



Historic Furnishings Report

**MARTIN VAN BUREN**

LINDENWALD

National Historic Site / New York

HISTORIC FURNISHINGS REPORT  
for "LINDENWALD"

MARTIN VAN BUREN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  
Kinderhook, New York

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U.S. Department of the Interior / National Park Service  
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## PREFACE

Various challenges were encountered in the preparation of the Historic Furnishings Report for Lindenwald. The task of researching Lindenwald's furnishings of the historic period 1841 to 1862 was complicated by the fact that in the 120 years that had passed since Martin Van Buren occupied the mansion, Lindenwald had changed from the dwelling of an ex-President to a middle-class farmhouse, and further to a tea room, a nursing home, and an antiques shop, before its establishment as a National Historic Site. With these changes in ownership and living patterns, it was inevitable that the original Van Buren furnishings would be dispersed. Yet, fortunately, many furnishings remained in the mansion, in the community, or in the hands of Van Buren descendants.

Because the last private owner of the house was an antiques dealer, there has been some confusion concerning which pieces left in Lindenwald were associated with Van Buren and which pieces were the dealer's stock. Corroboration of Lindenwald provenance by previous owners helped to identify some of the furnishings; however, some of the questions may never be resolved.

Another challenge in writing the report was that some physical evidence relating to the structure was inadequate, confusing, or contradictory. When the Historic Furnishings Report was being written, the Historic Structure Report existed only in draft, and many of its findings were being questioned. The Historic Furnishings Report relied upon the Historic Structure Report, prepared by the Denver Service Center, supplemented by the results of further investigations by the North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center.

A further difficulty was that documentary evidence for Lindenwald furnishings c.1841-1862 was scant. Van Buren's was prolific in his correspondence, however, it was largely political in nature. There were no

photographs of Lindenwald's interior from the historic period, no diary descriptions of the placement or use of furnishings, no extant inventories of the mansion prior to or at the time of Van Buren's death. Nevertheless, careful gleaning of the correspondence of Van Buren and his family yielded important information.

Perhaps the greatest challenge in writing the Historic Furnishings Report, particularly the Recommended Furnishings Section, was facing the philosophical dilemma imposed by National Park Service furnishing policies. One goal of the restoration of Lindenwald was to interpret accurately and convincingly, the life and lifestyle of Martin Van Buren in retirement. On the other hand, the restoration had to be carried out with "minimum conjecture."

The first draft of the report attempted a compromise by recommending reproduction or period objects only when their absence would be misleading. Following regional review, however, the narrowest interpretation of the furnishings policy was applied and selective refurnishing with objects documented only by period practice was eliminated from the final manuscript. Many of the park staff believe that the interpretation selected for Lindenwald diminishes and perhaps impoverishes the rich potential for the site for visitor understanding of park themes.

To say the documentation and recommendations contained herein are "site-specific" rather than "period-general" is to oversimplify the philosophical issues involved, and controversy may well continue over what furnishings are appropriate for a quality interpretation. But, publication of this document and the restoration of Lindenwald must proceed.

Let the reader understand that an enormous wealth of documentation for mid-nineteenth century period practices does exist, while at Lindenwald, for the foreseeable future, interpreters rather than furnishings will bear the burden of placing Van Buren in the context of his time.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As Curator for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, I have had the unique opportunity over the last five years to research and write Lindenwald's Historic Furnishings Report and I would like to acknowledge those who have directly or indirectly assisted in its preparation.

As this report depended in large measure on an analysis of extant Van Buren associated furnishings, great appreciation must be extended to the Hyde Park Historical Association and the National Park Foundation for providing funds for the acquisition of a large collection of important Lindenwald furnishings soon after the National Park Service acquired the mansion a decade ago. I am likewise indebted to the more than fifty individual donors and groups who have since that time made vital contributions to the restoration and refurnishing of Lindenwald.

Next, I am grateful to former MAVA staff members, Historian William Jackson, Curator Mary Smith, and Museum Technician Christopher Merritt, for gathering preliminary oral history and research data, locating original furnishings, and initiating the museum records system. Their pioneering efforts were essential to the execution of this report and they are to be commended for their dedicated work. In addition, Jody Yearous Ullmann, Museum Technician from March 1982 to December 1983, was a most able and enthusiastic assistant in documenting and maintaining the museum collection and in preparing for the Site's "Bicentennial Preview," which served as a trial run for furnishings placement in several rooms.



The many individuals and organization that provided access to Van Buren associated objects and correspondence during the course of my research deserve special thanks. Foremost among them are Mrs. William (Fletch) Coke, Research Chairman of the Ladies' Hermitage Association, White House Associate Curator Betty C. Monkman, and Dr. George W. Franz, editor of the Martin Van Buren Papers Project at Pennsylvania State University.

A number of people now or formerly from the Kinderhook community were also instrumental in providing research material. Particularly noteworthy are Clementine deProsse, Jeanne Akers, and William deProsse, Jr., former occupants of Lindenwald, who shared many valuable recollections about the mansion from 1917 to 1957, and played a key role in identifying original furnishings.

Ruth Piwonka, former Executive Director of the Columbia County Historical Society, was especially helpful in locating Van Buren descendants and she was responsible for the return of various Van Buren-associated objects to Lindenwald. Gary Holloway, founder of the San Francisco-based Martin Van Buren Fan Club, cheerfully discovered Van Buren family members and furnishings on the west coast.

The Friends of Lindenwald, dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the eighth President's home, have also played a part in pursuing appropriate furnishings and will continue to lend assistance in implementing the Historic Furnishings Report.

Thanks are owed Sarah Olson, Chief of the National Park Service's Division of Historic Furnishings at Harpers Ferry Center, Staff Curator David Wallace for his painstaking editing of the draft manuscript, and Tracey Rissler for final typing.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, under Superintendent Bruce W. Stewart, for their interest, comments, and assistance. In particular, credit is due Park Ranger Linda Mazur, who provided the photographs for reproduction in the report, and Museum Technician Patrica West, who has not only continued in the fine tradition of her predecessors, but has also acted as my sounding board and lent much-needed moral support and encouragement.

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

### People

AJ	Andrew Jackson
AJD	Andrew Jackson Donelson
ASVB	Angelica Singleton Van Buren
AVB	Abraham Van Buren
BFB	Benjamin F. Butler
FPB	Francis P. Blair
GB	George Bancroft
GW	Gorham Worth
HB	Harriet Butler
HDG	Henry D. Gilpin
JAH	James A. Hamilton
JKP	James K. Paulding
JVB	John Van Buren
MVB	Martin Van Buren
MVB JR	Martin Van Buren Junior
Mrs. RS	Mrs. Richard Singleton, Angelica's mother
RU	Richard Upjohn
SJT	Samuel J. Tilden
STVB	Smith Thompson Van Buren

### Places

A	Albany
CS	Clifton Springs
H	Hudson
Hm	Hermitage

K	Kinderhook
L	Lindenwald
NY	New York
P	Philadelphia
SC	South Carolina
SS	Silver Springs
W	Washington, D.C.

#### Repositories/Collections

CCHS	Columbia County Historical Society
CGCC	Columbia-Green Community College
HSP	Historical Society of Pennsylvania
LC	Library of Congress
LC-VB	Library of Congress--Martin Van Buren Papers
LC-ASVB	Library of Congress--Angelica S. Van Buren Papers
MAVA	Martin Van Buren National Historic Site
MHS	Massachusetts Historical Society
MORR	Morristown National Historical Park
NYBA	Bar Association of the City of New York
NYHS	New York Historical Society
NYPL	New York Public Library
NYSL	New York State Library
PML	Pierpont Morgan Library
PSC-Hi	Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College
PSU-ADH	Pennsylvania State University, Alexander D. Harvey Papers
UVa	University of Virginia
WHS	Wisconsin Historical Society

## Miscellaneous

HFR-CEK	Historic Furnishings Report--Carol E. Kohan
HPHA	Hyde Park Historical Association
HRS	Historic Resource Study
HSR	Historic Structure Report
HSR-FS	Historic Structure Report--Finishes Study
NAHPC	North Atlantic Historic Preservation Center
NPF	National Park Foundation
NPS	National Park Service

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## ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

### INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES

Martin Van Buren National Historic Site was established by Act of Congress, Public Law 93-486, signed into law by President Gerald P. Ford on October 26, 1974. The bills introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives the previous April called for the establishment of the site "for the purposes of preserving for the education and inspiration of present and future generations the former residence (from 1841 until 1862) and only remaining structure intimately associated with Martin Van Buren, eighth President of the United States."

The primary interpretive goal of the preservation and restoration of Lindenwald, is, it follows, to show something of ex-President Van Buren's life and lifestyle during his retirement at the Kinderhook estate, 1841-1862. Many of Van Buren's activities and interests will be reflected in the furnishings, along with some hints of his personal and political outlook. The historical resources of the site provide significant data for these interpretive messages.

Van Buren acquired the Lindenwald mansion and estate in 1839 while he was at the height of his political career, and although he returned to Kinderhook two years later in political defeat, the property he had acquired represents the culmination of his personal and financial success.

Lindenwald provides an excellent opportunity to explore and interpret the many roles Van Buren played: dignified and cosmopolitan ex-president, astute political thinker and writer, respected and affectionate patriarch, loyal friend and genial host, Kinderhook native son, proud homeowner, and competitive farmer, to name a few.



Since Van Buren's political career was virtually over by the time he occupied Lindenwald, the story of Van Buren's many public offices and contributions to the American political system should be addressed before visitors enter the mansion. Of course, even in retirement, politics remained an integral part of Van Buren's life and the visitors will be reminded of that aspect through furnishings such as his large collection of law books and political documents, portraits of political contemporaries, and political cartoons featuring himself.

The original Lindenwald and Van Buren-associated furnishings are the highlight of the restoration and make strong statements about the ex-president's taste and lifestyle, which was fashionable yet frugal. Although it is impossible to re-create the interior of the mansion exactly as Van Buren knew it, documentary and physical evidence and extant furnishings do give many clues to how Van Buren lived. It is important that the restored Lindenwald will not just another period house; it should distinctly reflect Van Buren the man and what he achieved.

The furnishing and interpretation of Lindenwald must establish a balance between two ideas: first, Martin Van Buren as a unique individual, the former Chief Executive, an important figure in American history; and second, Martin Van Buren as part of the nineteenth-century American culture in which he lived. Above all, Martin Van Buren must be interpreted as a multi-dimensional human being, not just a "political animal."

Within the context of Lindenwald, numerous questions can be raised about Van Buren's life and lifestyle. How did he occupy himself during the twenty-one years of his retirement? What were the vestiges of his early legal and political careers, and what political influence did Van Buren continue to exert from Lindenwald? How did he feel about his Dutch heritage and to what extent did his rural roots

in Kinderhook influence his penchant for agricultural pursuits in his later life? How did Van Buren treat his family, neighbors, and servants, and how did they regard him? What were his attitudes towards health and religion, having experienced the loss of a young wife, infant son, two daughters-in-law, several infant grandchildren, a grown son, and a number of close friends?

Lindenwald was not a static household, except occasionally when Van Buren wintered in New York or traveled. It was a house filled with family and guests, distinguished men and small grandchildren, and workmen and servants. Entertainments included the formal dinner party and after-dinner game of whist. Riding, fishing, hunting, and ice skating were other frequent activities. Van Buren's December 5 birthday was celebrated, toasts were drunk on the Fourth of July, and Van Buren was host to his son John's "large and uproarious wedding party." Sometimes there was so much activity that chaos seemed to reign, and the turnover of servants was constant. All of this is part of the story to be interpreted.

The period of interpretation is 1841-1862, in order to encompass the whole term of Van Buren's retirement, although the historic structure itself will be restored to the period 1849-1862, to preserve the striking architectural features designed by Richard Upjohn. Interpretation should provide visitors with an understanding of Van Buren's pride of ownership, and his preoccupation with alterations and improvements to the house, grounds, and farm, as well as an understanding of the architectural evolution of Lindenwald.

Whatever other interpretive themes may develop, the ultimate goal of the restoration, furnishing, and interpretation of Lindenwald should be that, as Gideon Welles expressed in 1843, "the whole place and its appearance honor the man and the station he once held."

## OPERATING PLAN

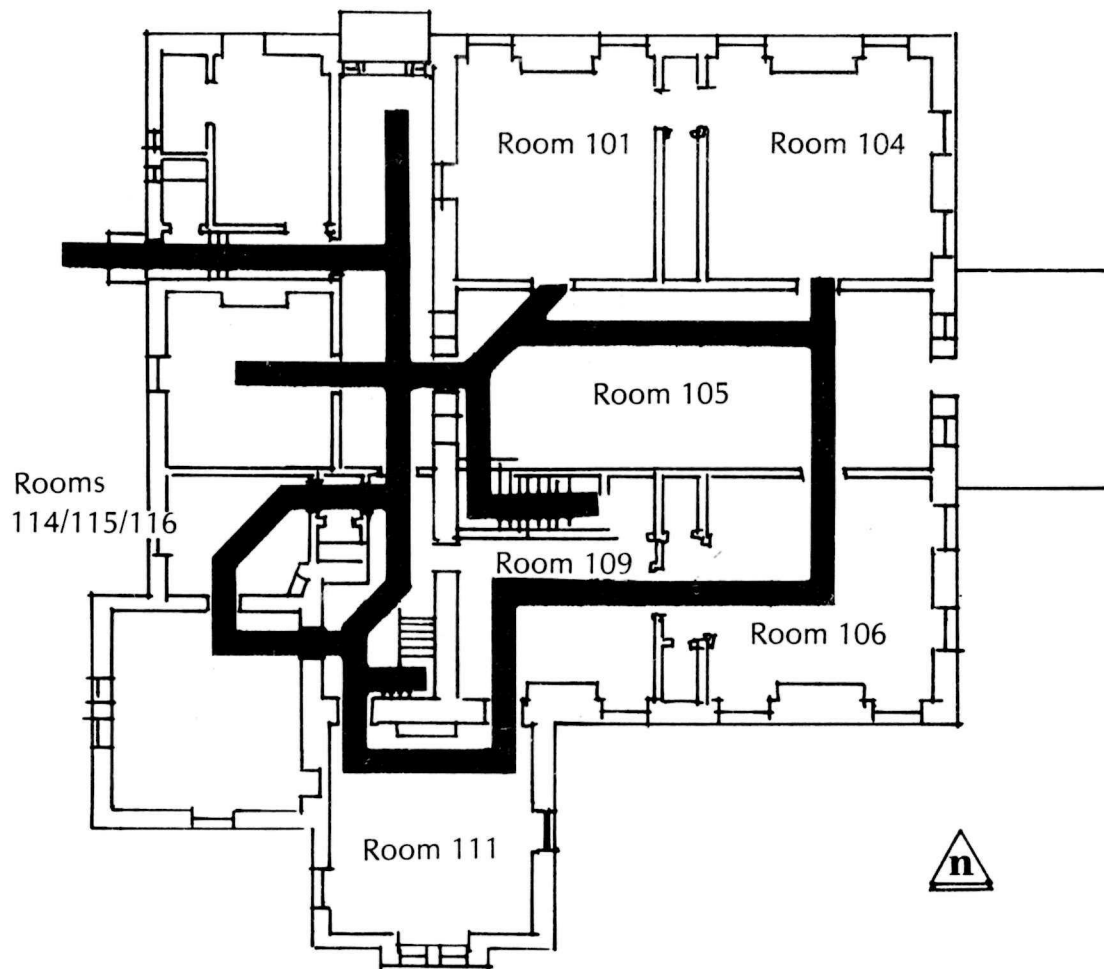
### Visitor Use

The house will be open seven days a week, nine months of the year. Visitors will be admitted to the house by park interpretive staff via the west door and hall (120) and will view the house on a guided-tour basis. Because of the weight-bearing capacity of the floors and narrow passageways, tours will be limited to 15 persons. There are a number of possible tour routes and flexibility should be maintained in developing the interpretive program; however, the following route is recommended.

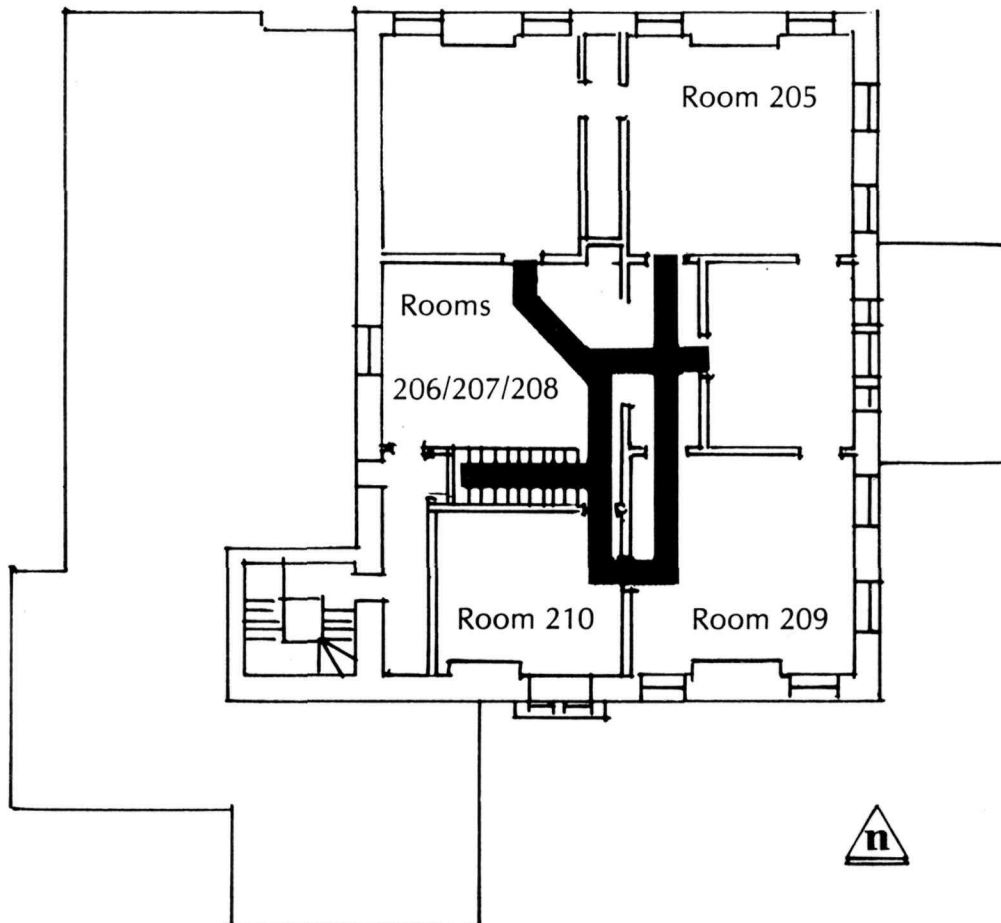
The interpreter will provide orientation to the house in the hallway (119), and then the tour will proceed into the fully furnished 1797 portion of the house (rooms 105, 101, 104, 106, 109, 111). The tour will continue into the 1850 addition, where visitors will see the bedroom (112), bathroom (114-116), and nursery (118), before going upstairs via stairhall 110. After viewing the upstairs rooms (210, 209, 206-208, 205, 201), visitors will return downstairs, retracing their steps. Depending upon the interests of the group, the tour may continue downstairs to the basement from hall 113, to view rooms 005, 006, and 007. Visitors may then exit the house from room 009.

The recommended tour route does not include the third floor servants' quarters due to safety considerations and incomplete documentation; however, interpreting and/or furnishing one or two rooms might be considered for "Living History" or other interpretive programs.

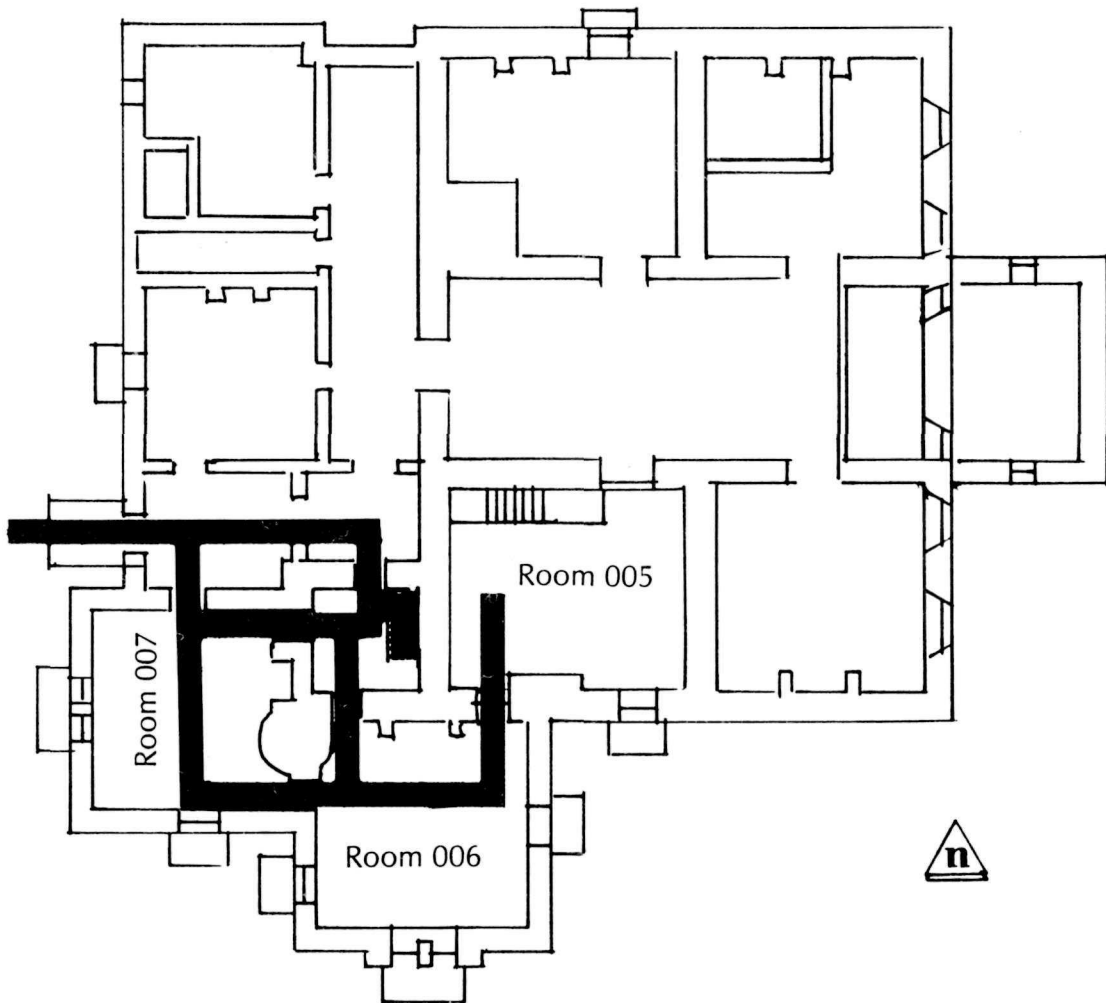
Station interpretation may be considered when visitation is heavy if there is sufficient staff to provide security. Custom-made wooden stanchions will outline the visitor path throughout the house and will provide barriers rooms with minimum distraction.



Visitor circulation plan  
First Floor



Visitor circulation plan  
Second Floor



Visitor circulation plan  
Basement

### Staffing Requirements

Minimum staff to furnish, maintain, and interpret the house include:

Curator	GS-9, Full-Time
Supervisory Park Ranger	GS-9, Full-Time
Museum Technician	GS-5, Full-Time
Museum Aid	GS-4, Part-Time
Park Ranger	GS-5, Full-Time
Maintenance Worker	WG-9, Full-Time
Laborers (2)	WG-1/2/3, Full-Time
Park Technician	GS-4, Subject to Furlough
Park Technicians (3-5)	GS-3/4, Seasonal



## HISTORICAL DATA

### ANALYSIS OF HISTORICAL OCCUPANCY, 1839-1862

Lindenwald served as the home of the eighth President, Martin Van Buren, for twenty-one years after he retired from the nation's highest public office. Located two miles southeast of Kinderhook, in rural Columbia County, New York, Lindenwald was in the Dutch community where Van Buren had been born and raised.

The history of the structure's architectural developments is adequately dealt with in the Historic Structure Report (Howell, 1985) and similarly, the history of Lindenwald's occupants prior to and following Van Buren's ownership is covered in the Historic Resource Study (Platt, 1982). This analysis of historical occupancy concerns the Van Buren years and is divided into two phases, 1839-1848 and 1849-1862.

#### 1839-1848

The first phase began when Martin Van Buren purchased the old Van Ness estate; the deed was recorded on April 1, 1839. The federal-style brick mansion, originally called "Kleinoed" (Dutch for jewel, gem, or trinket) by Judge Peter Van Ness, was, as reported in the New York Commercial Advertiser, "a plain, substantial, commodious house, built in the year 1797, of the best materials, and with more regard to comfort than show."<sup>1</sup>

Van Buren, a friend of the Judge's son William, had visited Kleinoed as a young man and the following passage from Van Buren's autobiography suggests that the acquisition and maintenance of the estate had some nostalgic significance for him:<sup>2</sup>

As I approached the porch of the house...I perceived that the lower half of the old-fashioned front door which was divided through the middle (a style greatly favored by our Dutch ancestors) was closed, and the upper open, at which the Judge was seated close to and with his back against the lower door, for the benefit of the light, reading a newspaper. Hearing my steps he looked around and perceiving me, instantly resumed his reading in a manner which precluded me from addressing him. The door for explanation, as well as that for entrance, being thus closed upon me, and not feeling disposed to retreat, I seized the knocker which was hanging near his head, and gave it a somewhat emphasized rap, and as I did so I saw a smile upon his countenance of which my position afforded me a profile view. His son answered the summons immediately, spoke to his father, (who passed into the drawing room without looking behind him) and opened the door for me....We passed thro' the Hall, and, as we left the house by the back door, he apologized to me for having forgotten the relations between his father and myself ....The Judge died in the succeeding month of December, possessed of considerable wealth. The estate on which he had long resided, and on which he was buried, was originally settled by a family who were relations of my father. It was sold at the close of the Revolutionary War to pay the debts of the then head of the family, and purchased by the Judge. He devised it to his son William, in whose hands it went thro' a similar process, and was purchased by one of his creditors who sold it to me. In the many alterations and improvements I have made in the house I have preserved the old double-door, and its knocker, as interesting memorials of my last interview with its original owner.

A few months after having purchased the 130-acre estate for \$14,000, President Van Buren and his sons John and Smith Thompson undertook a five-week journey from Washington, D.C., to Saratoga Springs, visiting friends and relatives and "politicking." "Old Kinderhook" was included in the itinerary and the first account of Kleinoood under the Van Buren regime is found in a letter from Smith to his sister-in-law

Angelica, wife of his older brother Abraham, then a major in the U.S. Army. Smith somewhat disdainfully confessed:<sup>3</sup>

We were agreeably disappointed at finding the House so good a one & the grounds in such good condition. I am afraid, however, that our venerable Chief Magistrate has not sufficient taste to make much of them. This is high treason & you must not betray me but he goes about with a little paper making notes of all sorts of what he calls improvements which strike me as any thing else; and taking the advice of two estimable Uncles of Mine, who are first rate farmers, but who for their sins, have never been taught the difference between the Doric & the Ionic Orders and who have the genuine American antipathy to the useless occupation of fat land by old trees, which they consider capital timbers for other purposes.

Smith continued: "John does not take it, as much to heart, however, as I do. He thinks we shall never live there & during our dinner was constantly saying to us--'Eat away, good people; this is the last dinner you ever get here!'"<sup>4</sup>

John's prophecy was not realized. Van Buren was defeated in his bid for reelection in 1840 and, in the spring of 1841, returned to Kinderhook to spend the "last and happiest years" of his life.<sup>5</sup>

It is not clear when the name "Lindenwald" was chosen for the mansion, although "Kleinoood" was almost immediately discarded as "inapplicable and unintelligible."<sup>6</sup> "The Locusts" was considered appropriate; however, that name was rejected because it had been used in James Fenimore Cooper's novel, The Spy.<sup>7</sup> It is in a letter from Angelica to her mother, Mrs. Richard Singleton, on November 1, 1840, that "Lindenwald" first appears: "I saw all the Major's kinsfolk who were very kind & pleased me very much. We paid several visits of direction & inspection to Lindenwald & I hope we will hurry the movements of the workmen a little."<sup>8</sup>

Thus, even prior to the election of 1840, and in the face of any outcome, preparations were underway to improve the estate, for as Angelica wrote: "in any event, the family will be there for a time next summer."<sup>9</sup>

Angelica, charged with the responsibility of securing provisions, wrote her mother in South Carolina for assistance:<sup>10</sup>

First I want you to send me a list of supplies such as you usually send to Charleston in the Fall when the house is out of everything--I want it as a guide in ordering groceries etc. for Lindenwald & I have but an imperfect idea of the quantities of sugar etc. especially for six months' consumption with a regular family of four & I fear a great deal of strange company stopping by all through the summer en route to Saratoga etc. & to see the President & Smith & John & various other friends on long visits. Then I want to get you to have your Recipe book copied in full & all your little stray recipes which you know to be good.

Serving as the White House hostess for the widower President, Angelica would also be the most significant female presence at Lindenwald for the next several years, responsible for putting the house in order. When she was not present, Lindenwald was likely to suffer from "Bachelor misrule."<sup>11</sup>

The next summer was indeed busy for Van Buren and his family. In June 1841, within two weeks of Van Buren's moving into the house, Lindenwald overflowed with guests as they celebrated the marriage of John Van Buren to Elizabeth Vanderpoel. Shortly thereafter Abraham, Angelica, and their new son, the ex-President's first surviving grandchild, arrived. Smith and Martin Van Buren, Jr., were also in residence.

Even with all the company, Van Buren declared his house was in "perfect order" in September when the future Governor Silas and Mrs. Wright spent a day with him.<sup>12</sup>

The following February, Van Buren began his "Southwestern" tour, stopping in South Carolina to visit the Singletons, Angelica's family, and continuing on to see his old friend Andrew Jackson at The Hermitage in Tennessee and his old political adversary, yet still friend, Henry Clay, at his Kentucky home, Ashland. He was greeted everywhere most cordially, as this excerpt from a Nashville newspaper suggests:<sup>13</sup>

On Friday about eleven o'clock Mr. Van Buren visited the Nashville Female Academy....He found the pathway from the outer gate to the hall-door strewn with flowers of many varieties...the young ladies with large bouquets in their hands arrayed on either side of the aisle that leads to the rear where the trustees were seated, at once made a most magnificent carpet of flowers upon which he advanced and was introduced to the trustees....The classes from first to last were then presented, when Miss Smith pronounced a neat salutary address and placed a crown of flowers upon his head, which he took off and affixed to his left breast. The little ladies thronged around him, literally loading him with the choicest flowers of the season, as intimate, apparently, as if they had always known him personally. A scene like this --about two hundred young girls dressed like so many May-queens, all life and gayety--is best appreciated by those who witnessed it.

By the time Van Buren returned to Kinderhook in July, Smith, his youngest son, had married Ellen King James and was living in Albany, and John's wife Elizabeth had given birth to a daughter in Albany as well.

For the next several months, the house was again filled with company. Richard B. Gooch, visiting from Virginia in September, reported to his mother:<sup>14</sup>

I sent the information of my arrival to Mr. V.B., and the next morning, before I was up, Major & John Van Buren were at the tavern for me. I went over and spent the morning with Smith, Martin, one of the Mrs. V.B.'s and Jonathan Kent of N.Y. worth one million. The President and the rest of them had gone fishing but returned about 3½ with a fine bunch of fish, of which Mr. V.B. caught 7. Also in company Dr. Bethune, a fat jovial wine loving Democratic Clergyman from Philadel, and J.L. Steven, well known. At 6, we sat down to dinner and remained at table till 9--three Mrs. V.B.'s present, cheerful and happy. We retired ½ past 1 but had to be off by ½ past 7 this morning. Mr. VB is growing fat. His route in the tour was marked out in pen on a map--7000 miles. Shook hands with 200,000 persons.

In October 1842, Van Buren wrote to his friend of long-standing, Benjamin F. Butler, that a "tasty cottage" was to be built for Abraham and Angelica on the Stuyvesant property Van Buren had given the major.<sup>15</sup> In the meantime, the son and daughter-in-law stayed at Lindenwald where they were visited by Angelica's parents. Van Buren remained at Lindenwald "confined by company" except for a month's visit to Smith in Albany in December.

If the major's cottage was ever completed, there is no indication that he and his wife occupied it, for Angelica's correspondence during 1843 and following years was written from Lindenwald when she was in the area. Perhaps Angelica's health dictated more than the comforts of a cottage, since she was at Lindenwald during the birth and death of a premature baby in July 1843, and she suffered ill-health for months both before and after the delivery. This was the second child Angelica had lost--her little Rebecca had been buried in Wash-

ington, D.C., three years earlier. Thankfully, two-year-old Singleton was healthy and growing quite "clever in talking."<sup>16</sup>

Although Angelica was not fully recovered, the steady stream of visitors continued to flow at Lindenwald and her stepriecce Mary MacDuffie ("Mary Mac") was on hand to undertake Angelica's hostess duties. Angelica noted: "It amuses me to hear that the EX takes her for his partner (at cards) frequently & still more surprising to hear never scolds."<sup>17</sup>

A September visit to the Charlestown Navy Yard and the Nahant resort near Boston for sea bathing was credited with improving Angelica's health. When she returned to Lindenwald, she had regained considerable strength and wrote: "I am able to resume my usual habits except that I travel upstairs as little as possible."<sup>18</sup>

Angelica was again in full command as hostess when Gideon Welles paid a visit in October:<sup>19</sup>

It was about 9 as entering the gate we drove up a circular drive through the lawn to the Mansion of the Ex President....He received me very cordially & introduced me to his two sons Abraham & Smith & to Mrs. A.V.B.--also to Judge Richardson....Breakfast was on the table, and I was compelled to sit with them although I had breakfasted three hours before. Mrs. A.V. Buren sat at the head of the table, and I was seated at her right--the Ex-President sat opposite to her & Judge R. was at his right.

In November, Angelica was catching up on her visiting calls, accumulated sewing, and reading while the major went off to New York in search of a replacement for an impertinent and intemperate, though accomplished, dining room servant. On December 6, Angelica wrote her mother that she and the family "still persevere in our walks--some-



times in snow storms coming in encrusted with snow from head to foot." She continued:<sup>20</sup>

We have for us been quite dissipated of late--yesterday was Poppie's birthday & he wanted his Brother & Dr. Beekman to dine with him. We had a capital dinner to which one of your hams contributed; oyster soup, turkey etc., a game of six penny Loo...the Ex on his birthnight told of his success in the political contest before him & then 4 games of whist of which the Dr. & I won three.

The mention of the "political contest" is one of few references in Angelica's correspondence to political topics. Her interest was quite casual in that regard and her attention was focused on family and household details.

After a fierce in-party struggle, Van Buren was passed over for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1844 in favor of James K. Polk and life continued as usual at Lindenwald. The family increased with the addition of Smith and Ellen's first child, Ellen James, and the Major and Angelica's second son, Martin Van Buren III.

Tragedy struck in November when John's wife died. Elizabeth had not been well, particularly since the death of her father, Judge James Vanderpoel, a year earlier, and a trip to the warm climate of Madeira had failed to cure her. Even so, the news was unexpected. The major wrote his father from Philadelphia: "What a shocking announcement from Albany. Poor John must have been sorely afflicted."<sup>21</sup>

Perhaps, as his father had done following the loss of his own wife some twenty-five years earlier, John sought solace in his legal and political career. In 1845, the Barnburner faction of the Democratic Party nominated him for the office of New York State Attorney General

and he was duly elected by the legislature. He served until the state constitution was changed in 1846, and he eventually moved with his only child, Anna, to New York where he continued to practice law.

The elder Van Buren continued to improve and add to his property and by 1845, he owned 220 acres of farmland, orchards, gardens, and fish ponds. In April, William G. Bryan, a law clerk from the western part of the state, visited the ex-President at the insistence of Governor Silas Wright and recorded some details of Van Buren's lifestyle and personality in a letter to fellow Democrat, Lyman C. Draper:<sup>22</sup>

My visit being one of mere personal respect, you might reasonably suppose that I was handsomely treated. Although on my guard against the reported fascination of the "Magician of Kinderhook" I was forced to confess its charm and potency. He has a noble residence, situated some distance from the road, and fronted by one of the most beautiful lawns I ever saw. This lawn that looked so fresh & smoothly shaven is dotted with rare old trees of every variety, & at the left of the house, which is a spacious brick one, painted white, is a fine clump of Southern Pines. Mr. V.B. told me he was very fond of reposing under them & hearing the wind sigh & moan through their peculiar branches. He does not allow the birds to be molested & they repay him in grateful songs. He has a capital garden, & conservatory, and a couple of artificial ponds, very neat to the eye, & well-stocked with fish.

Bryan continued:<sup>23</sup>

At about four P.M. we dined--"faring sumptuously" and I left for the eve. boat at about ½ past five.... I can't describe what I mean by his fascination, but it is quality which he alone, possesses, among all the public men that I have yet seen, & which makes his friendship so peculiarly gratifying & flattering. It is something that belongs to him, alone, which shows you that his favors & smiles are rarely

& cautiously bestowed and which makes you desirous of being the favored one....I believe him to be one of the most pure, honest & conscientious statesmen, we have ever seen....He speaks of himself with considerable frankness,--& remarked to me that "he was surfeited with office," & was fortunate in "a temperament that enabled him to appreciate & to be gratified with leisure & retirement."

In the summer of 1845, Lindenwald reverberated with "little shrieks of delight" as Angelica and Abraham's seven-month-old baby, named for his grandfather, was shown the animals of the hall wallpaper. By then, Singleton was old enough to accompany his mother and father on a fishing excursion to the nearby creek.<sup>24</sup> Smith visited Lindenwald in August along with his wife, child, and nurse, while their Albany home was undergoing repairs. Also included in the party were James K. and Willie Paulding and Gouverneur Kemble.<sup>25</sup>

Although the major and his family spent the following winter in New York, Van Buren wrote his good friend, Francis P. Blair, that he and Martin Jr., "alone in our glory," would "keep the flag flying at Lindenwald," and would spend Christmas with Paulding at Hyde Park. The ex-President did visit his son and family for three weeks in March, but found the trip to New York a "dreadful job."<sup>26</sup>

Abraham and the rest returned to Lindenwald in June, but shortly thereafter the major was called to active duty during the war with Mexico, which would last until February 1848. In the interval, when Angelica was not at Lindenwald or visiting her family in South Carolina, she was at her home on New York's Fifth Avenue.

In July 1846 Van Buren received an unexpected visitor from England, Mrs. Sarah M. Maury, and treated her and her child with the utmost graciousness and cordiality. After answering the door himself, Van Buren invited her to stay, and she relates:<sup>27</sup>

...we sat down in a cool and pleasant parlor; iced water, lemonade, and wine were immediately presented; we were introduced to the family of Mr. Van Buren, and after tea rambled through the garden and the farm. The ex-President gathered flowers for me, led us to look at his potatoes, presented me with a branch of delicious red currants....

Mrs. Maury found the ex-President perfectly happy to be surrounded by his family and quoted Van Buren's friend and former Attorney General, Henry D. Gilpin, in her book, The Statesmen of America in 1846:<sup>28</sup>

"It is impossible to describe a more affectionate family," says one who knows him well, and loves him much, "than the home circle at Kinderhook. The intercourse between the father and his sons is of the most confidential and endearing kind. The amiable disposition of Mr. Van Buren, his invariable good humour and indulgence, make every inmate of his household happy."

Van Buren wrote Blair in January 1847 that Lindenwald was "flowering in the midst of snow and ice" and that he had made a series of improvements to the house at a cost of between \$1,500 and \$2,000. In May, the "painters, carpenters, masons, & ditchers" were still on the scene, but it is not apparent what the improvements consisted of.<sup>29</sup>

January 1848 found Van Buren in New York City for the season, while Martin, Jr., visited the Blairs in Silver Spring, Maryland. The third son's health, never very good, was failing. Not much is known about the ex-President's namesake; however, the existing correspondence indicates he possessed a good sense of humor and an eye for the ladies, not unlike his father. His letter to Angelica in 1840 light-heartedly describes the Washington visit of the celebrated Austrian dancer, Fanny Elssler:<sup>30</sup>

The President [Van Buren] with the ladies & gent<sup>s</sup> of his Cabinet witnessed the "Divine Fanny" dancing night before last. She was in good case and out Fannied Fanny...[She] returned the P's visit yesterday...appeared very amiable & interesting, not as handsome as W. but excellent in figure. She sailed gracefully through the East Circular, both dining & ante rooms in the wake of the Com<sup>r</sup> & myself, & left for the Dpt of State where Mr. Martin shewed her the "bigseals" snuffbox etc. etc.

The Van Burens' fascination with Fanny Elssler apparently continued, as her likeness graced Lindenwald along with that of family friend Francis Blair and other prominent persons.

Martin, Jr., described as "pleasant, unpretentious, unpretending, civil, and amiable," never married, although he expressed some interest in a Miss Croghan and had an "affair du coeur" with an unnamed lady in 1844. At Lindenwald, Martin served as his father's secretary until they both traveled to Europe in 1853.<sup>31</sup>

Martin Van Buren, Sr., returned to "sweet Lindenwald" in April 1848 and was "entirely alone" until May when Martin, Abraham, and Angelica returned. Abraham had been injured during the war with Mexico and had been promoted to the rank of brevet lieutenant colonel for "Gallant and Meritorious Conduct in the Battles of Contreras and Churubusco." After the war, he continued in service as Paymaster in New York City until 1854.<sup>32</sup>

Although "the Colonel" suffered from feeble eyesight and an injured leg, he persisted in horseback riding to improve his condition. The children, Singleton and "Matty," were also quite active that summer, having become "perfect little savages...running wild with the garden-er's and farmer's children."<sup>33</sup>

Smith's wife Ellen, who had lost an infant in 1846, was successfully delivered of a son, Edward Livingston, in July 1848, and Angelica gave birth to her last child, Travis Coles, in the fall of the same year.

1848 was an eventful year for the ex-President himself, as he reentered the political arena for the final time as the presidential candidate of the Free Soil Party, which opposed the expansion of slavery into new U.S. territories. The Whig candidate, Zachary Taylor, triumphed over the Democratic candidate, Lewis Cass, but Van Buren managed to capture 10% of the popular vote.

#### 1849-1862

Although Van Buren believed in 1847 that Lindenwald could "receive no further improvement," great changes were in the offing in 1849 when he wrote to Blair: "Don't think me deranged when I say to you that my quiet & as was generally supposed my perfect or at least comfortable establishment is to be turned topsy turvy, & the music of its feathered visitors drowned in the harsh sounds of the ax, the saw, & the trowel."<sup>34</sup>

These changes were precipitated by an arrangement with his youngest son. Having had his fill of "the vices of idleness & City Life," Smith accepted his father's offer of becoming the "heir apparent" of Lindenwald in exchange for Smith's living at Lindenwald and pursuing there his heretofore undistinguished professional career, presumably in law or politics. Smith had his own requirements in the bargain, however:<sup>35</sup>

Smith made it an indispensable condition that he should be permitted to add sufficient to my House to make as many rooms as he may want without entering

upon what I now have. I at first rejected this as impracticable without detriment to the appearance of the old House. But he & his wife have been to New York to consult the great architectural oracle (Mr. Upjohn) and as I anticipate the response (which I have not read) it will be that to accomplish the object satisfactorily radical changes will become necessary--such as taking down the present stable wings & erecting Towers in their places--the addition of Dormant [sic] Windows & God knows all what.

Ironically, Smith would thus have the perfect opportunity to rectify what he had considered the misjudgments of his father's insufficient taste and counsel, which had distressed his son ten years earlier when the house was first purchased.

Van Buren conceded on the house, but insisted that the grounds, which he had taken such a personal role in improving, would not be touched:<sup>36</sup>

...to amuse myself with the changes which he would be sure to make when I was no more I have agreed that he may go to Work now as far only as it relates to the buildings...the works of demolition & substitution are to commence in a few days. What curious creatures we are. Old Mr. Van Ness built as fine an House here as any reasonable man could,...its taste of what was then...deemed the best. William P. came and disfigured every thing his father had done. I succeeded him, & pulled down without a single exception every erection he had made, & with evident advantage. Now comes Smith & pulls down many things I had put up and makes alterations without stint. The four operations will cost nearer fifty than forty thousand dollars for the buildings alone. What nonsense.

Most of Van Buren's friends, including Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Gilpin of Philadelphia, rallied around the decision and expected that hospitality at Lindenwald would not be diminished:<sup>37</sup>

...let me tell you how glad I was to learn that Smith and his wife are going to join you at Lindenwald....Their consideration too in not taking possession of your rooms so as to exclude certain annual visitors who expect free quarters is a new mark of their prudent consideration for which my wife and myself will give our particular thanks.

The immense project was begun in the spring, but the disruption did not prevent Van Buren from inviting Henry Clay to visit on his way home from Saratoga at the end of the summer season. Angelica, on the other hand, was confined to New York that summer, in mourning for her mother.

The work progressed uninterrupted even by tragedy, when Smith's wife Ellen died of consumption on October 30, a few weeks after the birth of another daughter, Catherine Barber. Leaving Martin, Jr., behind to supervise the alterations, Van Buren, Smith, and the children spent the winter in New York.

In the spring of 1850, Van Buren, Smith, and family returned to Lindenwald and Martin, Jr., again went to visit the Blairs. During the next summer and fall, Van Buren enjoyed the brandied peaches sent up by Mrs. Blair, "glorious fishing," and the company of the Poinsetts and the Cambrelengs, while Smith fretted over the details and expenses of the construction of Lindenwald's new library and front porch. All work was successfully completed by the end of the year and Lindenwald was transformed.

Except for a brief visit to New York in the fall, Van Buren had remained within the precincts of Lindenwald, and he wrote to Benjamin Butler in May 1851: "I have not slept out of my own bed nor spent more than 2 evenings out of my own House."<sup>38</sup> By that time, the colo-



nel and his family had settled into their new home on East 21st Street, but that did not preclude them from spending part of the summer at Lindenwald. The entertainment routine continued as usual as Van Buren hosted Governor Throop and his party, the Blairs, and his own niece, Miss Cantine.

In March 1853 action at Lindenwald diminished as Van Buren and Martin, Jr., traveled to Europe, principally for the benefit of the latter's health. The ex-President toured Ireland, Scotland, England, Italy, France, and Switzerland while the son stayed at various watering places. The two were joined abroad by John, Abraham, Angelica, and the boys in 1854. Only Smith and his three children remained behind.

Smith made good use of his time finding a new wife, Henrietta Irving of Oyster Bay, a great-niece of Washington Irving. They became engaged in October 1854, and were married the following February at Grace Church in New York, with the famous author in attendance.

News from Europe was not as joyful. Martin, Jr.'s, health continued to deteriorate and he died in Paris on March 19, 1855, at the age of 43. Returning to the United States in June, Van Buren buried his youngest son in the Kinderhook Cemetery, beside Van Buren's beloved wife Hannah.

John and Abraham also returned to the States in 1855, while Angelica and her sons remained in Europe another year.

Apparently, the two-family living arrangements that had commenced at Lindenwald in 1849 worked well and the introduction of the new Mrs. Smith T. Van Buren on the scene posed no problems. Van Buren had

been extremely fond of his daughters-in-law and he undoubtedly welcomed the addition, particularly in view of his recent loss of Martin, Jr. Although correspondence does not indicate what role Henrietta played in running the household, family relations and household operations continued harmoniously for the next seven years.

In March 1856 Smith and Henrietta's first child, another Martin, was born. By 1861 Henrietta, 15 years her husband's junior, would bear two daughters, Eliza Eckford and Marion Irving.

Van Buren visited his now-widower friend Benjamin Butler and his family in New York, but for the most part, admitting his "visiting days are over," he occupied himself with reading, writing, and riding at Lindenwald. He experienced some mishaps as a result of the latter, fortunately none too serious. He also suffered from dyspepsia and gout, but was still remarkably vigorous for his seventy-four years.<sup>39</sup>

Smith and his family continued to divide their time between Lindenwald and New York. Van Buren's sister Diercke and niece, Christina Cantine, however, often kept him company in the later years.

In the spring of 1858 the artist G.P.A. Healy visited Lindenwald to undertake a portrait of the ex-President commissioned for the White House. The completed portrait shows a dignified and robust Van Buren; it greatly pleased the subject.

A few months later Benjamin Butler died, leaving in his will a bequest and tribute to his "early patron and friend."<sup>40</sup>

Van Buren's oldest grandchild had by that time, following in his father's footsteps, entered the United States Military Academy at West

Point. Unfortunately, Singleton failed his required examinations and was not able to complete his education at the academy. This fact caused great distress to his parents and grandfather, although some consolation could be found, as Van Buren wrote Angelica:<sup>41</sup>

Nothing could have had a greater effect in relieving my mortification at Singleton's failure than your excellent letter....Such indications of self possession in trouble and superiority to temporary afflictions are strong proof of great strength of mind.... The first...thing...to ascertain is whether his present humiliation has had the effect to brace his nerves and stimulate him to the greatest possible efforts in what he next undertakes.

In January 1860 Van Buren wrote his will, but he had yet to live another two and a half years surrounded by his family at Lindenwald. He lived to see the Civil War erupt in his beloved country in 1861 and was a "thorough-going Union man and no secessionist."<sup>42</sup> He was, however, deeply troubled and "when sensible and collected he manifested the most lively interest in public affairs, expressed his confidence in Mr. [Abraham] Lincoln and General [George] McClellan, denounced Mr. [James] Buchanan fervently, and declared that the rebellion would be put down without any permanent damage to the Union."<sup>43</sup>

Weakened by asthma and its complications, Martin Van Buren died at Lindenwald on July 24, 1862. Funeral services were held at Lindenwald for the immediate family and then at the Dutch Reformed Church where the ex-President had worshipped during his many years in Kinderhook. The obituary in the New York Times poignantly described the mood of the village on the day Van Buren was laid to rest:<sup>44</sup>

The pleasant village of Kinderhook, on the far up Hudson, long since made famous as the birthplace and residence of Martin Van Buren, the boon-companion,

friend, counselor and successor in office of Andrew Jackson, yesterday paid her last earthly honors to her favorite son. While in other portions of the country the thousands of flags, waving at half-mast, bespoke the sorrow of the Nation at the loss of an Ex-President, in the village of Kinderhook the emblems of mourning were of a more heartfelt character, and betokened a deeper sorrow at the loss of an old neighbor, a kind friend, and an esteemed citizen. Business was entirely suspended in the village, the stores were all closed, and many of them, as well as the principal hotel of the place, were draped in mourning. The people of the surrounding country appeared to have turned out en masse to the funeral, and the number of old men to be seen among them was truly a marvel. It would hardly seem that the Ex-President, octogenarian though he was, outlived a majority of friends of his boyhood.

Afterword. Van Buren had hoped that Lindenwald would remain in the family, and it was offered first to Smith under the terms of the will:<sup>45</sup>

Lastly, I hereby give devise & bequeath to my three sons Abraham, John & Smith Thompson all the remainder & residue of my personal estate not required for the purposes of my Will under the provisions above made, & all my real estate wheresoever situated, to be equally divided between them, To Have and to Hold their respective shares thereof to them, their heirs & assigns forever, subject to the following conditions & reservations, Viz first that out of avails of the sale of Lindenwald there shall be reserved & paid over to my son Smith Thompson his heirs or assigns the sum of Seven Thousand five hundred dollars in full satisfaction for his advances towards the expenses incurred by the additions to and improvements upon the dwelling house & out buildings with the expectation that the Place would be devised to him upon terms that would be equitable in respect to his brothers, the payment to be without interest during my life time. Secondly, that upon the sale of Lindenwald the preference shall be offered in succession to my sons, beginning for the reason above assigned & no other, with the youngest, if the son accepting the same is willing to pay therefor as much as the place can be sold for in the market.

The youngest son, however, chose to move his family to Dutchess County. Abraham was settled comfortably in New York, so it devolved upon John to purchase his brothers' interests in the estate.

John lived at Lindenwald with his daughter for about a year, but suffering from ill health and financial difficulties, he could not manage both Lindenwald and his New York law practice and was compelled to dispose of the property in 1864. Thus, after a quarter-century of the Van Buren regime, John and Anna were the last of the ex-President's line to inhabit Lindenwald and call Kinderhook home. John returned to New York and outlived his father by only four years. Anna stayed with the colonel's family until she married in 1870.

Abraham and Angelica remained a part of New York society until their respective deaths in 1873 and 1878. Singleton, Mat, and Travis, all unmarried, died within eleven years of their mother.

Smith died in 1876, survived by his wife and all of the children, save Edward, the oldest son. Henrietta eventually moved to England and died forty-five years after her husband, in 1921. Her donation of the Van Buren papers to the Library of Congress in 1904-1905 was most fortunate.

Martin IV died unmarried in New York in 1942 and his sister Eliza sometime before. Smith's three other daughters--Catherine, Ellen, and Marion--each married and the latter two had children whose descendants are now actively involved in the restoration of Lindenwald.

For additional information on the Van Buren family, their servants, visitors to Lindenwald, and a list of owners of the property, see Appendixes G-K of this report.

## Footnotes

1. John Platt, Lindenwald Historic Resource Study (Denver: National Park Service, 1982), pps. 53, 63. Cited hereafter as Platt, HRS.

2. John C. Fitzpatrick. ed., The Autobiography of Martin Van Buren (New York: Da Capo Press, 1973), p. 17.

3. Smith Thompson Van Buren to Angelica Van Buren, July 30, 1839. MAVA, Cat. No. 714.

4. Ibid.

5. Will of Martin Van Buren, January 18, 1860. Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, New York.

6. Smith Thompson Van Buren to Angelica Van Buren, MAVA.

7. Smith Thompson Van Buren to Martin Van Buren, Jr., July 31, 1839. Van Buren Papers, Library of Congress, as quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 52.

8. Angelica Van Buren to Mrs. Richard Singleton, November 1 and 4, 1840. Angelica Singleton Van Buren Papers, Library of Congress [LC-ASVB].

9. Ibid.

10. Angelica Van Buren to Mrs. Richard Singleton, December 29, 1840. LC-ASVB.

11. Ibid., June 7, 1845. LC-ASVB.

12. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, September 18, 1841. Van Buren Papers, Library of Congress [LC-VB].

13. Nashville Union, April 28, 1842. Andrew Jackson Papers, Library of Congress.
14. Richard B. Gooch to Mrs. Gooch, September 10, 1842. Charles L. Chandler Papers, University of Virginia Library.
15. Martin Van Buren to Benjamin F. Butler, October 23, 1842. LC-VB.
16. Angelica Van Buren to Mrs. Richard Singleton, July 9, 1843. LC-ASVB.
17. Ibid., August 24, 1843. LC-ASVB.
18. Ibid., September 14, 1843. LC-ASVB.
19. Journal of Gideon Welles, October 19, 1843. Gideon Welles Papers, Library of Congress.
20. Angelica Van Buren to Mrs. Richard Singleton, November 25, 1843 and December 6, 1843. LC-ASVB.
21. Abraham Van Buren to Martin Van Buren, November 28, 1844. LC-VB.
22. William G. Bryan to Lyman C. Draper, January 1, 1846. Draper Correspondence, Wisconsin Historical Society.
23. Ibid.
24. Angelica Van Buren to Mrs. Richard Singleton, June 7, 1845, LC-ASVB.
25. Smith Thompson Van Buren to Martin Van Buren, August 10, 1845. Alexander Duer Harvey Papers, Pennsylvania State University, Media [PSU-ADH].

26. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, October 15, 1845, and Martin Van Buren to Gorham Worth, November 7, 1845 (LC-VB); Martin Van Buren to Henry D. Gilpin, February 4, 1845 (Van Buren Papers, New York State Library).

27. Sarah M. Maury, The Statesmen of America in 1846 (Philadelphia: Cary & Hart, 1847), p. 68.

28. Ibid., p. 69.

29. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, January 12, 1847 (Blair Family Papers, LC); Martin Van Buren to Gorham Worth, May 23, 1847 (LC-VB).

30. Martin Van Buren, Jr., to Angelica Van Buren, July 17, 1840. MAVA, Cat. No. 723.

31. Angelica Singleton to Mrs. Richard Singleton, March 23, 1838 (LC-ASVB); Smith Thompson Van Buren to Angelica Van Buren, July 30, 1839 (MAVA, Cat. No. 714); Smith Thompson Van Buren to Martin Van Buren, February 16, 1844 (PSU-ADH).

32. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, April 8 and April 24, 1848 (Blair Papers, LC); George Washington Cullum, Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy.

33. Angelica Van Buren to Marion DeVeaux, July 5, 1848. LC-ASVB.

34. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, February 16, 1848. Blair Papers, LC.

35. Ibid.

36. Martin Van Buren to Gorham Worth, April 9, 1849. LC-VB.

37. Henry D. Gilpin to Martin Van Buren, June 13, 1849. LC-VB.



38. Martin Van Buren to Benjamin F. Butler, May 20, 1851.  
LC-VB.

39. Martin Van Buren to Francis P. Blair, May 21, 1856 (Blair Papers, LC); Henry D. Gilpin to Martin Van Buren, July 17, 1856 (LC-VB); Martin Van Buren to Benjamin F. Butler, April 17, 1857 (VB Papers, NYSL).

40. Will of Benjamin F. Butler, extract in the hand of Mrs. STVB, February 23, 1859, LC-VB; Charlotte A. Brown to Martin Van Buren, November 11, 1858, Gilpin Papers, Poinsett Section, HSP.

41. Martin Van Buren to Angelica Van Buren, January 16, 1859.  
MAVA Cat. No. 705.

42. Martin Van Buren to Edward Livingston Van Buren, June 17, 1861 MAVA Cat. No. 686.

43. New York Herald, July 25, 1862.

44. New York Times, July 29, 1862.

45. Will of Martin Van Buren, January 18, 1860, Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, New York.

## EVIDENCE OF ROOM USE, 1841-1862

### Introduction

Evidence of room functions and original furnishings at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period, c. 1841-1862, is not abundant. Great effort has been made in this Historic Furnishings Report, however, to gather what scant evidence exists, evaluate it, and present it in a coherent format.

In this section of the report is presented the documentary and physical evidence for usage of, and particular furnishings in, each room. Much documentary evidence is taken from the Historic Resource Study (Platt, 1982), which concentrates on the Richard and Richard M. Upjohn Papers at the New York Public Library and on Richard Upjohn's "Plan Book" at Columbia University's Avery Library. Other sources adding to the documentary evidence are various writings of Van Buren, his family and contemporaries, as well as late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century newspaper accounts, architectural drawings, photographs, and oral history. All references are listed with their respective sources.

Physical evidence, also presented room by room, is extracted from the Historic Structure Report (Howell, 1985), including the "Finishes Study" which details wallpaper research. The physical evidence listed in this section is only that which is relevant to the Van Buren period. For detailed information on structural features and changes from 1797 to 1974, the reader is directed to the HSR.

The room-by-room summaries of room functions present my own conclusions based on all of the direct evidence, on the HSR's determinations and suppositions, and on period practice.

The following section of this report presents evidence of original furnishings at Lindenwald, not room specific. An introductory essay gives the background of Van Buren's furnishing tastes and practices prior to his occupying Lindenwald as well as an overview of furnishings at Lindenwald, c. 1841-1862, and in the post-Van Buren period.

This section is arranged by specific furniture and furnishing type. References are given for each type, using much the same documentary sources as outlined above.

Extant furniture and furnishings are also described to contribute to the evidence and a summary of all evidence concludes the discussion of each type. Additional information on furnishings for each room is found in the Recommended Furnishings Section of this report.

#### ROOM USE

##### Room 005--Servants' Dining Room

#### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1845, June 7. ASVB to Mrs. Singleton (LC-ASVB)

"There is still a good deal to do in the way of getting the house straight again...2 doz. napkins 1 doz. chamber towels...pantry & kitchen are already marked & put in use."

2. 1849, December 3. STVB to Richard Upjohn [RU] (Platt, HRS, p. 89)

"Another test of the cause of the difficulty, and of the direction in which the flames lies, was afforded on Saturday last. For the accommodation of the glazier a fire was started in the room in the old house under the breakfast room, where a fire has been used every winter since the house was occupied by my father, & the consequence of tinkering with the flues was that the smoke filled the breakfast room to such a degree that the glazier was obliged to seek another place for his work & the fire was necessarily extinguished."

3. 1938, February. Victor A. deProsse, "Basement Plan--Linden-wald"

"Svts Dining R."

4. Tradition, HSR

"Servants' dining room."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wallpaper (W001), HSR-FS

Call bells, HSR

Base cabinet and shelves in NE corner, HSR

Proximity to kitchen (006), HSR

Stairway to dining/breakfast room (109), HSR

Fireplace, HSR

SUMMARY: Although there is no period documentary evidence for its function, the HSR accepts this room as the "servants' dining room" based on the oral tradition of the deProsse family and on physical evidence such as the proximity to the kitchen, call bells, and the c. 1850 wallpaper.

The location of this room in the basement denotes its use by servants. A "butler's pantry" would be a logical period use for a room adjacent to the kitchen and family dining area and the cabinet and shelves do indicate some storage capability in this room. The decorative wallpaper and the original existence of a fireplace, however, indicate a more social function for this room. Perhaps it served concurrently as a butler's pantry and as a dining room for the servants.

#### Room 006--Kitchen

#### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1845, June 7. ASVB to Mrs. Singleton (LC-ASVB)

"There is still a good deal to do in the way of getting the house straight again...2 doz. napkins 1 doz. chamber towels...pantry & kitchen are already marked & put in use."

2. 1849, December 3. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 89)

"Barney's reply about the flues and the damage to the walls is not admissable [sic], because the damage resulted mainly and in the first instance, from smoke caused by a single fire in the wash room (first started by himself to try the draft and afterward continued by the servants for household purposes) returning into the other rooms where there were no fires: viz. into the Kitchen thro' the open-door, and into the Bed-room and the bath-Room thro' their respective flues."

3. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Basement Plan--Lindenwald"

"Kitchen."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Cast-iron range and ovens on N wall (Moses Pond Union Range), HSR

Circular brick oven in NW corner, HSR

Pipes and markings for sink in SW corner, HSR

Storage cabinets between windows, HSR

SUMMARY: The physical evidence is conclusive for a kitchen function in this room after the 1849 Upjohn alterations. The location of the kitchen before 1849 remains a mystery (HSR). It may have been located in 005 or, as possibly, in one of the former wings.

Room 007--Washroom (Laundry Room)

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 86)

"If you had been here since McGuire left I am sure you would have seen enough to satisfy you of the justice of my complaints. The flues from the Wash-room, Bed-room and Bath-room have smoked so badly that the walls are entirely black, and the ceiling also of the Bed room destroyed."

2. 1849, December 3. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 88)

"Barney's reply about the flues and the damage to the walls is not admissable [sic], because the damage resulted mainly in the first instance, from the smoke caused by a single fire in the wash room (first started by himself to try the draft and afterward continued by the servants for household purposes) returning into the other rooms where there were no fires: viz. into the Kitchen thro the open-door, and into the Bed-room and the bath-Room thro' their respective flues."

3. 1850, April 20. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 90)

"...I promised him to say to you that the Wash-room flue is at length cured--having experienced the reverse of the natural rule, viz. being smoked before it was cured: and well smoked it was."

4. 1850, July 27. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 99)

"The Laundry flue continues to smoke as badly as ever--rendering the use of the room impossible frequently & always more or less uncomfortable: & I have had a mason here almost all the time pointing up some rough work, & tinkering on the flues."

5. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Basement Plan--Lindenwald"

"Room."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Hand pump (Downes & Co., Seneca Falls No. 3), HSR

Lead-lined wood sink, HSR

Cast-iron fireback, HSR

Pivot for bell pull wire on N wall, HSR

SUMMARY: Documentary evidence c. 1849 indicates the washroom was located in the basement next to the kitchen, "thro' the open-door," and there is physical evidence of plumbing to corroborate the laundry function in this room.

## Room 101--Bedroom

### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to Harriet Butler [HB] (Platt, HRS, p. 58)  
"This is to be the best Bed Room & is downstairs."
2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)  
"...two kinds of paper for the lower bedroom..."
3. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"  
"To the left was the ex-President's living room, or double parlor; to the right sitting room and dining room."
4. 1938, February. V.A. deProse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Dining Room."
5. Figs. 1, 2, this report.  
Photographs, c. 1930s (bedroom).

### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Fireboard #88 (border matches upstairs bedroom), HSR-FS

Tack with wool fibers from floor, Memo, O. Carroll to C. Kohan, and Memo, E. McManus to B. Cliver, May 12 and 14, 1984. See Recommended Furnishings, Room 101, #14.

Secondary decorative treatment, HSR

Hot-air register in floor, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: Period documentary evidence and physical evidence, particularly the border of the fireboard from this room, point to this room's use as a bedroom during the historic period; the c. 1930s photograph also shows bedroom furnishings. Townsend's 1891 reference to a dining room here is not substantiated by pre-1862 evidence and may simply reflect a later use of the room.

Room 102--Closet

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE: None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE: None

Room 103--Closet

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE: None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Opening for hot-air register in S and E walls, HSR

Ghost of object on E wall, HSR

Room 104--Sitting Room

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1843, June 20 and 22. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"We have had a fire in the sitting room nearly every day & occasionally even in my bedroom."

2. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"To the left was the ex-President's living room, or double parlor; to the right sitting room and dining room."

3. 1938, February. V.A. deProse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald

"Green Room."

4. Figs. 3, 4, 5

Photographs, c. 1930s.



PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Pier mirror in situ, HSR

Fireboard #85, HSR-FS

Wallpaper (W005) sample in situ, HSR-FS

White marble mantel, HSR

Cast-iron fireback, HSR

Decorative woodwork, HSR

Hot-air register, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: Physical evidence such as the decorative woodwork, white marble mantelpiece, and pier mirror suggest a social function for this room, similar to that of Room 106 across the hall. Period practice and Angelica Van Buren's reference to a "sitting room" suggest that a slightly less formal gathering place for family and friends may have been located in this room.

Room 105--Hall

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"Let the paper be neat but not expensive. Something like that we first selected for the lower Hall might do."

2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"The Hall paper you will observe is an old favorite of mine..."

3. 1843, August 24. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"...by using great caution I was able to be carried down & laid on the Hall sofa."

4. 1843, October 19. Gideon Welles, Journal (LC-Welles)

"It is a large house, built of brick, with the front rooms and most spacious hall extending through the body of the house."

5. 1845, June 7. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"...his little shrieks of delight can be heard all over the house when he is shown the dogs, cows, etc. of the Hall paper."

6. 1849, October 23. T.B. Van Slyck to R. Upjohn (Platt, HRS, p. 85)

"...the opening is made close to the partition wall of the old hall ..."

7. 1850, May 13. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 93)

"My father complains that I have made his hall dark, by my improvements."

8. 1850, May 5. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 93)

"You may send me...also the drawing you mentioned for a Glass door leading from the old Hall to the new."

9. 1850, July 27. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 95)

"I think an ordinary door (painted white like the other wood work in the Hall--instead of Blk. walnut) will answer, with the Glass of white plate containing 4 large panes, & a border only such as you have drawn, of stained glass. What do you think of this?"

10. 1854 (recalling c. 1804 visit). MVB Autobiography (Da Capo Press, 1973 ed., p. 17)

"We passed thro' the Hall, and, as we left the house by the back door ...."

11. 1891, G.A. Townsend (as quoted in Collier, 1914, p. 377, and Eberlein, 1924, p. 219)

"Beyond the door appeared a fine straight hall which was paced as being about fifty-five by fifteen feet and appeared to be eleven or twelve feet high. Its four doors were in the early carpentry of this century with manipulation around their tops. At the rear, nearly

concealed in the side of the hall, under a sort of alcove, was a stairway, pretty wide and low and long-stepped. The feature of this hall, I had almost said its beauty, is the foreign wallpaper, in large landscapes..."

12. 1906, February 22, "The Columbia Republican." E.P. Hoes, quoting his father P.V.B. Hoes

"One day soon after he (VB) had settled at Lindenwold [sic] a caller was approaching his surroundings and remarked: 'Ah, I see, sir, you have an old fashioned Dutch clock in the hall.'"

13. H. Peckham, History of C.M. Van Buren, 1913, p. 119

"...drawing of the Coat-of-Arms...remembered by persons still living as having hung on the wall of the hall at Lindenwald."

14. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man, 1929, p. 508

"On a mahogany console in the great hall was the familiar punchbowl ..."

15. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Banquet Hall."

16. Figs. 6, 7, 8, 9

Photographs, c. 1917, 1930s.

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Scenic wallpaper and dado in situ, HSR-FS

Brussels carpet in situ, HSR

Chandelier, HFR

3 Ceiling medallions, HSR

2 Hot-air registers, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: The use of this room as a hall is well-documented in Martin Van Buren, Van Buren family, and other period manuscripts. A formal dining function is suggested primarily by oral tradition, by the existence of a large dining table which extends to seat 30 and could fit in no other space, and by the presence of the decorative scenic wallpaper, Brussels carpet, chandelier, and bell system.

Room 106--Drawing Room or Parlor

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"There was no pattern among them that would match very well with the drawing room paper..."

2. 1843, October 19. G. Welles, Journal (LC)

"I was shown by a boy into the East or rather SE room (for the house has a S.E. front), and the President in a few moments came from the opposite room."

3. 1846, January 16 (recalling April 1845 visit). W.G. Bryan to L.C. Draper (WHS)

"The house is richly but plainly furnished--as you enter the parlor you see on the right of the door an excellent painting of Jefferson, on the left of Jackson."

4. S.M. Maury, The Statesmen of America in 1846, p. 68

"...we sat down in a cool and pleasant parlor; ice water, lemonade, and wine were immediately presented..."

5. 1854 (recalling c. 1804 visit). MVB Autobiography (Da Capo Press, 1973 ed., p. 17)

[Peter Van Ness] "passed into the drawing room without looking behind him..."

6. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"Beneath the center in the main storey [sic] is a small covered portico, with easy flights of steps and balusters. To the left was the

ex-President's living room or double parlor; to the right sitting room and dining room...I entered the parlor, and through it the library. The parlor is double, and closets are contained within the frame of its folding door. Pieces of Mr. Van Buren's furniture are still here, although the late Aaron Vanderpoel, who resided in Kinderhook, got a good deal of it. Veneered mahogany was the general material. A tall gilt mirror remains, and a carved dressing case.

7. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Red Room."

8. Figs. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Photographs, c. 1930s.

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Pier mirror, in situ, HSR

Fireboard #84, HSR-FS

Wallpaper (W006) sample in situ, HSR-FS

Gray marble mantel, HSR

Most decorative woodwork (including ogee arch), HSR

8 Drapery Hooks (2 over each window), HSR

4 Picture hanging buttons, HSR

1 Picture hook over mantel, HFR (CEK)

1 Hook over mirror, HFR (CEK)

Tack marks, 3' width, HSR

Grass matting sample, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: Physical evidence such as the highly decorative woodwork, gray marble mantelpiece, pier mirror, and hardware for hanging draperies and pictures, is abundant for designating this room as the

drawing room or parlor, i.e., the formal room where guests were entertained. The documentary evidence suggests that the Van Burens called it the drawing room.

#### Room 107--Closet

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"The parlor is double, and the closets are contained within the frame of its folding door."

##### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Shelves and moulded ledgers, HSR

#### Room 108--Closet; Stairway from 109 to 005

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE: None.

##### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wallpaper (W001) fragments, HSR-FS

#### Room 109--Dining Room or Breakfast Room

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"No. 3 Let this be of the same kind with that which was sent for the dining Room, yellow with gold &c."

2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"There was no pattern among them that would match very well with the drawing room paper--there was one gold one which I thought might answer for the dining room..."

3. 1843, October 19. G. Welles, Journal (LC)

"I was shown by a boy into the East or rather SE room...the President in a few moments came in from the opposite room....Breakfast was on the table..."

4. 1849, October 23. T.B. Van Slyck to RU (Platt, p.85)

"...I received your favour yesterday with the drawing for the breakfast room door...." [See Room 111Library, reference 9.]

5. 1849, December 3. STVB to RU (Platt, p. 89)

"For the accommodation of the glazier a fire was started in the room in the old house under the breakfast room, where a fire has been used every winter since the house was occupied by my father, & the consequence of tinkering with the flues was that the smoke filled the breakfast room to such a degree that the glazier was obliged to seek another place for his work & the fire was necessarily extinguished."

6. Ca. 1862, as described in D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man 1929, p. 508

"On a sideboard in the dining room stood rows of bottles and decanter..."

7. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"To the left was the ex-President's living room, or double parlor; to the right sitting room and dining room."

8. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Den."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Fireboard #87, HSR-FS

"Waffled" texture of wall from wallpaper (W006), HSR-FS

Tack marks, HSR

Secondary decorative treatment, HSR

Proximity to basement (kitchen, etc.), HSR

SUMMARY: This room and room 106 were described by Townsend in 1891 as the "double parlor." This room is connected to 106 through the ogee arch and did bear the same wallpaper. The dining/ breakfast function, however, is strongly indicated in period documents and by the room's proximity to the kitchen.

#### Room 110--Stairway

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

1. 1891, G.A. Townsend, as quoted in Collier, 1914, p. 377

"At the rear, nearly concealed in the side of the hall under a sort of alcove, was the stairway, pretty wide and low and long-stepped."

2. MAVA Photo Files

Photograph, c. 1930s

##### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Scenic wallpaper and dado in situ, HSR-FS

Wallpaper (W015) fragments, HSR-FS

Decorative bracket on right side of arched opening, HSR

#### Room 111--Library

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, November 19. "Washington Globe," quoting "New York Commercial Advertiser" (Platt, HRS, p. 64)

"The Ex-President begins the day with a ride of ten or fifteen miles on horseback; after breakfast he is engaged with workmen till he is tired, and then betakes himself to the library, which he is constantly enlarging."

2. 1843, October 19. G. Welles, Journal (LC)

"Going out he showed us his library, a large & very fine room very well filled with books which, without examining them I thought were



chiefly law books and state papers. Passing out South westerly, we saw the first outlines of his farm..."

3. 1846, January 16 (recalling April 1845 visit). W.G. Bryan to L.C. Draper (WHS)

"I passed some hours in his Library. His collection of books is large, & the number of works on all political subjects--essays--tracts--statistics--various economies--treatises on Government &c &c is immense, even for a statesman--I observed, too, that most of them were thumbed, the leaves hastily turned down, & the margins often covered with notes & references in his own hand. You can form but small idea, from this, of the number of political books, & the amount of time he must have consumed in examining them. They embraced every imaginable subject of public concern, & emanating from the pens, & were printed in the language of authors in most civilized countries. One side of the room seemed devoted to works of American Authors, exclusively--You can hardly call to mind a modern production that was not on his shelves with a line or two from the author, on the blank page, presenting it to his acceptance & regards. These notes in the characteristic style of the various writers, I found particularly interesting--one wd be couched in brief & truly Republican terms, another would teem with all the gracious & high sounding epithets of Oriental diplomacy--& another--but look at the list of Authors & you can fancy what each would naturally say in presenting his favorite work to a man like Mr. Van Buren--At about four P.M. we dined--"far-  
ing sumptuously" and I left for the eve. boat at 1/2 past 5.--I must not forget to remark that I saw over the mantel piece of the Library an engraved likeness of Mr. Clay, & that I saw scattered about the room a number of the vilest & funniest caricatures of himself. One, I recollect, exhibiting him as a fox hard chased by a pack of Whig hounds!!"

4. 1846, November 18. MVB to Francis P. Blair (LC-Blair Family papers)

"Martin has promoted your likeness, by taking you from under Miss Fanny Elssler & placing you in a fine frame in the Library under General Jackson & next to your friend Clay--"

5. 1848, July 15. MVB to E. Anthony (NYPL)

"I have received the engraved portrait of Mr. Clay which you have had the goodness to present to me. To show you that you do me but justice in believing that political difference would not distract from the satisfaction with which I would receive this faithful likeness of an American Statesman & exquisite work of taste, I need only say that a likeness of Mr. Clay has for several years occupied a place in my library..."

6. 1849, May 30. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 113)

"Bay window in Library inside and outside elevations, section, and return of cornice, Single windows of Library etc..."

7. 1849, September 3. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 114)

"Sept 3rd Smith T Van Buren. Plan of Mr. Van Burens house viz Library door jamb of tower doors to 1 in scale and full size."

8. 1849, October 4. B. McGuire to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 84)

"I have recd your letter on yesterday afternoon, the width of the Chimney Breasts are as follows Viz. Nursery: 5 ft 4 in; Library: 5 ft. 2 5/8 in."

9. 1849, October 23. T.B. Van Slyck to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 85)

"...I received your favour yesterday with the drawing for the breakfast room door and write to inform you that i cannot get a two foot six inch door in the opening the Largest size that i can get in is two feet the opening is made close to the partition wall of the old hall which brings the arcatrave [sic] of the Library door..."

10. 1850, April 20. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 91)

"Pray hurry on the Library & Hand-rail. Did I understand they were to be done by the same hand? I saw a Library designed for Mr. Barnard in Albany--which pleased me, & only cost \$200. It was black walnut and plain--but was as much prettier than Mr. \_\_\_\_\_'s (in 14th St.) as Kelly's was before Barnards..."

11. 1850, May 5. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 91)

"The plans &c enclosed are all right. As to the Library you seem to have forgotten our arrangement: which was that you should have the plan (when completed) estimated upon by one or two competent persons at New York and then let me know the result, & that the person taking the job might also put up the hand-rail on the Tower stairs: & include that in his estimate."

12. 1850, May 13. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 92)

"The estimates for the Library differ so much that I must submit the matter to your discretion. If you know & can rely upon the person who offers to do the work for \$300. of course, you will give it to him. Please let me know, in your reply, whether you have so deter-

mined. The sooner it is completed the better, altho' I suppose the contractor will have sufficient inducement for dispatch on his own account.

P.S. How many feet of wire-work did you say? I cannot make out your figures. Please tell me also if you can about what the glass for the glass door will cost."

13. 1850, May 17. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 98)

"Estimate of Mason's work	\$2492.
Do <u>  </u> Carpenter's <u>  </u>	2850.
Do <u>  </u> Library (including wire work)	340.
Do <u>  </u> Porch <u>  </u>	500.

Supposed cost of Hand rail to be made by  
the Library Contractor, or some other  
person           

	50.
	<u>6232.</u>
	5.
5% com <u>          </u>	\$ 311.60
Deduct heretofore paid	150.
Bal.--	<u>\$ 161.60</u>

To this should be added the Blk. walnut door and the caps for the tower-columns--the latter cost about \$15. The former I do not know. I have added in the check 75 cts. being 5% on \$15. Check...\$162.35."

14. 1850, June 28. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 94)

"I have had a visit from Mr. Halenback [Hollenbeck] who promises to be here with his book-cases about the 15th July..."

15. 1850, July 27. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 95)

"I wish to remind you that the Library man will be here on Monday, and that I am without the Porch-plans, on which I wish to have his estimate..."

16. 1850, August 14. T.C. Moore to RU (Platt, HRS, pp. 95-96)

"Please give me the length & width of mesh concluded on for Mr. V Burens Secretary & as near as practicable the Size of wire to be made of. I called at your office & left word for this & hoped to have heard from you on this."

17. Platt, HRS, fn. 37, p. 96

"Van Burens House Cabinet" docketed on reverse side.

