



House History

Jane Augusta (Lathrop) Rand House

Address: 49 Kirkland Street

City: Cambridge

State: Massachusetts

Map and Lot Number: Map 146: Lot 87

Map: BROMLEY 1903: 49 KIRKLAND

First Owner: Lathrop - Jane Augusta (Lathrop) Rand (1837-1918)

Build Date: 1886-1888

When her husband began his difficulties Jennie and the children moved to 16 Quincy Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In 1886 Jennie built the beautiful house at 49 Kirkland Street in Cambridge, designed by James T. Kelly, that was to be the family home for forty-four years until the death of Jennie's daughter, Margaret Arnold Rand, in 1930.

"On Kirkland Street, corner of Francis avenue, Mrs. J. L. Rand has erected a fine residence, designed by James T. Kelley, architect, of Boston. It is in the colonial style, with gambrel roof and dormers connected by balustrade. The cornice is denticulated, breaking over the windows of the second story, thus forming a cap for windows. The ornamental front porch and window over is a marked feature. The front steps are treated, in a similar way — bowing out, with front of balcony roof following the same curve. The main entrance is a Dutch door with ornamental, top and sidelights. There is a circular bay on the east side, two stories in height, terminating with a balcony and balustrade of alternating panels and balusters. The hall is very spacious, running the whole depth of the main house and terminating in a bay with window seat. The main staircase as seen through the hall arch is an important feature. Opposite the staircase is a large fireplace with four-foot opening and mantel extending to the ceiling. At the right of the hall is a reception-room, 15x16, and dining-room, 15x22, with circular end, sideboard recessed and fireplace with four-foot opening and mantel extending to the ceiling. At the right of the hall is a reception-room, 15x16, and dining-room, 15x22, with circular end, sideboard recessed and fireplace opposite. On the left-of the hall is a large living room, 15x30, with bay in the centre opposite fireplace. On this floor, also, are kitchen, china closet, pantry and laundry, back entries and stairs. In the second story are a studio, five large bedrooms and bath-room, and in attic three bedrooms, linen closet, trunk room and bath-room. All of the principal rooms have mantel pieces which have been specially designed to correspond with the style of the house." – The Cambridge Tribune, Vol. X, No. 47, January 28, 1888, Page 1, Column 3.

Henry Lathrop Rand lived at the house on Kirkland Street during the winters, vacationing on Mt. Desert Island in the summer, until his marriage to Marion Quincy Winslow in 1904. He returned to Kirkland Street after 'Q's' death in 1915 and seems to have stayed there from time to time until his sister, Margaret Arnold Rand died in 1930 and he married her nurse, Dorothy Pearson Rand. Henry took many photographs of the interior, exterior and gardens of this house from 1890 to 1896.

Kirkland Street was probably named for clergyman, John Thornton Kirkland (1770-1840) 14th President of Harvard College from 1810 to 1828. During his tenure Harvard established the first university law school.