



**Figure 1:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST from southwest.

419 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street was a brick, two story Northern Kentucky Townhouse with front doorway and a side entrance, shed roofed with a bracketed cornice. It had 2/2 windows with stone lintels, and a stone foundation. For the student of vernacular houses, this house offered an excellent example of a structure whose evolution was clearly telegraphed by different shades of masonry (Figure 1). The roofline and gable front of the original single-story shotgun house were clearly visible in the contrast of the lighter salmon colored brick of the first floor against the darker second-story addition (Figure 2). At the back, the story is a bit more complicated (Figure 3). A large, meandering chunk of mixed color brick ran the whole height of the building in the southeast corner. It appears to have collapsed at some point and been repaired. Peaking out at the right border of that section at the same height as the adjacent first floor door header is a portion of another header from a window that was lost in the collapse and not replaced in the repair (Figure 4). The door and window pair at the back had higher headers than the openings closer to the front reflecting the comparable rise in ground level toward the back. Midway between this door and

the window to its right there is a clear seam in the brickwork. The first floor had an addition to the back before the second story was built.

Historic maps reveal that the second story must have occurred after 1909, even though it is stylistically consistent with earlier construction. A building, likely the original single story house, does appear on the 1877 Hopkins Atlas map (Figure 5). On the 1886 Sanborn, we have a masonry building with a frame outbuilding at the back of the yard (Figure 6). The 1894 Sanborn shows the same structure now has a frame appendage at the back, but it remains single story (Figure 8).

The addition of the second floor converted the house from Shotgun to Northern Kentucky Townhouse in form. It required some improvisation in incorporating the stair, by inserting a wall into the back room (Figure 7; Figure 13, right). The stair spanned across the back hearth, which was now accessed on the other side of the wall in the back room. A passageway through to the back room was inserted at the back of the stair (Figure 14). There consequently wasn't quite room to insert a basement stair underneath. The only access to the cellar remained through the bulkhead entry on the side (Figure 15, Figure 16, Figure 17, and Figure 18).

The interiors were not fancy, but well-appointed with tall baseboards and wide window and door moldings (Figure 11). The front room had an Arts and Crafts style mantle that may have been an improvement occurring at the time of the second-story add on (Figure 12). At the time of documentation, each floor had separate kitchen facilities and served as separate apartments.



