

# Isaiah Davenport House Story

Today the Isaiah Davenport House is a **museum** which teaches how the Davenport household lived in their home in the 1820s. The museum also celebrates how Savannah has saved its historic buildings.

Isaiah Davenport was born in **New England** in November 1784. His father's family settled in Rhode Island in the seventeenth century. Isaiah took up the **carpenter's** trade and **apprenticed** in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Around 1808, seeking **new opportunities**, Isaiah left his native region and traveled to Savannah to make his home. Shortly thereafter he acquired his first slave, who may have helped Davenport in his carpentry business in the **coastal city**. On March 15, 1809 Isaiah and Sarah Rosamond Clark, who was from the Beaufort, South Carolina area, married and they soon began a family. The first of their 10 children was born in 1810. With a young, growing family, the Davenports moved into a house Isaiah built near the present-day Davenport House.

During this time – the 1810s – Savannah was a growing and prosperous city thanks to the **export of cotton**. Davenport's business grew as he built homes, businesses and public buildings in the booming city. Isaiah was so busy that he put off building a home for himself and his family. Finally in 1820 on the land he had purchased several years earlier, he began work on his fine home on Columbia Square. He modeled his house after the substantial houses he remembered from his native region in the **Federal style**. Building the home was a way for Davenport to demonstrate his skill as a **carpenter and master builder**. He must have used the home as an example of his skill and trade for clients and prospective clients.

Davenport was a civic minded man. In 1810, early in his residence in Savannah, he volunteered as the **fire-master** of Greene and Columbia Wards. Part of his duty was to keep watch and to make sure equipment and manpower were ready when someone yelled, "Fire!" Because many houses in Savannah were built of wood and people used open fires for heating and cooking, feeling the destructive force of fires was common. Residents kept leather fire buckets within easy reach. It was the man of the house's obligation to help put out a fire whenever he heard someone call out "Fire!" A common way to fight a fire was a "**bucket brigade**" where people would form a human chain from a water source to the fire, passing buckets full of water to douse the fire and back to be filled up again.

Through hard work and diligence, Isaiah became well-respected and served his community as an **alderman**, who conducted city business. His fellow craftsmen

and tradesmen in the **Savannah Mechanics Association** elected him as their representative to the governing body in 1817. He served in that capacity for five years.

Isaiah, his wife Sarah and their children, Isaiah, Jr., Benjamin Rush, Archibald Clark, Henry Kollock, Hugh McCall, Cornelia Augusta and later Dudley attended Independent Presbyterian Church. The sad reality of life long ago is that people died at younger ages than is usual today and it was common for children to die from childhood diseases, which we get inoculated for today. Three of the Davenport's 10 children, Susannah, Sarah, and Thurston, died when they were very young and never lived in the Davenport House.

As mentioned earlier, Mr. Davenport owned slaves. At the time of his death he owned nine slaves including: Ned, Davy, Bella, Jacob, Isaac, Polly, Peggy and Nancy. These people probably lived in the Davenport House with the family, sleeping in utilitarian areas, such as the ground level, which housed the kitchen, the attic and the carriage house, which was located at the rear of the main house. They probably had very few personal possessions.

Isaiah died in 1827 of **yellow fever**, leaving Sarah to support the family. Sarah sold her slaves and many family holdings in order to meet her financial obligations. Within a year of Davenport's death, Sarah decided to turn her home into a boarding house. She kept it until 1840 when she sold the property to the Baynard family of South Carolina.

As the city of Savannah grew to the south, people moved away from the downtown area. People who stayed downtown lived in neighborhoods which were falling into neglect. This was the case with the Davenport House, which was an apartment building for much of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In fact the Davenport House was to be torn down to make room for a parking lot for the funeral home across the street. Following the demolition of the Savannah City Market, a group of prominent ladies in the community felt a call to action. Soon after, it was announced that the Davenport House would be razed. The "*Seven Ladies*" organized, pulling together many people to back the cause for **historic preservation**, and raised the money to purchase the Davenport House. In 1955 they bought the Davenport House and saved it from demolition. This was the first effort of the Historic Savannah Foundation, which had ushered in a historic preservation renaissance in Savannah.

## Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Urban Slavery in Savannah

The practice of capturing people in Africa and bringing them, against their will, to the British colonies in the New World to be used as slave **laborers** began in the 1600s. In the 17th and 18th centuries, slavery occurred throughout the English colonies in what is now the United States. By the time of the American Revolution, an **economic system** was evolving in Northern states which did not require the large outlay of slave laborers. By 1808, the **foreign slave trade** was outlawed, however, the trade within the United States still existed and began to thrive in light of the invention in 1794 of the **cotton gin**, which brought about the spread of **short stable cotton cultivation**. Most slaves in the South lived on **plantations** where they were either involved with the cultivation of a cash crop or working in the houses of the plantation owners.

Slavery in the **urban city** of Savannah was different than slavery on a plantation. Enslaved people had contact with *free people of color* as well as all types of individuals who came to the busy seaport. People of different faiths such as Catholics, Jews, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Baptists, etc. and people from different parts of the world like England, the West Indies, the northern states as well as Georgians from inland came to Savannah to trade and do business.

Savannah was built by the hands of slaves, free people of color and **immigrants** (people from other countries). The beautiful old buildings, which visitors from all over the world come to see, were often the work of enslaved people. The builders of Savannah were called *mechanics*; Isaiah was a mechanic and he owned mechanics. Sometimes Isaiah and other slave owners would rent out their mechanics (skilled craftsmen) for use by those who needed skilled or diligent workers.

Urban slaves were part of Savannah's business life. They worked on the docks and as laborers – building, cleaning and maintaining the city.

Enslaved people also worked in the homes of Savannahians as house servants. The Davenport **household** may have included a housemaid, cook, wash-woman, gardener, nurse and carriage driver. From records we know the names of the people Mr. Davenport owned: Bella, Peggy, Nancy, Ned, Davy, Jack,

Isaac and Polly. House servants typically worked long hours and were on-call 24 hours a day. They answered to the lady of the household, in the Davenport's case, this was Mrs. Davenport.

**House servants** sometimes received old clothes and furniture from their owners. They were also provided with food and clothing, though this was often meager. On plantations, owners often encouraged slaves to raise food and livestock in addition to their regular chores. The owners believed a slave who had a personal interest in their crops would be less likely to run away. Often plantation slaves grew food to supplement their diets and many determined slaves sold their products to earn money. This could be seen on Sundays in Savannah when slaves, free people of color and others would sell their items in the streets during the antebellum period, which was the time between the American Revolution and the Civil War.

Slaves were not allowed to read or write and laws were passed to keep them illiterate. However, one hears of underground networks of informal teachers who taught slaves, but encouraged them to pretend they were ignorant. No one wanted to get caught.

Hopefully, when you think about the Davenport House, you will remember all of the people who were involved with its history: the craftsmen who built the house, the Davenports, their children, their visitors, Mr. Davenport's clients and the enslaved people who worked and lived at the home-place.

## Daily Life in the 1820s: Children, Objects and Toys

Life was very different in the early 1800s than it is today. The Davenports had very few of what we think of as common **household items**. Of course there were no computers, microwave ovens or televisions. Things we take for granted were not part of daily life. For example, homes were not built with plumbing so there was no running water for washing or for toilets. To attend to daily hygiene, **chamber pots** and **privies** were used instead of toilets and **wash basins** were used for daily washing. Only occasionally, maybe once a week, did someone get wet all over such as bathing in a tub. If there were a lot of people in a household, such as the Davenport's, bath water would be used for more than one person. Water was obtained from wells, which were sometimes located on a person's property, but more commonly they were in **public squares**. It was someone's job, probably a slave, to draw and haul water to the home.

Houses did not have electricity so people would sit by a window, the fireplace or candlelight to read, write or sew. Because there was no central heating or air conditioning, people arranged furniture for the weather. In the summer, furniture was placed near a window to get a breeze and in the winter it was placed near the fire for warmth.

