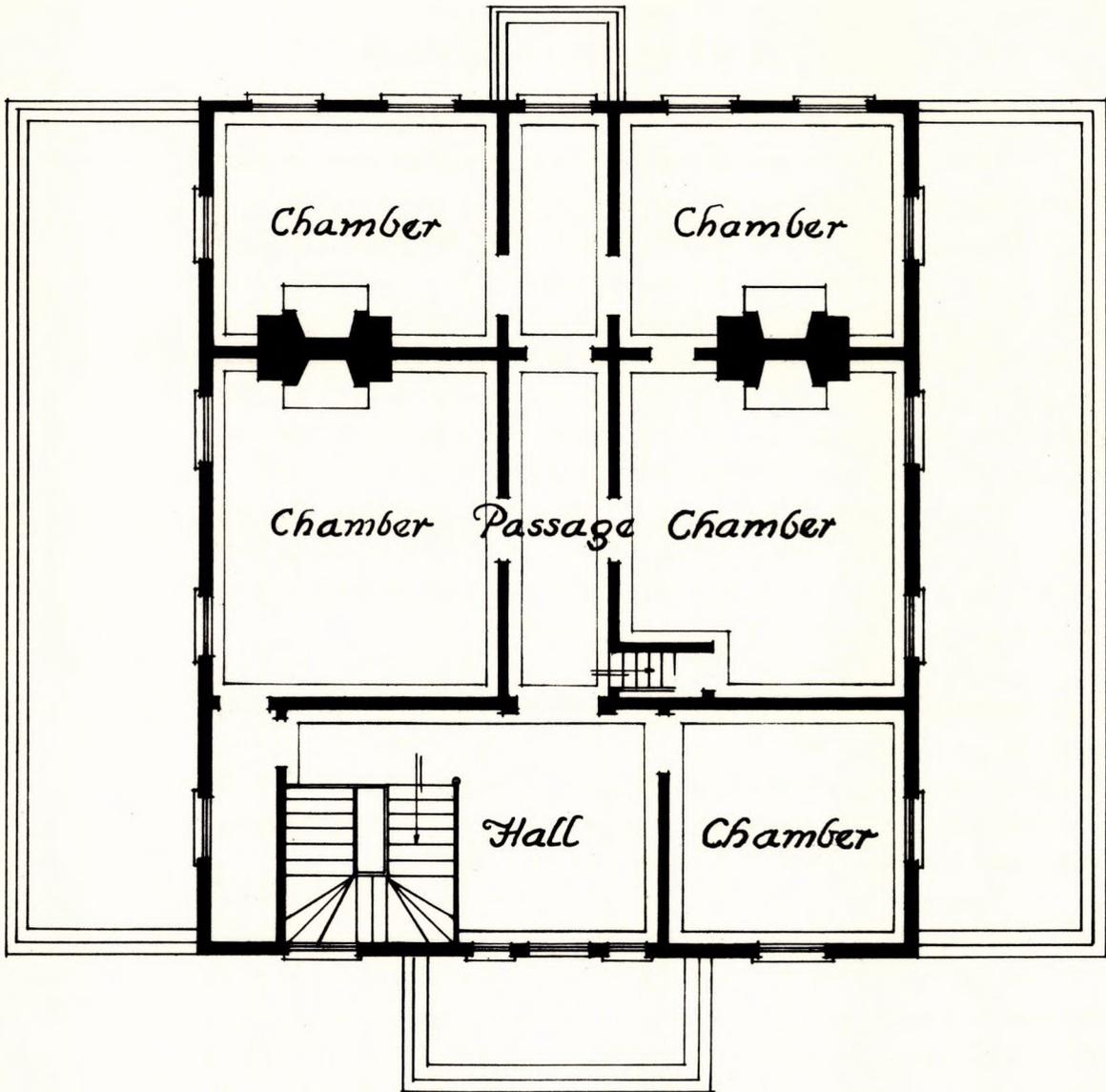
ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES *and* ENGINEERING RESEARCH

Certain exploratory work was necessary to determine the feasibility of moving The Grange to the new site and over the route proposed. This work was done by men experienced in building construction. At various places in the building boards were removed to inspect the condition of the floor joists; also plaster was removed for inspection of the studding, mortar and brick filling. In every instance it was found that all materials were structurally sound. There was no indication of dry rot, except, to a minor extent, in some of the sills.

