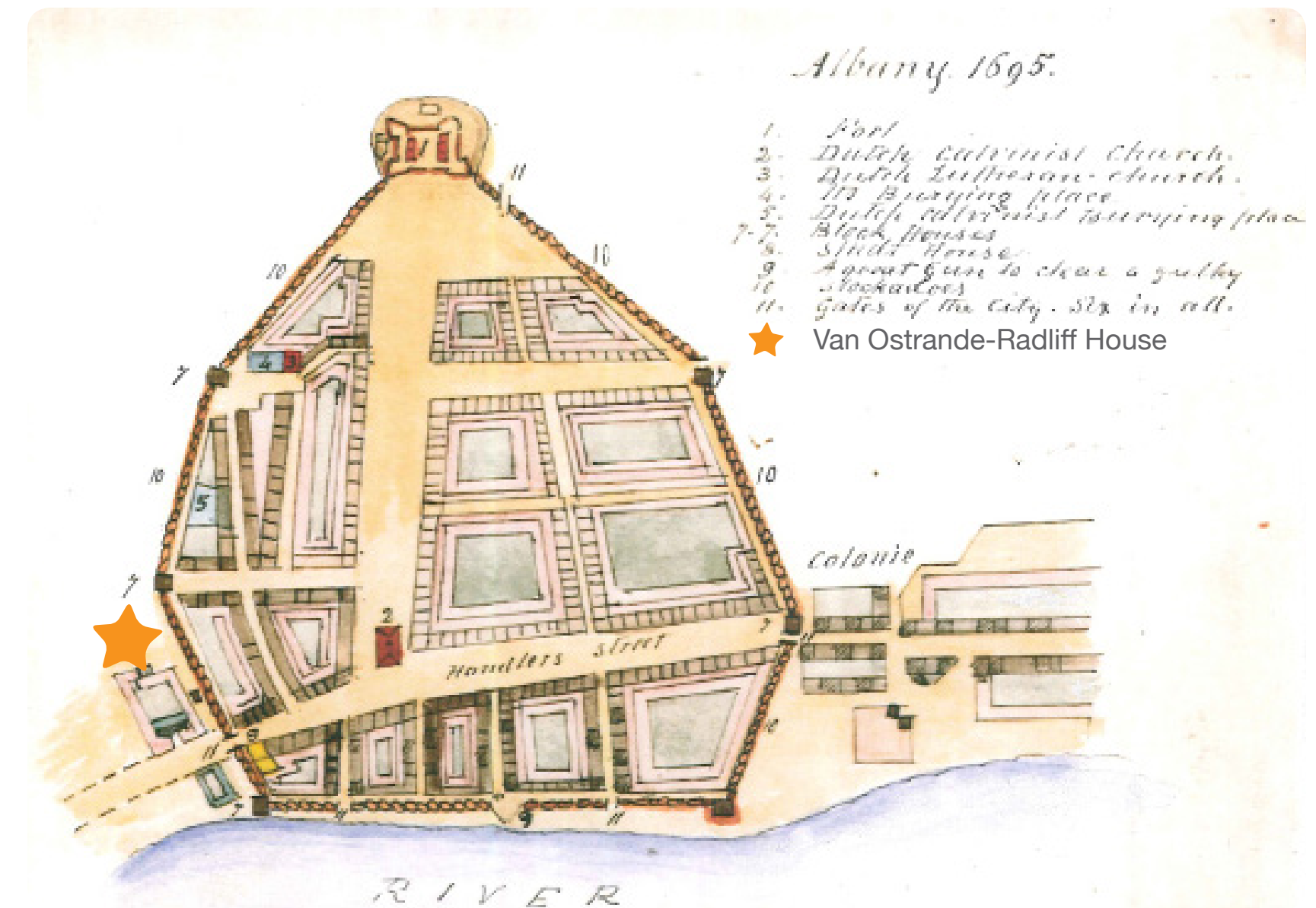


THE VAN OSTRANDE-RADLIFF HOUSE

The Van Ostrande-Radliff House was built in 1728 during Albany's culturally Dutch period that began in 1624 and extended long after the official end of Dutch rule in the region in 1664. The house's date of construction has been ascertained through documentary sources and corroborated by tree ring dating, or dendrochronology, performed on its framing members.

It is one of only a handful of North American urban Dutch houses to survive into the 21st Century.



New York State Archives



286 YEARS OF CHANGES

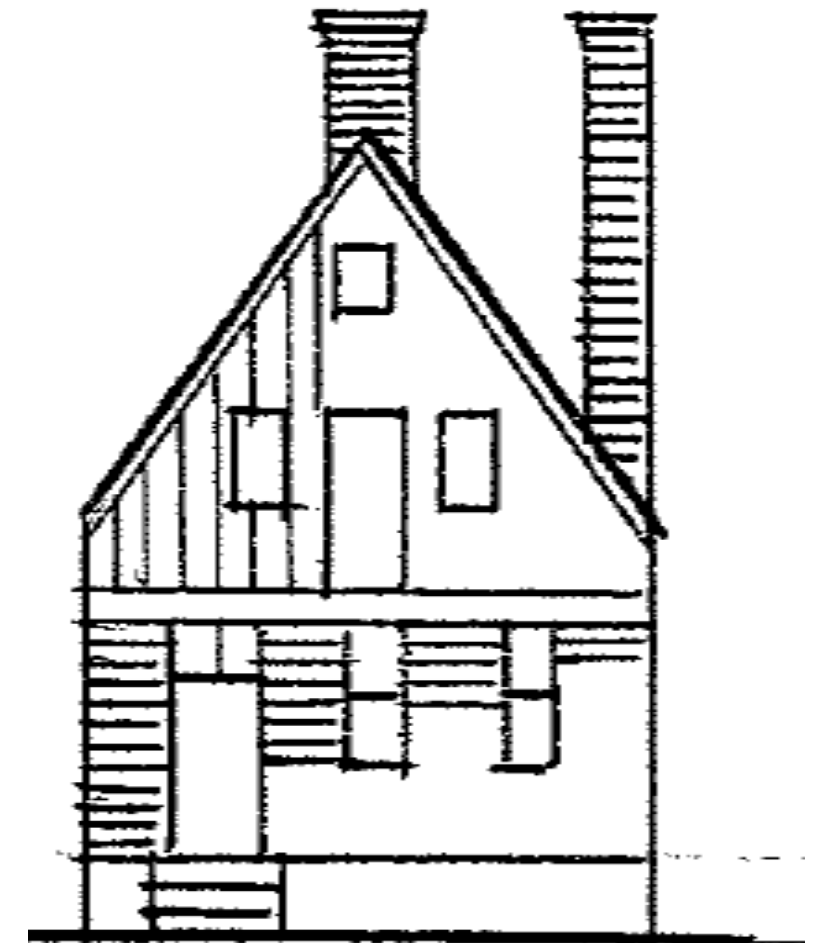
The Van Ostrande-Radliff House has had seven owners from Johannes Van Ostrande to Historic Albany Foundation.