People lived in their homes differently than we do today. At the Davenport House, most of the home was for private family use or was for utilitarian purposes and servant areas. Few rooms were for **public use**. The public rooms were the grandest in a house. The Drawing Room and Isaiah's Office were "public rooms," used for entertaining or business. One can tell this because they have the fanciest decoration including marble fireplaces, elaborate plaster moldings around the ceiling and fine wood carving, particularly in the Drawing Room.

The Davenport children probably spent most of their daily life away from the public rooms of the house. Along with the Davenports there were a number of slave children in the household. Besides being playmates for the Davenport children, slave children were expected to do **chores** including drawing and hauling water as well as sweeping and assisting with cleaning. The Davenport House was filled with people when it was a home, such as family members, servants/slaves, guests, clients, vendors and workmen.

The rule of children being “*seen and not heard*” was probably expected of the Davenport children on social occasions. Children of the era were expected to behave like little adults when in public. From a young age children were trained for their lives as adults. The Davenport boys, once they reached a certain age, probably spent time with their father as he went about his carpentry business. They were schooled at home by a **tutor** as well as with their mother. Learning to read, spell, write and cipher were extremely important for the boy who hoped to go into business one day.

The **tools for learning** were different than today. Even something as usual as a pencil was not often available and when students did have them they certainly did not have erasers. Young people were taught to write using slate boards and pieces of chalk. Learning to write on paper was a much harder task than today because the customary tools were a **quill pen**, which would need to be trimmed and dipped into **India ink** after every few words.

Cornelia Davenport, the family’s only daughter to live beyond early childhood, was sent away to New England for her schooling where she learned math and English, as well as subjects that would make her a **good match** for a successful man. Writing in a fine hand, speaking French, and being accomplished on a musical instrument were all prized attributes of a refined young lady. Cornelia liked to read and write poetry.

Children had few toys and what they did have were made out of materials readily available such as sticks and wood scraps, scraps of material, nuts such as pecans and cast off items from adults. Wooden tops, clay or marble marbles, wooden dolls and doll furniture were favorites for families that could afford them. Most children played out of doors running through the streets of Savannah and playing in the squares or by the river.

**Davenport Children:**

Isaiah Jr., Benjamin Rush, Archibald Clark, Henry Kollock, Hugh McCall, Cornelia Augusta, William Dudley

**Slave Children in the Davenport Household:** Children of Bella – Jack, Isaac, Jacob and Polly

**Toys and Childhood Related Articles at the Davenport House:** Violin, tin whistle, sheet music, crib, cradle, lesson books, slates, tops, marbles, doll, doll furniture, tea set, child’s silhouette (Cornelia Davenport – aged 4 years – 1828), child’s purse, comb

# Davenport House: Glossary of Terms

**Alderman** -- *A member of the municipal legislative body in a town or city.* In September 1818, Isaiah Davenport was elected to Savannah's Board of Alderman to represent his peers, the city's *mechanics*.

**Bedchamber** -- *A bedroom.* The Davenport House shows three family bedchambers on tour.



**Bedstead** -- *A bed frame.* The bedstead in the Master Bedroom is the largest in the Davenport House.

**Boarding house** -- *A house where paying guests are provided with meals and lodging.* After her husband's death, Mrs. Sarah Davenport operated her home on Columbia Square as a boarding house.\*\*

**Carpenter** - *A skilled worker who makes, finishes, and repairs wooden objects and structures.* Public records indicate Isaiah Davenport's profession was "carpenter."

**Cantilever stair** - *A projecting stair where each step is supported at one end and carries a load at the other end or along its length.* The interior stairway of the Davenport House appears to be self-supporting with each step acting as a fulcrum for the next.

**Chintz** - *A printed and glazed cotton fabric, usually of bright colors.* Cornelia Davenport's bedchamber features fancifully patterned chintz, popular in the 1820s.

**Crumb cloth** -- *A piece of fab-*

*ric placed under a dining table to catch stray crumbs falling from diners.* The Davenport House has a green felt or baize crumb cloth under the dining room table similar to the type used in early 19<sup>th</sup> century homes.

**Drawing Room** - *A large room in which guests are entertained.* The Davenport's Drawing Room is the largest and most elaborate room in their home.

**Elliptical arch** -- *An ellipse or oval shaped arch.* Davenport House Entrance Hall has a striking elliptical arch which greets guests to the home. When the Davenport family lived in the home, the arch and corresponding Ionic columns separated the formal part of the home from the more private section.

**Federal-style** (1780-1820) -- *A simple box, two or more rooms deep, with doors and windows arranged symmetrically; identifying features: semi-circular or elliptical fanlight over the front door (with or without sidelights); fanlight often incorporated into more elaborate door surround, cornice with decorative molding -- most commonly with tooth-like dentils; windows with double-hung sashes usually with six panes per sash.* The Davenport House is an example of the Federal-style of architecture.

**Fanlight** - *A half-circle window, often with sash bars arranged like the ribs of a fan.* The Davenport House's fanlight indicates it is a Federal-style house.

**Fire bucket** -- *A leather bucket used to extinguish fires both in the home and outside; used with water or sand to douse fires.* The fire buckets in the Back Hall of the Davenport House indicate the constant fear of fire in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Faux graining** -- *Painting of a surface to resemble a particular grade of wood, also called "faux bois."* Many of the doors in the Davenport House are faux grained to resemble oak and maple.

**Floor cloth** -- *In early American homes, a varnished piece of canvas was used to protect floors and to add color and style to the home.* The Davenports had an "entry carpet" in their home and it was the only known floor covering they had.

**Horseshoe-shaped entrance** -- *Another term for U-shaped entryway.* The Davenport House has a horseshoe-shaped entrance with a wrought iron balustrade and central medallion.

**Ionic column** -- *One of the Classical orders of architecture with the capital featuring scroll-like carvings.* The columns in the Hall and in the Drawing Room of the Davenport House have Ionic capitals indicating the popularity of classical features in American architecture.



**Italian marble chimney piece** - *Type of fireplace surrounds advertised in Savannah newspapers in 1820.* The Davenport House has two Italian marble

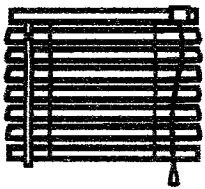
chimney pieces – one in Isaiah’s Office and one in the Drawing Room.

**Lane** – *A feature of the Savannah city plan where small streets run behind house lots.* Lanes were important communication routes for slaves and free people of color in Savannah.

**Locks of hair** – *In the 19<sup>th</sup> century these were tokens and mementoes of love and affection.*

The Davenport House has an album of Sarah Davenport’s which contains locks of hair of her parents and grandparents and her children and grandchildren.

**Loose window blinds and sashes** – *An early 19<sup>th</sup> century description for what we think of as Venetian blinds.*



The Davenports had loose window blinds and sashes in the 1820s to

screen out the sun.

**Morning Room** – *A sitting room used during daylight hours.* The Morning Room in the Davenport House was where Mrs. Davenport and her children spent a good part of the day.

**Mechanic** – *An artisan; one who practices any mechanic art; one skilled or employed in shaping and uniting materials, such as wood, metal, etc., into any kind of structure, machine or other object, requiring the use of tools, or instruments.* As a carpenter, Mr. Davenport was classified as a mechanic in the city of Savannah.

**Mosquito netting** – *A loosely-woven, gauze-like fabric for making mosquito bars which is a curtain for excluding mosqui-*



*toes, -- used for beds and windows.* The Davenport House’s Master Bedchamber bedstead is equipped with mosquito netting.

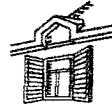
**Privy** -- *An outdoor toilet.* The Davenports had a privy or “necessary” in the backyard of their property.



**Raised basement** – *An architectural term for a house situated with the living space set one story above street level.* Many houses in Savannah, including the Davenport House, have a raised basement.