**Figure 2:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST from southwest.

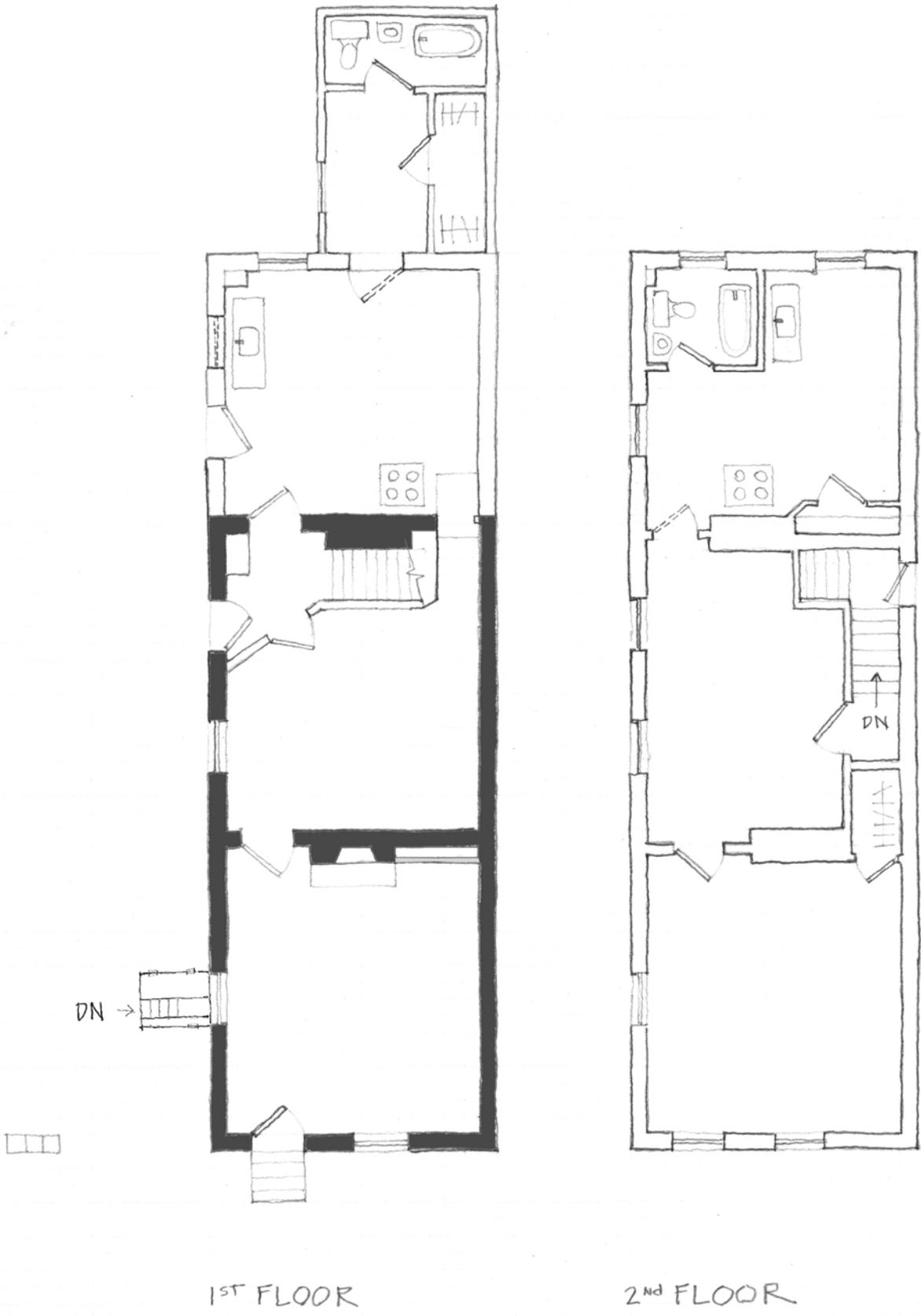


**Figure 3:** 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST, back, looking northwest.