Through the years, the building's use went from residential to industrial to commercial.

As the use changed, the House was also changed to meet the needs of the new use.



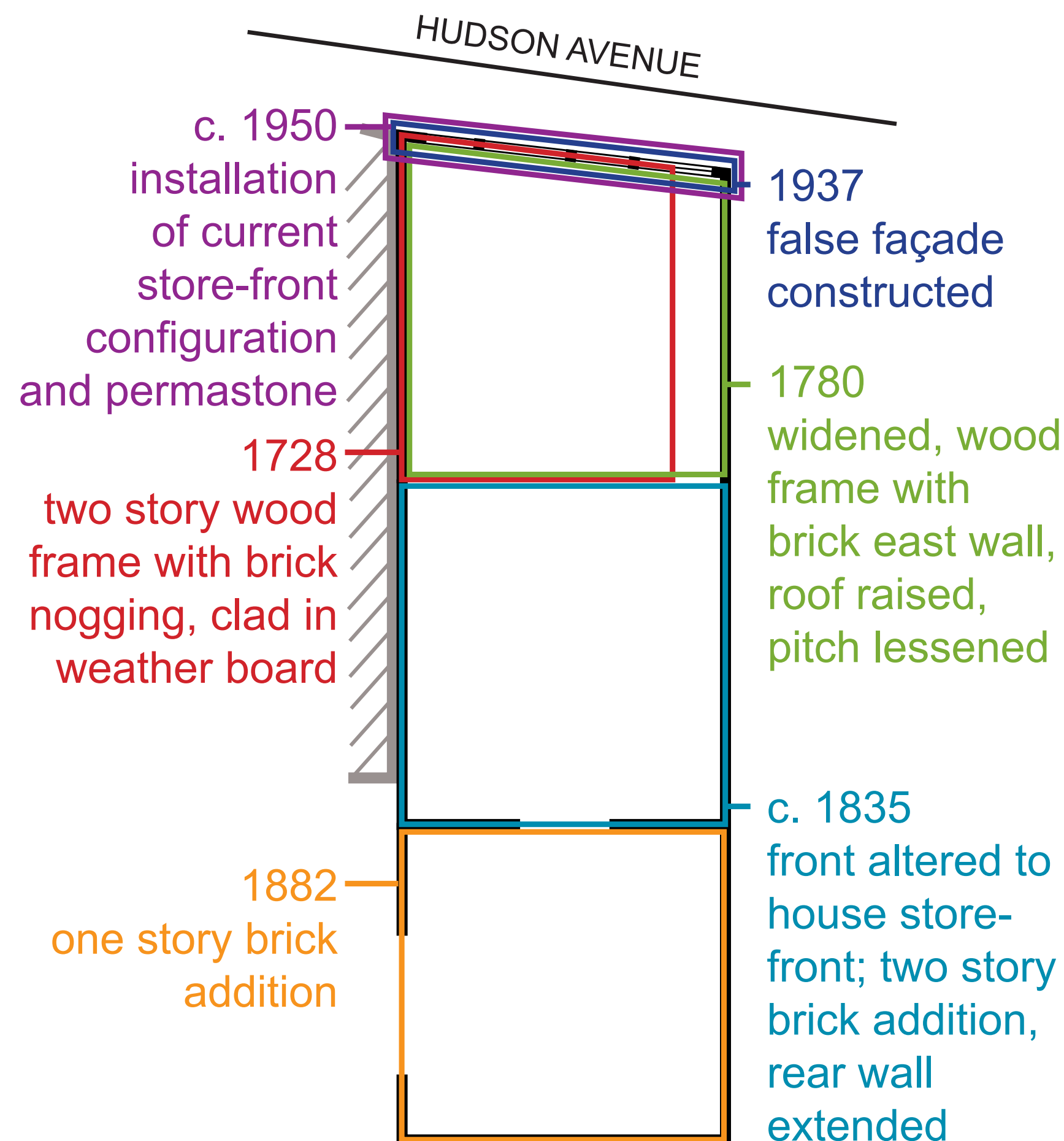
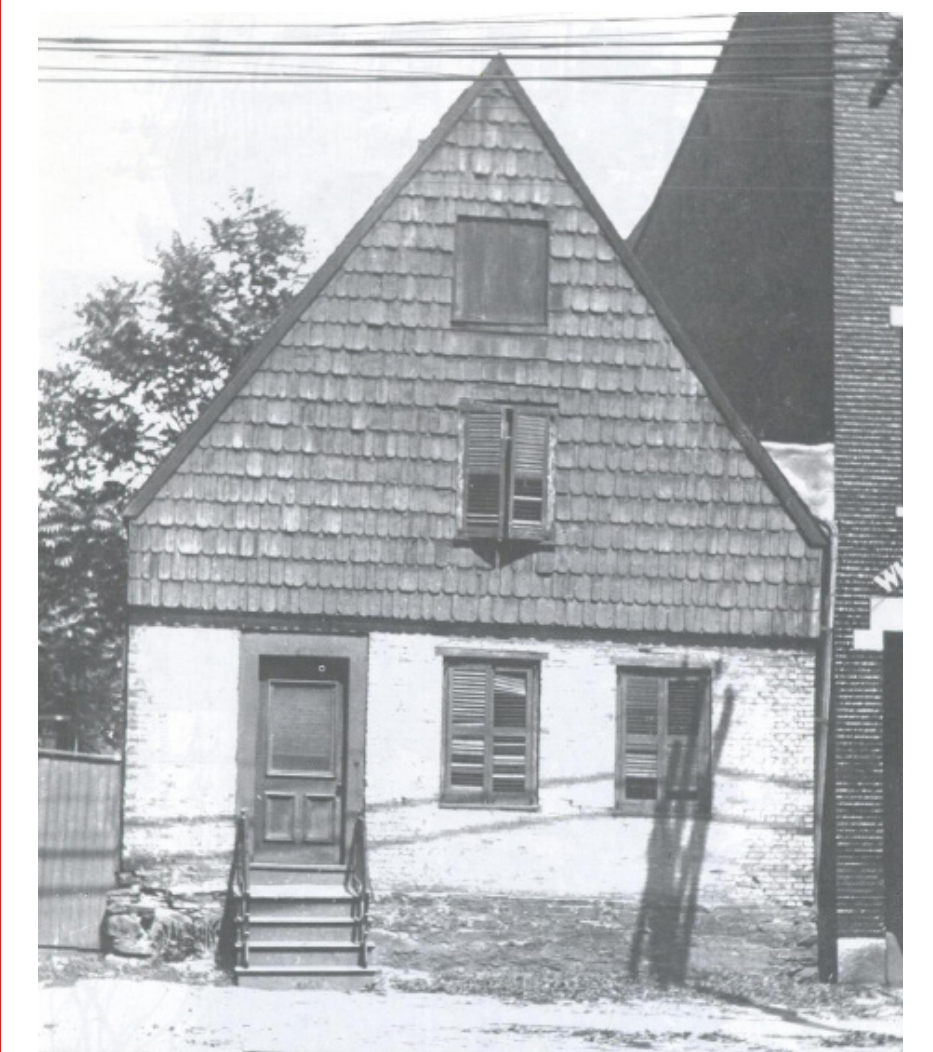
2014