**Rope bed** – *A bedstead that is equipped for ropes to hold the mattress in place.* The bedstead in the Boy’s Room of the Davenport House is a rope bed.

**Shutter** – *A hinged cover or screen for a window, usually fitted with louvers.* The windows at the Davenport House are equipped with shutters, which



were used to close off the house from the hot summer sun and to protect the house from storm damage.

**Silhouette** – *A drawing or cutout consisting of the outline of something, especially a human profile, filled in with a solid color.* There are silhouettes of three different generations of Davenport women in the Davenport House.

**Square** – *An open, usually four-sided area at the intersection of two or more streets, often planted with grass and trees for use as a park.* Savannah is known for its squares. The Davenport House is on Columbia Square.

**Ticking** – *A strong, tightly woven fabric of cotton or linen used to make pillow and mattress cover-*

*ings.* Mattress ticking is usually blue and white.

**Wash stand** – *A piece of furniture consisting of a table or stand to hold a basin and pitcher of water for washing.* The Davenports used a basin and pitcher set on a washstand daily.

**Scrap book** – *A book with blank pages used for the mounting and preserving of pictures, clippings, or other mementos.* At the Davenport House visitors find Sarah Davenport’s album, which is a scrap book containing locks of hair from members of her family.



**Servant** – *A person who performs domestic duties – i.e. cleans, etc.* The Davenports may have used the term “servant” for a house slave.

**Servitude** – *Subjection to an owner or master.* The Davenport’s slaves were in servitude.

**Ward** – *A division of a city or town, especially an electoral district, for administrative and representative purposes.* The city of Savannah consists of wards and squares.

**Wrought iron** – *A highly refined form of iron that is easy to shape but is strong and fairly resistant to rust, widely used for decorative ironwork.* The wrought iron on the Davenport House entrance was made by a blacksmith.

**Yellow Fever** – *An infectious tropical disease transmitted by mosquitoes, also referred to as black vomit.* Yellow fever was common during the Davenport’s time and it is what killed Mr. Davenport.

# Davenport Family in Savannah

- This family's first member to come to America was Thomas Davenport who was born in Dorchester, England in 1615 and died in Dorchester, MA in 1685.
- His great-great grandson, Jonathan Davenport, was a Revolutionary War soldier and father of four sons—Dudley, Isaiah, Samuel and Thomas. Jonathan died when his children were quite young.

After apprenticing in carpentry, Isaiah struck out on his own far away from his New England home. Arriving in Savannah around 1808, he began work as a carpenter and shortly thereafter married Sarah Rosamond Clark, a native of South Carolina residing in Savannah.

**Isaiah Davenport**

b. 11/3/1784; d. 10/16/1827

**Sarah Rosamond Clark**

b. 2/22/1788; d. 8/7/1869

**Married:** March 15, 1809

## *Children of Isaiah and Sarah Davenport*

**Susannah Elizabeth**

b. 1810; d. 10/8/1814

**Thurston Warren**

b. 8/ 1813; 5/8/1814

**Benjamin Rush Tippens**

b. 6/25/1817; d. 3/17/1875

**Henry Kollock**

b. 12/10/1820; d. 8/18/1872

**Cornelia Augusta**

b. 3/17/1824; 7/16/1853

**Sarah Rosamond**

b. 4/1812; d. 6/12/1813

**Isaiah, Jr.**

b. 1815; d. 1868

**Archibald Davenport**

b. 1819; 4/9/1892

**Hugh McCall**

b. 8/16/1822; d. 7/31/1880

**William Dudley Davenport**

b. 1827; d. 5/1867

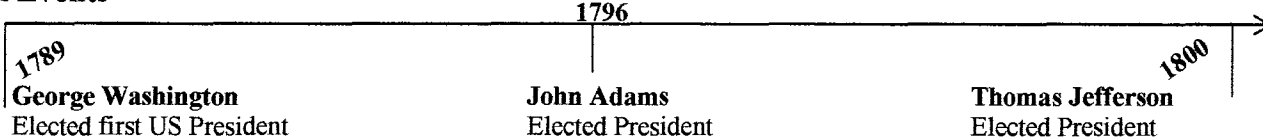
### Ages of the children when they moved into their new house on Columbia Square:

Isaiah, Jr.: 5, Benjamin Rush: 3, Archibald Clark: 1

### Ages of the children when their father died:

Isaiah, Jr.: 12, Benjamin Rush: 10, Archibald Clark: 8, Henry Kollock: 6, Hugh McCall: 5, Cornelia: 3, and William Dudley: not born.

## National Events



# ***Federal Style Architecture***

The Davenport House is in the Federal-style of architecture. This style was very popular during and just after the American Revolution. You can tell a Federal style house because they are: symmetrical (if you cut it in half the sides will match), often have a fanlight (half-circle window) over the front door, are box shaped with a gable-end roof (triangular on the end).



1816

*The Missouri Compromise*

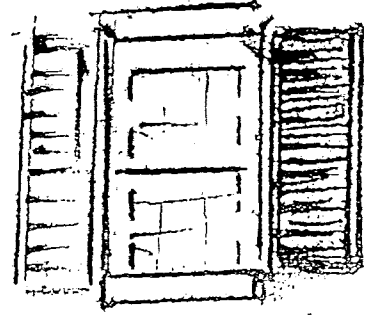
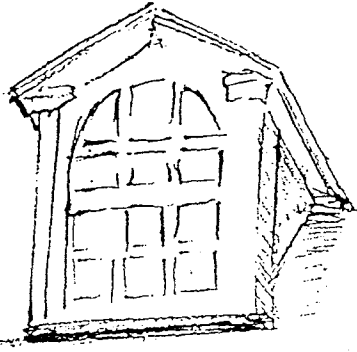
1820

*James Monroe elected President*

1819

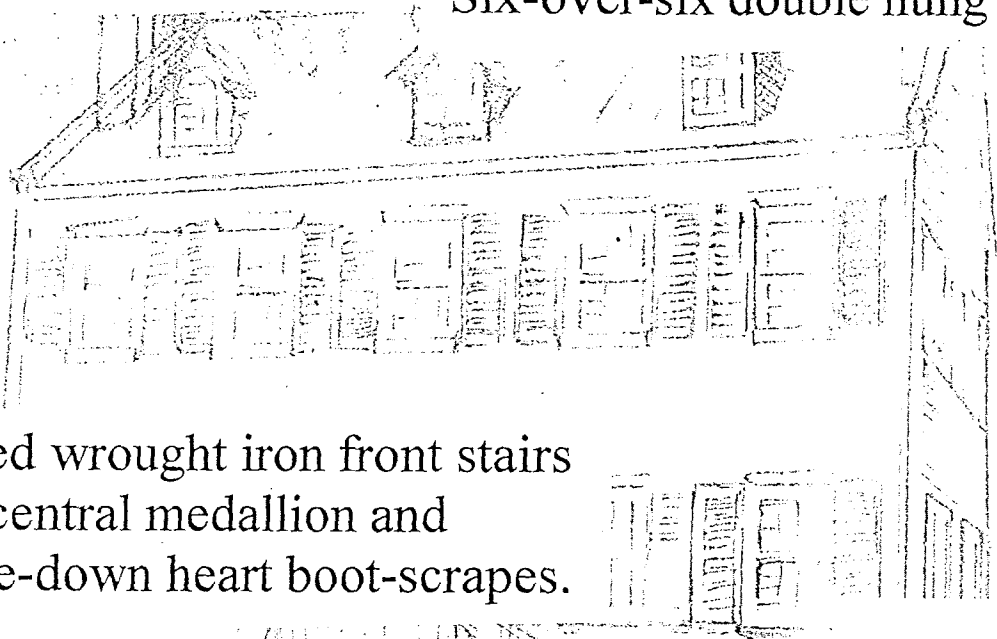
*Fire in Savannah. Burned from Bay to Broad Streets and Jefferson to Abercorn Streets. 463 buildings were destroyed.*

# Features of the Davenport house

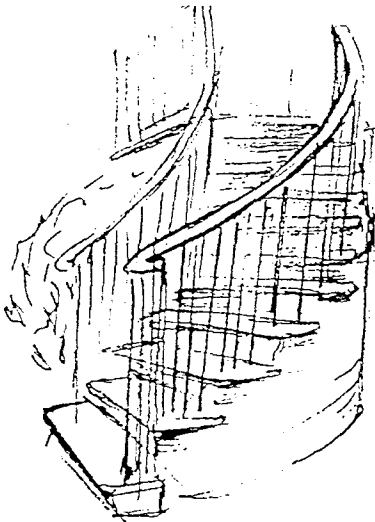


Arched windows in the dormers.

