

PRESIDENT'S HOUSE ON CARR'S HILL

FIRST FLOOR INTERIOR

Inside, the house has a center-hall plan, revolving around a space referred to as the “main hall.” The main hall separates the living room and dining room of the east side from the sitting room, stairway, and library of the west side. Entered from the front through a small vestibule with highly formal Classical Revival-style details, the main hall terminates at its north end with a fireplace. One of two symmetrically placed doors flanking the fireplace accesses the rear stair hall, while the other leads to a small closet. A few feet before this terminus, the main hall meets the double-height side hall, creating a “T,” or nearly an “L” form in plan. The side hall passes between the sitting room and the study and contains the main stair. Where the two large halls meet, there is an elliptical arch in the west wall of the main hall. The main stair, which is located completely within the side hall, begins at this arch and rises to the west to a landing. Below the landing is the doorway leading in from the porte cochere. The doorway is framed by two small rooms now containing powder-room facilities. Above the landing is a large round-arched window looking west from the double-height space of the side hall and stairway. The large window lights not only the stairway but also the smaller hallway at the top of the stairs that connects the second story-bedrooms. The main stair extends only from the first to the second story. As a result, the third-story bedrooms are accessible only from the smaller stairway that rises from the hall between the study and the kitchen in the rear part of the house.



Round-arched window above the landing at side hall as seen the from second-story hallway.