18. 1850, August 22. T.C. Moore to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 96)

"The doors for Mr. Van Burens book case are all done, and subject to your directions. I send on herewith for your inspection & hope they will please any directions you may send me relative to forwarding will be attended to I presume they will not require to be boxed."

19. 1860, January 18. MVB, Will, Columbia County Courthouse

"My miscellaneous library is intended to be included in this bequest (to STVB) but not my law library, which I bequeath to my son John."

20. 1867, February. STVB, introduction, to MVB's Inquiry into the Origin & Course of Political Parties in the U.S., p. viii

"The citation from Cicero on the title-page was found on Mr. Van Buren's table, in his library, extracted in his own handwriting whether only as a terse declaration of the law by the spirit of which his pen was guided, or as a possible motto for his complete work is not known."

21. 1891, G.A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"I entered the parlor and through it the library...the library is a simple room, 25 by 30 feet, with plenty of light, and the tall windows in white sashes. Van Buren was not a great reader, but he loved literary society, and the engraved picture of the authors of America is in this room, as if they were welcome here--Cooper, Bryant, Longfellow, Irving, Prescott, Willis, and others."

22. 1891. P.V.B. Hoes, "New York Times," August 6, 1898, quoted by E.P. Hoes, in The Columbia Repository, February 22, 1906

"Mr. Van Buren spent some money in further beautifying Lindenwold, [sic] adding a library on one side, a large addition in the rear, and a tower...the beautiful library is turned into a kitchen..."

23. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Library."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Double arched bay window, HSR

Brown paint layer, HSR-FS

Carved yellow marble mantelpiece, HSR

Woodwork of primary space, HSR

Faint horizontal markings suggesting furniture 9' high, not directly against walls, HSR

Tack marks on floor, Blaine Cliver, NAHPC

SUMMARY: The library was an important part of Van Buren's home from the time he first occupied Lindenwald in 1841. Its original location is not known, although it is presumed to have been in a wing on the southwestern side (see G. Welles, Journal) of the house.

A new library with a bay window was added in 1849-50, and room 111 is the only room thus corresponding with Richard Upjohn's Plan Book.

Also, there is evidence for bookcases along the east, west, and south walls of this room. Before moving to Lindenwald, Smith T. Van Buren lived at 3 Academy Park in Albany and he admired the black walnut library that had been designed for attorney Daniel D. Barnard's home at 1 Academy Park. Mr. Barnard's home (now 1 Elk Street), is still extant, however, the interior has been completely refurbished and a very large bookcase used there by the Bar Association of New York is not believed to be original to the building.

Bookcases designed by Upjohn for Robert Kelly's New York home in 1842 still exist in two museum collections and their Romanesque style would not be inconsistent with the architectural details of room 111. These bookcases do not, unfortunately, have the "wire mesh" which is documented for the Van Buren bookcases.

#### Room 112--Bedroom

#### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, May 30. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 113)

"Double window of bed room....Cornices of hall, nursery bed room and bath room..."

2. 1849, October 4. B. McGuire to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 84)

"The Bed room fire place has no projection, the opening of the fire place is ft 2 ft. - 5 3/4 [sic]."

3. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 86)

"The flues from the Wash-room, Bed-room, and Bath-room have smoked so badly that the walls are entirely black, and the ceiling also of the Bed room destroyed...."

4. 1849, December 3. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, pp. 88-89)

"...the damage resulted mainly and in the first instance, from smoke caused by a single fire in the wash room...returning into the other rooms where there were no fires: viz. into the Kitchen thro the open-door, and into the Bed-room and the bath-Room thro' their respective flues."

5. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"School R."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wallpaper (W011) fragments, HSR-FS

Tack holes not visible (matting in room), HSR (interview with deProsse/Akers family, July 7, 1981)

White marble hearth, HSR

Double window, HSR

Cornice moulding, HSR

Secondary woodwork treatment, HSR

Built-in storage cabinet (late 19th, early 20th century), HSR

SUMMARY: The HSR notes that "no other space designed by Upjohn succumbed to as much fabric alteration and deterioration as this room." The original bedroom function, however, is obvious from the combined documentary evidence c. 1849 and physical evidence, particularly the double window and cornice moulding. As the largest chamber in the addition, this bedroom is presumed to have been used by Smith T. Van Buren and his second wife.

Room 113/117--Tower Stair Hall

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 86)

"Mr. Vanslyck requests me to say that he will be ready for McGuire the last of next week. I have also to say that he omitted to make the change at the foot of Tower stair-case by my advice. When I saw you in Albany a month or six weeks ago I understood that the first flight would be taken down at once & at the expence [sic] of the carpenters, to make it accord with the plan. The next time I came here I found that this had not been done; altho' it is to be attended to. There being work enough to do to get the house enclosed & make it habitable, I at once determined that I would suffer the inconvenience of a narrow passage at the foot of the stair, rather than give even so slight an excuse for further delay, & that nothing already completed should be disturbed. I told him therefore to dispense with a Post. & to carry the hand-rail around the edge of the lower step as it was."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Plaster walls & ceiling white-coated & unpainted, HSR

Floor untreated, HSR

Segmental door arch into 109, HSR

SUMMARY: The function of this area as the tower stair hall is obvious.

Room 114/115/116--Bathroom and Dressing Area; Water Closet; Small Hall

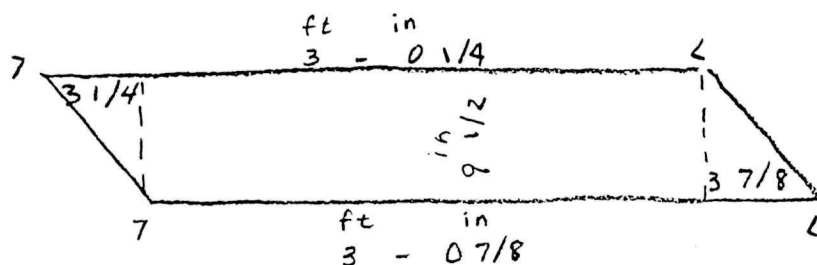
DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, May 30. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 113)

"Cornices of hall, nursery bed room and bath room..."

2. 1849, October 4. B. McGuire to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 84)

"The Shelve of the Bath room Mantle will be of the following Shape:



...I took the form of the Bath Room Shelve on a Board of 9 in. 1/2 wide it runs under the Square at One end for that Width. 3 1/4 inches and On the Other it runs over it 3 7/8 inches...."

3. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 86)

"The flues from the Wash-room, Bed-room, and Bath-room have smoked so badly that the walls are entirely black, and the ceiling also of the Bed room destroyed...."

4. 1849, December 3. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, pp. 88-89)

"...the damage resulted mainly and in the first instance, from smoke caused by a single fire in the wash room...returning into the other rooms where there were no fires: viz. into the Kitchen thro the open-door, and into the Bed-room and the bath-Room thro' their respective flues."

5. 1850, January 7. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 114)

"January 7, 1850, Martin Van Buren. Plan for Bath Case to 1 in scale and Detail full size."

6. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Bath Room" (114); "Toilet" (115)

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Cream paint with blue pigment particles on walls, HSR-FS



Sink on E wall, HSR

Copper-lined wooden cased bathtub in NW corner, HSR

Marble mantelpiece, HSR

Secondary woodwork treatment, HSR

Cornice & plaster ceiling unpainted, HSR

Unpainted floor, HSR

Water closet and water supply tank (115) in situ (Wedgwood bowl), HSR

Oculus window, HSR

SUMMARY: Physical and documentary evidence are conclusive for the bathroom and water closet functions. Since Upjohn's plan for the "Bath Case" bears the notation "Martin Van Buren" rather than his usual "Smith T. Van Buren" or "S.T. Van Buren," this may mean either that the bath was for MVB's primary or exclusive use or that it was billed to him because it was not for the exclusive use of Smith's household. The latter explanation seems more likely.

#### Room 118--Nursery

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, May 30. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 113)

"Cornices of hall, nursery bed room and bath room..."

2. 1849, October 4. B. McGuire to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 85)

"I have recd your letter on yesterday afternoon, the width of the Chimney Breasts are as follows Viz.: Nursery 5 ft. 4 in; Library 5 ft. 2 5/8 in... There is a fire place in the Basement under the Nursery of 5 ft. - 3 in. Breast."

3. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Chamber."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wallpaper (W014), HSR-FS

White marble mantel & cast-iron frontal framing, HSR

Secondary woodwork treatment, HSR

Unpainted floor, HSR

Profile markings on S & W walls of large object with overhanging cornice moulding and straight sides, HSR

Cornice moulding, HSR

SUMMARY: This room is identified in the HSR as the only other room besides the hall, bedroom, and bathroom, having a cornice moulding, and thus, according to Upjohn's Plan Book, it must be the nursery.

Room 119--Entrance Hall

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, May 30. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 113)

"Cornices of hall, nursery bed room and bath room..."

2. 1849, July 25. RU Plan Book (Platt, HRS, p. 114)

"Plan hall stairway 1/2 in scale and Bracket to support architrave full size."

3. 1850, May 5. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 93)

"You may send me at your convenience also the drawing you mentioned for a Glass door leading from the old Hall to the new..."

4. 1938, February. V.A. deProse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Side hall."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Woodwork design for primary space, HSR

Register, c. 1854, in E wall, HSR

Skylight, HSR

Unfinished floor, "possibly carpeted," HSR

SUMMARY: This room was obviously an entrance hall from the north door to the 1849 addition and its woodwork indicates the hall was considered a primary space, although the HSR states "it is not known though whether this entrance hall was used primarily by Smith Thompson Van Buren's family or also as the main entrance for all guests."

There is no evidence to indicate that the use of the front (east) entrance diminished while Van Buren lived at Lindenwald and the front door continued to be entered by the visitors who wrote accounts in the late nineteenth century. In addition, the construction of the elaborate front porch in 1850 would seem to add prominence to the old entrance.

#### Room 120--Hallway

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Passage."

##### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Woodwork of secondary space, HSR

Unpainted floor, HSR

#### Room 121--Privy

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Toilet."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wood-encased seat, HSR

Unpainted plaster walls, HSR

Room 122--Closet

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE: None.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

No original shelves or pegs, HSR

Unpainted floor, HSR

Room 123--Bedroom

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Main Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Chamber."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

No fireplace, HSR

Woodwork for secondary space, HSR

Walls whitewashed or wallpapered, HSR

No cornice moulding, HSR

No tack marks visible on unpainted floor, HSR

SUMMARY: The function of this room is not obvious from physical evidence. The HSR suggests that because of the room's simplicity and size, it might have been used as a children's bedroom. Another possibility is that it was a bedroom for the governess (Rose Dalton) who

would have been needed near the children and whose status would not compel her to share third floor quarters with the other female household servants. The lack of a fireplace and decorative treatment in this room also suggests that it was not intended for family use.

#### Room 201--Bedroom

##### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"No. 5. Bed Room upstairs--[wallpaper] may be a little more expensive."

2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"The paper for the upper bedroom, Harriet said she would have an eye to her own comfort as she might occasionally be an occupant of the room."

3. 1841, July 11. JVB to MVB (PSU-ADH)

"I should like to bring my wife, child, & nurse down to make some stay, but cannot remain myself, if you have room for them--she prefers the back room second story."

4. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Chamber."

##### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Fireboard #91, HSR-FS

Wallpaper (W017) fragment behind window casing matches fireboard, HSR-FS

Tack marks on floor, HSR

Wood mantel identical to Room 210, HSR

Hot-air register, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: It is not clear from documentary evidence which bedroom (201 or 205) was considered the "upper bedroom" in the 1841 correspondence. However, 201 is suggested because the wallpaper found in this room and on the fireboard is more elaborate than the wallpaper found in 205 and the pink and blue floral pattern might have a special appeal to a feminine eye such as Harriet Butler's or Elizabeth Vanderpoel Van Buren's.

#### Room 205--Bedroom

#### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"No. 5. Bed Room upstairs--[wallpaper] may be a little more expensive."

2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"The paper for the upper bedroom, Harriet said she would have an eye to her own comfort as she might occasionally be an occupant of the room."

3. 1843, June 20. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"We have had a fire in the sitting room nearly every day and occasionally even in my bedroom."

4. 1843, June 22. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"I had just written the above & rose to put the portfolio in the wardrobe..."

5. 1843, July 21. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"...the other day when I asked him (Singleton) where his Ma was--he usually points to a picture of Lady Wellesley the Duke of Wellington's Mother which hangs over our mantel..."

6. 1843, August 24. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"Wary I am of writing you that I am still chained to my sofa yet such is the fact....by using great caution I was able to be carried down & laid on the Hall sofa."

7. 1843, September 3. ASVB to Mrs. RS (LC-ASVB)

"I asked them up into my room where Mary Rose Beekman & I were assembled--although they were so considerate not to sit very long & I did not rise from my sofa I felt it was due to this imprudence I owed the relapse."

8. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Chamber."

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Fireboard #90, HSR-FS

Wallpaper (W018) fragment behind door casing, HSR-FS

Tack marks, 36" on center on floor, HSR

Wooden mantel with elaborate detailing and extended mantel shelf, HSR

Hot-air register, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: The HSR recognizes this room as having finer architectural detailing than 201 and thus suggests that the "more expensive" wallpaper might have been used here. The wallpapers found in the two rooms do not bear this out.

It is clear from the documentary evidence that Angelica and Abraham Van Buren occupied a second floor bedroom during their residence at Lindenwald and if John's wife Elizabeth preferred 201, the only other room available would have been 205. It is logical that this larger and "finer" room would have been occupied by Abraham and Angelica who considered Lindenwald home for a number of years.

Rooms 206/207/208--Upper Hall and Bedroom

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"This is for the hall upstairs including the temporary Bed Room at

the end of it. Let the paper be neat but not expensive    Something like that we first selected for the lower Hall might do."

2.    1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"  
"Chamber" (208)

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Wallpaper (W015) fragments, HSR-FS

No tack marks visible under varnish, HSR

"Anse de panier" (basket arch) between 206 and 207, HSR

Venetian window in east wall of 208, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: Documentary evidence indicates the functions of these rooms in 1841. The use of 208 in later years is not known but logical uses would have been a bedroom, perhaps for Angelica and Abraham's children, a dressing room, or a storage area.

Room 209--Bedroom of Martin Van Buren

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1.    1852, February 26. MVB to Mrs. Throop (Princeton University, Throop-Martin Papers)

"Between you and my niece my chances of becoming a good man are not as desperate as I feared they were. Every Evening, I find on retiring your Book opened for the next morning."

2.    1858, June 23. Account of STVB with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

"Painting & graining 2 stands for Presidents Room 16t 2.00."

3.    1862, July 30. Note by one of VB sons (LC-VB)

"Letters & papers found in the drawer of Mr. V.B.'s bed-room table."



4. 1862, as described in D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and A Man, 1929,  
p. 544

"All through June he remains in his room on the second floor. This was the sleeping chamber of Billy Van Ness's father. Two windows face the south; and two others catch the rays of the rising sun. On days when he is not too weak he sits in an easy chair covered with chintz. Against the southern wall, between the valanced windows, stands a large wardrobe with a mirror door. The sleigh-bed, of the same warm-toned mahogany from which the rest of the furniture is fashioned, is flanked on either side by a plain chest of drawers. On one of these is an unframed portrait of Silas Wright. It is small; and of the type our early artists called a cabinet. On top of the other is a Bible. In the center of the windowless west wall hangs an illuminated tribute to Jackson. On either side of this memento of his friend is a silhouette of Van Buren. These, too, are simply framed. A shaving stand occupies a corner. Small rugs, woven of vari-colored rags, and three fiddle-back chairs, with seats of gray horse-hair, complete the furnishings."

5. 1898 August 6. P.V.B. Hoes, "New York Times"

"In his chamber I have seen on the hanging texts some especially marked, which, no doubt, she had striven to impress upon his mind and heart."

6. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Chamber."

7. Oral Tradition, HSR

"Martin Van Buren's bedroom."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Fireboard #86, HSR-FS

Wallpaper Fragments (pattern indistinguishable), HSR-FS

Wooden mantel, HSR

No tack marks visible, HSR

Bell system, HSR

SUMMARY: Contemporary sources give no clue to which upstairs bedroom the exPresident occupied. Local tradition places him in Room 209. Lynch, writing in 1929 but without identifying the source of his rather detailed information, indicates that the room had eastern and southern exposure, with a blank west wall. This fits Room 205 better than 209, if one regards the front of the house as facing south, rather than east as it is now designated (it actually faces south-east, hence the problem). In the absence of conclusive evidence, however, the traditional designation of Room 209 as the room where Martin Van Buren slept will be retained.

Room 210--Bedroom of Martin Van Buren, Jr.

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 15. MVB to HB (Platt, HRS, p. 58)

"No. 4. Martin's Bed Room neat but cheap [wallpaper]."

2. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 59)

"That for Martin's room 5/ is Miss Butler's choice & she did not shrink from the responsibility There is certainly nothing exciting in the colors & to an invalid it will be rather quieting to the nerves."

3. 1846, November 18. MVB to FPB (LC-Blair Family Papers)

"Martin has promoted your likeness, by taking you from under Miss Fanny Elssler & placing you in a fine frame in the Library under General Jackson & next to your friend Clay"

4. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 87)

"The window on the North side of the attick [sic] & one which you directed to be made longer to light the passage next to my brother's bedroom, have been left, altho' there was enough time to have done all these small jobs..."

5. 1938, February. V.A. deProse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Chamber."

6. Oral Tradition, HSR

"Martin Van Buren, Jr.'s bedroom."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Fireboard #89, HSR-FS

No wallpaper found on walls, HSR-FS

Tack marks in east-west direction 36" apart, HSR

Wooden mantel, HSR

Bay window and 2 semi-circular arch windows, HSR

SUMMARY: The HSR states: "Oral history has established this room as Martin Van Buren, Jr.'s bedroom." Smith Thompson Van Buren's letter of November 22, 1849, to Upjohn confirms this use.

#### Room 211--Passage

#### DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, November 22. STVB to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 87)

"The window on the North side of the attick [sic] & one which you directed to be made longer to light the passage next to my brother's bed-room, have been left, altho' there was enough time to have done all these small jobs..."

2. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse, "Second Floor Plan--Lindenwald"

"Passage."

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Lancet window, HSR

Woodwork for secondary space

SUMMARY: Physical and documentary evidence are conclusive on the function of this room as the "passage."

Room ???--Storeroom

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1841, May 17. HB to MVB (Platt, HRS, p. 60)

"...I am glad to hear from Smith that your store room is made. It will need a good lock & the key always in the hands of a trusty person--Then you will find it a very good plan to have purchased on a magnificent scale...."

SUMMARY: There is no further documentary or physical evidence to indicate where this room was located.

Room ???--Billiard Room

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:

1. 1849, October 4. B. McGuire to RU (Platt, HRS, p. 85)

"I would wish to know if the Billiard Room is going to be laid out according to the plans, as I will have done here in two Weeks, and Mr. Vanslyck Says he knows nothing about it."

SUMMARY: There is no further documentary or physical evidence to indicate that such a room was ever completed.

## EVIDENCE OF FURNISHINGS, 1841-1862

### Introduction

Martin Van Buren occupied numerous different residences throughout his seventy-nine years, but only one, Lindenwald, did he own, develop, and fully enjoy as his permanent home. Since relatively little documentary evidence exists for furnishings at Lindenwald during the historic period (1841-1862), it was necessary to look at Van Buren's furnishing purchases and practices in the preceding twenty-five years to gain insight into his furnishing tastes and habits.

The first reference to furnishings is in a letter Van Buren wrote to his friend and law partner, Benjamin F. Butler, on June 18, 1816, requesting Butler to assist him in the purchase of furniture in New York.<sup>1</sup> The furniture was to be used in State Senator and Attorney General Van Buren's Albany residence. Butler promptly obliged by acquiring floor covering from W.W. & T.L. Chester, and a sideboard from an unnamed source.<sup>2</sup>

This early reference is significant because it establishes a precedent, which becomes a pattern, for making furniture purchases in New York, and for enlisting the aid of other persons in the decisions and transactions. Further, Butler's July 31 reply reveals that exaggerated accounts of Van Buren's extravagance plagued him even at this very early point in his career:<sup>3</sup>

There have arrived here during the last week, via Hudson, I understand, several reports of the splendor of your Albany establishment. They say your sideboard cost \$1100, ("How the world is given to lying.")

Although Van Buren had been married for nine years to Hannah Hoes, his wife apparently did not participate in the furnishing arrangements, possibly because she was expecting their fifth child, delivered in Hudson the following January. Two years later, in 1819, Mrs. Van Buren died in Albany and only a miniature portrait and some personal accessories survive to lend insufficient clues to her personality and relationship with her husband.

Van Buren was elected to the United States Senate in 1821 and again in 1827 and he occupied a number of hotels and boarding houses in Washington, D.C., while maintaining an Albany residence. Van Buren returned to Albany as the newly elected governor in December 1828, but held that office for only three months, resigning to accept President Jackson's offer of a cabinet post as Secretary of State.

In April 1829 and in the ensuing six months, the greatest volume of correspondence dealing with furnishings was produced as Van Buren disposed of his house and numerous furnishings in Albany and purchased new furnishings for his Washington residence. John Van Buren was charged with the sale or shipment of the old furnishings and was assisted in the selection of new items by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Hamilton and Madame Huygens. Van Buren also sought assistance from Mrs. Louis McLane and Mrs. William Rives in Washington.<sup>4</sup>

After packing and sending the unsold furnishings, John Van Buren advised: "If you furnish your house it can be done 50 per ct cheaper here [New York] than any where else."<sup>5</sup> Van Buren did order many items from New York, including chandeliers, pier glasses, carpets, and curtains, and three sets of chairs for the receiving, drawing, and dining rooms. A sideboard, center table, and sofa, made by a "very ingenious man who works at the capitol," were procured in Washington.<sup>6</sup>

Van Buren lived comfortably in Washington, as he wrote to Hamilton in September 1830: "I am seated in my lounge chair from which & its vicinity I shall not soon depart."<sup>7</sup> This contentment was, however, disrupted nine months later when Van Buren resigned his cabinet post in the wake of the "Eaton Affair." Following his resignation in May 1831, Van Buren held an auction and sometime that year he also sold some silver and other furnishings to President Jackson for his Tennessee home, The Hermitage.<sup>8</sup>

Van Buren was appointed minister to Great Britain in June and sailed for England in August. Although his nomination as minister was eventually rejected by the Senate, Van Buren remained in Europe until June 1832, traveling with his friend Washington Irving. In the interim, Van Buren had been nominated for Vice President on the Democratic ticket headed by Jackson.

President Jackson was reelected and Van Buren began his term as Vice President in March 1833. A new residence was again in order and Van Buren's son Abraham helped in the preparations:<sup>9</sup>

I have had the rooms papered so as to enable you, at your pleasure, to convert either the lower or the upper one, of those spoken of in my last, into a Dining Room.

Secretary of Legation Aaron Vail wrote from London in September that he had purchased chintz for curtains for Van Buren's house, but he cautioned:<sup>10</sup>

...if I am not so lucky as to have met your views, you will, I hope recollect that your instructions were very laconic and left nearly all to my discretion--as related to quantity I have had to be guided by the knowledge of others. The Bill is enclosed--It is more than I thought it would be. Your L15 will go toward satisfying it--the balance you may, if you like, pay to my mother at your convenience.

Although the instructions were sometimes terse, the correspondence from 1816 to 1833 suggests that Van Buren did take a great interest in furnishing his homes comfortably, fashionably, and as economically as possible.

When Van Buren acceded to the Presidency in March 1837, presumably most of his possessions were put into storage as he moved into the White House. At the White House, Van Buren enjoyed, according to Pennsylvania Congressman Charles Ogle, opulence unparalleled in the United States. Ogle's virulent attack, "On the Regal Splendor of the President's Palace," delivered in the House of Representatives on April 14, 1840, was actually calculated Whig campaign rhetoric used to paint Van Buren as a vain aristocrat squandering the people's money:<sup>11</sup>

...no former Chief Magistrate ever acted upon the principle adopted by the present incumbent, of spending the money of the People with a lavish hand, and at the same time, saving his own with sordid parsimony....And I put it...to the free citizens of this country, whose servant the President is to say whether...they are disposed to maintain for his private accommodation, A ROYAL ESTABLISHMENT at the cost of the nation. Will they longer feel inclined to support their chief servant in a PALACE as splendid as that of the Caesars, and as richly adorned as the proudest Asiatic mansions?

The following day, Levi Lincoln, former Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, refuted the charges. Although Lincoln was also a Whig and opposed to Van Buren, he denounced Ogle's blatant distortion of the facts. Lincoln stated that the appropriations had not been requested by Van Buren, but had been granted by Congress as had been customary since the second presidential administration:<sup>12</sup>

...for a period of nearly three years no appropriation, to my knowledge, had been made at the request



of the President...and that on one occasion, when the President had been referred to, as to the need of a proposed appropriation, he had declined expressing any opinion or wish upon the subject....And who is the thief? The Congress of the United States, the Representatives of the people, in succession, through a series of more than forty years. These are the men who, by making the appropriations, in the sentiment of the member from Pennsylvania, PLUNDERED THE TREASURY AND ROBBED THEIR CONSTITUENTS!

Lincoln also pointed out that, although the expenditures during Van Buren's term amounted to almost \$20,000, the sum was less than in previous administrations.

As for the extravagance, Lincoln proclaimed:<sup>13</sup>

...the furniture appears neither too rich nor too abundant for the size and magnificence of the mansion nor too good for the use of the first representative officer of a free and sovereign people....His guests are the guests of the people. The Executive Mansion is the place for the reception....The carpets and the curtains, the candlesticks and the candelabras, the ottomans and the divans, the tables, mahogany and marble, the tabourets...they may be names of startling sound to an unpractised ear, but they are things of use and no uncommon appearance in many a private parlor.

Lincoln's remarks were published in the Extra Globe on August 5, 1840; however, they had little effect upon the voting public who swept Van Buren out of office in November. Even after Van Buren left office, he was vilified by his enemies and accused of stealing furniture from the White House. Such a charge was strongly denied:<sup>14</sup>

...there is no truth in the "statement made by respectable men...who were recently at Washington attending the inauguration, that the furniture

of the Chambers of the President's were entirely stripped and the articles carried off by the late President Van Buren, prior to the 4th of March." ... It is true...that a number of boxes were sent on to New York from the President's House, but these boxes contained furniture, glass, books, documents, papers, wines, etc., which belonged to Mr. Van Buren and his son Major Van Buren.

It is known to many, that several of our Chief Magistrates have from time to time, during their presidential term, purchased articles of furniture for their own use, which they have taken with them, when they have retired from public life. Mr. Van Buren was a housekeeper in Washington for several years and had collected articles of furniture for his own use as had his son Maj. Van Buren. He had also an extensive library and numerous documents and papers, and a large stock of wines.

An example of furnishings acquired during Van Buren's term but intended for personal use would be the large quantity of glassware ordered by John Van Buren from the Davenport Company in England. Although the order was addressed "for the President's House," Van Buren himself paid the bill, albeit two and one-half years later!<sup>15</sup>

In the spring of 1839, two years into his term, President Van Buren purchased the Van Ness estate in Kinderhook, New York. Sparse furnishings were in the old mansion in July when Van Buren and his family dined there for the first time:<sup>16</sup>

The furniture of the room was precisely this: three little tables of different heights placed under as many table cloths & extended in a line across the room--11 chairs and one side table!

Preparations for making the grounds presentable and the mansion habitable began almost immediately, but when it became clear that Van Buren had been defeated in his bid for reelection in 1840, the re-

pairs, decorating, and furnishing commenced in earnest. On his way from Washington to Kinderhook in the spring of 1841, Van Buren spent a week or more in New York making furniture purchases. He ordered mantelpieces from the marble yard of Fisher and Boyd in the Bowery, but there is no mention of particular New York cabinetmakers.<sup>17</sup> Wallpaper was ordered from the firm of Pares and Faye, who interestingly enough, had supplied wallpaper for the White House in 1837.<sup>18</sup>

As usual, Van Buren was assisted by family and friends, primarily son John, daughter-in-law Angelica, and Mrs. Benjamin F. Butler, in the selection and purchase of articles ranging from bedding to fireboards and tablecloths to teapots.<sup>19</sup> Van Buren finally moved into Lindenswald in June 1841, although expenditures for "improvements & furniture" and "carpets & curtains" continued during the next few years.<sup>20</sup>

In the course of his career and travels, Van Buren had become accustomed to fine food, clothing, and furniture. English glassware, French wallpaper, and French china were among the luxuries of the ex-President's "richly but plainly furnished" home.<sup>21</sup> Of the latter, he was particularly fond and he expressed great dismay at the destruction of the "principal part of a very beautiful tea & breakfast set which I valued above everything in the House. So much so that I have actually sent to Paris to have former trespasses repaired by additions of the same articles which I have never been able to find anywhere except in the President's House."<sup>22</sup>

"In regard to Paintings," Van Buren freely admitted that he did not possess "cultivated tastes," but he did share his decorating philosophy with Gorham Worth with reference to a mutual friend:<sup>23</sup>

I certainly would not be of the number who would advise him to have anything like a Gallery of Paintings as which many people of little or no taste take

to show off their magnificence. But as many scattering pictures as the House ought to contain to give harmony to the establishment he will if he does not already possess them, have to buy.

Van Buren's own preference seemed to be for portraits of statesmen he admired, be they political friend such as Andrew Jackson, or foe like Henry Clay.

Lindenwald under Van Buren's "regime" was both a "noble residence" and a "charming retreat," furnished nonetheless with an emphasis on comfort and an eye to economy. After all, the ex-President had instructed that the wallpapers be "neat but not expensive" in some of the halls and bedrooms. With luxuries here and penny-saving there, Van Buren could proudly claim: "We have more over succeeded in making Lindenwald so comfortable, that we are loathe to leave it."<sup>24</sup>

Simple elegance, not ostentation, was the rule, or as Frank Ellis stated in his History of Columbia County:<sup>25</sup>

Interiorly there was a sense of comfort and plenty, without extravagant ornamentation. It was a home where a refined American gentleman might entertain the cultured and the great of all lands without removing himself from the presence of his peers--the common citizen.

Major structural alterations to Lindenwald in 1849-50 apparently did not spark furnishings changes in the original portion of the house, since the addition was designed to serve as an "apartment" for Smith Thompson Van Buren and his family without encroaching upon the elder Van Buren's quarters. By October 1849, Smith had removed his furniture into Lindenwald, but, unfortunately, there is no documentation relating to the furnishings of the addition in Smith's correspondence with Richard Upjohn, which details room functions, architectural mat-

ters, and construction concerns. Bookcases for the new library, though, were part of the architect's responsibility and probably resembled the ones Upjohn had previously designed for Robert Kelly's New York home in 1842, or for a Mr. Barnard's Albany residence, which Smith seemed to prefer.<sup>26</sup>

For the next twelve years, there is but one reference to furnishings at Lindenwald. An account of Smith T. Van Buren with M.H. Reid, c. 1858-59, includes among supplies for repairs to the house, carriage, and family sleigh, "copal varnish" for an extension table and chairs, and "painting and graining two stands for the President's Room."<sup>27</sup>

The period from the ex-President's death in 1862 until the establishment of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site in 1974 also had to be examined for evidence of the disposition of Lindenwald's furnishings. Some items of particular value and significance were specifically mentioned in Van Buren's will; however, a complete inventory of the contents of the mansion has not been found.

Approximately two years after Van Buren died and after the property had passed out of family hands, an auction was held at Lindenwald, at which Kinderhook resident Aaron Vanderpoel purchased a "good deal" of the furniture.<sup>28</sup> An auction of the Vanderpoel-Newcomer estate in 1940 further scattered the Van Buren pieces.

Fortunately, much of the furniture did remain in Lindenwald, as George A. Townsend noted in his 1891 article in the New York Sun and those items formed an integral part of the household that the Birney-deProsse family enjoyed from 1917 to 1957. During their 40-year occupancy, an inventory of the "Van Buren" furnishings was prepared

by Mrs. C.B. deProsse. This inventory, included as an appendix in Melvin Weig's 1936 report, "Lindenwald--The President Martin Van Buren Homestead," has been very helpful in identifying original furnishings.

Although Mrs. deProsse and her family sold some items and took other cherished Van Buren pieces with them when they sold the house to antique dealer Ken Campbell, the bulk of the Van Buren furnishings were left behind. In 1975, shortly after the National Park Service acquired Lindenwald from Campbell, the National Parks Foundation and Hyde Park Historical Association purchased the remaining Van Buren-associated furnishings for Martin Van Buren National Historic Site.

The collection of the Site now includes approximately 100 pieces of furniture and 200 other items associated with Martin Van Buren or Lindenwald. Documentary research and oral history have provided trails to approximately 350 other items. It is hoped that the publication of this historic furnishings report will lead to the identification and acquisition of additional original furnishings for a successful restoration of Lindenwald, the "pleasant seat" where "in delightful quietude, the retired Chief Magistrate of the republic spent the evening of his days."<sup>29</sup>

### Footnotes

1. MVB to BFB, June 18, 1816, NYSL.
2. BFB to MVB, July 31, 1816, NYSL.
3. Ibid.
4. JVB to MVB, April 18, 1829 and May 3, 1829, PSU-ADH; MVB to James A. Hamilton, July 13, 1829, August 15, 1829, and September 8, 1829, Martin Van Buren Presidential Papers, NYPL.
5. JVB to MVB, May 3, 1829, PSU-ADH.
6. MVB to JAH, July 13, 1829, MVB Papers, NYPL.
7. MVB to JAH, September 10, 1830, MVB Papers, NYPL.
8. A. Polhemus to Paul Rapelya, May 26, 1831, Joseph Downs Mss. Coll. #7467, Henry Francis DuPont Winterthur Museum; Account book of Andrew Jackson, 1831, The Hermitage, Hermitage, Tennessee.
9. AVB to MVB, June 3, 1833, LC-VB.
10. Aaron Vail to MVB, September 14, 1833, LC-VB.
11. [Charles Ogle], "Speech of Mr. Ogle of Pennsylvania on the Regal Splendor of the President's Palace," April 14, 1840, Boston: Weeks, Jordon Co., 1840.
12. [Levi Lincoln], "Speech of Mr. Lincoln," The Extra Globe, Vol. 6, no. 8, August 5, 1840, Washington, D.C.: Blair and Rives, 1840 (MAVA #813).
13. Ibid.

14. R.H. Hammond, March 29, 1841, National Archives, Public Buildings & Grounds.

15. Invoice for MVB from Davenport Company, June 25, 1841, LC-VB; William Davenport to JVB, October 20, 1841, LC-VB; MVB to George Newbold, December 3, 1841, PSU-ADH.

16. STVB to ASVB, July 30, 1839, MAVA #714.

17. William Marcy to Prosper Wetmore, March 12, 1841, Marcy Papers, LC; MVB to Andrew Jackson Donelson, April 28, 1841, AJD Papers, LC.

18. MVB to Harriet Butler, May 15, 1841, Joseph Downs Mss. and Microfilm Collection, Henry Francis DuPont Winterthur Museum, as quoted in John Platt, HRS, pp. 58-59; HB to MVB, May 17, 1841; Van Buren Papers, Columbia County Historical Society, as quoted in Platt, HRS, pp. 59-60; "Furniture of the President's House," April 1, 1842, Washington, D.C.: House of Representatives, pps. 21-22 (MAVA #248).

19. HB to MVB, May 17, 1841 and June 5, 1841, Van Buren Papers, Columbia County Historical Society; ASVB to Mrs. Richard Singleton, November 4 and November 11, 1840, LC-ASVB; JVB to MVB, July 26 and July 30, 1841, PSU-ADH.

20. "Probable Expenses," May 1842-January 1843, and "Expenses and Disbursements," April 1, 1844-April 1, 1845, LC-VB.

21. William G. Bryan to Lyman C. Draper, January 16, 1846, Wisconsin Historical Society.

22. MVB to James K. Paulding, January 4, 1845, Morristown National Historical Park.

23. MVB to Gorham Worth, April 25, 1850, LC-VB.



24. STVB to ASVB, LC-ASVB; William G. Bryan to Lyman C. Draper, WHS; STVB to William Marcy, July 21, 1841, Morristown National Historical Park; MVB to HB, May 15, 1841, Van Buren Papers, Columbia County Historical Society; MVB to Joel D. Poinsett, December 13, 1842, Morristown National Historical Park.

25. Frank Ellis, History of Columbia County, Philadelphia: Everts & Ensign, 1878.

26. T.B. Van Slyke to Richard Upjohn, October 23, 1849, Richard and Richard M. Upjohn Papers, NYPL, as quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 85; STVB to Richard Upjohn, April 20, 1850, quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 91.

27. Account of STVB with M.H. Reid, 1858-59, LC-VB.

28. George A. Townsend, New York Sun, 1891.

29. Benson J. Lossing, The Hudson, 1866, Winterthur Museum.

## General Furnishings References

The following documentary references include contemporary comments on Van Buren's tastes, descriptions of Lindenwald, and documents referring to more than a single type of furnishings. These are cross-referenced under the various furnishing categories in the following sections of this report.

1. 1816, June 18. MVB to BFB (A) (LC)

"You will be of much more service to me in New York than the amount of your expenses, I want you to assist me in the purchase of furniture."

1816, July 31. BFB (NY) to MVB (A) (NYSL)

"There have arrived here during the last week, via Hudson, I understand, several reports of the splendor of your Albany establishment."

2. 1829, April 14. Daily Albany Argus

PUBLIC SALE  
BY STILWELL, MORGAN & CO.  
Auction and Commission, and wholesale Dry Goods  
Merchantsstore No. 49 Statestreet  
THIS MORNING at 10 o'clock  
FURNITURE AT AUCTION

"Stilwell, Morgan & Co. will sell on Tuesday, the 14th inst. at 10 o'clock, the whole of the household furniture of M. Van Buren, Esq., consisting of elegant mahogany side board with marble slab top, dining, breakfast, tea and card tables, bureaus, secretaries, sofas, chandeliers, mirrors, looking glasses, mantle ornaments, mantle time piece, astoral and mantle piece, lamps, mahogeny and maple chairs, elegant Brussels carpets, rugs, floor matting, beds, bedding, bedsteads, window curtains, silver table and tea spoons, tea pot, sugar and cream cupts, cut glass decanters, wines, tumblers, china dining, breakfast and tea sets, hall stove and pipe, hall lamps, tables &c. Together with the kitchen furniture.

"The above will be sold at the house lately occupied by Mr. Van Buren, No. 92 Statestreet, where the furniture may be examined by those who wish to purchase, on Monday until 2 o'clock P.M.

"Terms. Under \$50, cash; over \$50, 4 mos. for approved endorsed notes payable at Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank."

3. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"I send by this mail some account of the things unsold together with the highest bids upon each--

	highest bid
One Sideboard & cellarette--	\$65
One Set dining tables--	no bid upon
One Pair mirrors--	Do Do
one pair mantel Lamps--	\$45
Sofa (Best)	\$44
Tea table (Best)--	\$21
Card tables--	\$20 each
Window curtains--	\$25 a window

Since the sale Mr. Croswell has taken one pair for \$80 & John \_\_\_\_\_ the old Sofa for \$22.50--

	highest bid
The Best Bedstead (yours)	\$17

All the linen, all the knives, forks & spoons were reserved without offering... I expect some order about sending the furniture provided I cannot sell it at private sale--Where will you stow it this summer? --had I not better sell it for what it will fetch..."

4. 1829, May 3. JVB (NY) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"All the things which remain unsold were carefully packed & put on board of a tow boat Friday morning & arrived here on Saturday about 12. They were then carted immediately across to the packet & safely put on board & are now on their way to Washington--... N.B. If you furnish your house it can be done 50 per ct cheaper here than any where else--Write about it in your next--"

5. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"John will be with you soon & will in conjunction with Mrs. Hamilton etc. purchase my furniture..."

6. 1829, August 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I fear my dr Sir I shall give you too much trouble about my affairs ...I wish Eliza would take the trouble to let me know from time to time (if John is not with you) which purchases are needed so that I do not interfere here."

7. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"...I leave all to the Ladies yourself & John...I think the lamps of \$115 will do & I was favorably inclined to the first round clock at sound price. I wish you would ask John to send it to me through a draft on the Bank...as I am making purchases here & in want of funds."

8. 1829, October 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"Now for business. The last box that came from Gardners..."

9. 1831, May 26. A. Polhemus (FtW) to P. Rapelya (NY) (Winterthur Museum, Downs Mss. #7467)

"On Saturday we intend going to Montgomery from there to Washington to attend Mr. Van Beurens Auction if the President was offer'd I should become a purchaser, but I expect to have an introduction..."

10. 1831 Account Book, Andrew Jackson, The Hermitage

"Furniture of Mr. V Buren--  
Bought For the Hermitage--  
1831. Also Some articles of Furniture  
to be procured in Phil<sup>a</sup>  
For the Hermitage--  
B A (To wit) 8 dozen of Silver knives  
O l 4 Silver dishes with Tops, Silver  
U r 4 Silver Wine coolers--  
g e 2 Bronze Mantle Lamps--  
h a & one Sofa Presented to the  
t d President by M V Buren/  
y 2 [cases or casks ?] Wine--

The Whole amount to \$600.00

Furniture Presented A J \_\_\_\_  
2 Large Pitchers with Presdt likeness  
name (Likeness)  
2 Decanters of Glass--Small  
2 China Pitchers with A. P name upon them"

11. 1839, July 30. STVB (A) to ASVB (Europe), MAVA #714

At Kleinoood "The furniture of the room was precisely this: three little tables of different heights placed under as many table cloths & extended in a line across the room--11 chairs and one side table!"

11a. n.d. (c.1840). MVB Papers (LC)

"Broom, Meat, Plates, Chambers, Buttons, Silk, Baize."

12. 1840, April 14. Charles Ogle (W), copy in MAVA files

"Speech of Mr. Ogle of Pennsylvania on the Regal Splendor of the President's Palace," see p. 71, above.

13. 1840, August 5. Levi Lincoln, Extra Globe #8, Vol. 6, published by Blair & Rives (W), MAVA #813

"Speech of Mr. Lincoln," see pp. 71-2, above.

14. 1841, March 12. W. Marcy to P. Wetmore (LC-Marcy Papers)

"The Ex-Pres...informed me he should stop at several places on his way to N.Y. & should be a week or more in the City of N.Y. He has to buy furniture for his Kinderhook mansion."

15. 1841, March 29. R.H. Hammond (W), Nat. Arch., Int. Pub. Bldgs. & Grnds 3016 (Let. Rec'd Vol 30)

"...there is no truth in the 'statement...that the furniture of the Chambers of the President's House were entirely stripped and the articles carried off by the late President Van Buren prior to the 4th of March'....It is true...that a number of boxes were sent on to New York from the President's House, but these boxes contained furniture, glass, books, documents, papers, wines etc., which belonged to Mr. Van Buren & his son Major Van Buren....Mr. Van Buren was a housekeeper in Washington for several years & had collected articles of furniture for his own use as had his son Major Van Buren.... He had also an extensive library & numerous documents & papers & a large stock of wines."

16. 1841, April 28. MVB (NY) to AJD (LC-AJD Papers)

"I am fearful that I spoke so indifferently about the \$800 as to induce you to believe it altogether unimportant whether I rec'd it or not. Indeed I substantially so regarded it when I wrote, but having been now for several weeks in the hands of House furnishers & House repairers & Gardeners etc. etc., I find that the payment of that amount to my credit in the Bank of America in that city in the course of a few weeks would be very convenient."

17. 1842, April 1. 27th Congress, 2nd Session, H. of R. (W), MAVA #248

"Furniture of the President's House," for references to items purchased during Van Buren administration.

18. 1842, May-1843, January. "Probable Expenses" MVB (LC-VB)

"Improvements & furniture--\$200.00."

19. 1844, June 10. Account of MVB with L.S. Rexford (LC-VB)

"Martin Van Buren to L S Rexford

1842 Dec 28th	To 4 Bladed Knife	8/	1.00	
1843 Apr 15	Rep. Cork Screw	5/	.38	
" June 6	Pr. Brass Candlesticks	16/	2.00	
" "	Rep. Umbrella do Teapot	3/4 3/6	44	
" Aug 25	Rep. Umbrella		37	
" Sept 18	do for MVB Jun.	1/6	19	
" Oct 16	Lunet glass do	4/	50	
" Nov 27	Rep Fish Knife 2/- Forks & Tea Bell	3/ 5/		
" Dec 30	Rep jewel for MVB Jun.	1/	12	
1844 Jan 3	Rep Cruet stand	2/	25	
" 26	do Spectacles	1/11	19	
Feb 6	do Teapot	2/	25	
21	Watch Rep 4/ Cutting Patterns	2/	8	
	Pencil points 6 for AVBr.	6/6		
Mar 11	Mend pencil 2/ points	2/4	50	
				\$7.63

Recd payt L S Rexford"

20. 1844, April 1-1845, April 1. "Expenses & Disbursements" MVB (LC-VB)

Mostly provisions but including "carpets & curtains." (\$154.73)

21. 1845, November 23. MVB (L) to Major AVB (NY), MAVA #700

List of articles (purchased or to be purchased?). [The list is written on one edge (address side) of a letter sheet, from MVB to Major Abraham Van Buren, c/o B.F. Butler, New York, post marked November 23, 1845. The list is not in MVB's hand.]

[sh/d]

18	Table
24	do
18	Gridiron
12	Fire iron Nursery
36	Bedroom do
4	Oyster gridiron
22	Dutch ovens
9	Potato steamer
6-6	Toaster
19	Tea kettle
28	Fish kettle

28	Ham do			
9	Soup do			
9	Coal scuttle			
2	Bed screw			
10	4 stewpans			
6	trivet			
14	2 sets smoothing iron			
2-6	do stand			
6-6	Frying pans			
5-6	Firecarrier			
8	axe			
6-6	Hatchet			
	Meat saw			
4	sugar nippers	312	-	6
16-6	mats	27	-	6
7	Steel yards	340		
		42	-	6
		42 sh		6d

22. 1846, January 16. W.G. Bryan (Batavia) to L.C. Draper,  
(Wisconsin Historical Society)

"The house is richly but plainly furnished."

23. 1849, October 23. T.B. Van Slyck to R. Upjohn (NYPL-RM Upjohn  
Papers as quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 85)

"We have got the work so far advanced that Mr. Van Buren as [sic] moved is [sic] furniture into the house."

24. 1858-1859. Account of STVB with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

"March 30 1 qrt of Copal Varnish for extension table 8/ \$1.00  
Labour of Self Varnishing extension table 6/ .75

(April 30) 1 qrt Copal Varnish For Chairs 8/ 1/2 Day \_\_\_\_\_ 1.

25. 1860, January 18. MVB Will, Columbia County Courthouse, Hud-  
son, New York

Extracts relating to objects at Lindenwald.

"Thirdly. In consideration of advances which I have made to my sons Abraham & John, whilst none have been made to my son Smith Thompson, I bequeath to the latter all my personal chattles & effects, excepting therefrom all the debts that may be due to me, and stocks that I may own at my death, and also my wine & stock on my farm. My miscellaneous library is intended to be included in this bequest, but not my law library, which I bequeath to my son John.

Fourthly. I give to my grandson Singleton Van Buren a gold snuff Box, presented to me with the Freedom of the City, by the corporation of the City of New York, and to my grandson Martin son of Abraham the marble bust made of me by Powers, which I previously presented to his mother, & now transfer to the son by her direction. I give to my grandson Martin son of my son Smith Thompson a silver pitcher, presented to me, some years since by my old & always sincere friend Benjamin F. Butler.

Fifthly, I direct my executors to expend four hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in obtaining a copy of the bust of me by Powers, which copy I give to my grandson Edward Livingston Van Buren.

Lastly. The three pieces of plate last presented to me by my deceased friend Benjamin F. Butler, I bequeath to my three sons Abraham, John & Smith Thompson to be equally divided between them."

26. c. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929)

Description of MVB's bedroom and furnishings; see p. 64.

27. 1866, December 5. Account of STVB with S. & J. S. Bogardus (Fishkill Landing) (LC-VB)

"Bought of S. & J.S. Bogardus, Dealers in Cabinet Furniture, Chamber Suits, Looking Glasses, Carpets, Oil Cloths, Etc.

Aug. 16th	To	1 sash fastening and putting on	.35
23rd	To	making [plan?]	2.00
29th	To	filling in with hair--covering seats-- glueing--Polishing 6 Blk walnut chairs	5.40
Oct. 11th		1 Wash stand	2.00
		1 Chair	1.35
15th		1 Looking glass plate 10 by 14	1.25
" 29th	To	10 Boards \$5.90 / Black Walnut \$4.35 / Hinges - spring catches \$1.25	11.90
Nov. 1st		13½ days work @ Library	47.25
16th	To	Upholstering, Repairing, Varnishing 2 chairs	6.46
			<u>\$77.96</u>

Received Payment  
Jan 21st 1867 S. & J.S. Bogardus

Note: Smith T. Van Buren left Lindenwald in 1862 and moved to Dutchess County. This 1866 account may have nothing to do with Lindenwald.



28. 1891, May 24. George A. Townsend, in "New York Sun"

"I entered the parlor and through it the library. The parlor is double and closets are contained within the frame of its folding door. Pieces of Mr. Van Buren's furniture are still here although the late Aaron Vanderpoel, who resided at Kinderhook got a good deal of it. Veneered mahogany was the general material. A tall gilt mirror remains and a carved dressing case. The library is a simple room, 25 by 30 feet, with plenty of light, and the tall windows in white sashes. Van Buren was not a great reader, but he loved literary society, and the engraved picture of the authors of America is in this room, as if they were welcome here--Cooper, Bryant, Longfellow, Irving, Prescott, Taylor, Willis, and others."

29. 1898. Pierre V.B. Hoes, quoted by Ernest P. Hoes, in "The Columbia Republican," February 22, 1906.

"There he dispensed a genial and liberal hospitality, enjoying the visits of the villagers also with a truly charming cordiality. His tastes were simple, quiet and gentlemanly. He was passionately fond of young people, and it was a beautiful sight to see him with his grandchildren around the grounds or riding in the saddle with one of them at his side. A droll instance of his hospitality is given by some wag who once found his way to Lindenwold. After the usual salutations the old gentleman invited the callers to the sideboard, and set before him various articles of refreshment, and then turned away and became engrossed in a picture on the wall. 'I know he knew all those pictures by heart,' the thirsty man said afterward, 'but he just did that so I could get a good square drink. I call that downright politeness and hospitality.'

"As an incident of Mr. Van Buren's perfect simplicity may be cited the following anecdote. One day soon after he had settled down at Lindenwold a caller was approaching his comfortable surroundings and remarked: 'Ah, I see, sir, you have an old fashioned Dutch clock in the hall.' 'Yes, certainly,' he said; 'John was determined I should have one, and picked it up in Chatham street.'

"He wore a high hat usually, sometimes with a cabbage leaf inside, and has been seen going out of town on a canter, umbrella over his head, glasses on his nose, and reading a newspaper."

30. 1928, July 6. "Plaintiff Exhibit 6" "Birney vs. Birney," Supreme Court New York, Appellate Division (printed 1932)

"Much of old furniture still in hse. which was used by Pres. Van Buren."

31. 1935, May. Mrs. C. B. deProse, "Description of 'Lindenwald'"

"...the furniture in both front rooms was here at the time of Van Buren...a great deal that was here when the former President lived here....It is mostly of the Empire period, mahogany, some carved. Cabinet-makers' names are still on many pieces...."

32. 1936, November 3. M.J. Weig report "'Lindenwald'--The President Martin Van Buren Homestead," Appendix IV.

Inventory of Martin Van Buren Furniture at "Lindenwald" as prepared by Mrs. C.B. deProse, Present Owner of the Property. See Appendix C of this report.

33. 1936. "Martin Van Buren Exhibition Catalog," The National Savings Bank, Albany, New York

See Appendix B of this report.

34. 1938, February 12. C.B. deProse to Dr. James Leath, President, Columbia County Historical Society

Includes description of Lindenwald and outbuildings. Refers to "furniture, mirrors, carpets, etc."; 1797 door knocker; "gilded frame mirrors, reaching from floor to ceiling" in front rooms; hall paper; "large centre chandelier of wght iron and chased bronze ornaments, with oil lamps and chimneys"; Boyington furnace; kitchen range and baker's oven; copper boiler with VB's name; VB's bathtub and toilet; and tower bell. See Appendix D of this report.

35. 1940, January 12. Auction Notice Vanderpoel-Newcomer Estate (K), Copy in MAVA files

"5 President Martin Van Buren book cases; 2 Van Buren ward robes in mahogany; 5 piece Van Buren parlor suite."

36. 1979, September 19. Clementine B. deProse, "To Whom It May Concern," Valatie, New York

Valatie, N.Y.  
Sept. 19, 1979

To Whom It May Concern

My father, Dr. B.H. Birney, purchased "Lindenwald" from Mr. Adam Wagoner in the year 1917.

At that time, Mr. Wagoner stated definitely that the eight matched Empire style dining chairs, plus one more I gave to a dear friend, belonged to the Van Buren family and were used as dining chairs.

The Empire sofa was used with the set of grey horse hair parlour furniture, which is still in the president's former home. This sofa was also covered with grey horse hair in 1917.

The little warming oven and fireplace grills were also named as part of Van Buren's possessions.

Clementine Birney deProsse

37. 1980, August 7. Clementine B. deProsse, "To Whom It May Concern"

August 7, 1980

To Whom It May Concern:

Mrs. Clementine Birney deProsse, former owner of Lindenwald, will consider selling at this time the following three pieces of furniture. These pieces originally graced the old Mansion and date to the President Martin Van Buren period.

- 1 Rosewood melodeon
- 1 Mahogany card table
- 1 Mahogany Marble top commode

Clementine B. deProsse

Furniture: Documentary References and Extant Pieces

SUMMARY OF FURNITURE REFERENCES

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>pre-1839</u>	<u>1839-1849</u>	<u>1850-1862</u>	<u>post-1862</u>
Beds	9	1	2	2	4
Chairs	19	4	1	3	11
Chests	3	0	0	1	2
Mirrors	7	2	1	0	4
Musical Inst.	6	0	0	0	6
Secretaries	11	0	0	7	4
Sideboards	10	5	1	1	3
Sofas	19	3	5	0	11
Tables	16	3	3	3	7
Wardrobes	4	0	1	1	2
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Subtotal	104	18	14	18	54
Furn. Gen.	37	10	13	3	11
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Grand Total	141	28	27	21	65

## EXTANT FURNITURE

1. Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, Kinderhook, New York, 104 items

Documentation: The bulk of MAVA's furniture collection was purchased from Ken Campbell in 1975 by the Hyde Park Historical Association and the National Park Foundation and subsequently donated by them to the National Park Service. These items were stated to have been in Lindenwald during Van Buren's occupancy. Many of these pieces also appear in 1917 or 1930s photos of Lindenwald (figs. 1-16). Other items in MAVA's collection were purchased from or donated by the deProsse/Akers family, other Kinderhook area residents, and other individuals.

Conclusion: Most of these items are of the proper period to have been used by Martin Van Buren and his family at Lindenwald and many have been in the house since at least 1917. The furniture will be used as references and as period practice suggest.

2. White House, Washington, D.C., 5 items

Documentation: One sofa and 4 side chairs were donated to the White House from two sources. They seem to predate the White House years and were later used at Lindenwald, since the sofa later came into the Vanderpoel family.

Conclusion: These pieces would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald and a loan should be arranged, if possible.

3. National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1 item

Documentation: A library table was given to the Smithsonian by Williams College in 1977. It had descended in the family of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous pieces of furniture from Lindenwald estate c. 1864.

4. Private Collections in New York, California, Connecticut, Florida, 22 items

Documentation: These important pieces are in the hands of Van Buren descendants, Kinderhook area residents, and other individuals in various locations. Documentation is strong for most pieces.

Conclusion: A number of these pieces are essential to the restoration of Lindenwald. Every effort should be made to obtain relevant pieces through donation, purchase, or loan.

SUMMARY OF EXTANT FURNITURE ASSOCIATED WITH VAN BUREN

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>MAVA (strong)</u>	<u>MAVA (weak)</u>	<u>Other Collections Private</u>	<u>Public</u>
Beds	4	3	0	1	
Chairs	43	27	7	5	4 White House
Chests	13	2	9	2	
Mirrors	13	4	8	1	
Musical Inst.	3	1	2	0	
Secretaries	4	2	2	0	
Sideboards	6	4	1	1	
Sofas	13	6	3	3	1 White House
Tables	29	11	9	8	1 Smithsonian
Wardrobes	7	4	3	0	
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Total	135	64	44	21	6

## BEDS

### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"The Best Bedstead (yours) -- highest bid \$17" (unsold, probably sent to Washington.)

2. 1843, July 13. Angelica (L) to Mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)

"Baby...we put him to sleep & laid him in his crib surrounded by his playthings & flowers & a pretty picture you never saw."

3. 1843, October 9. Angelica (L) to Mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9885)

"There have been several other stray visitors too & last night we were compelled to have recourse to the sofa bedsteads."

4. 1851, May 20. MVB (L) to BFB (LC-VB #34)

"I have not slept out of my own bed since I was in NY last fall nor spent more than 2 evenings out of my own House."

5. c. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man, 1929, p. 544

"The sleigh-bed, of the same warm-toned mahogany from which the rest of the furniture is fashioned...."

6. 1917. Clementine B. deProsse, et al, Interviews, April-May 1977

"There were eight sleigh beds (hand graining, walnut and mahogany) in the house when they (Dr. Birney) purchased it in 1917."

7. c. 1930s. Color Photograph of Room 101, deProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110

This photograph (fig. 1) shows a large mahogany or mahogany veneer sleigh bed of late classical style. This bed has not been located.

8. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV.

"19 -- 3 large mahogany sleighback beds;  
32 -- Grey painted bedroom set;  
1 Sleighback bed..."

9. 1975. Clementine B. deProsse, To Whom It May Concern, MAVA  
Acc. 58

"To Whom it may Concern:

The two Mahogany Sleigh Beds owned by Mrs. Cornelia Birckmayer, were originally owned by Pres. Martin Van Buren.

They were purchased from me at the time I owned and lived at "Lindenwald," the former home of President Van Buren.

/s/ Clementine Birney deProsse

Clementine Birney deProsse

Sworn to before me this  
20th day of October, 1975.

/s/ Harold V.A. Drumm  
Notary Public

Extant Beds

1. SLEIGH BEDS (2), mahogany, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 347 and private collection)

Documentation: Originally owned by Martin Van Buren, according to Mrs. Clementine B. deProsse, who sold them to Mrs. Cornelia Birckmayer before 1957. Mrs. Birckmayer sold one to the National Park Service in 1980 (MAVA 347) and the other to a Kinderhook resident sometime thereafter.

Conclusion: These beds are of the right period and style to have been used at Lindenwald.

2. SLEIGH BED, grained pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 92)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald attic in 1977 and identified by deProsse/Akers family as part of original Lindenwald furnishings.

Conclusion: This bed is of the correct period and style for Lindenwald.



3. SLEIGH BED, mahogany veneer, late classical, c. 1840, with label of William Shipman (MAVA 1324)

Documentation: William Shipman is listed among the cabinetmakers in the New York City Business Directory in 1840-41. The bed was purchased from the deProsse/Akers family who assert that it was Martin Van Buren's bed.

Conclusion: This large sleigh bed is of the correct period and style and has a strong Lindenwald provenance.

#### Beds--Summary

Mrs. Clementine B. deProsse has stated that in 1917 there were eight sleigh beds from the Van Buren period in Lindenwald. Some of the beds were mahogany, some were walnut, and some were grained. Of these, 4 are extant, 3 in MAVA's collection (MAVA 347, 92, and 1324), and 1 in private hands.

Only the large mahogany sleigh bed with William Shipman's label (#3) has been identified with a particular person or room. This bed is believed to be the bed which Martin Van Buren used at Lindenwald and the bed in which he died in 1862.

The "Best Bedstead" used by Van Buren in Albany and sent to Washington in 1829 has not survived, nor has any crib associated with Van Buren's grandchildren.

The "sofa-bedsteads" are discussed under sofas.

#### CHAIRS

#### References

1. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall want to get the following articles from N York--8 chairs for the receiving room; 12 chairs for the drawing room--light & neat--cushions to be made here & to correspond with the curtains; 30 for the dining room I should say light and neat mahogany with black bottoms..."

2. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"Let Mr. Cockron make two chairs for me like yours & send them on."

3. 1829, October 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"My little Franklin's head is so completely bound by the failure of the N York easy chairs & the obvious superiority of his.... I do assure you that he has cause for exultation for they present truly a mournful scarcity of calico & stuffing."

4. 1830, September 10. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I am seated in my lounge chair from which & its vicinity I shall not soon depart."

5. 1839, July 30. STVB (A) to ASVB (Europe) (MAVA #714)

There were "11 chairs" in the dining room at Kleinood at the time of Van Buren's first visit after he bought Lindenwald.

6. 1858, April 12. Portrait of MVB, GPA Healy (White House 865.1336)

A high-backed chair with wooden crest rail, tufted orange upholstery, is in the background of this portrait which was painted at Lindenwald.

7. 1859, April 30. Account of STVB with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

"1 qt copal varnish for chairs..."

8. c. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929), p. 544

"On days when he is too weak he sits on an easy chair covered with chintz...three fiddle-back chairs, with seats of gray horse-hair, complete the furnishings."

9. c. 1864. Letter, P.I. Prentice to Superintendent, MAVA, March 1, 1977

Regarding a sofa and chair he intends to give to MAVA: "I can only tell you that both my mother [Lydia Vanderpoel Prentice], who died in 1956, and my grandmother [Adeline E. Vanderpoel], who died in 1912, both told me my grandfather [Aaron] Vanderpoel bought them for his home 'Sparren Roede' in Kinderhook when the furnishings of Lindenwald were sold at auction when the president's son lost the house." See #11, 12, 13, below. See also Extant Chairs, #6.

10. 1866, December 5. Invoice for STVB, S & JS Bogardus (Fishkill Landing) (LC-VB)

"To filling in with hair covering seats--glueing--polishing 6 Blk walnut chairs 5.40

1 chair 1.35

To upholstering, Repairing, Varnishing  
2 chairs 6.46."

11. 1904, May 14-May 10, 1911. Will of Adeline E. Vanderpoel, recorded December 20, 1912, Will Book AA, p. 493, Deed Book 152, p. 486, Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, N.Y.

Originally, Mrs. Vanderpoel left to her son Augustus H. Vanderpoel "the large dining table and chairs that belong [sic] to Martin Van Buren." By a codicil dated May 10, 1911, everything left to Augustus (deceased) was left to her three daughters: Mary V. Franklin, Margaret V. Newcomer, and Lydia V. Prentice. Margaret Newcomer also was to receive all furniture in the house at Kinderhook not otherwise mentioned. See #9, above.

12. 1912, November 2. Will of Mary Vanderpoel Franklin, Recorded July 20, 1916, Surrogate Court, County of New York

Mrs. Franklin left "my Van Buren chair" to her sister Margaret Vanderpoel Newcomer.

13. 1919, January 23. Will of Margaret Vanderpoel Newcomer, Recorded July 6, 1920, Deed Book 170, p. 355, Columbia County Court House, Hudson, N.Y.

Mrs. Newcomer left all furniture to her husband, Waldo Newcomer, to be distributed among his children. See #18, below.

14. c. 1929. Article by Major Alex Well, unidentified newspaper (MAVA Collection)

See Fig. 7.

15. c. 1930s. Photographs in deProsse Collection (MAVA Neg. 5110)

See Figs. 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14.

16. c. 1930s. Photographs from Rowles Studio Collection (MAVA Neg. 5120)

See Figs. 8, 12, 16.

17. c. 1936. Photograph from Weig Collection (MAVA Neg. 5160)

See Fig. 15.

18. 1940, January 12. Auction, Margaret Vanderpoel-Newcomer Estate, Kinderhook

Items to be sold included "5-piece Van Buren parlor suite." See #9, above.

19. 1984, January 21. Christie's New York, "American Furniture ...," p. 221, lot 219

"219 A FEDERAL MAHOGANY SIDE CHAIR, New York, 1790-1810

With molded square back with a raised center crest rail above a carved and pierced Prince-of-Wales plume flanked by fan-carved spandrels above a carved and pierced urn, over a trapezoidal over-upholstered seat rail on reeded square tapering legs and spade feet--approx. 34 in. (87cm.) high"

Note: Though no provenance was published, at the sale it was stated that the provenance was the same as lot 339, extension dining table once owned by Martin Van Buren, descended in Vanderpoel-Newcomer families. See Extant Chairs, #7.

### Extant Chairs

1. ARMCHAIRS (2), mahogany, late classical with Gothic trefoil cutouts, 1835-55 (MAVA 13, 60)  
SIDE CHAIRS (6), mahogany, late classical with Gothic trefoil cutouts, 1835-55 (MAVA 54-59)  
All of the chairs have been reupholstered in persimmon mohair plush (a reproduction based on original fabric).

Documentation: These chairs form a set with sofa, settee, card table, and center table (MAVA 14, 02, 07, and 26). DeProsse/Akers family tradition says this set was selected for Lindenwald when it was first furnished in 1841. The set appears in c. 1917 and 1930s photos (figs. 10-15) and remained in Lindenwald (see 1936 Inventory, Item 30, Appendix ?) until purchased by Hyde Park Historical Association and National Park Foundation and donated to the National Park Service in 1975. The armchairs are very similar to the one depicted in Healy's 1858 portrait of Van Buren (fig. 21), painted from life at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The style of the set is typical of New York cabinetmakers of the period (such as Meeks and Roux), and it could very well have been purchased there expressly for Lindenwald in 1841. The 1858 painting lends additional credence to the set's Lindenwald provenance.

2. SIDE CHAIRS (8), mahogany veneer, Empire, klismos style, 1820-35, with black horsehair cloth slip seats (reproduction based on original fabric) (MAVA 262-269)

Documentation: Statement by Clementine Birney deProsse, September 19, 1979: "My father, Dr. B.H. Birney, purchased "Lindenwald" from Mr. Adam Wagoner in the year 1917. At that time, Mr. Wagoner stated definitely that the eight matched Empire style dining chairs, plus one more I gave to a dear friend, belonged to the Van Buren family and were used as dining chairs." One appears in Figure 16, c. 1930s. See also #16, below.

Conclusion: These chairs accurately fit the description of the 30 dining chairs ordered from New York by MVB for his Washington residence in 1829 (Ref. 1). The one given away by Mrs. deProsse is unlocated, as is the rest of the set.

3. SWIVEL ARMCHAIR, basswood or linden with brown leather back (reproduced from original covering), Elizabethan Revival with spool-turned supports, 1850-55 (MAVA 83)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald attic in 1977. This chair appears in a 1930s photograph (Fig. 3) and, according to deProsse/Akers family, belonged to Van Buren and was in the house when Dr. Birney purchased it in 1917. It was listed in the 1936 inventory, item 2 (Appendix ?) as "Van Buren's personal study chair."

Conclusion: This type of chair developed in the 1850s and was often used in libraries and offices as well as in other rooms.

4. SIDE CHAIRS (4), tiger-stripe maple, with caned seats (reproduction based on original), late classical with Gothic pointed arches, 1825-40 (MAVA 148-151)

Documentation: These chairs were given to CCHS by the estate of Mrs. Horne in 1973 to be held for Lindenwald. NPS received the chairs in 1977. Chairs correspond to various chair fragments found in Lindenwald's attic in 1983 (Acc. 267). Evidence of original rosewood graining was found on these chairs and the fragments.

Conclusion: These chairs fit the description of the 12 "light & neat" chairs ordered from New York by MVB in 1829 for the drawing room of his Washington residence.

5. ARMCHAIR, walnut, rococo revival, 1845-55 (MAVA 127)

Documentation: Donated to CCHS by John T. Bender, Jr., in 1968 and purchased by NPS in 1977. A note attached to the chair by Mr. Bender's father states that the chair was owned by President Van Buren at his home near Kinderhook. The chair is said to have been a commode chair, but conservation treatment in 1982 revealed no evidence of this. The chair has been reupholstered several times and the original covering has not been determined.

Conclusion: This chair is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

6. SIDE CHAIR, rosewood with inlay, late classical, 1835-40 (MAVA 116)

Documentation: Donated to NPS with sofa (MAVA 115) in 1977 by P.I. Prentice, a descendent of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous furnishings from the Lindenwald estate c. 1864. According to the donor's family tradition, these pieces were part of a parlor set purchased for Lindenwald by Van Buren's "sister." The set is believed to be European and the original covering has not been determined. See reference 9, above.

Conclusion: The set has a strong Lindenwald association; however, it is unlike other documented Van Buren furnishings. It is possible that it was part of a set purchased in 1838-39, when Angelica, Abraham, and John Van Buren were in Europe; however, there is no documentation for this. The chair would be appropriate for use with the sofa.

7. SIDE CHAIR, mahogany, Federal, 1790-1800, black horsehair cloth (MAVA 1016)

Documentation: Purchased at Christie's auction in 1984 by NPS. This chair descended in the family of Aaron Vanderpoel and is believed to be the "Van Buren chair" mentioned in family wills. A 1904 will mentions dining chairs once owned by Van Buren and a will of 1912-14 mentions only one chair. The whereabouts of the rest of the set is unknown. See references 11-13, 19, above.

Conclusion: This side chair was undoubtedly made in New York; however it is much too early to have been made for Lindenwald or for Van Buren's Washington residence, and chairs are not mentioned as being among the items unsold, packed, and sent to Washington in 1829. If this chair was at Lindenwald, it was possibly brought by one of Van Buren's daughters-in-law or more likely, was one of the "11 chairs" left in the house when Van Buren purchased it in 1839. This chair would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald as an "odd" chair.

8. ROCKING CHAIR, mahogany veneer, late classical/rococo revival, 1840-50, black horsehair cloth (reproduction based on original) (MAVA 32)

Documentation: According to Ken Campbell, this rocker was among the furnishings left in Lindenwald when he purchased it in 1957. Purchased in 1975 by HPHA and donated to NPS.

Conclusion: Rocker is of the correct period for Lindenwald but the documentation is not strong.

9. SIDE CHAIRS (2), mahogany and mahogany veneer, Empire (Grecian, modified klismos), 1825-35 (MAVA 107, 108)

Documentation: Purchased by NPS from Ken Campbell in 1977.

Conclusion: The set of 8 chairs ordered from New York for the receiving room of MVB's Washington residence in 1829 (Ref. 1) could have been of this style, though no VB association was claimed for these chairs.

10. ARMCHAIRS (2) and SIDE CHAIRS (2), walnut, Louis XVI revival, 1865-75, grey-green horsehair cloth (MAVA 48-51)

Documentation: These chairs and matching settee (MAVA 52) and another settee no longer extant were stated by the deProsse/Akers family to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings left in the house. Parts of the set appear in 1930s photographs (Figs. 4, 8).

Conclusion: Although this set has a Lindenwald provenance, it appears to date from later than the Van Buren period. The set should be retained for further study.

11. ARMCHAIRS (3), mahogany veneer, late classical (Grecian), 1830-40, brown-black horsehair cloth seats (private collections)

Documentation: Owned by descendents of the Birckmayer family in Kinderhook, New York, and Hartford, Connecticut. These chairs were reputedly brought by Martin Van Buren to a Kinderhook cabinetmaker (Birckmayer) for repair. When Van Buren died, the chairs were never called for. Minutes of the August 9, 1862, meeting of Van Buren's sons at Lindenwald reveal that Smith T. Van Buren, one of the executors, was "authorized to pay the following Bills against the Estate, viz: Philip Birckmayer \$127.50..."

Conclusion: These chairs are of the correct period for Lindenwald.



12. SIDE CHAIRS (4), mahogany, late classical (Grecian), c. 1830, black horsehair cloth seats (White House 962.287.1-4)

Documentation: Donated to the White House in 1962 by Mrs. Arthur Mawhinney of New Rochelle, New York, who stated that the chairs "were in the home of President Van Buren."

Conclusion: These chairs also fit the description of the 8 ordered from New York by MVB for his Washington residence in 1829 (Ref. 1).

13. SIDE CHAIR, mahogany, slip seat, transitional late classical/rococo revival, 1850-70 (private collection)

Documentation: This chair was purchased at auction at the Niverville Exchange on February 22, 1969, by Mr. William Drumm with the understanding that it and a small trestle table were from one of the "original auctions of Martin Van Buren at Lindenwald, Kinderhook, N.Y." (pre-Birney) and were purchased by Thomas Garrigan. As of 1980, the chair was still in the possession of Mr. Drumm of Niverville; Mr. Drumm died in 1983 and the present location of the chair is unknown.

Conclusion: This chair, probably part of a parlor set of six, dates later than the original furnishing of Lindenwald, but is of the proper period to have been used when Smith Thompson Van Buren and his family joined the ex-President there, 1850-62. This chair would be appropriate for use in the addition.

14. WINDSOR SETTEE, early 19th century (private collection)

Documentation: The settee is owned by a descendant of the Hoes family who at one time lived in the mansion house across from Lindenwald and who claims that the settee and a pair of candelabra came from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: There is no documentation for windsor chairs or settees at Lindenwald; however, it is possible that this piece was used at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period, perhaps as a "left-over" from the Van Ness period. The settee would be appropriate for use in a back or service hall.

15. ROCKING CHAIR, slat-back, 1800-50 (MAVA 1111)

Documentation: This rocking chair was received in 1941 by Mrs. Lawrence F. Selig from her grandmother, Mrs. Cora Dickenson, who at one time lived in Valatie, New York, and was given the chair by a niece of Van Buren's who said it had belonged to the ex-President. The chair was purchased by MAVA in 1984.



Conclusion: The chair is of the correct period for Lindenwald and would be appropriate in a service area or servant's room.

16. SIDE CHAIRS (2), mahogany veneer, Empire (Grecian, klismos), c. 1820-35 (MAVA 1174, 1175), with needlepoint slip seats

Documentation: These chairs match MAVA 262-269 (#2, above) and were donated to NPS in 1985 by Dexter Hinckley who had received them many years before from Clementine deProsse.

Conclusion: These chairs are original and would be appropriate for use. The needlepoint seat covers should be replaced with black horsehair cloth.

#### Chairs--Summary

A number of the chairs Van Buren ordered from New York in 1829 and later used at Lindenwald are believed to be among the 40 chairs associated with Van Buren which have survived in various collections.

The 10 klismos dining chairs (#2 and #16) believed to be part of the set of 30 "light and neat mahogany with black bottoms" originally ordered for Van Buren's Washington residence are typical of chairs used in upstate New York as well during the period. Similar sets of klismos dining chairs were used by the Van Rensselaer family at Cherry Hill in Albany and by the Bronck family in Coxsackie.

The 4 tiger maple chairs with cane seats (#4) are believed to be part of the set of 12 "light and neat" chairs ordered for Van Buren's Washington drawing room. Cushions for these chairs have not survived.

References to "easy" and "lounge" chairs in 1829 indicate Van Buren's desire for comfort. Although these particular chairs have not survived, later examples, such as the high-backed tufted armchairs from the Gothic-decorated parlor set (#1) and the rococo revival tufted armchair (#5) were used at Lindenwald.

There is no description of the "11 chairs" used for dining at the mansion in 1839 and they undoubtedly represented a variety of dates and styles, either left by the Van Ness or Paulding families or brought in by the Van Burens for the occasion.

The black walnut chairs with haircloth seats repaired for Smith T. Van Buren in 1866 have not been found and it is not possible to determine if they were used at Lindenwald.

There is no description of the 5-piece parlor set auctioned in 1940, however, it may relate to the small rosewood chair (#6) or the transitional rococo revival chair (#13).

We do not know the source of Lynch's 1929 description of Van Buren's bedroom in 1862; however, the "easy chair" could be #5 and the three "fiddle-back" chairs could be from sets #9, 11, or 12.

#### CHESTS OF DRAWERS/COMMODOES/CUPBOARDS

##### References

1. c. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and A Man (1929), p. 544

"The sleigh-bed, of the same warm-toned mahogany from which the rest of the furniture is fashioned, is flanked on either side by a plain chest of drawers." This refers to Van Buren's bedroom.

2. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald" Report," Appendix IV

"18 - Mahogany bureau  
30 - 2 dressers  
32 - Grey painted bedroom set...  
4 - Dresser  
5 - Washstand  
36 - 2 mahogany marble-top washstands"

3. 1930s. Photographs, deProsse/Akers Collections (MAVA Neg. 5110)

Photograph of Room 101 (Fig. 1) showing marble-top bureau with mirror.

##### Extant Chests of Drawers/Commodes/Cupboards

1. COMMODE, mahogany, marble top, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 350)

Documentation: Purchased from Clementine B. deProsse in 1980, this piece "originally graced the old Mansion and dates to the President Martin Van Buren period."

Conclusion: This commode or washstand is of the proper period for Lindenwald.

2. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany, mahogany veneer, and pine, Federal/late classical, 1815-35 (MAVA 27)

Documentation: Purchased from Ken Campbell by NPF and donated to NPS in 1975, this chest is one of nine claimed by Campbell to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings. The deProsse/Akers family did not confirm this claim.

Conclusion: This piece is too early to have been purchased especially for Lindenwald, but could have been one of those pieces sent up from Washington.

3. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany veneer, cherry, and pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 28)

Documentation: Same as #2.

Conclusion: This chest is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

4. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany, mahogany veneer, and pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 44)

Documentation: Same as #2.

Conclusion: This chest is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

5. CHEST OF DRAWERS, painted-grain poplar and pine, late classical, c. 1850 (MAVA 53)

Documentation: Same as #2.

Conclusion: This chest is of the correct period to have been used at Lindenwald.

6. CHEST OF DRAWERS, birds' eye maple and pine, marble top (MAVA 135), late classical, 1830-40, with oval mirror (MAVA 136)

Documentation: This is one of four chests given to NPS in 1977 by Ken Campbell. The deProsse/Akers family denied that it had a VB association.

Conclusion: Although association is lacking, this chest is of the proper period for Lindenwald.

7. HIGH CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany and oak, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 138)

Documentation: Same as #6. Neither confirmed nor denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: Although documentation is lacking, this chest is of the proper period to have been used at Lindenwald. This piece bears similarities to wardrobe MAVA 134).

8. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany, mahogany veneer and poplar, Empire (archaeological classical), 1825-30 (MAVA 139)

Documentation: Same as #6. Neither confirmed nor denied by deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: This chest is too early to have been purchased especially for Lindenwald and documentation is lacking.

9. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany veneer and poplar, Empire (archaeological classical), 1825-35 (MAVA 140)

Documentation: Same as #6. Neither confirmed nor denied by deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: This chest is too early to have been purchased especially for Lindenwald and documentation is lacking.

10. CHEST OF DRAWERS, mahogany veneer, late classical (Gothic elements), 1835-45 (MAVA 665)

Documentation: Ken Campbell claimed this was a Van Buren piece; however, this was denied by the deProsse/Akers family. Donated to NPS by John B. Warner following Mr. Campbell's death in 1981.

Conclusion: This piece is of the proper period to have been used at Lindenwald, although documentation is lacking.

11. CHESTS OF DRAWERS (2), mahogany, marble tops, late classical, 1830-40 (private collection)

Documentation: These unmatching chests are in the possession of the deProsse/Akers family and are said to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: These chests are of the proper period for Lindenwald.

12. CUPBOARD, grained pine, Federal/classical, country, 1800-50 (MAVA 20)

Documentation: This cupboard was identified by the deProsse/Akers family as a Van Buren piece left in Lindenwald's basement. Purchased by HPHA from Ken Campbell and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: This cupboard is of the proper period to have been used at Lindenwald.

