

at the corners, is slightly battered as it rises upward. This subtle condition is evident in the corners, where the battered wall attaches to the curved wall of the drum.

Above the portico roof, the brick facade extends straight up to the roof at the base of the dome.

The first-story doorway and flanking window openings, and the three second-story window openings, are original 1827 features. The pressed and rolled copper trims and wood window sash date to the McKim Mead & White reconstruction.

**Door:** The main entrance doorway is framed by an 8-3/4" wide wood architrave from the mid-1970s. Above the architrave, a shallow fluted frieze extends up to a denticulated crown molding and pediment; all fabricated of sheet copper from designs of McKim Mead & White. A pair of mid-1970s stile-and-rail doors, each with four raised and recessed panels, replaced the post-fire doors.

**Windows:** The original window openings flanking the doorway have 8-1/4" wide two-fascia copper architraves, and pediments to match the doorway. The 1898 marble sills are 5-1/2" high, slightly thicker than the sills seen in the pre-fire photographs. The openings are fitted with 12/12 wood sash from 1898.

The current window entablatures and pediments differ in proportion from those seen in pre-fire photographs. The old images record a frieze that is only three bricks in height; the current sheet copper frieze is a full five brick courses in height. The reason for this change made by McKim Mead & White is unknown. Post-fire photographs reveal that the destroyed wood frieze and pediment was attached above each opening to three symmetrically placed vertical wood nailers, affixed to the brick wall surface [Figure 57]. The identical method of attachment can be seen in post-fire photographs of the Mills Annex [Figures 61-62].

The same 8-1/4" two-fascia copper profile is used to trim the second-story window openings that light the Dome Room. These openings have marble sills and 12/12 wood sash from 1898.

Curiously, these three second-story openings were not shown on Jefferson's 1819 floor plan of the Dome Room, and neither of the John Neilson's plans (November 1821 and 1822) show the three openings. It appears that initially, Jefferson did not intend to have windows in the south wall of the Dome Room; perhaps he was leaving additional wall space for the library bookcases. Eventually, openings were included, presumably at Jefferson's direction. In an August 10, 1823 letter to Brockenbrough, Jefferson wrote, "I have omitted to place a door in front, opening under the Portico... it should be of the width of the main door below." Jefferson also asked for a railing across the lower portion of the opening: "a folding sash door so as to give light when shut. its bottom to be closed by an open pannel either Chinese or iron."