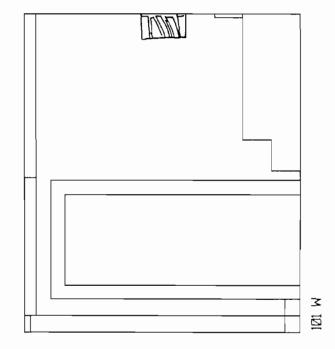


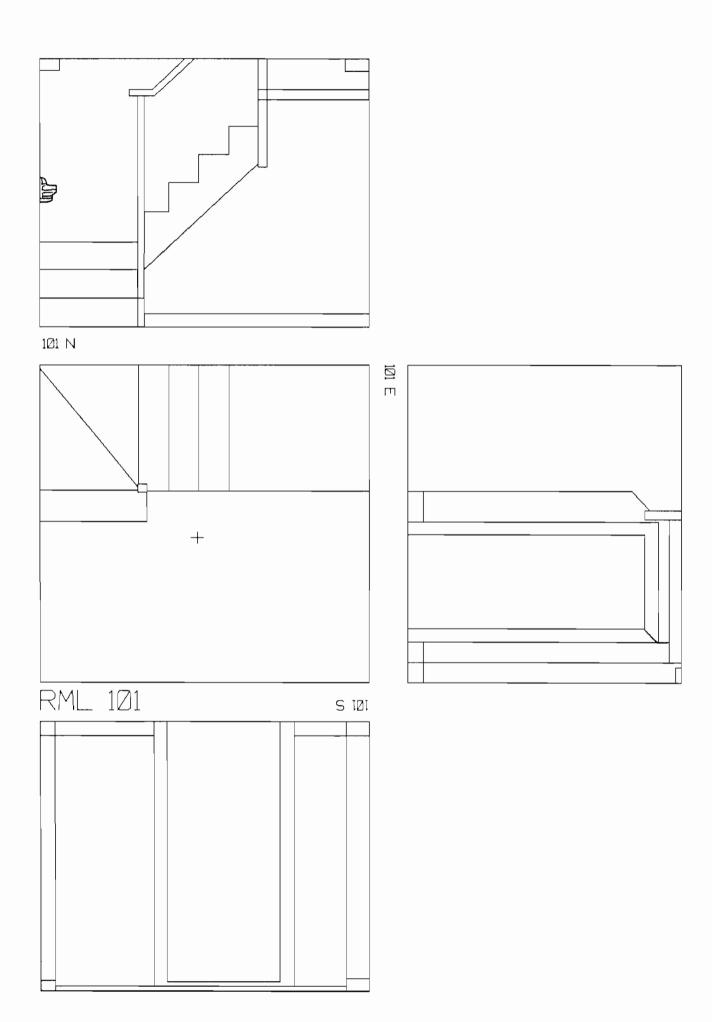
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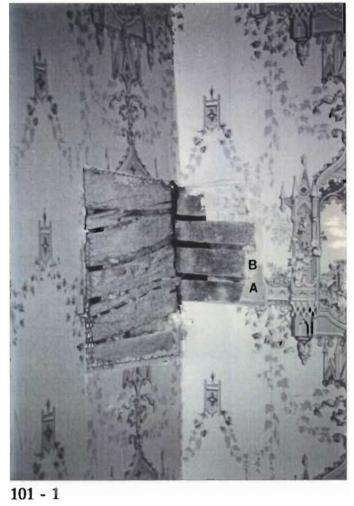
The Front Stairhall

Although a stairhall must have existed here from the beginning, the present stairhall is almost entirely Federal, from its finish material to the very structure of the staircase. If the hall was finished before 1800, and this is not at all certain, nearly all of its finish material was removed in the course of later remodeling, probably around 1800. Only the floorboards can be said to definitively pre-date the Federal-period changes: small fragments of paint on boards within the cellar stairhall indicate that the present stair was framed over an already-painted floor.

There was a door opening from this space into the cellar stair-hall prior to 1981 (A, see also photo 102 -35). The area has now been reframed and covered with sheetrock. We do not know how old this door was - the remodelers obviously believed it to be a later addition, but it was likely contemporary with the room's other Federal woodwork.









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