#### Chests of Drawers/Commodes/Cupboards--Summary

There are no period references to case pieces being used by Van Buren in Albany, Washington, or Kinderhook. There is one reference in Lynch's 1929 book to two plain chests of drawers in Van Buren's bedroom at Lindenwald, but the source of Lynch's description is not known.

Four pieces that were in the house when the deProsse's owned it-- 1 commode (#1), 1 cupboard (#12), and 2 chests of drawers (#11)-- are extant in MAVA's and a private collection. The remaining 9 chests were in Lindenwald in 1975 but they are not well documented as Van Buren pieces.

#### MIRRORS

#### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MBV (W) (PSU-ADH)

No bid upon "one Pair mirrors" from MVB's house in Albany.

2. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall want to get the following articles from N York--2 pier glasses for the mantle pieces--three feet & a half wide & about 4½ high--I prefer these to the mantelpiece glasses."

3. 1840. "Speech of Mr. [Charles] Ogle on the Regal Splendor of the President's Palace"

"What would the frugal and honest 'Hoosiers' think were they to behold a democratic peacock, in full court costume, strutting by the hour before golden-framed mirrors NINE FEET HIGH and FOUR FEET and a HALF WIDE?"

4. 1866, December 5. Account of STVB with S & JS Bogardus (LC-VB)

"Oct. 15th 1 Looking Glass plate 10 by 14, 1.25"

5. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald Report," Appendix IV

"4 - 2 large mirrors (3' by 10'6")

6. 1930s. Photographs from Weig, Rowles Studio, and deProsse Collection (MAVA Negs. 5160, 5120, and 5110)

See Figs. 12, 14, and 15, showing pier mirror in Room 106.

7. 1938, February 12. Clementine B. deProsse to Dr. James Leath (see Appendix D)

"Front rooms have gilded frame mirrors, reaching from floor to ceiling."

#### Extant Mirrors

1. PIER MIRRORS (2), gold leaf on pine and poplar frame, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 23, 24)

Documentation: Located between the front windows in Lindenwald rooms 104 and 106, these pier mirrors were donated to NPS in 1975 by Ken Campbell. Tradition says these mirrors were brought by Van Buren from the White House, although they do not match the dimensions of the White House mirrors given by Rep. Charles Ogle in 1840 (Ref. 3).

Conclusion: There is no evidence to substantiate the claim that these mirrors were brought from the White House and because of their fit, it is more likely they were purchased specifically for Lindenwald. Structural evidence and wallpaper layers indicate these mirrors have been in place since the mid-19th century. See Figs. 12, 14, 15.

2. MIRRORS (2), ogee-moulded, mahogany veneer on pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 35, 36)

Documentation: Declared by the deProsse/Akers family to be part of the Van Buren furnishings, these mirrors were purchased by the NPF from Ken Campbell and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: These mirrors are of the proper period and style to have been used at Lindenwald.

3. MIRRORS (3), ogee-moulded, mahogany veneer on pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 30, 37, 41)

Documentation: Claimed by Ken Campbell to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings; the presence of these mirrors at Lindenwald was neither confirmed nor denied by deProsse/Akers family. Purchased by NPF and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: Documentation for these mirrors is not strong, although they are of the proper period for Lindenwald.

4. MIRRORS (4), ogee-moulded, mahogany veneer on pine, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 109, 110, 111, 113)

Documentation: The NPS purchased these mirrors from Ken Campbell in 1977. Although they might have been part of the Van Buren furnishings, the deProsse/Akers family did not confirm this.

Conclusion: The mirrors are of the proper period for Lindenwald.

5. PIER MIRROR, with carved and gilded mahogany frame, empire/late classical, 1825-45 (MAVA 193)

Documentation: This pier mirror was donated to NPS in 1978 by Mrs. Donald Whitbeck of Kinderhook, whose family tradition reports the mirror was taken from Lindenwald by Adam Wagoner when he sold the house to Dr. Birney in 1917.

Conclusion: This pier mirror is of the proper date to have been used at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period; however, since the most formal rooms have simple-framed pier mirrors in place, it is not apparent where this elaborate piece would have been used. If a Van Buren piece, it might have come to Lindenwald with Smith T. and his family in 1849. The mirror should be retained for further study.

6. MIRROR, ogee-moulded, mahogany veneer on pine, late classical, 1830-40 (private collection)

Documentation: This mirror is in the possession of the deProsse/Akers family who state it was used at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period.

Conclusion: This mirror is of the proper period and style to have been used at Lindenwald and would be appropriate in a bedroom.

#### Mirrors--Summary

The two pier glasses measuring 4½'h by 3½'w which Van Buren ordered from New York for over the mantelpieces in his Washington residence in 1829 (Ref. 2) have not survived; however, the 2 large pier mirrors (9½'h by 3'w) in the front rooms at Lindenwald (#1) have been dated to the Van Buren period. Oral tradition suggests the latter mirrors

were brought from the White House; however, they do not fit Representative Ogle's description (9'h by 4½'w) (Ref. 3) and they do appear to have been made especially for Lindenwald.

There is no description of the pair of mirrors sent from Albany to Washington in 1829 (Ref. 1), nor is there any description for the frame which fit the "Looking Glass Plate 10 x 14" ordered by Smith T. Van Buren in 1866 (Ref. 4) when he was living in Beacon, NY.

Ten mahogany veneer ogee-moulded mirrors of various sizes, at least three of them reasonably well associated with Van Buren and Lindenwald, are extant in MAVA's and a private collection (#2, 3, 4, 6).

An elaborate gilt-framed pier mirror (#5) removed from Lindenwald in 1917 has survived. Although it does date from the Van Buren period, its original location in the mansion is not known.

#### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

##### References

1. c. 1917. Photograph, deProsse Collection (MAVA Neg. 5110)

See Fig. 6 showing Hallett and Cumston piano in hall (Room 105).

2. c. 1929. Article by Major Alex Well in unidentified newspaper (MAVA Neg. )

See Fig. 7 showing Hallett and Cumston piano in hall (Room 105).

3. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald Report," Appendix IV

"9--Hallett and Cumston piano and stool"

4. 1930s. Photograph, deProsse Collection (MAVA Neg. 5110)

Fig. 8 showing Hallett and Cumston piano in hall (Room 105).

5. 1930s. Photographs, Rowles Studio and deProsse Collections (MAVA Neg. 5120, 5110)

Figs. 12 and 14. Both show the melodeon (MAVA 348) in Room 106, though in different locations.

6. 1980, August 7. Clementine B. deProsse, To Whom It May Concern (MAVA Acc. 59)



See General Furnishings Reference #30, page 88.

#### Extant Musical Instruments

1. MELODEON, rosewood, rococo revival, made by Bernhard Shoninger, New Haven, Connecticut, 1850-60 (MAVA 348)

Documentation: Statement signed by Clementine B. deProsse on August 7, 1980, maintains that this was one of the pieces that "originally graced the old Mansion and date to the President Martin Van Buren period." It remained in deProsse family possession until purchased by NPS in 1980. See Figs. 12 and 14.

Conclusion: The melodeon likely came to Lindenwald for use by Smith T. Van Buren's family, 1850-62.

2. SPINET PIANO, rosewood, late classical, made by John Tallman, New York, 1825-35 (MAVA 75)

Documentation: This piano was supposedly owned by Margaret Silvester of Kinderhook, whom Van Buren is said to have courted. It was donated to NPS in 1975 from the estate of George Van Santvoord, through his daughter, Allelu Kurten.

Conclusion: Although this piano was never at Lindenwald and its Van Buren association is tangential, it is a good example of a New York piano of the period.

3. SQUARE PIANO, mahogany, late classical/rococo revival, made by Hallet and Cumston, Boston, Massachusetts, serial #9926, 1860-65, (MAVA 01)

Documentation: The deProsse/Akers family state that this piano was in Lindenwald when they occupied it (1917-1957) and they believe it to have belonged to Jenny Jerome, whose father owned Lindenwald 1864-66. Purchased by HPHA from Ken Campbell and donated to NPS in 1975. See Figs. 6-8.

Conclusion: Although the piano has a Lindenwald provenance, it is probably too late to have been used during the Van Buren period whether the Jerome association is valid or not. Its use is not anticipated.

## Musical Instruments--Summary

There is not a single reference to a musical instrument or to musical entertainment at Lindenwald in any of the contemporary documents researched. Although Van Buren and his family attended the opera in New York and Angelica Singleton Van Buren played the harp in her girlhood, no other indications of musical tastes or talents have been found.

A melodeon (#1) said to have been at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period is in MAVA's collection, as is a piano supposedly used at Lindenwald later by Jenny Jerome (#3).

Also in MAVA's collection is a New York-made spinet piano (#2) reputedly owned by Margaret Silvester, whom Martin Van Buren is said to have courted during his retirement years.

## SECRETARIES/BOOKCASES/DESKS

## References

1. 1850, April 20. STVB to R. Upjohn, (Upjohn Papers-NYPL)  
Platt, HRS, p. 91

"Pray hurry on the Library & Hand-rail. Did I understand that they were to be done by the same hand? I saw a Library designed for Mr. Barnard in Albany which pleased me & only cost \$200. It was black walnut and plain--but was prettier than Mr. \_\_\_\_'s (in 14th St.) as Kelly's was before Barnards...."

2. 1850, May 13. Ibid. Platt, (HRS, p. 92)

"The estimates for the Library differ so much that I must submit the matter to your discretion. If you know & can rely upon the person who offers to do the work for \$300, of course, you will give it to him....How many feet of wire-work did you say?"

3. 1850, May 5. Ibid. Platt, (HRS, p. 91)

"As to the Library you seem to have forgotten our arrangement: which was that you should have the plan (when completed) estimated upon by one or two competent persons at New York...."

4. 1850, May 17. Ibid. (Platt, HRS, p. 98)

"Estimate of...Library (including wire work) \$340."

5. 1850, June 28. Ibid. (Platt, HRS, p. 94)

"I have had a visit from Mr. Halenback [Hollenbeck] who promises to be here with his book-cases about the 15th July...."

6. 1850, August 14. Thos. C. Moore (NY) to RU (Platt, HRS, pp. 95-96)

"Please give me the length & width of mesh concluded on for Mr. V Burens Secretary & as near as practicable the Size of wire to be made of. I called at your office & left word for this & hoped to have heard from you in this"

7. 1850, August 22. Thos. C. Moore (NY) to RU (Platt, HRS, p.96)

"The doors for Mr. Van Burens book case are all done and subject to your directions. I send over herewith for your inspection & hope they will please. Any directions you may send me relative to forwarding will be attended to. I presume they will not require to be boxed."

8. 1936. Exhibition Catalogue, The National Savings Bank, Albany, NY

"Item 11. Bookcase used by Martin Van Buren in his library at Lindenwald. Loaned by James Adger Reynolds."

9. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"1--Van Buren's personal secretary."

10. 1930s. Photograph, deProsse Collection (MAVA Neg. 5110)

See Fig. 3.

11. 1940, January 12. Auction Notice, Vanderpoel-Newcomer Estate (K), copy in MAVA files

"5--President Martin Van Buren book cases"

#### Extant Secretaries/Bookcases/Desks

1. SECRETARY-BOOKCASE, mahogany, mahogany veneer, pine and poplar, glazed doors, late classical, 1830-50 (MAVA 05)

Documentation: This glass-fronted secretary-bookcase was identified by the deProsse/Akers family as having belonged to Van Buren at Lindenwald. It appears in a 1930s photograph (Fig. 3). Purchased by HPHA from Ken Campbell and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: This secretary-bookcase is of the proper period to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald, although it lacks the wire-mesh doors provided by Thomas Moore in 1850 (Ref. 1) for Van Buren's new secretary (Reference 6, above)

2. SECRETARY-BOOKCASE, mahogany, mahogany veneer, poplar and pine, late classical, 1835-45 (MAVA 125)

Documentation: This New York City type secretary-bookcase supposedly belonged to Martin Van Buren and was purchased at an auction prior to 1954 by William O'Connor of Hudson. The story passed that the piece had been lost in a card game by one of Van Buren's sons. This information is provided in a letter by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ganley, November 15, 1976. Kathryn MacDonald inherited the piece and sold it to NPS in 1977.

Conclusion: There is no documentation for the "card game" story, although the secretary-bookcase is of the correct period to have been used at Lindenwald. The piece might be one of the 5 Van Buren bookcases auctioned in 1940 (Ref.11).

3. BUREAU DESK, mahogany and mahogany veneer, Empire (archaeological classical), 1825-45 (MAVA 09)

Documentation: This bureau desk was among the furnishings purchased from Ken Campbell by HPHA and donated to NPS in 1975. The deProsse/Akers family did not confirm the presence of this piece in the house.

Conclusion: Documentation is not strong; however, this piece is of the correct period for Lindenwald and could conceivably be the "carved dressing case" mentioned as being in Lindenwald in 1891 (General Furnishings reference 22).

4. SET OF OPEN SHELVES, pine with walnut stain, late classical style, c. 1850 (MAVA 102)

Documentation: Donated by Ken Campbell in 1977 as a Van Buren piece. Its presence at Lindenwald was neither confirmed nor denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: Although documentation is weak, this could be used as a period piece. Possibly used for books, but not decorative enough for use in the Upjohn-designed library.

## Secretaries/Bookcases/Desks--Summary

The only period references to secretaries and bookcases at Lindenwald are found in Smith T. Van Buren's and cabinetmaker Thomas Moore's correspondence with architect Richard Upjohn in 1850 (Ref. 1-7). The wire-fronted pieces referred to have not been located. Secretary-bookcases with Van Buren associations, which appear to pre-date these references, exist in MAVA's collection (#1 and #2).

According to the Historic Structures Report, bookcases lined the walls of the library (Room 111). There is no indication what the bookcases looked like, except that they probably had wire-mesh doors. These bookcases may have been the "5 President Van Buren book cases" offered for sale in 1940 (Ref. 11). These have not been located, nor has the bookcase listed in the 1930s catalogue.

Five bookcases designed by Upjohn in 1842 for Robert Kelly's New York home which are currently in the collections of the New York State Museum (Albany) and the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute (Utica) may have been similar to those used at Lindenwald, although STVB preferred the style of Mr. Barnard's in Albany to that of Kelly's (Ref. 1).

## SIDEBOARDS

### References

1. 1816, July 31. BFB (A) to MVB (NYSL)

"They say your sideboard cost \$1100. ('How the world is given to lying')"

2. 1827, November 28. JVB (NHaven) to J. Hoyt (A) Mackenzie ,  
Life of MVB, p. 202

"The bullet mould is in one of the draws of the side board."

3. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) TO MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"One Sideboard & cellarette--highest bid \$65"

4. 1829, May 3. JVB (NY) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"Before the receipt of your last letter I had sold the sideboard & cellaret for \$133 to Hugh Robison--there is not a 'grown thing' in Albany that I have not consulted as to the value & practicality of transporting it & 'with one accord they all united' in the opinion

that 133 dollars was the full value & that the transportation was very hazardous if not impracticable on account of the slab...great decreases in value of mahogany so that the best sideboards can be bought for \$150 new--& I think you must be satisfied that under the circumstances I did the best that could be done."

5. 1829, August 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. papers)

"I shall get my mahogany centre table & side board made here."

6. 1843, August 24. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC 9881)

"Mary Mac represented me below stairs at the teaboard...."

7. pre-1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929), p. 508

"On a sideboard in the dining room stood rows of bottles and decanters ....On a mahogany console in the great hall, was the familiar punch-bowl...."

8. 1906, February 22. E.P. Hoes, in The Columbia Republican

"the old gentleman invited the callers to the sideboard and set before him various articles of refreshment."

9. 1930s. Photograph, Rowles Studio Coll. (MAVA Neg. 5120)

Fig. 16, showing a small sideboard in room 111 (MAVA 42).

10. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"27--Large mahogany sideboard"

#### Extant Sideboards

1. SIDEBOARD, mahogany and mahogany veneer, marble top, late classical, 1835-45 (MAVA 42)

Documentation: According to the deProesse/Akers family this small sideboard was among the Van Buren furnishings left in Lindenwald when Dr. Birney purchased the house in 1917. It was purchased by NPF and donated to NPS in 1975 (figure 16).

Conclusion: This sideboard is of the proper period and style to have been part of the furnishings purchased for Lindenwald c. 1841.

2.       SIDEBOARD, mahogany and mahogany veneer on pine, Empire (archaeological classical), 1815-25 (MAVA 114). The brass lion-mask ring pulls are reproductions based on period sources.

Documentation: Bought in 1939 by Mr. Henry Brinley near Keyport, New Jersey, the sideboard had been purchased by Mr. Peter Hayt of Poughkeepsie from President Van Buren's estate for Mr. Thomas Rosevear c. 1892 (statement provided by Mr. Rosevear's son Edward, Sept. 6, 1939). Donated to NPS in 1977 by Mr. Brinley's daughter, Mrs. William Berner.

Conclusion: The sideboard appears to be New York-made and is early enough and of high enough quality to have been the sideboard purchased for Van Buren's Albany residence in 1816; however, no sideboard was sent to Washington in 1829 and the one sold in Albany in 1929 had a "slab."

3.       SIDEBOARD, mahogany and mahogany veneer, Federal/Empire transitional, 1810-20 (MAVA 724)

Documentation: Supposedly used by Van Buren at the White House, this sideboard was "reacquired" by the Beekman family who had originally owned it. Donated to NPS in 1982 by Mrs. Robert Cooke who received it from Ruth Bergen, a Beekman descendant. It is not known when or where the sideboard was "reacquired."

Conclusion: Although there were Beekmans who were friends and neighbors of Van Buren while he resided at Lindenwald, there is no apparent connection to this particular branch. The sideboard appears to be a New York piece (Duncan Phyfe type) and could have been used by Van Buren in Washington or Kinderhook, although documentation is weak.

4.       SIDEBOARD, mahogany veneer and poplar, late classical (pillar and scroll), 1830-40 (MAVA 76)

Documentation: This sideboard is very similar to those advertised by New York cabinetmaker Joseph Meeks in 1833. It was owned by Martin Van Buren's brother Lawrence who also lived in Kinderhook. Donated to NPS in 1976 by descendants of Lawrence Van Buren (1786-1868).

Conclusion: Although this sideboard was not used at Lindenwald, its Van Buren family-Kinderhook association make this piece appropriate for use.

5.       SIDEBOARD, mahogany and mahogany veneer, Federal, c. 1815 (MAVA 08). The ivory pulls are not original.

Documentation: According to Ken Campbell, this piece was among the furnishings left in Lindenwald when he purchased the house in 1957. The deProsse/Akers family deny this piece was in the house.



Conclusion: This piece (probably New York-made) is most likely part of Mr. Campbell's antique (non-Van Buren) collection. While the sideboard is of an acceptable period, its use is not anticipated.

6.      SIDEBOARD, mahogany with inlay, Federal (Hepplewhite),  
          c. 1790-1800 (private collection)

Documentation: This sideboard was purchased by Louis Hasbrouck in 1908 from Katherine Van Buren Wilson, Martin Van Buren's granddaughter, who no longer had room for the piece. A letter from Mrs. Wilson to Mr. Hasbrouck documents the transaction concerning the "dear old Side Board" and the piece is owned by Hasbrouck descendants (copy in MAVA files).

Conclusion: Because of its early date, this sideboard may have descended in Van Buren's family or in his wife's family or perhaps in the family of Katherine's mother, Ellen James, first wife of Smith Thompson Van Buren.

The strong Van Buren family provenance would make this piece appropriate for use even though there is no Lindenwald association claimed for it.

#### Sideboards--Summary

The sideboard purchased for Van Buren's "Albany establishment" in 1816 was presumably the sideboard which John Van Buren sold to Hugh Robison in 1829. Apparently Van Buren had reservations about its sale; however, it was deemed more economical to sell the mahogany, marble-slabbbed piece than to transport it from Albany to Washington. That particular sideboard would not have been used at Lindenwald and it has not been located.

There are three early (1790-1825) sideboards with traditional Van Buren associations in MAVA's collection and in private hands (#2, 3, 6) which, according to their histories, could have been used at Lindenwald, although their origins are not known. These sideboards pre-date Van Buren's move to Washington and appear to be New York-made; however, no sideboard other than the one sold in 1829 is mentioned in the correspondence.

The sideboard Van Buren intended to have made in Washington in 1829 has not been identified.

The small marble-topped sideboard (#1), 1835-45, in MAVA's collection may be the "teaboard" referred to in 1843 (Ref. 6) or the "mahogany console" Lynch mentions (Ref. 7).



## SOFAS

### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)  
"Old sofa" sold for \$22.50; "sofa (Best)" unsold, high bid of \$44
2. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. papers)  
"My sofa and mahogany I can get made here by a very ingenious man who works at the capitol."
3. 1831. Account book of A. Jackson "Furniture of Mr. V. Buren Bought for the Hermitage" (AJ Papers)  
"One sofa Presented to the President by M V Buren"
4. 1843, August 23. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9881)  
"I am still chained to my sofa...by using great caution I was able to be carried down & laid on the Hall sofa."
5. 1843, September 3. Angelica (Charlestown Navy Yd) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)  
"I asked them up into my room at Lindenwald...I did not rise from my sofa...."
6. 1843, October 4. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9884)  
Baby's "asleep on the sofa beside me....When he is confined to the house he is always astride a walking stick except when he can catch Martin (old Duke he calls him) upon the sofa & then after dinner especially alas for old Duke he jiggles the very breath out of him."
7. 1843, October 9. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9885)  
"There have been several other visitors too & last night we were compelled to have recourse to the sofa bedsteads."
8. 1845, September 20. Angelica (L) to M. deVeaux (LC-ASVB; DLC-9894)  
"Baby...sidles along the sofa...."

9. c.1864. See Chairs--Reference #9

10. 1904, May 14. Will of Adeline E. Vanderpoel, Recorded December 20, 1912 (Will Book AA, p. 493), Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, NY

Mrs. Vanderpoel leaves to her daughter Lydia Beekman Prentice a "large Van Buren sofa."

11. c.1917. Photograph, deProsse Coll., (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 6, showing sofa-bed (MAVA 03) in hall (room 105), west wall.

12. c.1929. Article by Major Alex Well, unidentified newspaper (MAVA)

Fig. 7, illustration of room 105 with sofa-bed (MAVA 03) on west wall.

13. c.1930s. Photograph, Rowles Studio Coll. (MAVA neg. 5120)

Fig. 8, showing two settees (MAVA 52 and non-extant) in room 105, west wall.

14. 1930s. Color photograph, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 9, showing sofa-bed (MAVA 03) in room 105, east wall.

15. 1930s. Photograph, Rowles Studio Coll. (MAVA neg. 5120)

Fig. 12, showing sofa (MAVA 14) in center of room 106.

16. c.1936. Photograph, Weig Coll. (MAVA neg. 5160)

Fig. 15, showing sofa (MAVA 14) on east side of room 106.

17. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"3--Grey horsehair set . . .

3--2 settees

4--1 sofa

10--Black hair upholstered davenport

20--Mahogany parlor suite (imported from France by Van Buren) . . .

3--1 love seat

4--1 sofa"

18. 1940, January 12. Auction Notice, Vanderpoel-Newcomer Estate (K) (copy in MAVA files)

"5 piece Van Buren parlor suite"

19. 1979, September 19. Clementine B. deProsse, To Whom It May Concern

See General Furnishings Reference #36 for reference to "Empire sofa."

#### Extant Sofas

1. SOFA and SETTEE, mahogany and mahogany veneer, late classical (Gothic quatrefoil cutouts), 1835-55 (MAVA 14, 02). The persimmon mohair plush covering is a reproduction based on original fabric.

Documentation: This sofa and settee are part of a set which includes six side chairs, two arm chairs, and two tables. DeProsse/Akers family tradition says this set was selected for Lindenwald when it was first furnished by Van Buren in 1841. The set appears in 1930s photos (Figs. 11, 12, 15) and remained in Lindenwald through Campbell's occupation. Purchased by HPHA and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: The style of this set is typical of New York cabinet-makers of the period and it could very well have been purchased there expressly for Lindenwald in 1841.

2. SOFA-BED, mahogany veneer, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 03). The black horsehair cloth is a reproduction based on the original fabric.

Documentation: This sofa appears in 1917 and 1930's photos of Lindenwald (Figs. 6, 7, 9) and, according to the deProsse/Akers family, is a Van Buren piece. Purchased from Ken Campbell by HPHA and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: This sofa-bed is the correct period for Lindenwald and it might well be one of the "sofa-bedsteads" referred to in Angelica Van Buren's letter to her sister in 1843 (Ref. 7).

3. SOFA, mahogany veneer, late classical, 183040 (MAVA 270). The black horsehair cloth is a reproduction based on the original fabric.

Documentation: Purchased by NPS in 1978 from Clementine B. deProsse who stated: "the Empire sofa was used with the set of grey horsehair parlor furniture, which is still in the president's former home. This sofa was also covered with grey horsehair in 1917." It was also included with the "grey horsehair set" in the 1936 inventory (Ref. 17 and General Furnishings Reference 36).

Conclusion: This sofa is of the correct period for Lindenwald, but does not match in date or style the parlor furniture referred to by Mrs. deProsse and no evidence of grey horsehair was found.

4. SOFA, mahogany veneer, inscribed "Gray & Ingersoll, Hudson, N.Y." on reverse of back cushion, late classical, 183545 (MAVA 101)

Documentation: Purchased by NPS in 1977 from Ken Campbell.

Conclusion: Sofa is of the correct period for Lindenwald, but documentation does not indicate a Van Buren association.

5. SOFA, rosewood with inlay, late classical, probably European, 183540 (MAVA 115)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1977 by P. I. Prentice, descendant of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous furnishings from Lindenwald estate c. 1864. "The story is told that before MVB returned from the White House he asked his sister to start furnishing Lindenwald. But she spent so much money on the Parlor pieces that he told her he would have to do the buying himself for the rest of the house" (Prentice to Stewart, March 1, 1977). Family will (1904) mentions "large Van Buren sofa" left to Mr. Prentice's mother. This sofa has a matching side chair (MAVA 116). There is no evidence of the original fabric covering.

Conclusion: The set has a strong Lindenwald association but is unlike other documented Van Buren furnishings. It is possible that the set was purchased in 183839 when Angelica, Abraham, and John Van Buren were in Europe, although there is no documentation for this.

6. SOFABED (FRAGMENTS), late classical (country), 183040 (MAVA acc. 181)

Documentation: Field collection, discovered on old barn site at Lindenwald in 1981 and identified by Don Carpentier.

Conclusion: This might be another of the "sofa bedsteads" mentioned by Angelica in 1843 (Ref. 7). The sofa is beyond restoration, but should be retained in the study collection.

7. SETTEE, walnut, Louis XVI revival, 1865-75 (MAVA 52)

Documentation: This settee, a matching one, two side chairs and two armchairs (MAVA 48-51) appear in 1930s photos of Lindenwald (Fig. 4, 8). DeProsse/Akers family tradition says the originally green-gray horsehair-covered set belonged to Van Buren and Mrs. deProsse so listed it in the 1936 inventory (Ref. 15). The matching settee no longer exists.

Conclusion: Although this set has a strong Lindenwald history, it appears to date later than the Van Buren period. The set should be retained for further study.

8. SOFA, mahogany and mahogany veneer, black horsehair cloth, Empire, 1825-30 (White House 962.263.1)

Documentation: Donated to the White House as a Van Buren piece in 1962 by Mrs. Virginia Pegram Newcomer, descendant of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous Lindenwald furnishings c. 1864.

Conclusion: The sofa has a strong Lindenwald history. While it pre-dates Van Buren's purchase of Lindenwald, it may have been the sofa he had made in Washington in 1829 for his residence there and later possibly sent to New York (Ref. 2).

9. SOFA, mahogany and mahogany veneer, Empire, 1820-40 (MAVA 242)

Documentation: This sofa was donated to NPS by Virginia Jones of Washington, D.C., through Mr. H. McCoy Jones. The Joneses are descendants of Van Buren's mother's family (Hoes).

Conclusion: The sofa has no direct association with Martin Van Buren; however, it is similar to the Van Buren sofa in the White House collection and could be used at Lindenwald if needed. It needs to be reupholstered.

10. SOFA, no description available (private collection)

Documentation: Owned by a direct descendant of Martin Van Buren, this sofa was reputedly used by the President at the White House.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this sofa is appropriate for Lindenwald.

11. SOFAS (2), walnut, empire/rococo revival, 1830-60 (private collection)

Documentation: Purchased by the late Jesse Porter Newton in Beacon, New York, during the Depression from a man who bought up estates and who told her they were from Van Buren's home. Mrs. Newton had the sofas on loan to the Martello Gallery in Key West, Florida, prior to her death.

Conclusion: Further investigation is necessary to determine if these sofas could have been at Lindenwald, and later used by Smith T. and Henrietta Van Buren at their Beacon home.

#### Sofas--Summary

There are several references to sofas at Lindenwald, specifically those in the Hall and Angelica's bedroom. Extant Van Buren pieces which may relate to these references are two sofa-bedsteads (#2 & 6), mahogany sofa (#3), and the sofa and settee from the Gothic-decorated parlor set (#1).

There is no description of the "5 piece Van Buren parlor suite" offered at auction by Vanderpoel descendants in 1940; however, the suite may have included the large rosewood sofa (#5) which also has a Van Buren-Vanderpoel provenance.

There are no descriptions of the "old sofa" which was sold and the "Best" sofa which remained unsold from Van Buren's Albany residence, nor is there a description of the sofa which Van Buren presented to President Jackson in 1831. Since Van Buren apparently had a new sofa made for his Washington residence in 1829, it is likely that the one presented to Jackson was either the older "Best" sofa or the new one. Whichever went to Jackson, the other presumably went to Lindenwald in 1841, was purchased by Aaron Vanderpoel c. 1864, and is now in the White House (#8).

#### TABLES/STANDS

#### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"One set dining tables--no bid upon....Tea table (Best) \$21 Card tables \$20 each" These items were unsold and presumably sent to Washington in May 1829.

2. 1829, August 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall get my mahogany centre table & side board made here."

3. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I mean to have a round table in the sitting room with leaves which will at the same time answer for a Breakfast table & for a center table."

4. 1839, July 30. STVB (A) to Angelica (Eur) (MAVA #714)

At Kleinood "The furniture of the room was precisely this: three little tables of different heights placed under as many table cloths and extended in a line across the room--11 chairs and one side table!"

5. 1843, October 19. Gideon Welles, Journal (LC)

"Breakfast was on the table...Mrs. A. V. Buren sat at the head table...."

6. 1845, November 23. Note on address side of letter, MVB (L) to Major AVB (NY) (MAVA #700)

Two tables are included in a list of kitchen articles (purchased or to be purchased?). See General Furnishings Reference 21.

7. 1858, June 23. STVB Account with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

"Painting & graining 2 stands for Presidents Room 16t 2.00"

- 1859, March 30. STVB Account with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

"1 qrt of Copal varnish for extension table	8/	1.00
Labor of self varnishing extension table	6/	.75"

8. c. 1862, D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929) p. 509

"A shaving stand occupies a corner" of Van Buren's bedroom.

9. 1862, July 30. Note by one of VB sons (LC-VB)

"Letters & papers found in the drawer of Mr. V.B.'s bed-room table"

10. 1867, February. STVB (Edgehill, Fishkill), Introduction to Inquiry into the Origin and Course of Political Parties in the U.S., by MVB

"The citation from Cicero on the title-page was found on Mr. Van Buren's table, in his library, extracted in his own handwriting...."

11. c. 1917. Photograph, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 6, showing room 105, including card table (MAVA 349)

12. c. 1929. Article by Major Well in unidentified newspaper (MAVA)

Fig. 7, showing room 105, including card table (MAVA 349) and another card table (see Extant Tables/Stands #4)

13. 1930s. Photographs, Rowles Studio Coll. (MAVA neg. 5120)

Figs. 8, 12, and 16, showing rooms 105, 106, and 111. Tables include card table (MAVA 349), center table (MAVA 26), and a card table and center table now in private collection.

14. 1930s. Photographs, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 1, room 101, showing stand (MAVA 06); Fig. 9, room 105, card table (MAVA 349); Figs. 11 and 13, room 106, card table (MAVA 07).

15. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"5 -- large marble-top table

16 -- Van Buren's personal shaving stand

20 -- Mahogany parlor suite (imported from France by Van Buren . . .

5 -- 1 card table

29 -- large card table upon which the estate was gambled away

32 -- grey painted bedroom set . . .

3 -- table

34 -- marble-top table

36 -- 2 mahogany marble-top wash stands

42 -- miscellaneous tables . . ."

16. 1984, January 21. Christie's New York auction of "American Furniture...."



Lot. 334, "A fine and rare Federal mahogany accordion-action dining table," attributed to New York, 1800-1810, or Baltimore, 1800-1815. Provenance: Dr. John Vanderpoel [wrong], Aaron Vanderpoel, Adeline Vanderpoel, Margaret Vanderpoel Newcomer, Waldo Newcomer, Benjamin Franklin Newcomer, and his son [Waldo Newcomer]. "According to family tradition, the table belonged to Martin Van Buren . . . and was used in his house, Lindenwald, in Kinderhook, NY . . . . He lived there until his death in 1862, when the house passed to his sons who then sold it to Leonard Jerome. It was probably during this time that the furnishings were dispersed."

#### Extant Tables/Stands

1. SHAVING STAND, painted-grain basswood or linden and tulip, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 06)

Documentation: Stated by deProsse/Akers family to have been in Lindenwald during the Van Buren period. Purchased by HPHA from Ken Campbell in 1975 and donated to NPS.

Conclusion: This shaving stand is of the correct period for Lindenwald and could very well be one of the painted-grain stands for the President's room referred to in the 1858 account of Smith T. Van Buren and M.H. Reid (Ref. 7) and Lynch (Ref. 8)

2. CARD TABLE, late classical (Gothic decoration), 1835-55 (MAVA 07)

Documentation: This table forms a set with sofa, settee, chairs, and center table (MAVA 14, 02, 13, 54-60, and 26). DeProsse/Akers family tradition says this set was selected for Lindenwald when it was first furnished in 1841. Parts of the set appear in 1917 and 1930s photos (Ref. 11-14) and remained in Lindenwald through Campbell's occupation. Purchased by HPHA for NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: The style of the set is typical of New York cabinetmakers of the period and could very well have been purchased there especially for Lindenwald in 1841.

3. CENTER TABLE, mahogany, marble top, late classical, 1835-55 (MAVA 26)

Documentation: Although this table does not have the Gothic decoration, it is believed to be part of the set described above. The table was purchased for NPS by the NPF in 1975.

Conclusion: Appropriate for use with the rest of the set.

4. CARD TABLES (2), mahogany, late classical, Thomas Manahan, New York, 1830-40 (MAVA 349 and private collection)

Documentation: One card table was purchased by NPS in 1980 from Mrs. Clementine deProsse who stated that it "originally graced the old Mansion and dates to the President Van Buren period." Table appears in 1917 and 1930s photos (Ref. 11-14). The matching table is in a private collection in California.

Conclusion: These card tables are of the correct period to have been purchased in New York for Lindenwald c. 1841.

5. PEDESTAL CENTER TABLE, painted-grain pine, late classical, 1835-40 (MAVA 15)

Documentation: This table was stated by the deProsse/Akers family to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings at Lindenwald and, particularly, the table upon which John Van Buren gambled away the estate in 1863. Purchased by HPHA for NPS in 1975 from Ken Campbell.

Conclusion: The table is of the correct period for Lindenwald; however, there is no evidence supporting the gambling story.

6. CENTER TABLE, mahogany veneer, with pedestal base and 12-sided tilt-top, late classical, 1835-45 (MAVA 128)

Documentation: Donated to CCHS in 1959 by Miss Marie Sayles and Ralph Sayles, this table was reputedly made to the order of Martin Van Buren. After Van Buren's death, it was given to Dr. Chrysler who lived in the "Aaron Burr house" on Broad Street in Kinderhook. Miss Nettie Chrysler, who was a cousin of the Sayles', sent the table to them in 1900. Purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: The table is of the correct period to have been purchased for Lindenwald.

7. CANDLESTAND, mahogany, mahogany veneer and pine, ormolu trim, Empire, 1815-25 (MAVA 147)

Documentation: Donated to CCHS in 1933 by Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Gross, this stand is listed as the "Van Beuren table" in the accession book. Purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: The stand is typical of the work of French cabinetmakers working in New York during the period (e.g., Lannuier) and is of the proper period and quality to have been purchased by Van Buren for his "Albany establishment" c. 1816.

8. SIDE TABLE, poplar and pine, late classical, c. 1840 (MAVA 129)

Documentation: Donated to CCHS in 1930 by Mr. & Mrs. Cyril Gross, this table reputedly belonged to Martin Van Buren. Purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: This small work or kitchen table could have been the "side table" or one of the "three little tables" referred to in Smith T. Van Buren's 1839 letter (Ref. 4).

9. CENTER TABLE, walnut, late classical/rococo revival, 1840-50 (MAVA 126)

Documentation: Donated to CCHS in 1966 by Worthington W. Frothingham who stated that this table was purchased by Van Buren for his law office c. 1808-12. Van Buren supposedly sold the table to Mr. Frothingham's grandfather when he (VB) left Albany to become Secretary of State in 1829. Purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: This table is much too late to fit Mr. Frothingham's story. The table is of the proper period to have been used at Lindenwald, however, although its style is not consistent with other Van Buren pieces. The Van Buren association is questionable, but the piece should be retained for study and use if needed in the addition.

10. DROP LEAF TABLE, mahogany and mahogany veneer, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 77)

Documentation: The table descended in the family of Martin Van Buren's brother Lawrence, also a Kinderhook resident, and was donated to NPS in 1976. A similar "breakfast table" appears in the 1833 advertisement of New York cabinetmaker Joseph Meeks & Sons.

Conclusion: While this table was not at Lindenwald, it is possible that Van Buren had furnishings similar to those owned by his brother and neighbor. The style of this table and its Van Buren family association make it appropriate for use.

11. CARD TABLE, mahogany veneer and poplar, late classical, 1835-40 (MAVA 34)

Documentation: Purchased from Ken Campbell by NPS in 1975 for NPS, this table was confirmed by the deProsse/Akers family as one of the Van Buren pieces left at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This card table is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

12. DROP LEAF TABLE, cherry and pine, late Federal (country), 1825-35 (MAVA 47)

Documentation: Same as #11 above.

Conclusion: This table is of the correct period and style to have been one of the "three little tables" used for dining at Kleinood (Lindenwald) in 1839 (Ref. 4).

13. CARD TABLE, mahogany veneer, late classical, 1835-40 (MAVA 103)

Documentation: This card table was purchased in 1977 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was one of the Van Buren pieces. This was neither confirmed nor denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: Although the documentation is not strong, the card table is of the proper period and style (possibly New York-made) to have been used at Lindenwald.

14. WORK or SEWING TABLE, mahogany veneer and pine, late classical, 1835-45 (MAVA 146)

Documentation: According to Ken Campbell this table was among the Van Buren furnishings left in Lindenwald. Presence of this piece in the house was neither confirmed nor denied by the deProsse/Akers family. Donated to NPS in 1977.

Conclusion: Documentation is not strong. However, the table is of the proper period for Lindenwald and numerous references to sewing activities there make this piece appropriate for use.

15. TABLE, mahogany, Elizabethan Revival (spool-turned), 1850-65 (MAVA 137)

Documentation: Same as #14 above (MAVA 146).

Conclusion: Documentation is not strong. However, this small table dates to the period of the Upjohn addition.

16. WASHSTAND, painted poplar or pine, Elizabethan Revival (spool-turned), 1850-60 (MAVA 142)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1977 by Ken Campbell; deProsse/Akers family neither confirmed nor denied its presence at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: Documentation is lacking. However, this washstand is of the proper period for use at Lindenwald.

17. SOFA TABLE, mahogany veneer, late classical, c. 1835-40  
(MAVA 39)

Documentation: Possibly a New York piece, this table was purchased by NPF for NPS in 1975 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was one of the Van Buren pieces left in Lindenwald. This was denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: Documentation is not strong. However, this table is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

18. SIDE TABLE, mahogany veneer, marble top, late classical,  
c. 1830-40 (MAVA 45)

Documentation: Same as #17 above (MAVA 39).

Conclusion: Same as #17 above.

19. EXTENSION TABLE, mahogany and mahogany veneer, late classical,  
1830-40 (MAVA 112)

Documentation: This table was purchased by HPHA for NPS in 1975 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was a Van Buren piece. This was denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: There is an 1859 reference to an extension table at Lindenwald (Ref. 7), but that table is believed to be one now in a private collection (#21 below). This table is of the right period and could be used in room 105 until the original table becomes available.

20. LIBRARY TABLE, rosewood, late classical, 1840-50 (MAVA 10)

Documentation: Possibly a New York piece, this table was purchased in 1977 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was one of the Van Buren pieces. This was denied by the deProsse/Akers family.

Conclusion: The library table in the collection of the Smithsonian Institution (#22 below) is believed to be the one referred to in 1867 (Ref. 9). This table could be used in room 111 until the former becomes available.

21. EXTENSION TABLE, mahogany, accordion-action, Federal, 1800-15  
(private collection)

Documentation: This fine New York (Duncan Phyfe type) extension dining table descended in the family of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased furnishings from the Lindenwald estate c. 1864. Referred to as the "Van Buren dining table" in early 20th century family wills (Adeline Vanderpoel, 1904; Mary Vanderpoel Franklin, 1914 codicil),

the table was on loan at Lindenwald in 1982-83 but was sold at auction in 1984 to a private collector who resides in New York state. See Reference 16, above; Chair References 11, 13.

Conclusion: This table is of the proper period and quality to have been purchased by Van Buren for his Albany residence c. 1816. In 1829 a "set dining tables" remained unsold and were packed and sent to Washington. A few months later, Van Buren ordered "30 dining chairs" from New York and it is likely that they were meant to accompany this table which seats 30 people when its seven leaves are in place. An extension table, possibly this one, was also in use at Lindenwald in 1859 as evidenced by Smith T. Van Buren's account with M.H. Reid (Reference 7).

22. LIBRARY TABLE, oak and walnut veneer, 1840-50 (Smithsonian Institution 1977.0707.01)

Documentation: Given to the Smithsonian by Williams College (Williamstown, Mass.), this table had descended in the family of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous Lindenwald furnishings c. 1864.

Conclusion: This table is believed to be the one used in Van Buren's library.

23. DROP LEAF EXTENSION TABLE, mahogany (?), late classical (country), 1830-50 (private collection)

Documentation: This extension dining table with six leaves is in the possession of the deProsse/Akers family who state that it was one of the Van Buren pieces from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This table is of the proper period to have been used at Lindenwald.

24. END TABLE, mahogany (?), late classical, 1830-40 (private collection)

Documentation: Same as #23 above.

Conclusion: This table is of the proper period for Lindenwald.

25. CENTER TABLE, rosewood, marble top, rococo revival, 1850-60 (private collection)

Documentation: This table is in the possession of the deProsse/Akers family who state that it was from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This table could have been used at Lindenwald during the latter end of the Van Buren period, although its style is inconsistent with the other known furnishings. The use of this table is not anticipated.

26. STAND, mahogany, Gothic/Elizabethan Revival (spool-turned), 1845-75 (private collection)

Documentation: This table and a side chair were in the possession of Willard Drumm of Niverville, c. 1980. Mr. Drumm died in 1983 and the location of the pieces is not known. The pieces had been purchased by Mr. Drumm at auction at the Niverville Exchange on February 22, 1969, with the understanding that they had been purchased by Thomas Garrigan at one of the original auctions of Martin Van Buren's furnishings.

Conclusion: This table could have been used at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period.

27. TABLE, no description available (private collection)

Documentation: Bought at auction by friends of the owner's mother, the table reputedly came from Lindenwald and is now in use in the Albany area.

Conclusion: Further investigation is necessary to determine if this table would be appropriate for Lindenwald.

28. TABLE, no description available (private collection)

Documentation: This table is owned by a private individual in Hudson who claims it is a Van Buren piece.

Conclusion: Further investigation is necessary to determine if this table would be appropriate for Lindenwald.

#### Tables/Stands--Summary

Van Buren was apparently in possession of a "set [of] dining tables" in 1829 when he ordered 30 dining chairs for his Washington residence. An extension table was also in use at Lindenwald in 1859. This table is believed to be the Federal accordion-action dining table (#21) in a private collection.



The round mahogany table with leaves which was to serve as a breakfast and center table in 1829 has not been found, although a twelve-sided pedestal table (#6) may have served a similar function at Lindenwald. A description of breakfast at Lindenwald in 1843 does suggest, however, that the table in use was quadrilateral in shape, having Mrs. Van Buren at the "head."

Lynch (1929) refers to the "round dining table" at Lindenwald; however, there are no period references which confirm that a round table was used there. Lynch's reference may actually be to the large round "gaming" table (#5).

A number of card tables associated with Martin Van Buren are extant, but they post-date the 1829 reference. No "tea tables" are extant.

The "3 little tables of different heights" used at Lindenwald in 1839 were either left from the Van Ness occupancy or were brought to the mansion by Van Buren relatives for the dinner party. Tables #8 and #12 might date from that time.

The 1858 account indicates there were two grained and painted stands in Van Buren's room at Lindenwald and one of these (#1) has apparently survived. It is also referred to in Lynch's description of the ex-President's bedroom. The "bed-room table" referred to in 1862, has not been identified.

The table from Van Buren's library, referred to by his son in 1867, is believed to be the one purchased from the Lindenwald estate by Aaron Vanderpoel in 1864 which is now at the Smithsonian (#22).

The remaining 18 tables are of various types and styles and the strength of their Van Buren documentation varies as well.

## WARDROBES

### References

1. 1843, June 22. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9876)

"I had just written the above & rose to put the portfolio in the wardrobe...."

2. c. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man

"Against the southern wall, between the valanced windows, stands a wardrobe with a mirror door...of the same warm-toned mahogany from which the rest of the furniture is fashioned...."



3. 1930s. Photograph, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 2, room 101, with wardrobe (MAVA 12).

4. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"17 -- Van Buren's personal wardrobe

31 -- 2 wardrobes

32 -- grey painted bedroom set

2 -- wardrobe

33 -- mahogany wardrobe"

#### Extant Wardrobes

1. WARDROBE, mahogany, mahogany veneer and tulip, late classical, 1840-50, with mirrored door (replaced), brass candelabra and brackets, (MAVA 12)

Documentation: According to the deProsse/Akers family, this was Martin Van Buren's wardrobe, left at Lindenwald when Dr. Birney purchased the house in 1917. Purchased by HPHA from Ken Campbell and donated to NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: This wardrobe is of the correct period and style to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald.

2. WARDROBE, poplar with painted decoration, late classical (country), 1830-40 (MAVA 243)

Documentation: Given to NPS by Ken Campbell in 1978, this wardrobe was confirmed by the deProsse/Akers family as a Van Buren piece left in Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This wardrobe is of the proper period for Lindenwald. The condition of the piece is such that it should be used in a secondary bedroom.

3. WARDROBE, mahogany veneer on undefined wood, late classical, 1830-40 (MAVA 244)

Documentation: Given to NPS by Ken Campbell in 1978, this wardrobe was confirmed by the deProsse/Akers family as a Van Buren piece left in Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This large wardrobe is of the proper period for Lindenwald for use in a large bedroom.

4. WARDROBE, painted grain wood, late classical, 1850-60 (MAVA 245)

Documentation: Given to NPS by Ken Campbell in 1978, this wardrobe was confirmed by the deProsse/Akers family as a Van Buren piece left in Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This wardrobe is of the proper period for use in Lindenwald, preferably in the addition.

5. WARDROBE, mahogany veneer, oak and poplar, mirrored door, late classical, 1840 (MAVA 134)

Documentation: Given to NPS by Ken Campbell in 1977, this wardrobe was neither confirmed nor denied by the deProsse/Akers family as a Van Buren piece.

Conclusion: Documentation for the wardrobe is lacking, although the similarity of this piece to wardrobe #1 above suggests that it might have been used at Lindenwald.

6. LOW WARDROBE, mahogany veneer, poplar and maple, late classical (Gothic elements), 1835-45 (MAVA 31)

Documentation: Said to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings, the NPF purchased this piece from Ken Campbell and donated it to NPS in 1975. The deProsse/Akers family did not confirm the presence of this piece at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This piece is of the proper period and style to have been used at Lindenwald but documentation is not strong.

7. LOW WARDROBE, mahogany veneer, poplar, late classical, 1835-45  
(MAVA 38)

Documentation: Said to have been part of the Van Buren furnishings, the NPF purchased this piece from Ken Campbell and donated it to NPS in 1975. The deProsse/Akers family did not confirm the presence of this piece at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This piece is of the proper period and style to have been used at Lindenwald.

#### Wardrobes--Summary

There is one period reference to a wardrobe in Angelica's bedroom at Lindenwald. This piece may have been one of the large wardrobes of various woods and styles (#2, 3, 4) now in MAVA's collection or it may have been one of the "2 Van Buren ward robes in mahogany" offered at auction in 1940, which have not been located.

The wardrobe with the mirrored door (#1) is said to have been used by Martin Van Buren at Lindenwald and this is the piece referred to in Lynch's 1929 description of the ex-President's bedroom.

Other wardrobes of the correct period (#5, 6, 7) were found at Lindenwald in 1975, but their Van Buren association has not been documented.

## Accessories

### SUMMARY OF ACCESSORIES REFERENCES

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>pre-1839</u>	<u>1839-1849</u>	<u>1850-1862</u>	<u>post-1862</u>
Books	34	3	14	14	3
Ceramics	7	0	5	0	2
Clocks	2	1	0	0	1
Glass	10	2	6	1	1
Lighting	10	5	3	0	2
Personal	15	2	6	4	3
Pictures	29	2	14	7	6
Sculpture	6	0	1	3	2
Silver	15	7	2	4	2
Textiles	25	7	11	2	5
Communication	4	1	1	0	2
Heating	9	0	4	0	5
Fireboards	3	0	1	0	2
Housekeeping	3	0	2	0	1
Plumbing	6	0	2	1	3
Porch and Garden Furniture	4	0	0	1	3
Total:	182	30	72	37	43

## EXTANT ACCESSORIES

1. Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, Kinderhook, N.Y.,  
228+ items

Documentation: A number of non-furniture items associated with Martin Van Buren or his family were purchased from the Columbia County Historical Society. The Albert S. Callan collection of political materials was donated to NPS in 1978. The textiles were all found in Lindenwald and several other items were received from Ken Campbell. Ceramics, glass, silver, and other items were largely donated by Van Buren descendants, Kinderhook area residents, and other individuals in various locations.

Conclusion: Most of these items are of the proper period to have been used by Van Buren and his family at Lindenwald. The furnishings will be used as references as period practice suggests and as their condition and security permit.

2. White House, Washington, D.C., 4 items

Documentation: Powers' bust of Van Buren and Inman's portrait of Angelica were bequeathed to the White House by Travis Van Buren, the President's grandson. The silver pitcher, part of a threepiece set, was given by Angelica's niece in 1913. Healy's portrait of Van Buren has been a part of the White House collection since 1858.

Conclusion: These pieces or copies would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald.

3. Association of the Bar of the City of New York, New York,  
N.Y., 185 items

Documentation: This collection of books from Martin Van Buren's law library was donated to the Association by Silas Brownell in 1904.

Conclusion: The law books are appropriate for Lindenwald and a loan of all or part of the collection should be arranged if possible.

4. Museum Collections, in New York, California, Ohio, Massachu-  
setts, Tennessee, and Washington, D.C., 20 items

Documentation: These portraits, sculptures, and ceramics came to the museums through various sources.

Conclusion: Most of these items are not particularly important to Lindenwald but could be used if available.

5. Private Collections in New York, California, Massachusetts,  
Vermont, Ohio, Florida, and England, 114+ items

Documentation: Many important pieces are in the hands of Van Buren descendants, Kinderhook area residents, and other individuals in various locations. Documentation is strong for many items.

Conclusion: Many of these items are important to the interpretation of Lindenwald. Every effort should be made to obtain relevant pieces through donation, purchase, or loan.

# SUMMARY OF EXTANT ACCESSORIES (PIECES)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>MAVA (strong)</u>	<u>MAVA (poss)</u>	<u>Other collections</u>	
				<u>Private</u>	<u>Public</u>
Books	188	3	0	0	185 NYBA
Ceramics	178	84	0	94+	0
Clocks	2	0	1	1	0
Glass	91	67	19	5	0
Lighting	5	5	0	0	0
Personal	9	6	0	2	1 Museum [M]
Pictures	36	5	9	6	2 WH, 14 M
Sculpture	8	1	0	1	1 WH, 5 M
Silver	9+	1	0	6	1 WH, 1 M,
Textiles	26+	14+	12	0	0
Communication	3	2	1	0	0
Heating	18	11	7	0	0
Fireboards	8	8	0	0	0
Housekeeping	8	8	0	0	0
Plumbing	5	5	0	0	0
Porch & Garden	2	1	0	1	0
<hr/>					
Total:	596+	207+	49	116+	4 White House 21 Museums 185 NY Bar Assoc.

## SUMMARY OF EXTANT ACCESSORIES (PATTERNS/SETS)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>MAVA (strong)</u>	<u>MAVA (poss)</u>	<u>Other</u>
Ceramics	8	5	0	3
Glass	5	1	2	2
Textiles	14	10	4	0
Silver	8	1	0	7
<hr/>				
Total:	35	17	6	12

## BOOKS/DOCUMENTS

### References

1. 1814, June 23. G. Caines (H) & MVB (H) (LC-VB; DLC-158)

"Notes of agreement...Mr. Caines...to make to him a conditional assignment of his law Library, the possession to be delivered to the said Martin & to remain in him until The Bond becomes due, and if at that time the same shall remain unpaid, and in the mean time, no contract be made between the said George and the said Martin for the final purchase of the said Library, then it shall be lawful for the said Martin, to dispose of the same at public auction...."

2. 1814, July 8. G. Caines (H) & MVB (H)

Indenture between GC and MVB witnessed by BFB: "He the said George Caines hath granted Bargained sold assigned and set over and Deliver in due form of Law unto the said Martin Van Buren all & singular the Books, Goods, and Chattels in the Schedule or Inventory...." [Inventory, see Appendix B]. Many of these books are now owned by the Bar Association of the City of New York (see Extant Books, #4, below).

3. 1835, November 13. W. Holland (Conn.) to MVB (W) (LC-VB)

"I fear the accompanying volume professing to [be] of your life and opinions, will be set down to the account of those manifold annoyances which men of distinction cannot escape from...I should be very grateful for suggestions of any kind which may render a second edition



more [?]." The book was William M. Holland's Life and Political Opinions of Martin Van Buren. Holland sent VB another copy (revised?) in August 1836 (see Ref. 29, below).

4. 1841, March 29. R.H. Hammond, Nat. Archives Int. Pub. Bldgs. & Grnds. 3016 (Let. Rec'd Vol. 30)

"A number of boxes were sent on to New York from the President's House, but these boxes contained furniture, glass, books, documents, papers, wines, etc., which belonged to Mr. Van Buren and his son Major Van Buren...extensive library and numerous documents and papers...."

5. 1841, November 19. Washington Globe, from New York Commercial Advertiser, (Platt, HRS, p. 64)

"The ex-President begins the day with a ride of ten or fifteen miles on horseback; after breakfast he is engaged with workmen till he is tired, and then betakes himself to the library, which he is constantly enlarging."

6. 1842, May 1. - Jan 1st, 1843, "Probable Expenses" (LCVB)

"Newspapers 100 Books 50"

7. 1842, Sept. 10. R.B. Gooch to mother (UVaC.L. Chandler Papers)

"His route in the tour was marked out in pen on a map 7000 miles. Shook hands with 200,000 (persons?)." See p. 14 quotation.

8. 1842, April 21. HDG (P) to MVB (L) (LC)

"Book lately published called Liebig's Agricultural Chemistry." This may have been Justus Liebig's Familiar Letters on Chemistry, and its Relation to...Agriculture.

9. 1843, June 1. MVB (L) to A.K. Tefft (Savannah, Ga.) (PML)

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your polite note by the hand of Mr. Bryant, with the accompanying Second Volume of the Collections of the Georgia Historical Society; & beg you to accept my best thanks for your friendly attention in the matter."

10. 1843, October. MVB (L) to G. Bancroft and GB to MVB (Proceedings, p. 415, 416, Massachusetts Hist. Soc.)

MVB requests "Philosophical Dictionary from the French of Voltaire, 2 vols., Boston, 1836; Bancroft responds by sending English edition (1824?) of Philosophical Dictionary in 6 volumes at \$5.00."

11. 1843, October 19. Gideon Welles, Journal (LC-GW)

"Going out he showed us his library, a large & very fine room very well filled with books which, without examining them I thought were chiefly law books and state papers."

12. 1844, December 3. GB to MVB (L) (MHS Proceedings, p. 433)

"In your library you have the Life of [Henry] Grattan handsomely bound with gilt edges."

13. 1845, October 25. MVB (L) to GW (NY) (LCVB)

Asks Worth to buy Ingersoll's book [Charles J. Ingersoll's Historical Sketch of the Second War between the United States of America and Great Britain, published in 1845] and a set of Scott's Waverly Novels.

14. 1846, January 16. W.G. Bryan to L.C. Draper (WHS)

"I passed some hours in his Library. His collection of books is large, & the number of works on all political subjects--essays--tracts--statistics--various economies--treatises on Government &c &c is immense, even for a statesman--I observed, too, that most of them were thumbed, the leaves hastily turned down, & the margins often covered with notes & references in his own hand. You can form but small idea, from this, of the number of political books, & the amount of time he must have consumed in examining them. They embraced very imaginable subject of public concern, & emanating from the pens, & were printed in the language of authors in most civilized countries. One side of the room seemed devoted to works of American Authors, exclusively--You can hardly call to mind a modern production that was not on his shelves with a line or two from the author, on the blank page, presenting it to his acceptance & regards. These notes in the characteristic style of the various writers, I found particularly interesting--one wd be couched in brief & truly Republican terms, another would teem with all the gracious & high sounding epithets of Oriental diplomacy--& another--but look at the list of Authors & you can fancy what each would naturally say in presenting his favorite work to a man like Mr. Van Buren--"

15. 1849, March 28. HDG (P) to MVB (L) (LC)

"I send you a pamphlet on 'farming' given me by the author for you he is, like yourself, an amateur farmer who prides himself upon having his farm in better order than his neighbors . . ."

16. 1849, June 13. HDG (P) to MVB (L) (LC)

"I hope you have received my present of a 'Farmer's Encyclopedia' which I sent to you from Philadelphia before I left there and that it has not taken so long a time in reaching you as happened with the shaving soap...." The Farmer's Encyclopedia, and Dictionary of Rural Affairs, by Cuthbert Johnson, adapted to the United States by Gouverneur Emerson, was published in 1844.

17. 1849, March 30. FPB to MVB (L) (LC-VB #31)

"Mrs. Martin sent me two little volumes of hymns, one of which I send you, as she desired me (if thought worthy of such destination) to forward it...."

18. 1851, September 17. J. Jenkins to MVB (L)

"Some weeks ago I provided a copy of the revised edition of my 'Lives of the Governors' to your address. I hope it reached you safely." This was Lives of the Governors of the State of New York, by John S. Jenkins.

19. 1852, February 26. MVB (L) to Mrs. Throop, (Princeton University--Throop-Martin Papers)

"Between you and my niece my chances of becoming a good man are not as desperate as I feared they were. Every Evening, I find on retiring your Book opened for the next morning."

20. 1852, November 9. HDG to MVB (LC)

"...I did not get the books you mentioned (til) yesterday; and just as I had put them up, ready to go by mail according to your directions. I met Mr. Blair on his way to see you, who promised to deliver them--I hope you may have commenced the study of Hydropathy even before this letter reached you."

21. 1855, July 26. T. McElhiney (Pa.) to MVB (L) (LCVB)

"I sent you a copy of your biography as written by me when you were first in England but not knowing exactly how or where to direct it I think it quite probable it may never have reached you. I shall send you two copies in company with this letter." Thomas McElhiney's Life of Martin Van Buren appeared in 1853.

22. 1856, May 10. BFB (NY) to MVB (L) (LCVB #33)

"I send by Adams' Express vols. 4, 5, & 6 of Bancroft and vols. 1 & 2 of Prescott's Philip 2d." These were George Bancroft's History of the United States and William H. Prescott's History of the Reign of Philip the Second (1855).

23. 1856, May 17. MVB (L) to BFB (NY) (private coll.)

"I ought to have thanked you for sending me the Bancrofts so promptly. I have nearly finished them...already, & have much to say to you when we meet in regard to the book no part of which had I read before. My sister who is staying with me has become interested in Prescotts work for which I shall not fail to remunerate you....If in the course of your visits to the Reading Rooms you happen to meet with Gales Annals of Congress do me the favor to look at it and let me know what you think of its usefulness before I order it." Gales and Seaton's Annals of Congress appeared in 1855-1858.

24. 1856, December 18. MVB (L) to G.S. & W. Wood (PSC-Hi, Wood MSS 7873, cited in Poll, "Report")

"I sent you \$6.25 for Roth on movement, already rcd, & for Fuller on Rheumatism & the American Remembrances by Isaacs, the two last please to send me. You will oblige me in obtaining from Engd through one of your orders if necessary ("Kenesitherapy") on the treatment and diseases by movements [by?] A. Georgia. If a translation can be procured (Kinasipathy) by Doherty...a discourse on [ ? ] in relation to medicine by C.O. Sonder." Two of the books referred to were Mathias Roth's The Prevention and Cure of Many Chronic Diseases by Movements (1851), and Henry W. Fuller's On Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout, and Sciatica (NY 1854, London 1856). The other titles have not been identified.

25. 1857, April 9. MVB (L) to Richard Rush (NYHS, cited in Poll, "Report")

"Mr. Van Buren sends his kind regards to Mr. Rush & [returns] thanks for the copy of 'Washington in Domestic Life.'..."

26. 1858, June 29. MVB (L) to SJT (NY) (NYPL-Tilden Papers)

"I beg the further favor of you to stop at Stamford & Storrs & buy me a set of 'Scott's Family Bible' for family use. They will cost from \$10 to 15 for the 8 volumes. If you can get them cheaper & better anywhere else that is convenient you will of course do so.... send by express & let the Book seller send me his bill."

27. 1858, October 18. MVB (L) to SJT (NY) (NYPL-Tilden Papers)

"You have an excellent library but have not time to read & never will have. It is to prevent the books from becoming worm eaten that I tax you occasionally for the loan of some. For the past including the additional numbers of Niles Register accept my thanks. They have been placed in a room by themselves & will be well cared for. I want to read Cicero's letters to Atticus & his miscellaneous correspon-

dance by Melmont [Melmoth] I think it is. If you have them, & will send them to me by express, they should be returned safely & without unnecessary delay. At my time of life I think it unwise in general to buy books for a single perusal that I can borrow without inconvenience to those who have them." William Melmoth's translation of Marcus Tullius Cicero's Epistles to Atticus was published in London in 1829. There were several 19th century editions of Letters of M.T. Cicero to Several of his Friends.

28. 1855-1858. MVB (L) to SJT (NY) (NYPL-Tilden Papers)

"I send you a dollar for the [Book]. If it has not been sent please add the 'Annals of Congress' & I will be in [?] of the World." Gales and Seaton's Annals appeared yearly from 1855 to 1858.

29. 1860, January 18. MVB Will

"My miscellaneous library is intended to be included in this bequest [to STVB], but not my law library, which I bequeath to my son John."

30. 1861, January 31. JVB (NY) to MVB (L) (LC-VB)

"The books were mailed to you before I received your letter & I hope you find them as interesting as the previous volumes...Claiborne... the extract I have seen published from his book I do not think complimentary."

31. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929) p. 544

"On the top of the other [chest of drawers] is a Bible."

32. 1867. MVB, Inquiry into the Origins and Course of Political Parties: Introduction

"The citation from Cicero on the title-page was found on Mr. Van Buren's table, in his library, extracted in his own handwriting; whether only as a terse declaration of the law by the spirit of which his pen was guided, or as a possible motto for his complete work, is not known." The work from which MVB quoted--Cicero's De Oratore--may well have been in his own library.

33. 1913. H. Peckham, History of C.M. Van Buren, p. 165

Re: Alida Van Buren, daughter of Nicholas Van Buren, b. 1832; m. Peter Low; no children. "In 1852, Alida visited Lindenwald, at Kinderhook, N.Y., with her father, and she now has two books given to her at that time by the ex-President, with his autograph in each."

34. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog (The National Savings Bank, Albany)

"Item 20 William M. Holland's 'Life and Political Opinions of Martin Van Buren' bearing inscription 'Martin Van Buren with the high consideration and respect of the compiler, August, 1836.' Loaned by Mrs. L. Gordon Hamersley."

Extant Books/Documents

1. The Constitution of the United States and the State of New York ..., cover stamped: "His Excellency Governor Van Buren," 1829 (MAVA 159)

Documentation: This small volume printed by Croswell and Van Benthuyssen in Albany was presented to Governor Van Buren in 1829 by Mr. M. Burt, Deputy Clerk (NYS Legislature?). The book was given to the Columbia County Historical Society by an unknown donor prior to 1974 and was purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: This book was probably among Van Buren's possessions at Lindenwald and would be appropriate there, although the size of the volume may make it impracticable to display in the library.

2. United States Official Register, cover stamped: "The Vice President of the United States," c. 1833 (MAVA 170)

Documentation: This book, presented to Van Buren while Vice President, was purchased by NPS from CCHS in 1978. The original donor is unknown.

Conclusion: Same as #1.

3. The Life of Martin Van Buren by David Crockett, signature: "M Van Buren," c. 1837 (MAVA 216)

Documentation: This book, published by Robert Wright in Philadelphia, was among the Albert S. Callan collection of memorabilia donated to NPS by CGCC in 1978.

Conclusion: Same as #1.

4. 185 volumes from the "Library of Martin Van Buren," various authors and titles, 17th-18th centuries, Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Documentation: These primarily English law books were donated to the Association in 1904 by Silas Brownell. It is not known how Mr.

Brownell acquired them. See list in Appendix F. Most of these titles were included in the law library Van Buren acquired from George Caines in 1814 (see References 1 and 2, above).

Conclusion: These volumes were part of Van Buren's law library at Lindenwald, though since rebound, and would be most appropriate for use in room 111.

#### Books/Documents--Summary

Visitors to Lindenwald often commented on Van Buren's extensive collection of books and documents which consisted chiefly of legal, historical, biographical, and political works. Although Van Buren's law library alone may have numbered more than 750 volumes, as indicated by the 1814 agreement between Van Buren and George Caines, only 185 legal volumes have survived in the collection of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York (#4) and three other books owned by Van Buren are now in MAVA's collection (#1, 2, 3).

There are occasional references in correspondence to religious, literary, agricultural, and medical texts, but none of these books from Van Buren's "miscellaneous library" have turned up.

#### CERAMICS

#### References

1. 1839, June 14. "Furniture of the President's House," p. 40

Feb'y 18:

2 doz. rich cut tumblers	\$14.00
1 dozen gold band China plates	10.00

April 12:

2 dozen willow plates	2.75
3 dozen blue printed bowls and saucers	9.00
2½ do do mugs	3.12½
½ do do bowls	1.12½
2 do do pitchers	2.00
2 pairs med. salts	2.50
3 willow dishes	4.50
2 sets blackhandled knives and forks	5.00
6 edged dishes	4.50
1 dozen China gold band bowls and saucers	10.00
1 do do slop	2.00



2. 1841, July 26. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSUADH)

"I have bought you a China tea pot & I have taken the liberty of buying you half a dozen (3 pairs) of bedroom candles of the newest fashion. They are of china and readily cleaned with soap & water. They are very pretty & cost 12/ a pair so you owe me \$4.50 & I don't know what.... P.S. The teapot & candlesticks go down in the Rockland today to your address, care of Butler & Vosburgh, Stuyvesant Landing."

3. 1844, February 6. Account MVB with LS Rexford (LCVB)

Repair "Teapot 2/25"

4. 1845, January 4. MVB (L) to JKP (MORR)

"There is not a house in the country where there has been so much destruction of china & glass as in mine . . . the female waiter . . . had broken the principal part of a very beautiful tea & breakfast set which I valued above everything in the House. So much so that I have actually sent to Paris to have former trespasses repaired by additions of the same articles which I have never been able to find anywhere except in the President's House."

5. 1848, November 27. MVB (L) to Angelica (NY) (MAVA #702)

"Give yourself no further trouble about the Vegetable Dishes. I may be able to get them of my Albany man & if not I can very well do without them until spring."

6. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog (The National Savings Bank, Albany)

"Item 9 Plate of a dinner service made for Martin Van Buren while President and used by him in the White House. Loaned by John Van Buren Duer, Esq. Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren."

7. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

25--Van Buren's coffee pot

26--One of Van Buren's plates

Extant Ceramics

1. DINNER PLATES (8), French porcelain, white with gold bands and "VB" monogram, marked "Rihouet, Rue de la Paix," 1830-40 (MAVA 162-169)

Documentation: These plates, reputedly used by Martin Van Buren in the White House, descended in the family of Smith T. Van Buren and were donated to CCHS in 1944. Purchased from the Society by NPS in 1978.



Conclusion: The plates are of the correct period to have been used by Van Buren in the White House and later at Lindenwald. However, the monogram appears to be of a later date and was probably added by Van Buren descendants. The plates match a large set of dinnerware also having a Van Buren association in a private collection (#8).

2. TEAPOT and SUGAR BOWL, porcelain, white with gold bands, 1830-40 (MAVA 160-161)

Documentation: These pieces were given by the Misses Agnes and Sarah Van Alen to CCHS in 1938 and were purchased by NPS in 1978.

Conclusion: Although these pieces are not marked, they appear to be French and to match the eight dinner plates (#1).

3. COFFEEMAKER, porcelain, brass, and glass, white with gold and blue bands, mid-nineteenth century (MAVA 728)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1982 by Jeanne Akers and William deProsse, the coffeemaker is said to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald (Ref. 7).

Conclusion: Markings on the base have not been identified; however the coffeemaker is probably French and is a type used during the Van Buren period. The porcelain is similar to but not identical to the other Van Buren pieces.

4. DINNER PLATE, ironstone, blue and white, marked "T & J Mayer, Longport, Non pareil," 1836-40 (MAVA 863)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald attic in 1978.

Conclusion: The plate is of the correct period to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald; however, it does not match other extant Van Buren ceramics. It should be retained for further study.

5. DINNER SERVICE (68 pieces), ironstone, blue and white, marked "Amoy, Davenport," 1820-60 (MAVA 1040-1107)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1983 by Mr. Charles Buschman whose great-great-aunt Hannah Walker supposedly purchased the set at a Martin Van Buren estate sale c. 1940s.

Conclusion: This set is of the proper period to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald. A single matching plate, also with a Van Buren association, is in a private collection (#6).

6. DINNER PLATE, ironstone, blue and white, marked "Amoy, Davenport," 1820-60 (private collection)

Documentation: This plate was given to Clementine deProsse c. 1930 by a farmswoman in Ghent, New York, who said it had passed in her family and had originally belonged to Martin Van Buren.

Conclusion: This plate matches in pattern and markings the 68 piece set of ironstone (#5).

7. SET OF BLUE WILLOW CHINA, no description available, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This set, owned by a museum in California, supposedly was used by Van Buren at the White House.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if the set has any relation to Lindenwald.

8. DINNER SERVICE (93 piece), porcelain, white with gold bands with "VB" monogram, 1830-40 (private collection)

Documentation: This set is owned by a family in the New Paltz, N.Y., area and is said to have been used by Martin Van Buren at the White House.

Conclusion: This set appears to match the eight dinner plates (#1), but further investigation is needed to determine if the markings are the same.

9. PAIR OF POLYCHROME DELFT VASES, c. 1850 (MAVA 1169-1170)

Documentation: The vases were purchased in September 1985 by NPS from Alfred LeMon, who claimed they had come from Lindenwald. Mr. LeMon purchased the vases from a Mr. Segal at an auction in Albany in the late 1960s.

Conclusion: The vases are of the correct period for Lindenwald.

10. POLYCHROME DELFT JAR WITH LID, c. 1850 (MAVA 1172)

Documentation: Purchased by Alfred LeMon from Mr. Segal's Albany auction, this vase, also said to be from Lindenwald, was donated by Mr. LeMon to NPS in September 1985.

Conclusion: The vase is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

11. JAR WITH LID, multi-colored quasi-oriental motif, possibly 1850-60 (MAVA 1173)

Documentation: Same as 1172 (#10, above).

Conclusion: The jar is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

#### Ceramics--Summary

The document "Furniture of the President's House" prepared for the 27th Congress in 1842, indicates that articles of "gold band China" were purchased during Van Buren's administration. These articles might well have a connection with the French-made white and gold porcelain extant in MAVA's and a private collection (#1, 2, 8). At least some of this china (#1) descended in the Van Buren family and was undoubtedly used at Lindenwald as well.

"Willow" china was similarly purchased for the President's House in 1839 and the extant blue and white sets (#5, 6, 7) might have some connection. Van Buren ordered glassware, presumably for his own use, from Davenport & Co. in 1839 and it is possible that ironstone china such as the "Amoy" (#5, 6) was ordered from the English company at that time.

The china teapot and candlesticks ordered by John Van Buren for his father in 1841 have not survived, nor have any "vegetable dishes" aside from those in the sets previously mentioned.

Although there is no period documentation for the four delft vases (#9-11), they could have been acquired by Van Buren when he visited Holland and England in 1853-55.

The "tea and breakfast set" which Van Buren highly valued and which was broken by a Lindenwald servant in 1845 has not been identified although the reference indicates it was French and may have been first used at the President's House.

Note: Numerous ceramic sherds of various types, including stoneware and porcelain, and patterns dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, have been found through archaeological excavations and the collection of surface salvage. These sherds have not yet been studied in detail and are not included in this report. See "Historic Structure Report: Archeological Data Section, February 1983" for a preliminary analysis.

## CLOCKS

### References

1. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I was favorably inclined to the first round clock at sound price--I wish you would ask John to send it to me through a draft on the Bank . . . ."

2. 1906, February 22. Ernest P. Hoes, quoting Peter V.B. Hoes in The Columbia Republican (MAVA files)

"One day soon after he (VB) had settled at Lindenwald, a caller was approaching his comfortable surroundings and remarked: 'Ah, I see, sir, you have an old fashioned Dutch clock in the hall!' 'Yes, certainly,' he said; 'John was determined I should have one, and picked it up in Chatham street.'"

### Extant Clocks

1. SHELF CLOCK, mahogany veneer and maple, late classical, with painted decoration and engraved portrait of Martin Van Buren glued to glass, Northrup & Smith, North Goshen, Connecticut, 1833-36 (MAVA 130)

Documentation: Purchased by CCHS c. 1933 from H.P. Frear, the clock was reputedly owned by the Van Buren family. NPS acquired the clock from the Society in 1977.

Conclusion: There is no documentation for the clock's having been owned by the Van Buren family and there is no indication that the clock was at Lindenwald. However, the clock, which bears a portrait of MVB, could be used because of its Van Buren association.

### Clocks--Summary

No "round" clock associated with MVB has survived nor has the "Dutch" clock mentioned in the 1906 article. The shelf clock in MAVA's collection (#1) is an interesting bit of political memorabilia, with a weak "Van Buren family" association.

## GLASSWARE

### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"Those small fluted decanters sold for 3 dollars a pair which I fear was a sacrifice. There still remain 2 large fluted decanters, 2 glass pitchers, 2 claret pitchers & 4 salt sellers upon which the highest bids were for the first 17 shillings a piece, for the 2nd \$4 a pair, for the 3rd \$2½ a piece & 4th 9 shillings a piece. I rather think I shall let Croswell take the lot at those prices."

2. 1829, August 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I have explained myself to John after the subject of Decanters--The Decanters which I have & to which I directed him to make additions are plain fine glass not cut. Let the Tumblers & glasses correspond & get them in such numbers as you think I shall want. I have none now."

3. 1839, June 25. Invoice for MVB (Pres. of US), Davenport Co. (England) (LC-VB)

"London, 82 Fleet St. 25 June 1839. Bot. of Davenport Co., Manufacturers of Earthenware, China & Glass, Longport, Staffordshire/Warehouse, Canning Place Liverpool

24 Small Wine Glasses, Engraved 'Queens pattern'			
24 Large "	"	"	"
24 Claret	"	"	"
24 Liqueur	"	"	"
24 Hock	"Topaz	"	"
24 Flat Champagne "	"	"	"
24 Water Carafes & Tumblers	"	Nemours	
24 Wine Glass Coolers	"	"	
2 Quart Jugs	"	"	Queens pattern
4 Goblets	"	"	"
2 Quart Globe Decanters	"	"	"
Strong Iron bound Case			

Charges on the above P British Queen Steamer

addressed by order of Jno Van Buren Esq to his father  
The President of the United States  
(for the President's House)  
care of Jessee Hoyt Esq  
New York  
Shipped P British Queen Steam Ship"

4. 1841, March 29. R.H. Hammond (W), Nat. Arch. Int. Pub. Bldg. & Grnds. 3016 (Let. Rec'd Vol. 30)

"...a number of boxes were sent on to New York from the President's House but these contained furniture, glass, books...which belonged to Mr. Van Buren & his son Major Van Buren."

5. 1841, October 20. Wm Davenport (Liverpool) to JVB (A) (LC-VB)

"Our London House has requested us to transmit to you the enclosed account for glass amt. £62.12.6 which was sent to the President of the United States in June 1839 by British Queen. We should feel obliged by your presenting the same to your father in order that it may be put in a train for being remitted by an early packet."

6. 1841, December 3. MVB (L) to G. Newbold (PSU-ADH)

"My son purchased glass of Davenport & Co. London to the amount of £62.12.6 Sterling which I have for some time desired to pay...."

7. 1845, January 4. MVB (L) to JKP (MORR)

"There is not a house in the country where there has been so much destruction of china & glass as in mine. If those articles are as good manure as muslin curtains my farm cannot fail to flourish for I have scarcely a field which has not been covered with them through the ashery, the great storehouse for broken articles."

8. 1848, February 9. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSU-ADH)

"The Dr. went off in such a hurry I had not time to tell him the history of the ducks. They were not a present from me any more than your English glass."

9. 1849-55(?). Thomas Hart Benton, Thirty Years' View (as quoted in Peckham's History of C.M. Van Buren, p.118)

"I am rather chary of new customs, but after noticing Mr. Van Buren dip the tips of his fingers in the bowl and wipe them daintily on his napkin, I just raked back my cuffs and took a good plain Republican wash."

10. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929), p. 508

"Van Buren spent New Year's at Lindenwald....On a sideboard in the dining room stood rows of bottles and decanters of brandy and Schiedam and other potent beverages....On a mahogany console in the great hall was the familiar punchbowl, filled with lemonade, and sparkling red from a generous dash of Burgundy; flanking the bowl were dishes of raisins and figs and the cookies of Van Buren's childhood...."

## Extant Glassware

1. WINE GLASS, ruby etched, date undetermined (MAVA 158)

Documentation: Given to CCHS by Mrs. Harrison B. Wilson in 1967, the glass was reputedly used by Martin Van Buren. NPS purchased it in 1978.

Conclusion: The glass is possibly from the Van Buren period, but its date has not been determined and documentation of the Van Buren association is lacking. It should be retained for further study.