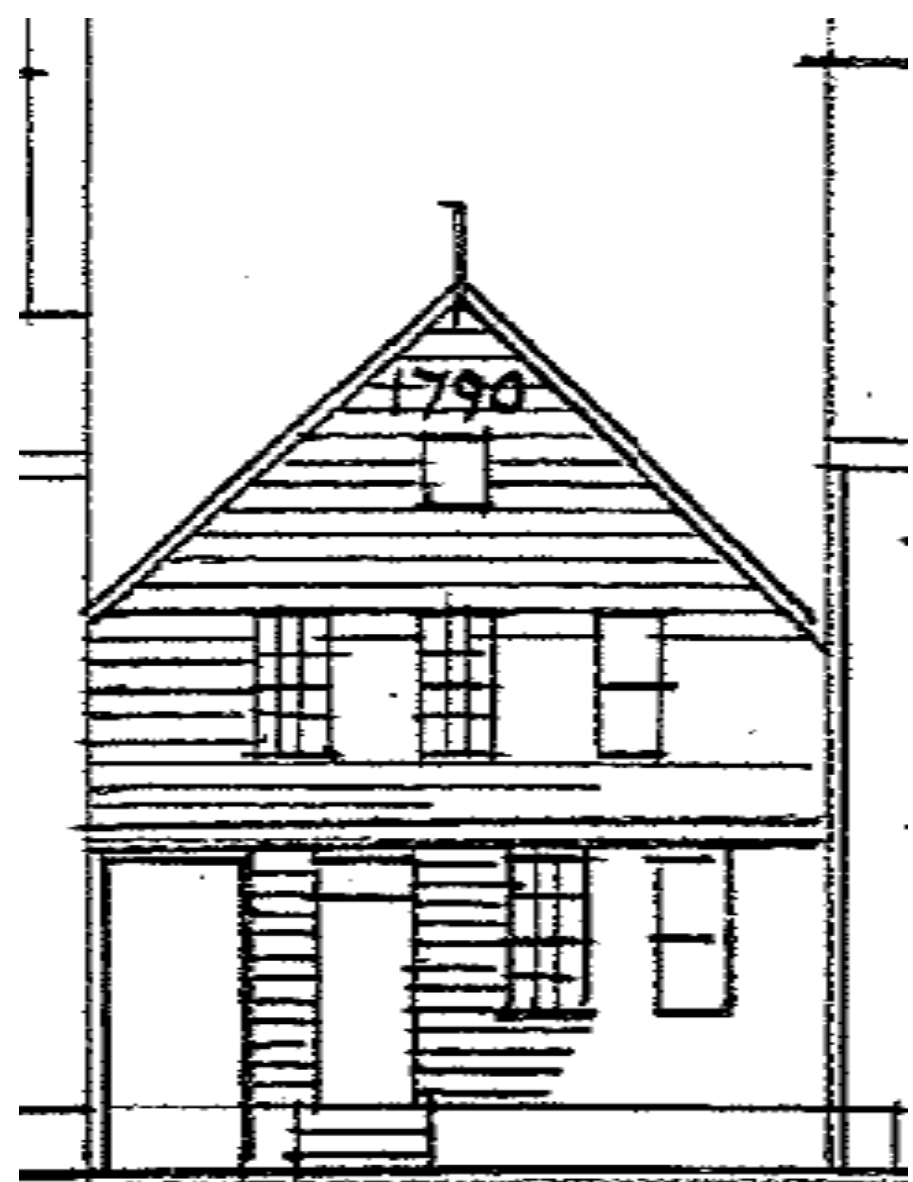


1728

Johannes Van Ostrande

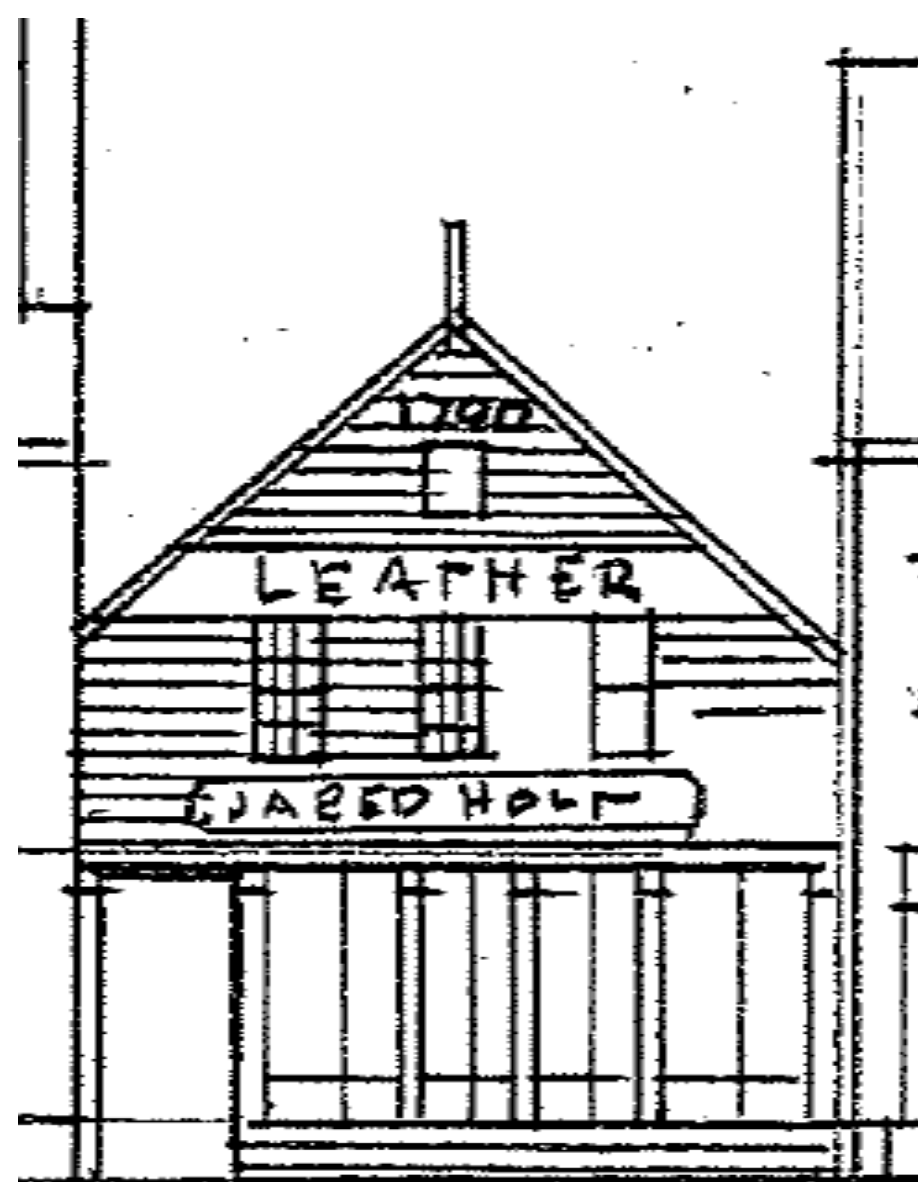
Similar Building at 922 Broadway





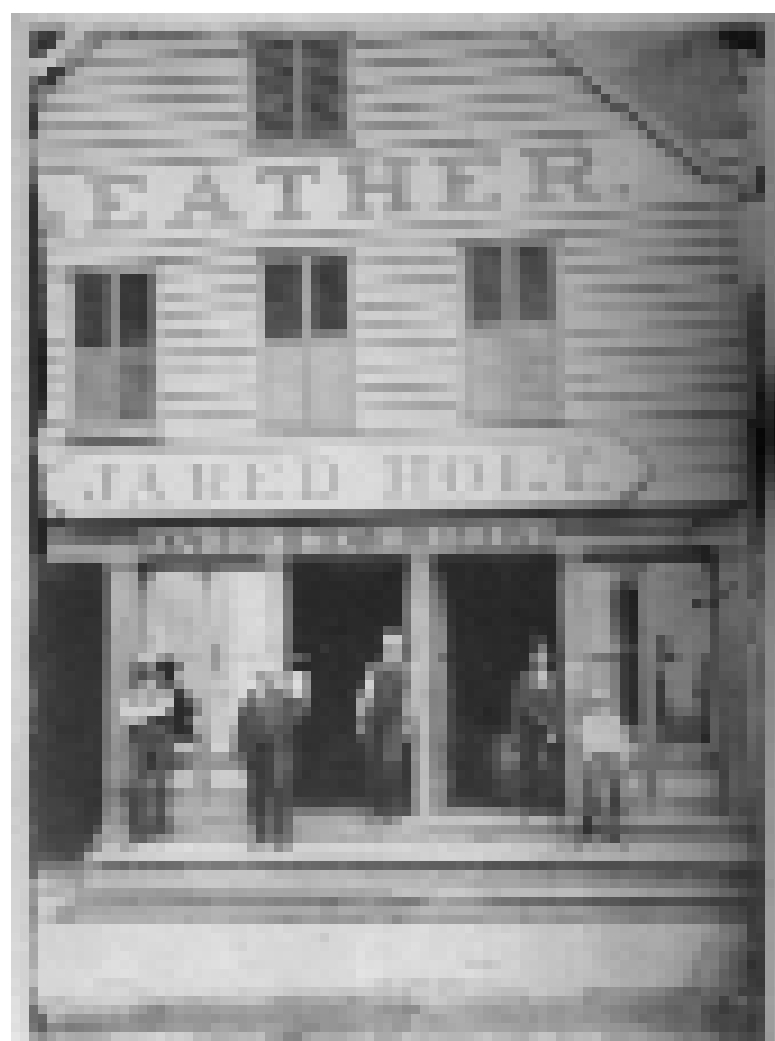
1790
Johannes Radliff
/Norton

Similar Building
at
674 Broadway



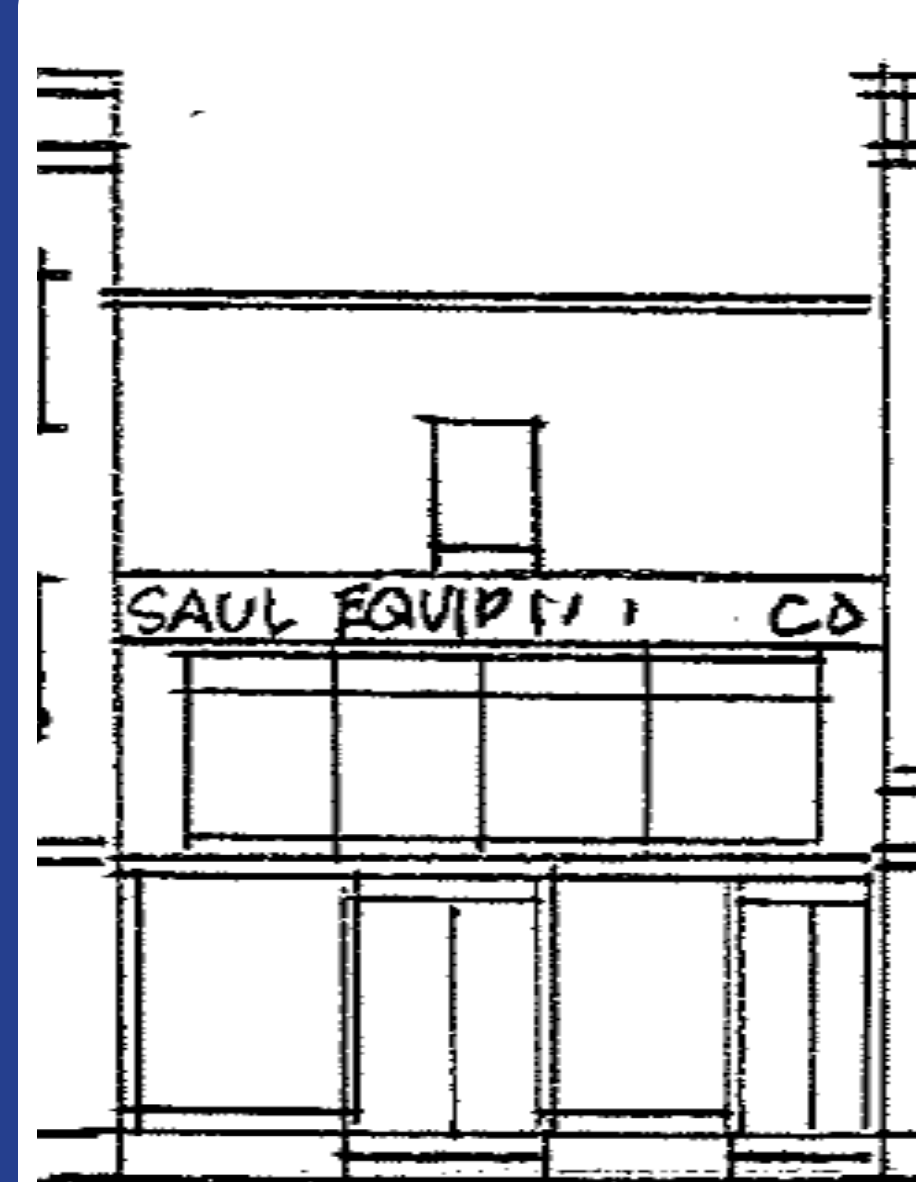