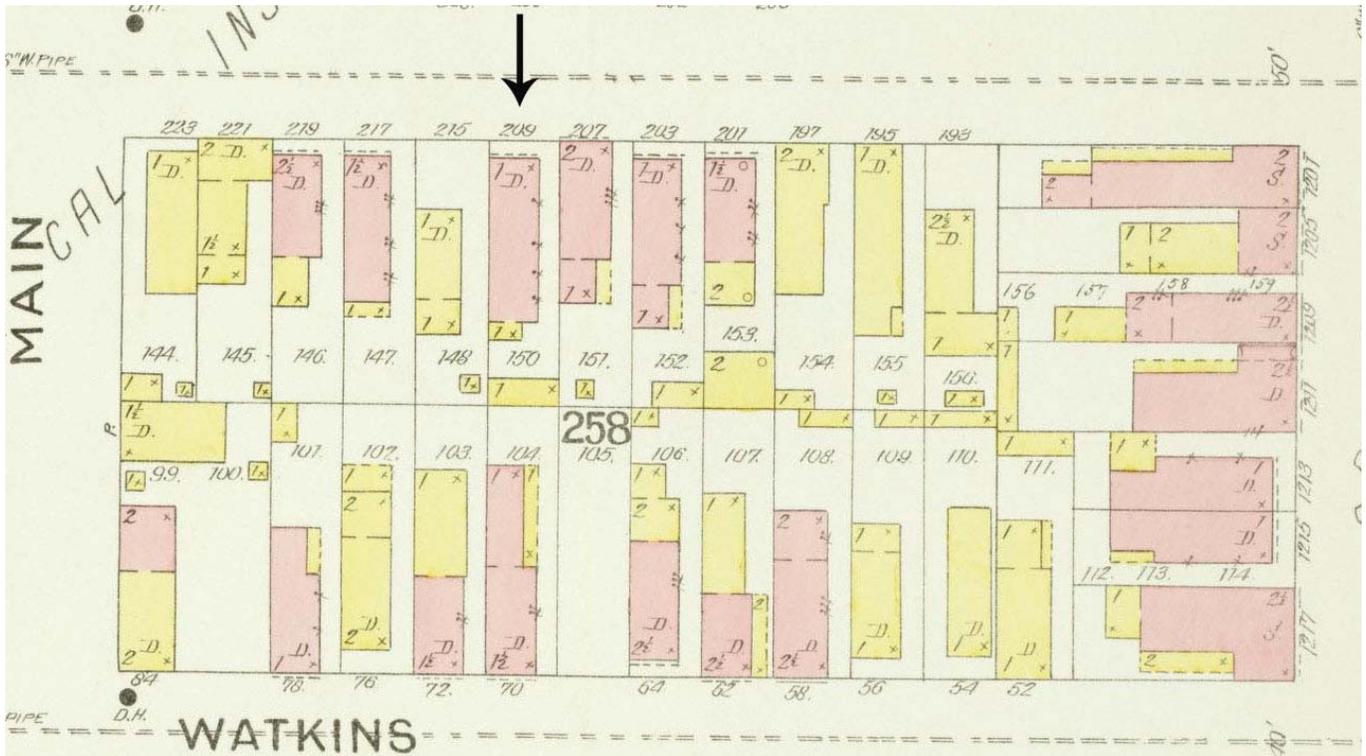


**Figure 4:** Detail of Figure 3, not window header fragment to the left of the nearest door, and the vertical seam between the doors.