2. DESSERT SERVICE (66 pieces), green glass, gilt-decorated, 1840-60 (MAVA 730-795)

Documentation: This dessert set, probably Bohemian or English, was donated to NPS in 1982 by a descendant of Aaron Vanderpoel who purchased numerous furnishings from the Lindenwald estate c. 1864. According to the donor's family tradition, the set was used by Martin Van Buren.

Conclusion: The set is of the proper period to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald.

3. WINE GLASSES, CUPS and SAUCERS (18 pieces), multi-colored glass with raised decoration, late 19th century (MAVA 298)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1984 by Ambassador & Mrs. John Humes, these wine glasses, cups, and saucers were given to Mrs. Humes by her aunt, Mrs. Dickson Walsh. Mrs. Walsh had stated that the glassware had been given to her when she was about 10 years old by "Mrs. Van Buren" along with a letter stating that the glassware had been used by President Van Buren in the White House. Eight matching pieces were given in 1984 to the White House and State Department.

Conclusion: The glassware is believed to be Bohemian and too late to have been used by Van Buren either at the White House or at Lindenwald, and the letter from Mrs. Van Buren has not been found. The glassware may have belonged to a Van Buren relative or descendant and should be retained for further study.

4. FINGERBOWLS (4), green glass, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: The Kinderhook resident who owns one fingerbowl has stated that it is one of four such pieces associated with Van Buren in the owner's family.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if these fingerbowls are appropriate for Lindenwald.

5. WINE GLASS, etched, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This glass descended in the owner's husband's family, who used to work on the Lindenwald estate. It is said to be identical to glassware used by Van Buren.

Conclusion: Further investigation is necessary to determine if this glass is appropriate for Lindenwald.

6. COMPOTE, clear glass, with star motif, c. 1840 (MAVA 1171)

Documentation: This compote was donated to NPS by Alfred LeMon in September 1985. Mr. LeMon purchased the compote and four ceramic vases from a Mr. Segal at an Albany auction in the late 1960's. Mr. Segal claimed the items had come from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The compote is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

#### Glassware--Summary

The decanters, pitchers, saltcellars, and tumblers referred to in 1829 (Ref. 1) have not survived. The "Queen's Pattern" and "Nemours" glassware ordered from Davenport Co. in 1839 (Ref. 3, 5, 6) has not been identified. This English glass, neither a gift to the President from son John, nor for official use at the President's House, was paid for by Martin Van Buren himself and was probably included in the furnishings sent to New York from Washington in 1841.

A reference to "6 dozen green fingercups" ordered for the President's House in 1839 ("Furniture of the President's House," 1842) and the fingerbowls in private hands (#4) lend credence to the Benton anecdote (Ref. 9). A punchbowl, as mentioned in the Hoes anecdote (Ref. 10), is included in the green dessert set (#2).

#### LIGHTING DEVICES

#### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

highest bid on "one pair Mantel Lamps--\$45"

2. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall want to get the following articles from N York--  
1 Chandeliers for the three rooms & a Hall Lamp"



3. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres.Papers)

"I think the lamps of \$115 will do...."

4. 1829, October 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"The last box that came from Gardners & which contained also the harness for the Chandeliers contained a ground glass shade which has been [ ] but was [ ] so no more. Can its place be supplied? I fear I shall not be able to find a friend of the administration here who has genius enough to put the complicated machinery of the Chandeliers together."

5. 1831. Account Book of A. Jackson, "Furniture of Mr. V. Buren Bought for the Hermitage" (The Hermitage)

"2 Bronze Mantle Lamps"

6. 1841, July 26. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSU-ADH)

"I have taken the liberty of buying you half a dozen (3 pairs) of bedroom candles of the newest fashion. They are of china...." (See Ceramics Ref. 1 for full quotation.)

7. 1844, June 10. Account of MVB with L.S. Rexford (LC-MVB)

"1843 June 6 Pr Brass Candlesticks 10/200"

8. 1848, November 27. MVB (L) to Angelica (NY) (MAVA #702)

"I sent you before the size of the pipes of the lamp or in other words of the orifice of the Globes . . ."

9. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

#12--"Wrought iron kerosene chandelier"

10. 1938, February 12. Clementine B. deProsse to Dr. James Leath (CCHS)

"There is also on place the large centre chandelier of wght iron and chased bronze ornaments; with oil lamps and chimneys."

## Extant Lighting Devices

1. SINUMBRA LAMP, brass, etched glass shade, prisms, 1835-45 (MAVA 124)

Documentation: NPS purchased the lamp from Hendler Antiques in 1977. Mrs. Hendler had bought the lamp from a Mrs. Purdy who stated it was given to her, as Martin Van Buren's, by Peter Van Buren Hoes, who at one time lived across from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The lamp is of the proper period for Lindenwald.

2. CANDELABRA (pair), brass with glass prisms, 1830-50 (MAVA 673, 674)

Documentation: Candelabra were purchased by NPS in 1981 from John Van Buren Hoes through his father, Dr. John Hoes, who stated that they were received from the estate of Howard Van Buren and are believed to have belonged to Martin Van Buren. Dr. Hoes at one time lived in the house across from Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The candelabra are of the correct period for Lindenwald, but were electrified at a later date.

3. HANGING LAMP, brass, milk glass shade, pressed glass burner, c. 1860 (MAVA 132)

Documentation: Received by NPS from Ken Campbell in 1977, the lamp was stated by the deProsse/Akers family to have been in Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The lamp dates to the end of the Van Buren period.

4. CHANDELIER, iron, c. 1850, fitted with four kerosene burners marked "E. Miller Patd, July 21, 1863"; glass globes unmatched and shades missing (MAVA 22)

Documentation: The deProsse/Akers family states that this chandelier hung in the hall at Lindenwald and it appears in c. 1917 and 1930's photos (Figs. 6, 7, 8) in that location. Purchased by NPS from Ken Campbell in 1975 and donated to NPS.

Conclusion: Although the kerosene burners bear the patent date of 1863, the chandelier dates somewhat earlier and could have been used, probably with whale oil, during the Van Buren period.

### Lighting Devices--Summary

Correspondence (Ref. 2) indicates the presence of "Chandeliers" and a "Hall lamp" in Van Buren's Washington residence. The chandelier and hanging lamp extant in MAVA's collection (#3, 4) post-date the 1829 reference and may have been purchased especially for Lindenwald. The 1848 reference (#8) to the "orifices of the globes" may refer to the four-light iron chandelier (#4).

The "2 Bronze mantel lamps" purchased from Van Buren by Andrew Jackson in 1831 could be the "pair Mantel lamps" which remained unsold from Van Buren's Albany household in 1829 (Ref. 1, 5).

The pair of brass candlesticks referred to in 1843 (Ref. 7) have not survived nor have the china "bedroom candles" mentioned in 1841 (Ref. 6).

### PERSONAL ACCESSORIES

#### References

1. 1829, September. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"John . . . wants more & better pens & the price of them so he can pay which you know is an affair of principle with him. Try a gold one. Such were Mr. Jefferson's."

2. 1836, November 5. C. Van Buskirk (KY) to MVB (W) (LC-VB #16)

"As a testimonial of my high regard, not only for your political character, but your private worth, I herewith send you a gold mounted cane, which I trust may assist in supporting you, in ripe Old Age after filling the highest office of your Country's gifts for which I deem you entirely qualified."

3. 1843, August 24. Angelica to her mother (LC-ASVB)

"But first in her [Mary Mac's] affections of all things stands whist ...it amuses me to hear that the Ex takes her for his partner frequently & still more surprising to hear never scolds...."

1843, December 6. Ibid.

"The Ex-P has lent me the gold snuff box in which the freedom of the City of N York was presented him to contain my treasure--meet casket for it as far as the splendor of the case goes...." See Ref. 12.

1843, October 9. Ibid.

"Mary Jane & Lucretia left this morning after a very agreeable visit you would have laughed to see the Ex & me playing Whist with them on Saty morning, neither of them having ever attempted to play but once before. It was slow work."

4. 1844, June 10. Account of MVB with L.S. Rexford (LC-VB)

"1843 June 6 Rep. umbrella  
Aug 25 Rep. umbrella 37  
Sept 18 do for MVB June 1/6 19 . . .  
Dec 30 Rep. jewel for MVB June 17/2 . . .  
1844 (Jan) 26 (Rep) spectacles 1/11 19 . . .  
(Feb) 21 watch Rep.  
Pencil points 6 for AVB 6/6  
Mar 11 mend pencil 2/points 2/4.50"

5. 1845, March 29. S. Tilden (NY) to MVB (L) (LC-VB)

"I have bought and directed to be sent by the first sloop to Stuyvesant the two fishing rods. One of them you will find to be very long, but I thought I would execute this commission literally since I had concluded to exercise a liberal discretion in regard to your other trust."

6. 1845, November 6. MVB (L) to Mrs. BFB (LC)

"A friend has presented me with a beautiful box, paper, & envelopes & you have the first fruits of his generosity."

7. 1849, June 13. HDG (Ph) to MVB (L) (LC-VB)

"I hope that it [a book] has not taken so long a time in reaching you as happened with the shaving soap--of which by the by, you must let me know when you need a fresh supply."

8. 1849, November 7. Peter Graham (NY) to MVB (L) (LC-VB #31)

"The enclosed hat I lately received with a quantity of others from England & despairing of ever finding a purchaser with a head sufficiently large to fit it & having understood that you had the largest head of any man in this state, I enclose it to you hoping that it may prove of great service & be the means of protecting your venerable head & its staunch Democratic Principles from the storms & tempests that have lately been so thickly gathering around it."

9. 1856, April 26. MVB (L) to BFB (NY) as quoted in Frisbee, Friends of the Family, Butler-Van Buren

". . . please make my apology to dear Lizzie for carrying away the hair brush with which she supplied me. I was on the verge of returning it by John when Smith interfered and protested against the act as a failure in gallantry, insisting that I was bound to retain it as a keepsake. Whereupon I yielded to his better knowledge in such matters."

10. 1856, May 7. MVB (L) to BFB (NY) (LC-VB)

"The package you gave me was pocket handkerchiefs instead of the gloves."

11. 1856, May 17. MVB (L) to BFB (NY) (private collection)

"Send my glasses up to Smith at Mrs. Irving's."

12. 1860, January 18. MVB Will (Columbia Co. Courthouse)

"Fourthly--I give to my grandson Singleton Van Buren a gold snuff box presented to me with the Freedom of the City by the Corporation of the City of New York...." See Ref. 3.

13. 1930, March. (NY Times)

"Antiques exposition at the Grand Central Palace...President Van Buren's riding crop was shown yesterday in Robert Abel's 'Little Treasure Shop.' It is more than 100 years old and a secret catch on the handle releases a small sword that slides out the leather scabbard."

14. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog (National Savings Bank, Albany)

"Item 8 Gold pencil used by Martin Van Buren when Minister to the Court of St. James. Bequeathed the Columbia County Historical Society by the late Howard Van Buren Esq. [Extant, see #3, below.]

Item 25 Martin Van Buren's snuff box. Loaned by Mrs. F. Livingston Pell, Great Granddaughter of Martin Van Buren.

Item 26 Martin Van Buren's watch and fob. Loaned by Mrs. F. Livingston Pell. [Extant, see #9, below.]"

15. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

#6--"Hat box"

## Extant Personal Accessories

1. POCKET WATCH, gold, with engraved portrait of Martin Van Buren, marked "M.J. Tobias, Liverpool," 1840-50 (MAVA 74)

Documentation: This Swiss-made pocket watch was given in 1975 to CCHS to hold for Lindenwald by Sidney Schimmel, a collector in Los Angeles, CA. The engraving was taken from Inman's 1829 portrait.

Conclusion: Although the watch was not owned by Van Buren, it might be used at Lindenwald for special exhibits.

2. POCKET WATCH, gold engraved, marked "A.C.," mid-19th century, (MAVA 154)

Documentation: Purchased by NPS from CCHS in 1978, this Swiss-made watch was reputedly given to the Society in 1936 by Howard Van Buren, a collateral descendant of Hannah Hoes Van Buren, and is believed to have belonged to Martin Van Buren.

Conclusion: The watch is believed to date between 1820 and 1880 and it could have belonged to Van Buren. It would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald for special exhibits.

3. PENCIL, gold, amber stone, marked "F.T. & S.," 1830-40 (MAVA 154)

Documentation: This pencil was a bequest to CCHS from Howard Van Buren and was reputedly used by Martin Van Buren at the Court of St. James in London in 1831. NPS purchased the pencil from the Society in 1978. See Ref. 14, above.

Conclusion: The pencil would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald for special exhibits.

4. HATBOX, leather, mid-19th century (MAVA 97)

Documentation: This hatbox was purchased by NPS in 1977 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was Van Buren's. It may be the one listed in the 1936 inventory (Ref. 13).

Conclusion: This hatbox is appropriate for use at Lindenwald in Van Buren's bedroom.

5. EMBROIDERY CASE, 1810-15 (MAVA 155)

Documentation: This case containing various sewing implements reputedly belonged to Mrs. Martin Van Buren. It is not known who gave the piece to CCHS, although it might have been included with items bequeathed to the Society by Howard Van Buren in 1936. NPS purchased the case from the Society in 1978.

Conclusion: The case would be appropriate for special exhibits at Lindenwald.

6. BEADED PURSE, c. 1815 (MAVA 157)

Documentation: Bequeathed to CCHS by Howard Van Buren in 1936, this "miser's" purse reputedly belonged to Mrs. Martin Van Buren. NPS purchased the purse in 1978.

Conclusion: The purse cannot be exhibited due to its extremely fragile condition.

7. WALKING STICK, hickory, silver mounted, marked "M. Van Buren for the next President," "ANDREW JACKSON," c. 1836 (private collection)

Documentation: This walking stick or cane was acquired by the Ohio owner's great-grandfather during the Civil War (Ref. 2, above).

Conclusion: It is not known who originally owned the cane, however it would be a good interpretive piece and could be used at Lindenwald for exhibits.

8. LAP DESK, mid- to late-19th century (private collection)

Documentation: The Vermont owner stated that the lap desk had been given to her husband by his mother who told him that it once belonged to President Van Buren.

Conclusion: The mother's grandmother was a Van Buren, but there does not appear to be a connection with the family of Martin Van Buren. The lap desk appears to be of the correct period for Lindenwald and would be appropriate for use there.

9. WATCH and FOB, gold, marked "MVB," date undetermined (Museum of the City of New York)

Documentation: This watch and fob were given to the Museum in 1953 by Mrs. Francis Livingston Pell, a great-granddaughter of Martin Van Buren, who had loaned it in 1936 to the Van Buren exhibition at the National Savings Bank, Albany (Ref. 14, above).

Conclusion: The watch and fob would be appropriate for special exhibits at Lindenwald.

#### Personal Accessories--Summary

Very few personal accessories associated with Martin Van Buren and his family have survived. The MAVA collection has only five such items (#2-6) plus one commemorative watch (#1). The watch and fob listed in the 1936 catalog (Ref. 14) have been in the collection of the Museum of the City of New York since 1953.

The gold snuff box used by Angelica Van Buren for her "treasure" (a lock of Emperor Napoleon's hair), in 1843 (Ref. 3) and later bequeathed to her son, Singleton, may have been the one listed in the 1936 exhibit catalog (Ref. 14), although the latter was owned at that time by a descendant of Smith T. Van Buren. In any case, no snuff box associated with Van Buren has been located.

The gold mounted cane sent to Van Buren in 1836 (Ref. 2) has not been located. However, a silver-mounted walking stick commemorating Van Buren and Andrew Jackson survives in a private collection (#7).

Other personal articles such as spectacles, umbrellas, a hair brush, a large hat, fishing rods, and a riding crop mentioned in period and post-period references have not been identified or located.

#### PICTURES/PORTRAITS

#### References

1. 1829, April 9. W. Bowne (NY) to MVB (W) (LC-VB)

"I have the honor to enclose you a copy of a Resolution of the Common Council of the City requesting you to sit for your Portrait to be placed in the Gallery of Portraits in the City Hall.... The Artist will of course be selected by yourself and we should be pleased to be informed by you of the time and place, when and where the Portrait may be taken."



1829, April 15. MVB (W) to W. Bowne (NY) (LC-VB)

"...I shall select the artist agreeable to the [ ] given me and enable him to perform his work at the first leisure moment."

2. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall want to get the following articles from N York--...4 Pictures for the receiving room."

3. 1839, April 19. JVB (London) to MVB (W) (private collection)

"I ordered a long while ago a proof impression of the print of the Queen for you which is a capital likeness--I fear you have subscribed too for yourself as I see they send two--If you have no use for it, won't you present it to Mrs. Van Rensselaer in my name, if she has not one of her own--The painting by Sully is a perfect likeness: & this print from it, tho not so good, is excellent."

4. 1840, November 1. Angelica (Ph) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9861)

"We can't stop for Sully but will write to him to come to Wash--"

5. 1840, November 24. Angelica (W) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)

"I have just got a letter from Uncle Edward answering some enquiries I had made about Sully's additional charge for coming here to take my portrait--He asks \$200 extra which would put it entirely out of the question as entirely too extravagant even if I were well enough now to sit. I shall decline having it done for the present upon the score of my ill health."

6. 1840, December 30. Miner K. Kellogg to AJ (LC-AJ)

"Mr. van Buren proves himself as much the philosopher under defeat as he did the patriot and statesman when in the plenitude of his popularity. I was engaged during the whole presidential battle [1840], in placing upon canvas the features of the firm and unflinching defender of the rights of the People. [See Extant Pictures/Portraits, #19.]"

7. 1841, April 23. MVB Jr. (W) to MVB (NY) (PSU-ADH)

"I sent the picture off yesterday morning to the care of Cozzen's American Hotel (let Smith know this) & it may be there with this letter as I put it on 'through by railroad.' I have allow'd K \_\_\_\_\_ time to do justice to it & with my mediocre taste in such matters I should say he had without taking into consideration his own assertions." [The artist was probably Miner K. Kellogg and the subject exPresident Van Buren.]

8. 1841, May 15. MVB (L) to AJ (H) (LC-VB)

"I have our friend Col. Earles likeness of you (which is the best he took) well framed, & mean to surrender to it, and to an excellent likeness of Mr. Jefferson which I have had the good fortune to procure for my dining room. The copy of Kellogs' which he made for me at Washington, I presented to Mr. Butler on the way up."

9. 1841, July 30. MVB (L) to AJ (H) (LC-VB)

"In the absence of the great originals I have you & Mr. Jefferson on each side of my door in the dining room, in admirable likeness."

10. 1841, October 12. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSU-ADH)

"I have paid for you the following sums---...Picture frames...."

11. 1843, May 3. J.S. Walker (A) to MVB (L) (LC-VB)

"Plumbe Daguerrian Gallery...At the instance of Profr Plumbe of New York who has recently received a patent...for the production of his beautiful photograph with natural coloring...I take the liberty to ...solicit your approval of our design of gratifying the partiality of many of your fellow citizens by procuring a miniature of yourself for the purpose of engraving a portrait from it, whose fidelity can never be questioned, and by placing one of the coloured specimens in our gallery....I venture to request of you the favor of naming a time when I may wait upon you at your residence or in your vicinity--and likewise that you will be pleased to accept specimens of the art of yourself and family."

12. 1843, July 13. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)

"I was better on Saty & meant to have written...but was engaged with a Daguerreotype man who was taking the Ex & I had Baby sit to him--it proved a failure."

13. 1843, July 21. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)

"Singleton...usually points to a picture of Lady Wellesley the Duke of Wellington's Mother which hangs over our mantel."

14. 1846, January 16. W.G. Bryan to L.C. Draper (WHS)

"As you enter the parlor you see on the right of the door an excellent painting of Jefferson, on the left of Jackson....I saw over the mantel piece of the Library an engraved likeness of Mr. Clay, & scattered about the room a number of the vilest & funniest caricatures of himself. One, I recollect, exhibiting him as a fox hard chased by a pack of Whig hounds!!"

15. 1846, November 18. MVB (L) to FPB (SS) (LC-Blair Family Papers)

"Martin has promoted your likeness, by taking you from under Miss Fanny Elssler & placing you in a fine frame in the Library under General Jackson & next to your friend Clay--"

16. 1848, July 15. MVB (L) to E. Anthony (NY) (NYPL:5760 Lee Kohns Memorial Coll.)

"I have received the engraved portrait of Mr. Clay which you have had the goodness to present to me. To show you that you do me but justice in believing that political difference would not distract from the satisfaction with which I would receive this faithful likeness of an American Statesman & exquisite work of taste, I need only say that a likeness of Mr. Clay has for several years occupied a place in my library...."

17. 1850, April 25. MVB (L) to G. Worth (NY) (LC-VB)

"...letter from Mr. Poinsett...intimates his willingness to sell his pictures....My own recollection of them is very favourable but I am free to say that my judgement in such matters is of precious little value...a good opportunity for our friend Mr. Taylor to purchase a few for his new House. I certainly would not be of the number who would advise him to have anything like a Gallery of Paintings as which many people of little or no taste take to show off their magnificence. But as many scattering pictures as the House ought to contain to give harmony to the establishment he will if he does not already possess them, have to buy. The difficulty in such matters with men like Mr. Taylor and myself who do not possess cultivated tastes in regard to Paintings is the danger of having our selections condemned by our friends for no other reason, too often, than their own ignorance upon the point and the want of some authoritative opinion to guide their decisions...."

18. 1852, November 25. FPB (SS) to MVB (L) (LC-VB #32)

"Pray write a brief note to George W. Childs of Philada who sent the Jackson engraving to you--It is really a fine engraving of the finest portrait extant of the General as he was in 1819 when it was taken--Earl preserves his [ ] after his teeth were gone with an attempt on his part to put them in--But they are dreadful spiritless Daubs . . ."

19. 1852, December. Cowdrey, Am. Acad. of Fine Arts and Am. Art-Union (1953)

At the auction of pictures belonging to the American Art-Union held in New York City, December 15-17, 1852, fourteen were bought by members of the Van Buren family, as follows:

Bought by Smith, S. T., or S. Van Buren:

"167. Indian Girl giving drink to a Trapper [by Alfred Jacob Miller], 20 x 24. The trapper is on horseback--the scene is a broad prairie. \$65.00. S.T. Van Buren."  
[Note: see Extant Pictures/Portraits #24, below]

"176. View in Paris [by Thomas Doughty], oval 17 x 19½. A view in which spires are seen rising from foliage, with the Seine in the distance. \$85.00. S. Van Buren."

"184. A Corner of the Artist's Studio [by James W. Glass, Jr.], 17 x 21. A study of easels, plaster casts, etc., with a model waiting. \$50.00. S. Van Buren."

"223. Rabbit Hunting [by Thomas H. Hinckley], 54 x 40. Two terriers are watching at a rabbit hole, ready to pounce upon the first one that shows his head. On the rocks are dead rabbits, a gun, etc. \$475.00. Smith Van Buren."

"288. The Pets--watercolor [by F. Dewchet or Dewhert], 11 x 14. A little child sitting on a doorstep with a bowl and spoon, dividing his breakfast with a dog and cat. \$25.00. Smith Van Buren."

Bought by \_\_\_\_\_ Van Buren (Cowdrey, AAFA & AAU, pp. 256, 397) or S. Van Buren (Stearns, "Addendum: Sale of Art-Union Holdings, 1852," ibid, pp. 301, 304):

"83. View of the Drachenfels--Rhine [by Thomas Worthington Whittredge], 36 x 26. Wooded hills in the foreground. The river in the middle distance, beyond which rise the Drachenfels, on the other side of which the sun is setting. \$140.00. Van Buren" (Cowdrey) or S. Van Buren (Stearns).

"128. Indian Falls near Cold Spring [by William Rickarby Miller], 20 x 24. A waterfall among thick woods, which fill most of the picture. \$37.50. Van Buren" (Cowdrey) or S. Van Buren (Stearns).

Bought by John or Jno. Van Buren [not described in full here, since John Van Buren did not make his home at Lindenwald as his brother Smith did]:

"51. Fruit [by J. T. Peele]. \$47.50."

"61. Female Head [by Jared B. Flagg]. \$40.00."

"65. Landscape--Composition [by James R. Waterston]. \$80.00."

"93. Passing Shower [by Jasper F. Cropsey]. A pastoral landscape. \$47.50."

"233. The Game of Chess [by Richard Caton Woodville]. \$65.00."

"246. What can a young lassie do wi' an auld man? [by Francis W. Edmonds]. \$320.00."

"278. Sandy Beach--Mount Desert [by Richard W. Hubbard]. \$120.00."

20. 1858, April 24. MVB (L) to Mrs. HDG (LC-VB)

"Healy has distinguished himself greatly by my likeness. He finished it in a week and would have injured it had he spent another hour upon it. The head is decidedly better than the one he took at Philadelphia and it will be entirely different from all the others in respect to its plainness and simplicity not a curtain or an ornament upon it.

I sent it down to Washington early next week." [See Extant Pictures/Portraits #12]

21. 1858, July 1. JVB (NY) to J.F.H. Claiborne (Miss.) (LC-VB)

"The photographs of Cambreleng & my father are sent to Clarence Pell as you desire--when I get better looking, I will send you mine. Brady took my father's--it is a fine specimen of the art & shows well the preservation of my father's physical vigor...."

22. 1861, October 15. JVB (CS) to MVB (PSU-ADH)

"The enclosed from Mr. Huntington should be attended to. I have written him that I have put the matter in a train to be arranged. The painting is what we agree to pay & the frame is reasonable. I suggested to Mr. Pruyn that the Trustees might be inclined to furnish the frame, but he wrote that he thought we would, on reflection, think better to do so & on consulting with Smith I think & yourself that course was taken. Will you see about having the account liquidated & let Smith present it to the Trustees in our names in a suitable manner."

23. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929)

"...plain chest of drawers [in Van Buren's bedroom]. On one of these is an unframed portrait of Silas Wright. It is small; and of the type our early artists called a cabinet . . . In the center of the windowless west wall hangs an illuminated tribute to Jackson. On either side of this memento of his friend is a silhouette of Van Buren. These, too, are simply framed...."

24. 1891, May 24. G.A. Townsend, New York Sun

"Van Buren was not a great reader but he loved literary society and the engraved picture of the authors of America is in this room, as if they were welcome here--Cooper, Bryant, Longfellow, Irving, Prescott, Taylor, Willis, and others." [Note: This engraving was not published until after Van Buren's death.]

25. 1898, August. Peter V.B. Hoes, NY Times

"In his [Van Buren's] chamber I have seen on the hanging texts some especially marked, which no doubt, she [his niece, Miss Cantine] had striven to impress upon his mind and heart."

26. 1906, February 22. Ernest P. Hoes, The Columbia Republican (MAVA files)

"A droll instance of his hospitality...is given by some wag who once found his way to Lindenwald. After the usual salutations the old gentleman invited the callers to the sideboard, and set before him various articles of refreshment, and then turned away and became engrossed in a picture on the wall. 'I know he knew all those pictures by heart,' the thirsty man said afterward, 'but he just did that so I could get a good square drink. I call that downright politeness and hospitality.'"

27. 1913. Peckham, History of Cornelius Maessen Van Buren

"The years of 1853-1855 he spent in foreign travel, and it is related that while in Holland he was received in audience by the then King of Holland, and given a drawing of the Coat-of-Arms....These Arms are remembered by persons still living as having hung on the wall of the hall at Lindenwald, and one of the grandsons told one of his cousins of the incident and this cousin gave to the Editor a cut of the Arms."

28. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog, The National Savings Bank, Albany

"Item 1 Portrait of Martin Van Buren, by Inman from his original portrait of Van Buren painted for Miss Theodora Duer at the request of Van Buren. Loaned by Alexander Duer Harvey, Esq., Great Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren.

"Item 5 Portrait of Martin Van Buren by Daniel Huntington, painted in 1848. Loaned by Miss Sarah G. Duer, Great Granddaughter of Martin Van Buren.

"Item 7 Miniature of Hannah Hoes, wife of Martin Van Buren. Artist unknown. Bequeathed the Columbia County Historical Society by the late Howard Van Buren, Esq.

"Item 12 Copy coat of arms of the Van Buren family. Loaned by Dr. Harriet Van Buren Peckham."

29. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald,"  
Appendix IV

Item 23 "Eulogy to Andrew Jackson which hung in Van Buren's room."

Item 24 "Four large steel engravings."

Extant Pictures/Portraits

1. MINIATURE PORTRAIT of Martin Van Buren, by Daniel Wagner (1802-1888), watercolor on ivory, unsigned, framed, 1846 (MAVA 727). The following is written on a piece of cardboard set in the frame behind the portrait: "Martin Van Buren From Life in 1846, For Sale Price \$100, by Daniel Wagner, 212 5th Ave. New York."

Documentation: This portrait was purchased by NPS in 1982 from Mr. & Mrs. Horatio Adey of Delhi, New York. The portrait descended in Mr. Adey's family; there is no further information on it. A miniature of MVB by Maria Louisa Wagner, Albany (sister of Daniel) was exhibited by the artist in 1847 at the National Academy of Design. This has not been located.

Conclusion: This portrait has no apparent connection with Lindenwald, but it is an excellent likeness of the ex-President taken during his early retirement years by a prominent area artist and suitable for an interpretive exhibit.

2. MINIATURE PORTRAIT of Martin Van Buren, watercolor on ivory, signed "T.S.," framed, 1839 (MAVA 946). The following inscription was on a piece of paper taped to the reverse of the miniature (removed during conservation): "M. Van Bluen-- President of the United States of America, T. Sully Pinxt 1839."

Documentation: The portrait was purchased by NPS (donated funds) from antiques dealer Priscilla Ziesmer of Malden Bridge, N.Y., in 1983. Mrs. Ziesmer received the portrait from another dealer in the Poughkeepsie area; the provenance of the portrait is not known.



Conclusion: This likeness of Van Buren was not taken "from life" but either from Henry Inman's 1829 portrait or from one of the many prints of the Inman portrait made in the 1830s. John Van Buren was in London when Thomas Sully (1783-1872) painted Queen Victoria's portrait in 1838-39 and it is possible that some contact was made at that time, although the artist of this portrait is believed to be Sully's son, Thomas W. Sully, or Thomas Sully, Jr. (1811-1847), who often signed his works "T.S." too and who was doing miniatures at that time. This portrait has no apparent connection with Lindenwald.

3. REVERSE PAINTING ON GLASS, portrait of Martin Van Buren, unsigned, framed, marked "M van Buren," 1830-40 (MAVA 189)

Documentation: This portrait was given to CCHS by the National Commercial Bank in 1967 and purchased by NPS in 1978. Artist and provenance unknown.

Conclusion: This portrait has no apparent connection with Lindenwald.

4. MINIATURE PORTRAIT of Hannah Hoes Van Buren, watercolor on ivory, artist unknown, framed, c. 1819 (MAVA 171)

Documentation: This miniature was purchased from CCHS in 1978. It had been given to the society in 1936 by Howard Van Buren with the following label: "Hannah Hoes, Great Aunt of Howard Van Buren and Wife of Martin Van Buren. The hair is her own and that of her brother Peter I. Hoes Maternal Grandfather of H.V.B. After her death in [1819] three of these miniatures were made for the ex-President & this one presented by him to Maria Cornelia Hoes, daughter of said Peter I. Hoes & mother of H.V.B. This should be given eventually to the Government at Washington, D.C., H.V.B."

Conclusion: The other two miniatures of Mrs. Van Buren have not survived. It is likely that one was kept by the ex-President for himself. Although there is no reference to any portrait of his wife at Lindenwald, this one may be used as an exhibit item.

5. MINIATURE PORTRAIT of Martin Van Buren, unsigned, no description available, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This miniature is owned by a descendant of Smith T. and Henrietta Van Buren who live in California.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this portrait is appropriate for Lindenwald.



6. LITHOGRAPH of silhouette of Martin Van Buren, "From Life by W.H. Brown, lith of E.B. & E.C. Kellogg," 1844 (MAVA 177)

Documentation: This lithograph was purchased from CCHS in 1978. The original silhouette was made in Washington in 1839 and the lithographs were published in the "Portrait Gallery of Distinguished American Citizens" in Hartford, Conn., in 1845. A number of these lithographs survive in museum collections.

Conclusion: A copy of this lithograph may be one of the silhouettes referred to by Lynch as having hung in Van Buren's bedroom.

7. POLITICAL CARTOONS (7), various subjects, artists, and publishers, 1830-50 (MAVA 231-233, 235, 237, 239)

Documentation: This group of political cartoons depicting Van Buren was part of the Albert S. Callan collection donated to NPS in 1978 by Columbia-Greene Community College.

Conclusion: These particular pieces do not have a Lindenwald provenance, but they would be appropriate for use in the library as the "caricatures" referred to in 1846 (Ref. 14).

8. POLITICAL CARTOON, "The Fox Chase," J. Childs, New York, c. 1840 (Library of Congress MF 28A)

Documentation: Provenance unknown.

Conclusion: This cartoon is believed to be the one described by W.G. Bryan in his 1846 letter recalling his visit to Lindenwald (Ref. 14). A copy of this cartoon would be appropriate for use in the library (Room 111).

9. LITHOGRAPH, "Our Great Authors, a Literary Party at the Home of Washington Irving," marked "A. Chappell Pinxt., published by Whitmark & Co., N.Y., T. Sinclairs Litho Phila.," c. 1865 (MAVA 70)

Documentation: Purchased by NPF for NPS from Ken Campbell in 1975, this print was among the furnishings left in the house when Campbell acquired it in 1957.

Conclusion: Possibly the print referred to by G.A. Townsend in 1891, this lithograph has a Lindenwald provenance but is too late to have been used in the Van Buren period. If a pre-1862 version is found, it would be appropriate since Van Buren was well acquainted with Washington Irving and other American authors of the day.

10. ENGRAVING, "In Honour of Andrew Jackson," marked "Composed and designed by Isaac F. Bragg, Engraved by Theodore Durand, Augt 1835," New York, 1835 (MAVA 99)

Documentation: This engraving was purchased by NPS in 1977 from Ken Campbell who claimed it was part of the Van Buren furnishings. It was listed in Mrs. deProsse's 1936 inventory of Lindenwald as "Eulogy to Andrew Jackson which hung in Van Buren's room" (Ref. 29) and was probably the "illuminated tribute to Jackson" referred to by Lynch (Ref. 23).

Conclusion: This is appropriate for Lindenwald, room 209.

11. PORTRAIT of ANDREW JACKSON, oil on canvas, no description available, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This portrait, possibly by Ralph E.W. Earl (1785-1838), is in private hands in Oyster Bay, Long Island. The owner obtained the painting from Mr. James Abee, a dealer, who said it descended in the family of Mrs. Martin Van Buren.

Conclusion: Mrs. Smith T. Van Buren (nee Henrietta Irving) was from Oyster Bay and it is more likely that the portrait descended through her. If so, this may be the portrait of Jackson that Van Buren had at Lindenwald (Ref. 8). Further investigation is needed to determine if this painting is appropriate for Lindenwald.

12. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by G.P.A. Healy (1813-1894), oil on canvas, signed, framed, inscribed "Painted at Lindenwald, April 12, 1858," (White House 858.1336.1)

Documentation: White House records state that this portrait by George P.A. Healy was "painted for the White House and purchased by the government in 1858 from the artist at a cost of \$800" (Ref. 20).

Conclusion: Although this portrait of the ex-President was painted at Lindenwald, it did not hang there but was sent to Washington soon after its completion. The portrait does have great interpretive value and it, or a copy, would not be inappropriate for exhibit at MAVA.

13. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, oil on canvas, signed "G.P.A. Healy/Phila, April 15th/1857," framed (Corcoran Gallery of Art 79.12)

Documentation: Purchased by Corcoran Gallery of Art with 16 other portraits in 1879 from T.B. Bryan, Washington, D.C. "Painted from life, and is considered a perfect likeness as well as vigorous work. A half length copy by Healy is in the President's House."

Conclusion: This is the portrait which Healy "took at Philadelphia," however, it is not clear for whom the portrait was originally painted nor where it hung.

14. PORTRAIT of ANGELICA VAN BUREN, by Henry Inman, oil on canvas, signed, c. 1842 (White House 890.2061)

Documentation: Painted by Henry Inman (1801-1846), this portrait was "left to the White House in the bequest of Travis C. Van Buren, son of Abraham and Angelica Van Buren. Accepted by the government for the White House, 1890."

Conclusion: This portrait of Van Buren's daughter-in-law was probably painted in New York and hung in Abraham and Angelica's various residences there, rather than at Lindenwald. The portrait does have great interpretive value and it, or a copy, would be appropriate for exhibit at MAVA.

15. PORTRAITS of MARTIN VAN BUREN (4), by Henry Inman, 3 signed, oil on canvas, c. 1835-40 (Metropolitan Museum of Art 93.19.2; New York Historical Society 1959-28; Philipse Manor Hall; private collection)

Documentation: These four portraits painted by Henry Inman are currently located in the New York City area and came to their present collections through various channels. The portraits do not appear to have Van Buren family connections, although information on their provenances is incomplete.

Conclusion: These portraits were painted while Van Buren was in Washington and a number of prints were engraved from the original. They have no apparent connection with Lindenwald, although it is not impossible that one of these portraits might have hung there.

16. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Henry Inman, no description available, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This painting by Henry Inman is owned by a descendant of John Van Buren in New York State and is believed to be the portrait referred to in the 1936 exhibit catalog as having been painted for Miss Theodora Duer "at Van Buren's request" (Ref. 28).

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this portrait would be appropriate for Lindenwald.

17. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, oil on canvas, by Daniel Huntington (1816-1906), c. 1860? (New York State Office of General Services, n.d.)

Documentation: This portrait by Daniel Huntington now hangs in the New York State Capitol in Albany. Provenance unknown.

Conclusion: There is not sufficient information to determine if this portrait has a Van Buren family history or Lindenwald connection.

18. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Daniel Huntington (1816-1906), no description available, 1848 (private collection?)

Documentation: This painting by Daniel Huntington was loaned for the 1936 Albany exhibit by a great-granddaughter of Martin Van Buren, descended through John Van Buren (Ref. 28). The current owner and location of this portrait is not known. This was probably the portrait by Huntington loaned by John Van Buren for the National Academy exhibition of 1849.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to locate this portrait and determine if it is appropriate for Lindenwald.

19. PORTRAITS of MARTIN VAN BUREN (2), by Miner Kilbourne Kellogg (1814-1889), oil on canvas, c. 1840 (Cincinnati Art Museum 1890.56, and private collection)

Documentation: See Ref. 6-8. One portrait by Miner Kilbourne Kellogg (1814-1889) was donated to the Museum by Charles H. Kellogg, Jr., the artist's nephew. The other portrait is still in the artist's family.

Conclusion: The "copy of Kellogg's which he made for me at Washington" which Van Buren presented to Butler in 1841 may well have been taken from one of these portraits. The two extant portraits apparently remained in the artist's possession. If another version is found, it would be appropriate for use at Lindenwald as an exhibit item.

20. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, oil on canvas, unsigned, framed, c. 1840 (Kinderhook Memorial Library)

Documentation: This painting by an unidentified artist, possibly Ezra Ames (1768-1836), was given to the Library at the time of its dedication in 1933 by Mrs. George Davie in memory of her husband.

Conclusion: It is not known how the portrait came into Mrs. Davie's possession and there is no apparent connection with Lindenwald.

21. LITHOGRAPH, PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, c. 1846 (National Portrait Gallery NPG 78,84e)

Documentation: This lithograph by an unidentified artist is after a daguerreotype by John Plumbe, Jr., and was published as part of "The National Plumbeotype Gallery" in 1847. See Ref. 11.

Conclusion: The artist may be John S. Walker who wrote to Van Buren in 1843 "at the instance of Profr Plumbe" to request a miniature "for the purpose of engraving a portrait from it." "Coloured specimens" were promised Van Buren and his family and a copy of this lithograph would be appropriate for Lindenwald.

22. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, daguerreotype, by Mathew Brady, case: "Brady's Gallery, 206 & 207 Broadway, New York," c. 1856 (National Portrait Gallery NPG 76.104)

Documentation: This daguerreotype by Mathew Brady (1823-1896) was purchased from Janet Lehr, Inc. No other information on provenance is available.

Conclusion: This Brady photograph is of the correct date to be the one referred to by John Van Buren as showing his father's "physical vigor" (Ref. 21). This daguerreotype or a copy of it would be appropriate for exhibit at Lindenwald.

23. PORTRAIT of MARTIN VAN BUREN, photograph by Mathew Brady, date undetermined (Library of Congress LC USZ62 19608)

Documentation: The date of this widely published photograph by Mathew Brady is unknown but is believed to be c. 1857-62.

Conclusion: A copy of this photograph, now unlocated, was owned by Van Buren's great-granddaughter, Ellen Van Buren Pell. That copy or another would be appropriate for exhibit at Lindenwald.

24. OIL PAINTING, "Indian Girl Giving Drink to a Trapper," by Alfred Jacob Miller (1810-1874), signed "A. Miller" and dated 1850, 24 x 20 inches.

Documentation: The artist sold this painting to the American Art-Union in 1851 and in December 1852 it was bought at the Art-Union sale by Smith Van Buren (see Ref. 19). It was sold again, on October 17, 1980, at Sotheby's New York (Sale 4435M, American & Western Paintings, Lot 19, color illus. p. 19 and cover). The present ownership is not known.

Conclusion: Efforts should be made to locate and acquire this painting, which almost certainly hung at Lindenwald from 1853 to 1862.

### Pictures/Portraits--Summary

Extant portraits of Martin Van Buren in over 35 museum and private collections clearly show that he was the popular subject of numerous artists, engravers, and photographers throughout his political career and well into his retirement. It is beyond the scope of this report to list all of the paintings, prints, and daguerreotypes of Governor, Vice President, President, and ex-President Van Buren that were produced between 1829 and 1862. Only those having a documented or possible connection with Lindenwald are discussed.

Although there are no references to portraits of Van Buren himself at Lindenwald during the historic period, there are a number of paintings by well-known artists which could be used in exhibits. Those include the portraits by Healy (#12), Inman (#15, 16), Huntington (#17, 18), and Kellogg (#19). The miniature portraits by Wagner (#1) and Sully (#2) and lithographs such as #6 and #21 and Brady photographs (#22, 23) are also recommended for interpretive use at MAVA.

References do indicate that Lindenwald was furnished with "likenesses" of friends or political associates Van Buren admired such as Andrew Jackson, Thomas Jefferson, Henry Clay, and Silas Wright. Other family members added Francis Preston Blair, Fanny Elssler, Lady Wellesley, and Queen Victoria to the list of likenesses adorning Lindenwald. None of these particular paintings or engravings have been located, although it should be possible to procure other copies.

The "caricatures" referred to by W.G. Bryan in 1846 are believed to be political cartoons produced in great numbers during the period. Again, the particular cartoons have not been identified, except for "The Fox Chace" (#8).

In December 1852, Smith and John Van Buren bought a number of contemporary American paintings at the auction dispersing the American Art-Union's collection (Ref. 19). Those acquired by Smith probably were hung at Lindenwald in the addition or, perhaps, in the main part of the house. One of these paintings has been located (#24). Those bought by John probably were for his own home in New York City.

There is little information on the "pictures" other than portraits at Lindenwald, although in 1829, Van Buren ordered four unidentified "pictures" for the receiving room of his Washington residence and in 1850, Van Buren acknowledged that "scattering pictures" gives "harmony" to a house. Unfortunately, the references to the engraving of the "Authors of America" (Ref. 16), the drawing of the Van Buren Coat of Arms (19), and the religious "hanging texts" (17) post-date the Van Buren period, as do those to "an unframed portrait of Silas Wright," and a silhouette of Van Buren himself (Ref. 20). An "illuminated tribute" or "eulogy" to Jackson (Ref. 20 and 22) survived in the house until acquired by NPS (#10).

## SCULPTURE

### References

1. 1841, December 4. H. Inman (NY) to MVB (K) (DLC-3720)

"I have been so fortunate to obtain a sight of Mr. Powers' bust of yourself and I cannot resist the desire I have to express to you the unqualified pleasure it has given me both as a work of Art and as the very best likeness I have ever seen.

Pray allow me to congratulate you upon the possession of so perfect a product from the chisel of an American...." Inman included this bust in his portrait of Angelica Van Buren, 1842. See Figure 22.

2. 1858, August 8. MVB (L) to Mrs. HDG (P) (HSP)

"I have for some time contemplated getting a competent sculptor to come to Lindenwald to take copies of Powers....Then your niche will be supplied...."

3. 1858, September 29. HDG (P) to MVB (L) (LC-VB)

"The Bust!! a hold [?] to the wife. Do not let memoir-writing drive it from your memory."

4. 1860, January 18. MVB Will (Columbia County Courthouse)

"Fourthly...to my grandson Martin son of Abraham the marble bust made of me by Powers, which I had previously presented to his mother and now transfer to the son by her direction...."

Fifthly. I direct my executors to expend four hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in obtaining a copy of the bust of me by Powers, which copy I give to my grandson Edward Livingston Van Buren."



5. 1863, September 4. JVB (L) to SJT (NY) (NYPL-Tilden Papers)

"My father left to the Col's son Martin a bust of himself by Powers. Smith & I have ordered two copies or as they are to be executed by Powers, they will in effect be originals. The cost will be about \$500, something under. They should arrive in October or November. The value of a bust by Powers as a work of Art exceeds the sum named. It would be more convenient for me I am sorry to say not to take this bust, & I know nobody to whom I would offer it, except yourself or would prize it so highly. Please drop me a line to let me know if it would be agreeable to you to take it. I need hardly [ ] that this is a confidential matter between us."

6. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog (The National Savings Bank, Albany)

Item 6 "Bust of Martin Van Buren by Powers. Loaned by the Columbia County Historical Society through the courtesy of John Van Buren Duer, Esq., Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren."

Extant Sculpture

1. BUST of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Hiram Powers (1805-1873), marble, 1837-40 (White House 890.3751)

Documentation: "Left to the White House in the bequest of Travis C. Van Buren, son of Abraham and Angelica Van Buren. Accepted by U.S. Government for the White House in 1890. This is one of three busts of Van Buren done by Powers and possibly the bust which appears in the portrait of Angelica Van Buren by Inman. Van Buren sat for Powers in Washington, D.C., in January 1836, when Van Buren was Vice President. The marble was executed in Florence, Italy" (White House catalog records).

Conclusion: This is undoubtedly the Powers bust bequeathed in Van Buren's 1860 will to his grandson, Martin. When Martin died in 1885, the bust apparently passed to his brother, Travis. This bust was at Lindenwald during Van Buren's lifetime.

2. BUST of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Hiram Powers, marble, c. 1863 (MAVA 967)

Documentation: This bust descended in the family of John Van Buren and was purchased by NPS in 1983 from CCHS.



Conclusion: This is apparently the "copy" John Van Buren had made after his father's death. Although the bust was offered to Samuel J. Tilden in 1863, it apparently stayed in Van Buren family hands (Ref. 5). Appropriate for use in Lindenwald in lieu of original bust (#1).

3. BUST of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Hiram Powers, marble, c. 1863 (New-York Historical Society 1942.465)

Documentation: Donated to NYHS in 1942 by descendants of Smith T. Van Buren, this is the other copy made by Powers himself after the ex-President's death (Ref. 5).

Conclusion: Smith commissioned this bust probably in compliance with the provision of Van Buren's will which called for the expenditure of \$400 for a copy of the Powers bust for Edward Livingston Van Buren, Smith's son. Identical to the bust in MAVA's collection, this one is not needed at Lindenwald.

4. BUST of MARTIN VAN BUREN, by Erastus Dow Palmer (1817-1904), marble, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: No information on provenance; current location of bust is not known. Letter, Hirschl & Adler Galleries to Superintendent Stewart, MAVA, November 6, 1980 (MAVA collection source file).

Conclusion: No apparent connection with Lindenwald.

5. BUSTS of MARTIN VAN BUREN (2), by Ferdinand or Frederick A.F. Pettrich (1790-1872), plaster, c. 1838-42 (Smithsonian Institution (NMAA) xx34; Martin VanBuren School, Kinderhook, N.Y.)

Documentation: No information on provenance except the latter had been at the New York State Governor's Mansion until it was presented to the MVB school in 1947.

Conclusion: No apparent connection with Lindenwald.

6. BUSTS of MARTIN VAN BUREN (2), by John Henri Isaac Browere (1790-1834), bronze, plaster, c. 1833 (New York State Historical Association N-204.61, N-236.40)

Documentation: No information on provenance.

Conclusion: No apparent connection with Lindenwald.

## Sculpture--Summary

Documentation is very strong for the three extant busts of Martin Van Buren by Hiram Powers. The original bust in the White House collection (#1), executed c. 1837-40, is the bust referred to in Inman's 1841 letter and it appears in Inman's 1842 portrait of Van Buren's daughter-in-law. The busts in MAVA's collection and in the collection of the New-York Historical Society (#2 & 3) by their provenance appear to be the copies commissioned by Van Buren's sons in 1863.

It is not known if Van Buren himself ever actually proceeded with his plan in 1858 to have a "competent sculptor come to Lindenwald to take copies of the Powers" for his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Gilpin, and others.

No other sculpture is mentioned as having been at Lindenwald and the other five extant busts (#4, 5, 6) of Van Buren have no apparent connection with Lindenwald.

## SILVER

### References

1. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

"All the knives, forks, & spoons were reserved without offering."

2. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"...Plateau (have bought it since) & have some idea of sending by Mrs. Rives or Mrs. McLane for a box of knives, spoons etc. I have silver spoons & table knives etc. but I suppose I shall want something of that sort in addition...."

3. 1829, August 15. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"I shall have my knives & spoons counted & let you know the amount I have from which the ladies can calculate how many I shall want."

4. 1831. Account Book, A. Jackson, "Furniture of Mr. V Buren Bought for the Hermitage" (LC-AJ #78)

"8 dozen silver knives  
4 Silver dishes with Tops, silver  
4 Silver wine coolers"

[See Ref. 10, 14.]

5. 1832, April 1. MVB (London) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"...I am off for Paris in the morning & I write this principally to say that I have sent by the Sovereign Capt. Champlain to your care three boxes Nos. 13, 24, & 25 containing plate & private [papers?] which I beg you to keep for me till my return."

6. 1836, October 19. MVB (A) to BFB (LC-VB trans.)

"That you may be able to carry into effect the design you intimated of using my house at least for a time, I send you the keys of the silver which is at the Kanes."

7. 1837, March 30. AJ (H) to MVB (W) (quoted in Bassett, Correspondence of Andrew Jackson, pp. 467-8)

"My little grandson answers, when asked who gave him the silver cup, my godfather, Mr. Van Buren." See Extant Silver, #4.

8. 1841, July 26. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSU-ADH)

"A plated teapot can be got for \$12 at one place & \$15 at Boyd & Rutfords. They are honest men. Why don't you get a silver one? That's better."

9. 1846, April 4. MVB (L) to BFB (LC-VB)

"I have rec'd by the hands of my Son the beautiful Silver Pitcher which you have had the goodness to present to me and for which I beg you to accept my sincere thanks.

My friend Mrs. Butler's advise in regard to its daily use shall be faithfully observed, as also that portion of it which relates to my final disposition of the Present in the event of the matter referred to taking the unfortunate course to which she alludes--substituting however Martin the Third for his mother on account of the inscription.

In giving the first part of her advice Mrs. Butler has, I am sure, without being aware of it been in no inconsiderable degree influenced by her consciousness of the extent to which a preference for the useful over the ornamental has through his life prevailed in the breast of the generous donor.

It can scarcely be necessary to speak of the satisfaction it will afford me to hand over to my successor this gratifying & permanent memorial of the continued respect & esteem of one; of the integrity and fidelity of whose friendship I shall carry to my grave a most grateful recollection."

See Extant Silver #1.

10. 1853, December. Description of wedding of Rachel Jackson & Dr. John M. Lawrence (The Hermitage)

"The silver used were the Decatur & Van Buren sets of such historic interest. This silver was also used by Mrs. Sarah York Jackson in entertaining President Buchanan and Vice President Breckinridge upon their visit to the Hermitage." See Ref. 4.

11. c. 1858. Will of BFB, Extract, Feb. 23, 1859 in hand of Mrs. STVB (HSP, Gilpin Papers, Poinsett section)

"I direct my Executors to lay out at least three hundred dollars in the purchase of three pieces of plate, to be presented, in my name, to my early patron & friend Martin Van Buren Ex-President of the United States, should he be living at the time of my death, and if not, then one piece to be presented to each of his three sons or their families respectively if they or any of them be dead. Each of said pieces to be inscribed with the initials of my name, the date of my entering his office (December 3, 1811) and the date of my death." See Extant Silver, #2 and 3.

12. 1858, December 13. BFB Jr. to EO & LA Butler, as quoted in Frisbee, Friends of the Family

"Father in his will directs that 3 pieces of silver shall be purchased & presented in his name to Mr. Van Buren & that they shall be of not less than \$300 in value & in such pieces that Mr. Van Buren can leave one to each of his sons. They are now being made, two pitchers and one ice bowl and will be very handsome. The shape is like that of my tea set."

13. 1860, January 18. MVB will (Columbia County Courthouse)

"Fourthly...I give to my grandson Martin son of my son Smith Thompson a silver pitcher, presented to me, some years since by my old & always sincere friend Benjamin F. Butler....Lastly...the three pieces of plate last presented to me by my deceased friend Benjamin F. Butler, I bequeath to my three sons Abraham, John, & Smith Thompson to be equally divided between them."

14. 1868, June 30. Will of Sarah Jackson (Wills & Inventories Davidson Co., TN, Roll No. 442 Vol 27 479-80)

"3rdly I give & bequeath to my daughter Rachel the wife of Dr. John M. Lawrence to wit: Two silver dishes and their covers, known as the Van Buren Dishes." See Ref. 4.

15. 1936. MVB Exhibition Catalog (The National Savings Bank, Albany)

"Item 19 Silver bowl, bearing inscription 'Martin Van Buren from B.F.B. (Benjamin F. Butler) December 3, 1811December [sic for November] 8, 1858.' Loaned by Mrs. L. Gordon Hamersley, Great Great Grand Daughter of Martin Van Buren." See Extant Silver, #3.

Extant Silver

1. PITCHER, made by Ball, Tompkins, & Black, engraved "MVB-BFB," 1839-51 (MAVA 120)

Documentation: This New York-made pitcher is believed to be the one presented to Martin Van Buren in 1846 by his "old and always sincere friend, Benjamin F. Butler," which was bequeathed to the ex-President's grandson, Martin Van Buren IV (see Reference 9 and 13 above). The pitcher was donated to NPS in 1977 by a descendant of Smith T. Van Buren.

Conclusion: The pitcher was in Van Buren's possession at the time of his death and is appropriate for use in Lindenwald since its "daily use" was suggested to MVB by Mrs. Butler.

2. 2 PITCHERS, repoussé, inscribed "Martin Van Buren from BFB, December 3, 1811, November 8, 1858," marked "G C Allen," 1858 (White House 913.2856 and private collection).

Documentation: One pitcher was given to the White House in 1913 by Mrs. Helen Singleton Green of Columbia, South Carolina, who had inherited it from her aunt, Angelica Singleton Van Buren. Silversmith G. C. Allen is listed as working on Wall St., NYC, 1844-50. The mate to this pitcher is in a private collection. These are two of three pieces of plate presented to Martin Van Buren upon the death of Benjamin F. Butler and later bequeathed to Van Buren's sons. See References 11-13 above.

Conclusion: This pitcher was in Van Buren's possession at the time of his death and would be appropriate for use in Lindenwald.

3. ICE BOWL, repousse, inscribed: "Martin Van Buren from BFB, December 3, 1811, November 8, 1858," 1858 (private collection)

Documentation: Owned by a descendant of Smith T. Van Buren, this bowl matches pitcher #2 and has the same history (Ref. 11-13, 15).

Conclusion: This piece was in Van Buren's possession at the time of his death and would be appropriate for use in Lindenwald.

4. CUP, chased, inscribed "Presented by Martin Van Buren to his godson Andrew Jackson Jr. 4. March 1837.", c. 1837 (Hermitage 1980-0-164)

Documentation: Van Buren had served as Andrew Jackson III's godfather when he was christened at the White House in 1835. The silver cup was presented to the boy two years later on the occasion of Van Buren's inauguration. See Ref. 7.

Conclusion: No connection with Lindenwald.

5. TABLESPOON, fiddle-shaped, inscribed "MVB" monogram; "H Jenkins," 1837-23 (private collection)

Documentation: This tablespoon was found by the owner in a Brooklyn, NY, dump and there is no documentation to link the spoon with Martin Van Buren beyond the date of the piece and the monogram. Jenkins was a silversmith in Albany when Van Buren was a state senator residing there, so it is possible that this spoon may have belonged to him.

Conclusion: Further investigation is necessary to determine if this spoon matches other Van Buren flatware in private collections.

6. FLATWARE, number and description unavailable, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: This flatware is owned by a descendant of Smith T. and Ellen James Van Buren in Florida.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this flatware is associated with Lindenwald.

7. FLATWARE, number and description unavailable, date undetermined (private collection)

Documentation: These pieces are owned by a descendant of Smith T. and Henrietta Irving Van Buren, in England.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this silver is associated with Lindenwald.

8. SET OF BEADED FLATWARE, number and description unavailable, inscribed "Van Buren"; marked "Platte Brothers" (?), 1820-40 (private collection)

Documentation: This set, probably made in New York, is owned by a woman in Buffalo, N.Y., whose husband is supposedly a descendant of Martin Van Buren; "family lore" says the silver belonged to the President; however, there is no documentation for this.

Conclusion: Further investigation is needed to determine if this set matches other Van Buren pieces and is associated with Lindenwald.

### Silver--Summary

The best documented silver associated with Martin Van Buren is the "3 pieces of plate" made and presented to Van Buren at Benjamin F. Butler's death in 1858 (Ref. 11-13, 15). The pitcher in the White House collection (#2) descended in the family of Abraham and Angelica Van Buren. A second pitcher, presumably left to John Van Buren, is owned by his descendants. The ice bowl (#3) descended in the family of Smith T. Van Buren, where it remains.

The silver pitcher in MAVA's collection (#1) is the piece presented by Butler "some years since" referred to in Van Buren's 1860 will (Ref. 9, 13).

The tablespoon (#5) made by Albany silversmith H. Jenkins, c. 181723, might have belonged to Van Buren, but unless other Van Buren silver is found to match this piece, the Van Buren association remains speculative.

Van Buren was in possession of silver knives, forks, and spoons when he moved from Albany to Washington in 1829, although he expected to purchase additional flatware at that time (Ref. 1-3). This may well be the silver in private collections (#5, 6, 7).

The "8 dozen silver knives, 4 silver dishes with tops, and 4 silver wine coolers" purchased from Van Buren by Andrew Jackson in 1831 have not survived in the Hermitage collection, although in 1853 the "Van Buren silver" was used at the wedding of Rachel Jackson and in 1868, two of the "Van Buren dishes" were bequeathed to her (Ref. 4, 10, 14).

It is not known if Van Buren purchased silver in England or if the plate he sent back from there in 1832 was some he already owned and had been using abroad (Ref. 5).

No plated teapot has survived and there is no mention of other silver being purchased specifically for Lindenwald (Ref. 8).



## TEXTILES

### References

1. 1816, July 31. BFB (A) to MVB (NYSL)

"Enclosed is the bill of W.W. & T.L. Chester for floor covering. The money was to be sent on its arrival. As you have now no funds in the Mechanicks Bank, will you forward them a check on the Hudson Bank, payable to the order of W.W. & T.L. Chester as they have requested."

2. n.d. MVB to Peter Hoes (K) (LC-VB #34)

List of articles: "Broom, Meat, Plates, Chambers, Buttons, Silk, Baize"

3. 1829, April 18. JVB (A) to MVB (W) (PSU-ADH)

Highest bid on "Window curtains--\$25 a window Since the sale Mr. Croswell has taken one pair for \$80...all the linen...reserved without offering."

4. 1829, July 13. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. papers)

"In the meantime I send you the enclosed to enable Mrs. Hamilton & Madame Huygens to look at the carpets & curtains at their leisure & without putting themselves to inconvenience...12 (chairs) for the drawing room...cushions to be made here & to correspond with the curtains...I think the carpets & curtains in the drawing room should be alike."

1829, August 15. Ibid.

"The ladies will remember that I am to cut an additional single window in the receiving room."

5. 1829, September 8. MVB (W) to JAH (NY) (NYPL-Pres. Papers)

"round table in sitting room with leaves which will also serve as a Breakfast table. I wish the Ladies would get a handsome covering for it."



6. 1833, September 14. A. Vail (London) to MVB (K?) (LC-VB)

"Some delay in preparing the objects to be sent to the Dept. of State has prevented my sending your chintz by the Packet of the 1st as I intended doing--and enabled me to execute your orders for the lining, according to your letter of the 13th August, since received. The whole goes in a box for the Dept. by the ship Philadelphia...the parcel is addressed to you, care of Mrs. McLane--I have executed your orders to the best of my judgement....The enclosed are samples--the pink lining for the white chintz which is intended for the Drawing room, the yellow for the other which is for the two lower and the Bedroom--I was advised to have all the latter of the same kind, as something may be saved by cutting the curtains one with another. [If] I am not so lucky as to have met your views, you will, I hope recollect that your instructions were very laconic & left nearly all to my discretion...."

7. 1837, June 2. "Furniture of the President's House" (MAVA #248)

"1837 June 2 To labelling carpet and shipping from the President's House to New York packet \$2.00"

8. 1839, July 30. STVB (A) to Angelica (Europe) (MAVA #714)

"three little tables of different heights placed under as many table cloths...." [in the dining room when Van Buren bought the house.]

9. 1840, November 4. Angelica (W) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9861)

"working hard cutting out all the house linen for Lindenwald."

10. 1840, November 11. Angelica (W) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9862)

"I am busy making up the house linen which I purchased in New York. It is all cut out already & I have Maria employed upon it."

11. 1841, June 5. H. Butler (NY) to MVB (K)

"I purchased for you 1 pr. large size Blankets at \$9, 3 prs at \$7, 2 prs servant's blankets \$4.50. I also ventured to get for you three spreads for servant's beds thinking you would probably require of them. I hope they will get to you safely & meet your approval. I got my mattings of a man (who bought out all Cary & Lee had) for 27 cents pr. yd. You see I was more fortunate than yourself and feel a little like triumphing over you."

12. 1841, July 26. JVB (A) to MVB (L) (PSU-ADH)

"I believe the table cloths also at \$4.50 a piece."

1841, July 30. Ibid.

"The table cloths were sent by the 'Rockland' yesterday."

13. 1843, October 14. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB)

"We were in the midst of putting down carpets & up stoves...."

1843, November 25. Ibid.

"Mrs. Cambreleng has given me the pattern of a new kind of patchwork which she calls 'blockwork.' She was covering a large arm chair with it & I am about to attempt a similar one...."

14. 1844, April 1 -1845, April 1. "Expenses & Disbursements"  
MVB (LC-VB)

"carpets & curtains--154.73"

15. 1845, January 4. MVB (L) to JKP (MORR)

"If those articles are as good manure as muslin curtains...."

16. 1845, June 7. Angelica (L) to mother (SC) (LC-ASVB; DLC-9893)

"There is still a good deal to do in the way of getting the house straight again...2 doz. napkins, 1 doz. chamber towels, pantry & kitchen are already marked & put in use."

17. 1845, November 23. MVB (L) to Major AVB (NY) (MAVA #700)

List of primarily kitchen articles includes "mats."

18. 1848, November 27. MVB (L) to Angelica (NY) (MAVA #702)

"Buy a pair of the Table covers at Steuarts at 18/6 I meant silks of course. If you find those that suit you get half a dozen pair."

19. 1858. Account of STVB with M.H. Reid (LC-VB)

4½ yards of Linen wide 3/yard 4½ do narrow 2/3 yard	295
16 yards green cord 2 yard 4' tassells 1/each	.72
6 Labor making Shades 4/ Labor Hanging 6/	13

20. 1862. D.T. Lynch, An Epoch and a Man (1929), p.544

MVB bedroom: "...easy chair covered with chintz...valanced windows  
...small rugs, woven of vari-colored rags...."

21. c. 1917. Photograph, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Fig. 6, room 105, showing Brussels carpet (MAVA 21).

22. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald,"  
Appendix IV

"7 -- Green Brussels carpet (22' x 20')  
13 -- Large hall Brussels carpet  
21 -- 4 pair of original drapes  
22 -- Red Brussels carpet (22' x 20')  
35 -- Brussels carpet (22' x 20')"

23. 1930s. Photographs, Rowles Studio Coll. (MAVA neg. 5120)

Figs. 8, 12, 16 showing rooms 105, 106, 111 with carpeting and curtains.

24. 1930s. Photographs, deProsse Coll. (MAVA neg. 5110)

Figs. 3-5 (room 104, carpet), 9 (room 105, carpet), 10, 13, 14 (room 106, carpet).

25. 1936. Photograph, Weig Coll. (MAVA neg. 5160)

Fig. 15 (room 106, carpet).

### Extant Textiles

1. BRUSSELS CARPET, multicolored geometric/stripe with border, 1840-60 (MAVA 21)

Documentation: Wall-to-wall carpet was found in place in room 105 (hall) of Lindenwald and was stated by deProsse/Akers family to have been in the house during Van Buren's occupancy. Carpet appears in c. 1917 and later photographs (Figs. 6-9). Purchased by NPF from Ken Campbell for NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: This carpet is of the proper period to have been used by Van Buren. It should be reproduced for use in Lindenwald, room 105, so that the original can be preserved.

2. BRUSSELS CARPET FRAGMENTS (3), red/orange/green/white geometric pattern, 1840-60 (MAVA 351-353)

Documentation: These fragments were found rolled in room 120 (back hall) at Lindenwald in 1977. A patch of this pattern was also found on #1 above (MAVA 21).

Conclusion: These fragments have not been identified with a particular room but are of the correct period to have been used by Van Buren at Lindenwald and could serve as a pattern source for reproduction.

3. BRUSSELS CARPET FRAGMENT, multicolored geometric/rosette pattern, 1840-60 (MAVA 836)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald in 1981.

Conclusion: This fragment has not been identified with a particular room but is of the correct period for Lindenwald and could be a pattern source for reproduction.

4. BRUSSELS CARPET FRAGMENTS (2), red/orange/white geometric pattern, no #, 1840-60

Documentation: These fragments were found attached to the pedals of the melodeon (MAVA 348), a Van Buren-associated piece.

Conclusion: It is not known if these carpet fragments are original to the melodeon or added at a later time, but they appear to be of the correct period. This carpet pattern could be reproduced if needed for Lindenwald.

5. CUT PILE CARPET FRAGMENT, blue/black/grey geometric pattern, 1885-1905 (MAVA 354)

Documentation: This carpet strip was found on the floor of room 120 (back hall) and was taken up in 1977.

Conclusion: Since this carpet post-dates the Van Buren period, it is not appropriate for reproduction for Lindenwald.

6. FLOOR CLOTH FRAGMENT, red/brown geometric/quatrefoil pattern, 1840-60 (MAVA 637)

Documentation: Found behind fireplace in room 112 in 1981.

Conclusion: This floor cloth dates to the Van Buren period at Lindenwald and could be reproduced, if needed.

7. FLOOR CLOTH FRAGMENT, multicolored geometric pattern, 1840-70 (MAVA Acc. 175)

Documentation: Found at Lindenwald in 1981, this fragment is similar in pattern to a floor cloth fragment found at The Hermitage (1980-0-460).

Conclusion: This kind of floor cloth was used during the Van Buren period and slightly later. It could be reproduced for Lindenwald, if needed.

8. STRAW MATTING FRAGMENT, striped, 19th century (?) (MAVA 556)

Documentation: Found at Lindenwald in 1980.

Conclusion: If this matting can be dated to the Van Buren period, it could be reproduced, if needed, for Lindenwald.

9. STRAW MATTING FRAGMENTS (2), red checked, 19th century (?) (MAVA 884-5)

Documentation: Found in the attic at Lindenwald in 1982.

Conclusion: If this matting can be dated to the Van Buren period, it could be reproduced, if needed, for Lindenwald.

10. STRAW MATTING FRAGMENTS, variegated, 19th century (?) (MAVA Acc. 307)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald collection.

Conclusion: If this matting can be dated to the Van Buren period, it could be reproduced, if needed, for Lindenwald.

11. RUSH MAT FRAGMENTS, criss-cross, 19th century (?) (MAVA Acc. 308)

Documentation: Found in Lindenwald collection.

Conclusion: If this matting can be dated to the Van Buren period, it could be reproduced, if needed, for Lindenwald.

12. CORNICE BOARDS, covered with shirred multicolored floral fabric, 19th century (?) (MAVA 16-19)

Documentation: Purchased by HPHA for NPS in 1975, these boards ("valances") appear in 1930 photos of room 106 (Figs. 12, 14) and were stated to have been in the house when Dr. Birney purchased it in 1917.

Conclusion: These cornice boards were used at Lindenwald with curtains that are no longer extant. They probably post-date the Van Buren period and their use is not anticipated.

13. CORNICE BOARDS (4), covered with green/white floral fabric, 19th century (?) (MAVA Acc. 175)

Documentation: These boards were found at Lindenwald in 1977 and may have been used in room 104.

Conclusion: These cornice boards probably post-date the Van Buren period and their use is not anticipated.

14. CORNICE BOARDS (3), covered with maroon fabric, 19th century (?) (MAVA Acc. 175)

Documentation: These boards were found in Lindenwald in 1981 and have not been identified with a particular room.

Conclusion: These pieces probably post-date the Van Buren period and their use is not anticipated.

15. Wool fibers found under a tack in the floor of room 101 do not appear to come from carpet fragments 2, 3, and 5, according to a report, May 12, 1984, from Ed McManus, conservator at NARO, to Chief, NAHPC (copy with routing slip to Carol E. Kohan, Curator, May 15, 1984, MAVA file).

### Textiles--Summary

There are numerous references to textiles including floor coverings, curtains, linens, tablecloths and furniture covers, but the only textiles to survive at Lindenwald from the Van Buren period are examples of floor coverings: Brussels carpets, painted floor cloths, and straw matting (#1-4, 6-7, 8-9).

Floor coverings were of concern to Van Buren when he furnished his Albany residence in 1816. W.W. & T.L. Chester, the New York dealers from whom Van Buren purchased floor coverings in 1816, also supplied Saxony, Brussels, and Wilton carpets for Van Buren at the President's House in 1837. A carpet was shipped from the President's House to New York in 1837; however, there is no description of the carpet, nor any indication of its final destination.

Correspondence of Angelica Van Buren indicates that the Lindenwald household followed the period practice of "putting down carpets" in the fall. References and physical evidence indicate that straw matting was used at Lindenwald during the Van Buren period, possibly under the carpets.

Expenditures were made for curtains as well as carpets for Lindenwald in 1844-45, but no period examples have survived.

Chamber towels, napkins, blankets, and spreads are also specifically mentioned as being at Lindenwald; none have survived.

## COMMUNICATION DEVICES

### References

1. 1803. MVB, Autobiography (1854), p.17.

"As I approached the porch of the house built by Judge Van Ness, I perceived that the lower half of the old-fashioned front door which was divided through the middle (a style greatly favored by our Dutch ancestors) was closed, and the upper open....I seized the knocker which was hanging near his head, and gave it a somewhat emphasized rap....The Judge died in the succeeding month of December [1804].... In the many alterations and improvements I have made in the house I have preserved the old double-door, and its knocker, as interesting memorials of my last interview with its original owner."

2. 1846. S.M. Maury, Statesmen in America in 1846, p. 67

"On ringing the bell, a gentleman stepped from the parlor; and... advanced himself to receive us. From the resemblance to his pictures, I immediately recognized the ex-President."

3. 1936. Inventory of MVB Furniture, Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV.

#15- "original silver door knocker 1797"  
#41- "old Tower bell"

4. 1938, February 12. C.B. deProsse to Dr. James Leath (MAVA files)

"Front door has old, chased bronze, silver plated knocker of 1797 wgt iron angle hinge, heavy iron rim lock, bronze key, wght iron latch for lower part of Dutch Door.... The large bronze bell in tower is still being used to call the farm hands to meals, it has a sound that carries one back to the former days."

## Extant Communication Devices

1. DOOR KNOCKER (MAVA 729), cast copper alloy, with engraved silver plate, inscribed "1797" and "Van Ness" under the plate.

Documentation: Found in situ on Dutch door (east entrance) of Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The inscriptions, style, and location of the door knocker indicate it is the original door knocker installed by Judge Van Ness and retained by Martin Van Buren, as stated in the latter's autobiography. The door knocker has been restored and is appropriately placed on the upper portion of the double door.

2. CALL BELL AND PIVOT, brass, 1830-50 (MAVA 1167)

Documentation: Call bell and pivot were found in situ on the north wall of room 304, in the servants' quarters. See HSR, "Communications," for description of mechanical bell system at Lindenwald.

Conclusion: This call bell is original to Lindenwald. Though it may pre-date the Van Buren period, it was undoubtedly used throughout the period of Van Buren's occupancy. This fixture should be retained in situ and the other elements of the system should be reproduced as appropriate following HSR recommendations.

3. BELL AND YOKE (MAVA 25), date undetermined, yoke inscribed "CA(H)ILL"

Documentation: The large bell, found in situ in Lindenwald's tower, was donated to NPS in 1976 by Ken Campbell who stated it was "associated with Lindenwald and the period of its occupancy by President Van Buren."

Conclusion: Although the bell was included in the 1936 inventory of Van Buren furnishings, NPS architects believe it dates from after the Van Buren period. It was removed from the tower by the NAHPC restoration crew in 1985 and will be retained in MAVA's study collection.

## Communication Devices--Summary

Physical and documentary evidence indicate a mechanical bell system was used at Lindenwald during the historic period, and also that the original 1797 Van Ness door knocker was purposely retained by Martin Van Buren.



Although twentieth century sources associate the tower bell with Van Buren, there is no period evidence to confirm this and the physical evidence suggests that it is later.

## HEATING DEVICES

### References

1. 1843, June 20 & 22. ASVB (L) to Mrs. R.S. (LC-ASVB)

"We have had a fire in the sitting room nearly every day & occasionally even in my bedroom."

2. 184?, June. ASVB to ? (LC-ASVB)

"I did not have the grate taken down in my room till Sat'y & was doubtful then as we had had fire the day before."

3. 1843, October 9 & 14. ASVB (L) to Mrs. R.S. (LC-ASVB)

"We were in the midst of putting down carpets & up stoves...."

4. 1845, November 23. Note on back of MVB (L) to Major AVB (NY) (MAVA 700)

This list of household items bought or to be bought, possibly for Lindenwald, includes a "fire iron nursery," "bedroom ditto," "coal scuttle," and "firecarrier." See General Furnishings, Ref. 21.

5. 1936. Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"38--Van Buren's copper hot water boiler  
(name painted on side)

39--original Boynton furnace...

40--original stove and dutch oven..."

6. 1938, February 12. C.B.deProse to Dr. James Leath (HFR Appendix D)

"The pot furnace still in place and in good condition, is a Boyington [Boynton] furnace of 1854.

Basement kitchen has an interesting cast iron (Gothic style) range and baker's oven, built into fireplace opening.

A heavy 60 gal. copper boiler with Van Buren's name...at property."

7. 1938, February. V.A. deProsse drawing Basement Plan--Lindenwald

"Furnace Room--M.A. Boyington [Boynton] Furnace NY Aug 22, 1854"

8. c. 1974. Photograph by Fred Van Tassell (MAVA) Fig. 18

View of room 006 showing cast iron stove in situ.

9. c. 1974. Photographs by Fred Van Tassell (MAVA) Fig. 23 & 24

Views of room 001 showing furnace.

### Extant Heating Devices

1. HOT-AIR FURNACE, c. 1854. Markings: "N.A. BOYNTON'S PATENT/ NEW YORK/Aug 22, 1854" on cast iron firebox door; "Hon. Martin Van Buren/Kinderhook, N.Y." on sheet metal access door.

Documentation: Found in situ in room 001 of Lindenwald. See HSR, "Room 001" and "Heating System."

Conclusion: This is the original Lindenwald furnace dating to MVB's occupancy. It will remain in place.

2. HOT-AIR REGISTERS (8), c. 1848-1854. Three are rectangular with scroll pattern grill and marked "Culver's Patent;" four are circular, 10" diameter; one is circular, 14" diameter, marked "Patented March 16, 1852 & Jan 3rd, 1854."

Documentation: The three rectangular registers were found in situ in rooms 105, 119, and 206. The four smaller circular registers were found in situ in rooms 101, 104, 201, and 205; the larger circular one was found in situ in room 105. See HSR, "Heating System" and individual room descriptions.

Conclusion: These registers are part of Lindenwald's original heating system and will be retained in their original locations.

3. COOK STOVE (COOKING RANGE) AND OVENS, cast-iron, c. 1850-62. Marking on oval plate: "M. Pond's Union Range/Manufactured by Moses Pond & C./No. 28 Merchants Row, Boston"

Documentation: Found in situ in fireplace opening in room 006. See HSR, "Room 006" and "Heating System."

Conclusion: This cook stove is original to Lindenwald and dates to the historic period.

4. CIRCULAR BRICK BAKE OVEN, c. 1850.

Documentation: Found in situ in northwest corner of room 006. See HSR, "Room 006" and "Heating System."

Conclusion: This oven is original to Lindenwald and dates to the historic period.

5. FIREPLACE INSERT, cast-iron, c. 1850 (MAVA 43)

Documentation: Purchased as part of the Van Buren furnishings from Ken Campbell by NPF for NPS in 1975.

Conclusion: The insert was not found in situ but may fit the fireplace opening in room 114, bathroom.

6. FIREPLACE FENDERS (5), metal, date undetermined (MAVA 63-67).  
Markings: "WH Jackson Co. N.Y. No. 102" on #64; "Conover & Wooley No. 32" on #65.

Documentation: Same as #5, above.

Conclusion: None of the fenders was found in situ. If they are of the proper date, they may be appropriate for Lindenwald.

7. COAL SCUTTLE, metal, date undetermined (MAVA 1164)

Documentation: Found in the basement of Lindenwald c. 1985. A coal scuttle appears on the November, 1845, list of kitchen and miscellaneous items (Ref. 4).

Conclusion: If the scuttle dates to the Van Buren period, it would be appropriate for use in a basement room.

Heating Devices--Summary

There is an 1840 reference to putting up stoves, but they would not have been needed after the installation of the heating system c. 1854. Physical and documentary evidence indicate that the Boynton furnace (#1) in the basement dates to the Van Buren period and the registers (#2) are also part of the original heating system. The copper boiler referred to in Ref. 6 has disappeared since 1938.

The cast-iron range (#3) and brick bake oven (#4) are also original to Lindenwald, dating to c. 1850.

The fireplace insert (#5), fenders (#6), and coal scuttle (#7), all with Lindenwald provenance, may date to the Van Buren period as well. The "firecarrier" and "fire irons" have not survived.

The fireboards with their varying wallpaper designs and borders are treated in the following section.

## FIREBOARDS

### References

1. 1841, May 17. H. Butler (NY) to MVB, Winterthur--Downs Coll.

"We looked at a large number of fire [fine?] papers & they will be sent up for you to make your selections--The borderings for the fireboards you will take like the bordering in the rooms for which they are intended."

2. c. 1930s. Photograph (Fig. 4)

View of room 104, showing fireboard in situ.

3. 1936. Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"42--miscellaneous...fireboards"

### Extant Fireboards

Eight fireboards were found in the attic of Lindenwald in 1977. They fit the fireplace openings in rooms 101, 104, 106, 109, 201, 205, 209, and 210 and are covered with mid-19th century wallpaper. There is no reason to doubt that these are the fireboards referred to in Harriet Butler's 1841 letter (Ref. 1).