c. 1835
Jared Holt

Van Ostrande-
Radliff House
c.1835



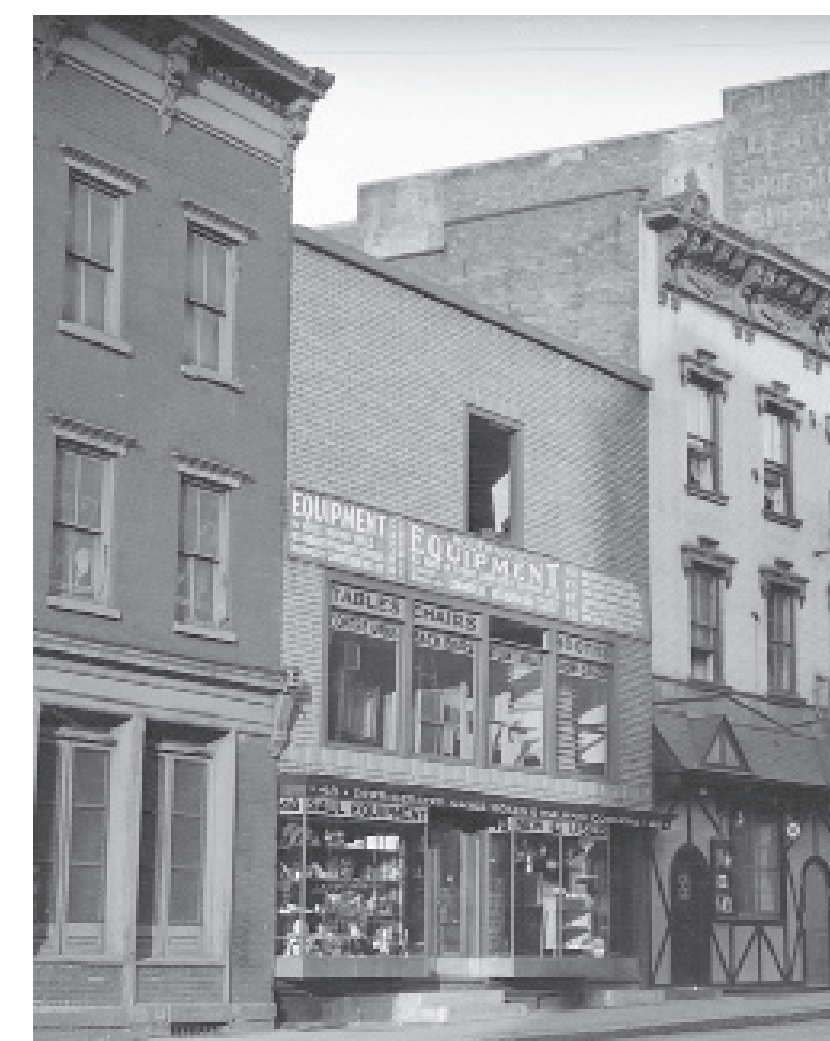
c. 1900
George
Stoneman

Van Ostrande-
Radliff House
c.1892



c. 1937
Saul's Restaurant
Supply

Van Ostrande-
Radliff House
1938



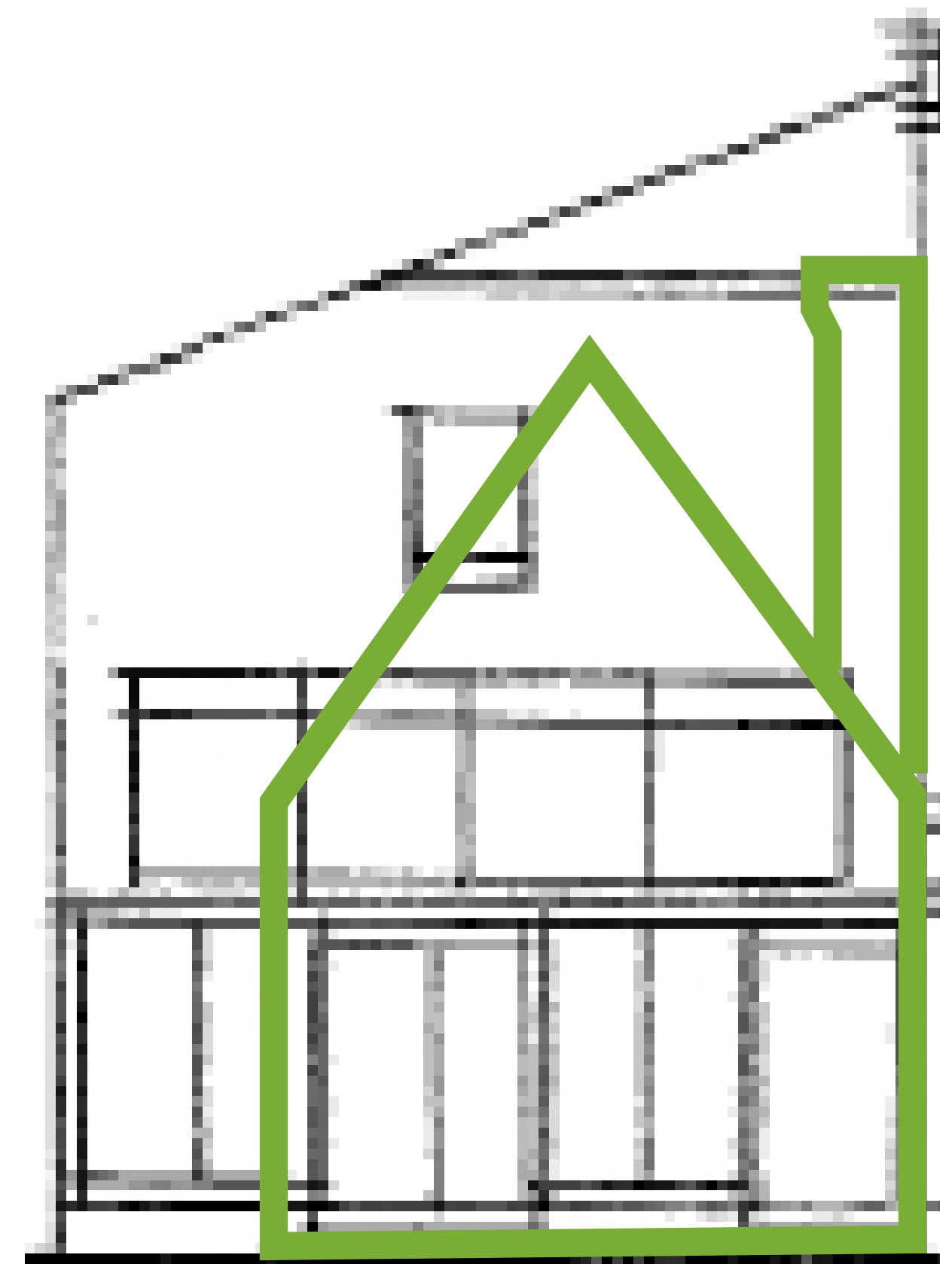
DUTCH ARCHITECTURE IN ALBANY

The Van Ostrande-Radliff House has four key Dutch characteristics that make it rare and important to understanding urban Dutch architecture in the United States: **steeply pitched roof**, **H-bent framing**, **moulded anchor beam**, and **jambless fireplace**.