Research was also carried on to determine the original location of the main stairway, which had been relocated when the building was first moved to its present location. To make the building suitable for use as a temporary chapel the church relocated the front door and this in turn entailed changes in the front hall and the stairway. The piazzas, which formerly had been on the sides of The Grange, now are located on the front and back. It is the intent to replace all facilities to their original location when the structure is moved to the new site.

Mr. Hamilton undoubtedly had a strong liking for balanced formality, as confirmed by the symmetrical treatment of the two main porches, as well as the balanced arrangement of the two beautifully proportioned octagonal rooms on the main floor.

These studies were made by Keally and Patterson—Architects, and Seelye, Stevenson, Value and Knecht—Engineers, under the direction of Richard E. Dougherty, Consultant, and assisted by Edward J. Duffy—President of the Duffy Construction Corporation. All landscaping and planting will be done under the direction of Stuart Constable, Executive Officer of the Department of Parks, City of New York.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
Graphic Scale  Feet

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT

by Francis Keally F. A. I. A.

The Grange is in substantially the same condition today as when it was built; it has outside dimensions of about 46 feet 6 inches by 50 feet. There is a main hallway containing a stairway leading to the second story. A small room about 12 feet square adjoins the present hall. In the center there are two octagon shaped rooms each about 18 feet by 24 feet, joined end to end and connected by wide swinging doors. One of these two rooms was the parlor, the other the dining room; both rooms have French windows opening out to the porches. Adjoining these rooms is a hallway with access to two rooms about 12 feet by 15 feet in size.

Broad porches extend along the sides of the building. The hallway is wide and lofty. The stairway to the second floor is a simple but graceful flight which turns upon itself, forming a broad landing. A graceful arch leads to the drawing and dining rooms.

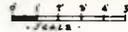
The second floor contains five bedrooms divided by a hall running through the center. From this second floor, a steep flight of steps leads to the attic, where one can see the original hand-hewn timbers furnished from the General Schuyler estate. There are two brick chimneys containing eight fireplaces. The fireplaces in the two octagonal rooms and the two rooms over them have iron backs.

The outer walls of the first and second stories and all the interior walls are brick filled between the studding. Sound-proofing was installed between the floor joists of the first and second floors. The walls of the first and second stories and all interior walls and ceilings throughout are lathed with hand split wood lath, plastered with two coat work and finished in white. The rooms, hall and passage on the first story have ornamental plaster cornices. The exterior covering of the building is the original wood siding.