1. FIREBOARD (MAVA 88) from room 101. Width 5'-1", height 3'-3 1/2".

This fireboard is covered with a centrally placed scenic panel, with filler panels on its sides. The edges are trimmed with a flocked border. The scenic panel measures 3'-6" x 2'-7". The scene depicted on the panel is partially covered over by later wallpapers, but appears to consist of a lake with hills in the background. A large evergreen dominates the right side of this panel. The panel is titled *Vue d'Ecosse*. The principal colors in the scenic panel are blue, gray, and green.

The fireboard in room 101 is the widest of the fireboards on which the scenic panels were used and filler panels had to be placed along its sides to fill the gaps between its edge and the border. The filler panels are 5 1/2" wide and dark gray in color.

The border that trims the edges of the fireboard is 4 1/2" wide. It has a blue and green floral and foliate pattern. The leaves of the border are flocked.

2. FIREBOARD (MAVA 85) from room 104. Width 3'-6 1/4", height 2'-9 1/2".

This fireboard is covered with a center scenic panel and border. It has not been covered over with later wallpapers. The scenic panel measures 2'-10" x 2'-1 1/2" and consists of a lion and tiger surrounded by a Rococo floral motif. The principal colors in the scenic panel are gray, brown, red and green. The border that trims this fireboard is 4" wide and has a green and gray acanthus-leaf pattern.

3. FIREBOARD (MAVA 84) from room 106. Width 3'-10", height 2'-10 1/2".

The historic paper coverings on this fireboard consist of a center scenic panel and border. They have been covered over by three later borders and one later wallpaper. Although the second border on this fireboard matches the fireboard border in room 104 and indicates that it was undoubtedly applied during the Van Buren period, the original border, which also dates to Van Buren, will be restored since it is the same border as will be used with the wallpaper in this room. Only a small portion of the historic paper coverings on this fireboard are exposed. The center scenic panel measures 3'-5 1/2" by 2'-6" and "Mort du Cerf" depicts a huntsman with his horse and dog. The dominant colors in the scenic panel are blue, green, gray and brown. The border is 2 1/4" wide, with a stylized brown geometric pattern. The border is flocked.

4. FIREBOARD (MAVA 87) from room 109. Width 4'-9 1/2", height 3'-2 1/2".

All that remains of the fireboard from room 109 is the wood frame and small fragments of a scenic panel and the border. The canvas on this fireboard has been destroyed. The border is the same stylized geometric patterned border as on the fireboard in room 106.

5. FIREBOARD (MAVA 91) from room 201. Width 4'-1 3/4", height 3'-3".

The historic covering on this fireboard is the room's historic wallpaper, trimmed with a flocked floral border. The historic papers have been covered over with two layers of later wallpaper. The historic wallpaper has a gray and white background, with small pink and yellow flowers. The border is 6 1/2" wide, with a flocked green and gray floral pattern.

6. FIREBOARD (MAVA 90) from room 205. Width 4'-11", height 3'-5".

This fireboard was originally covered with a scenic panel, surrounded by a flocked foliate and floral border. The original paper coverings on this fireboard have been covered over by a later wallpaper. Only small areas of the original coverings on this fireboard have been exposed so that neither the exact size nor the scene depicted on the center panel is known. The border is 4 1/2" wide and is the same border as on the fireboard from room 101.

7. FIREBOARD (MAVA 86) from room 209. Width 5'-7 1/2", height 3'-7".

This fireboard retains its original paper coverings. They have not been covered over by later wallpapers. The wallpaper used to cover this fireboard is the green and white wallpaper used elsewhere in the house as a lining paper. The border is 4 1/2" wide with a green and gray Greek key pattern.

8. FIREBOARD (MAVA 89) from room 210. Width 3'-11 1/2", height 3'-1 1/2".

This fireboard retains its original paper coverings, a green and white floral wallpaper, surrounded by a flocked green geometric border. These papers have not been covered over by a later wallpaper.

## HOUSEKEEPING ACCESSORIES

### References

1. 1845, November 23. Note scribbled on back of MVB (L) to Major AVB (NY) (MAVA 700)

"18	Table		
24	do		
18	Gridiron		
12	Fire iron Nursery		
36	Bedroom do		
4	Oyster gridiron		
22	Dutch ovens		
9	Potato steamer		
6-6	Toaster		
19	Tea kettle		
28	Fish kettle		
28	Ham do		
9	Soup do		
9	Coal scuttle		
2	Bed screw		
10	4 stewpans		
6	trivet		
14	2 sets smoothing iron		
2-6	do stand		
6-6	Frying pans		
5-6	Firecarrier		
8	axe		
6-6	Hatchet		
	Meat saw		
4	sugar nippers	312	- 6
16-6	mats	27	- 6
7	steel yards	8	340
			42 - 6
			42 sh 6d"

2. 184?, June. ASVB to ? (LC-ASVB)

"We found a magnificent cake in the closet which Thomas says somebody sent about Christmas to the Ex as a wedding present--Sans ceremonie we have appropriated it & just as it has been standing for the last five months enclosed in cotton in its box we have dispatched it to the Bride. The icing is moulded into birds cornucopias of fruit & flowers etc. It will be a nine(?) days wonder I am sure with our simple villagers--please fortune that it may not prove mouldy or worse."

3. 1936, August 3. Photograph by M. Weig (MAVA files) HSR, p. 59 (HP29)

View of exterior of Lindenwald showing clothes-drying rack on grounds.

Extant Housekeeping Accessories

1. PLATE WARMER, tinned iron with painted decoration, 1840-50 (MAVA 271)

Documentation: Purchased by NPS in 1979 from Mrs. C.B. deProse who stated: "The little warming oven and fireplace grills were also named (by Mr. Wagoner) as part of the Van Buren possessions."

Conclusion: The plate warmer is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

2. GRIDIRON, 1840-60 (MAVA 272)

Documentation: Same as #1, above. A gridiron is included on the 1845 list of supplies (Ref. 1).

Conclusion: The gridiron is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

3. OYSTER GRIDIRON, 1840-60 (MAVA 273)

Documentation: Same as #1. An oyster gridiron is included on the 1845 list (Ref. 1).

Conclusion: The oyster gridiron is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

4. CAKE BOX, tin with painted decoration, 1840-60? (MAVA 409)

Documentation: Found in the basement of Lindenwald, room 006, in 1981.

Conclusion: The cake box would be appropriate for use.

5. WASH BOILERS (2), copper, with lids missing, 1840-60? (MAVA 1162, 1163)

Documentation: Found in the basement of Lindenwald in 1983.

Conclusion: The wash boilers are of the correct period for Lindenwald.



6. DRYING RACK, wooden, c. 1850 (MAVA 133)

Documentation: Donated to NPS in 1977 by Ken Campbell. The rack appears in a 1936 photograph of the exterior of Lindenwald.

Conclusion: The drying rack is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

7. DRYING RACK, wooden, 1820-50 (MAVA 1166)

Documentation: Found in room 007 in 1984.

Conclusion: Drying rack is of the correct period for Lindenwald.

#### Housekeeping Accessories--Summary

A great many household accessories used in food preparation, house-keeping, and laundry, etc. were undoubtedly in use at Lindenwald 1841-62; however, there are few references to such utilitarian objects during the Van Buren period and only eight objects in this category have been identified as having a Lindenwald association.

Although there is no particular reference to a plate warmer (#1) at Lindenwald, such an object is very typical of the period, and this one has a Lindenwald provenance.

The gridiron and oyster gridiron (#2 and 3) may be the ones listed in 1845 and the cake box (#4) may be similar to the one referred to by Angelica Van Buren.

The wash boilers (#5) and drying racks (#6 and 7) are furnishings essential to the functioning of a 19th century laundry or "wash" room.

#### PLUMBING FIXTURES

#### References

1. 1846, November 6. MVB (L) to G. Worth (NY) (LC-VB), quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 70

"When you visit me again you shall wash off the impurities of Mammon in the Bath which has been put up in part with the interest you have (been) so kind as to collect for me...."

2. 1849, November 22. STVB (L) to RU (NY) (RU Papers, NYPL, quoted in Platt, HRS, pp. 87-88)

"[McGuire] promised me to cut holes thro' the walls for the plumbers, & yet they tell me he declined it as no part of his business, & left them to cut for themselves, at the risk of breaking into the flues, the location of which no one but himself understood....I find also on digging around the cess-pool to insert pipes, that the walls of it are round paving stones, of single thickness, depending upon sand walls outside to hold them up. The plumber thinks it will fall down as soon as water gets to it--if not before, & crush the lead pipe which empties into it. It is moreover covered with plank, & in no long time would have let a horse or ox into it at the top if it fails to tumble in from the sides...."

3. 1850, January 7. (RU Plan Book, quoted in Platt, HRS, p. 114)

"January, 1850

7 Martin Van Buren

Plan for Bath Case to 1 in scale and Detail full size"

4. 1936. Weig, "Lindenwald," Appendix IV

"37--Van Buren's bathtub"

5. 1938, February 12. C.B. deProsse to Dr. James Leath

"A heavy 60 gal. copper boiler with Van Buren's name, also his metal-lined wooded bath tub, are at the property.

The old extra heavy lead soil line and traps, (also other lines) are still in place at location of his bath room, a masterpiece of plumbing work. The metal lined supply tank over Van Buren's private toilet is still in place."

6. c. 1977. Photograph by Fred Van Tassel (MAVA Neg. 8232)  
Fig. 17

Bathtub (MAVA 82)

#### Extant Plumbing Fixtures

1. BATHTUB, copper-lined, wooden-cased, c. 1850 (MAVA 82)

Documentation: Found on the Lindenwald grounds in 1976, this is believed to be Martin Van Buren's bathtub, as mentioned in the Upjohn Plan Book in 1850 (Ref. 3). See HSR, "Rooms 114/115/116" and "Plumbing."

Conclusion: This bathtub will be partially restored and returned to its original location in the northwest corner of room 114.

2. WATER CLOSET, with lead-lined, wooden-cased storage tank and blue and white ceramic toilet bowl, c. 1850. The toilet is marked "Wedgwood," "Pearl," and "1385."

Documentation: Found in situ in room 115, the water closet dates to the Upjohn addition. See HSR, "Rooms 114/115/116" and "Plumbing."

Conclusion: The original water closet will be restored and remain in room 115.

3. SINK, lead-lined, wooden-cased, c. 1850 (MAVA acc.350)

Documentation: Found in laundry room 007 in deteriorated condition, the sink originally stood along the south wall in that room. See HSR, "Room 007" and "Plumbing."

Conclusion: The sink will be restored and returned to its original location in room 007.

4. HAND PUMP, cast-iron, c. 1850 (MAVA 1165); marked "Downes Co. No. 2, Seneca Falls, N.Y."

Documentation: Found attached to a lead pipe and wooden board in the south wall of room 007, the pump was used with the laundry room sink. See HSR, "Room 007" and "Plumbing."

Conclusion: The pump should be returned to its original location in room 007.

5. HAND PUMP, cast-iron, mounted on wood, c. 1862 (MAVA 650); marked "W. & B. Douglas, Middletown, Connecticut No. 3 Patent July 1, 1862."

Documentation: Found in room 007, this pump was probably connected to the lead pipe in the southwest corner off room 006 to supply water to the original kitchen sink, no longer extant. See HSR, "Room 006" and "Plumbing." The HSR states that, although the patent date of this pump makes it unlikely that it was used before Van Buren's death, a similar pump would have been used with the original sink.

Conclusion: The pump should be returned to its original location in room 006.

## Plumbing Fixtures--Summary

It is not known where the "Bath" Van Buren mentioned to Gorham Worth in 1846 was located; however, the extant bathtub (#1) appears to be the one referred to in the 1850 Upjohn Plan Book. It may be that Upjohn simply designed the casing for the bath Van Buren had "set up" four years earlier.

The water closet (#2) with its Wedgwood toilet bowl is part of the 1850 Upjohn addition, as is the sink in room 007. The original kitchen sink in room 006 and bathroom sink in room 114 are not extant, but there is physical evidence for their location. The laundry room sink and hand pump are extant, and the pump for the kitchen sink.

## PORCH AND GARDEN FURNITURE

### References

1. 1849-52. Sketch of Lindenwald by R. Upjohn (Columbia University)

This sketch (possibly conjectural) of Lindenwald's exterior and grounds shows two rustic garden settees and a sundial on a pedestal.

2. 1890s-1930s. Photographs in MAVA files, Fig. 25, 26, 27

These photographs of Lindenwald's exterior and grounds show two cast iron settees and a white marble urn on the front lawn and two rustic chairs on the front porch.

3. 1978-80. Photographs in MAVA files

Photographs of Lindenwald's exterior and grounds showing stone urn on front lawn.

4. 1981, May 5. Interview of C.B. deProse by Carol Kohan and Sarah Olson

"The two 'ironwood' chairs on the front porch were made of wood but were hard as iron--stood on either side of the door."

### Extant Porch and Garden Furniture

#### 1. WHITE MARBLE URN ON BLOCK BASE, c. 1850 (MAVA 1168)

Documentation: According to C.B. deProsse, Mr. Wagoner claimed the urn was part of the Van Buren possessions (figs. 25, 26). It appears in the earliest photographs of Lindenwald (1890s). The urn was donated to NPS by the Friends of Lindenwald, courtesy of an anonymous donor who had purchased it from Ken Campbell c. 1980.

Conclusion: The urn dates from the Van Buren period at Lindenwald and should be returned, if possible, to its original location on the front lawn following conservation treatment.

#### 2. STONE URN ON STEPPED BASE, c. 1860-70 (private collection)

Documentation: This urn appears in the later photographs of Lindenwald and was purchased from Ken Campbell along with cat. no. 1168.

Conclusion: Further study is needed to determine if this urn is appropriate for Lindenwald.

### Porch and Garden Furniture--Summary

The marble urn (#1) is pictured in the 1890s photographs of Lindenwald and is believed to date to the Van Buren period. The stone urn (#2) may date from the end of the Van Buren period; however, its absence in the 1890s photographs makes its historic presence at Lindenwald uncertain.

The two cast iron garden benches with gothic ornamentation and the two "ironwood chairs" shown in the early photographs have not survived, but are believed to date from the Van Buren period and should be reproduced and placed on the front lawn and on the front porch, respectively.

The sundial in the Upjohn sketch has not been found and may have been conjectural.

### Furniture of the President's House, c. 1837-39

The following furnishings are documented as having been purchased or repaired during Van Buren's occupancy of the President's House in Washington, D.C., c. 1837-39.

Recommendations for furnishing Lindenwald have not taken these items into consideration, however, the reader should be aware that such furnishings were available and familiar to Van Buren and in many cases, would have been found in the Lindenwald household as well.

Furniture: chairs, sofas, dressing bureaus, statuary center table with marble top, washstands with marble tops, French bedsteads, pier tables, circular table, card table, wardrobe, dining table with two tops, secretary's desk, bookcases, letter box, writing stand, press bedstead, piano, footstools, music stool, screen French comfortables, divan and cushions

Lighting Devices: chandeliers, column velvet lamps, cornucopia bracket branches, mantel branch lamps, candlesticks, snuffers and tray, passage lamp, peg lamp, astral lamp, glass chimneys, lamp glasses, kitchen lamps, lantern

Glassware, Tableware, Silver: decanters, claret wines, finger cups, wine coolers, champagnes, water bottles, cruets, dishes, silver cream and coffee pots, plateau, black-handled knives, decanter sables, liquor stand, waiters, set casters

Ceramics: goldband china plates, willow plates, bowls, saucers, mugs, pitchers, salts, soup tureen, covered jars, slop bowls, bakers, china coffees, sugar vases, nappies, ewers and basins, toilet sets, chambers, foottubs

Textiles (Bedding, table linens, misc., window hangings, floor coverings): paillasses, hair mattresses; featherbeds, bolsters, pillows in linen tick; blankets, counterpanes, Marseilles quilts, cotton sheeting, Russia sheeting, fine pillow-case linen, flannels, flushing

Irish linen, damask napkins, tablecloths round and square, chamber towels, damask diaper, huckabuck towels, glass cloths, aprons, check dusters, knife cloths, straining cloths, plaid check, ticklenberg, crash, green broadcloth for table cover, cotton tick, drab cloth, gimp, baize, brown Holland, sacking bottom for servants, green merino for bookcase, green worsted binding, screen covers, bureau covers, chair and sofa covers, furniture chintz, muslin lining

silk cord and tassels for curtain ornament, cotton and bordering, galloon, taffeta, satin medallion and plain satin, gauze, damask, silk fringe, cotton fringe, cornices, iron rods and brass rings

Saxony carpeting, Brussels carpeting (body and border), Wilton carpeting, hearth rugs, matting

Cooking, Laundry, Housekeeping, Heating, and Miscellaneous Devices:

hand bell, milk strainer and skimmer, tart pans, churn, plate warmer, 12 gallon pot, oven and lid, griddles, biscuit baker, saucepans, stewpans, stone milk pans, lemon squeezer, fish kettle and strainer, teaboiler, corkscrew, jelly mould, coffee mill, apple chove, tonque cutter, grate pans, tin mould, coffee boiler, coffee pots, coffee biggon, Britannia metal tablespoons, teaspoons, and coffee pot, toaster, gimblets, wood bowls, wooden spoons, hair sifters, baffed tablespoon

plate baskets, covered market basket, 6-hold bottle basket, Manilla mat, Alicant mats

tin buckets, chamber buckets, horse buckets, water buckets, slop buckets, cobweb brushes, hearth brushes, brooms, hand scrubs, japanned sweeping brush, dusters, shovels, oil can, hammers, scissors

clothes baskets, sad irons, iron stands, large wash boilers, wash  
kettles, large tub

coal skuttles, brass andirons; steel tongs, shovels, pokers and  
supports; fire screens



## RECOMMENDED FURNISHINGS

### Introduction

The recommendations for furnishings for 20 rooms located on the first, second, and basement floors of the original 1797 house and 1849-50 addition are based on the following criteria:

1. Physical evidence of room functions and furnishings--Structural evidence indicating room function, furnishings placement, and the existence of wall and floor coverings, is detailed in the Historic Structure Report and the preceding sections of this Historic Furnishings Report. Extant furnishings in MAVA's and other collections provide additional insight and are also discussed in the preceding sections of this report.

2. Period documentary evidence of room functions and furnishings--The Historic Resource Study and Historic Structure Report present numerous period references for room functions and research for the Historic Furnishings Report (Evidence of Room Use and Furnishings) revealed significant additional documentation for Lindenwald furnishings during the historic period, 1841-62.

3. Post-historic period evidence of room functions and furnishings--Photographs of Lindenwald 1890s-1930s, written sources dating after 1862, and oral tradition, have contributed valuable information for the various historic studies completed to date.

Although furniture arrangement at Lindenwald during the historic period is not well documented, the recommended locations are based primarily on the evidence which exists, secondarily on nineteenth century period practices, logic, and the need to facilitate visitor flow and object security.

Selected period sources on furnishings and household economy, as well as recent studies in the history of the decorative arts in America, are cited in the Bibliography under Published Materials (Furnishings). These are collectively cited as "period sources" in the text of this report.

Original Lindenwald or Van Buren associated furnishings are to be used as extensively as possible, supplemented selectively with period or reproduction furnishings necessary for the interpretation of specific themes.

The Historic Furnishings Report is a summary and synthesis of what is currently known about Lindenwald's occupants and furnishings during Martin Van Buren's residence there. As new information becomes available, changes in furnishings arrangements and interpretation may be necessary. Any major changes will be documented in supplements to this report.

Rooms to be furnished as the highest priority include (for floor plans, see pp. 5-7):

- 101 lower ("best") bedroom
- 104 sitting room
- 105 hall
- 106 drawing room/parlor
- 109 breakfast room/dining room
- 111 library
- 114-116 bathroom/water closet
- 209 Martin Van Buren bedroom

Rooms to be partially furnished include:

112	Smith Thompson Van Buren bedroom
118	nursery
201	John Van Buren bedroom
205	Angelica and Abraham Van Buren bedroom
206-208	upper hall and temporary bedroom
210	Martin Van Buren Jr. bedroom
005	servants' dining room
006	kitchen
007	wash room (laundry)

Passageways needing only floor coverings include:

110	stair hall
113	hallway
117	hallway
119	entrance hall
120	back hall

## ROOM 101--BEDROOM

### Introduction

Documentary evidence indicates that this is the "downstairs" or "lower bedroom" Van Buren intended "to be the best Bed Room" when he moved into Lindenwald in 1841. "The paper should be good," he advised his friend, Mrs. Harriet Butler. Mrs. Butler had samples of two papers sent to Kinderhook. The only physical evidence, however, of original wallpaper for this room comes from the fireboard which has a scenic paper with a border, the latter matching the border on the fireboard on room 205 ("upper" or northeast bedroom). There are no extant furnishings specifically associated with this room and no information on which of the Van Buren family or guests used this bedroom during their visits to Lindenwald.

The 1970 Master Plan reference to this as a "dining room" derives undoubtedly from Victor deProsse's 1937 measured drawings. DeProsse probably was influenced by George Alfred Townsend's 1891 description of the house. Note, however, that the deProsse photographs from c. 1930s show the room furnished as a bedroom (Illustration 1-2). Visitors will look into, but not enter the room.

### Furniture

### MAVA Cat. No.

1. Object: late classical style sleigh bed,  
1830-40

347

Location: east wall

Documentation: Beds--Extant, #1

MAVA 347 is an original Lindenwald furnishing.

2. Object: large late classical style wardrobe, 244  
1830-40
- Location: north side of west wall
- Documentation: Wardrobes--Extant, #3
- MAVA 244 is likely an original Lindenwald furnishing.
3. Object: late classical style chest of drawers, 44  
1830-40
- Location: east side of south wall
- Documentation: Chests of Drawers/Commodes/Cupboards--Extant, #4
- MAVA 44 is possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing.
4. Object: late classical style ogee mirror, 35
- Location: north wall over mantel
- Documentation: Mirrors--Extant, #2
- MAVA 35 is probably an original Lindenwald furnishing.

#### Accessory furnishings

5. Object: two pairs (4) of china candle-sticks, c. 1840 To be acquired  
[hereafter, TBA]
- Location: mantel and chest
- Documentation: Lighting Devices--Reference 6
6. Object: bed linens, blankets, coverlet, TBA (R)  
1840-45 (period or reproduction)
- Location: bed
- Documentation: Textiles--References 9-11; period sources  
(design & construction)

7. Object: scenic wallpaper-covered fireboard, 88  
"Vue d'Ecosse," c. 1840

Location: fireplace

Documentation: Fireboards--Extant, #1

MAVA 88 is original to this room.

#### Wall Hangings

8. Object: framed paintings or prints (2), TBA  
1830-55

Location: over bed

Documentation: (Pictures/Portraits--Reference 19); subjects might be similar to those purchased by STVB and JVB at American Art-Union sale, 1852.

#### Floor Coverings

9. Object: Painted canvas floorcloth TBA (R)

Location: floor, wall to wall

Documentation: Wool fibres found with tacks in this room could not be identified with any particular type of carpet. Plain floorcloth is suggested in lieu of carpet.

#### Window Treatment

10. Object: two (2) pair reproduction white TBA (R)  
muslin curtains, 1840-45

Location: windows

Documentation: Textiles--Reference 14, 15; period sources (design and construction)

### Wall Treatment

11. Object: reproduction wallpaper (brown, yellow and green foliate pattern on white) and flocked floral border, c. 1840 TBA (R)

Location: walls

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"

No Van Buren period wallpaper was found in this room; however, reproductions of MAVA W 018 and border from fireboard (MAVA 90) found in room 205 are recommended.

### ROOM 104--SITTING ROOM

#### Introduction

The function of this room has not been clearly identified either through documentary or physical evidence, although its location, its original 1797 architectural detailing, and the white marble mantel installed by Van Buren in 1841 suggest the room served as a primary space. Similar gilt pier mirrors occupy the area between the east windows in both this room and room 106, suggesting that the function of the rooms was similar.

In June 1843, Angelica Van Buren wrote her mother: "We have had fires in the sitting room nearly every day this week." It is recommended that room 104 be interpreted as such a room where family and close friends gathered informally for reading, sewing, music, and conversation.

Photographs c. 1930s (Illustrations 3-5) show the historic period wallpaper and Brussels carpet, both of which will be reproduced.

The pier mirror and a scenic fireboard are the only furnishings specifically associated with this room during the historic period, but there are numerous Lindenwald or Van Buren furnishings in MAVA's collection which would be appropriate.

Visitors will look into but not enter the room.

<u>Furniture</u>	<u>MAVA Cat. No.</u>
1. Object: gold leaf framed <u>pier mirror</u> , 1830-40	23
Location: east wall between windows	
Documentation: Mirrors--Extant, #1; Figures 12, 14, 15.	
MAVA 23 is an original Lindenwald piece found <u>in situ</u> .	
2. Object: large upholstered <u>sofa</u> , late clas- sical style, 1835-45	115
Location: northeast side of room, to right of fireplace	
Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #5	
MAVA 115 is an original Lindenwald piece, reupholstered in gold silk and cotton damask.	
3. Object: small upholstered <u>side chair</u> , late classical style, 1835-45	116
Location: to right of sofa	
Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #6	
MAVA 116 is an original Lindenwald piece matching sofa #115.	



4. Object: tilt-top pedestal center table, 1835-45 128  
 Location: centered in front of fireplace  
 Documentation: Tables--Extant, #6  
 MAYA 128 is likely an original Lindenwald piece.
5. Object: four (4) cane-seat side chairs, 148-151  
 late classical/Gothic style with  
 cushions, 1825-40  
 Location: around center table and in northwest  
 corner  
 Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #4  
 MAYA 148-151 are likely original Lindenwald furnishings.
6. Object: round candlestand, Empire style with 147  
 ormolu trim, 1815-20  
 Location: next to sofa 115  
 Documentation: Tables/Stands--Extant, #7  
 MAYA 147, associated with MVB, may be an original  
 Lindenwald piece.
7. Object: sofa, Empire style, 1820-40 TBA  
 Location: south wall or  
 242  
 Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #8  
 MAYA 242, (Extant #9) reupholstered in black horsehair  
 cloth, is appropriate in lieu of original Van Buren  
 sofa in the White House collection.
8. Object: secretary-bookcase, late classical style 125  
 1835-45  
 Location: west wall

Documentation: secretaries/bookcases/desk--Extant #2  
MAVA 125 is possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing.

9. Object: sewing or work table, late classical style, 1835-45 146

Location: northeast corner

Documentation: Tables/Stands--Extant, #14;

MAVA 146, possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing, is appropriate.

#### Accessory Furnishings

10. Object: two (2) lighting devices, 1820-45 TBA (R)

Location: tables

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Reference 7

One reproduction brass candlestick on center table and one on the candlestand.

11. Object: books (3), 1800-60, and magazines (3), 1850-60 TBA

Location: on center table

Documentation: Books/Documents--References

Period books of a literary or religious nature to be acquired and contemporary magazines.

12. Object: Pair of vases, c. 1850 1169, 1170

Location: mantel shelf

Documentation: period sources; Ceramics--Extant, #9  
General Furnishings Reference 2

Polychromed Delft ornaments representative of mid-nineteenth century taste, said to be from Lindenwald.

13. Object: sewing tools and accoutrements, 1835-45 TBA  
Location: sewing/work table  
Documentation: Angelica Van Buren correspondence.

14. Object: wallpaper-covered fireboard, c. 1840 85  
(optional/seasonal)  
Location: fireplace, fitting over andirons  
Documentation: Fireboards--Extant, #2  
MAVA 85 is the original fireboard for this room (Fig. 4).

15. Object: pair of andirons and set of fire tools, TBA  
c. 1840  
Location: fireplace  
Documentation: fireboard 85 is cut to fit andirons;  
Heating Devices References 1, 2, 4;  
Extant #6

16. Object: silk table cover (period or reproduction), 1840-60 TBA  
(optional)  
Location: center table  
Documentation: Textiles--References 5, 18; period  
sources (design and construction)

#### Wall Hangings

17. Object: framed pictures, 1840-60 TBA  
Location: over mantel and on south wall  
Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--References 3, 19  
Period paintings or prints and frames to be acquired,  
including print of Queen Victoria (over mantel) and  
prints or paintings similar to ones bought in 1852.

### Floor Coverings

18. Object: reproduction Brussels carpet, TBA (R)  
geometric design, 1840-60
- Location: floor, wall to wall
- Documentation: Textiles--References 7, 13, 14, 24;  
Figs. 3-5
- Borderless carpet to be reproduced from photographs

### Window Treatment

19. Object: four (4) reproduction valances, 1840-60 TBA (R)
- Location: above windows on north and east sides  
of room
- Documentation: Textiles--Reference 14; period sources  
(design and construction)
- Reproduction fabric and trim to coordinate with  
carpet and upholstery.
20. Object: four (4) pairs reproduction floor- TBA (R)  
length curtains, 1840-60
- Location: windows
- Documentation: Textiles--Reference 14; period sources  
(design and construction)
- Reproduction fabric and trim matching valances.
21. Object: four (4) pairs reproduction white TBA (R)  
floor-length muslin under curtains,  
1840-60
- Location: windows
- Documentation: Textiles--References 14, 15; period  
sources

22. Object: four (4) pairs tiebacks and tiebacks  
pins, 1840-60 TBA

Location: window casings

Documentation: Fig. 14; period sources, (design)

Reproduction tiebacks matching curtain trim and  
period or reproduction glass or brass tieback pins to  
be acquired.

### Wall Treatment

23. Object: reproduction wallpaper (gray and black  
star motif on light gray ground), with  
gray and green acanthus leaf border,  
c. 1840 TBA (R)

Location: all walls

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study;" Figs. 3-5

MAVA W003, original wall covering for this room, found  
in situ, and border 002 F from fireboard to be  
reproduced.

## ROOM 105--HALL

### Introduction

In 1843, Gideon Welles remarked upon the "most spacious hall extending through the body of the house" and Van Buren family correspondence refers to the "Hall" and "lower hall." Although there is no specific period reference to a "banquet hall," it is assumed that the 15-foot-long dining table was used for entertaining in this room during the historic period.

The only period reference to particular furnishings is to a "hall sofa" used by Angelica Van Buren. Post-historic period references mention the use of sideboards and a mahogany console. Photographs

c. 1917 and 1930s show the room furnished with French scenic wallpaper, Brussels carpet, a sofa-bed, card tables, and chandelier, all of which are extant. The dining table had been sold at auction c. 1864 and evidently the dining function of the room ceased later in the century.

It is recommended that the dining table be fully extended and set for the dessert course, using the green glassware associated with Van Buren.

Visitors will walk through the hall and furnishings should be securely placed out of their path.

#### Furniture

1. Object: Empire style sideboard, 1815-25 114

Location: south wall, to right of Room 106 doorway

Documentation: Sideboards--Extant, #2

MAVA 114 is likely an original Lindenwald furnishing.

2. Object: Federal style sideboard, 1790-1800 724

Location: south wall, to left of Room 110 stairway or TBA

Documentation: Sideboards--Extant, #3, 6.

A Van Buren family sideboard (private collection), possibly from Lindenwald, is appropriate, if available.

MAVA 724, possibly associated with Martin Van Buren, can be used in lieu of the other sideboard, though it dates a bit later, 1810-20.

3. Object: Federal style New York accordion-  
action extension dining table, TBA  
1800-15
- Location: southwest side of room, parallel to  
south wall
- Documentation: Tables--Extant, #21.
- If efforts to obtain the original Lindenwald dining  
table (private collection) as a gift or loan are not  
successful, a reproduction would be the preferred  
alternative.
4. Object: thirty (30) klismos 262-269, 1174, 1175  
dining chairs with upholstered and TBA (20)  
seats, 1820-35
- Location: around table and against walls
- Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #2
- MAVA 262-269, 1174, 1175, are original Lindenwald  
furnishings with seats reupholstered in black horse-  
hair cloth. Twenty (20) matching period or reproduction  
chairs to be acquired.
5. Object: pair of card tables, late classical 349  
style, 1830-40 103
- Location: southeast and northeast corners
- Documentation: Tables--Extant, #4, 13
- MAVA 349 is an original Lindenwald piece. MAVA 103  
could be used in lieu of #349's mate, which is in  
a private collection.
6. Object: upholstered sofa-bed late classical 3  
style, 1830-40
- Location: north wall, to left of Room 104 doorway
- Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #2
- MAVA 3 is an original Lindenwald furnishing, reuphol-  
stered in black horsehair cloth.

7. Object: upholstered sofa late classical style, 270  
1830-40

Location: north wall, to right of Room 101  
doorway

Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #3

MAVA 270 is an original Lindenwald piece, reupholstered in black horsehair cloth.

8. Object: card table, late classical style, 34  
1835-40

Location: northwest corner

Documentation: Tables--Extant, #11

MAVA 34 is likely an original Lindenwald piece.

#### Accessory Furnishings

9. Object: four-light chandelier, iron, 1850-60, 22  
with later glass chimneys and globes,

Location: hung from ceiling, central medallion

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Extant, #4; Figs. 6  
and 8

MAVA 22 is probably an original Van Buren piece still TBA  
in place in this room. Period or reproduction chimneys  
and globes to be acquired.

10. Object: Candlesticks with hurricane shades TBA  
(4 pairs), 1830-60

Location: on tables

Documentation: Lighting Devices Reference; period  
sources (design)

Reproduction candlesticks to be acquired. Reproductions are suggested here and elsewhere because they may be used for special candlelight programs. They may also be needed for illumination on dark days, since no other lighting will be provided in the house.



11. Object: green glassware, 1830-60 730-795  
and TBA  
Location: dining table and sideboards  
Documentation: Glassware--Extant, #2, 4  
  
MAVA 730-795 are likely original Lindenwald furnishings. The gilt-decorated set includes a punch bowl and cups, tazzas, epergnes, and dessert plates. Original plain green glass fingerbowls in private collections are also appropriate; if not available, similar ones should be acquired.
12. Object: engraved repousse silver ice bowl and TBA  
two silver pitchers, c. 1853  
Location: sideboard  
Documentation: Silver--Extant, #2, 3  
  
The original ice bowl is in a private collection. One of the pitchers is in the White House collection (WH 913.2856) and the other pitcher is in a private collection.
13. Object: assorted silver tableware and flatware, TBA  
1820-50  
Location: table and sideboards  
Documentation: Silver--References 1-6, 8, 14; Extant--  
#6, 7  
  
Tableware might include a plateau, wine coolers, covered serving dishes, and a teapot. Original silver flatware is in private collection.
14. Object: assorted bottles, decanters, and TBA  
glassware, 1830-50  
Location: table, sideboards  
Documentation: Glassware--References  
  
See also room 109, #11.

NOTE: There is documentation for a "Dutch Clock" (Clocks--Reference 2) in the hall at Lindenwald. If such a clock could be identified, it would be appropriate.

Tablecloths and napkins are also mentioned frequently (Textiles Reference 8-10, 12, 13, 16) and would be appropriate if table were set for a meal.

Van Buren owned a cellarette at his Albany home in 1829 (Sideboard References 3, 4). A cellarette would be most appropriate on the south wall, between the sideboards, if one with a VB association can be found.

#### Floor Coverings

15. Object: reproduction multicolored Brussels TBA (R)  
carpet with border, geometric design,  
1840-60

Location: floor, wall to wall

Documentation: Textiles--References 22-25;  
Figs. 6-9.

MAVA 21, the original carpet for this room, will be reproduced.

#### Wall Hangings

16. Object: reproduction of Van Buren coat of arms, TBA (R)  
framed, c. 1850

Location: west wall

Documentation: Pictures and Portraits--  
References 27, 28.

Reproduction to be acquired if original unavailable.

#### Window Treatment

none

### Wall Treatment

17. Object: French scenic wallpaper, "Paysages  
a Chasse," and balustrade dado, 1830-40 Original  
and repro.

Location: all walls

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study;" Figs. 8, 9.

The original scenic wallpaper produced by the Zuber Company and the original dado produced by Jacquemart et Bernard were found in situ, have been restored, and will be replaced on the north and south walls. Reproduction wallpaper and dado will be placed on east and west walls.

### ROOM 106--DRAWING ROOM or PARLOR

#### Introduction

Original 1797 architectural detailing and the gray marble mantel installed by Van Buren in 1841 indicate that this room, located in the southeastern corner of the house, was the most formal space during the historic period. The term "drawing room" was used both by Van Buren in his autobiography and by Harriet Butler in her correspondence, although visitors to Lindenwald, such as William G. Bryan in 1845, wrote of the "parlor."

This room is connected, through an elaborate ogee arch, to room 109, the dining room, and the rooms were similarly wallpapered in 1841. In the process of decorating his Washington residence, Van Buren wrote in July 1829: "I think the carpets and curtains in the drawing room and dining room should be alike." It is highly likely that this same scheme was carried out in Lindenwald as well.

There are no period references to specific furniture for this room, although W. G. Bryan mentioned seeing portraits of Jefferson and Jackson in the "parlor," presumably the same ones Van Buren himself mentioned five years earlier as being in the "dining room." Photographs from the 1930s show the original 12-piece Gothic revival-style parlor set in this room, where it would have logically been during the historic period. The original gilt pier mirror, matching the one in room 104, and the original scenic fireboard for this room are also extant.

The drawing room was used principally for the entertainment of guests either after dinner or in other formal visits. It is recommended that this room be interpreted to reflect that function. Activities such as card-playing, reading, and music might be suggested.

The arrangement of furnishings will allow for visitor traffic flow through the room.

#### Furniture

1. Object: gold leaf framed pier mirror, 24  
1830-40  
  
Location: east wall between windows  
  
Documentation: Mirrors--Extant, #1; Figs. 12, 14, 15  
  
MAVA 24 is an original Lindenwald pier mirror found in situ.
2. Object: upholstered sofa, late classical/ 14  
Gothic style, 1835-55  
  
Location: northeast corner  
  
Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #1; Figs. 12, 15.  
  
MAVA 14 is an original Lindenwald piece reupholstered in persimmon-colored mohair plush based on fragment of original fabric.

3. Object: two (2) upholstered easy or arm chairs, late classical/Gothic style, 1835-55 13, 60
- Location: east side of room and northwest corner
- Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #1; Fig. 10.
- MAVA 13 and 60 are original Lindenwald furnishings, reupholstered in persimmon-colored mohair plush to match sofa 14.
4. Object: upholstered settee, late classical/Gothic style, 1835-55 02
- Location: southeast corner
- Documentation: Sofas--Extant, #1; Fig. 13.
- MAVA 02 is an original Lindenwald piece reupholstered in persimmon-colored mohair plush to match sofa 14 and chairs 13 and 60.
5. Object: card table, late classical/Gothic style, 1835-55 07
- Location: northwest corner
- Documentation: Tables--Extant, #2; Figs. 11, 13
- MAVA 07 is an original Lindenwald piece matching the above pieces. The table should be opened as if a card game such as whist were in progress (see Personal Accessories, Reference 3.)
6. Object: marble-topped center table, late classical/Gothic style, 1835-55 26
- Location: east side of room, centered in front of pier mirror
- Documentation: Tables--Extant, #3; Fig. 12.
- MAVA 26 is an original Lindenwald piece matching the above pieces.

7. Object: six (6) side chairs with upholstered seats, late classical/Gothic style, 1835-55 54-59

Location: around card table, center table, and by fireplace

Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #1; Figs. 11, 12, 15.

MAVA 54-59 are original Lindenwald furnishings matching sofa 14 and chairs 13 and 60 and similarly reupholstered in persimmon plush.

8. Object: melodeon, rococo revival style, 1850-60 348

Location: southwest corner along west wall

Documentation: Musical Instruments--Extant, #1; Figs. 12, 14.

MAVA 348 is an original Lindenwald piece.

9. Object: piano stool, rococo revival style, 1850-60 TBA

Location: by melodeon

Documentation: Fig. 12.

#### Accessory Furnishings

10. Object: brass sinumbra lamp with glass shade and prisms, 1835-45 124

Location: center table

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Extant, #1.

MAVA 124 is likely an original Lindenwald piece.

11. Object: pair of brass candelabra with prisms, 1830-50 673, 674

Location: mantel shelf

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Extant, #2.

MAVA 673 and 674 are likely original Lindenwald furnishings.

12. Object: four (4) candlesticks with hurricane shades, 1840-60 TBA (R)

Location: card table and melodeon

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Reference 7

Reproduction brass candlesticks and glass shades to be acquired.

13. Object: sheet music, 1840-60 TBA

Location: melodeon

Documentation: "President Van Buren's Grand March" by Samuel Corusi is appropriate

Period sheet music to be acquired.

14. Object: books and newspapers, 1840-60 TBA

Location: center table

Documentation: Books/Documents--References.

Period books and newspapers representative of the tastes and interests of the Van Burens to be acquired.

15. Object: deck of playing cards and counters with box, 1840-60 TBA

Location: card table

Documentation: There are numerous references to playing whist and Loo in the Van Buren family correspondence

Period or reproduction playing cards and counters to be acquired.

16. Object: wallpaper-covered fireboard, c. 1840 (optional/seasonal) 84
- Location: fireplace, fitting over andirons
- Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"
- MAVA 84 is an original furnishing for this room.
17. Object: pair of andirons, c. 1840 and firetools TBA
- Location: fireplace
- Documentation: Fireboard (MAVA 84) is cut to fit andirons; Heating Devices--References 1, 2, 4,; Extant #6
- Period or reproduction andirons to be acquired.  
Period or reproduction fireplace accessories including fender, shovel, tongs, poker, etc. will need to be acquired.
18. Object: jar with lid, quasi-Oriental motif, mid-19th century 1173
- Location: mantel
- Documentation: Ceramics--Extant, #11; General Furnishings Reference 2. This jar is said to have come from Lindenwald.

### Wall Hangings

19. Object: framed print or painting TBA
- Location: west wall, to left of door
- Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Reference 19; HSR, "Room 106"
- A print or painting similar to those purchased in 1852 would be appropriate here.



20. Object: framed print or painting TBA

Location: west wall, to right of door

Documentation: See #20, above.

21. Object: framed portrait painting of Andrew Jackson by Earl, c. 1840 TBA

Location: north wall, to left of door

Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--References 8, 9, 14; HSR, "Room 106"

22. Object: framed portrait painting of Thomas Jefferson, c. 1800-40 TBA

Location: north wall, to right of door

Documentation: Same as #22, above.

23. Object: framed painting or print, 1840-60 TBA

Location: south wall, over mantel

Documentation: Pictures/Portraits; physical evidence

Period painting or print and frame to be acquired.

Note: All pictures in this room are to be hung from existing hook or buttons.

#### Floor Coverings

24. Object: reproduction Brussels carpet, geometric design, 1840-60 TBA (R)

Location: on floor, wall to wall

Documentation: Figs. 13-15; Textiles--Extant #2, References 13, 14

The carpet in the 1930s photographs has disappeared, but MAVA 351, found in Lindenwald, is appropriate to reproduce.

25. Object: reproduction grass matting, 1840-60 TBA (R)  
(optional)

Location: on floor, wall to wall, under or in  
lieu of carpet in summer

Documentation: Textiles--Reference 11; Extant #8;  
HSR, "Room 106"

A reproduction of MAVA 556 found under the pier  
mirror in room 106 would be appropriate, but the use  
of matting in this room is not recommended because it  
would be hard to maintain and to make necessary  
seasonal changes.

#### Window Treatment

26. Object: four (4) reproduction valances, TBA (R)  
1840-60

Location: above windows on east and south sides  
of room

Documentation: Textiles Reference 14; HSR, "Room 106;"  
period sources (design & construction)

Reproduction fabric and trim coordinating with wall-  
paper and upholstery to be acquired for period design  
valances. Valances to be hung from existing hooks in  
the walls.

27. Object: four pairs, reproduction floor-length TBA (R)  
curtains, c. 1840-60

Location: windows on east and south sides of  
room

Documentation: Textiles--Reference 14 (design and  
construction)

Reproduction fabric and trim matching valances to be  
acquired.

28. Object: four pairs, reproduction white floor-length muslin under curtains, c. 1840-60 TBA (R)
- Location: windows on east and south sides of room
- Documentation: Textiles References 14, 15; period sources (design and construction)
29. Object: four pairs, tiebacks and brass tieback pins, 1840-60 931-942 and TBA (R)
- Location: window casings on east and south sides of room
- Documentation: Fig. 14; period sources
- Reproduction tiebacks matching curtain trim to be acquired.

#### Wall Treatment

30. Object: reproduction gold, gray, white striped/floral embossed wallpaper with brown and gold geometric flocked border, c. 1840 TBA (R)
- Location: all walls of room
- Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"
- MAVA W006 and border, original wall coverings for this room found in situ, to be reproduced.

#### ROOM 109--DINING ROOM or BREAKFAST ROOM

#### Introduction

This small room adjacent to room 106 clearly served a "dining" function, as physical and documentary evidence indicate. Initial 1841 references are to a "dining room," while in 1849, the term

"Breakfast Room" appears in Upjohn's plans and correspondence. It is not clear whether the change in terminology actually reflected a limitation in the room's function, or whether the room continued to be used for informal dining throughout the historic period. Formal dining for a large party would have occurred in room 105 (Hall) or possibly even in room 106 (Drawing Room).

It is recommended that an original plate warmer be used on the hearth rather than the original fireboard which is in poor condition. This room should be fully furnished with items from MAVA's collection, supplemented as necessary to interpret the breakfast function.

Visitors will pass through this room between rooms 106 and 111. Furnishings must be carefully placed and secured in this very small space.

#### Furniture

1. Object: breakfast table late classical style, 77  
1830-60

Location: in front of fireplace

Documentation: Tables--Reference 5; Extant, #10

MAVA 77, a drop-leaf table associated with Van Buren's brother Lawrence, is appropriate.

2. Object: small marble-topped sideboard, late 42  
classical style, 1835-45

Location: southeast corner against east wall

Documentation: Sideboards--Extant, #1; Fig. 16

MAVA 42 is an original Lindenwald piece.

3. Object: Empire style bureau desk, 1825-45 9  
 Location: west wall  
 Documentation: Secretaries/Bookcases/Desks Extant, #3,  
 General Furnishings Reference #28  
 MAVA 9 may be an original Lindenwald furnishing.
4. Object: sideboard, late classical pillar and  
scroll style, 1830-40 76  
 Location: north wall  
 Documentation: Sideboards--Reference 7; Extant, #4  
 MAVA 76, associated with Lawrence Van Buren, is  
 appropriate.
5. Object: four (4) side chairs with upholstered  
 seats, Grecian style, 1830-40 TBA  
 Location: around table and against north and  
 west walls  
 Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #11, 12  
 WH 962.287.14, four (4) original Lindenwald side  
 chairs with black horsehair cloth seats in the White  
 House collection.

#### Accessory Furnishings

6. Object: painted tinned-iron plate warmer, 271  
 1840-50  
 Location: hearth  
 Documentation: Housekeeping Accessories--Extant #1;  
 Fig. 4  
 MAVA 271 is an original Lindenwald piece.

7. Object:           porcelain and glass coffeemaker,                               728  
                          c. 1850
- Location:           small sideboard
- Documentation:   Ceramics--Extant, #3
- MAVA 728 is probably an original Lindenwald furnishing.
- 
8. Object:           tea and breakfast service, French                               160-169  
                          china, 1835-45   and TBA
- Location:           sideboards, plate warmer
- Documentation:   Ceramics--Reference 4; Extant, #1, 2, 8
- MAVA 160-169, gold-banded porcelain teapot, sugar bowl, and plates associated with Martin Van Buren may be used with additional matching pieces, privately owned, if available.
- 
9. Object:           assorted glassware, English, 1835-40                               TBA
- Location:           sideboards
- Documentation:   Glassware--References 3-6
- If the engraved "Queen's Pattern" or Nemours" pattern produced by Davenport can be identified, pieces corresponding with the 1839 invoice to MVB, such as water carafes and tumblers, decanters, wine glasses, etc., would be appropriate.
- 
10. Object:          two (2) mantel lamps and three (3)                               TBA  
                          pairs of candlesticks with shades,  
                          1840-60
- Location:           mantel shelf (lamps), table and  
                          sideboards (candlesticks)
- Documentation:   Lighting Devices--References 1, 3, 5
- Period or reproduction lamps and brass candlesticks with glass shades to be acquired.

11. Object: polychrome delft jar with lid, c. 1850 1172  
 Location: mantel shelf  
 Documentation: Ceramics--Extant, #10; General Furnishings Reference 2. This piece is said to have come from Lindenwald
12. Object: Compote, glass, with star motif, c. 1840 1171  
 Location: on table  
 Documentation: Glassware--Extant, #6. This piece has a possible Lindenwald association
13. Object: wallpaper-covered fireboard, c. 1840 87  
 (optional/seasonal)  
 Location: fireplace  
 Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"
- MAVA 87 is the original fireboard used in this room.  
 It is in very poor condition.
14. Object: pair andirons and set of fireplace tools, 1840 TBA  
 Location: fireplace  
 Documentation: Heating Devices--References 1, 2, 4; Extant #6
- Period or reproduction fireplace accessories including andirons, fender, shovel, tongs, and poker would be appropriate.

NOTE: Table cloths and napkins (Textile References 8-10, 12, 13, 16) would be appropriate if the table were set for a meal.

Other specific tableware mentioned in VB correspondence (1841-44) includes a bladed knife, cork screw, fish knife, forks, tea bell, cruet stand, teapot (General Furnishings Reference 19), vegetable dishes (Ceramics Reference 5), and china teapot (Ceramics Reference 2).

### Wall Hangings

15. Object:               assorted small framed period prints               TBA  
                              or paintings, 1830-50

Location:               north, west, east walls and south wall  
                              over mantel

Documentation:   Pictures/Portraits

Although Van Buren referred in 1841 to portraits of Andrew Jackson and Thomas Jefferson in his "dining room," a later observer (1846) wrote of seeing them in the "parlor," presumably meaning room 106. In the absence of evidence on what may have taken their places here, subjects similar to Pictures/Portraits Reference 19 are suggested. There are no original hooks or picture-hanging buttons in the walls of this room.

### Floor Coverings

16. Object:               reproduction Brussels carpet,               TBA (R)  
                              geometric design, 1840-60

Location:               floor, wall to wall

Documentation:   Textiles--References 7, 13, 14; Extant  
                              #2

Reproduction carpet (MAVA 351) to be acquired for room 106 is appropriate for this room also.

### Window Treatment

17. Object:               reproduction valance, curtains, under               TBA (R)  
                              curtains, tiebacks, and pins, 1840-60  
                              for one window

Location:               south wall

Documentation:   Textiles--References 4, 14, 15; period  
                              sources (design and construction)

Window treatment should match room 106.



### Wall Treatment

18. Object: reproduction gold, gray, white striped/ TBA (R)  
floral embossed wallpaper with brown  
and gold geometric flocked border,  
c. 1840

Location: all walls of room

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"

MAVA W006 and border to be reproduced for room 106 is  
appropriate here as well.

### Room 111--LIBRARY

#### Introduction

This large room in the southern end of the Upjohn addition is perhaps the most problematic. While documentary and physical evidence leave no doubt of this room's function during the historic period, the appearance of the bookcases which originally lined the room is unknown and historical architects disagree about the placement of a door in the west wall leading into room 112.

In 1843, Gideon Welles wrote of Lindenwald's library as a "large and very fine room, very well-filled with books." An excellent description of Van Buren's library is found in William G. Bryan's letter recalling his visit to Lindenwald in April 1845:

"I passed some hours in his Library. His collection of books is large, and the number of works on all political subjects . . . is immense, even for a statesman . . . one side of the room seemed devoted to works of American Authors, exclusively . . . I must not forget to remark that I saw over the mantel piece of the Library an engraved likeness of Mr. Clay, & that I saw scattered about the room a number of the vilest & funniest caricatures of himself. One, I recollect, exhibiting him as a fox hard chased by a pack of Whig hounds!"

Visitors will pass through this room between room 109 and room 112 or 113.

1. Object:	five (5) <u>bookcases</u> , including a secretary-bookcase covered with wire mesh, c. 1850	TBA
------------	--	-----

Documentation: Secretaries/Bookcases/Desks--  
References, HSR, "Room 111"

2. Object: library table, late classical style, TBA  
1840-50

Original table is in collection of Smithsonian Institution. If not available, a similar period table or reproduction should be substituted.

Documentation: Chairs--Extant #7

MAVA 1016 is an original Lindenwald furnishing, upholstered in black horsehair. Its style is inconsistent with the room, but it is an original VB piece.

4. Object: upholstered rocking chair, late classical/rococo revival style, 1840-50 32

Location: south window alcove

Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #8

MAVA 32, possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing, reupholstered in black horsehair cloth, is appropriate.

#### Accessory Furnishings

5. Object: marble bust of Martin Van Buren by Hiram Powers, 1836-40 967

Location: on pedestal in southwest corner

Documentation: Sculpture--Extant, #1-3

MAVA 967, a copy executed by Powers himself in 1863, is appropriate in lieu of the original bust in White House collection.

6. Object: two to three hundred (200-300) books, 17th century to 1860, relating to law, politics, agriculture, and American subjects 159, 170, 216 and TBA

Location: bookcases

Documentation: Books/Documents References; Extant #4

185 volumes from Martin Van Buren's law library are owned by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. If not available, the same titles should be acquired, plus non-legal works. The bookcase to be used temporarily (MAVA 125) has 24 feet of shelf space.

7. Object: newspapers, documents, and writing accessories, 1830-60 TBA

Location: table

Documentation: Books/Documents--References

8. Object: lighting devices (3), 1830-60 TBA

Location: table and mantel shelf (pair of candlesticks)

Documentation: Lighting Devices References

Reproduction devices to be acquired.

9. Object: fireplace accessories, 1850-60 TBA

Location: fireplace

Documentation: Heating Devices--Extant #6

Period or reproduction accessories to be acquired.

#### Wall Hangings

10. Object: framed engraved portrait of Henry Clay, 1835-45 TBA

Location: over mantel

Documentation: Portraits/Pictures--References 14-16

11. Object: framed portrait (probably of print) of Francis P. Blair, 1835-45 TBA

Location: over mantel, next to portrait of Clay

Documentation: Portraits/Pictures--Reference 15

"Likeness" and a "fine frame" to be acquired.

12. Object: framed engraved portrait of Andrew Jackson by G. W. Childs, 1835-45 TBA
- Location: over mantel, above portraits of Blair and Clay
- Documentation: Portraits/Pictures--Reference 18
13. Object: political cartoons, 1830-50 231-233, 235, 237, 239 and TBA
- Location: "scattered"
- Documentation: Portraits/Pictures--Reference 14
- MAVA 231-233, 235, 237, 239 are appropriate. Other cartoons such as "The Fox Chace" to be acquired. Cartoons may be unframed and placed on library table, or framed and hung.

#### Floor Covering

15. Object: reproduction Brussels carpet, c. 1850 TBA (R)
- Location: on floor, wall to wall
- Documentation: HSR, "Room 111"; Textiles--References 7, 13, 14
- Reproduction of MAVA 836 (carpet found in Lindenwald) is recommended in lieu of grass matting which is more difficult to maintain.

#### ROOM 112--BEDROOM

This room, located in the southwest portion of the 1849 addition, is believed to be the bedroom used by Smith Thompson Van Buren 1849-62. Unfortunately, there is no indication of how the room was furnished and there are no extant pieces either in MAVA's or other collections which are specifically associated with Smith T. Van Buren, his first wife, Ellen James, or his second wife, Henrietta Irving.

Smith T. Van Buren sent down furniture from his Albany residence in October 1849 as he and his family prepared to live in the newly renovated Lindenwald. The furnishings he sent very likely dated from the time of his marriage to Ellen James in 1842 and could have included some of her family heirlooms as well. Sadly, Ellen died before the move was completed and it was only Smith and his three children who shared Lindenwald with the ex-President and Martin Van Buren, Jr.

When Smith remarried in 1855, additional furniture may have been acquired, but there is no evidence to prove that theory. Some accounts of furniture repairs for Smith's later residence in the Fishkill area c. 1866 exist, but it is not known if these furnishings were originally from Lindenwald.

The only evidence of the appearance of the room in the historic period is a fragment of the rose and tan striped wallpaper which will be reproduced. Since to furnish this room at the present time would be conjectural, it is recommended that it remain empty unless appropriate Smith Van Buren pieces become available.

ROOMS 114/115/116--BATHROOM and DRESSING AREA; WATER CLOSET;  
HALL

### Introduction

These rooms located adjacent to room 112 in the addition were used as the bathroom and dressing area, water closet, and hall respectively, as physical and documentary evidence clearly indicate.

The original bathtub and flush toilet exist and the three rooms will be restored and furnished to interpret their function.

Visitors will either pass through or view these rooms from their doorways.

### Furniture

1. Object: copper-lined wooden-cased bathtub, c. 1849-50 82  
  
Location: northwest corner, 114  
  
Documentation: HSR, "Rooms 114/115/116," and "Plumbing System"  
  
MAVA 82 is the original Lindenwald bathtub.
2. Object: marble-top sink, c. 1849-50 TBA  
  
Location: east wall, 114  
  
Documentation: HSR, "Rooms 114/115/116," and "Plumbing System"
3. Object: small washstand, 1845-50 142  
  
Location: west wall 114 in front of window  
  
Documentation: Tables/Stands--Extant, #16  
  
MAVA 142, possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing, is appropriate.
4. Object: wooden-cased water closet with Wedgwood bowl, c. 1849-50  
  
Location: south wall, 115  
  
Documentation: HSR, "Rooms 114/115/116," and "Plumbing System"  
  
The original water closet exists in situ.

5. Object:            ogee mirror, late classical style,  
                         c. 1830-40

Location:           southeast wall over fireplace

Documentation:      Mirrors--Extant, #4

MAVA 111, possibly original, is appropriate.

#### Accessory Furnishings

6. Object:           assorted towels, soap, and personal            TBA  
                         accessories, 1845-50

Location:           washstand, sink

Documentation:      Textiles--Reference 16; Personal  
                         Accessories--References 7, '9

Reproduction or period items to be acquired.

#### ROOM 118--NURSERY

This room in the south center portion of the 1849 addition was used as the nursery for Smith Thompson Van Buren's children. When Smith, a widower, moved into Lindenwald in 1849, he brought two daughters and a son. By 1860, five years after his second marriage, three more children had joined the ranks.

Evidence indicates that the original wall treatment was a borderless wallpaper with a blue diamond and pink floral pattern. This wallpaper will be reproduced.

The Historic Structures Report mentions that a "very large object" with straight sides and an overhanging cornice once occupied the south and west walls. There are no extant furnishings specifically associated with this room or with Smith's children.



It is recommended that photographs, portraits, and documents relating to Van Buren's grandchildren be used in this room in conjunction with whatever appropriate nursery furnishings become known and available. Selected period books and toys should be used to suggest the nursery function.

Visitors will enter the room from hallway 119.

#### ROOM 119--ENTRANCE HALL

This long, narrow hall parallel to the west wall of the 1797 house, functioned as the hallway leading from the north entrance of the addition. There is no evidence of the specific furnishings for this room, or floor covering, and the walls were neither painted nor papered.

Visitors will enter this hall from the exterior north door or from hallway 120 and the exterior west door. It is recommended that period furnishings not be used here unless more documentation is found. A protective floor covering is recommended.

#### ROOM 201--BEDROOM

John Van Buren wrote his father on July 11, 1844, that his wife Elizabeth preferred the "back room second story" during her visits to Lindenwald. It is a large and pleasant room in the northwest corner of the 1797 house and it may well have been the room in which the couple spent their honeymoon three years earlier.

The only furnishing specifically associated with this room is the fireboard (MAVA 91) which was covered with the same blue and pink curvilinear floral wallpaper as the room itself. The wallpaper and

the flocked floral border from the fireboard will be reproduced for this room.

There is no evidence of how the room was furnished during the historic period; however, this room would be an appropriate place to interpret the personal and political life of "Prince John." Any artifacts associated with John and Elizabeth Van Buren would be appropriately displayed here pending the acquisition of, or in conjunction with, other original Lindenwald or Van Buren-associated furnishings, as yet unidentified.

Visitors will look into the room but will not enter it.

#### ROOM 205--BEDROOM

##### Introduction

The correspondence of Angelica Van Buren clearly indicates that she and her husband Abraham occupied a second floor bedroom during their frequent and extended visits to Lindenwald. By the process of elimination, their room must have been 205, located in the northeastern corner of the original house.

The architectural detailing in this room suggest that it, rather than room 201, may have been the "Bed room upstairs" for which Van Buren requested "a little more expensive" wallpaper in 1841. Mrs. Butler replied: "The paper for the upper bedroom, Harriet said she would have an eye to her own comfort as she might occasionally be an occupant of the room."

The fireboard (MAVA 90), the only extant furnishing specifically associated with this room, bore a scenic paper similar to the one used in room 104; it has badly deteriorated. On the other hand, there are

several documentary references to the furnishings used in Angelica's room and it is recommended that appropriate furnishings from MAVA's collection, supplemented as necessary, be used to interpret the significant presence of Van Buren's eldest son, his wife, and their children.

Visitors will look into the room but will not enter it.

### Furniture

- |                |   |     |
|----------------|---|-----|
| 1. Object:     | painting wardrobe, late classical style, 1830-40      | 243 |
| Location:      | west wall   |     |
| Documentation: | Wardrobes--Reference 1; Extant, #2                    |     |
|                | MAVA 243 is likely an original Lindenwald furnishing. |     |

### Accessory Furnishings

- |                |  |         |
|----------------|--|---------|
| 2. Object:     | pair of candlesticks (reproduction), 1840-50     | TBA (R) |
| Location:      | mantel shelf                                     |         |
| Documentation: | Lighting Devices References                      |         |
| 3. Object:     | wallpaper-covered <u>fireboard</u> , c. 1840     | 90      |
| Location:      | fireplace  |         |
| Documentation: | HSR, Room 205, "Finishes Study"                  |         |
|                | MAVA 90 is the original fireboard for this room. |         |

### Wall Hangings

- |                |   |     |
|----------------|---|-----|
| 4. Object:     | framed engraving of Lady Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington's mother, pre-1843 | TBA |
| Location:      | over mantel   |     |
| Documentation: | Portraits/Pictures--Reference 13  |     |
- 258

### Window Treatment

5. Object: four (4) pairs of reproduction muslin curtains, 1840-50 TBA (R)
- Location: windows
- Documentation: Textiles, References 14, 15

### Wall Treatment

6. Object: reproduction wallpaper (brown, yellow, and green foliate pattern on white) and flocked floral border, c. 1840 TBA (R)
- Location: walls
- Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"
- MAVA W018, found in this room, is to be reproduced.

### ROOMS 206/207/208--UPPER HALL and BEDROOM

### Introduction

Van Buren wrote to Mrs. Butler in 1841 suggesting that the wallpaper "for the hall upstairs including the temporary Bed Room at the end of it . . . be neat but not expensive. Something like that we first selected for the lower Hall might do."

Rooms 206, 207, and 208, running the length of the center of the 1797 house, are undoubtedly the rooms referred to, although the 1841 reference is the only clue to their function during the historic period. It is not known if the "temporary" bedroom was ever used for another purpose.

There are no references to specific furnishings for these rooms; however appropriate furnishings from MAVAs collection should be used to partially furnish them.

Visitors will pass through rooms 206 and 207 and will look into 208.

### Furniture

1. Object: large painted-grain round-top pedestal center table, late classical style, 1835-45 15

Location: center of room 206

Documentation: Tables--Extant, #5

MAVA 15 is an original Lindenwald piece.

2. Object: low wardrobe, late classical style, 1835-45 31

Location: north wall of room 208

Documentation: Wardrobes--Extant, #6

MAVA 31, possibly an original Lindenwald furnishing is appropriate.

3. Object: low wardrobe, late classical style, 1835-45 38

Location: south wall of room 208

Documentation: Chests of Drawers--Extant, #10

MAVA 38, possibly an original Lindenwald, is appropriate.

### Floor Covering

4. Object: grass matting TBA (R)

Location: floor, wall-to-wall

Documentation: Textile Reference 11, Extant 8, 9, 10

## Wall Treatment

5. Object: reproduction yellow diamond and green and red stripe on white wallpaper with flocked geometric border, c. 1840 TBA (R)
- Location: walls of the three rooms
- Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"
- MAVA W015, original wallpaper for these rooms and the border from room 210 to be reproduced.

## ROOM 209--BEDROOM OF MARTIN VAN BUREN

### Introduction

Oral tradition and secondary sources have identified the southeastern bedroom as the ex-President's. Dennis Tilden Lynch in his 1929 biography of Van Buren described the room c. 1862:

"Two windows face the south; and two others catch the rays of the rising sun. On days when he is not too weak he sits in an easy chair covered with chintz. Against the southern wall, between the valanced windows, stands a large wardrobe with a mirror door. The sleigh-bed, of the same warm-tone mahogany from which the rest of the furniture is fashioned, is flanked on either side by a plain chest of drawers. On one of these is an unframed portrait of Silas Wright. It is small; and of the type our early artists called a cabinet. On top of the other is a Bible. In the center of the Windowless west wall hangs an illuminated tribute to Jackson. On either side of this memento of his friend is a silhouette of Van Buren. These, too, are simply framed. A shaving stand occupies a corner. Small rugs, woven of vari-colored rags, and three fiddle-back chairs, with seats of gray horse-hair, complete the furnishings."

Unfortunately, Lynch does not indicate the source of his information and it is likely that the scene was reconstructed based on a visit to

Lindenwald during the Birney-deProsse occupancy. It is not known whether Lynch described only the furnishings he saw at that time or had other historical evidence as well.

Lynch's description, while helpful, is not completely accurate. For example, he states that the wardrobe stood between the windows on the south wall. Clearly, he meant east wall, for the fireplace occupies the center of the south wall. Also, he mentions that two plain chests of drawers "flanked" the sleigh-bed. This could not have been done unless the chests were very small or the doors to rooms 207 and 208 were permanently closed. And the door to room 210 is in the center of the "windowless west wall." It is also possible that Lynch was referring to room 205; see discussion under ROOM USE, Room 209.

Lynch does identify a number of Van Buren furnishings which are extant and it is recommended that they be used in this room to interpret the life of the ex-President at Lindenwald. Other items conforming to Lynch's description as possible, other documentation, and period practice should be acquired to fully refurnish this room.

Visitors will pass through this room from room 210 and into room 207.

#### Furniture

1. Object: large mahogany sleigh bed made by 1324  
William Shipman, New York City, late  
classical style, c. 1840

Location: north wall

Documentation: Beds--Extant, #3.

MAVA 1324 is the original bed associated with MVB at Lindenwald.

2. Object: mahogany wardrobe with mirrored door, 12  
late classical style, 1840-50

Location: east wall between windows

Documentation: Wardrobes--Extant, #1; Fig. 2.

MAVA 12 is an original Lindenwald piece. The mirror has been replaced.

3. Object: painted-grain shaving stand, late classical style, 1830-40 06

Location: southeast corner

Documentation: Tables/Stands--Extant, #1; Fig. 1.

MAVA 06 is an original Lindenwald piece associated with the ex-President.

4. Object: marble-topped commode or washstand, late classical style, 1830-40 350

Location: east side of south wall in front of window

Documentation: Chests--Extant, #1

MAVA 350 is an original Lindenwald piece.

5. Object: secretary-bookcase, late classical style, 1830-50 05

Location: south side of west wall

Documentation: Secretaries/Bookcases/Desks--Extant, #1; Fig. 3.

MAVA 05 is an original Lindenwald piece.

6. Object: swivel armchair with upholstered back, Elizabethan revival (spool-turned), 1850-55 83

Location: next to secretary-bookcase

Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #3; Fig. 3

MAVA 83 is an original Lindenwald piece. It has been reupholstered in brown leather based on the original fabric.



7. Object: upholstered easy chair, rococo revival style, 1845-55 127

Location: by fireplace

Documentation: Chairs--Extant, #5.

MAVA 127 is likely an original Lindenwald chair. It has been reupholstered in a period-design gold damask.

8. Object: one or two (1 or 2) small painted-grain or mahogany tables or stands with drawers, late classical style, 1830-60 TBA

Location: to right of, or flanking bed

Documentation: Tables/Stands--Reference 7, 9

9. Object: three (3) chairs with horsehair upholstered seats, late classical style, 1830-40 TBA

Location: east wall and by fireplace

Documentation: Chairs--Reference 8

#### Accessory Furnishings

10. Object: two pair (4) china candlesticks, c. 1840 TBA

Location: mantel shelf and bedside table

Documentation: Lighting Devices--Reference 6

11. Object: ceramic washbowl and pitcher and linen chamber towels, 1840-60 TBA

Location: washstand/commode

Documentation: period sources; Textiles, Reference 16

12. Object: toiletry articles, 1840-60 TBA  
Location: shaving stand and washstand  
Documentation: Personal Accessories, References 7, 9 TBA  
Period or reproduction articles to be acquired. A hair brush and shaving soap from Philadelphia are particularly referred to in Van Buren correspondence with Henry Gilpin in 1849 and 1856
13. Object: hymnal and Bible, 1840-60 TBA  
Location: bedside table  
Documentation: Books/Documents, References 19, 26
14. Object: writing accessories, 1840-60 TBA  
Location: secretary-bookcase  
Documentation: Personal Accessories References 6, 14  
Period or reproduction items to be acquired.
15. Object: books, 1800-60 TBA  
Location: secretary-bookcase  
Documentation: Books/Documents  
Period books with literary, religious, and medical subjects to be acquired; about 14 feet of shelf space.
16. Object: personal accessories and clothing, 1840-60 97 and TBA  
Location: chest, table, chairs  
Documentation: Personal Accessories References  
Associated, period, or reproduction items to be acquired, including spectacles, watch, gloves, pocket handkerchiefs, umbrella, cane, riding crop, hat. MAVA 97, a leather hatbox traditionally associated with Van Buren, is appropriate.

17. Object: bed linens, blankets, and coverlet, TBA (R)  
1840-60
- Location: bed
- Documentation: Textiles References 9, 10, 11
- Reproduction bedding, including mattress, pillows, bolsters.
18. Object: chintz slip cover, 1840-60 TBA (R)
- Location: easy chair
- Documentation: Textiles--Reference 13, 20; period sources (design and construction)
- Reproduction slip cover to be acquired.
19. Object: wallpaper-covered fireboard, c. 1840 86
- Location: fireplace
- Documentation: HSR, "Room 209," "Finishes Study"
- MAVA 86 is original to this room.
20. Object: unframed cabinet portrait (painting or print) of Silas Wright TBA
- Location: bedside table
- Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Reference 23

#### Wall Hangings

21. Object: framed engraving of a tribute to Andrew Jackson, 1830-40 99
- Location: north wall over bed
- Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Extant, #10
- MAVA 99 is an original Lindenwald furnishing.

22. Object: two (2) framed silhouettes of Martin 177 and TBA  
Van Buren, 1840-60
- Location: west wall and south side of east wall
- Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Reference #23
- MAVA 177, lithograph of a silhouette, is appropriate.  
A second silhouette and frames to be acquired.
23. Object: hanging religious texts, 1840-60 TBA
- Location: north side of east wall
- Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Reference 25
24. Object: ogee mirror, late classical style, 41  
1830-40
- Location: over mantel
- Documentation: Mirrors--Extant, #3
- MAVA 41 is possibly original to Lindenwald.

#### Floor Coverings

25. Object: assorted small vari-colored rag rugs, TBA (R)  
over plain painted canvas floorcloth,  
1840-60
- Location: floor
- Documentation: Textiles Reference 20; HSR, "Room 209"  
(no tack marks found)
- Reproduction rugs to be acquired.

#### Window Treatment

26. Object: four (4) reproduction valances, TBA (R)  
1840-60
- Location: above windows on east and south sides  
of room

Documentation: Textiles, Reference 20; period sources  
(design and construction)

27. Object: four (4) pairs of reproduction white TBA (R)  
muslin floor-length curtains,  
c. 1840-60

Location: east and south windows

Documentation: Textiles References 14, 15; period  
sources (design and construction)

### Wall Treatment

28. Object: reproduction wallpaper (green chevron TBA (R)  
motif on white ground) with green and  
gray Greek key and foliate border,  
c. 1840

Location: walls

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"

MAVA W002 and border, found on fireboard, to be  
reproduced.

## ROOM 210--BEDROOM OF MARTIN VAN BUREN, JR.

### Introduction

In 1841, the ex-President requested for "Martin's Bed Room" a "neat but cheap" wallpaper. Harriet Butler's daughter chose the paper which had "nothing exciting in the colors" and which to an "invalid" would be "rather quieting to the nerves." The original fireboard bearing this wallpaper is extant, but no other furnishings are specifically associated with this room.

In 1849, Smith T. Van Buren refers to the room as "my brother's bed-room" in his correspondence with architect Richard Upjohn; thus

it is assumed that Martin Van Buren Jr. occupied the same room from 1841 until 1853, when he left Lindenwald for Europe.

It is not known if the room was occupied by anyone else after Martin Jr's death in 1855. It is recommended that the room be furnished and interpreted to reflect the life and personality of the ex-President's third son, as best it can be discerned from family correspondence.

Visitors will pass through this room into room 209.

#### Furniture

1. Object: mahogany sleigh bed, late classical style, 1830-40 TBA or 92

Location: north wall

Documentation: Beds--Extant, #1

A possibly original Lindenwald bed is in a private collection in the Kinderhook area. MAVA 92 (Extant #2), an originally painted grain sleigh bed may be used in lieu of mahogany bed.

2. Object: wardrobe with mirror door, late classical style, 1830-40 134

Location: east wall

Documentation: Wardrobes--Extant, #5

MAVA 134 is appropriate.

3. Object: marble-topped chest of drawers, late classical style, 1830-60 TBA

Location: north wall

Documentation: Chests--Extant, #11

Probably a Van Buren piece, this chest is in private hands in the Kinderhook area.

4. Object: chest of drawers, late classical style, 1830-40 28

Location: west wall over chest

Documentation: Chest of Drawers/Commodes/Cupboards--Extant, #3

MAVA 28 is appropriate.

5. Object: ogee mirror, late classical style, 1830-40 36

Location: north wall over chest

Documentation: Mirrors--Extant, #2

MAVA 36 is likely an original Lindenwald furnishing.

6. Object: end table, late classical style, 1830-40 39

Location: south side of east wall

Documentation: Tables/Stands--Extant, #24

An original table is in the private hands in the Kinderhook area.

#### Accessory Furnishings

7. Object: two pair (4) china candlesticks, c. 1840 TBA

Location: chests

Documentation: Lighting Devices Reference 6

8. Object: personal accessories and clothing, 1840-50 TBA

Location: chest, bed

Documentation: Personal Accessories

Period or reproduction items to be acquired. An umbrella and a "jewel" were repaired for Martin Van Buren Jr. in 1843 by L.S. Rexford.

9. Object: books, papers, and writing accessories, TBA  
1840-50

Location: table

Documentation: Books/Documents

Period or reproduction items to be acquired.

10. Object: bed linens, blankets, and coverlet, TBA (R)  
1840-50

Location: bed

Documentation: Textiles References 9, 10, 11

Reproduction bedding to be acquired.

11. Object: wallpaper-covered fireboard, c. 1840 89

Location: fireplace

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"

MAVA 89 is the original fireboard for this room.

Wall Hangings

12. Object: framed portrait of Fanny Elssler, TBA  
1840-45

Location: south wall over mantel

Documentation: Pictures/Portraits--Reference 15

A period "likeness," either a print or painting, to be acquired.



### Wall Treatment

13. Object: reproduction white floral on cream TBA (R)  
ground wallpaper and flocked geometric  
border, c. 1840

Location: walls

Documentation: HSR, "Finishes Study"

MAVA W019, original wallpaper and border for this room,  
to be reproduced.

ROOMS 005, 006, 007--BASEMENT SERVICE ROOMS

### Introduction

These three basement rooms, partially furnished as the servants' dining room, kitchen, and "wash-room" (laundry room), respectively, will serve to interpret the lives and duties of Lindenwald's various servants and their relationship to the functioning of the household during the historic period.

Room functions have been identified through physical and documentary evidence and oral tradition. Original fixtures such as the cast iron cook stove, hand pumps, and sinks, should be restored and reinstalled. Selected furnishings should also be used to suggest the dining, food preparation, and laundry functions.

Visitors will either pass through these rooms or view them from the doorways.

ROOM 005--SERVANTS' DINING ROOM

Furniture

1. Object:            storage cabinet and shelves, federal/            TBA (R)  
                      classical style, 1800-50  
  
Location:            northeast corner  
  
Documentation:      HSR, "Room 005", p. 18  
  
Built-in cabinetry and shelf reconstructed by NAHPC.
  
2. Object:            large cupboard, federal/classical/            20  
                      country style, 1800-50  
  
Location:            southeast or east wall  
  
Documentation:      Chests/Commodore/Cupboards--Extant #12  
  
MAVA 20 is probably an original Lindenwald furnishing.
  
3. Object:            drop-leaf extension table, late            TBA  
                      classical country style, 1830-50  
  
Location:            center of room  
  
Documentation:      Tables--Extant, #23  
  
An original Lindenwald table is in private hands.
  
4. Object:            chair, federal/classical/country            1111  
                      style, 1800-50  
  
Location:            by window  
  
Documentation:      Chairs--Extant, #15  
  
MAVA 1111, a rocking chair associated with Van Buren, is appropriate.

Accessory Furnishings

5. Object:            lighting devices (2), 1800-50            TBA (R)  
  
Location:            table

Documentation: period sources

A pair of reproduction tin, iron, or pewter candle-holders to be acquired.

6. Object: ceramics, glassware, and utensils, 1040-1107  
1800-60 and TBA

Location: table, cupboard, cabinet, shelves

Documentation: Ceramics--Extant, #5, 6

MAVA 1040-1107, set of blue and white "Amoy" pattern  
Davenport ironstone china, associated with Van Buren,  
is appropriate.

#### Wall Treatment

7. Object: reproduction multicolored floral TBA (R)  
bouquet, striped wallpaper, c. 1850

Location: walls

Documentation: HSR, "Room 005", "Finishes Study"

Original wallpaper found in situ to be reproduced.

#### ROOM 006--KITCHEN

#### Furniture

1. Object: cast iron cook stove and ovens, original  
Gothic style, c. 1850 in place

Location: north wall

Documentation: HSR, "Room 006", "Heating System"

The original Moses Pond Union Range, manufactured in  
Boston, survives in situ.

2. Object: sink, undetermined style, c. 1850 TBA

Location: southwest corner

Documentation: HSR, "Room 006", "Plumbing System";  
period sources (design and construction)

Reconstructed by NAHPC.

3. Object: storage cabinets and shelves, c. 1850 TBA

Location: east wall

Documentation: HSR, "Room 006"

Built-in cabinets reconstructed.

4. Object: drop-leaf work table, late federal/  
country style, 1825-35 47

Location: center of room

Documentation: Tables--Extant, #12

MAVA 47 is likely an original Lindenwald piece.

5. Object: work or side table, late classical/  
country style, c. 1840 129

Location: east wall

Documentation: Tables--Extant, #8

MAVA 129 may be an original Lindenwald piece.

#### Accessory Furnishings

6. Object: assorted kitchenware, 1840-60 TBA

Location: tables, cabinets, shelves, stove

Documentation: Furniture/Furnishings References;  
HSR-arch. section; period sources

MAVA 273 (an oyster gridiron) is an original Lindenwald furnishing. Other articles corresponding to the November 23, 1845, list would be appropriate and include a gridiron (272), Dutch oven, potato steamer, toaster; tea, fish, ham, and soup kettles; stew and frying pans; firecarrier; trivet; sugar nippers. A

coal scuttle, axe, hatchet, meat saw, and steelyards were also listed.