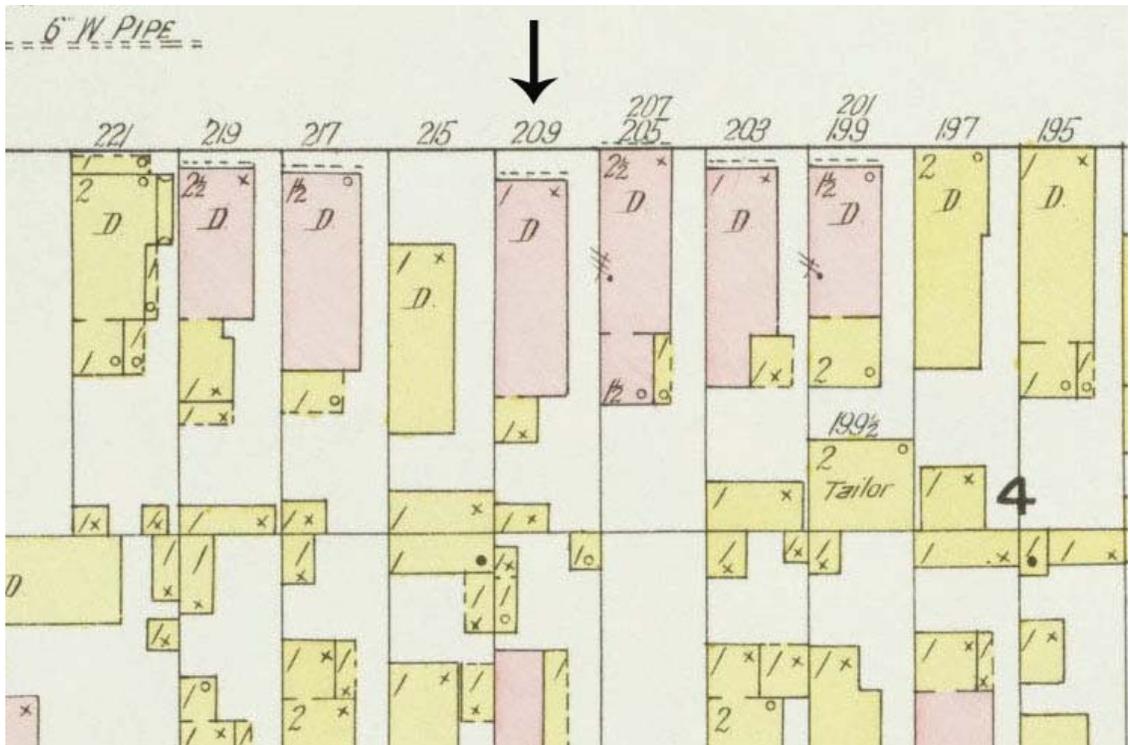




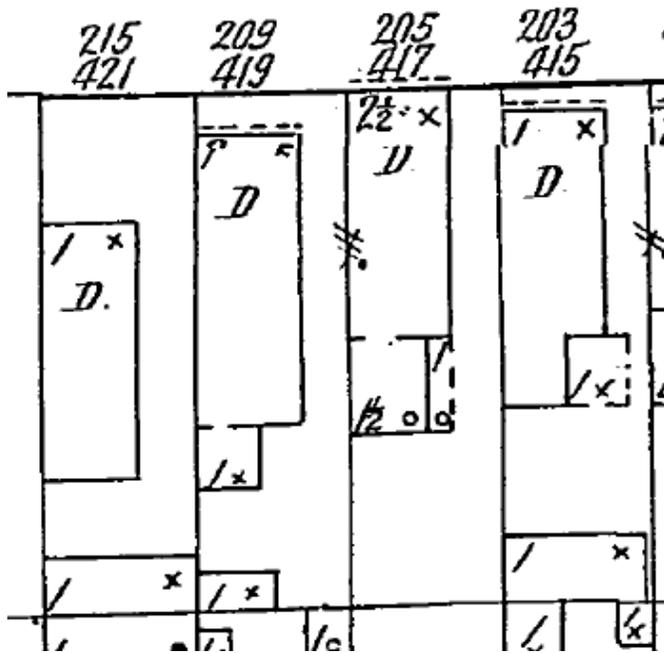
**Figure 7:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor plans. Original structure shaded. Scale in feet. Drawing: Bill Macintire.



**Figure 8:** Detail of the 400 block as depicted on the 1894 Sanborn Insurance map. In the short interval between 1886 and 1894, 419's historic address changed again, from 207 to 209. The building is still a single story at this time. The first story brick addition may have occurred in the interim – comparison to its neighbors offers inconclusive evidence on that point, but it is clear that the building has gained a small frame addition to the back.



**Figure 9:** Detail of the 400 block of W 12<sup>th</sup> from the 1909 Sanborn Insurance map. The historic address of 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST remains at 209, and the building is still depicted as a single story. The outbuilding at the back of the lot is now just half the width of the property.



**Figure 10:** 400 block of W 12<sup>th</sup> ST, as depicted on the 1949 revised edition of the Sanborn Insurance map (from a microfilm source), with address updates. Material evidence indicates that the second story had to have been added by this time, but it's a little unclear if that symbol in the upper left hand corner of 209/419's plan is a "2" or not.