ALEXANDER HAMILTON GRANGE

- SECTIONAL VIEW OF BUILDING AT CENTER WHERE CUT IS TO BE MADE TO PERMIT MOVING -



ENGINEERING REPORT

*by Richard E. Dougherty, C. E.-P. E.
Past President A. S. C. E.*

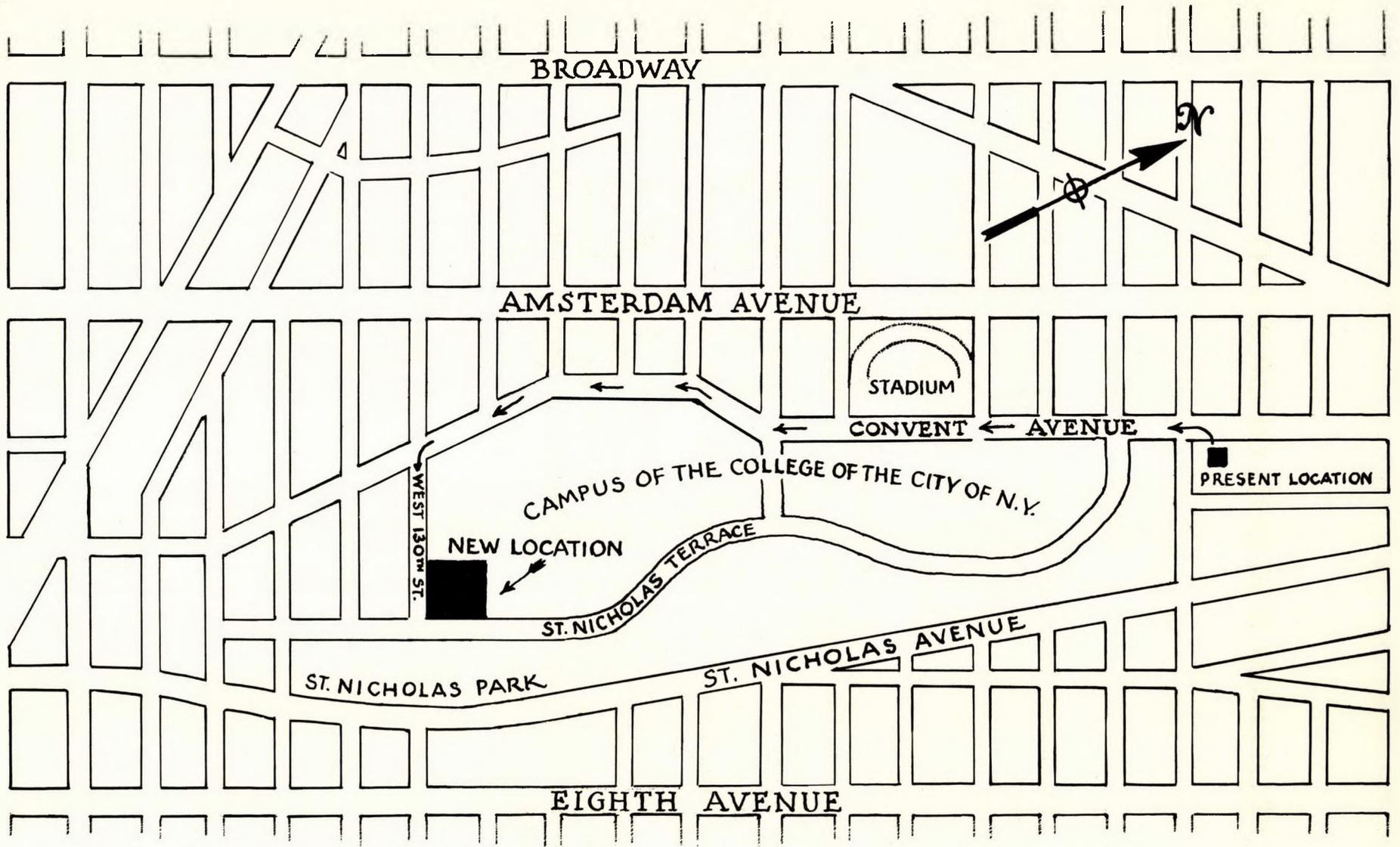
The feasibility of moving The Grange was determined by extensive architectural and engineering research. Plans of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society involve thorough restoration of the house and its furnishings.

As Convent Avenue is too narrow to accommodate the full width of The Grange the following procedure for moving the building was adopted:

Needle beams are to be placed under the building with extra supports under the five chimneys. The building is to be cut in half along its center line by carefully cutting the floor joists and placing temporary supports under the floors. To provide work room the south half is to be moved about four feet toward the church and the north half is then to be moved on skids into the street and there placed on trucks for transportation to the new site where it will be placed on cribbing and moved to its final position onto a new previously prepared foundation.

As the next step, the south half of the building is to be made ready for moving, by first sliding it about fifteen feet to the north to clear the church portico. From then on the procedure is to be the same as that for the north half.

When both halves are in proper position, they are to be joined by splicing the floor joists previously cut, so when the work is finished there will be a structurally sound building.