Ceramics, glassware, and utensils based on archeological collections would also be appropriate.

#### ROOM 007--WASHROOM (LAUNDRY ROOM)

##### Furniture

1. Object: lead-lined sink, c. 1850 and hand pump

Location: southwest corner

Documentation: HSR, "Room 007", "Plumbing System"

The sink and hand pump have both survived and have been reconstructed and reinstalled.

##### Accessory Furnishings

2. Object: two (2) folding wooden drying racks, 133  
1800-50 1166

Location: by south window

Documentation: Housekeeping Accessories, Extant #6, 7

MAVA 133 and 1166 are probably original Lindenwald furnishings.

3. Object: two (2) sets of smoothing irons and stands, 1840-50 TBA

Location: by fireplace

Documentation: Furnishings References #21  
(November 23, 1845)

4. Object: assorted washtubs and laundry accessories, 1840-60 1162  
1163

Location: scattered

Documentation: Housekeeping Accessories, Extant #5

MAVA 1162 and 1163 may be original Lindenwald furnishings.

5. Object:               assorted linens and clothing (reproduction), 1840-60               TBA (R)

Location:               drying racks, tables

Documentation: Textiles References

ROOMS 102/103 and 107/108--CLOSETS

No furnishings.

ROOM 110--STAIRWAY

Same floor covering as room 105.

ROOMS 113/117--TOWER STAIR HALL

No furnishings.

ROOM 120--HALLWAY, 121--PRIVY, and 122--CLOSET

No furnishings.

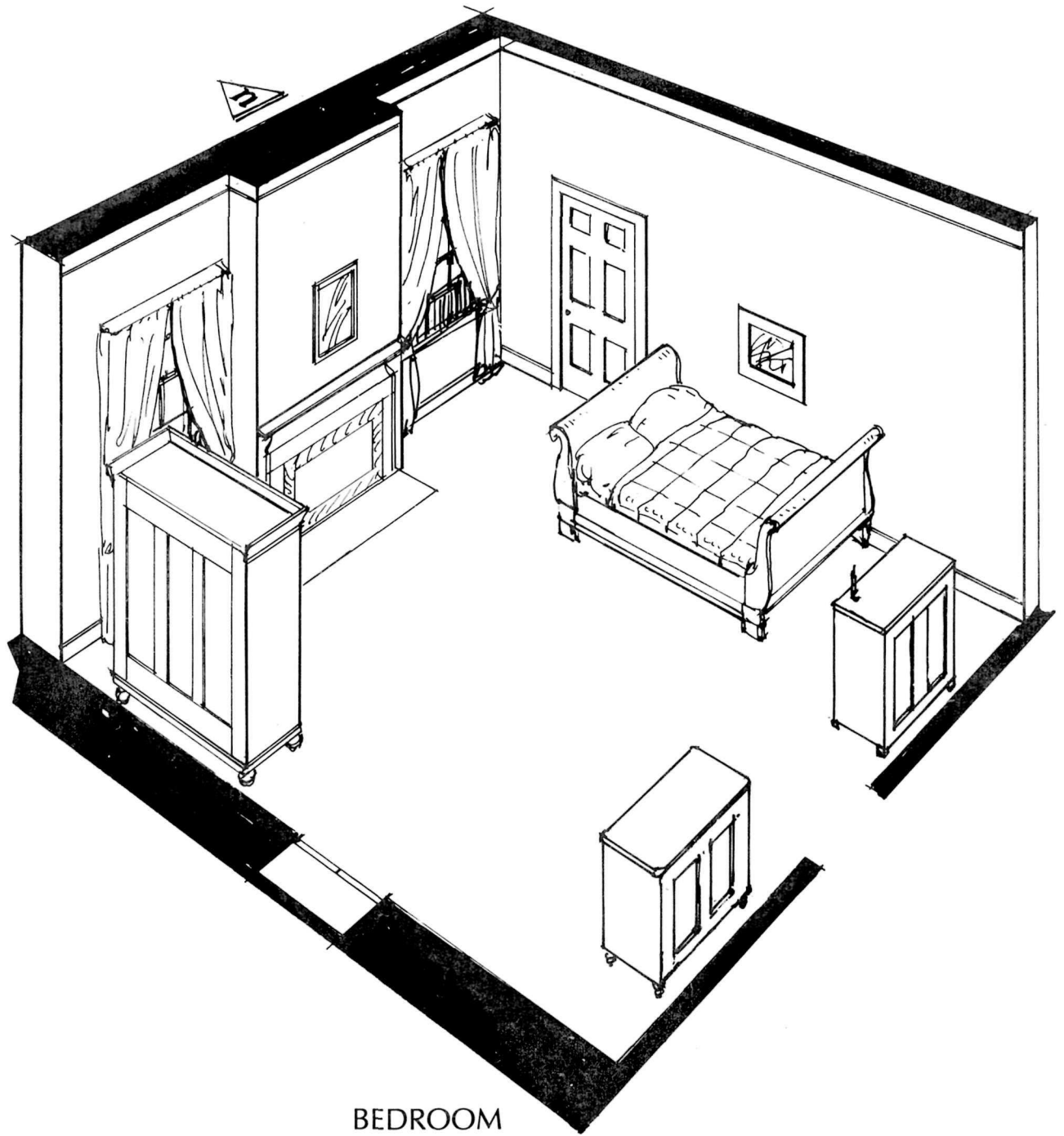
ROOM 123--BEDROOM

No furnishings unless function and/or occupant of the room can be determined.

ROOMS 202/203/204--CLOSETS and 211--PASSAGE

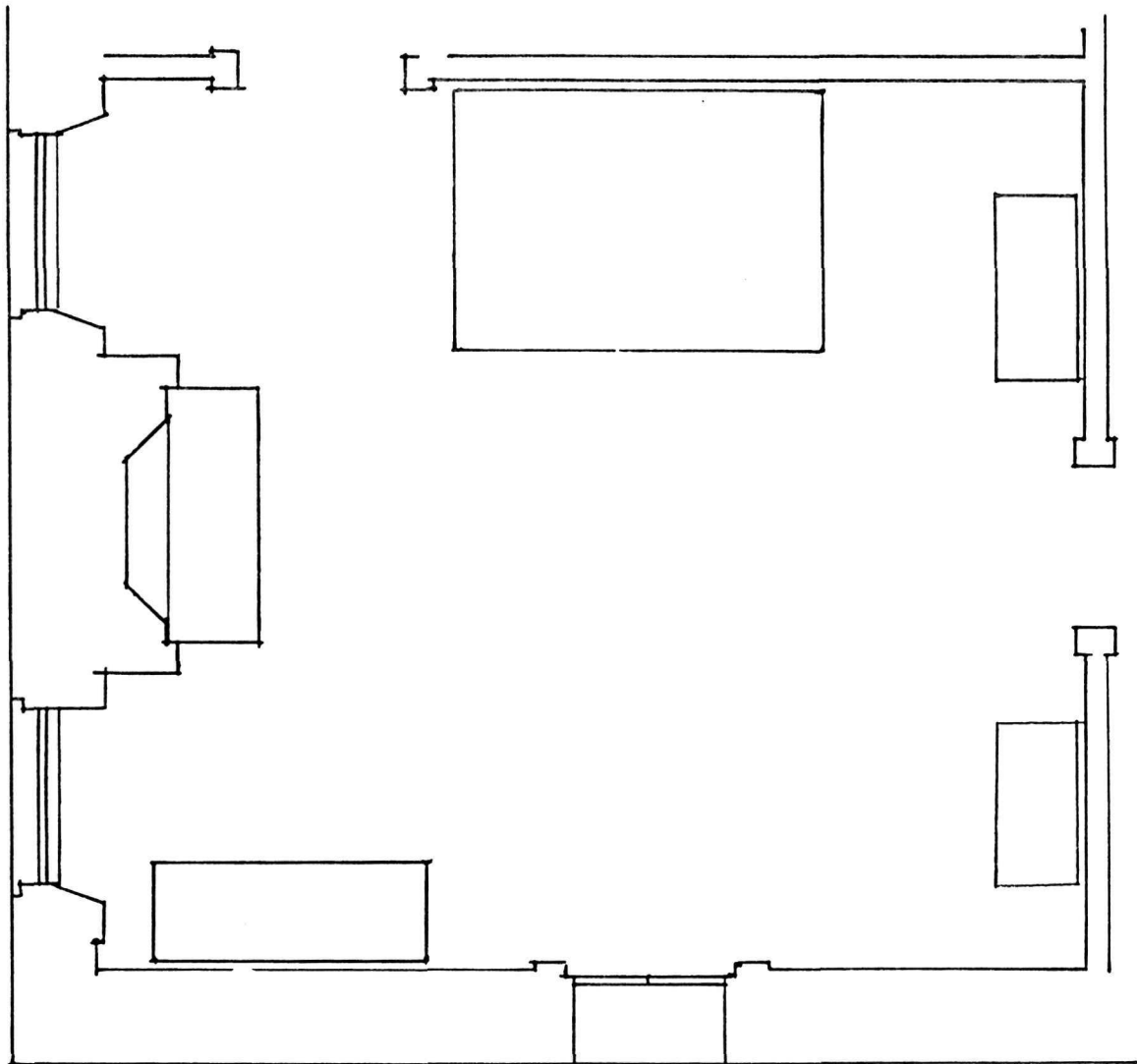
No furnishings.

## FLOOR PLANS AND ELEVATIONS



BEDROOM  
Room 101

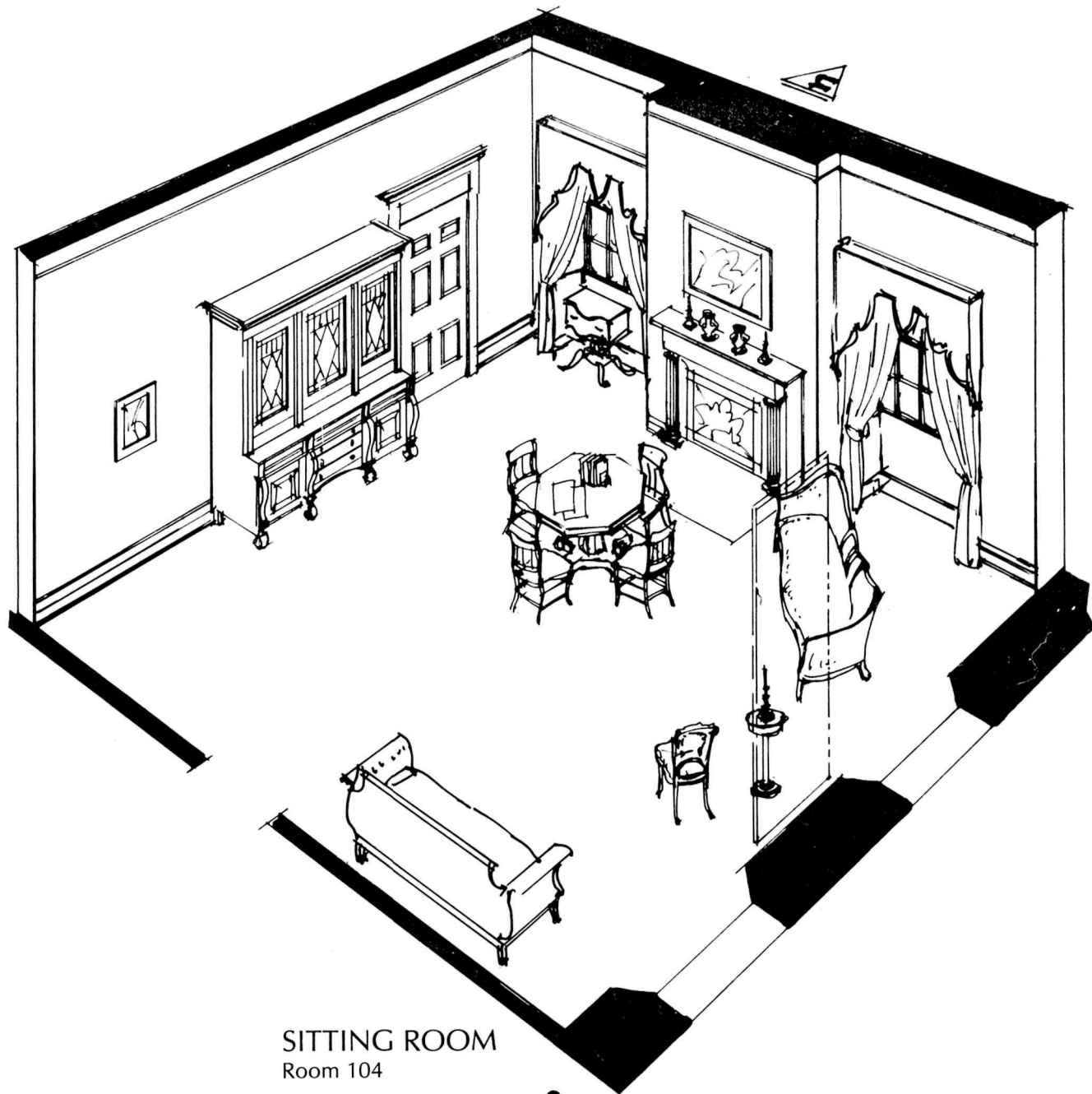




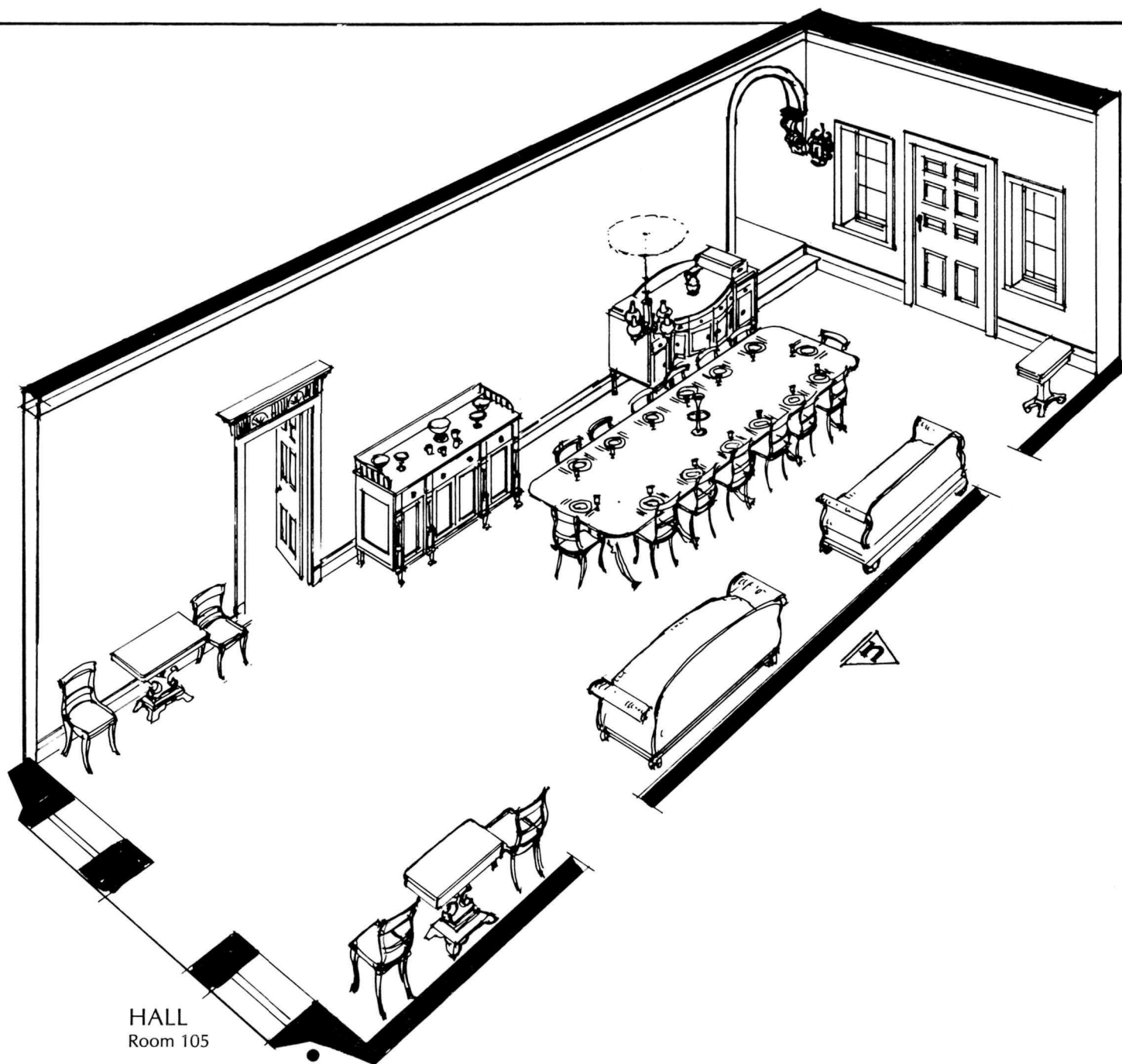
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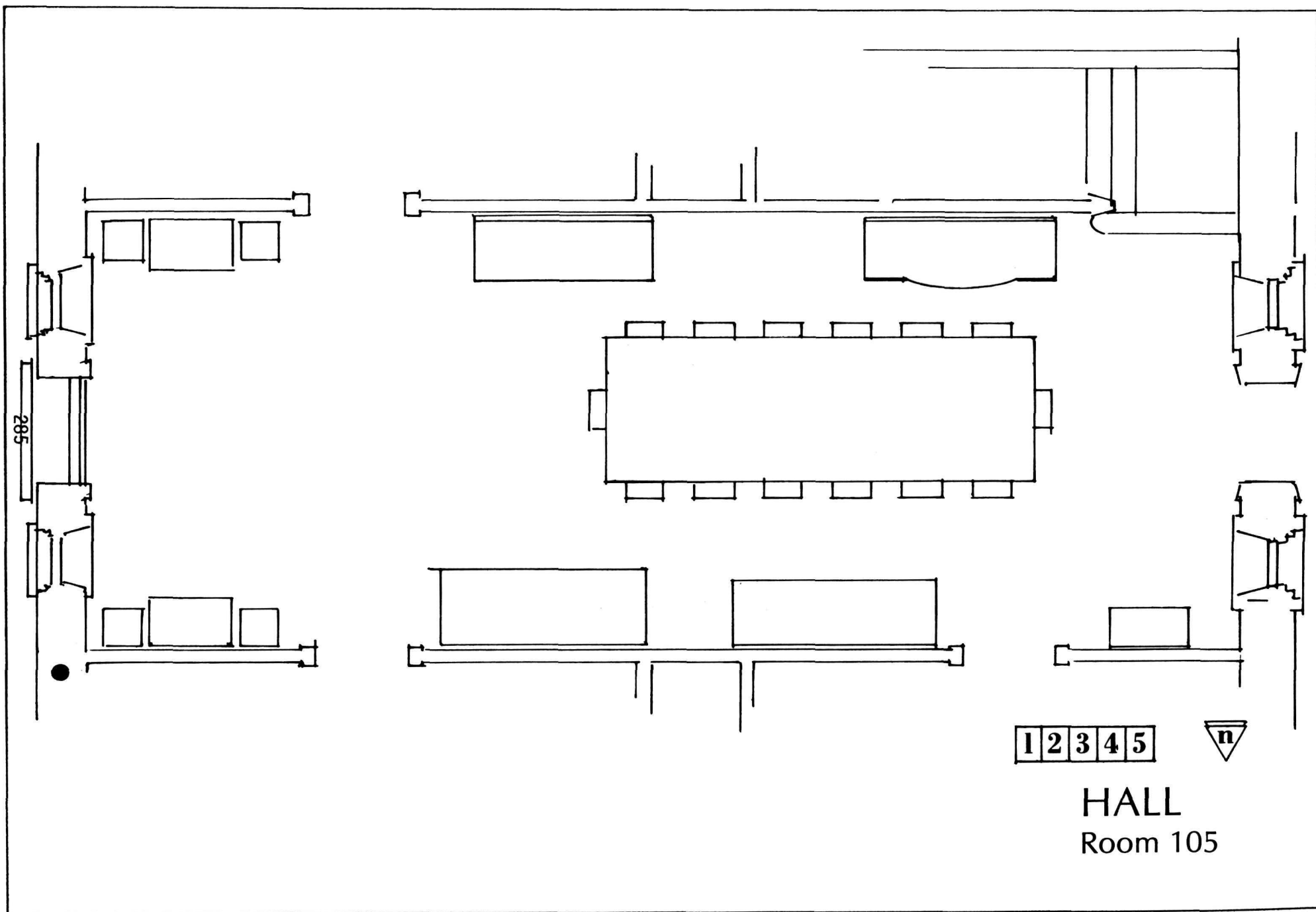


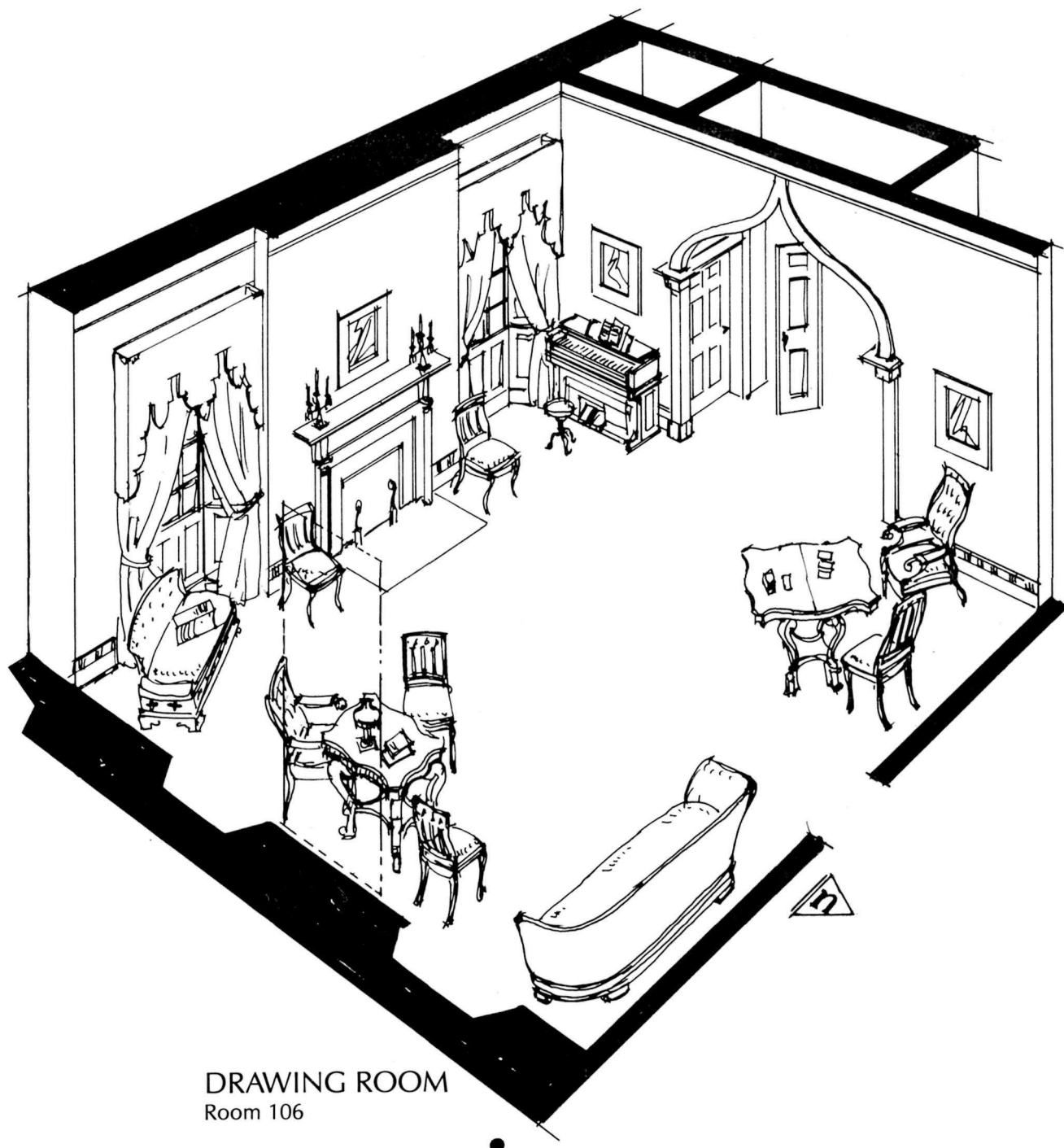
BEDROOM  
Room 101



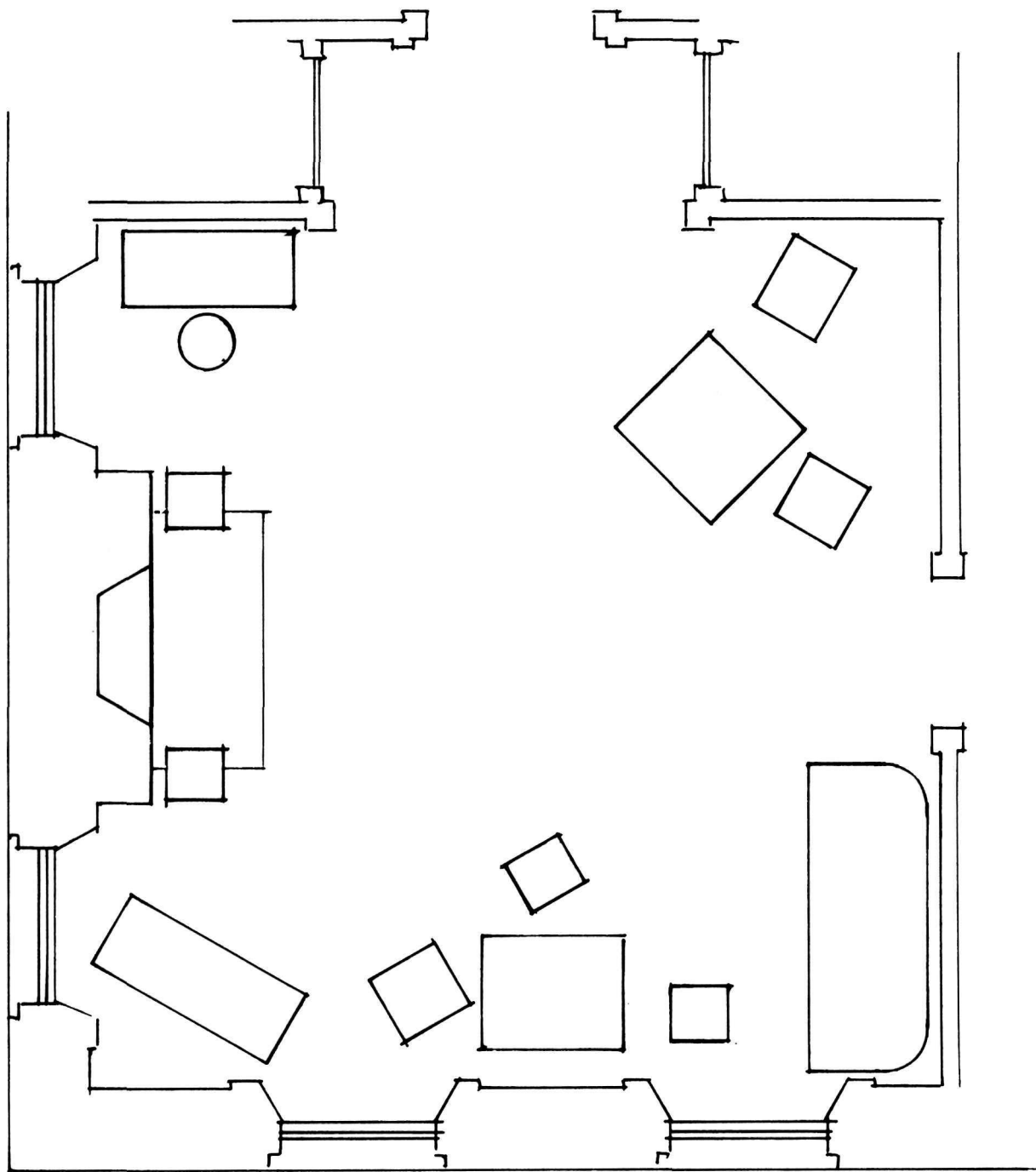








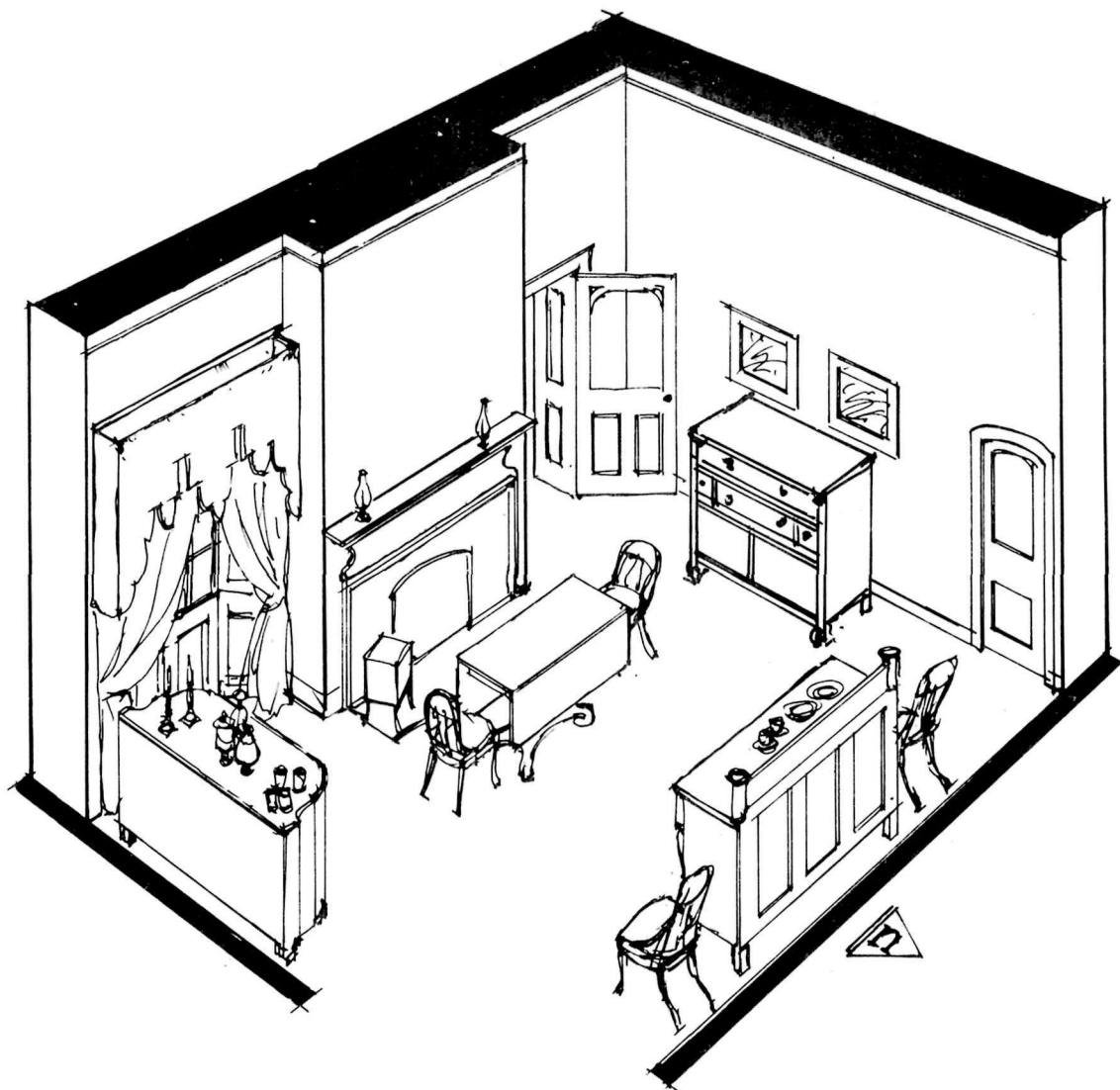
DRAWING ROOM  
Room 106



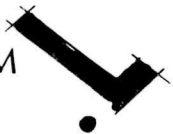
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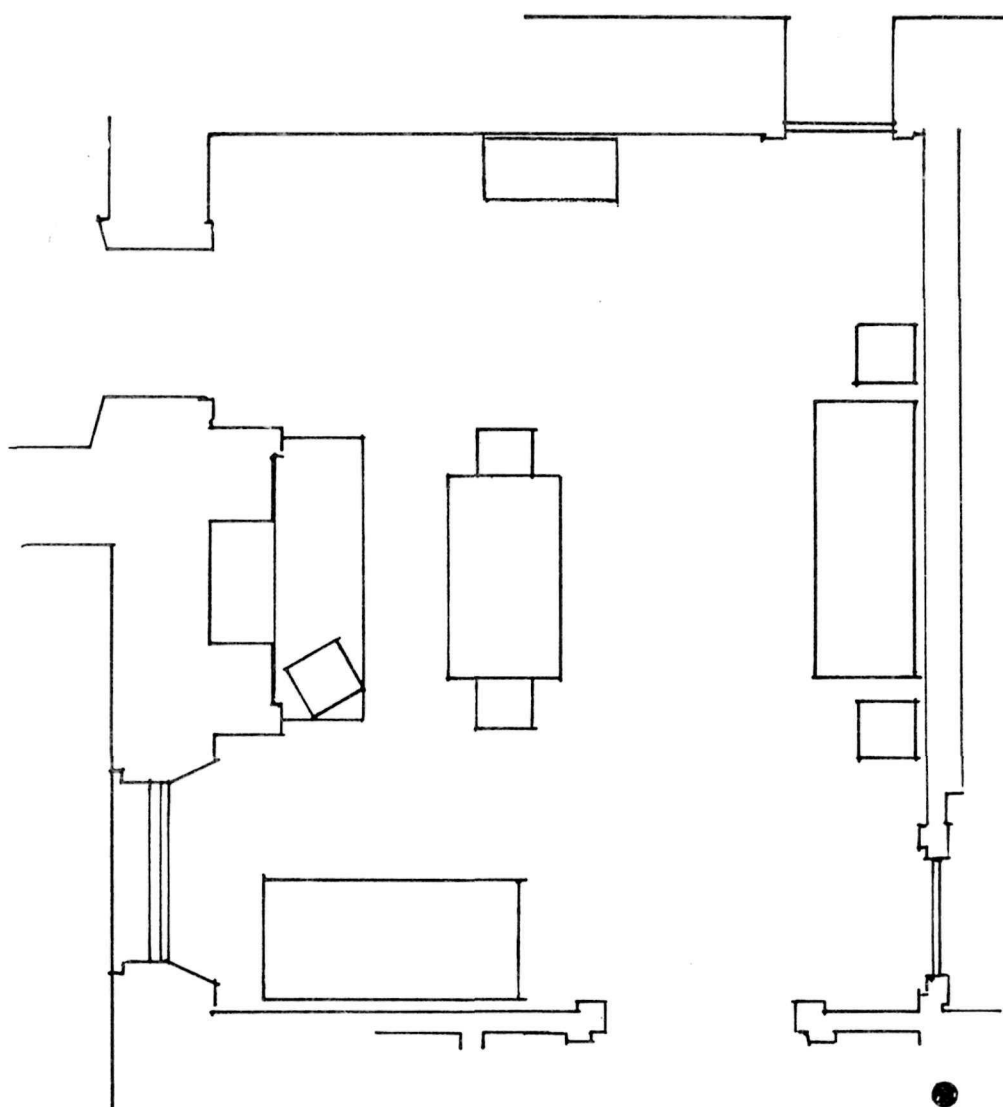
DRAWING ROOM  
Room 106



DINING ROOM  
Room 109



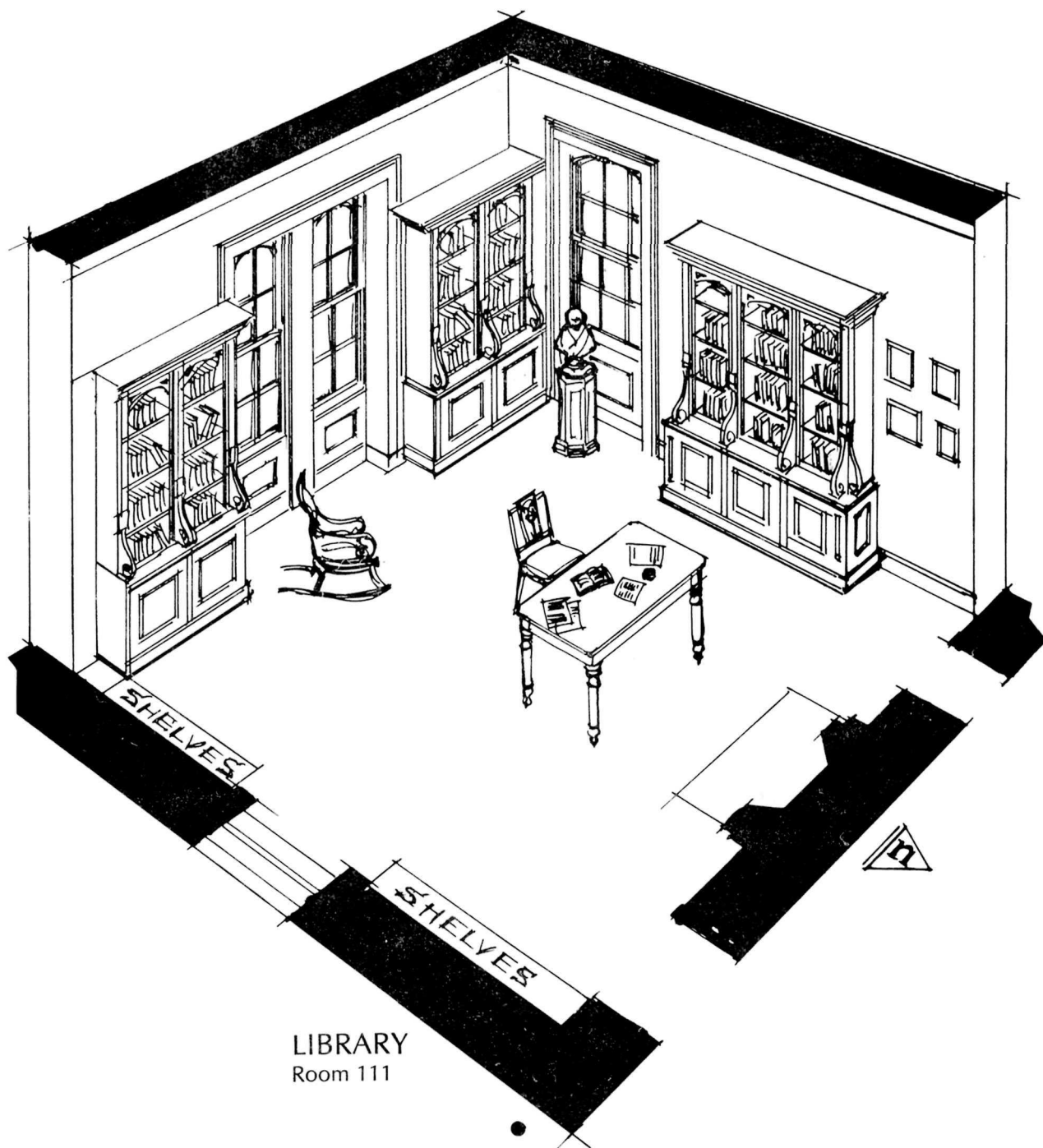


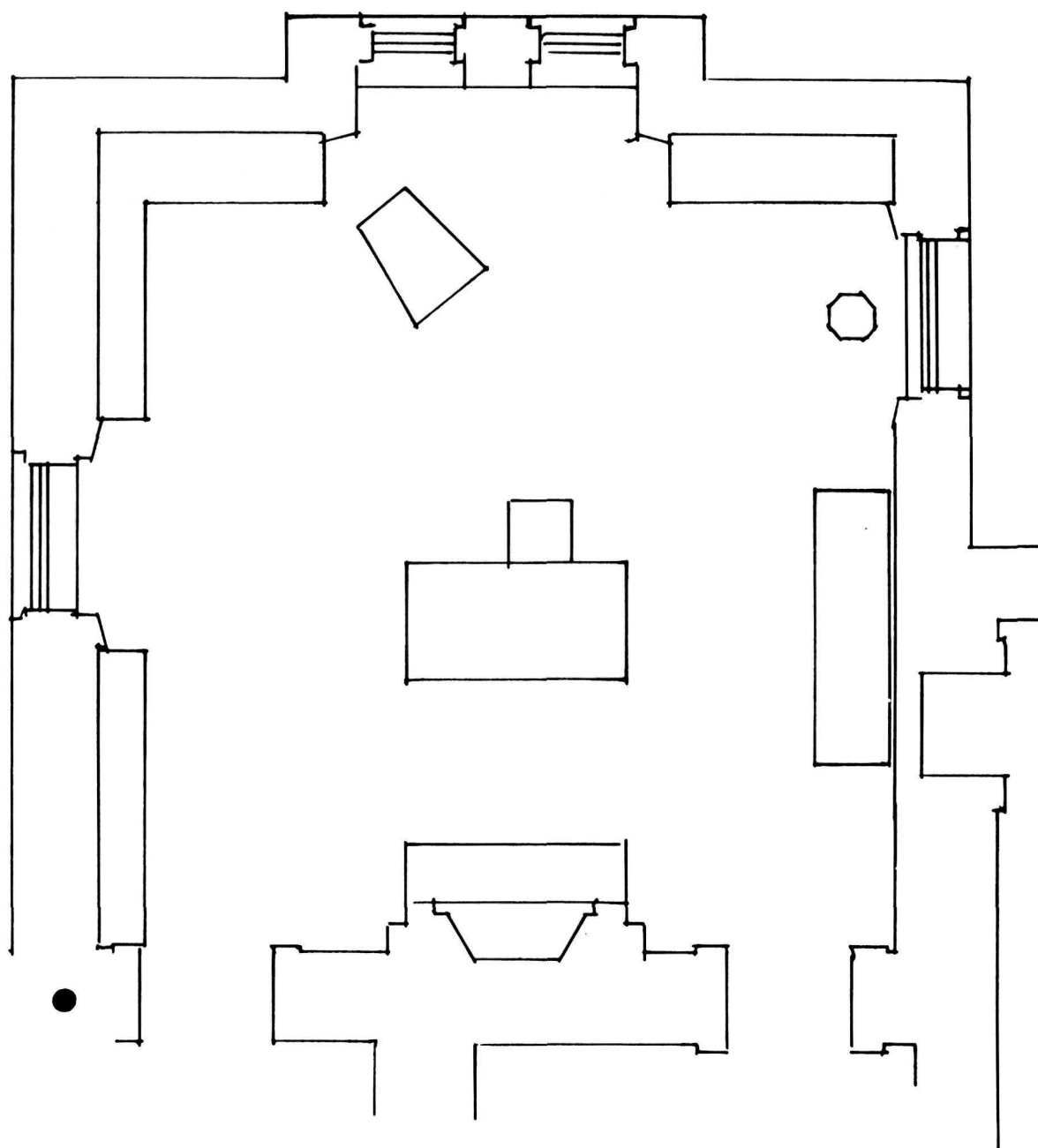


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DINING ROOM  
Room 109

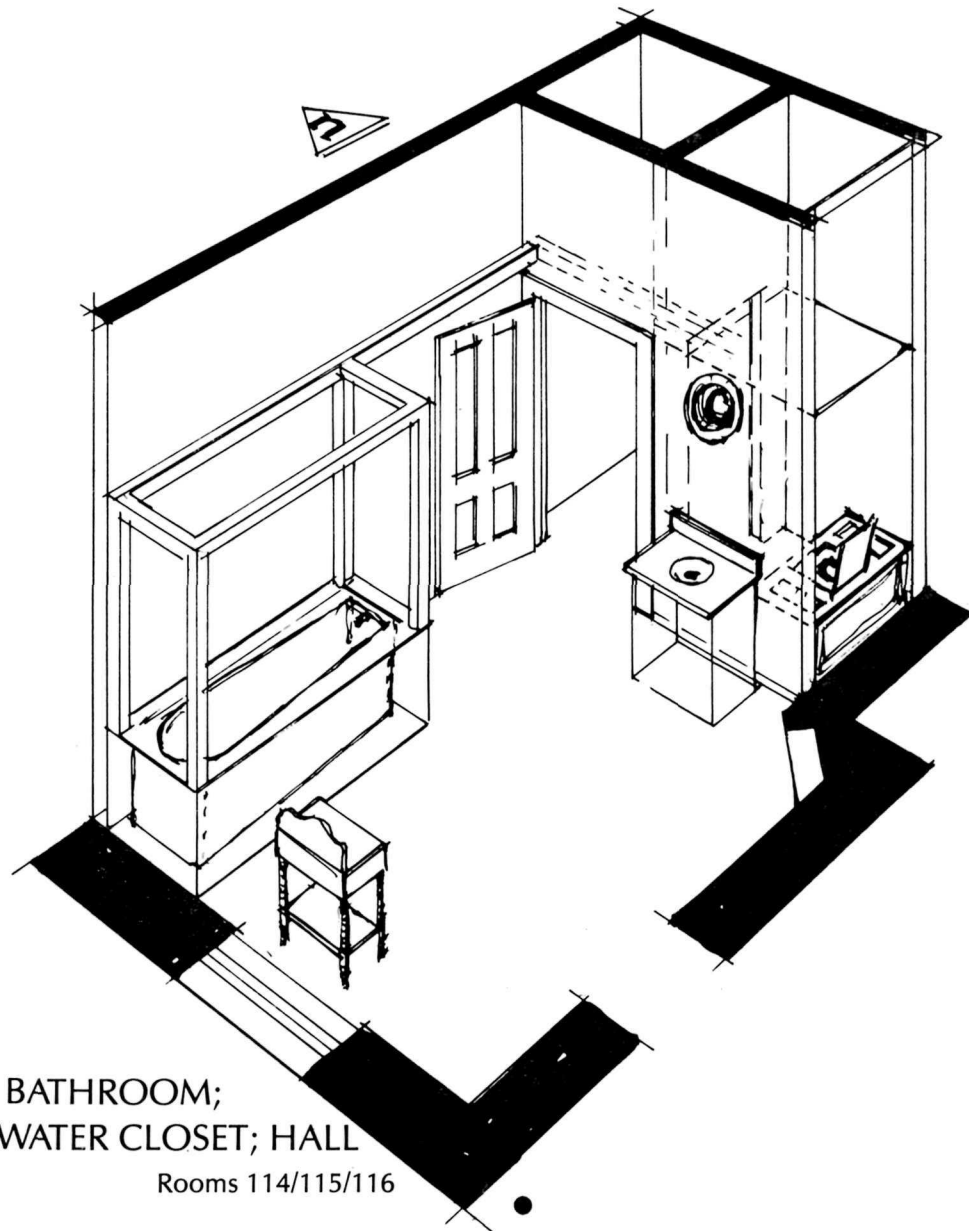




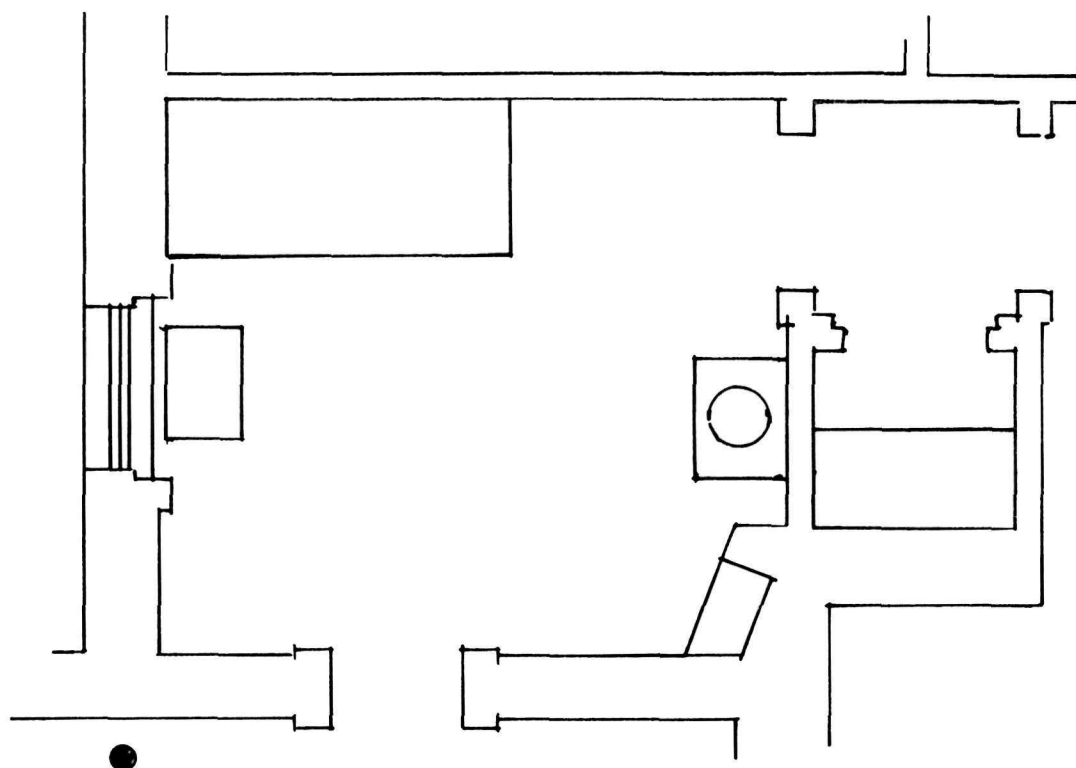
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LIBRARY  
Room 111



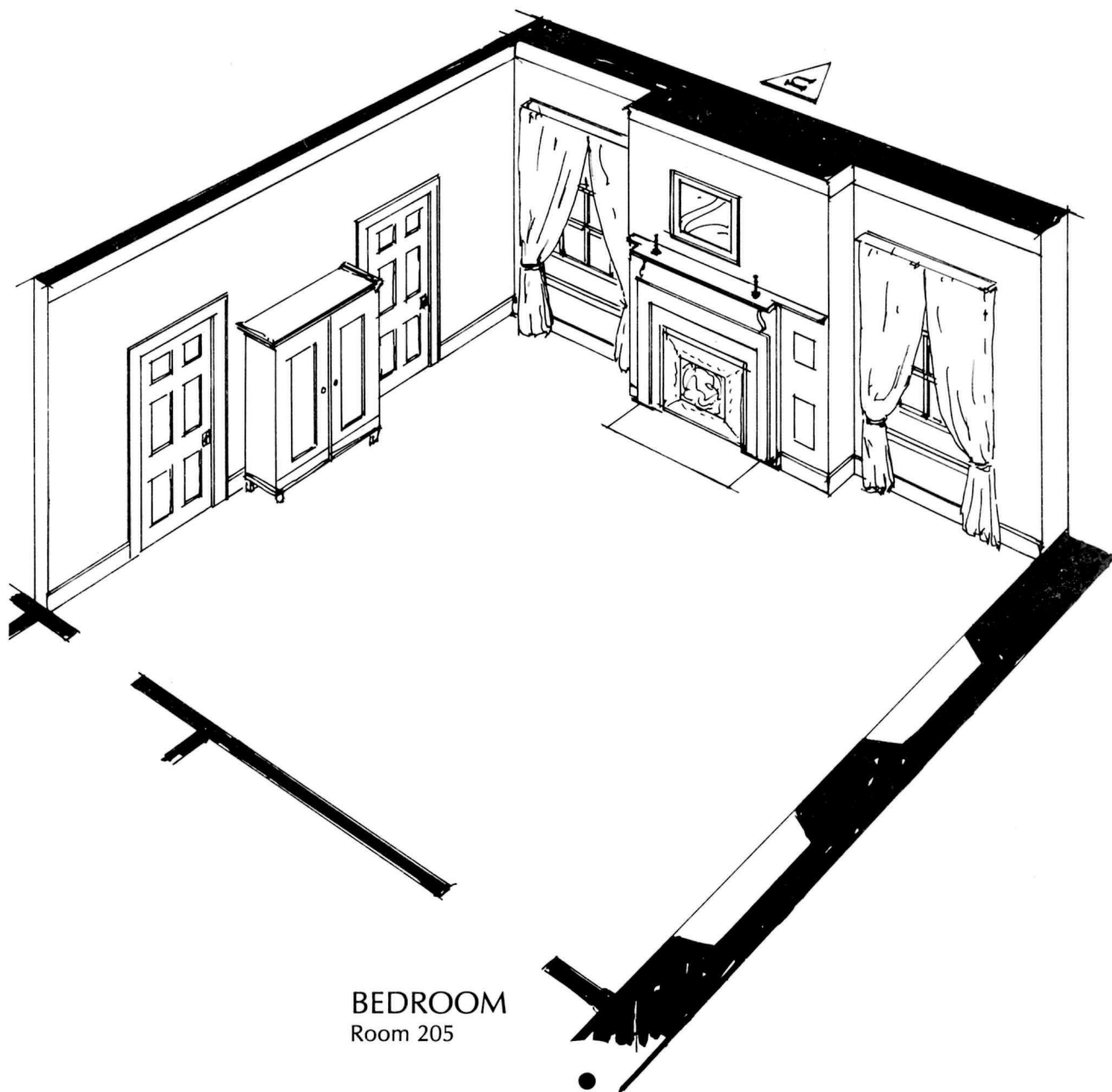
BATHROOM;  
WATER CLOSET; HALL  
Rooms 114/115/116



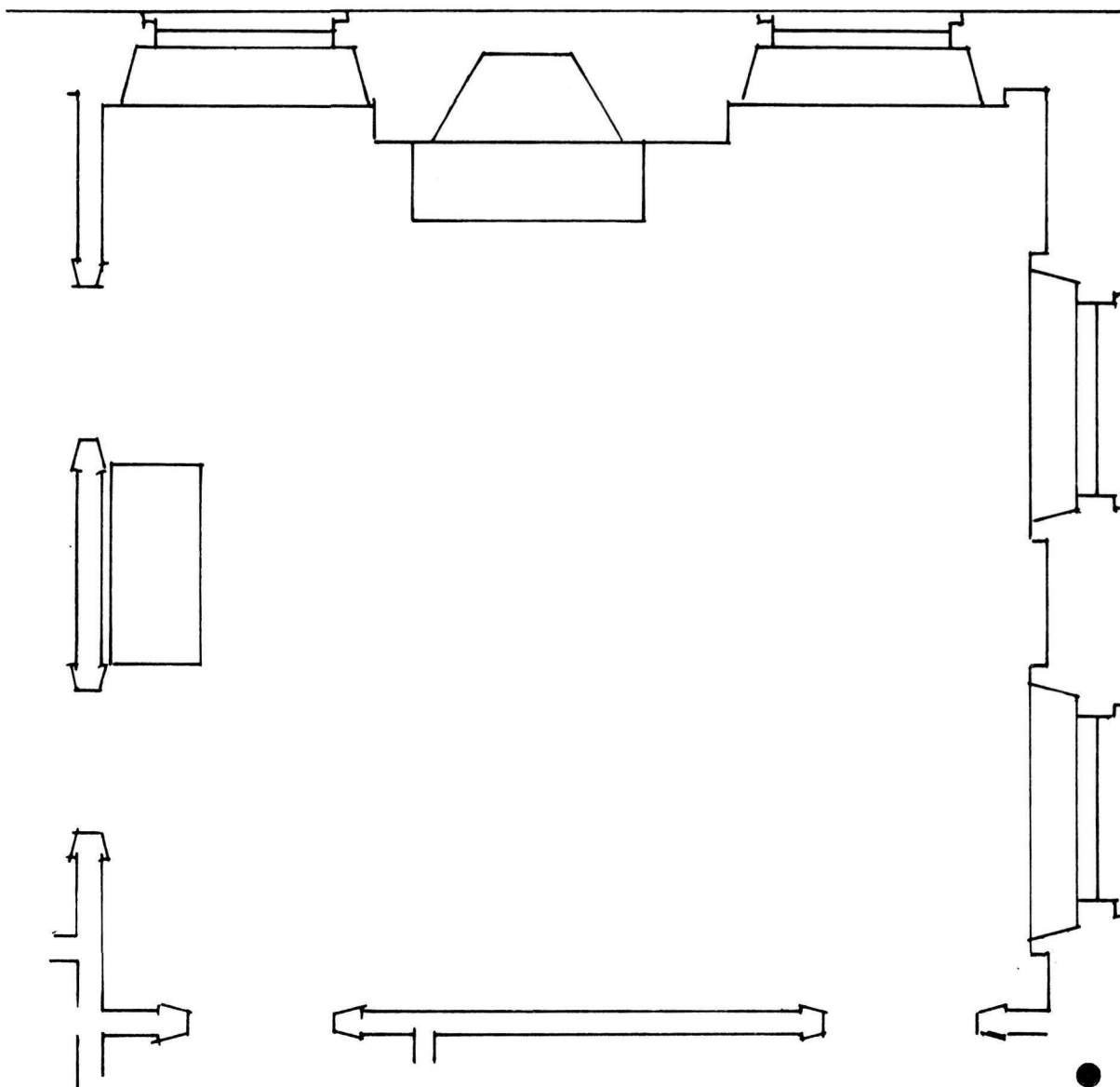
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**BATHROOM; WATER CLOSET; HALL**  
 Rooms 114/115/116



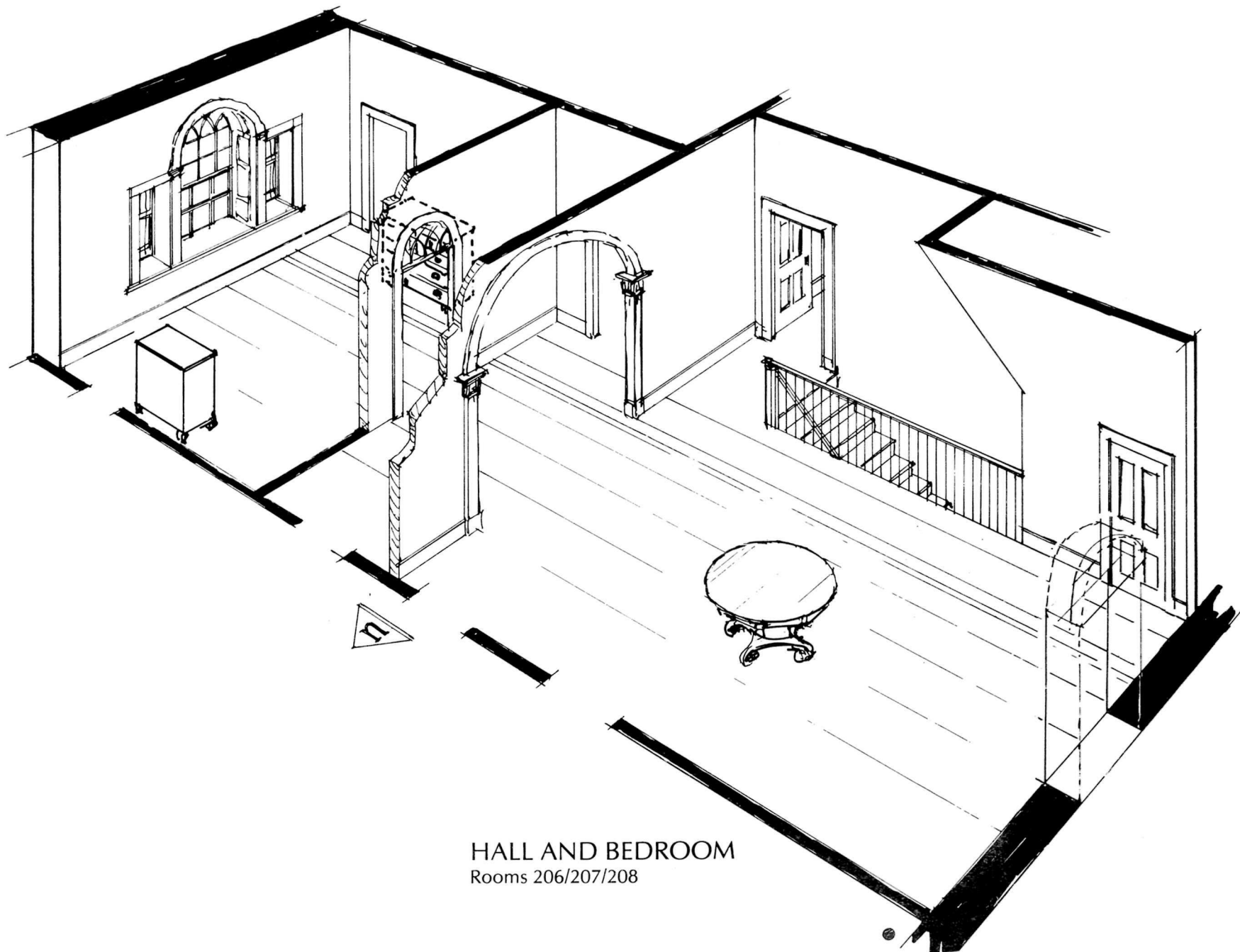
BEDROOM  
Room 205



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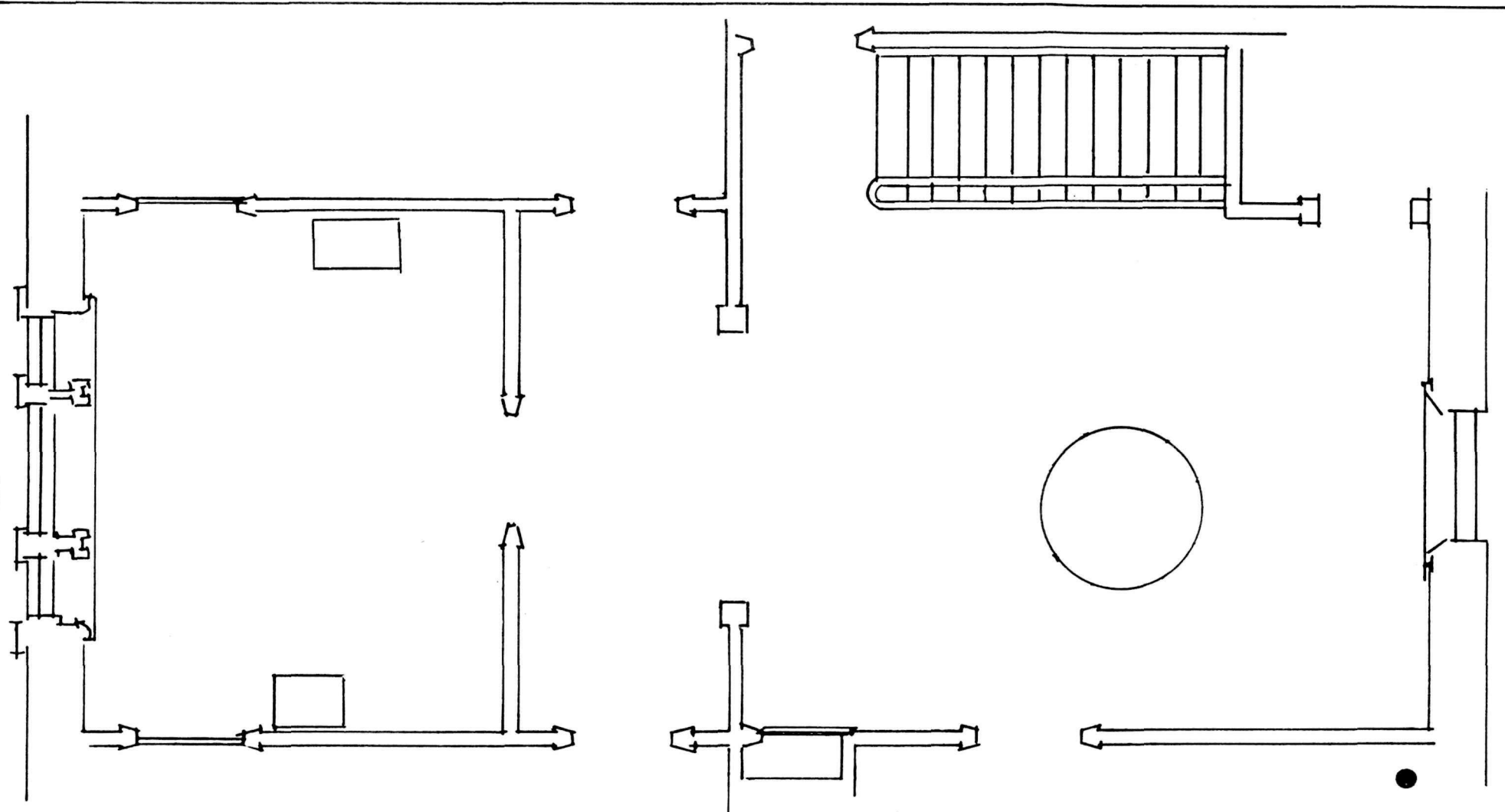


**BEDROOM**  
Room 205



HALL AND BEDROOM  
Rooms 206/207/208

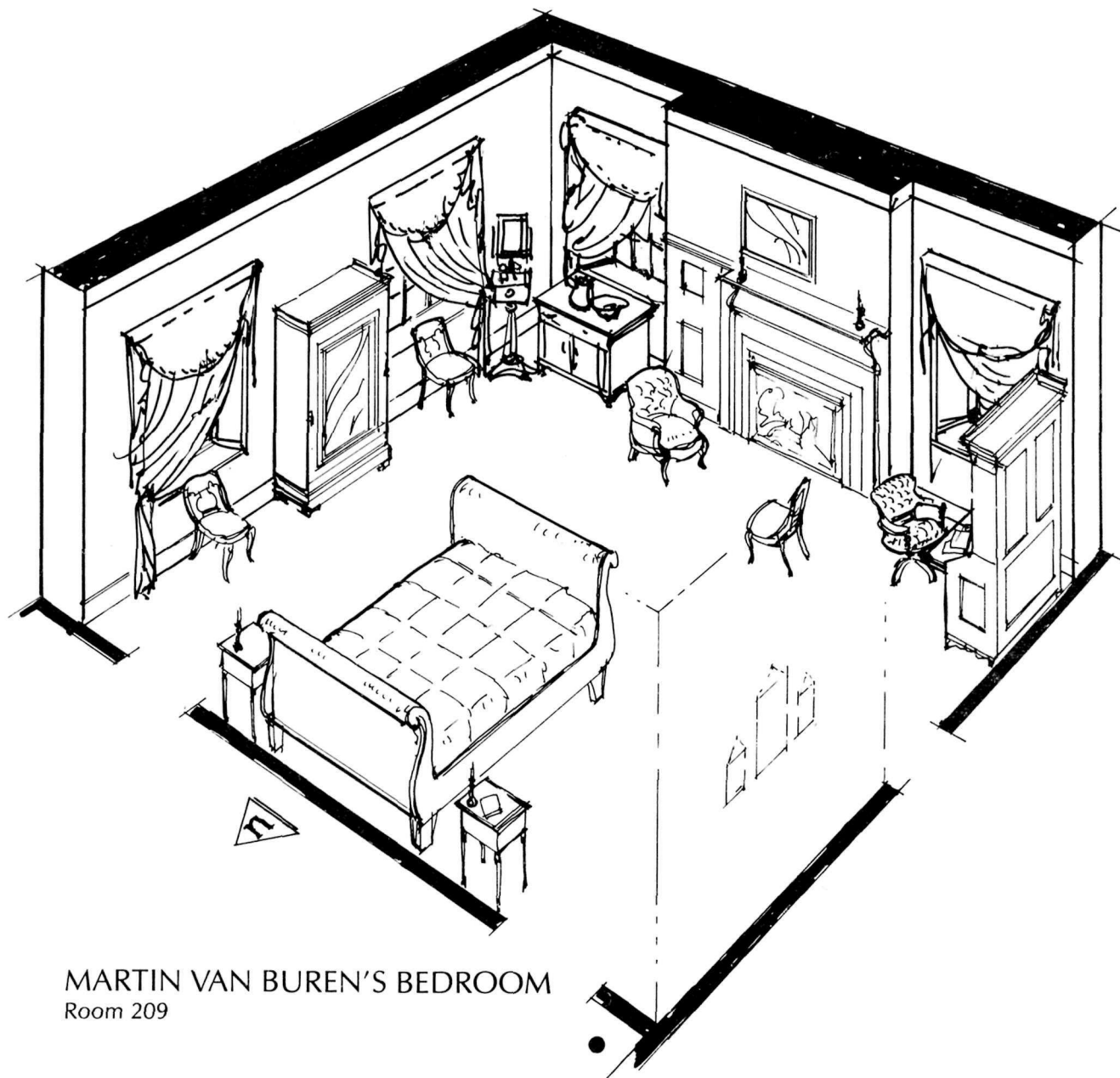




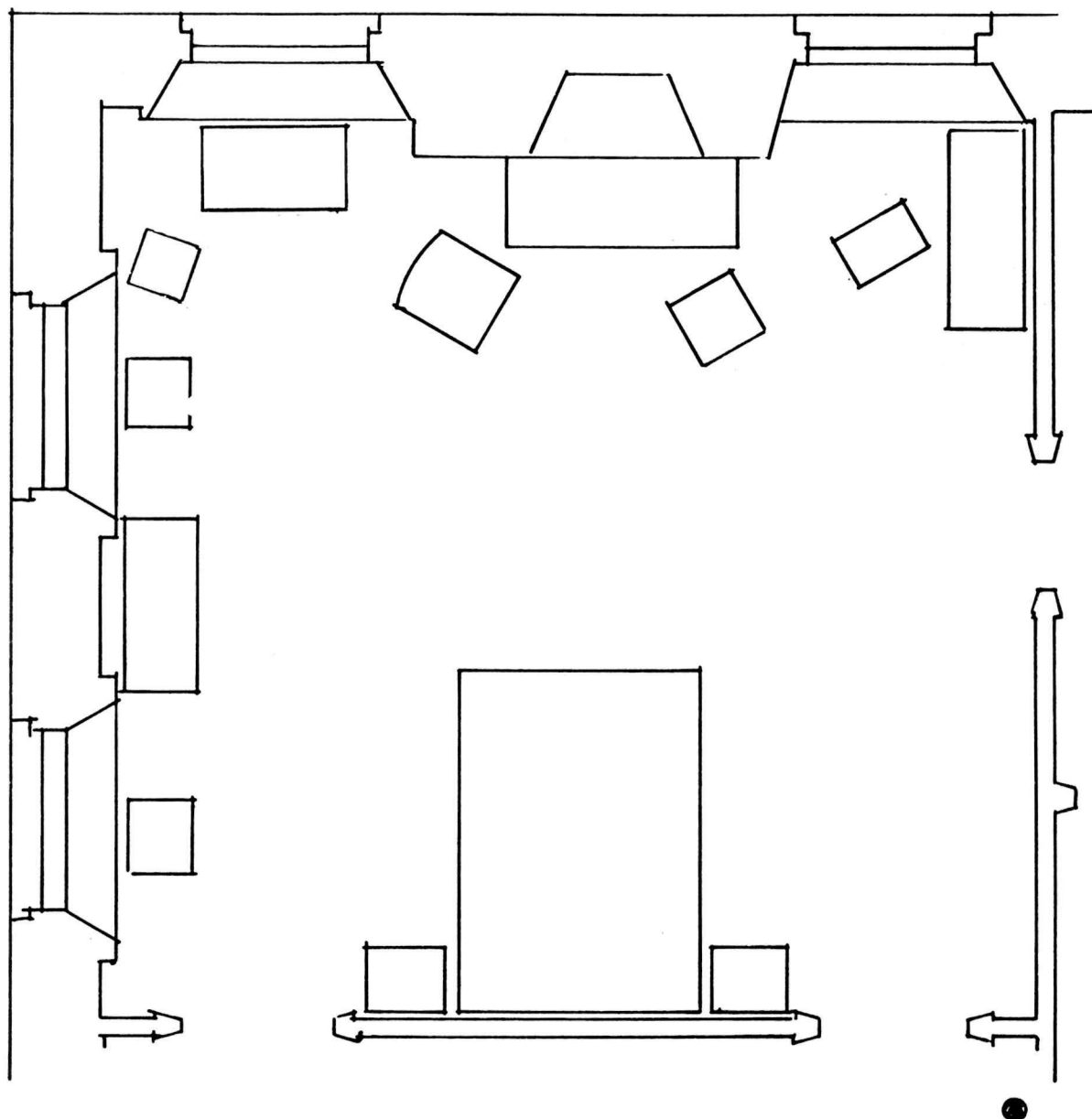
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HALL AND BEDROOM  
Rooms 206/207/208



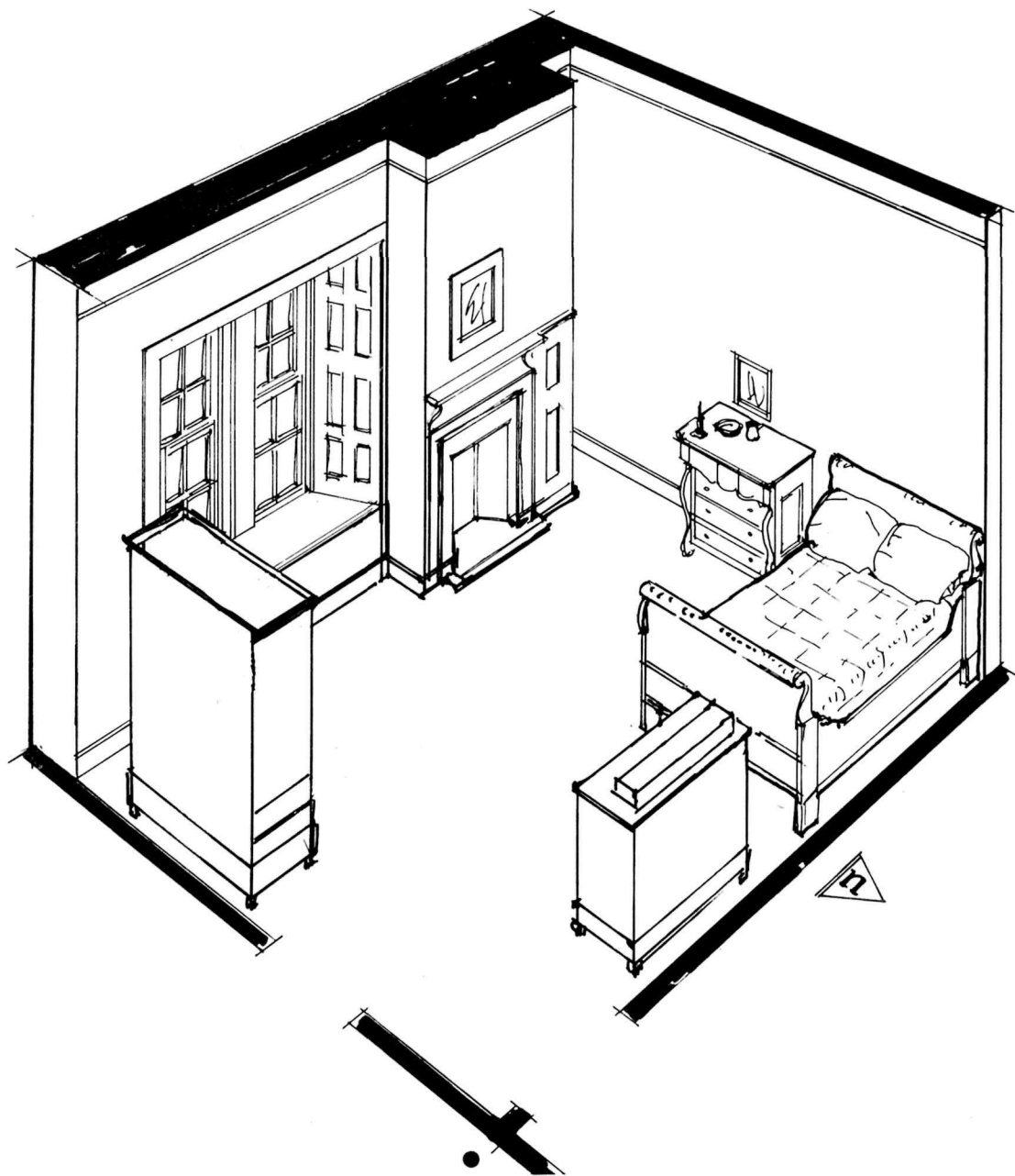
MARTIN VAN BUREN'S BEDROOM  
Room 209



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# MARTIN VAN BUREN'S BEDROOM Room 209