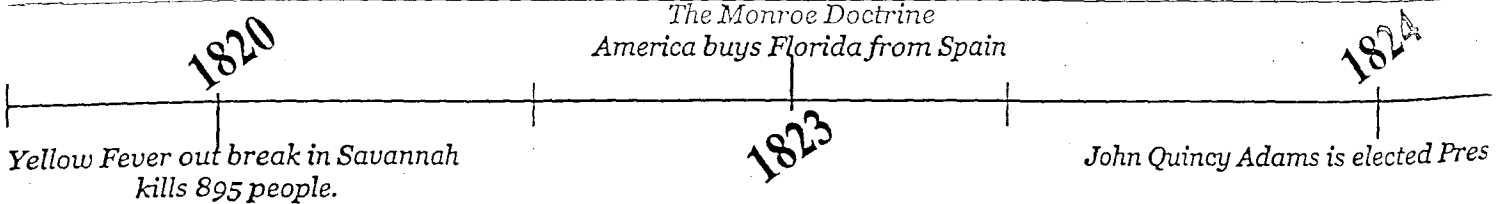
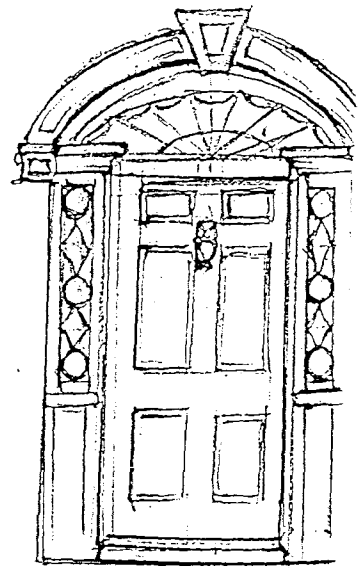
Six-over-six double hung windows



Curved wrought iron front stairs with central medallion and upside-down heart boot-scrapes.



Front entrance includes a panel door, fanlight, side-lights, a curved brown-stone arch and keystone.



# House Builders in the 1820s

The period just after the American Revolution was a time of fine craftsmanship. It took a variety of skilled workers to build a home like the Davenport House. Masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, plasterers and painters all contributed. Managing all of these people was the master-builder, who in discussion with the person who was paying for the building, determined how it would look and how it would work. Though Isaiah Davenport called himself a **carpenter**, a better description of what he did was **master-builder**. He hired and supervised his crew of workmen, some of which he owned.

Davenport was not an architect. He did not study how to design houses in college, instead he learned his trade through an apprenticeship with a master-craftsman who taught him and allowed him to practice his skills under close supervision. Once trained and experienced, Davenport set out on his own. He used the illustrations and directions from pattern books along with consultation with his clients to determine how a new building would look and function. At one time, most of the squares in Savannah contained homes, commercial structures or public buildings, which were built or worked on by Davenport and his crew.

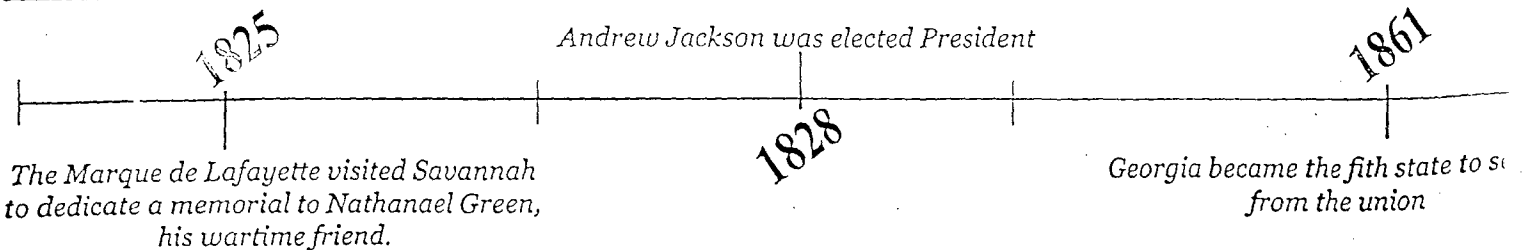
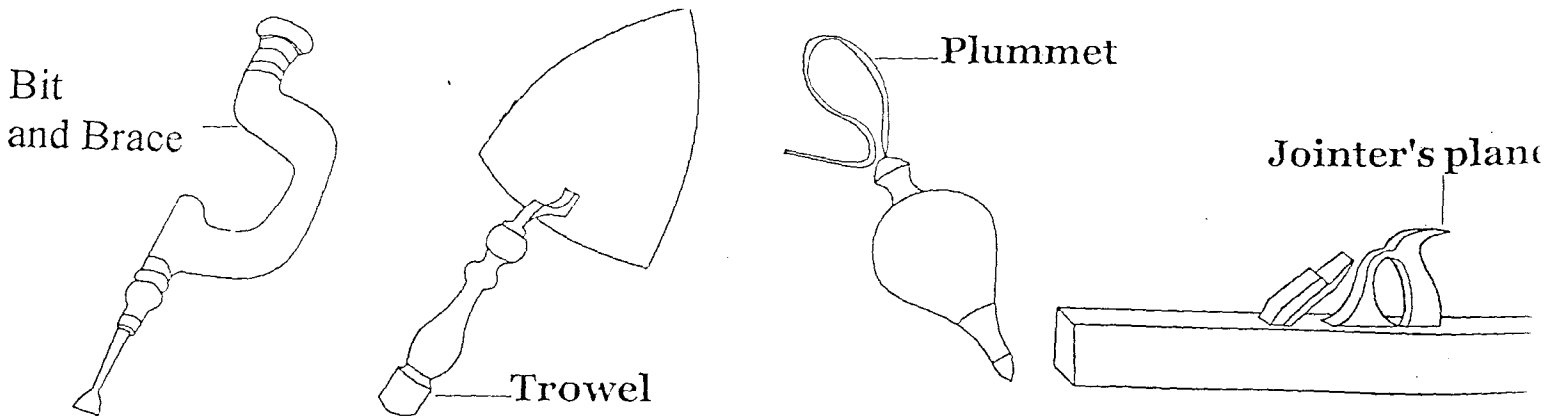
## Some Carpenters Tools

Brace and Bit: Brace and bits are used to drill holes in wood.

Trowel: Trowels are used by masons to put mortar in-between bricks.