Steeply Pitched Roof

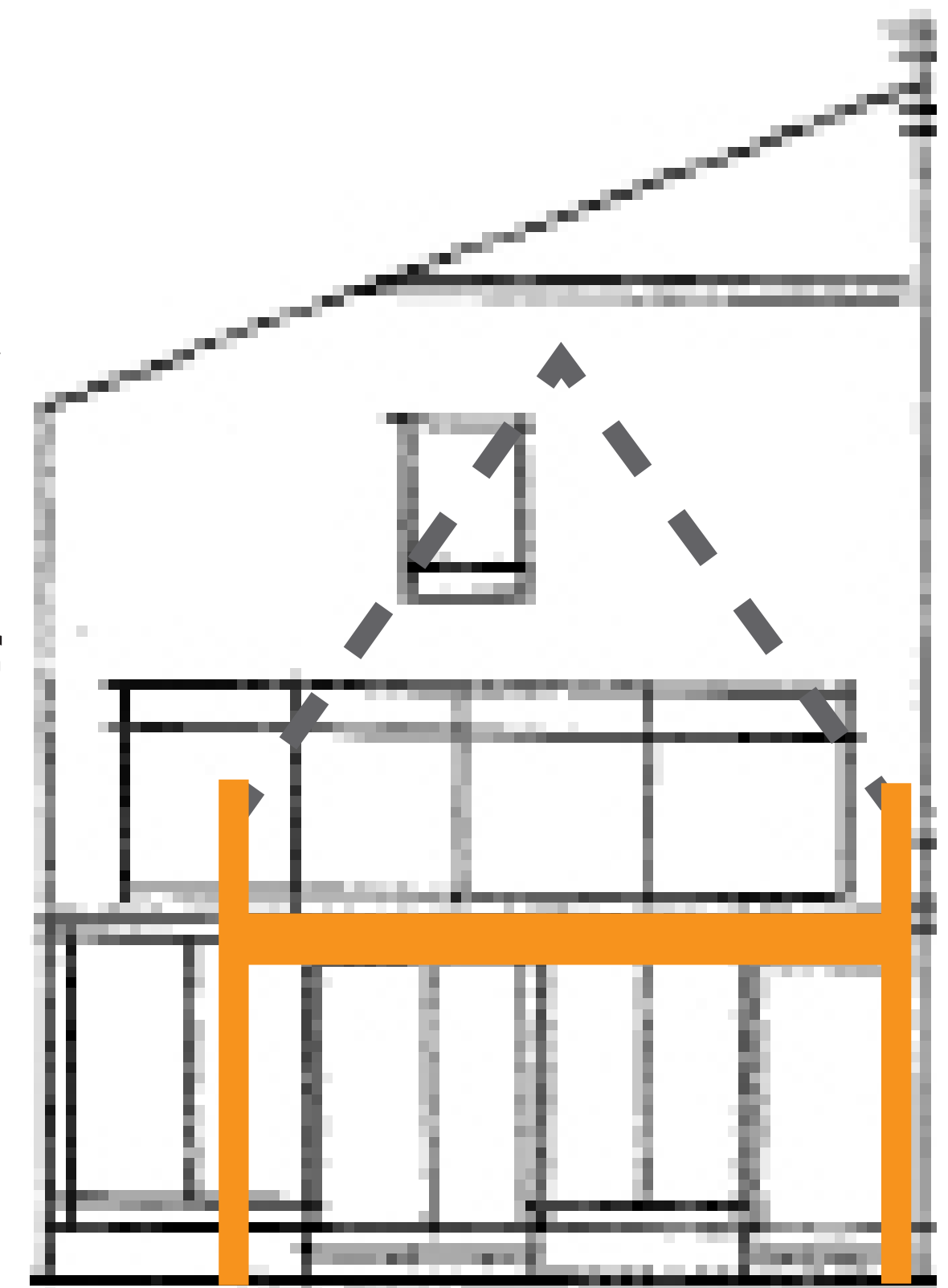
Dutch urban architecture featured a steeply pitched roof with the gable end facing the street, taking advantage of deep narrow city building lots.

The green outline reflects the original silhouette with its steep pitch facing Hudson Avenue. The original roof was retained during later changes.