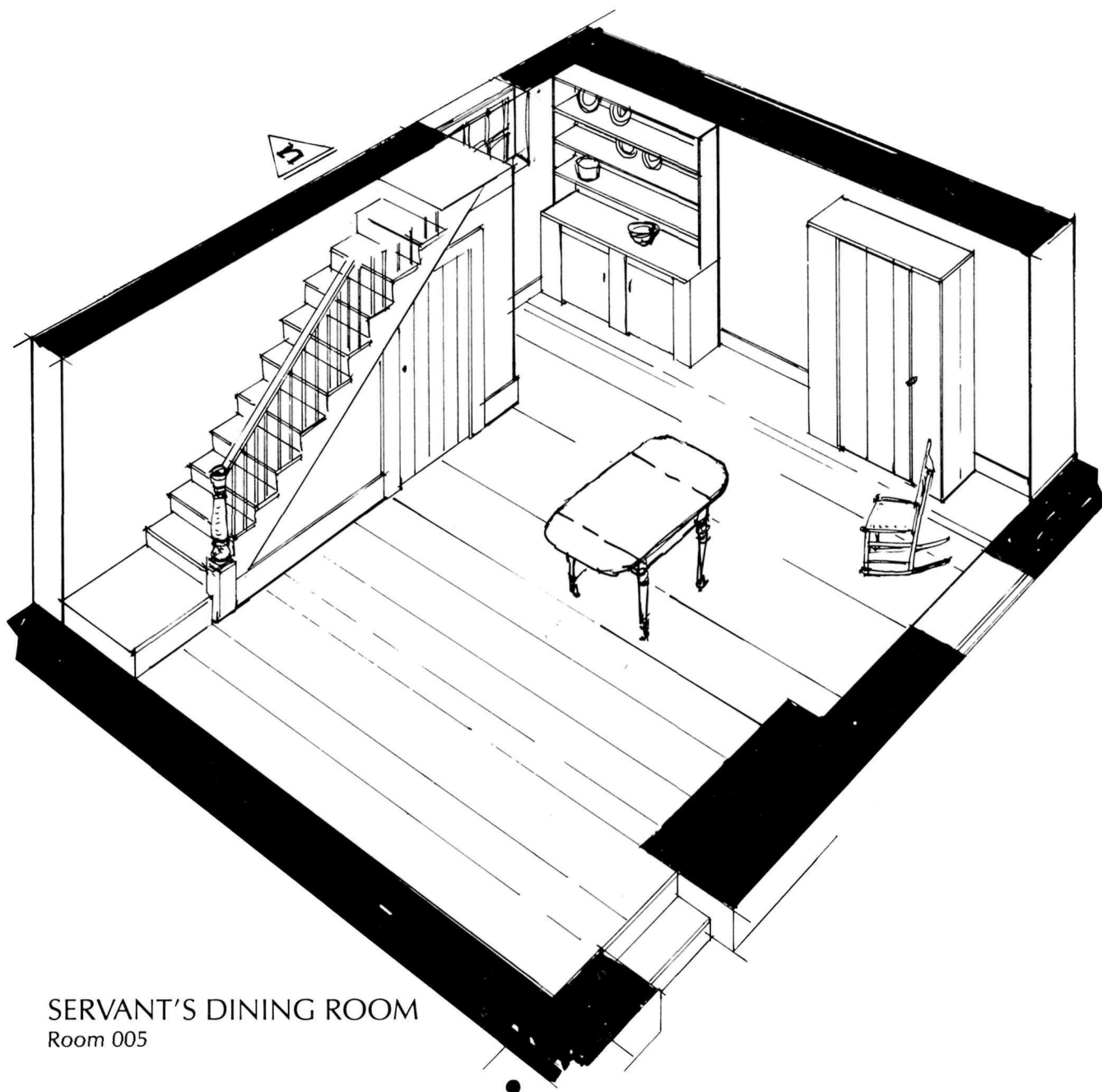


MARTIN VAN BUREN, JR.'S BEDROOM  
Room 210

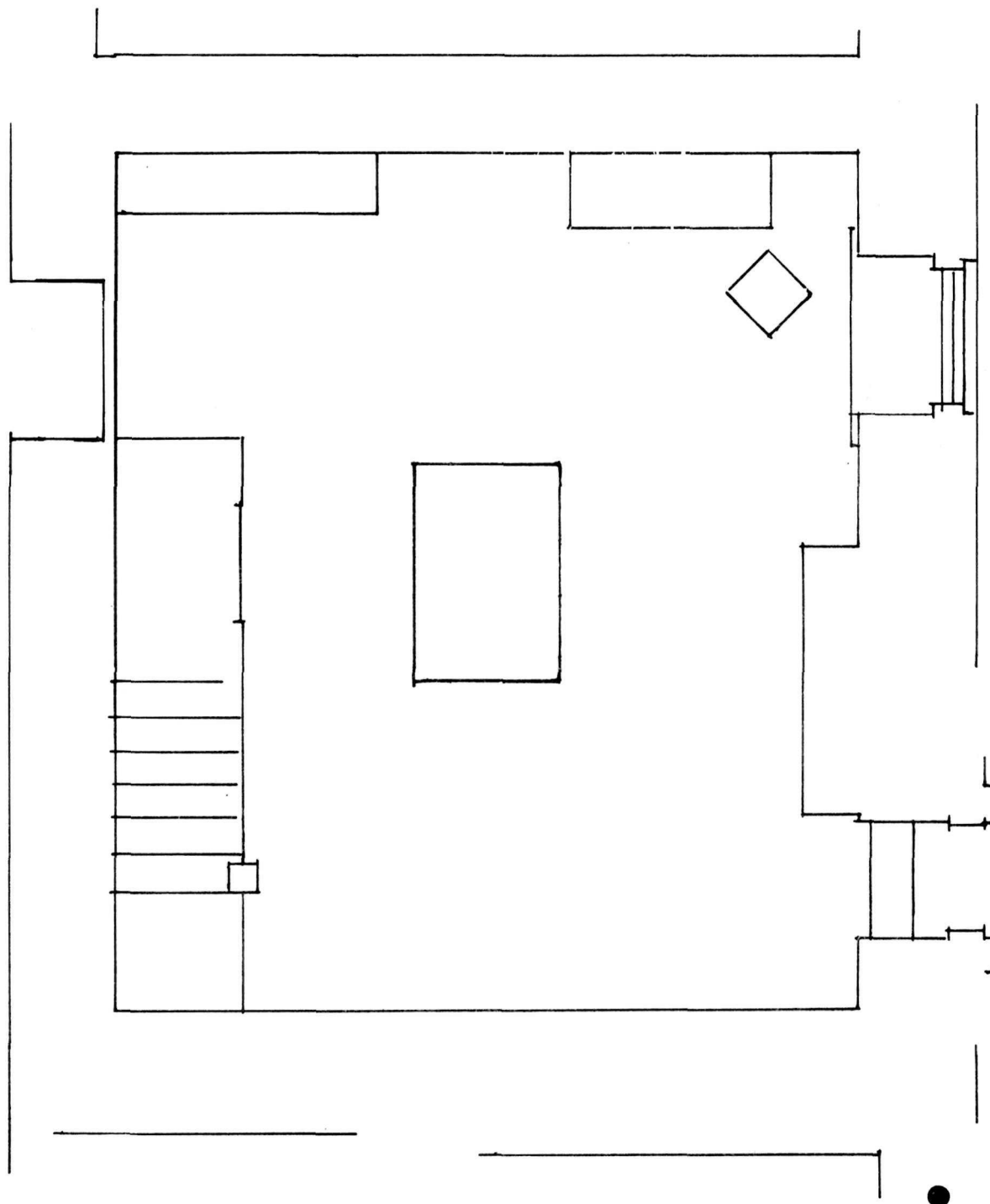


**n**

## 301



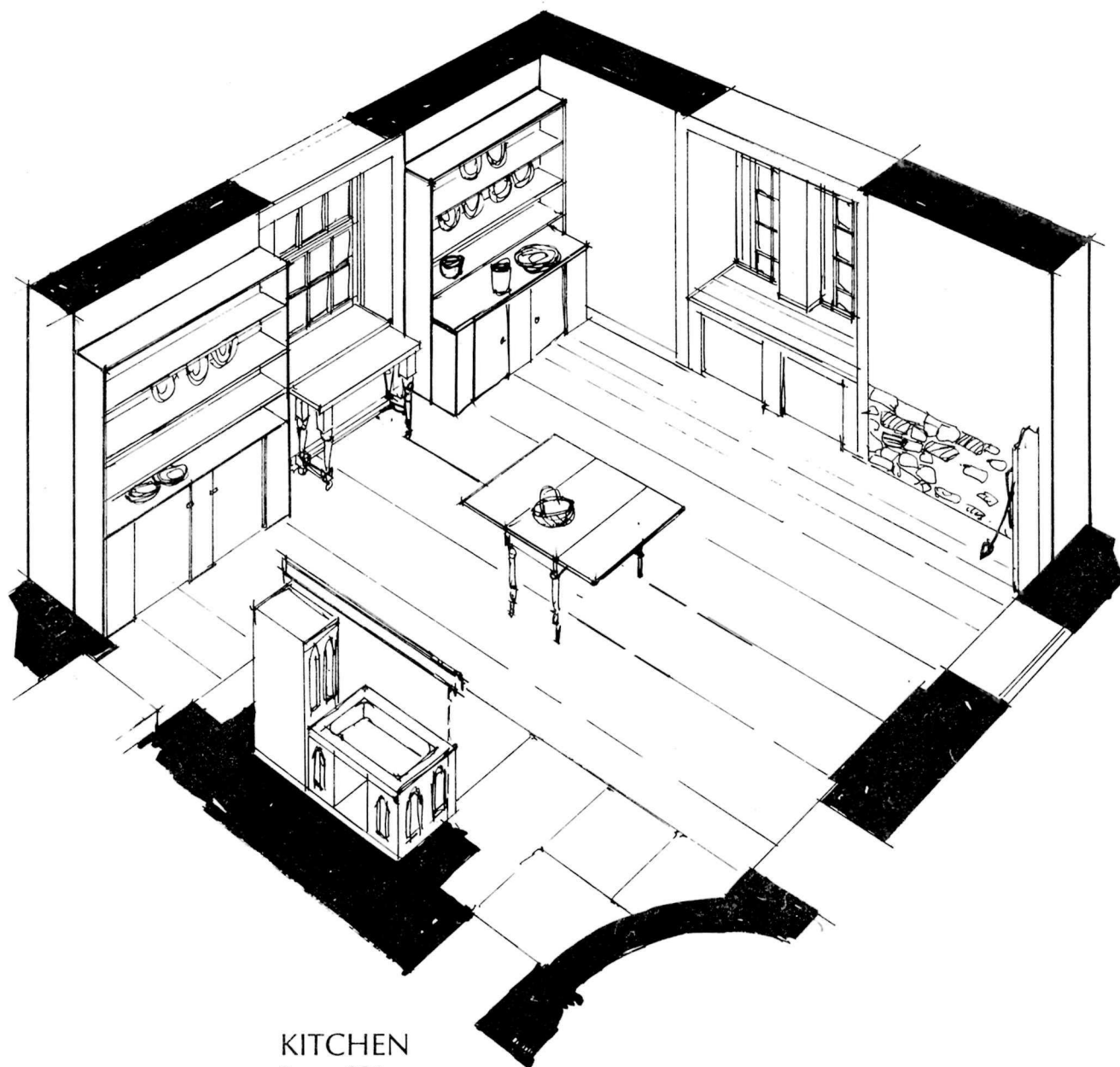
SERVANT'S DINING ROOM  
Room 005



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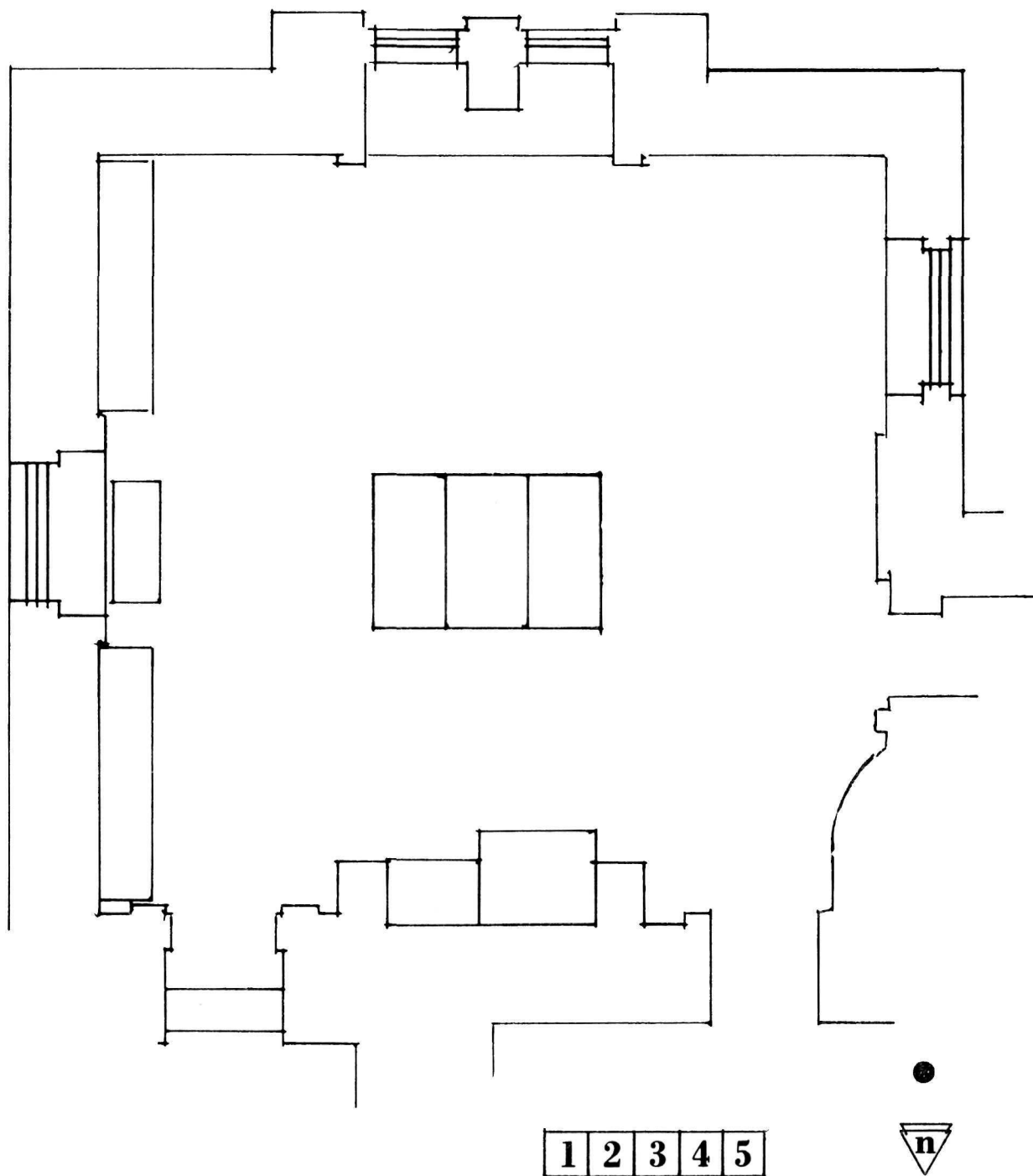


SERVANT'S DINING ROOM  
Room 005



KITCHEN  
Room 006

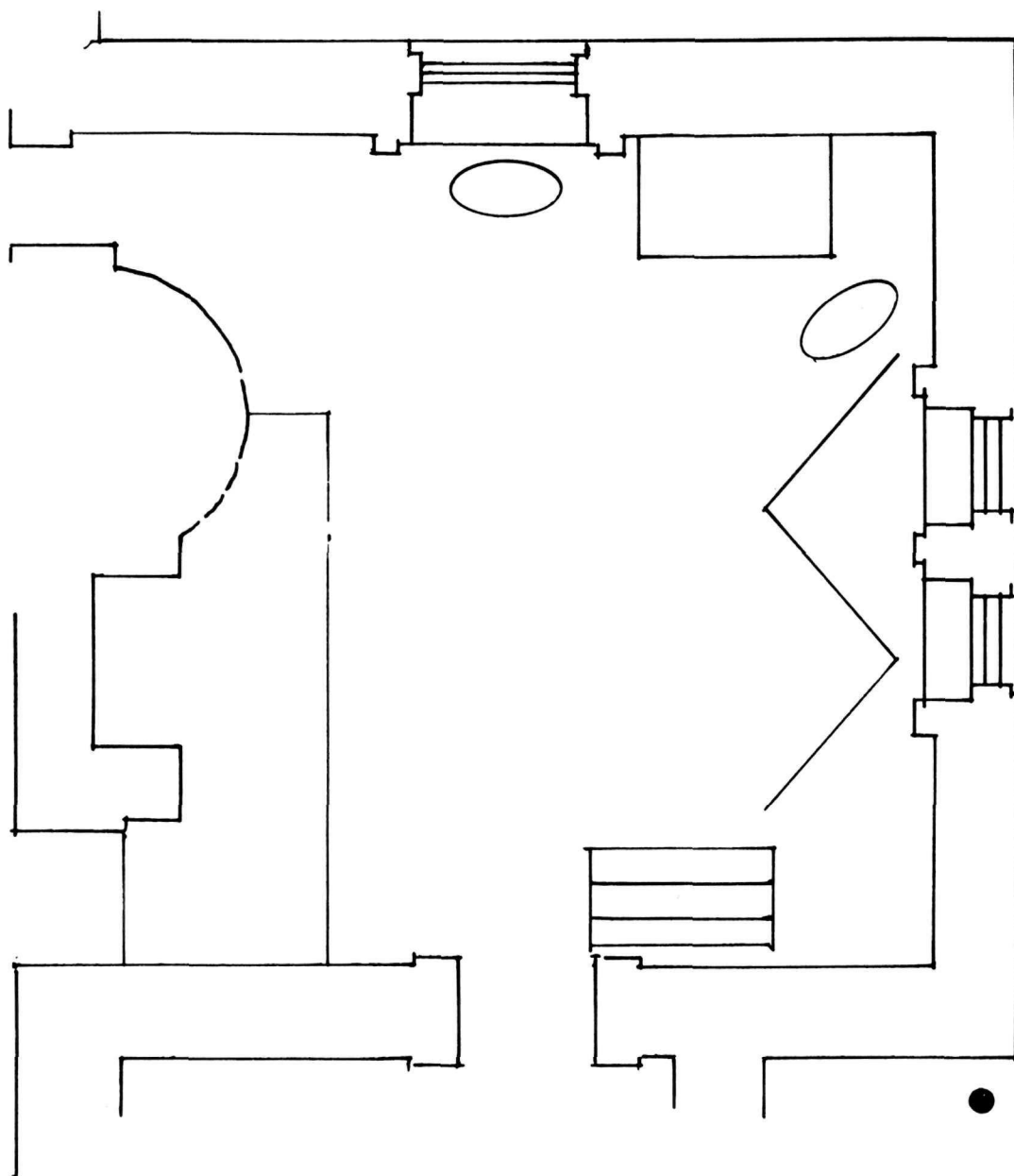




KITCHEN  
Room 006



WASHROOM  
Room 007



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WASHROOM  
Room 007

INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE  
AND  
PROTECTION RECOMMENDATIONS  
Diana R. Pardue, Staff Curator  
Curatorial Services Branch  
Preservation Assistance Division, WASO

This section contains instructions on maintaining a safe environment for the museum objects in Lindenwald, performing necessary collection maintenance, and maintaining adequate security. See p.303 for potential sources of assistance in implementing this section.

A. THE ENVIRONMENT

Exhibiting the museum objects in a safe, stable environment will reduce the rate of deterioration to a minimum, prolong the life of an object and minimize conservation treatment. Prevention is always better than treatment. Measuring environmental conditions over a period of time (at least one year) is essential when determining how a building can be adapted to create a better environment for museum objects. These monitoring records provide an environmental baseline from which recommendations can be made for improvement. This environmental monitoring program should become a part of an ongoing improvement program, assessing the effectiveness of various environmental control measures (dehumidifiers, heating, light filters) and revealing where and how additional controls may be needed until the optimum conditions are achieved. Monitoring also ensures that the optimum conditions are actually being maintained.

1. Temperature/Humidity

The Historic Structure Report for Lindenwald contains detailed information on the climate control system that will probably be used in this house. When using this system, emphasis should be placed on minimizing moisture migration through the walls and condensation on

the windows and to avoid frequent and rapid fluctuations in relative humidity and temperature. The HSR suggests regulating relative humidity by using a humidistat; using the interior/exterior shutters to minimize fluctuations of temperature and relative humidity can also be effective.

The curatorial staff has been using hygrothermographs to record temperature and relative humidity levels in several rooms in the house. Temperatures range from a high of 32°C (90°F) in August to a low of 10°C (50°F) in January. Relative humidity readings ranged from a high of 85% in June to a low of 28% in January. Rapid changes in relative humidity and temperature are the most damaging to objects because they cause physical stress and chemical deterioration of objects. Wide, slow variations over the period of a year are preferable. Ideally, the relative humidity should be in the range of 35% and 65%. The change of relative humidity levels from winter to summer should not exceed  $\pm 3\%$  RH per month. Extremes in temperature that could result in objects freezing or softening should be avoided. Above 21°C, good ventilation is necessary to minimize pockets of stagnant humid air.

Recording hygrothermographs should be maintained in each exhibit room on a regular, long-term basis. A log of daily observations should also be kept, recording conditions (such as rain, snow, large group of visitors, breakdown in climate control equipment) affecting the climate and that will make it easier to interpret the temperature and relative humidity records. The records and log should be examined on a monthly basis to determine temperature and relative humidity highs, lows, and means, the frequency and degree of fluctuations, and if the existing climate is acceptable. This information can be used to identify potential problem areas and justify any repairs to climate control equipment.

Hygrothermographs and psychrometers need to be calibrated every three months to sustain accuracy. Calibration is done using a sling psychrometer to compare readings and then adjusting the hygrothermograph or psychrometer so that their readings match the reading of the sling psychrometer. Hygrothermograph charts and ink can be obtained from the Curatorial Services Branch, WASO.

## 2. Light

Light has the potential to be the most damaging agent to sensitive organic materials, causing a chemical breakdown of molecular bonds in materials which results in embrittlement. It also fades many pigments and dyes. The most reasonable solution is to achieve minimum exposure. There are recommended levels of light that should not be exceeded if deterioration is to be reduced.

The maximum intensity of light should not exceed 150 lux. Objects sensitive to light (for example, textiles, wallpapers, prints, and drawings) should not be exhibited in light over 50 lux. The proportion of ultraviolet light to the total light should not exceed 75uW/lumen (microwatts per lumen). This is important because ultraviolet light is the most chemically damaging segment of the light spectrum.

Light filters are on some of the windows and shutters are used to lower visible sunlight levels. Existing light levels taken on a sunny day in September are:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Visible Light</u>	<u>Ultraviolet Light</u>
Entrance Hall (119)	929 lux	150 microwatts/lumen
Breakfast Room (109)		
sideboard	354 lux	75 microwatts/lumen
Library (111) table	375 lux	125 microwatts/lumen
rocking chair	1940 lux	100 microwatts/lumen
bookcase	116.4 lux	100 microwatts/lumen

Bathroom (114)	805 lux	400 microwatts/lumen
Bedroom (201) east	277 lux	100 microwatts/lumen
north	466 lux	100 microwatts/lumen
Bedroom (209) south	27600 lux	100 microwatts/lumen
west	537 lux	100 microwatts/lumen

Window shades, curtains, and interior shutters should be used to block the direct sunlight from entering the rooms containing furnishings. The curator should develop a schedule of raising and lowering the shades (or opening and closing shutters) as visitors are taken through the house to limit the amount of sunlight in the rooms. The ultraviolet filters should be replaced or added so that the ultraviolet light levels are reduced to less than 75 microwatts/lumen.

Light readings (both lux and ultraviolet) need to be taken by the staff on a yearly basis to see if the light levels are within the recommended range. These readings can be taken with a lux light meter and an ultraviolet light monitor. These instruments can be loaned to the staff by the Regional Curator or the Curatorial Services Branch, Preservation Assistance Division, WASO.

Lighting fixtures in these rooms should be used only when necessary, and turned off when visitors are not present.

### 3. Dust and Air Pollution

Dust particles are a microscopic abrasive that can wear away surface detail; they also act as a catalyst promoting damage caused by pollutants. This occurs when dust attracts moisture and gaseous pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide (found in nearly all ambient air) and forms acidic solutions that attack most materials. There are no acceptable levels of pollution and dust and they should be eliminated as far as practically possible.

Good housekeeping should keep dust off objects. Low relative humidity will prevent the destructive reaction that results in acidic solutions. Door mats should be placed at the entrance of the house to pick up dirt from people's shoes. Weather stripping will prevent additional dust from entering through doors and windows. Any vents from the climate control system should be cleaned regularly so that dust is not blown into the rooms. If windows are opened, screens should be used.

No smoking should be allowed in the house. Ashes from smoking add to the dust already present in the rooms; the tars and gases caused by smoking is a type of air pollution which can harm objects.

Should additional measures be necessary to control dust, source information will be provided on high efficiency air purifiers. This device will remove particulate pollutants and dust from the air and, when used with optional activated charcoal filters, will remove the reactive gaseous pollutants.

#### 4. Insects/Rodents

Insects and rodents can cause extensive damage to organic materials. Dermestid beetles, powder-post beetles, and silverfish are a few of the pests that actively devour wool, wood, and cellulose materials. Rodents can destroy paper and wood objects in the process of nest building. Evidence of insects and rodents was apparent in the house.

The best ways to prevent an infestation is to keep the rooms clean and keep out the source of attraction (food, water, and nesting materials). Food and drinks should not be allowed in the Lindenwald since they tend to attract these pests. Cleaning the area on a regular basis, using a housekeeping schedule, is also important because cleaning should remove most food and nesting sources. Any trash cans



in the house should be emptied at the end of each day so that the trash does not sit in the rooms over night when insects and rodents are most likely to be around. If windows are opened, screens should be used to minimize insects coming in the house from outside.

A monitoring program, using insect and rodent traps, should be conducted in the rooms to determine if insects and rodents are present, what types, their quantities, and possible entry points. Sticky traps and rodent spring traps can be used. These traps should be inspected on a weekly basis. The captured insects should be identified so as to determine whether they are hazardous to the collection and what methods should be taken to eliminate the pests. The Regional Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator can assist the park with establishing a monitoring program, interpreting the results, and prescribing pesticides if necessary.

If an infestation should occur, the Regional Curator and the Regional IPM Coordinator should be contacted immediately. Any pesticide will have to receive approval through the Regional IPM Coordinator before use. Conserve O Gram 3/10 describes what actions should be taken when an insect infestation occurs.

## 5. Security

Protection of museum objects from fire, theft, vandalism, and general human abuse is also crucial to achieving long-term preservation. The Historic Structure Report for Lindenwald contains a section on fire and intrusion protection. It contains detailed recommendations for fire detection systems, fire detection sensors (and where they should be located), use of fire extinguishers and water for suppression, and an intrusion detection and alarm system. These recommendations should be used in determining the types of systems to be installed. The curator and regional architectural staff should be consulted to insure that whatever systems are installed will result in minimal damage to the historic fabric of the house and the museum objects.

The park should invite the responsible fire department to visit and inspect the house, to become aware of special problems which should be considered regarding the furnishings and the historic structure. This visit should take place once a year.

An emergency action plan should be prepared for implementation in the event of natural disasters (earthquakes, flooding, fire) and other destructive threats. It should delineate responsibilities of park employees to minimize danger to life and property. The staff must be made aware in advance of actions designed to save the more valuable museum objects. A plan for the safe evacuation of visitors and staff must be posted.

Fire drills held on a regular basis are one of the best ways to ensure the proper response to an emergency. Thinking out responses ahead of time makes dealing with the real emergency much easier.

Good housekeeping can be the most important single factor in the prevention of fire. No smoking should be allowed in Lindenwald.

The security system should be tested periodically. Local authorities should be made aware of the existence and value of the furnishings, as well as whom to notify in an after-hour's emergency. Walk-through examinations and visual inventories by the park staff should occur daily. Missing or damaged objects should be reported immediately to the Superintendent, and Incident Reports completed.

Park employees must insist that visitors do not touch the exhibited objects. Only park employees with curatorial duties should handle the museum objects and then as little as possible, and only with clean hands. Metal objects should not be handled without clean cotton gloves.

Objects can be protected from unnecessary handling or theft by placing them out of reach of visitors and by placing exhibit barriers at least an arm's length away from the exhibit objects. Reproduction objects can be used in place of historic objects if proper protection cannot be provided and displayed objects are necessary. However, reproduction objects should not be regarded as expendable to the extent that they are given absolutely no protection or care.

The catalog records system should be used as an additional security device. The records should be up to date and include object locations and good physical descriptions. Location files, part of the records system, should be established. The revised Museum Handbook, Part II, page 4-4, contains more details on setting up this system. These cards should be kept in the house and organized by room, type of object (chair, table, painting, etc.), and numerical sequence by catalog number.

Photographs showing object placement should be available for each exhibit room. One or more photographs can be taken of each exhibit, showing object placement and clear pictures of the objects. These photographs can be kept on Print File Cards (Form 10-30).

## 6. Specific Conservation Considerations

a. Objects should never be placed directly next to or on top of the air vents; direct heat can dry out wood, textiles, leather and paper objects. Relocating objects is the best solution; occasionally the vent can be closed. Any relocation of objects should be reflected in the Historic Furnishings Report.

b. When placing objects such as lamps, books, and other small objects on other materials (textiles, finished wood surfaces, paper, or leather), protective barriers should be placed between the objects to

prevent the transfer of corrosion or chemicals, and to evenly distribute weight. Suitable protective barriers are: acid-free cardboard; museum mat board (100% rag); or polyethylene foam.

c. Pages of open books should be turned weekly to avoid excess damage to any two pages or to the spine of the book.

d. Objects that are to be hung on the wall or furniture (such as textiles) should be hung on padded pegs or other padding. Polyethylene foam or cotton batting, covered with cotton muslin, forms good padding. This padding should be designed to hold the shape of the object and, where possible, the object should be alternated with like objects for display. Only very strong materials in good condition can bear the strain of hanging.

e. All framed paper materials (such as prints and photographs) should be matted with 100% rag board and framed according to Conserve O Gram 13/1. Photographs should be matted with 100% rag board that has not been buffered.

f. Rugs or other carpeting should not be placed directly on the floor. Cotton sheeting should be used as a barrier between the rug and the floor.

g. Some of the exhibit objects may need conservation treatment. Conservation condition surveys should be done by the appropriate conservators to determine which objects need conservation treatment. The staff should then use the survey recommendations to develop a conservation schedule.

h. Objects should never be stored in drawers, cabinets, and closets in the exhibit or elsewhere in the house; instead they should be stored correctly in the park's museum storage area when not on exhibit.

1. Any plants on display should be carefully maintained so that water, dirt, and bits of the plant itself (dead leaves, etc.) do not get on the furnishings. Protective barriers (see b.) must be placed between the plant's pot base and the table top. Plants are a prime source for insect infestations and must be inspected regularly. If insects are noticed on the plants, the plants must be removed from the exhibit area immediately. If possible, reproduction plants (silk, etc.) should be used.

## B. COLLECTION MAINTENANCE AND HOUSEKEEPING SCHEDULE

The Superintendent is ultimately responsible for the collection; all collection maintenance, as well as cleaning materials, must be approved by the Superintendent who should seek the advice of the Curator and Regional Curator. The museum technician should perform the collection maintenance and should receive the appropriate curatorial training.

### General Rules for Handling Objects

1. Be aware that all objects should be treated respectfully. Haste makes for bumped, scratched, and broken objects; always schedule enough time to complete the task. Be thorough, but remember that over cleaning may be as harmful as no cleaning. Be gentle rather than enthusiastic.

2. Fingerprints leave deposits of dust, water, and oils where pockets of corrosion develop on metal objects. Always wear clean white gloves when handling metal objects (silver, brass, copper, steel, iron) and leather objects. When the gloves become soiled, rinse them in Ivory--do not use any bleach. Always have clean, dry hands when handling other types of materials.

3. When moving any object, support that piece. Carry only items that can rest securely in both hands, and carry only one thing at a time. Never lift anything by its handle, spout, ears, rim, or any other protruding part. Support it from below at the base and at the side. Moving large pieces of furniture requires two people so that mishandling by tugging, pulling, and sliding is avoided. When several objects are moved that are small enough to fit in a container (box, basket), pad each object (along with the container). Do not stack objects on top of each other. Do not allow parts of objects to protrude from the container while in transport. The loaded container must be light enough to be carried easily.

4. Moving objects displayed above fireplaces, on high shelves, or over tables requires two people, using a ladder. One person should ascend the ladder, and using both hands, carefully transfer the object to the person on the ground. Lids or any removable parts should be firmly affixed or removed before moving.

5. Carry chairs by their seat rails; large upholstered chairs should be carried by two people. In most cases, tables should be supported by the skirt.

6. Plan ahead. Know where you are taking an object, what obstacles are on the way, and have the pathway cleared and padded if necessary.

7. If something breaks, report it to the Superintendent. Save all fragments and keep them together.

#### General Recommendations for Developing A Housekeeping Program

1. A suggested housekeeping schedule is included at the end of this section as well as recommendations on how to dust and clean dif-

ferent types of materials. This information should be useful to the curatorial staff as a beginning point, from which a more specific housekeeping program can be developed. A suggested Housekeeping Program outline and Analysis of Space Checklist are on pages 331-334; these materials can be used by the park staff to develop the housekeeping program for the house. This program should take into consideration local object needs and cleaning frequencies as well as any seasonal variations that occur. Information needs to be gathered over the period of a year (to include the seasonal variations) as to the types and quantities of materials in the furnished rooms, what objects need dusting/cleaning, and how often. This information can then be used to determine how many hours are needed for specific housekeeping tasks, what supplies and equipment are needed on a yearly basis, and the costs.

One method of accomplishing this task is to use an inspection schedule and log book. The type of information to record would include any particular observations concerning dust, dirt, or insect/rodent infestations, time of day, the date, and any extenuating circumstances such as weather, larger than normal visitation or construction in the area.

2. Discretion and sensitivity must be used in creating and following any housekeeping program. Dusting and cleaning objects should be based on the need and the condition of the object. The frequency of dusting and cleaning can vary from room to room within the building. Factors to consider when determining frequency are the location of the object in the house and within the room (is it close to an exterior door?), the seasons of the year, and level of visitation. Judgment on frequency of dusting/cleaning should rest with the curatorial staff working with the Regional Curator.

3. When dusting, the dust should be removed--not just pushed around. When some objects are dusted with a dry cloth or artist's brush, use a vacuum cleaner to pick up the dust that is removed from the object into the air. Vacuuming is the best method of dusting, but a variety of suctions should be used, depending on the stability and age of the object or surface. Some vacuum cleaners are made so that their suction can be lowered. A voltage regulator can also be used to lower the suction. Portable hand vacuums are useful because they have a lower suction than regular vacuum cleaners. A plastic mesh screen should also be used on fragile surfaces to relieve strain. Metal, glass, and ceramic objects on mantels, high shelves, or tables should be dusted in an area removed from the exhibit area. When clean, they can be returned to their exhibit location. Be very careful when handling these objects--moving can require two people.

4. During seasons with low visitation levels, the daily, weekly, and monthly tasks can be done with less frequency. Semi-annual tasks should be done in the early spring and at the beginning of winter. Annual and biennial tasks should be done during winter months.

#### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

##### Ceramics and Glass

Once a year, ceramic and glass objects should be examined to see if additional cleaning is needed. Clean these objects according to the directions in Conserve O Gram 8/2. Do not immerse unglazed portions of earthenware in liquid. Instead, wipe these sections with a damp cloth or artist's brush.

##### Textiles

1. Vacuuming: Fibers should be tested initially for stability. Turn the suction down to the lowest level. Carefully vacuum a small



unnoticeable section of the textile, holding a plastic mesh screen over the textile to eliminate strain. Then check the area vacuumed for loose fiber ends. If none are visible, continue vacuuming the textile using the brush attachment. Use the plastic mesh screen on all fragile areas to eliminate strain.

Vacuum upholstered furniture using the upholstery attachment and a plastic mesh screen. Place the screen against the upholstery and vacuum over it. Work dust out of corners, pleats, and tufts with a clean brush attachment.

2.     Cleaning:   Reproduction textiles can be dry-cleaned by a dependable dry cleaner, once a year or as needed. Historic textiles should be cleaned by a professional textile conservator. If there is a question as to whether a textile can be cleaned by the curatorial staff, consult with the Regional Curator or the Textile Conservator in the Division of Conservation.

3.     Rugs:       Rugs used for visitor access or new rugs can be vacuumed and cleaned more frequently than historic rugs. When vacuuming historic rugs which are well-worn, the plastic mesh screen should be used as well as a low suction to relieve strain.

## Metals

1.     Brass, copper, and silver objects should be polished and lacquered to avoid polishing every year. A coat of lacquer should last a long time (around 10 years); inspect objects yearly for tarnished spots, indicating that the lacquer needs replacing. Contact the Regional Curator for assistance with this project.

2. Iron objects can develop rust and corrosion. If this occurs, the room environment should be monitored (using a hygrothermograph) to see if the humidity is too high. Adjustments should be made to lower the humidity to acceptable levels, possibly by using dehumidifiers or activated silica gel.

3. Excessively dirty metal objects can be washed. Do not wash objects with sections made of other materials, such as bone or wood. If dusting is done regularly, washing should not be necessary. Washing should never occur on a regular basis.

Washing Procedure: Wash in warm water and non-ionic detergent; rinse in clear water and dry completely with a soft clean cloth.

4. Pewter should be polished only when absolutely necessary; a light coat of microcrystalline wax is usually sufficient. Wash only if the object is very dirty; this dirt buildup should not occur if the objects are dusted regularly. Do not wash on a scheduled basis.

Procedure for washing: Wash in denatured alcohol, rinse well in distilled water and dry with a clean cloth.

### Floors

Monthly cleaning: The wood floor can be damp mopped and buffed. Buffing removes lightly imbedded dirt and restores the waxy gloss. When dirt has been moderately ground into the wax, buffing should follow damp mopping.

Cleaning procedure for damp mopping:

Equipment: Clean string mop, mop bucket, and wringer.

Procedure: Fill bucket half full with cold water. Vacuum thoroughly before mopping. Wet mop in cold water and wring it nearly dry. Mop floor in long continuous side-to-side strokes. Reverse direction every fourth stroke. Rinse and wring mop frequently. Change water as soon as it gets dirty.

Avoid slapping strands of mop against furniture, rugs, or baseboards. When finished, wash mop, bucket, and wringer.

Cleaning procedure for buffing:

Equipment: Electric floor polisher, clean buffing brushes, or pads.

Procedure: Vacuum floor thoroughly first. Attach buffer to floor polisher head. Guide polisher from side to side, in parallel paths, until entire floor is buffed. Avoid hitting furnishings or baseboards with polishing machine. Clean pads or brushes when finished.

For more detailed information on caring for floors, see the Manual for Museums, pp. 222-231.

### Windows

Semi-annual Cleaning: The windows should be washed inside and out. No liquid should run onto the wooden framework. Care must be taken to not damage any ultraviolet filtering materials that are on the interior of the glass.

Cleaning Procedure:

Equipment: Two people, ladder, chamois, pail, sponge, cleaning solution (Conserve O Gram 8/2).

Procedure: Dust window panes and surrounding framework. Dampen sponge in cleaning solution and use overlapping strokes to wash each pane. Remove dirty water from the panel with chamois. Change water when it becomes dirty.

For more detailed information on cleaning windows, see Manual for Museums, pp. 238-239.

## HOUSEKEEPING SCHEDULE

### Daily

1. Vacuum floors and baseboards.
2. Damp wipe surfaces extensively handled by visitors (room barriers, entrance and exit door handles).

### Weekly

1. Dust wood furniture with a clean cotton cloth sprayed with Endust. Dust all parts of the piece including the out-of-the-way places. Use a soft cotton swab if necessary (Conserve O Gram 7/8).
2. Dust ceramic, glass, paper, and other small objects on open display, using a clean dry cotton cloth. Use an artist's brush on intricately decorated objects and art objects.
3. Vacuum leather materials, baskets, and books, using a gentle suction and a plastic screen held securely against the objects to protect them from the suction. Wear clean cotton gloves. Vacuum, using a plastic mesh screen, only when necessary.
4. Dust metal objects, using a clean, dry cotton cloth. Always wear clean cotton gloves.
5. Clean soiled gloves in Ivory; rinse and dry.
6. Vacuum hearths, mantels, and fireplaces.
7. Check for evidence of insects and rodents (see Manual for Museums, pp. 71-77, and Conserve O Gram 3/10). Record findings and renew traps as needed.
8. Water plants (if necessary). Inspect carefully for insect infestations.

### Monthly

1. Vacuum window frames, shades, curtains, and lighting fixtures.
2. Clean any plexiglas, using a non-static cleanser and a clean, dry cotton cloth.
3. Vacuum upholstery on historic furniture, using gentle suction and a clean upholstery attachment. Fragile areas should be vacuumed through a plastic mesh screen to decrease strain. Always vacuum in the direction of the nap if the material has a nap.
4. Vacuum historic carpets and rugs, using the upholstery attachment in the direction of the nap and a plastic screen where necessary.
5. Dust picture frames (including the tops), using a lens brush; with the carved gilt frames, blow off dust using a small ear syringe (do not touch the frame).
6. Glass on pictures may be damp wiped (if needed), using a sponge dipped in glass cleaner (Conserve 0 Gram 8/2) and squeezed almost dry. Do not let the moisture get on the frame or under the glass.
7. Refold folded textiles along different lines to reduce stress.
8. Spot clean walls with a clean, water-damp cloth, and dry.
9. Vacuum tops of doors, bookcases, and other ledges in reach of the floor.
10. Examine furnishings to determine if any active deterioration is occurring and if specialized conservation treatment is needed.
11. Calibrate the hygrothermographs using a sling or aspirated psychrometer.

### Semi-Annual

1. Vacuum ceiling, tops of wardrobes, and other high wall areas requiring ladders.
2. Wash and dry windows.
3. Vacuum vents from the heating system.

### Annual

1. Inspect metal objects for corrosion, rust, or tarnish; treat if necessary.
2. Inspect ceramic and glass objects to determine if washing is necessary (Conserve 0 Gram 8/2).
3. Clean woodwork by wiping with a clean, damp cloth and dry immediately.
4. Take light readings (both visible and ultraviolet) of objects on exhibit to see if light is within the acceptable range.
5. Dry clean curtains if necessary.

### Biennial

1. Clean and wax finished wood furniture (Conserve 0 Grams 7/2, 7/3).
2. Damp wipe and dry painted wood and raw wood objects, using a clean cloth with water (Conserve 0 Gram 7/2).
3. Clean exposed wood floors by stripping, waxing, and buffing (Conserve 0 Gram 7/4).

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS: OUTLINE FOR A HOUSEKEEPING PROGRAM;  
ANALYSIS OF SPACE; AND SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

Use the following outline as a way of organizing and presenting the information for a housekeeping program for your area. This is meant to be a guide only. While most of the items in the outline should be pertinent to every area, modify the outline in order to produce a format that will work best for the specific situation at hand.

Housekeeping Program

I. Introduction

- A. Purpose and Scope of Interpretive Program
- B. Collection History
- C. Staffing Responsibilities (who cleans, who supervises, training needs, etc.)

II. Analysis of Exhibit Area

- A. Description of Area (exhibit cases, open exhibits, furnished room)
- B. Environmental Impacts
- C. Types of Materials, Quantity of Each
- D. Desired Level of Cleaning

III. Procedures

- A. Cleaning
  - 1. Methods and Materials
  - 2. Frequencies (daily, weekly, etc.)
- B. Environmental Monitoring (temperature, relative humidity, dust/pollution, light)
  - 1. Methods and Equipment
  - 2. Frequencies (daily, weekly, etc.)

IV. Supplies and Equipment (acceptable materials, sources, and quantities)

V. Personnel (position, grade, series, total work hours for each task for one year)



MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS: OUTLINE FOR A HOUSEKEEPING PROGRAM;  
ANALYSIS OF SPACE; AND SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

Use the following outline as a way of organizing and presenting the information for a housekeeping program for your area. This is meant to be a guide only. While most of the items in the outline should be pertinent to every area, feel free to modify or improvise in order to produce a format that will work better for the specific situation you are working on.

Housekeeping Program

I. Introduction

- A. Purpose and Scope of Interpretive Program
- B. Collection History
- C. Staffing Responsibilities (who cleans, who supervises, training needs, etc.)

II. Analysis of Exhibit Area

- A. Description of Area (exhibit cases, open exhibits, furnished room)
- B. Environmental Impacts
- C. Types of Materials, Quantity of Each
- D. Desired Level of Cleaning

III. Procedures

- A. Cleaning
  - 1. Methods and Materials
  - 2. Frequencies (daily, weekly, etc.)
- B. Environmental Monitoring (temperature, relative humidity, dust/pollution, light)
  - 1. Methods and Equipment
  - 2. Frequencies (daily, weekly, etc.)

IV. Supplies and Equipment (acceptable materials, sources, and quantities)

V. Personnel (position, grade, series, total work hours for each task for one year)

Room: \_\_\_\_\_  
Building: \_\_\_\_\_

Park: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS OF SPACE (by room)  
Curatorial Housekeeping

1. Floor Area (sq. ft.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Wall Area (sq. ft.) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of Windows \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Window Treatment (shades, curtains, shutters, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Wall Surfaces (describe material) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Floor and Stair Surfaces (describe material covering) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Textiles (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Wooden Objects (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
7. Stone and Ceramic Objects (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
8. Metal Objects (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Skin Products (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
10. Feathers, Ivory, other organics (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Plastics, other modern, inorganic materials (describe and quantify) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Paper Materials (describe and quantify)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Glass Surfaces and Objects (describe and quantify)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Paintings (describe and quantify)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Type of Lighting (natural and mechanical, quantify)  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Air Handling Systems (describe type, quantity, filters, and controls)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. Security/Fire Systems (describe type and quantity of each)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. Temperature Readings (location, date, time, weather conditions)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. Relative Humidity Readings (location, date, time, weather conditions)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. Visible Light Readings (location, date, time, weather conditions)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
21. Ultraviolet Light Readings (location, date, time, weather conditions)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. Housekeeping Supplies and Equipment, currently in use (describe and quantify where appropriate)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

23. Staff Time for Housekeeping (position, grades, work years)

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24. Additional Remarks

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#### SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

Persons responsible for the care and protection of museum objects should be familiar with Ralph Lewis' Manual for Museums (National Park Service, Government Printing Office, 1976), the Conserve O Gram series, and the National Park Service Museum Handbook. Sections in the Manual for Museums that are particularly useful for implementing these recommendations are Chapter 4, "Caring for a Collection," pp. 61-112; Chapter 11, "Housekeeping," pp. 204-259; and Chapter 12, "Protection," pp. 260-298.

#### Other useful publications:

Committee on Libraries, Museums, and Historic Buildings. Protection of Museums and Museum Collections 1980. NFPA 911, Boston: National Fire Protection Association, Inc., 1980, one of the best sources on fire protection and prevention, specifically written for museums.

Edwards, Stephen R., Bruce M. Bell, and Mary Elizabeth King. Pest Control In Museums: A Status Report. Lawrence, Kansas: Association of Systematic Collections, 1980, a good general guide to pesticides, their use in museums, and common insect pests.

Sandwith, Hermione, and Sheila Stainton, comp. The National Trust Manual of Housekeeping. London: Allen Lane, Ltd., in association with the N.T., 1984.

Thomson, Garry. The Museum Environment. London: Butterworths, 1978. An excellent source of information on light, humidity, and air pollution.

Thompson, John, ed. Manual of Curatorship. London: Butterworths, 1984. A general guide to museum practice.

Useful audiovisual programs are:

"Housekeeping Techniques for the Historic House," "Museum Fire Security," and "Site Security." These programs are produced by the American Association for State and Local History.

Additionally, the Regional Curator and the Curatorial Services Branch, Preservation Assistance Division, WASO, can provide assistance and further information for managing the museum collection.

## ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1

View of the downstairs bedroom (room 101) when the deProsse family occupied Lindenwald, probably in the 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. Note the original sleigh bed (unlocated), shaving stand (MAVA 06), and chest of drawers (private collection).

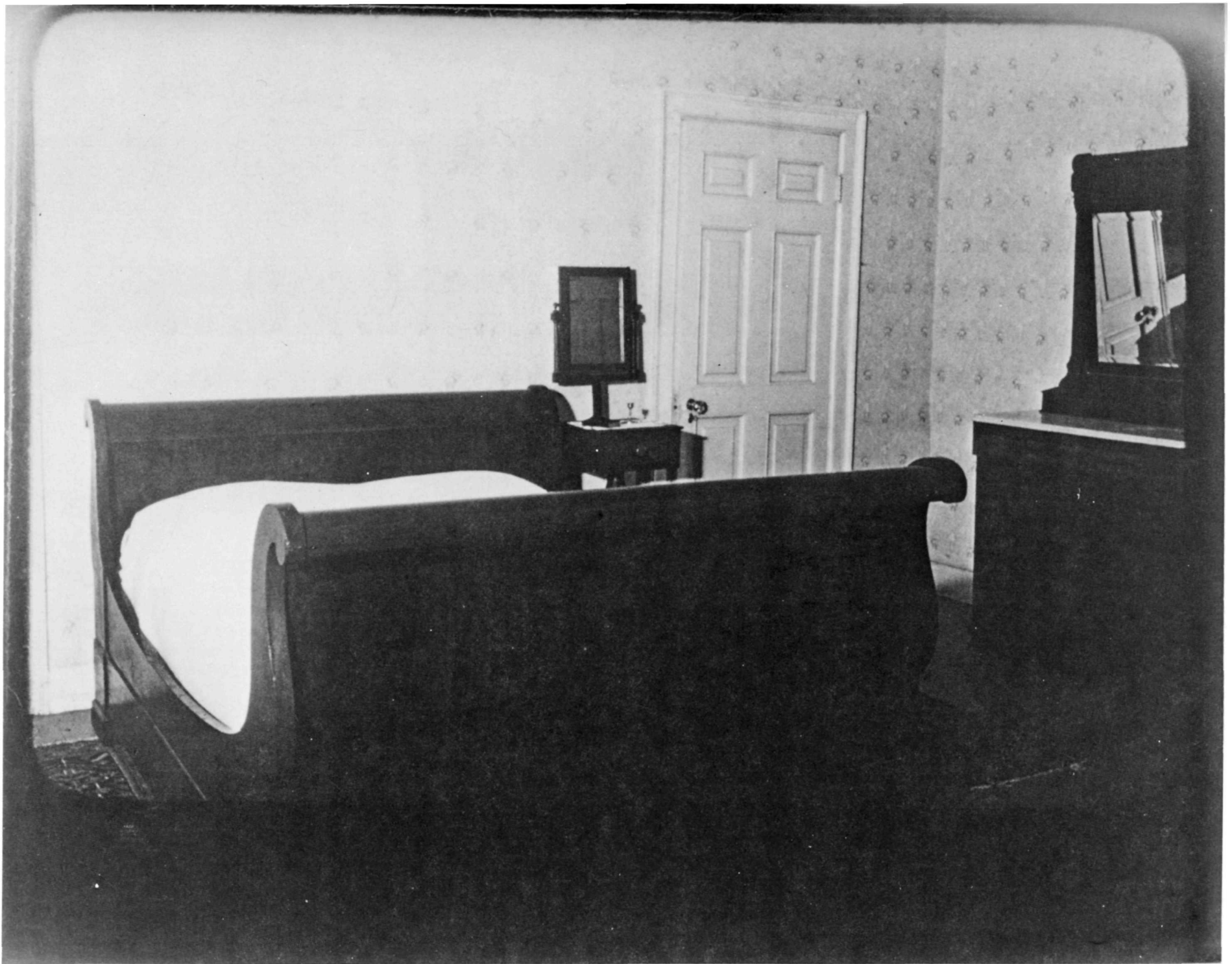




Figure 2

Room 101 as furnished by the deProsse family, 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAV A Neg. 5110. The wardrobe (MAVA 12) is said to have been a Van Buren piece.



Figure 3

Secretary (MAVA 05) and swivel chair (MAVA 83), said to have been Van Buren's, in room 104, the sitting room, in the 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. The wallpaper and Brussels carpet (unlocated) are also believed to be from the Van Buren era.



Figure 4

The north wall of the sitting room (room 104) in the 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. The fireboard (MAVA 85), plate warmer (271), and oyster gridiron (273), are believed to date from the Van Buren occupancy.



Figure 5

Another view of the fireplace in room 104 during the deProsse period, probably taken in the 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110.







Figure 6

Earliest known view of Lindenwald's hall, taken about the time the Birneys moved in, 1917. Note the Van Buren-associated chandelier (MAVA 22), sofa bed (03), card table (349), Brussels carpet (21), and the piano said to have belonged to Jennie Jerome (01).

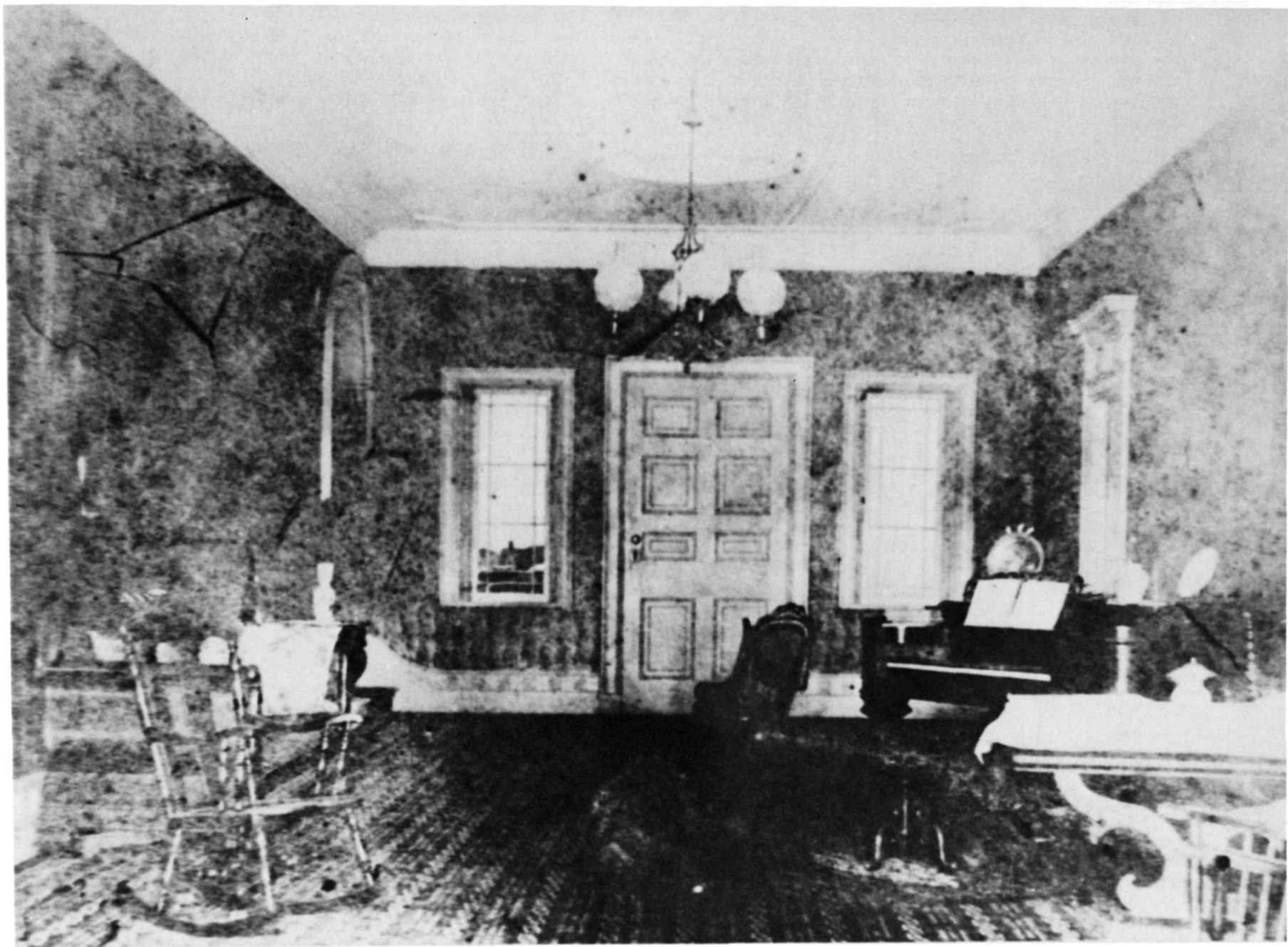


Figure 7

View of the hall accompanying 1929 article by Major Alexander Well in unidentified newspaper (MAVA Collection). This shows the scenic wallpaper, an easy chair (MAVA 13 or 60), two card tables (349 and one now in a private collection), besides the sofa bed, carpet, chandelier, and piano.

...the country, and the new  
orker to lead the nation.

**M**MARTIN VAN BUREN is lit-  
tle appreciated in New  
York," said Mr. Ward.

"The man who for forty years

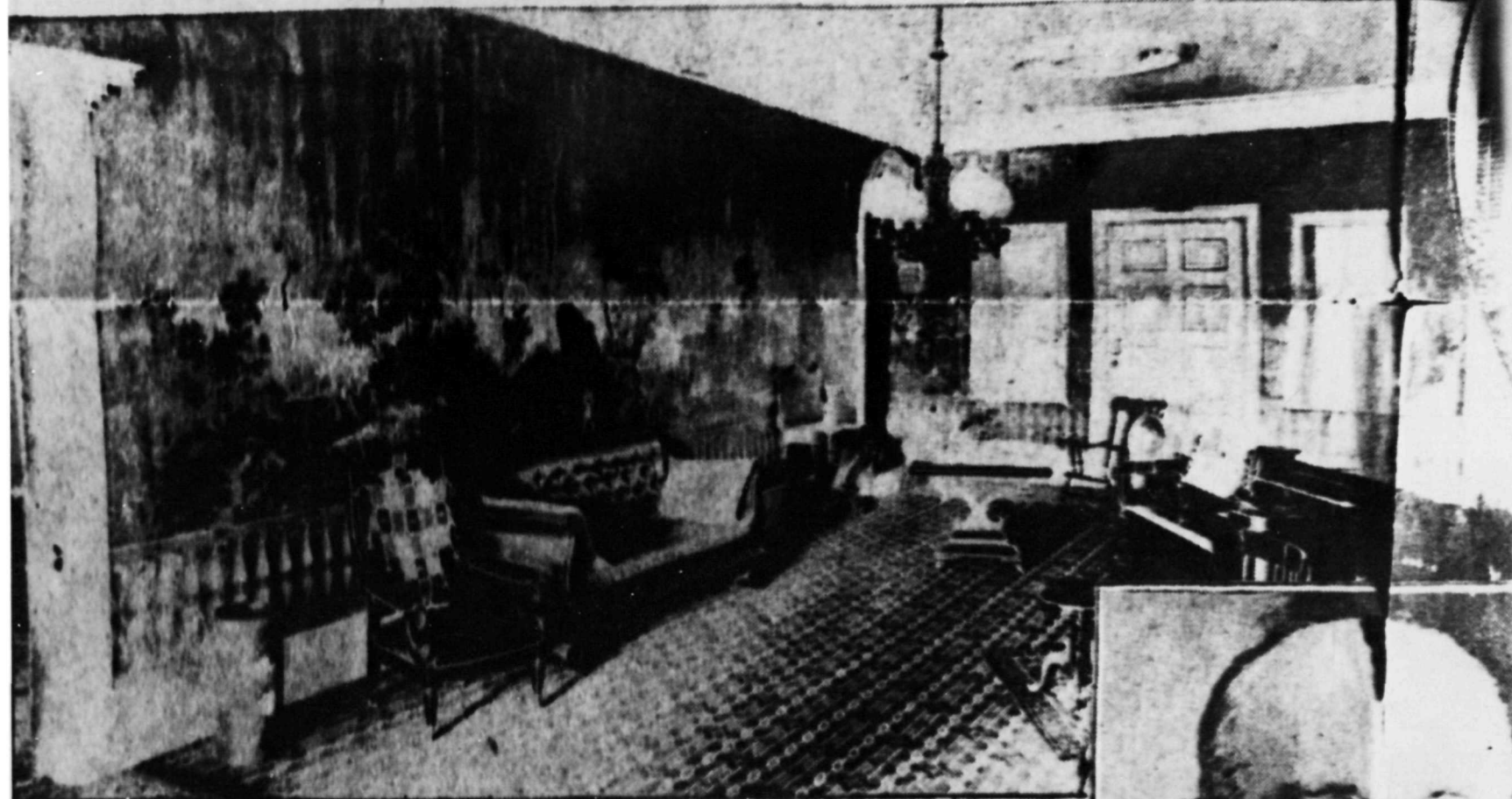
...ignored and possibly his home will  
cease to be a thing of beauty and  
crops will grow where once danc-  
ing feet trod the hardwood floors  
of Lindenwald.

"I am going to do everything in

...closed his law books forever, so  
far as actual practice was con-  
cerned.

During his brilliant legal career  
he opposed such men at the bar  
as Richard Harrison, Aaron Burr,

many and material respects  
are highly useful to the country,  
could never bring myself  
party purposes to deprecate their  
existence. Doubtless excesses fre-  
quently attend them and produce  
many evils, but not so many



*Interior of living room, showing wall paper which President Van Buren had put on after his term as  
the nation's Chief Executive.*

was the dominant figure in  
American politics, who wielded  
more power during that time  
than any other American has ever  
wielded, who was the first Ameri-  
can of pure Dutch descent to be-

my power to prevent such a dese-  
cration. I am going to call upon  
the people of New York, the state  
legislature and the Governor, who  
are never deaf to a just cause, to  
purchase this historic mansion

Thomas Addis Emmett, Daniel  
Webster, John Wells, John V.  
Henry, Peter Van Schaack,  
Abraham Van Vechten, David R.  
Ogden, Samuel A. Talcott and  
Elisha Williams as Martin later



Figure 8

The hall sometime in the 1930s as photographed by Rowles Studio (MAVA Neg. 5120). The two settees (MAVA 52 and unlocated) have a possible Van Buren association. The chandelier globes have been changed since 1917 (see Figure 6).



Figure 9

Northwest corner of the hall, probably in the late 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. The sofa bed, card table, and carpet are the same ones pictured in Figures 6 and 7.







Figure 10

Drawing room (room 106) in the late 1930s, with two chairs (MAVA 13 and 60) from the set associated with Van Buren. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110.

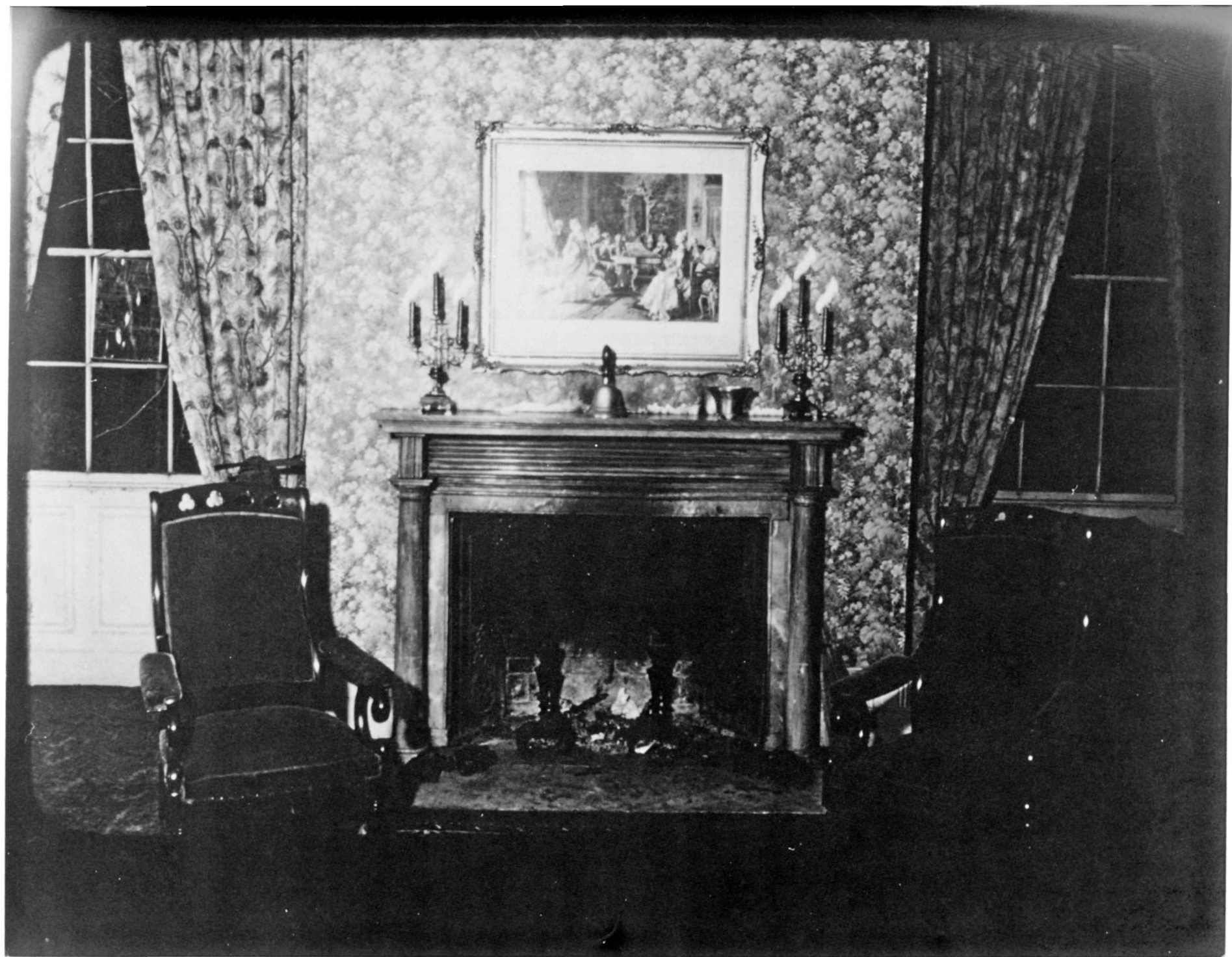


Figure 11

The ogee arch in room 106, looking toward the breakfast room doorway, 1930s. The chairs and card table (MAVA 54-55 and 07) are part of the set believed to have been Van Buren's. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110.



Figure 12

A Rowles Studio photograph, 1930s, of the drawing room (106). Note the original pier mirror (MAVA 24), three chairs and sofa from Van Buren's Gothic parlor set, and a center table (26) and melodeon (348) attributed to Van Buren. Rowles Studio Collection, MAVA Neg. 5120.



Figure 13

Members of the Birney/deProsse family relaxing in room 106 sometime in the 1930s. DeProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. The Gothic easy chair (MAVA 13 or 60), the settee (02), and card table (07), are all believed to be Van Buren pieces.







Figure 14

East end of the drawing room, with the west end reflected in the original pier mirror. 1930s photograph, deProsse Collection, MAVA Neg. 5110. The carpet is no longer extant; the card table, melodeon, and chairs are in the MAVA collection.

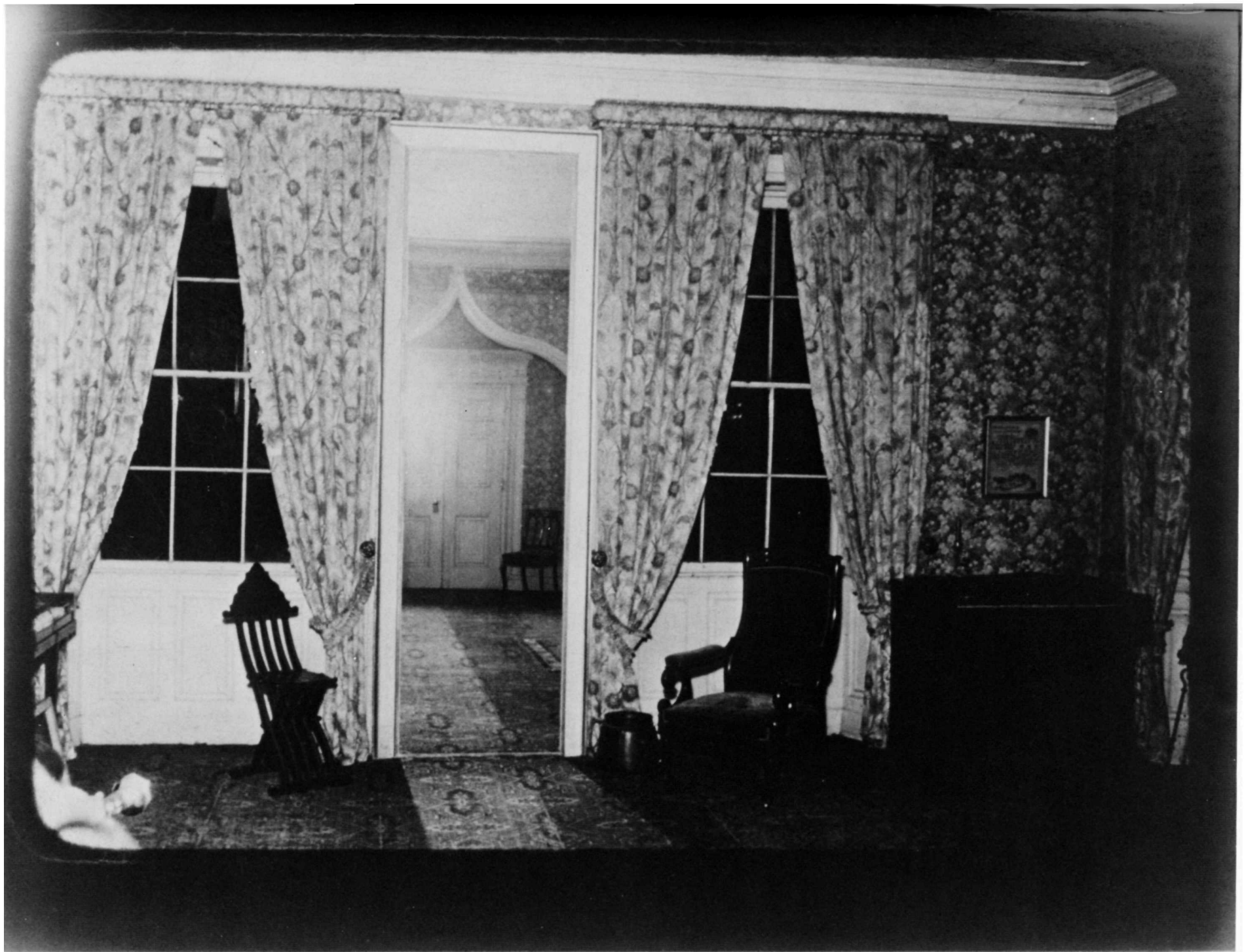


Figure 15

In this 1936 photograph by Melvin J. Weig, NPS, the Gothic parlor set is made in evidence, although the furniture arrangement differs from that in Figure 14. Weig Collection, MAV A Neg. 5160.

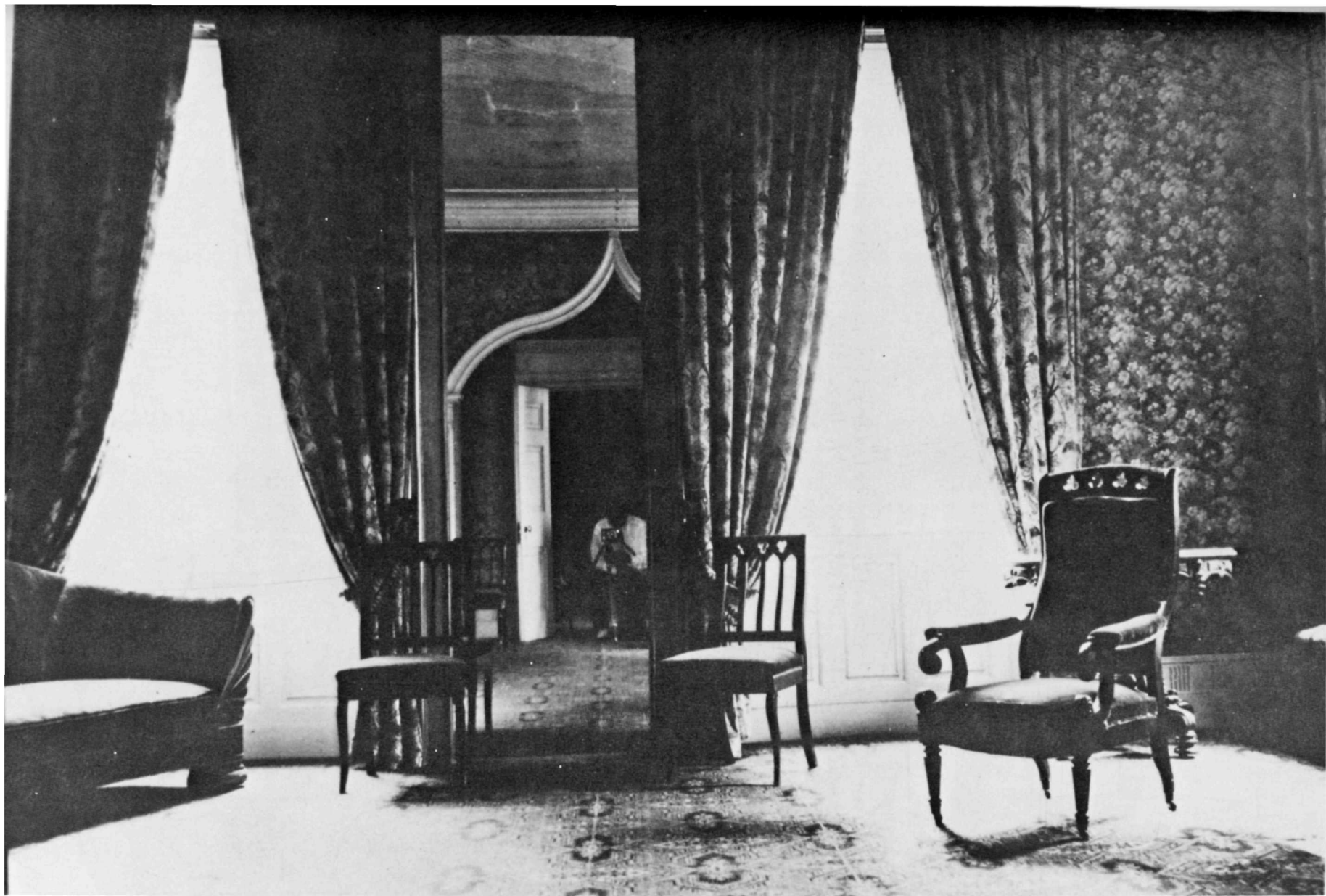


Figure 16

The former library (room 111) was being used as a dining room in the 1930s. Rowles Studio Collection, MAVA Neg. 5120. The small sideboard (MAVA 42), klismos chair (262), and drop-leaf table (private collection) are said to have been Van Buren's.



Figure 17

Found on the Lindenwald grounds in 1976, this copper-lined bath tub (MAVA 82) is believed to be the one installed in room 114 during the Lindenwald renovation of 1849/50. MAVA Neg. 8232.



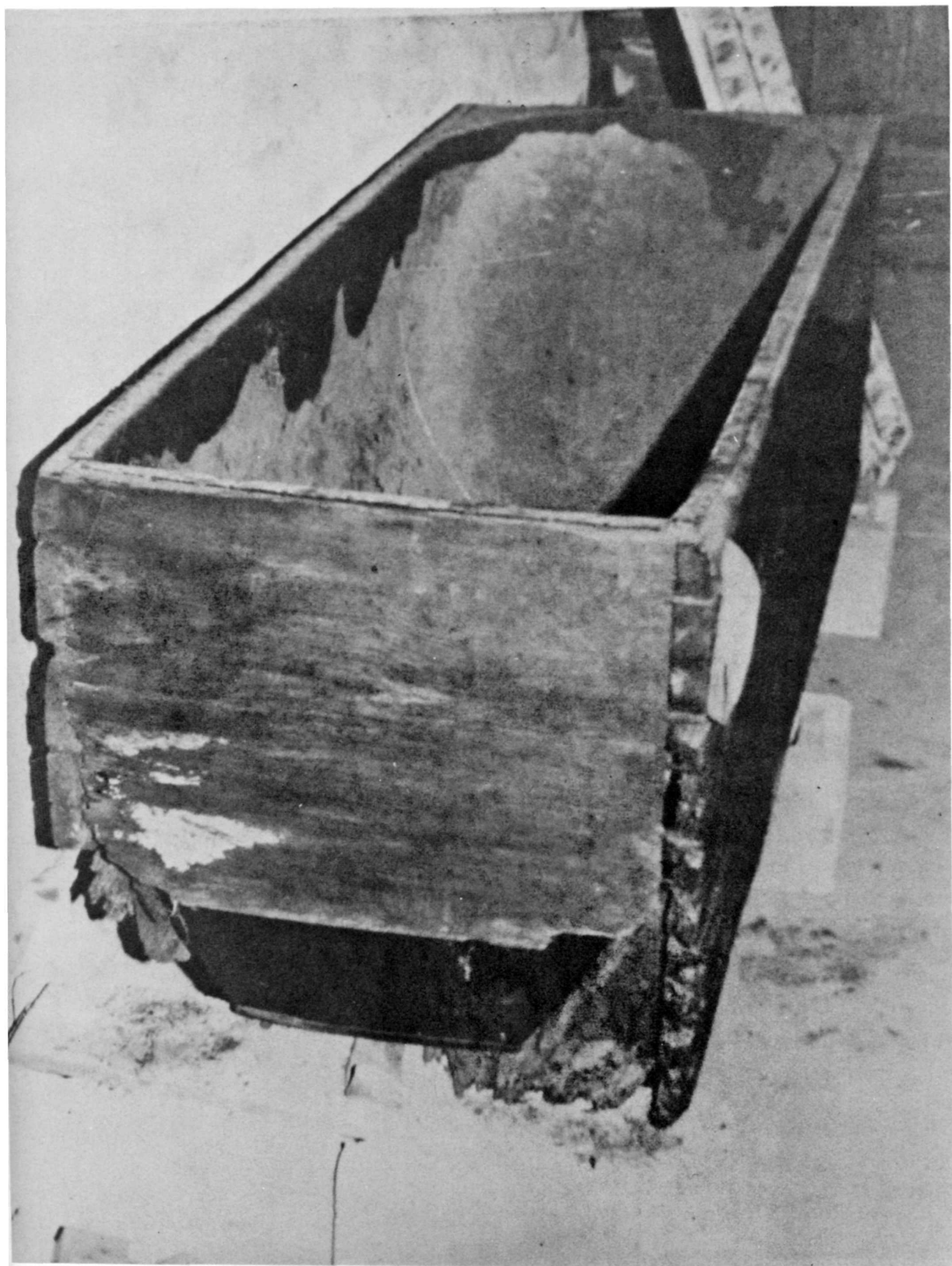




Figure 18

The remains of Van Buren's kitchen range and oven, room 006, about 1974. Fred Van Tassell photograph, MAVA Neg. 5191.



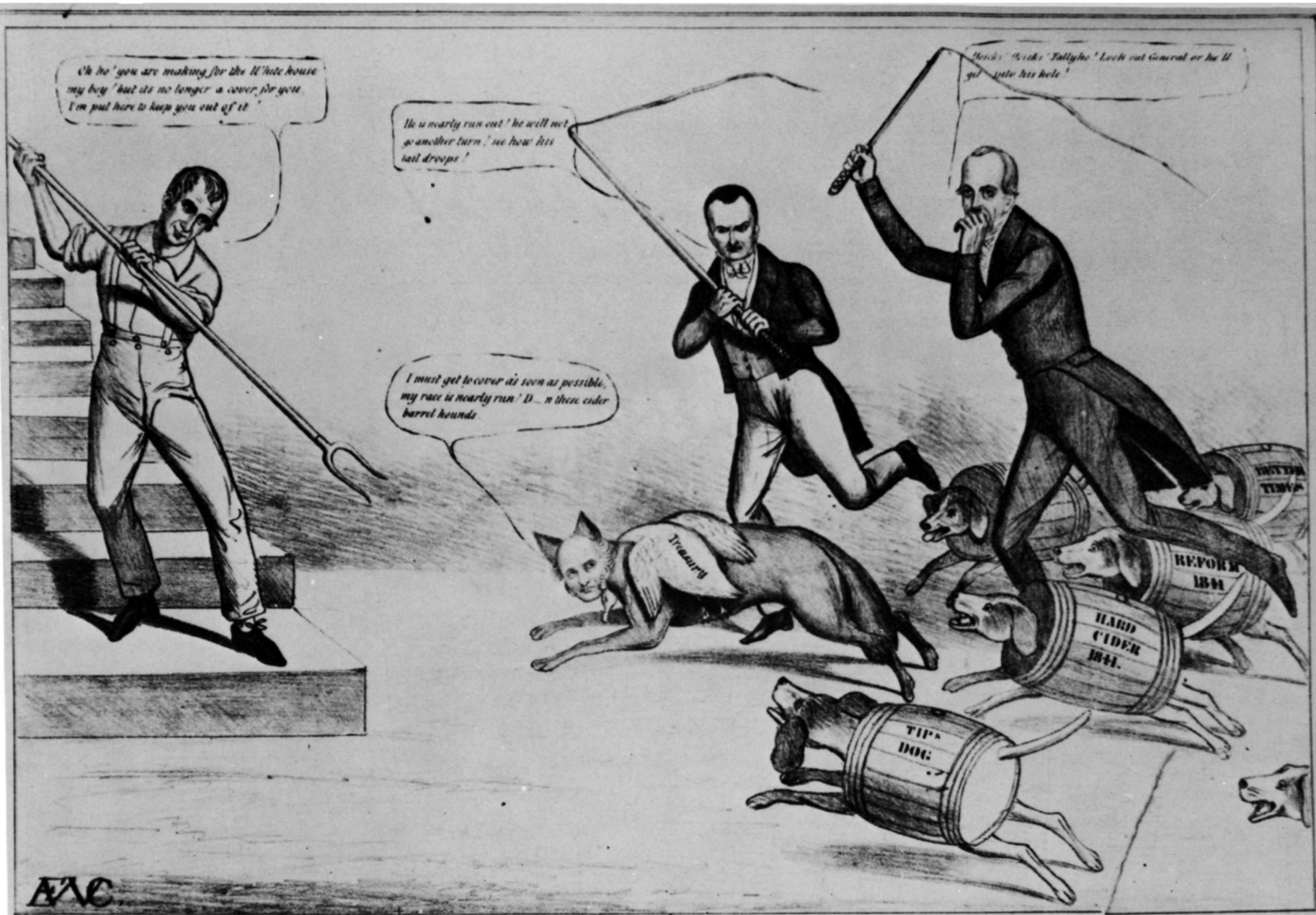
Figure 19

Dining table, accordion-action, 1800-1815, owned by Martin Van Buren, acquired c. 1864 by Aaron Vanderpoel, exhibited at Lindenwald 1982-1983, now in a private collection. Photograph courtesy Christie's New York.