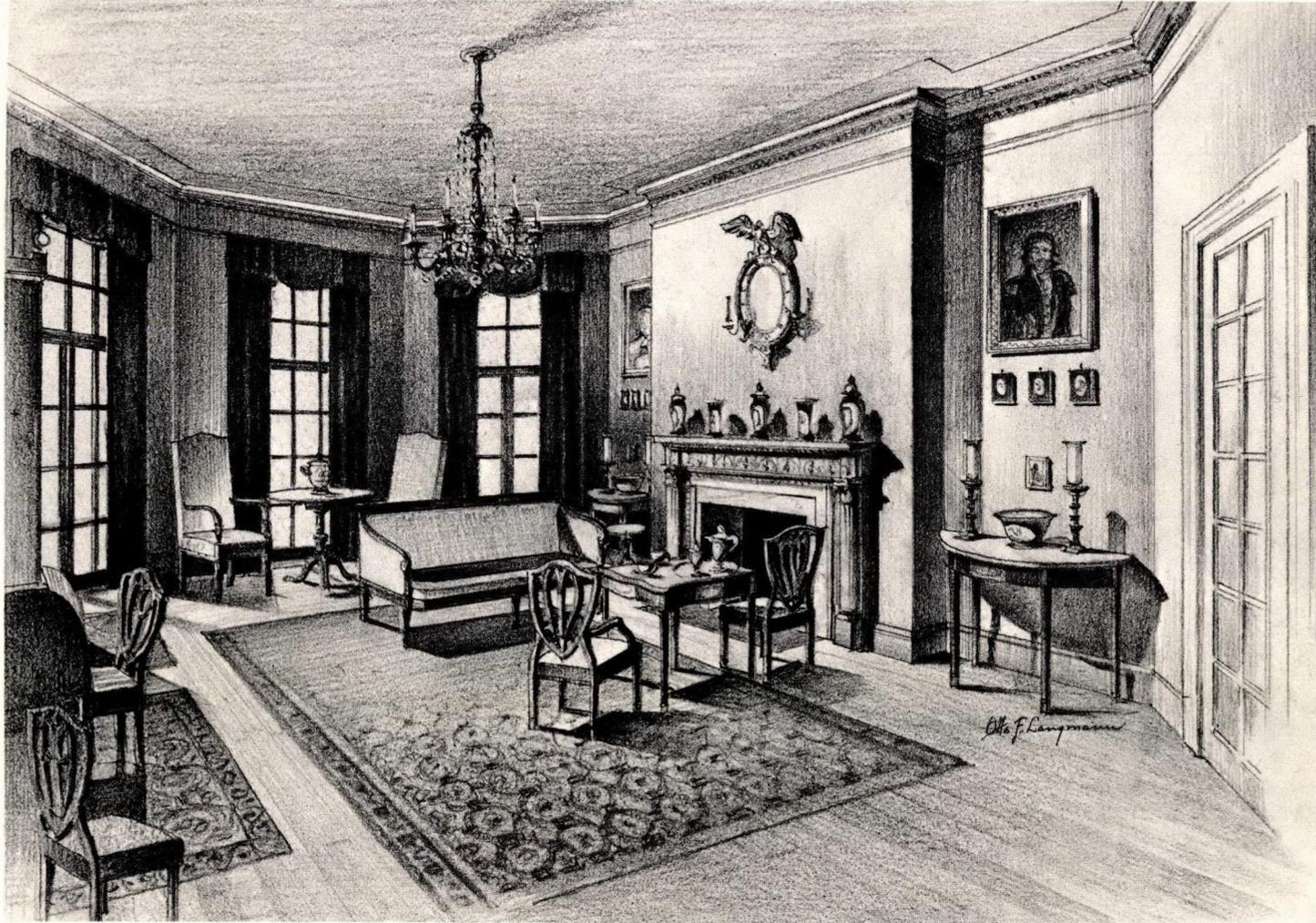
Map showing present and proposed new location of Hamilton Grange, and route of moving.

PROPOSED METHOD OF MOVING

The location sketch plan on the page facing indicates the present and proposed locations and the route of moving. The route selected starts at 141st Street, moves along Convent Avenue the entire length of the Campus of the College of the City of New York, thence east on 130th Street to St. Nicholas Terrace and up onto the new site, overlooking St. Nicholas Park.

The site chosen is ideal. The new location is close to the original Hamilton farm. The surroundings are quiet and the landscaping lends itself aesthetically to a duplication of the original. It will be here where we will find large shade trees and other native plants, wild roses and dogwood that Hamilton loved so dearly. There also will be planted the thirteen trees near the main entrance of The Grange typifying the original thirteen colonies.

The house will be readily accessible to the public by subways and busses, as well as private cars. It will become one of the City's major historic shrines and it will serve to perpetuate the memory of Hamilton as Mount Vernon does that of Washington and Monticello that of Jefferson.