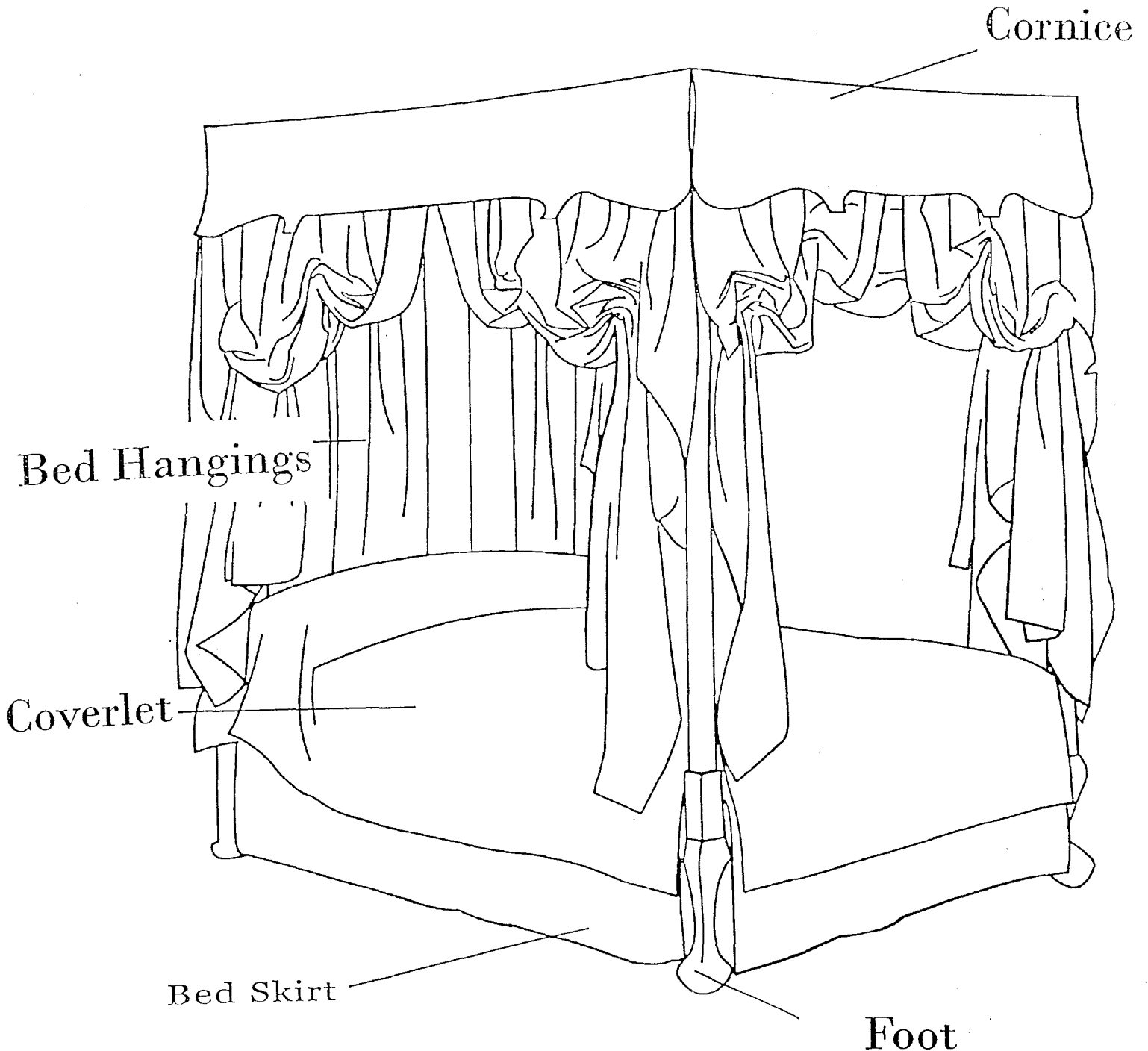
Plummet: Plummetts are used to ensure pieces of wood <sup>were</sup> ~~is~~ level, so that the walls would be straight.

Jointer's Plane: Jointer's Planes are used to smooth the surface of a piece of wood



# Federal Era Bedstead

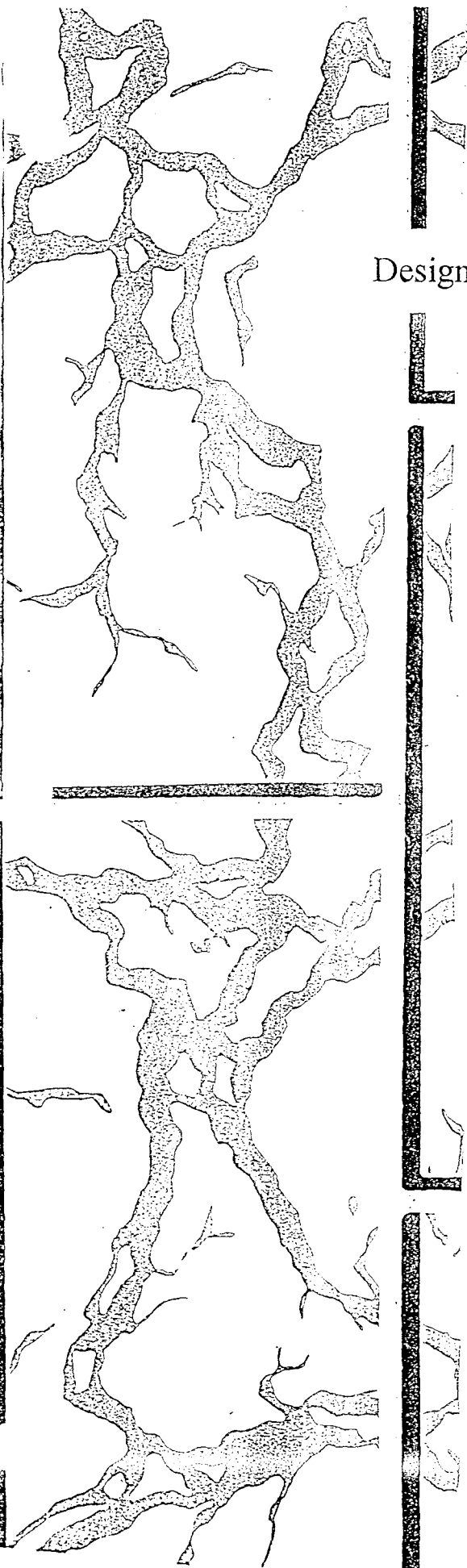
When pulled closed, bed hangings provided privacy and protected the sleeper from drafts. Bed hangings on the Davenports' bed are made of dimity, which is cotton. In the summer, mosquito netting was hung on rods at the inside cornice of the bedstead.



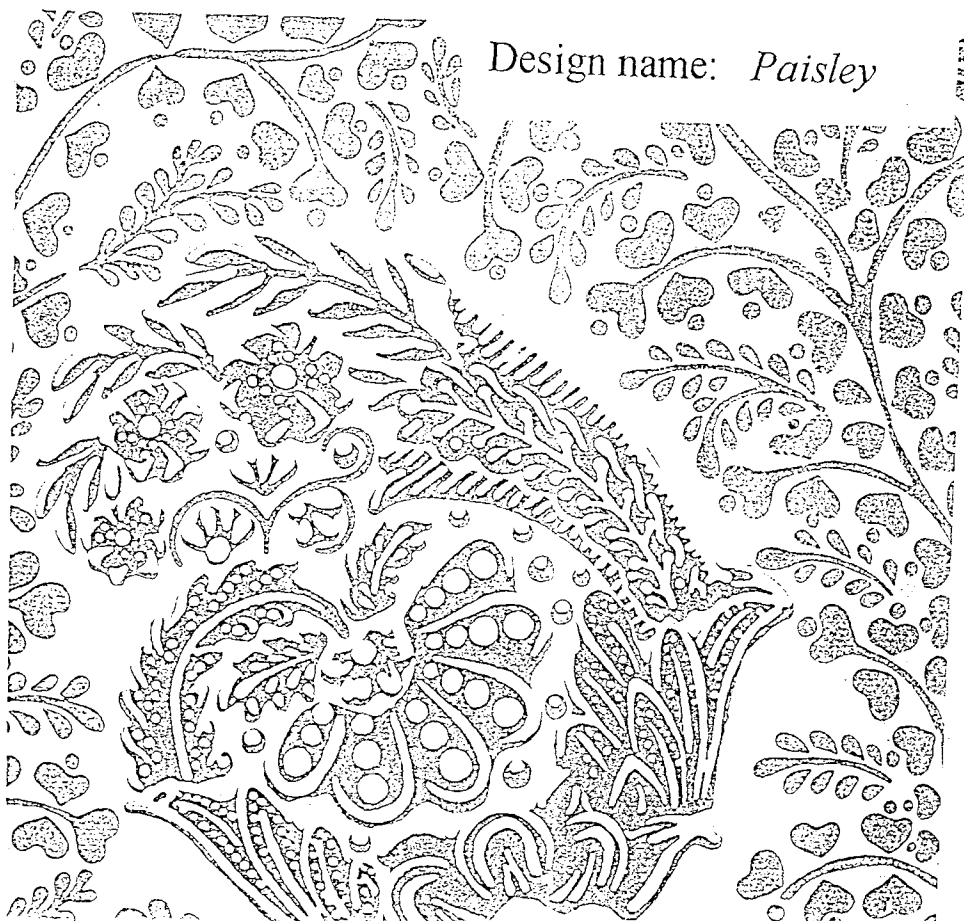
# Designs from the 19th Century

What colors would you make these?