**Figure 11:** 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST, interior of front room, looking northeast.



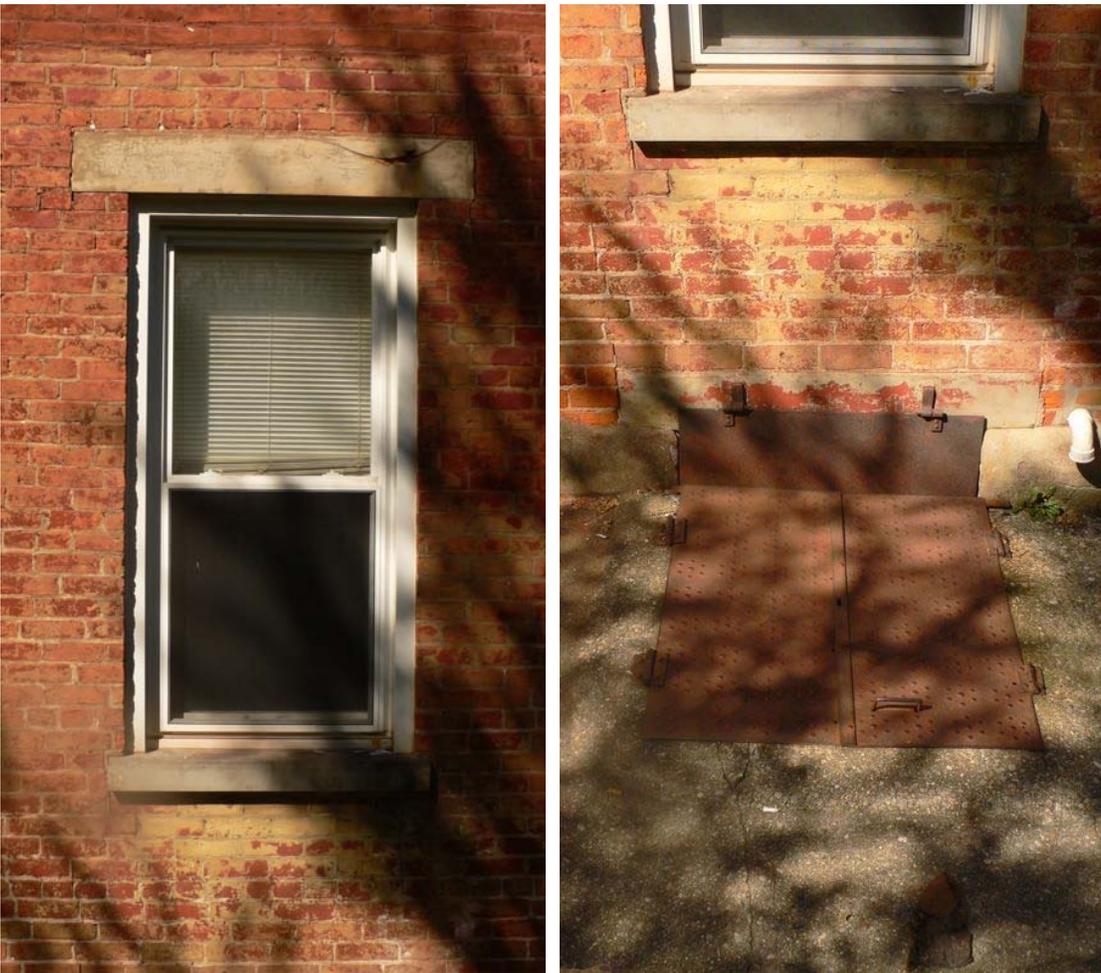
**Figure 12:** 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST, Interior of front room, looking southeast. The craftsman style mantle is a 20<sup>th</sup> century renovation, possibly from the 1920s-30s, or later salvage or reproduction.



**Figure 13:** 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST, Left: Interior of front room, looking southeast. Right: interior of central stair hall from outside entry.



**Figure 14:** 419 W 12<sup>th</sup> ST looking south through passage beneath the stair into the kitchen.



**Figure 15:** 419 west 12<sup>th</sup> Street, left: detail of side window; right: bulkhead cellar entry.



**Figure 16:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, detail of ironwork on bulkhead doors.



**Figure 17:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, bulkhead entry with doors open.



**Figure 18:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, cellar.



**Figure 19:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST, Kitchen looking southeast.



**Figure 20:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST, Kitchen, looking north with hall under stair at left.



**Figure 21:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST, second floor, front room, looking south.



**Figure 22:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup>, second floor, middle room, looking north.



**Figure 23:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup>, second floor, middle room, looking south.



**Figure 24:** 419 West 12<sup>th</sup> ST, second floor, back room. *Left: looking north through middle and front room; Right: looking north.*