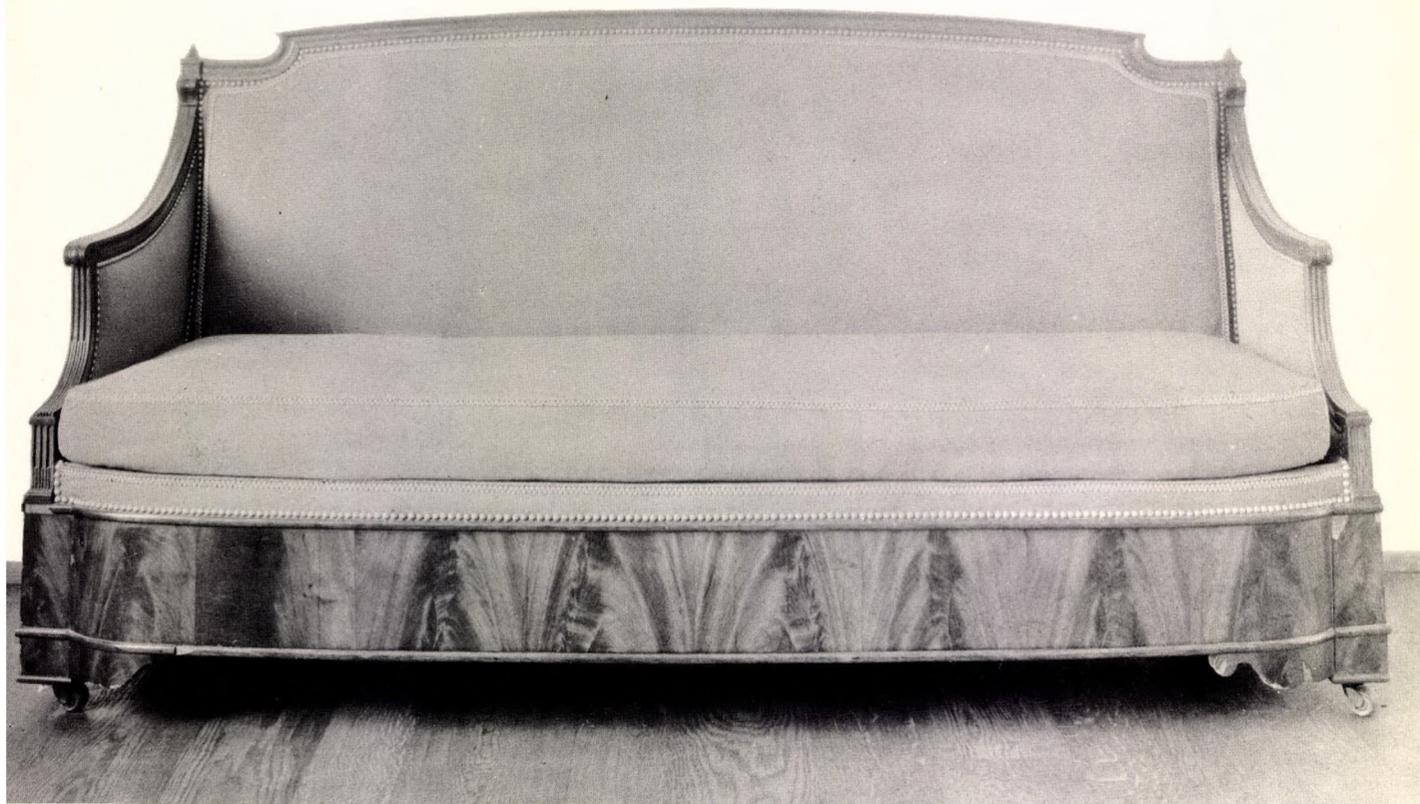
Perspective view of a proposed reconstruction of the octagonal drawing room in Hamilton Grange.

INTERIOR & FURNISHINGS

Old accounts tell us of the gracious entertainment which the Hamilton family provided their distinguished guests. Fine silver, worthy examples of Sheraton and Hepplewhite furniture, graceful mantel ornaments, and crystal chandeliers lent grace and distinction to the handsome interior. The doorway, flanked with glass panels, remains unchanged, even to the great lock, key and brass doorknob. Many visitors to The Grange have described the famous octagonal drawing room (shown in the accompanying sketch), its lofty chamber lighted by great windows opening onto the porch.







The Hamilton Grange has now on exhibition many original objects of Hamiltonia which have either been given to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society or loaned to it for this purpose. Additional material, consisting of Hamilton portraits, furniture and personal mementoes now on exhibit at the Museum of the City of New York, some of which are shown in this brochure, have been promised by the present family descendants for use at The Grange.

THE AMERICAN SCENIC AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY

FEDERAL MEMORIAL HALL

Corner Wall & Nassau Street

New York 5, New York

*A National Society for the Protection of Natural Scenery, the
Preservation of Historic Landmarks and the Improvement of
Cities. Incorporated in 1895.*

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“THE PATRIOT OF INCORRUPTIBLE INTEGRITY,
THE SOLDIER OF APPROVED VALOR,
THE STATESMAN OF CONSUMMATE WISDOM,
WHOSE TALENTS AND VIRTUES
WILL BE REMEMBERED BY
A GRATEFUL POSTERITY
LONG AFTER THIS MARBLE
SHALL HAVE MOULDERED INTO DUST.”

Inscription from Tomb of Alexander Hamilton Trinity Churchyard, New York.