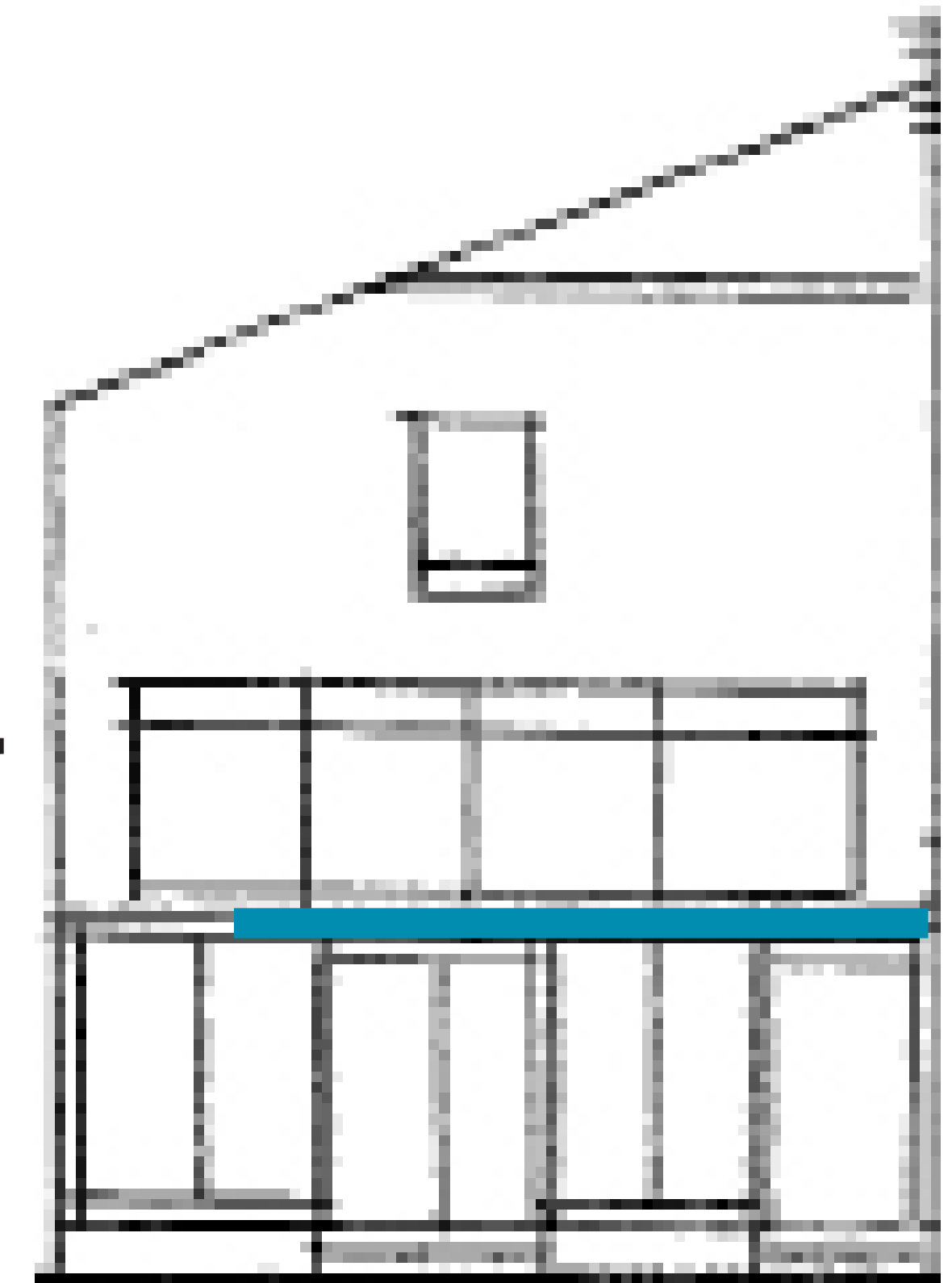
H-Bent Framing

The most characteristic component of all Dutch architecture in North America is the heavy timber H-bent framing. Eight large cleanly cut anchor beams still dominate the interior of the Van Ostrande-Radliff House. The existing H-bents are highlighted in orange.



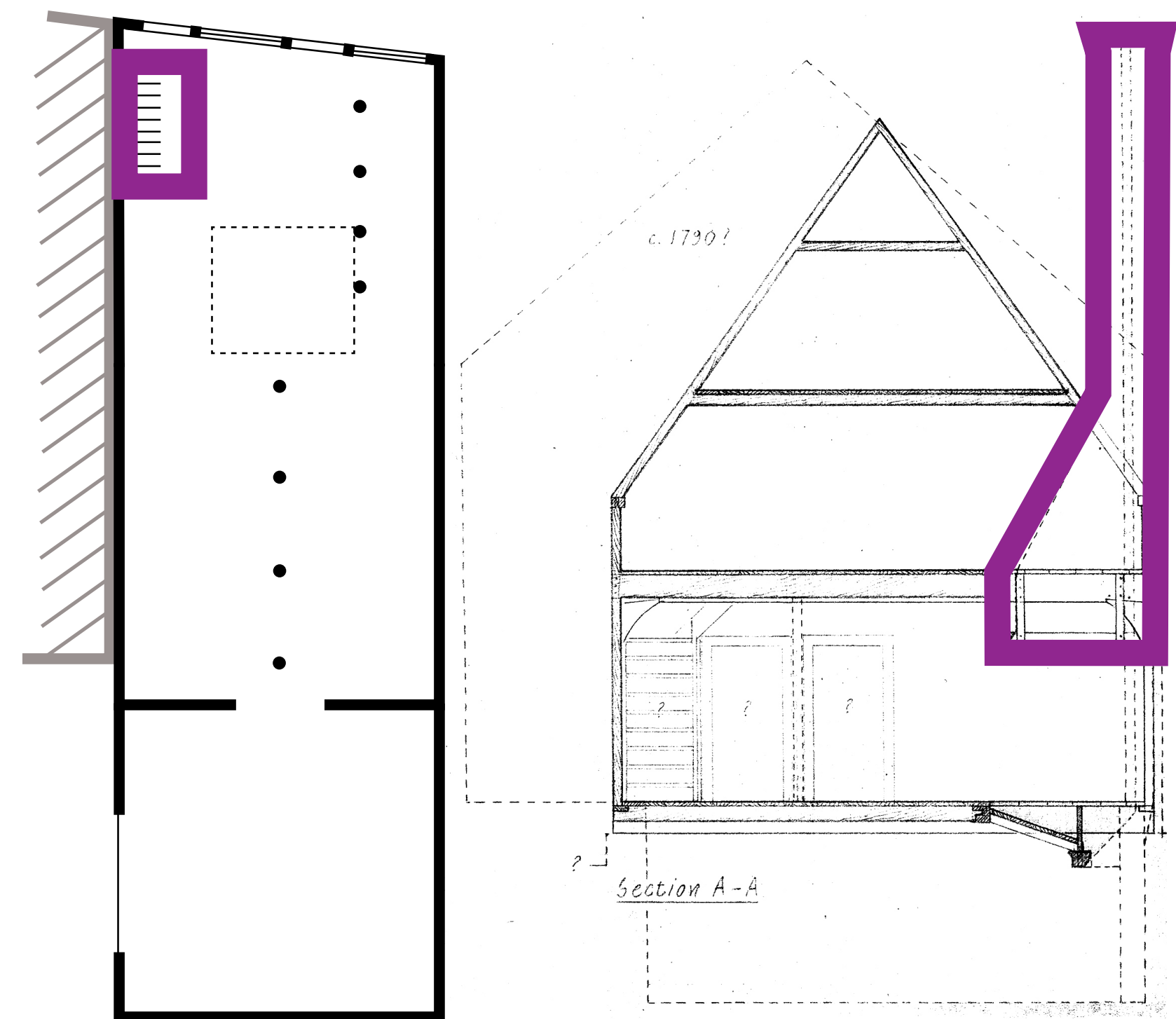
Moulded Anchor Beam

Highlighted in blue, the moulded anchor beam is the horizontal member of the H-bent and the only remaining component of the building's original façade. **The decoratively shaped anchor beam is one of two that exist in situ in the United States. A third is stored at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.**



Jambless Fireplace

Jambless fireplaces have no sides and no defined firebox. This type of fireplace was common as it allowed for direct daylight to reach the hearth of houses on tight urban lot. **This is the only known surviving example of a jambless fireplace oriented perpendicular to the H-bent framing in the United States, a design specific to urban houses (rural houses ran parallel).** Outlined in purple is the framing and back wall of the jambless fireplace.



Section courtesy of John Stevens.



The replacement jambless fireplace from the Bevier-Elting House, Huguenot Street & Broadhead Avenue, in New Paltz. Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, HABS, HABS NY,56-NEWP, 2--9



Historic Albany Foundation is a private, not-for-profit membership organization established in 1974 whose mission is to preserve and protect buildings that have architectural, historic or civic value, by providing technical assistance, education, and advocacy.

For more information about the Van Ostrande-Radliff House or Historic Albany programs, please visit www.historic-albany.org or call 518-465-0876.