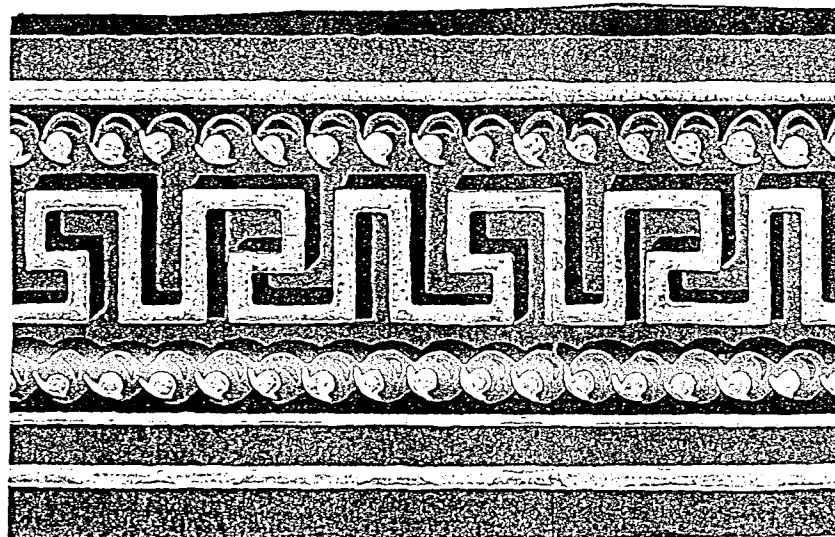
Design name: *Ashlar*



Design name: *Paisley*



Design: *Greek Key*



# Davenport House Word Search

Y I U  
 Z L X J Q K H  
 H N E W E N G L A N D  
 R A L D E R M A N R T Y M  
 J K Z U R B A N S L A V E R Y  
 Z Y H E W B U G J W S J L P Q  
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 D E A V H O U S E H O L D O C U F  
 C I N A H C E M A I Y R I U W A I I X  
 C K N I A I D N I K T J S A F R L O L  
 V H B U C K E T B R I G A D E P L N O  
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 D Y B Z M G L U A S H T R T N  
 D A V E N P O R T H O U S E S  
 W B I R F C E S S E U S R  
 H E R P R C A W W P E  
 V P O H O L K  
 V T C

