

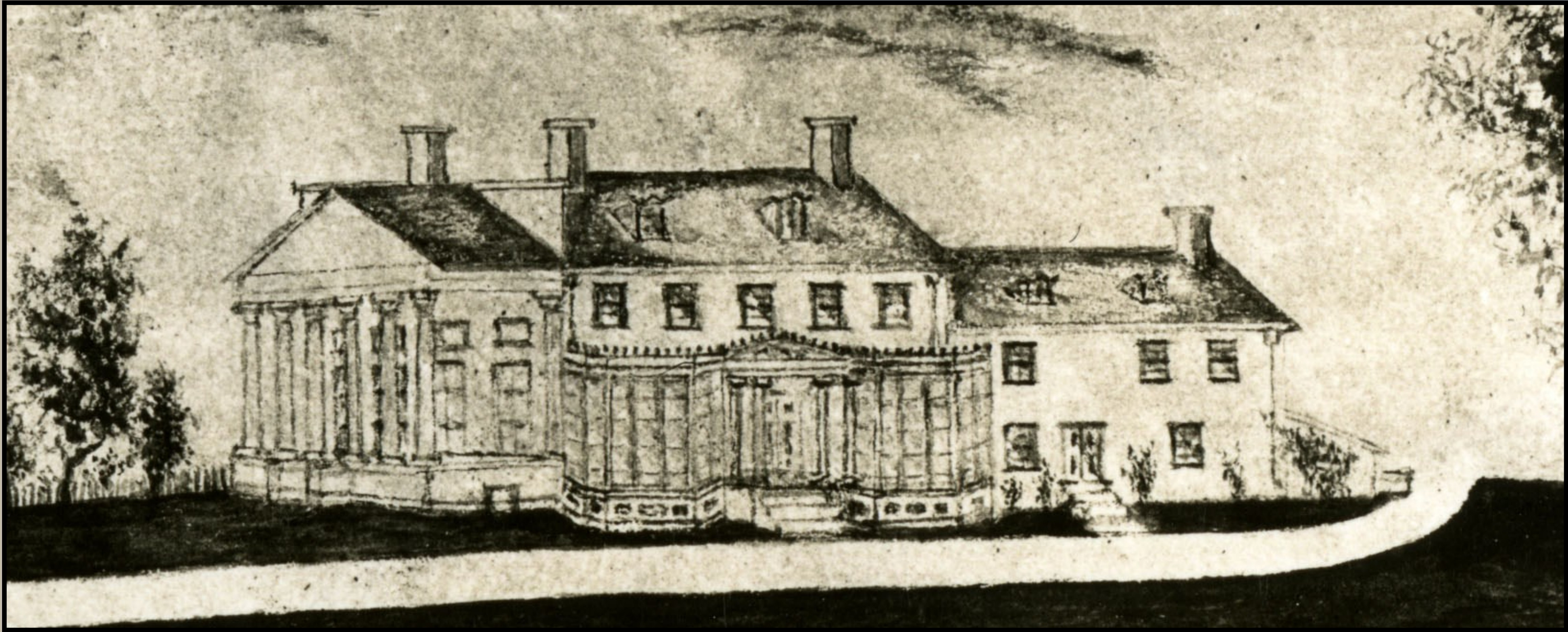
Epsom Mansion - Exterior



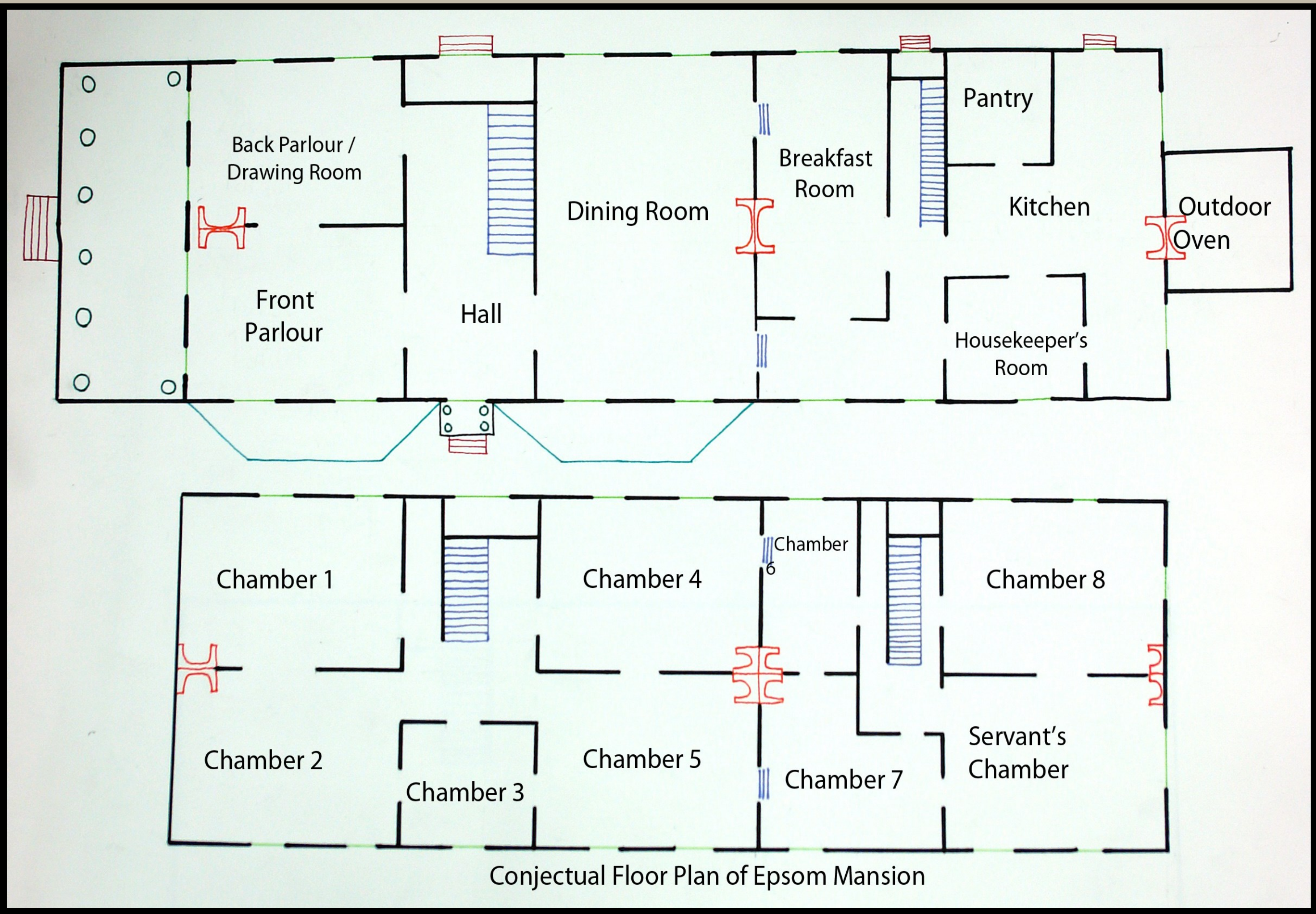
"Epsom seat of H.B. Chew Esqr." Drawn by Henry Banning Chew, ca. 1837, *Memorial Journal, Chew Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.*

Epsom Mansion was built during the 1780s by John Robert Holliday, grandson of Colonel Charles Ridgely. Though little visual evidence of the early mansion survives, an 1835 drawing by Henry Banning Chew indicates that it consisted of two wings, most likely constructed at separate times. The larger west wing was a two and a half story, modest Georgian structure featuring a small front portico porch. The smaller, and probably older, east wing was also two and a half stories, and featured a separate entrance door as well as a one-story addition with a shed roof on the side.

Sometime between 1835 and 1843, Henry Banning Chew built an addition to the mansion consisting of two conservatories and a Doric portico. These additions enhanced the appearance of the mansion so that it conformed to the Greek Revival style popular at the time. This stylish mansion was widely admired. When fire destroyed the mansion in 1894, Baltimore County residents were stunned. *The Maryland Journal* reported "the ruins were the mecca for pilgrims. . . and hundreds visited the scene all day." The current Julia Rogers building sits on the exact location of Epsom Mansion.



Drawing of Epsom Mansion, ca. 1843. Artist unknown. Goucher College Special Collections and Archives.



Account of Furniture belonging to H. B. Chew in his Dwelling at Epsom Baltimore County Maryland	
Housekeepers Room	
Breakfast Room	
Mahogany Breakfast Table	12
do Dining do	
do Sideboard	10
do Candle stand	3
Large Book case (br. maple)	20
do Settle - green & gold	4
Chairs 4 do	15
Wood box	1
Small case with set of tools	5
Carpet best Syrian	20
Mat - prodian or harkly	2
pr. Candle sticks	4
pr. Table Lamps	2
Plate warmer, lac'd ware	5
Waiters	3
Cushions & pillows on Settle	2
Curtain Carpet	2
Belows & brush do	1

Inventory of Furniture at Epsom compiled by Henry Banning Chew in 1855. This document details the contents of each room in the mansion. From this source, it is possible to create a floor plan of the interior. (Chew Family Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.)