Figure 20

"The Fox Chace," an anti-Van Buren cartoon from the 1840 Harrison-Van Buren presidential contest. An 1846 visitor at Lindenwald mentioned seeing a copy of this cartoon in the library at Lindenwald. Photograph courtesy Library of Congress.



Price 25 Cents

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1844 by J. Childs in the Clerk's Office in the District Court for the S<sup>th</sup> District of N.Y.

THE FOX CHACE.

Figure 21

G.P.A. Healy's portrait of ex-President Van Buren, for which the subject sat at Lindenwald in 1858. Photograph courtesy The White House.



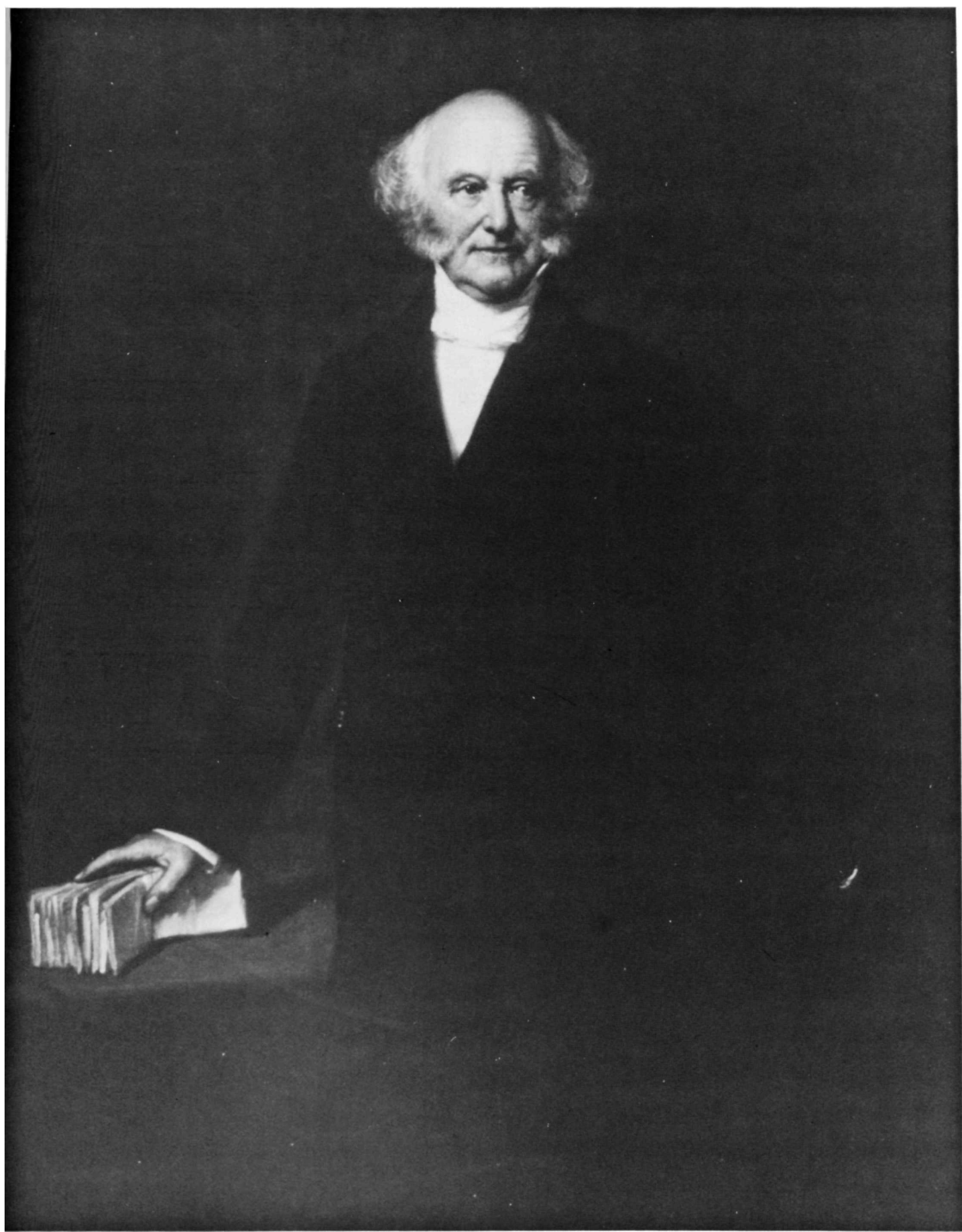




Figure 22

Portrait of Angelica Singleton Van Buren, by Henry Inman, 1842, with Hiram Powers' bust of Martin Van Buren in the background. The wife of Abraham Van Buren, Angelica, acted as her widower father-in-law's hostess during his term as President and, later, at Lindenwald. Photograph courtesy The White House.



Figure 23

Firebox and cleanout doors of the c. 1854 Boynton's Patent furnace, Lindenwald, room 001. Photograph by Fred Van Tassell, 1974.

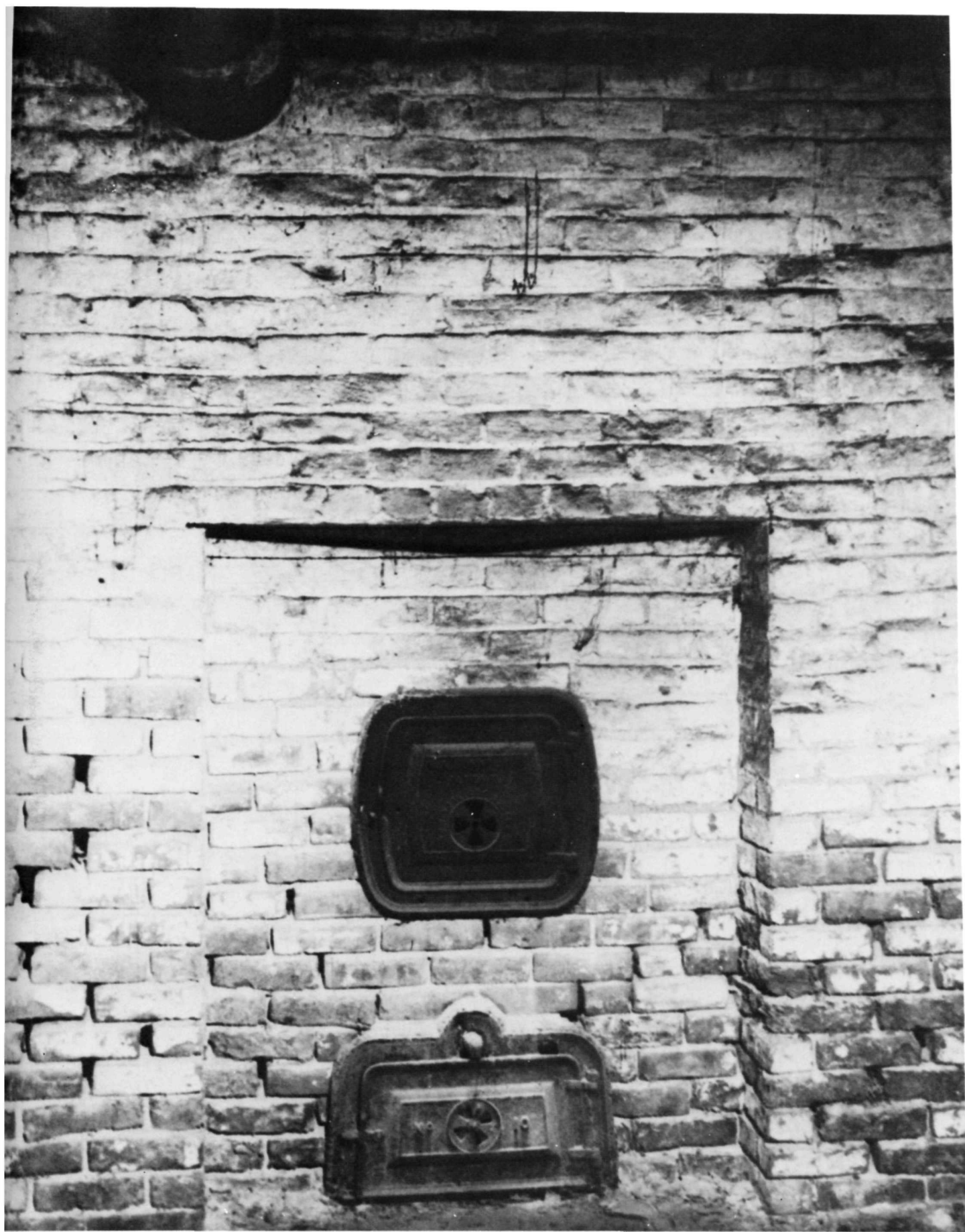


Figure 24

Access door of c. 1854 furnace, room 001, showing original inscription: "Hon. M. Van Buren/Kinderhook/N.Y." Photographed by Fred Van Tassell, 1974.



Figure 25

Lindenwald from the front, probably in the late 1890s. Note marble urn and two cast iron garden settees. MAVA Neg. 8171.







Figure 26

Front porch of Lindenwald, probably taken in the early 1890s (shrubbery flanking porch is smaller than in Figure 25). The marble urn is extant but the two "ironwood" porch chairs have disappeared. MAVA Neg. 5190.

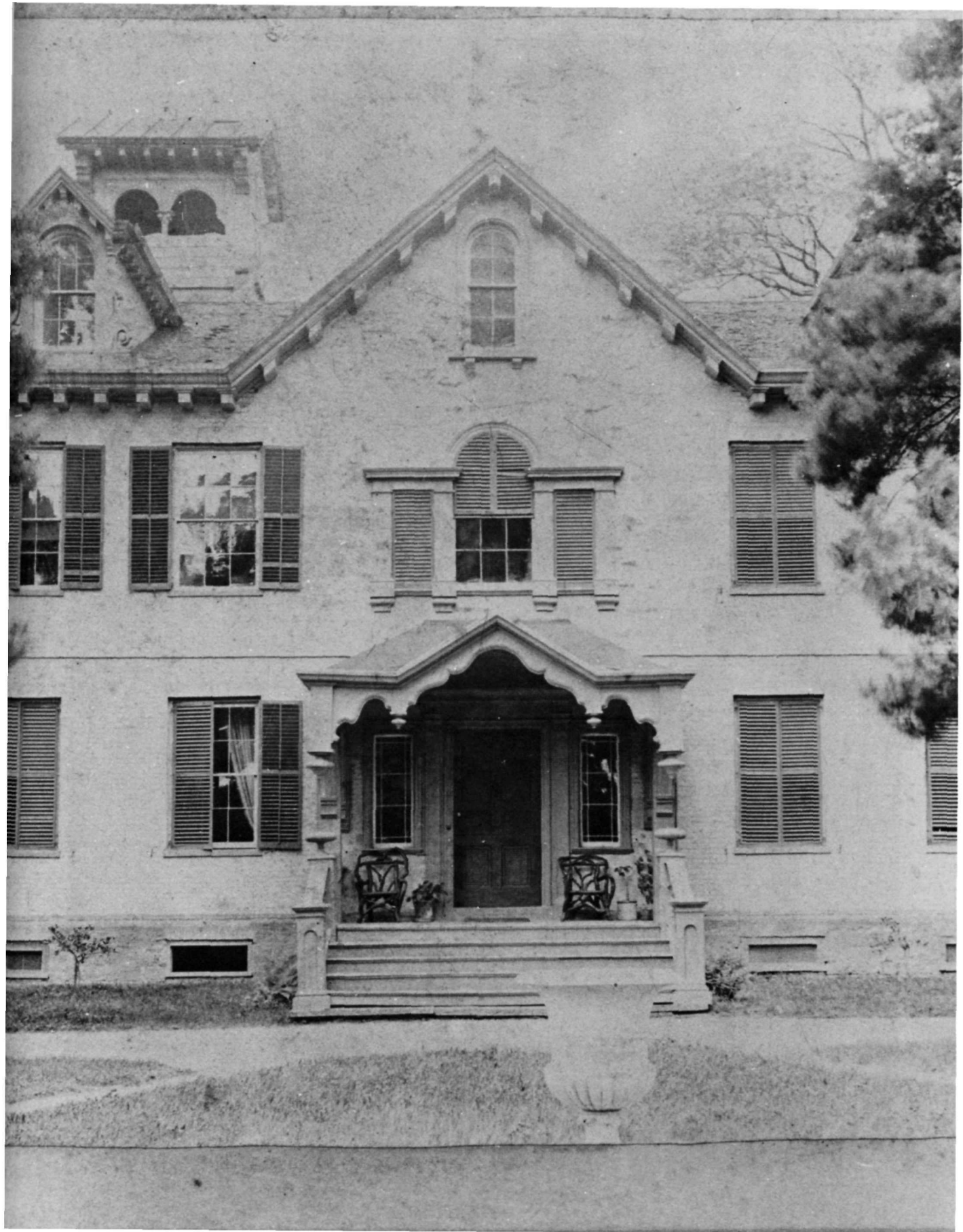
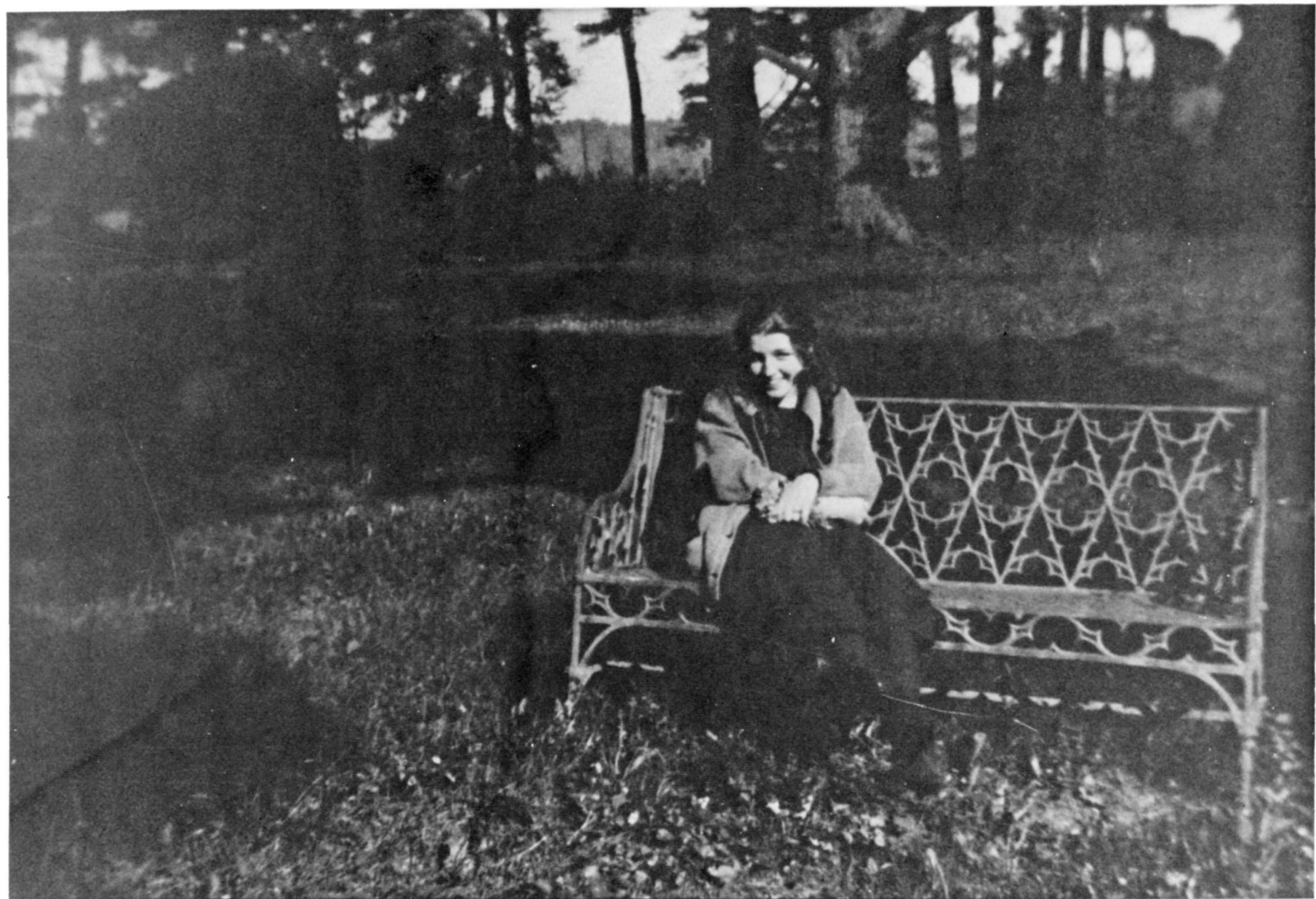


Figure 27

One of the deProsse family seated, about 1930, on a cast iron garden settee (not extant) that may have dated from the Van Buren period. MAVA Neg. 5110.



## APPENDIXES

- A. Will of Martin Van Buren
- B. Martin Van Buren Exhibition Catalog, 1936
- C. Inventory of Martin Van Buren Furniture at Lindenwald, 1936
- D. Description of Lindenwald and Van Buren Furnishings, 1938
- E. Indenture and List of Law Books, George Caines--Martin Van Buren, 1814
- F. Inventory of Law Books in Van Buren Collection, Bar Association of the City of New York
- G. Children and Grandchildren of Martin Van Buren
- H. Chronology of Van Buren Family Members at Lindenwald
- I. Servants at Lindenwald with added reference to Patricia West's study, "The House Servants of Lindenwald"
- J. Partial List of Visitors to Lindenwald, 1841-62
- K. List of Owners of the Lindenwald Property

## APPENDIX A

Will of Martin Van Buren, 1860

Proved August 1, 1862

Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, New York

Will of Martin Van Buren, 1860  
Original in Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, New York

I, Martin Van Buren of the Town of Kinderhook, County of Columbia and State of New York, heretofore Governor of the State, and more recently President of the United States, but for the last and happiest years of my life, a Farmer in my native Town, do make & declare the following to be my last Will and Testament.

First. I direct my Executors hereinafter named to pay, without delay, my funeral expenses & all outstanding bills. Debts, in the ordinary acceptation of that term I owe none & hope to leave none.

Secondly. I direct that no account shall be taken of advances by me heretofore made to either of my sons, and that they shall be considered as settled, with the exceptions of a bond I hold against my son Abraham for two thousand dollars and also a note against my son John for four thousand eight hundred and fifteen dollars, which were agreed to be considered as business transactions strictly, the amount due on each at my death (the interest having been punctually paid to the present year) is to be charged to them respectively, and deducted from their shares of my estate. The like charge and deduction shall be made in respect to any future payments by me or my estate in cases where I have made myself liable as surety for either of my sons, but in which nothing has yet been paid by me.

Thirdly. In consideration of advances which I have made to my sons Abraham & John, whilst none have been made to my son Smith Thompson, I bequeath to the latter all my personal chattles & effects, excepting therefrom all the debts that may be due to me, and stocks that I may own at my death, and also my wine & stock on my farm. My miscellaneous library is intended to be included in this bequest, but not my law library, which I bequeath to my son John.

Fourthly. I give to my grandson Singleton Van Buren a gold snuff Box, presented to me with the Freedom of the City, by the corporation of the City of New York, and to my grandson Martin son of Abraham the marble bust made of me by Powers, which I had previously presented to his mother, & now transfer to the son by her direction. I give to my grandson Martin son of my son Smith Thompson a silver pitcher, presented to me, some years since by my old & always sincere friend Benjamin F. Butler.

Fifthly. I direct my executors to expend four hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in obtaining a copy of the bust of me by Powers, which copy I give to my grandson Edward Livingston Van Buren.

Sixthly. I direct my executors to lay out five hundred dollars for keep sakes for my grandson Travis Van Buren, and for my grand daughters Anna, Ellen, Catharine & Eliza Van Buren.

Seventhly. I request my executors to regard themselves as standing towards my best of sisters Dirike Van Buren if she shall survive me, in the relation I occupied when living, & to omit nothing in the way of pecuniary advances that may contribute to her comfort out of my Estate.

Eighthly. I direct my executors to pay to my niece Christina Cantine two hundred dollars & to each of my nieces Lucretia Van Buren & Jane Ann Van Buren the sum of one hundred dollars: and I give and devise to my nephew Martin Van Buren son of my brother Lawrence & to his heirs and assigns forever, all my interest in a small dwelling with the lot on which it stands adjoining his fathers house, conveyed to me by the latter as security for money lent, but the latter devise is upon condition that his father relieves me or my estate from my remaining securityship to the State of New York.

Ninthly. I hereby appoint my three sons Abraham, John & Smith Thompson Executors of my last and only will; and I do hereby authorize & empower them, or such of them as shall take upon themselves the execution of conveyances and otherwise, as may be proper, any contracts for the sale of lands, made by me, which shall be outstanding at the time of my death.

Lastly. I hereby give devise & bequeath to my three sons Abraham, John & Smith Thompson all the remainder & residue of my personal estate not required for the purposes of my will under the provisions above made & all my real estate wheresoever situated, to be equally divided between them, to have and to hold their respective shares thereof to them, their heirs & assigns forever, subject to the following conditions & reservations, viz first that out of the avails of the sale of Lindenwald there shall be reserved & paid over to my son Smith Thompson, his heirs or assigns the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars in full satisfaction for his advances towards the expenses incurred by the additions to and improvements upon the dwelling House & out buildings with the expectation that the place would be devised to him upon terms that would be equitable in respect to his brothers, the payment to be without interest during my life time. Secondly, that upon the sale of Lindenwald the preference shall be offered in succession to my sons, beginning for the reason above assigned & no other, with the youngest, if the son accepting the same is willing to pay therefor as much as the place can be sold for in the market.

The three pieces of plate last presented to me by my deceased friend Benjamin F. Butler, I bequeath to my three sons Abraham, John & Smith Thompson to be equally divided between them.

In witness whereof I have to this instrument set my hand & seal this eighteenth day of Januy. in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

M. Van Buren (Seal)

Subscribed, sealed, published and declared, by the said testator Martin Van Buren to be his last will & testament in the presence of us the undersigned, who, at his request, & in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses & affixed our respective places of residence this 18 day of Jany. 1860.

John M. Pruyn M.D. of Kinderhook  
Laura Collins of Albany

If my faithful James remains with me until my death I wish my Executors to make him present of one hundred dollars.

M. Van Buren

[The will was proved before Charles Esselstyn, Surrogate of Columbia County, August 1, 1862]



## APPENDIX B

Martin Van Buren Exhibition Catalog

The National Savings Bank

Albany, New York

1936



MARTIN VAN BUREN

*Exhibition Catalog*

MEZZANINE FLOOR

*The* NATIONAL SAVINGS BANKSouthwest Corner of State and Pearl Streets  
Albany, New York

- ITEM 1 Portrait of Martin Van Buren, by Inman from his original portrait of Van Buren painted for Miss Theodora Duer at the request of Van Buren.  
*Loaned by Alexander Duer Harvey, Esq.  
Great Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 2 Letter written by Judge Vanderpoel to his daughter on the day of her marriage to John Van Buren, familiarly known as "Prince John."  
*Loaned by Mrs. D. Carroll Harvey  
Great Grand Daughter of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 3 Silver Card Case of Mrs. John Van Buren.  
*Loaned by Mrs. D. Carroll Harvey*
- ITEM 4 Silver loving cup given Mrs. John Van Buren as a wedding present by Angelica Singleton, who was Mrs. Abraham Van Buren.  
*Loaned by Mrs. D. Carroll Harvey*
- ITEM 5 Portrait of Martin Van Buren by D. Huntington, painted in 1848.  
*Loaned by Miss Sarah G. Duer  
Great Grand Daughter of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 6 Bust of Martin Van Buren by Powers.  
*Loaned by the Columbia County Historical Society through the courtesy of  
John Van Buren Duer, Esq.  
Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 7 Miniature of Hannah Hoes, wife of Martin Van Buren. Artist unknown. Bequeathed the Columbia County Historical Society by the late Howard Van Buren, Esq.
- ITEM 8 Gold pencil used by Martin Van Buren when Minister to the Court of St. James. Bequeathed the Columbia County Historical Society by the late Howard Van Buren, Esq.
- ITEM 9 Plate of a dinner service made for Martin Van Buren while President and used by him in the White House.  
*Loaned by John Van Buren Duer, Esq.  
Great Grandson of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 10 Andirons and fire screen used by Martin Van Buren at "Lindenwald."  
*Loaned by Mrs. Spencer W. Hindes*
- ITEM 11 Bookcase used by Martin Van Buren in his library at "Lindenwald."  
*Loaned by James Adger Reynolds, Esq.*
- ITEM 12 Copy Coat of Arms of the Van Buren family.  
*Loaned by Dr. Harriet Van Buren Peckham*
- ITEM 13 Original plate inscribed "M. Van Buren Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America."  
*Loaned by the Columbia County Historical Society*
- ITEM 14 Prayer Book printed in Cambridge, England, in 1762, presented to John Van Buren, 1854.  
*Loaned by John Van Buren Duer, Esq.  
Great Grandson of John Van Buren*

- ITEM 15 Seal of John Van Buren  
*Loaned by John Van Buren Duer, Esq.*
- ITEM 16 "Sir Thomas Averbule—His Wife," printed in London, 1628. Presented to John Van Buren in 1843 by William Crombie.  
*Loaned by John Van Buren Duer, Esq.*
- ITEM 17 Writing Case of John Van Buren. Used by him and containing quill pen and his personal stationery with crest.  
*Loaned by John Van Buren, Esq.*
- ITEM 18 Engraving by G. Parker from a picture by H. Inman.  
*Loaned by Harold Wilson, Jr., Esq.*
- ITEM 19 Silver bowl, bearing inscription "Martin Van Buren from B. F. B. (Benjamin F. Butler) December 3, 1811-December 8, 1858."  
*Loaned by Mrs. L. Gordon Hamersley  
Great Great Grand Daughter of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 20 William M. Holland's "Life and Political Opinions of Martin Van Buren" bearing inscription "M. Van Buren with high consideration and respect by the compiler, August, 1836."  
*Loaned by Mrs. L. Gordon Hamersley*
- ITEM 21 Old Dutch Reformed Church—Albany—3rd Building.
- ITEM 22 The old State Capitol—Albany—Corner stone laid April 23, 1806—Building razed 1883.
- ITEM 23 The old City Hall—Corner stone laid August 31, 1829—Building destroyed by fire February 10, 1880.
- ITEM 24 Historic Pearl Street—About 1800—After pictures by James Eights, Esq.  
*Reconstructed in Miniature by Mr. Paul Schrodt*
- ITEM 25 Martin Van Buren's Snuff Box.  
*Loaned by Mrs. F. Livingston Pell  
Great Grand Daughter of Martin Van Buren*
- ITEM 26 Martin Van Buren's Watch and Fob.  
*Loaned by Mrs. F. Livingston Pell*
- ITEM 27 Checks signed by Martin Van Buren.  
*Loaned by Mrs. L. Gordon Hamersley*
- ITEM 28 Lady's Riding Whip Presented to Dorcas Van Allen, by Martin Van Buren.  
*Loaned by William Wait, Esq.*
- ITEM 29 Letters from Martin Van Buren to Maria Hoes.  
*Loaned by Mrs. James P. Phillip  
Her Great Grand Daughter*

## APPENDIX C

Inventory of Martin Van Buren Furniture at Lindenwald, 1936

from Melvin J. Weig, "Lindenwald,

The President Martin Van Buren Homestead, near Kinderhook, New York"

(National Park Service, 1936), Appendix IV

Inventory of Martin Van Buren Furniture at "Lindenwald," as prepared by Mrs. C.B. deProsse, present owner of the property:

"President Van Buren's Furniture

- 1- Van Buren's personal secretary
- 2- Van Buren's personal study chair
- 3- Grey horsehair set
  - 1- 2 arm chairs
  - 2- 3 straight chairs
  - 3- 2 settees
  - 4- 1 sofa
- 4- 2 large mirrors (3' by 10' 6")
- 5- Large marble-top table
- 6- Hat box
- 7- Green Brussels carpet (22' by 20')
- 8- Original wallpaper (star design - green border)
- 9- Hallett and Cumston piano and stool
- 10- Black hair upholstered davenport
- 11- Small cannon
- 12- Wrought iron kerosine chandelier
- 13- Large hall Brussels carpet
- 14- Original French scenic wallpaper in hall
- 15- Original silver door knocker 1797
- 16- Van Buren's personal shaving stand
- 17- Van Buren's personal wardrobe
- 18- Mahogany bureau
- 19- 3 large mahogany sleighback beds

- 20- Mahogany parlor suite (imported from France by Van Buren)
  - 1- 6 straight chairs
  - 2- 2 arm chairs
  - 3- 1 love seat
  - 4- 1 sofa
  - 5- 1 card table
- 21- 4 pair of original drapes
- 22- Red Brussels carpet (22' by 20')
- 23- Eulogy to Andrew Jackson which hung in Van Buren's room
- 24- 4 large steel engravings
- 25- Van Buren's coffee pot
- 26- One of Van Buren's plates
- 27- Large mahogany sideboard
- 28- Kitchen dresser
- 29- Large card table upon which the estate was gambled away
- 30- 2 dressers
- 31- 2 wardrobes
- 32- Grey painted bedroom set
  - 1- Sleighback bed
  - 2- Wardrobe
  - 3- Table
  - 4- Dresser
  - 5- Washstand
- 33- Mahogany wardrobe
- 34- Marble-top table
- 35- Brussels carpet (22' by 20')
- 36- 2 mahogany marble-top washstands
- 37- Van Buren's bath tub
- 38- Van Buren's copper hot water boiler (name painted on side)
- 39- Original Boynton furnace
- 40- Original stove and dutch oven
- 41- Old tower bell
- 42- Miscellaneous chairs, tables, fireboards and other items"

## APPENDIX D

Letter of Clementine B. DeProse to Dr. James Leath, President,

Columbia County Historical Society,

describing Lindenwald and some of its furnishings, February 12, 1938

"LINDENWALD" Kinderhook, N.Y.

February 12, 1938

Dr. James Leath,  
Kinderhook, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Leath,

Agreeable to my promise I forward here a brief description of various items in connection with the former property of President MARTIN VAN BUREN, which might be of assistance to you.

The property includes 184 acres of the finest farm land of Columbia County, including some forest land.

It includes - the brick and brown stone residence of 4,700 square feet.

- 2 frame and full basement (stone) Gate Houses, 18' x 24', sheds and fire places in both houses.
- A pond of 24,000 sq. feet, fed by natural springs, has stone retaining wall and Picturesque ravine, all surrounded by trees.
- A brick Smoke House 12'X12'
- In rear of residence, all connected, large wood shed, ice storage, wagon house, tool storage, chicken house and the old plastered and finished outhouse.
- Upper barn 4,000 sq. ft. with wagon room, tool and grain-storage, hay loft, horse stalls, box stall, wagon houses.
- About 900 feet in rear of residence and in an elliptically layed out cluster of pine trees, the grave and marble monument of hon. Peter Van Ness and wife with full description of the life and work of Peter Van Ness.
- Keeper's house, 8 room and bath, store rooms, full stone basement with pump and tank and pipe furnace-wood shed and carriage house.

- Adjoining house for carriages and carpenter shop, chicken houses, open covered shed, cow stalls, tool and machine storage room. Tank and running water from spring.

- Lower Black Barn, about 50' x 60' and extension, very high and of heavy timber construction, planned and strapped, for hay and grain storage and full wagon-load storage, has part stone basement. Exterior covered with mill-run, (moulded and concave) to[n]gued and grooved vertical pine boarding (Rare).

- Note: In one of the hay fields (place known) below ground, may be found the foundations of an old building, a landmark and former property of an Indian, brick unearthed, old hand-made brick.

- The Residence, (4,700 sq. ft.), which includes furniture, mirrors, carpets etc. is a two-story, attic and basement structure. Heavy stone basement walls, all in perfect condition, still level plumb and massive\* in construction (except a few bricks of tower wall, damaged by water and frost, caused by leak in roof gutter of tower) Details of brick, stone and wood-work throughout are harmonious and correct in keeping with the general design of the edifice.

The exterior brick walls require only scraping down, and- No painting.

The floor timbers are heavy (Attic timbers 3"x12"-18" c.) Basement jambs and heads of doors, oak 6"x9", some wooden locks are still in place in basement and attic.

Basement doors of rooms are of fine Colonial design and construction and in perfect condition.

Note: THE WORD "PERFECT" IS HERE USED IN CO[M]PARISON TO MODERN NEW YORK, which, however is far inferior to the old work of the mansion here described.

Knobs etc. are bronze, heavy silver plated.

Front door has old, chased bronze, silver plated knocker of 1797 wgt iron angle hinges, heavy iron rim lock, bronze key, wght iron latch for lower part of Dutch Door.

Front rooms have gilded frame mirrors, reaching from floor to ceiling.

The main front hall -paper is imported from France, depicting hunting scenes of deer- boar and- duck-hunting, villages, and farm scenes.

\*\*\*ReF, Hall wall paper see publ. by Nancy McClellan Int. Decorator, (Albany Library).

There are about 18 fire places in building, with mostly marble mantles. To reproduce carved "green room" marble mantle would cost not less than \$1,000, the reproduction of one hall trim would cost about \$400.

There is also on place the large centre chandelier of wght iron and chased bronze ornaments; with oil lamps and chimneys.

Painting of interior wood work is in good condition.

There are a number of other features not mentioned here such as, the 3" solid walnut door of den to private hall, solid paneled outside shutters, fire place with outside air circulation etc, etc.

The pot furnace still in place and in good condition, is a Boyington [Boynton] furnace of 1854.

Basement Kitchen has an interesting cast iron (Gothic Style) range and baker's oven, built into fire place opening.

A heavy 60 gal. copper boiler with Van Buren's name, also his metal-lined wooden bath tub, are at property.

The old extra heavy lead soil line and traps, (also other lines) are still in place at location of his bath room, a masterpiece of plumbing work. The metal lined supply tank over Van Buren's private toilet is still in place.

The large bronze bell in tower is still being used to call the farm hands to meals, it has a sound that carries one back to the former days.

The tower stairs are a masterpiece of unsupported stair work.

To reproduce the Building in its entirety would cost not less than \$150,000.

Repairs required to brick and plasterwork, painting, new heating and electric-system, and renovation of hallpaper, can be done for \$10,000. The hall paper will not withstand another winter of single pipe furnace heating.

Very truly yours,

Clementine DeProsse

## APPENDIX E

Indenture between George Caines and Martin Van Buren, July 8, 1814, with list of law books serving as collateral (LC-VB). When Caines defaulted on the loan, the books became Van Buren's. Some have survived (see Appendix F).

This Indenture made the Eighth Day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fourteen between George Caines of the city of Hudson Esquire of the one part and Martin Van Buren of the same place Esquire of the other part Whereas the said George Caines by his Bond bearing even date with deed executed immediately before these presents, is and stands holden unto the said Martin in the penal sum of six thousand Dollars, with Condition thereunder written for the payment of the sum of two thousand nine hundred & forty Dollars In three years from the Date thereof with Interest to be computed in manner following viz, On the sum of Two Thousand Dollars, at the Rate of Seven per cent, and on the Remainder at the rate of Three and one half per cent until the same becomes due, and thereafter at the rate of Seven per cent as by Reference being had to the said Bond will more fully appear. Now this Indenture witnesseth that for the further securing payment of the said sum of money and the interest unto the said Martin, his executors, Heirs Administrators and assigns, according to the true intent of the said Bond, and for the divers other good causes and considerations him thereunto moving He the said George Caines hath Granted Bargained Sold assigned and Set over and by these presents, doth grant, bargain, Sell, assign and Set over and Deliver in due form of Law unto the said Martin Van Buren all & singular the Books, Goods and Chattels in the Schedule or Inventory hereunder written which said Goods & Chattels are now in the possession of the said Martin & all the Right, Interest & benefit and advantage of him, the said George Caines, of in and to the said hereby granted premises, To Have & To Hold receive occupy & enjoy all the said hereby granted premises to & for the only use and benefit of him, the said Martin Van Buren, his Executors, administrators and assigns, forever hereafter, as & for his and their own proper goods and chattels; and the said George Caines, for himself, his executors, administrators and assigns all & singular the hereby bargained goods and chattels unto the said Martin Van Buren, his Heirs Executors & administrators against all and every person & persons.



Provided always & these presents are upon those conditions, that if the said George Caines...shall and do well and truly pay to the said Martin Van Buren...the said sum of money mentioned in the said bond with the interest thereon, at the time stipulated for the condition of the said Bond, according to the true intent thereof, that then as well these Presents as also the said Bond, shall be considered of no effect, and that the said Goods and Chattels...shall be delivered by the said Martin Van Buren to the said George Caines, anything to the contrary thereof herein contained notwithstanding. And that in case Default shall be made in the payment...and in case that no agreement shall be made in the meantime...for the final purchase of the said Goods and Chattels...it shall & may be lawful for the said Martin Van Buren...to sell & dispose of the same at public auction or Vendue to the highest Bidder therefor, after having given three weeks fair and public notice of the said sale...and out of the money...to pay & retain to him & themselves the said sums of money...& all reasonable charges & expenses touching the same; thereafter rendering to the said George Caines...the over plus monies (if any should there be) ...and lastly it is covenanted & agreed between the parties...that the said M.V.B. shall continue in the said occupation possession & enjoyment of the said Goods & Chattels...until the time limited for the payment of the said money and in case Default shall be made in the payment thereof until the time appointed for the sale....

Schedule and Inventory of Books, being the goods & chattels granted Bargained Sold assigned Set over & Delivered by George Caines to Martin Van Buren this eighth day of July One Thousand Eight Hundred & fourteen, now in the possession of the said Martin, and particularly referred to in the above indenture.

[Note: the numbers in the left-hand column have been assigned for ease in cross-referencing]

# Volumes

1.	Terms of the Law	1
2.	Laws of Kentucky	1
3.	Rules of Court	1
4.	Catalogue of Law Books	1
5.	Constitution of the United States	1
6.	Pocket Conveyancer	1
7.	Attornies Pocket Book	1
8.	" " "	2
9.	Gilbert's Common Pleas	1
10.	Mirroure of Justice	1
11.	Bridgeman on the Study of Law	1
12.	Special Verdict	1
13.	Adger [?] on Courts Martial	1
14.	Constitution of Tennessee	1
15.	Clerk's Magazine	1
16.	Noy's Maxims	1
17.	Viner's Abridgement	24
18.	Supplement to D[itt]o	6
19.	Burrows' Settlement Cases	1
20.	United States Laws	6
21.	Laws of New York	3
22.	Do. Do.	5
23.	Do. 1807 Sess. 30	1
24.	Do. 1809 Sess. 32	1
25.	Do. 1810 Sess. 33	1
26.	Do. 1811 Sess. 34	1
27.	Do. 1813 Sess. 36	1
28.	Statutes of Connecticut	1
29.	Laws of Rhode Island	1
30.	Do. of New Hampshire	1
31.	Read's Digest	1

32.	Trials per Pais	2	65.	Gilbert's Tenures	1
33.	Barton on Free Commerce	1	66.	Woodfall's Ten. Law	1
34.	Smith's abridgment of public acts	1	67.	Fearn on Remainders	1
35.	Original communications	1	68.	Preston on Shelly's Case	1
36.	Pothier on Obligations	1	69.	Cruise on Real Property	6
37.	Legal recreations	1	70.	Watkins on Descents	1
38.	Blackstone's tracts	2	71.	Dalrymple's Feudal Propr.	1
39.	Law Journal 1803	2	72.	Caines' Practice	1
40.	Brooke's Gazetteer	1	73.	Practical Forms, S.C.	1
41.	American Negotiator	1	74.	Tidd's Practice 2 sets	4
42.	Coxe's America	1	75.	Do. Appendix	1
43.	Blount's Pract. Navigator	1	76.	Impey's Practice	2
44.	Dictionary of merchandz.	1	77.	Do. Modern Pleader	1
45.	Molloy's do. Jure maritime	2	78.	Tidd's Practical Forms	1
46.	American Coast Pilot	1	79.	Appendix to Tidd	1
47.	Kelham's Norman Dictionary	1	80.	Fellow's Practice	2
48.	N. York Cases in Error	1	81.	Attorney's Practice of C. Pleas	1
49.	Montagu on Bankrupt Laws	1	82.	Richardson's Com. Pleas	2
50.	Rutherford Natural Law	2	83.	Constitution of the N. Am. Colonies	1
51.	[Lesples Delcorder ?]	1	84.	Wyche's Practice	1
52.	Reports in Chancery	3	85.	Forms K. B.	1
53.	Lutwyches Reports	2	86.	Practical Register	1
54.	Instructor Clericalis	7	87.	English Pleader	1
55.	Dialogue on Laws of Engld.	4	88.	Rules K. B. & Com. Pleas	1
56.	De La Saisee	2	89.	Harrison's Chancery Practice	2
57.	Coke upon Littleton	7	90.	Hynd's Chancery	1
58.	Dyer's Reports	2	91.	Turner's Chancery	2
59.	Do. Do.	1	92.	Practical Register, Wyatt's	1
60.	Fitzherbert Nr. Brevium	2	93.	Fowler's Exchequer Practice	2
61.	Coke's Reports	7	94.	Practice of the Spiritual Courts	1
62.	Croke's Rep. Elizabeth	2	95.	Complete Attorney & Solicitor	1
63.	Do. Jas. & Charles	2	96.	Plavey ainee Curia Cancellaria	1
64.	Saunders' Reports	2	97.	East's [?] Instructor in K. B. & C. P.	1

98.	Cursus Cancellariae	1	131.	Westhall on Insurance	1
99.	System of Pleading	1	132.	Roberts on Fraudulent Conveyances	1
100.	Hand's Rules K. B.	1	133.	Jones [?] on Bailments	1
101.	Rules of Court of Errors	1	134.	Nighmond on Bail	1
102.	Points in Law	1	135.	Montagu on Set Off	1
103.	Law of Evidence	1	136.	Doctor & Student	1
104.	[Banard's] Abstract	1	137.	Boot's Suit at Law	1
105.	Hale's Pleas of the Crown	2	138.	Cooke's Bankrupt Law	2
106.	Foster's Crown Law	1	139.	Rigdon's Corporations	2
107.	Hawkins' Pleas of the Crown	4	140.	Do. on Awards	1
108.	Leach's Crown Law	2	141.	Do. on Bills	1
109.	East's Pleas of the Crown	2	142.	Chitty on Do.	1
110.	Crown Circuit Companion	1	143.	Bayley on Do.	1
111.	Hale's Common Law	2	144.	Hunt on Annuities	1
112.	Bacon's Law Tracts	1	145.	Lawes on Pleading	1
113.	Wingate's Britton	1	146.	Gilbert on Replevin	1
114.	Bacon's Abridgement	7	147.	Watkins on Conveyancing	1
115.	Comyn's Digest	6	148.	Hullock's Law of Costs	1
116.	Raymond's Reports	3	149.	Legur [?] of Costs	1
117.	Strange's Reports	2	150.	Lofft's Reports	1
118.	Modern Reports	12	151.	Cowper's Do.	1
119.	Sugden's Law of Vendors	1	152.	Godbolt's Do.	1
120.	Gouldbro's Reports	1	153.	Andrews' Do.	1
121.	Roberts on Frauds	1	154.	Peake's Nisi Prius	1
122.	Do. on Wills	1	155.	The Englishman's Rights	1
123.	Park on Insurance 2 sets	2	156.	Showers' Cases	1
124.	Marshall on Do. 2 sets	4	157.	Brown's Reports	1
125.	Robinson's Admiralty Reports	6	158.	Vernon's Reports	2
126.	Marriott's Admiralty Decisions	1	159.	Ambler's Reports	1
127.	Do. Forms	1	160.	Cases in Chy	1
128.	Brown's Civ. & Adm. Law	2	161.	Precedents in Chancery	1
129.	Burlamaqui's Nat. Law	1	162.	Magens on Insurance	2
130.	Do. Polit. Law	1	163.	Wrightsons [?] Lectures	3

164.	Salkeld's Reports	3
165.	Comyn's Reports	2
166.	Showers' Reports	2
167.	Burrow's Do.	5
168.	Barnes' Notes	1
169.	Durnford & East's Reports	8
170.	Douglass's Reports	2
171.	Bridgman's Index High Court	3
172.	Martin's Law of Nations	1
173.	Sugden's Letters	1
174.	Cains' Reports	3
175.	N York Cases in Error	1
176.	Johnson's Cases	3
177.	Do. Reports	1
178.	Binney's Do.	5
179.	Harris' Do.	1
180.	Heming & Rumford Reports	4
181.	Mumford's Reports	1
182.	Day's Cases in Error of Do.	4
183.	Dallas Reports	4
184.	Cameron & Norwood Do.	1
185.	Reports Tempo Finch	1
186.	Barnardiston Reports	1
187.	Wilson's Reports	2
188.	Willes Reports	1
189.	H. Blackstone's Reports	2
190.	W. Blackstone's Do.	2
191.	Bosanquet & Puller Do.	3
192.	East's Reports	14
193.	New Reports of Bosanquet & Puller	3
194.	Taunton's Reports	2
195.	Pothier on Obligations	2
196.	Duke on Charitable Uses	1

197.	Preston on Conveyancing	1
198.	Newland on Contracts	1
199.	Comyn on Contracts	2
200.	Chitty on Pleading	2
201.	Brady on Distresses	1
202.	Sea Laws	1
203.	Selden's Fleeta	1
204.	De Jure Maritime & Navali	1
205.	Treatise on Pleading in Chy.	1
206.	Williams' Cases	4
207.	Ray's Reports	2
208.	Peter's Admiralty Decisions	2
209.	Bees iton [?] Reports	2
210.	Massachusetts Reports	8
211.	American Law Journal	4
212.	Cranch's Reports	6
213.	Taylor's Do.	1
214.	Addison's Do.	1
215.	Kirby's Do.	1
216.	Washington's Reports	2
217.	Pennington's Do.	1
218.	Clerk's Assistant	1
219.	Decisions Deld. in May Court	1
220.	Cooper's Bankrupt Laws	1
221.	Call's Reports	3
222.	Haywood's Reports	2
223.	Slit's [?] Reports	3
224.	Study of the Law	1
225.	Shaw's Justice	1
226.	Vesey's Reports	2
227.	Freeman's Reports	1
228.	Jenkins' Reports	1
229.	Cases Tempo King	1

230.	Wingate's Maxims	1			
231.	Hume on Crimes	2			
232.	Barrington on Statutes	1			
233.	Law Dictionary	1			
234.	Justinian's Institute	1			
235.	Corpus Juris Civilis	2			
236.	Pearce Mns Reports	3			
237.	Brown's Reports	4			
238.	Alleyn's Reports	3			
239.	Vernon's Reports	3			
240.	? & Lefroy's Reports	2			
241.	Vesey Senr. Reports in Chy.	11			
242.	Williams' Cases	1			
243.	Dickens' Reports	2			
244.	Anstruther's Reports	3			
245.	Digest of Chanc'y Reports	1			
246.	Corpus Equity Pleading	1			
247.	Vattel's Law of Nations	1			
248.	Powell on Devises	1			
249.	Powell on Powers	1			
250.	Powell on Contracts	1			
251.	Powell on Mortgages	2			
252.	Powell's Precedents	6			
253.	Cases & Opinions	2			
254.	Collectanea Juridica	2			
255.	Fearne's Contingent Remainders	1			
256.	Do. Executory Devises	1			
257.	Do. Posthumous Works	1			
258.	Cruise on Fines	1			
259.	Do. on Reversions	1			
260.	Do. on ?	1			
261.	Saunders on Uses	1			
262.	Gilbert's Cases in Law & Equity	1			
263.	Fonblanque's Treatise of Equity	2			
264.	Roper on Legacies	1			
265.	Do. Do.	2			
266.	Do. Revocations	1			
267.	Toller's Law of Exers.	1			
268.	Runninton on Ejectment	1			
269.	Barton's Suit	1			
270.	Abbot on Shipping	1			
271.	Wright's Tenures	1			
272.	Reeves' Laws of England	4			
273.	Do. Co. of Shipping	1			
274.	Morgan's Essays	3			
275.	Morgan Vade Mecum	2			
276.	Finch's Laws	1			
277.	Domat's Civil Law	2			
278.	Voet Pandecta	2			
279.	Bracton	1			
280.	Dictionaire Universaille	5			
281.	State Trials	11			
282.	Postlethwaite's Dict. of Commerce	2			
283.	Puffendorf Law of Nations	1			
284.	Grotius on War & Peace	1			
285.	Beawes Lex Mercatoria	1			
286.	Year Books	10			
287.	Plowden's Reports	1			
288.	Carthew's Reports	1			
289.	Levinz's Do.	1			
290.	Leonard's Reports	1			
291.	Sir Wm. Jones' Reports	1			
292.	Statutes at Large	8			
293.	Jacobs' Law Dictionary	1			
294.	Digest of Adjudged Cases	1			
295.	Cunningham's Law Dictionary	2			

296.	Bacon's Abridgement	5	329.	Officina Brevium	1
297.	Newman's Conveyancing	3	330.	Caites' Reports	1
298.	Repertorium Juridicum	1	331.	Fitzgibbon's Reports	1
299.	Touchstone	1	332.	Siderfin's Reports	1
300.	Lilly's Entries	1	333.	Aleyn's Reports	1
301.	Wood's Institutes	1	334.	Kelynge's Do.	1
302.	Carkesse's Laws of the Custom	1	335.	Anderson's Do.	1
303.	Brooke's Abridgement	1	336.	Styles' Reports	1
304.	Laws of Virginia	1	337.	Davis' Do.	1
305.	Gilbert's Law of Evidence	4	338.	Moore's Do.	1
306.	Espinasse's Nisi Prius	2	339.	Owen's Do.	1
307.	Law Grammar	1	340.	Ketly Do.	1
308.	Burns' Justice	4	341.	Latch's Do.	1
309.	Silwyn's Law of Nisi Prius	2	342.	Noy's Do.	1
310.	Lex Mercatoria American	2	343.	Lawe's Do.	1
311.	Cooton Do. Laws	1	344.	Blackstone's Commentaries	4
312.	Azuni Droit Maritime	2	345.	Woodison's Elements	1
313.	Commercial Code of France	1	346.	Sedgwick's Reports	1
314.	Brownlow's Declarations	1	347.	Hargraves' Arguments	1
315.	Coleman's Cases of Practice	1	348.	Do. Tracts	1
316.	Laws of Massachusetts	2	349.	Bathurst's Nisi Prius	1
317.	Graydon's Digest	2	350.	Laws of Maryland	2
318.	Omerizon	2	351.	Watkins' Digest of the Laws of Georgia	1
319.	Wentworth's Pleadings	10	352.	Public Laws of S. Carolina	1
320.	Laws on Pleading	1	353.	Laws of Delaware	2
321.	Espinasse's Nisi Prius	2	354.	Do. of New Jersey	1
322.	Buller's Nisi Prius	1	355.	Jones' Reports	1
323.	Espinasse's Reports	2	356.	Gilbert's Do.	1
324.	Do. Co.	4	357.	Hobart's Do.	1
325.	Campbell's Nisi Prius	2	358.	Raymond's Do.	1
326.	Law of Damages	1	359.	Levinz's Entries	1
327.	McNally on Evidence	2	360.	Rolle's Reports	2
328.	Parke's Evidence	2	361.	Fortescue De Legibus Angliae	1

362.	Do. Reports	1	395.	Ruvia [?] Juridica	1
363.	Littleton Do.	1	396.	Arrington's Penal Statutes	1
364.	Pollexfin's Do.	1	397.	Hern's Pleader	1
365.	Keilway's Reports	1			
366.	Ventris' Reports	1			
367.	Hardres' Reports	1			
368.	Skinner's Reports	1			
369.	Barnardiston's Reports	2			
370.	Cases Temp. Hardwick	1			
371.	Holt's Reports	1			
372.	Sayer's Do.	1			
373.	Palmer Do.	1			
374.	Parker's Do.	1			
375.	Bunbury's Do.	1			
376.	Bulstrode's Do.	1			
377.	Comberback's Do.	1			
378.	Vaughan's Do.	1			
379.	Rowlett's Tables of Interest	1			
380.	Rolle's Abridgement	1			
381.	Rastell's Entries	1			
382.	Coke Do.	1			
383.	Laws of North Carolina	1			
384.	Lutwyche's Reports	1			
385.	Registrum Brevium	1			
386.	Cliff's Entries	1			
387.	Swinburne of Wills	1			
388.	Keble's Reports	3			
389.	Lilly's Practical Register	2			
390.	Benloe & Dallas Reports	1			
391.	Booth on Real Actions	1			
392.	Hansard's Entries	1			
393.	Dalton's Sheriff	1			
394.	Ley's Reports	1			

## APPENDIX F

Inventory of books from Martin Van Buren's law library given by Silas Brownell in 1904 to the Bar Association of the City of New York.

## Van Buren Collection

## Bar Association of the City of New York

Note: The numbers in the first column refer to the list of books Van Buren got from George Caines; see Appendix E.

<u>Caines #</u>		<u>Year</u>	<u>Vols.</u>
C396	Addington. Peral statutes.	Ed. 4, 1795	1
C238, 333	Aleyn. Select cases, 1646-48.	1688	1
C159	Ambler. Reports, 1737-83	1790	1
C7, 8	Attorney's compleat pocket book. Pt.1	Ed. 4, 1756	1
C114, 296	Bacon. Abridgment.	Ed. 4, 1778	5
C369	Barnardiston. Reports, King's Bench, 1726-34	1744	2
C186	Barnardiston. Reports, Chancery, 1740-41	1742	1
C232	Barrington. Observations upon the statutes.	Ed. 5, 1796	1
C349	Bathurst. Trials at nisi prius.	1767	1
C285	Beawes. Lex mercatoria.	Ed. 4, 1783	1
C390	Benloe & Dalison. Reports, 1532-79	1689	1
C189	Blackstone (Henry). Reports, 1788-96.	v. 2 1796 Ed. 2, v. 1 1793	2
C346	Blackstone (Henry). Remarks, critical and miscellaneous, on the Commentaries of Sir William Blackstone; by James Sedgwick.	Ed. 2, 1805	1
C190	Blackstone (Sir William). Reports, 1746-79	1781	2
C391	Booth. Real actions.	1701	1
C191	Bosanquet & Puller. Reports, 1796-1804	1800-04	3



C303	Brooke. Abridgement.	1586	1	C331	Fitz-Gibbon. Reports, 1727-32.	1732	1
C157	Brown. Reports, 1701-79.	1779-83	7	C361	Fortescue (Sir John). De laudibus angliae.	Ed. 2, 1741	1
C314?	Brownlow. Judiciall writs.	1662	1	C362	Fortescue. Reports, 1695-1738.	1748	1
C376	Bulstrode. Reports, 1609-26.	1657-59 3 pts. in.	1	C227	Freeman. Reports, 1670-1706.	1742	1
C375	Bunbury. Reports, 1713-41.	1755	1	C262, 356	Gilbert. Reports, 1705-26.	Ed. 2, 1742	1
C302	Carkesse. Laws of the customs.	1726 & Sup. 1737	1	C284	Grotius. Rights of war and peace.	1738	1
C330	Carter. Reports, 1664-75.	1688	1	C111	Hale. History of the common law of England.	Ed. 2, 1716	1
C288	Carthew. Reports, 1686-1700.	Ed. 2, 1741	1		Hammond. Criminal code; burglary.	1826	1
C160	Cases in chancery, 1660-97.	1735 3 pts. in	1		Hammond. Criminal code; coining.	1825	1
C57,61, 382 ?	Coke. Institutes. Pt. 2 Coke. Institutes. Pt. 4	Ed. 4, 1671 1644	1 1		Hammond. Criminal code; forgery.	1826	1
C377	Comberbach. Reports, 1685-98.	1724	1	C392	Hansard. Entries.	1685	1
C281	Complete collection of state trials, vols. 1-8,11	Ed. 4, 1776-81	11	C367	Hardres. Reports, 1655 (2 copies)	1693	1
C28	Connecticut. Acts and laws.	1805	1	C370	Hardwicke. Cases, 1733-38.	1770	1
C235	Corpus juris civilis. Freiesleben.	1748	2	C347	Hargrave. Juridical arguments. v. 1	1797	1
C151	Cowper. Reports, 1774-78.	1783	1	C348	Hargrave. Tracts. v. 1	1787	1
C295	Cunningham. Law dictionary. v. 2	1783	1	C234	Harris. Translation of Justinian's Institutions.	Ed. 2, 1761	1
C393	Dalton. Law of sheriffs.	1700	1	C340	Hetley. Reports, 1627-31.	1657	1
C294	Digest of adjudged cases.	1775	1	C357	Hobart. Reports, 1603-25.	Ed. 5, 1724	1
C277	Domat. Civil law. Strahan.	Ed. 2, 1737	2	C371	Holt. Reports, 1688-1710.	1738	1
C292	England. Statutes at large. v.1-3, 5, 8-9	1735-59	6	C231	Hume. Commentaries on crimes.	1797	2
C276[?]	Finch. Reports, 1673-80.	1725	1	C383	Iredell. Laws of North Carolina (with appendix 1791-99).	1791	1
				C293	Jacob. Law dictionary.	Ed. 1-2, 1797; 1809	4
					Jefferson. Manual of parliamentary practice.	1801	1

C228	Jenkins. Reports, 1220-1623.	Ed. 3, 1771	1	C21	New York. Laws. Livingston & Smith.	1752	1
C355	Jones (Sir Thomas). Reports, 1667-84.	Ed. 2, 1729	1	C21	New York. Laws. Livingston & Smith.	1762	1
C292	Jones (Sir William). Reports, 1620-40.	1675	1	C297	Newnam. Complete conveyancer.	1781	3
C202	Justice. General treatise of the dominion and laws of the sea.	1705	1	C342	Noy. Reports, 1559-1649.	1656	1
C388	Keble. Reports, 1661-79.	1685	3	C329	Officina brevium.	1679	1
C365	Keilwey. Reports, 1496-1531.	Ed. 3, 1688	1	C339	Owen. Reports, 1556-1615.	1656	1
C334	Kelyng. Reports, 1662-69.	1708	1	C373	Palmer. Reports, 1619-29.	1688	1
C350	Kilty. Laws of Maryland. v. 1-2	1799-1800	2	C374	Parker. Reports of cases concerning the revenue, 1678-1767.	1776	1
C343	Lane. Reports, 1605-11.	1657	1	C287	Plowden. Commentaries or reports, 1550-80.	1779 2 pts. in	1
C341	Latch. Cases, 1624-27.	1661	1	C364	Pollexfen. Arguments and reports, 1669-85.	1702	1
C290	Leonard. Reports, 1540-1615.	Ed. 2, 1687 4 pts. in	1	C161	Precedents in chancery, 1689-1722.	1733	1
C289	Levinz. Reports, 1660-96.	Ed. 2, 1722 3 pts. in	1	C283	Pufendorf. Law of nature and nations. Ed. 5,	1749	1
C394	Ley. Reports, 1608-29.	1659	1	C381	Rastell. Collection of entries.	1670	1
C300	Lilly. Entries.	Ed. 4, 1771	1	C116, 358	Raymond (Sir Thomas). Reports, 1660-83.	Ed. 2, 1743	1
C389	Lilly. Practical register.	Ed. 2, 1735	2	C385	Registrum omnium brevium tam originalium quam judicialium	Ed. 4, 1687	1
C363	Littleton. Reports, 1626-32.	1683	1	C380	Rolle. Abridgment des plusiers cases et resolutions del common ley.	1668 2 v. in	1
C384, 53?	Lutwyche. Reports, 1683-1704.	1718	1	C360	Rolle. Reports, 1614-16.	1675	1
C162	Magens. Essay on insurance.	1755	2	C360	Rolle. Reports, un continuation, 1618-25.	1676	1
C316	Massachusetts. Laws, 1780-1800.	1801	2	C280?	Savary. Universal dictionary of trade and commerce.	Ed. 2, 1757	2
C338	Moore. Cases, 1512-1621.	1663	1	C372	Sayer. Reports, 1751-56.	1775	1
C30	New Hampshire. Laws.	1797	1	C299	Sheppard. Touch-stone of common assurances.	Ed. 4, 1780	1
C27	New York. Digest. Johnson.	1813	1				
	New York. Acts of Assembly.	1726	1				
C22	New York. Laws. v. 2. Jones & Varick.	1789	1				

C156, 166	Shower. Cases in Parliament, 1694-99.	Ed. 3, 1740	1
C332	Siderfin. Reports, 1657-70.	1688-89 2 pts. in	1
C368	Skinner. Reports, 1681-97.	1728	1
C336	Style. Narrationes modernae; or Modern reports, 1646-55.	1658	1
C387	Swinburne. Treatise of testaments and last wills.	Ed. 6, 1743	1
C298	Tomlins. Repertorium juridicum. Pt. 1.	1786-87	1
	Trevett vs. Weeden. 1786.	1787	1
C378	Vaughan. Reports and arguments, 1665-74.	Ed. 2, 1706	1
C366	Ventris. Reports, 1668-91. Fourth impression.	1726 2 pts. in	1
	Vermont. Statutes.	1791	1
C158, 239	Vernon. Cases, 1680-1719.	1726-28	2
C226	Vesey, Sr. Cases, 1746-55.	Ed. 2, 1773	2
C304	Virginia. Collection of acts in force.	1794	1
	Virginia. Debates of the Convention of Virginia.	Ed. 2, 1805	1
C278	Voet. Commentarius ad pandectas.	Ed. 3, 1716	2
C351	Watkins. Digest of the laws of Georgia.	1800	1
C188	Willes. Reports, 1737-58.	1799	1
C187	Wilson (George). Reports, 1742-74.	Ed. 2, 1779-84 3 pts. in	2
C230	Wingate. Maxims of reason.	1658	1
C301	Wood. Institute of the laws of England.	Ed. 4, 1728	1
C286	Year books, 1307-1557.	1678-80 11 pts. in	10

VAN BUREN FAMILY AT LINDENWALD

MARTIN VAN BUREN ("The Ex-P", "The Ex", "Pa", "Grandpa", "Poppie")	July, 1839--dinner June, 1841-July, 1862--lived at Lindenwald. Toured Southwest Feb.-July, 1842 and Europe, March, 1853-June, 1855. Occasionally wintered in New York.
ABRAHAM VAN BUREN (son) ("The Major", "The Colonel")	July, 1841-1862--extended visits. Served in Mexican War--June, 1846-Feb. 1848; Toured Europe May, 1854-1856.
ANGELICA VAN BUREN (daughter-in-law)	July, 1841-1862--extended visits. Toured Europe May, 1854-1856.
SINGLETON VAN BUREN (grandson) ("Baby")	July, 1841-1862--extended visits. Attended school in Europe, 1854-1856.
MARTIN VAN BUREN III (grandson) ("Baby", "Matty", "Mat")	1844-1862--extended visits. Attended school in Europe, 1854-1856.
TRAVIS COLES VAN BUREN (grandson) ("Travy")	1848-1862--extended visits. Europe, 1854-1856.
JOHN VAN BUREN (son) ("Prince John")	July, 1839--dinner June, 1841-1862--visits. 1863--lived at Lindenwald.
ELIZABETH VAN BUREN (daughter-in-law)	June, 1841-1844--visits.
ANNA VANDERPOEL VAN BUREN (granddaughter)	1842-1862--visits. 1863--lived at Lindenwald with father.
MARTIN VAN BUREN, JR. (son) ("Martin", "Mat", "Old Duke")	summer, 1841-March, 1853--lived at Lindenwald. Occasionally wintered in New York or Silver Sprin Toured Europe March, 1853-March, 1855.
SMITH THOMPSON VAN BUREN (son) ("Smith", "S.T. Van Buren")	July, 1839--dinner summer, 1841-1849--visits. Oct., 1849-1862--lived at Lindenwald. Occasionally wintered in New York with family.
ELLEN VAN BUREN (daughter-in-law)	1842-1849--visits.
ELLEN JAMES VAN BUREN (granddaughter) ("Ellie")	1844-1849--visits. 1849-1862--lived at Lindenwald.
EDWARD LIVINGSTON VAN BUREN (grandson) ("Eddy")	1848-1849--visits 1849-1862--lived at Lindenwald.

APPENDIX G

Children and Grandchildren of Martin Van Buren

CATHERINE BARBER VAN BUREN (granddaughter) 1849-1862--lived at Lindenwald.  
("Kitty")  
HENRIETTA VAN BUREN (daughter-in-law) Feb., 1855-1862--lived at Lindenwald.  
MARTIN VAN BUREN IV (grandson) 1856-1862--lived at Lindenwald.  
ELIZA ECKFORD VAN BUREN (granddaughter) 1858-1862--lived at Lindenwald.  
("Bessie")  
MARION IRVING VAN BUREN (granddaughter) 1860-1862--lived at Lindenwald.

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DIERCKE VAN BUREN HOES (sister) 1857-1862--extended visits.

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CHRISTINA CANTINE (niece) 1850-1862--extended visits.

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LAWRENCE VAN BUREN (brother) 1841-1862--visits.  
("Uncle Larry")

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## APPENDIX H

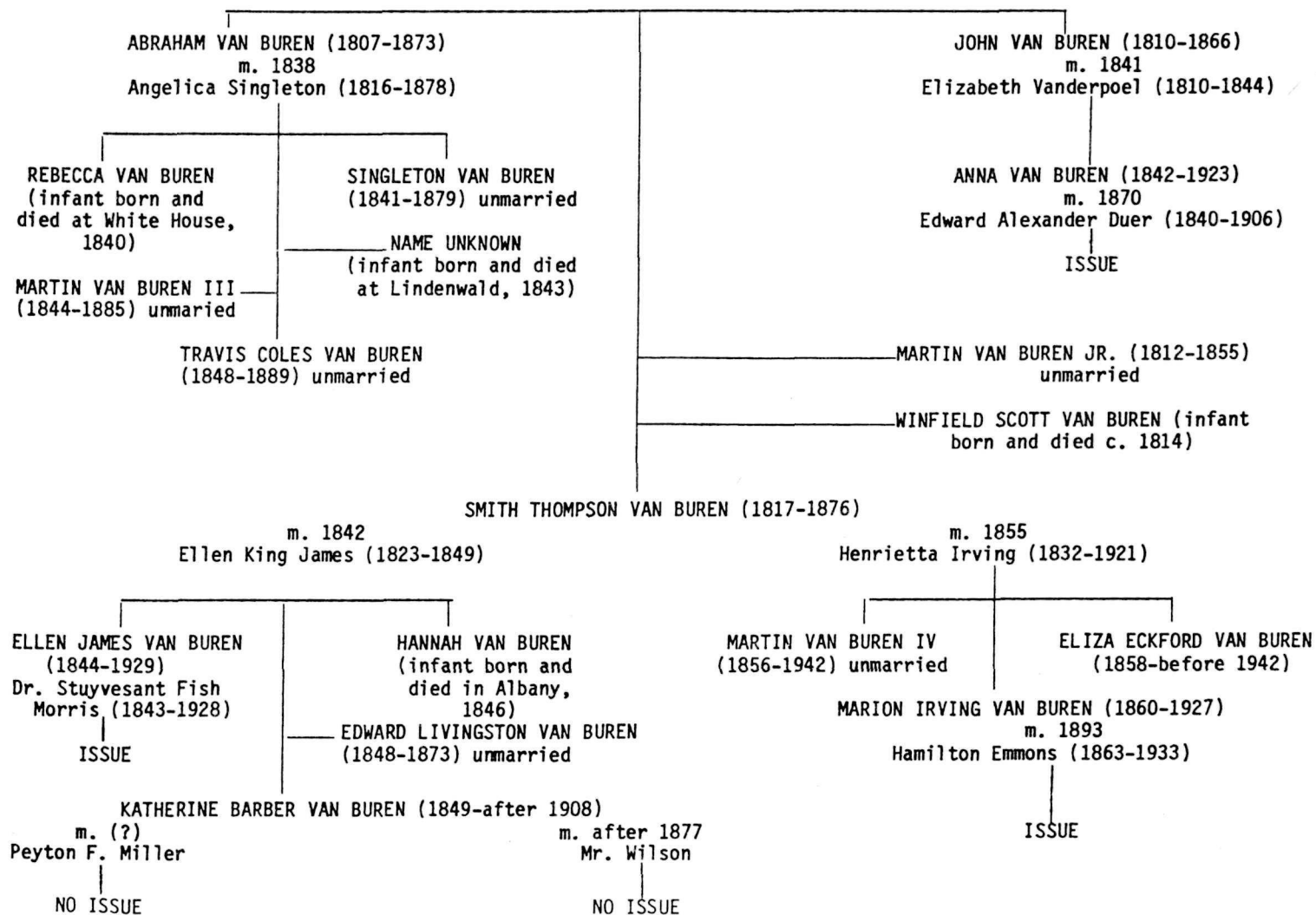
### Chronology of Van Buren Family Members at Lindenwald

VAN BUREN GENEALOGY

MARTIN VAN BUREN (1782-1862)

m. 1807

Hannah Hoes (1783-1819)



## APPENDIX I

Servants at Lindenwald with added reference to Patricia West's  
study, "The House Servants of Lindenwald"



# SERVANTS AT LINDENWALD

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name/Description</u>	<u>Dates of Employment</u>	<u>Reason for Leaving</u>
nursemaid for Singleton	Rosanna	c.June-Oct., 1843	?
nurse/housekeeper for Ang.	Mrs. Bentley	July, 1843	temporary position
nursemaid for Singleton	Alice	Nov., 1843-Sept. 1845	sick, returned to NY
girl to sew & assist Alice	English, 15	June, 1845-?	
nursemaid for MVB III	Ella	Sept., 1845-?	
housemaid	?	?-June, 1843	dismissed
housemaid (successor)	?, engaged in NY	June, 1843-?	
chambermaid	Irish, "devout," bully	?-Jan., 1845	suspended, quarrel
cook	"excellent"	summer, 1843-Nov., 1843	disliked climate
cook (her successor)		Nov., 25, 1843-?	
cook	"Devil in her eye"	?-Jan., 1845	suspended, quarrel
cook		?-Sept., 1845-1	
waitress	"female"	?-Jan., 1845-?	
governess	Rose Dalton	?-Sept., 1858-?	
valet to Singleton	George	before June 1843	
valet to Singleton	Thomas (Tommy), 13	June 1843-?	
waiter	?	?-Aug., 1843	fired, drunk
dining room servant (male)	"accomplished"	?-Nov., 1843	dismissed, impertinent (also intemperate)
coachman	Bell	?-1843-?	
gardener	old Frenchman	?-1845-?	
servant to MVB	James	?-1856-60-?	

# References to Servants

June 19, 1838 HB to MVB NYSL	housekeeper for VB in Washington	Jan 4, 1845 MVB to JKP MORR NHP	cook with the Devil in her eye and devout Irish chambermaid suspended, unless I am appeased; female waitress escaped unhurt
Dec 18, 1838  VBLC	Miss Mason housekeeper	June 7, 1845 ASVB to mother DLC 9893	English girl of 15 for sewing and to assist Alice  different from George's entertainments
Nov 11, 1840 ASVB to mother DLC 9861, 9862	Maria makes up house linen for Lindenwald Maria has become spoiled	Sept 20, 1845 ASVB to mother DLC 9894	Ella, new nurse for MVB III Singleton's nursemaid sick, returned to NY, haven't engaged another; Singleton brings chops to the cook; servants, particularly coachman are fond of him
June 20 & 22, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC 9876	engaged in NY a little boy as successor to George in valetship to Baby; Singleton frolics with "Tommy" of whom he is very fond. housemaid dismissed, in interval till one engaged in NY comes, Rosanna undertakes chamber work, nurses me, cares for Baby and his man Thomas (13)	Jan 1, 1846 WGB to LCD WHS	old Frenchman gardener
July 9, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC	Rosanna	July 5, 1848 ASVB to sister DLC 9895	gardener's and farmer's children
July 21, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC 9880	Rosanna; nurse Mrs. Bentley also did sewing, cooking, sweeping	Aug 27, 1850 CENSUS	Sarah O'Conner, Hannah O'Conner, Catherine Link, Catherine Jordan, Percival Michael,* Allan Kearn
Aug 24, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC 9881	waiter returned drunk from NY & was forthwith packed off; have been obliged to manage without one with Bell's (coachman) assistance and Tommy's	1855 CENSUS	Sarah Hail, Margaret Kelley, Mary McEntire, Ellen McDonough
Sept 3, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC 9883	Rosanna and Baby at Charlestown Navy Yard	1860 CENSUS	Rose Dalton (Governess), Catherine Kelley, Mary Kelley, Bridget Clary, May O'Brien, Ann Gray, Margaret Neeling
Oct 19, 1843 G Welles Journal	shown in by a boy	June 15, 1856 MVB to FPB VBLC Jan 18, 1860 MVB Will	my man James  my faithful James
Nov 25, 1843 ASVB to mother DLC 9888	Rosanna left; 6 weeks without a nurse; Alice; obliged to dismiss dining room servant for impertinence to me, not till after he left did discover he was intemperate; an excellent cook who has been living with us all summer finds climate disagreeable, left us today; am at present installing her successor		
Dec 6, 1843 ASVB DLC 9889	Bell		

\*infant

PARTIAL LIST OF VISITORS TO LINDENWALD  
1841-1862

APPENDIX J

Partial List of Visitors to Lindenwald

Dr. Beekman, Rose Beekman (neighbors)  
Dr. George W. Bethune (clergyman)  
Mr. & Mrs. Francis P. Blair (journalist)  
L.D. Bradford  
William G. Bryan  
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin F. Butler (former law partner, former U.S. General and Secretary of War)  
Mr. & Mrs. Churchill C. Cambreleng (U.S. Congressman)  
Henry Clay (former U.S. Senator and Secretary of State)  
John A. Dix (U.S. Senator and future Secretary of Treasury)  
Judge Ellis and Nephew Charles  
Azariah Flagg (N.Y.S. Comptroller)  
Mr. & Mrs. French (relatives of Elizabeth Vanderpoel Van Buren)  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry D. Gilpin (former U.S. Attorney General)  
Richard B. Gooch  
George P.A. Healy (artist)  
Peter Hoes (relative)  
Mrs. Gabriel Irving (Henrietta Van Buren's mother)  
Gouverneur Kemble  
Jonathan Kent (millionaire)  
Governor William L. Marcy  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin (relatives of Governor Throop)  
Mrs. Sarah M. Maury and son (English traveler)  
Mary McDuffie (Angelica Van Buren's step-niece)  
James K. Paulding (author, former Secretary of the Navy); Willie Paulding  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel R. Poinsett (former Minister to Mexico and Secretary of War)  
Judge Richardson  
Colonel & Mrs. Richard Singleton (Angelica Van Buren's parents)  
J.L. Stevens (journalist)  
Governor Enos T. Throop  
Samuel J. Tilden (future N.Y. Governor and Presidential candidate)  
Richard Upjohn (architect)  
Dr. John Vanderpoel (family physician, Elizabeth Van Buren's uncle); Harriet Vanderpoel  
Gideon Welles (future Secretary of the Navy)  
Gorham A. Worth (banker, chronicler)  
Governor & Mrs. Silas Wright

## APPENDIX K

## List of Owners

LIST OF OWNERS

## Lindenwald Property

1664 -	1667?	William Powell
1667? -	1671	Denjke Powell
1671 -	1713	Jan Martense Van Alstyne
1713 -	c.1765	Thomas Lambert Van Alstyne
c.1765 -	c.1780	Lambert Thomas Van Alstyne
c.1780 -	1804	Peter Van Ness
1804 -	1824	William Peter Van Ness
1824 -	1839	William Paulding
1839 -	1862	Martin Van Buren
1862 -	1863	Martin Van Buren Estate
1863 -	1864	John Van Buren
1864 -	1867	Leonard Jerome
1867 -	1873	George Wilder
1873 -	1874	John Van Buren* & James Van Alstyne
1874 -	1917	Adam and Freeman Wagoner
1917 -	1922	Babscom Birney
1922 -	1925	Marian Birney
1925 -	1957	Clementine Birney DeProse et al.
1957 -	1973	Ken Campbell
1973 -	1976	National Parks Foundation
1976 -	Present	National Park Service

\*No relation to Martin Van Buren.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

## MANUSCRIPTS

### Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.

Martin Van Buren Papers in various collections

### Columbia County Courthouse, Hudson, N.Y.

Will of MVB

### Columbia County Historical Society, Kinderhook, N.Y.

Correspondence and accession records relating to Lindenwald and MVB

### Henry Francis DuPont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del.

Joseph Downs Manuscript and Microfilm Collection

### The Hermitage, Hermitage, Tennessee

Andrew Jackson account books; "Description of wedding of Rachel Jackson and Dr. John M. Lawrence"

### Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Martin Van Buren Papers in various collections (Buchanan, Cadwalader, Conarroe, Dreer, Gilpin, Lossing, Poinsett)

### Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Martin Van Buren Papers

### Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Blair Family Papers  
Andrew J. Donelson Papers  
Andrew Jackson Papers  
William L. Marcy Papers  
William C. Rives Papers  
Angelica Singleton Van Buren Papers  
Martin Van Buren Papers  
Gideon Welles Papers  
Levi Woodbury Papers

### Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, Kinderhook, N.Y.

Van Buren Family Papers

### Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.

Martin Van Buren Papers in various collections (Bancroft, Everett, Washburn, Warren)

### Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, N.J.

Martin Van Buren Papers

### National Archives

Int. Pub. Bldgs. & Grnds.

New York Public Library, New York N.Y.

James Barbour Papers  
Bryant-Godwin Collection  
Duyckinck Collection  
Emmet Collection  
Flagg Papers  
Gansevoort-Lansing Collection  
Harkness Collection  
Lee Kohns Memorial Collection  
Jackson-Lewis Papers  
Montague Collection  
T.H. Morrell Papers  
Myers Collection  
Presidents' Papers  
S.J. Tilden Papers  
Washington Irving Papers

New York State Library, Albany, N.Y.

Benjamin F. Butler Papers  
Martin Van Buren Papers  
Diary of Emilie Salles Vail, Vail Papers

Pennsylvania State University, Media, Pa.

Alexander Duer Harvey Collection  
Martin Van Buren Papers in miscellaneous collections  
Treadwell-Vanderpoel Papers

Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N.Y.

Martin Van Buren Papers in various collections

Princeton University Library, Princeton, N.J.

Blair-Lee Papers  
Butler Family Papers  
Throop-Martin Papers

Private Collections

John Van Buren Diary  
Martin Van Buren Papers

Sheldon Art Museum, Middlebury, Vt.

Silas Wright Papers

South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

Singleton Family Papers

University of North Carolina, Southern Historical Collection, Chapel Hill, N.C.

Charles L. Chandler Papers

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Gooch Family Papers

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