Alderman

Bucket brigade

Carpenter

Chamber pot

Coastal city

Columbia Square

Davenport House

Fire master

Household

India ink

Ionic

Isaiah

Mechanic

New England

Privy

Public squares

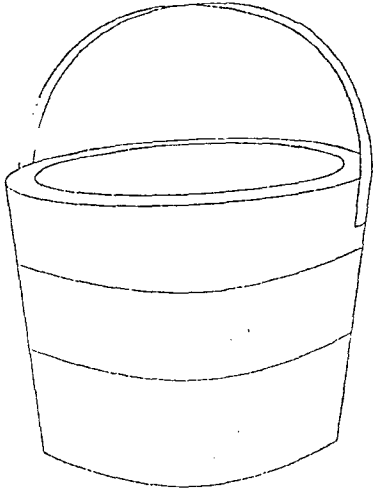
Quill pen

Sarah

Urban slavery

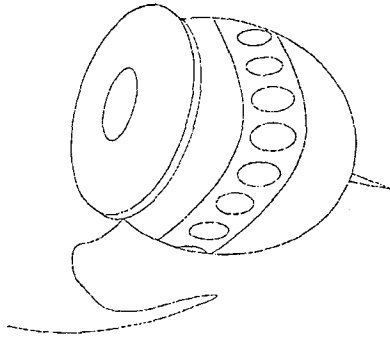
Yellow Fever

# Word Scramble



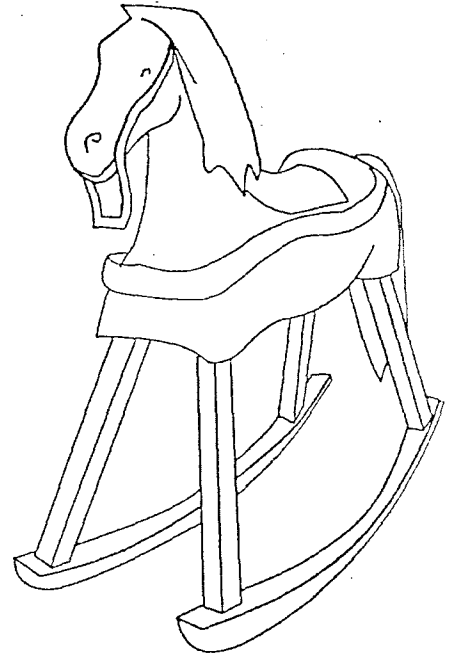
1) tcekub

\_\_\_\_\_



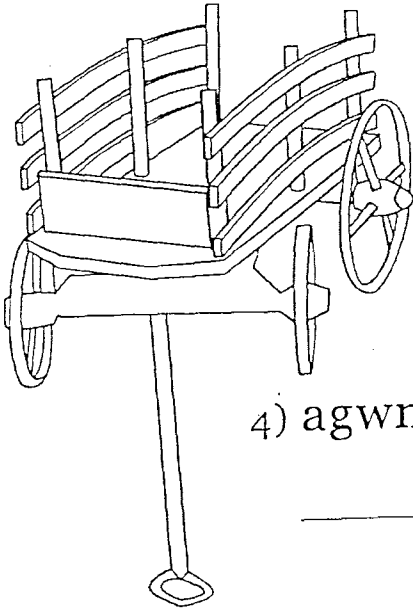
2) pot

\_\_\_\_\_



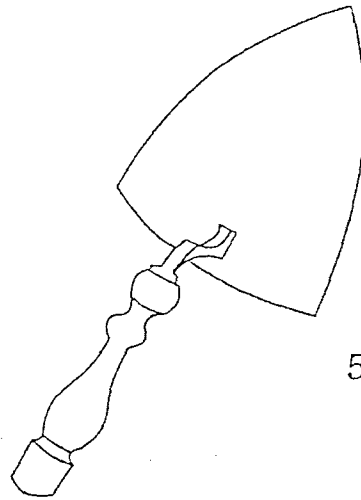
3) ngroike srohe

\_\_\_\_\_



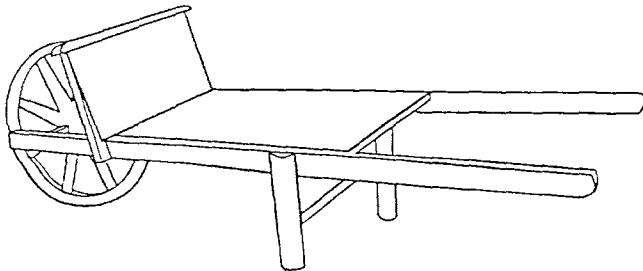
4) agwno

\_\_\_\_\_



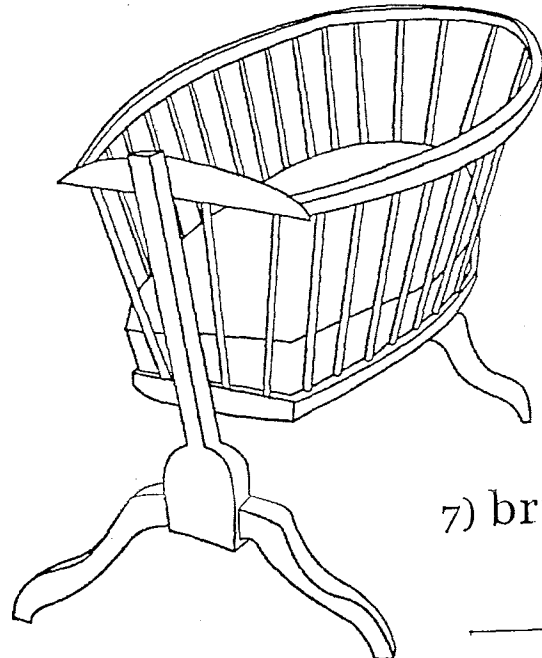
5) wolettr

\_\_\_\_\_



6) lehew worbra

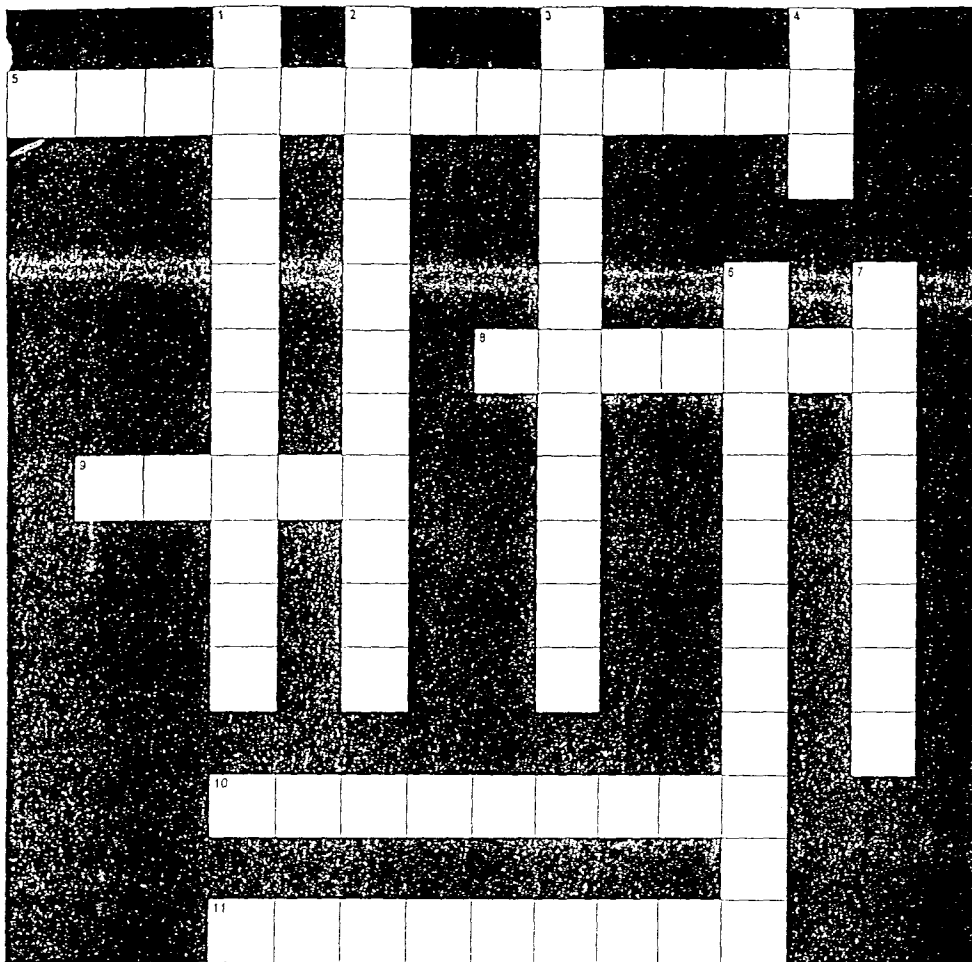
\_\_\_\_\_



7) bric

\_\_\_\_\_

## Davenport House



### Down

1. The Davenports would entertain or receive guests in the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Isaiah volunteered as a \_\_\_\_\_ and also kept leather fire buckets in the hallway.
3. In the 1820s, there were not flush toilets. People used these (indoors) instead.
4. Isaiah and Sarah had \_\_\_\_\_ children.
6. The decorative medallion on the stair railing is made of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Isaiah was elected to be an \_\_\_\_\_ in 1817.

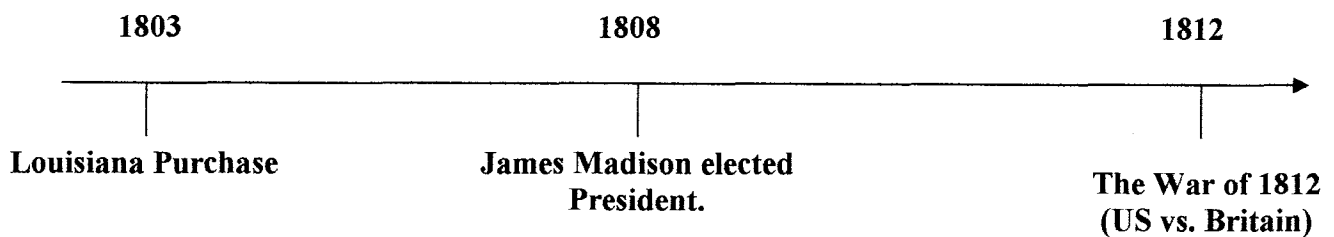
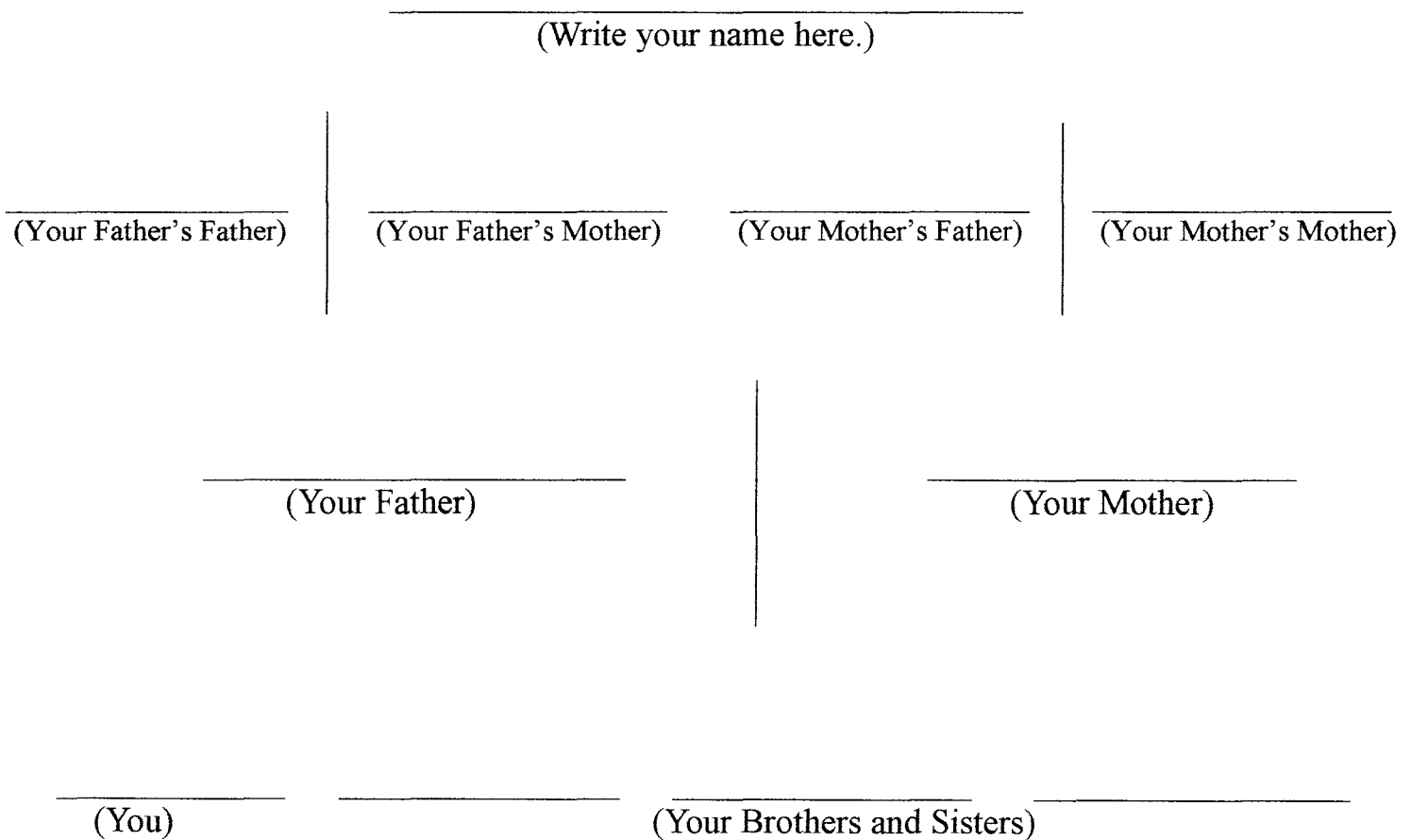
### Across

5. After Isaiah died, Sarah made the family home in to a \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The Davenport House is an example of \_\_\_\_\_ style architecture.
9. In 1820, Savannah was divided into sections called \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Isaiah made a living as a \_\_\_\_\_.
11. In 1820, people washed their face and hands in a \_\_\_\_\_.

# ***Choose a Tree***

## My Family Tree

**Make your own family tree.**



# **Choose a Tree**

*My Favorites Tree*

**What do I like to do?**

---

---

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**Who do I like to read with?**

---

**Who do I like to listen to music with?**

---

**Who do I like to dance with?**

---

**Who do I like to sing with?**

---

**Who do I like to draw with?**

---

**Who do I like to play music with?**

---

**Who do I like to run with?**

---

**What is my favorite game?**

---

**Who do I like to play that game with?**

---

**What is my favorite toy?**

---

**What is my favorite thing to do?**

---

**What is my favorite food?**

---

**Who makes my favorite food?**

---

**Who is my hero?**

---

**Why is this person my hero?**

---

---

**What is my favorite thing to read?**

---

## Davenport House Documents: History is the Written Word

Rep. & Savh Even. – 10/15/1812

p. 3, c. 4

### “Fifty Dollars Reward”

Ran away from subscriber on or about the 20<sup>t</sup> of March last, a NEGRO WENCH named NANCY, about thirty years of age, four feet ten inches high, has a scar on her neck; she can speak the German language; Nancy was formerly the property of George Rentz, who owns her sister by the name of Peggy, they look very much alike; Nancy was once taken, and got off by passing herself of Peggy; they can only be distinguished by the scar Nancy has on her neck, she has been several times seen passing from Savannah to Wilmington Island. The above reward will be paid on proof to conviction of her being harbored by any white person, or thirty dollars if delivered to the subscriber, or lodged in any goal in this state, so that the subscriber get her.

Isaiah Davenport

\*\*

September 8, 1818

Columbian Museum and Savannah Gazette

### Communicated

At a large and respectable meeting of the Mechanics of the city, at the Exchange longroom on Thurs. evening last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety & necessity of Sav'h being represented by the two gentlemen of their profession, in the board of alderman, — after nominating a chairman & appointing a secretary, they proceeded to a fair and impartial investigation of the subject that had called them forth; & after a deliberate decision, unanimously asserted their CLAIM to be JUST one & choose & agreed to support for the attainment of that object, John H. Ash and Isaiah Davenport, esq'rs — who have consented to serve if elected. Those persons then & there present, look forward, with confidence to the coincidence & support, of such of their brethren who were not at the meeting, in favor of their candidates; as well as the aid of many others of their fellow citizens. (p. 2, c. 3)

\*\*

President Monore's visit/1819

Toast to the President (Savannah Republican and Evening Ledger): “The union of our country. May the last trump alone dissolve it.” City Alderman Isaiah Davenport

\*\*

The Daily Georgian

27 Nov. 1820

ELEGANT

Marble Chimney—Pieces, ec.

Just received per sloop Cotton Plant,

An Invoice of elegant Italian Marble Chimney Pieces, ec. As follows:

No. 1 box, containing 1 Italian Marble Chimney Piece, with Statuary, Unique Caps and Columns, with veined shelves, ver'd antique grounds, tablet freezes and frees'ed blocks

No. 2, containing the same

No. 3, containing one Italian Statuary Marble Chimney Piece, with mummy heads, unique caps, carved freezes

No. 4 and 5, containing, shelves and hearths to mantle

The above, and for sale by

Joyner E. Fenno

Bulloch's Building

Oct 31

\*\*

The Georgian, 22 May, 1821, p. 3, c. 1

A house was struck by lightning in the sixth instant . . . All persons in the house, nine in number, were in one room and no-one received any injury except Mr. Raymond, owner of the house, and a Mr. Davenport, both of whom were standing, and were knocked down apparently dead, and remained so for some time. The hair on the head of both were burnt, and they were marked on the skin from head to foot. Mr. Davenport who had a child in his arms had the skin torn from his [illeg] breast and one leg, and a number of blisters under his shirt, vest, pantaloons and stocking were considerably scorched, while the child received no injury. The tea-table, at which Mrs. Davenport was sitting, was struck and one split, and the dishes broken, but Mrs. D[avenport] appeared unhurt. The house was very much shattered. The person injured are recovering. (26 June 1821, p. 2. c. 5)

\*\*

Register of Death, Savannah, GA 1818-32

Death – I.D.

212

<u>Names</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Trade or Profession</u>	<u>Disease or Casualty</u>
Isaiah Davenport	43	Rhode Island	Carpenter	Yellow Fever

\*\*

**FOR RENT**

The commodious House belonging to the estate of Isaiah Davenport situated in Warren Square [error], opposite the resident of Mrs. Woolhopter; it will accommodate a large family, or would be well calculated for a Boarding House — possession can be given as soon as about the first of November. For terms apply to Mrs. Davenport now residing in the house.

\*\*

Savannah Georgian. October 20, 1827, p. 3. c. 2.

**BOARDING**

Mrs. Davenport has determined not to rent the house belonging to the estate of Isaiah Davenport and proposes to pen a private Boarding House on the 5th of November — when she will be prepared to receive as boarders, either single gentlemen or families. From the situation and general convenience of the House, undertaking, she hopes to receive a share of the public patronage and asks the interest of her friends in effecting the object.

October 25, 1827

\*\*

Savh. Georgian  
Estate – Lot 14 Col.; Slaves  
4/7/1828 p. 3, c. 4

**“SHERIFF’S SALES**

On the first Tuesday in May next will be sold before the court house in the city of Savannah, between the usual hours of sale, the following property, viz.:  
All that lot of land situated, lying and being in the city of Savannah, in the state of Georgia, containing 60 feet front and 90 feet deep, and known and distinguished in the plan of the said city, by the No. 14, Columbia Ward, subject to the payment of an annual ground rent to the corporation of the city of Savannah and nine negroes; via: Ned, Davy, Bella, Jack, Jacob, Isaac, Polly, Peggy and Nancy; levied on as the property of Isaiah Davenport, to satisfy an execution in favor of Robert Mitchell.

Geo. Millen, SCC”