

Excerpt from: **Historic Structure Report: Faneuil Hall (1977)**

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pp. 73-75 from "Finishes" by Judith Selwyn, PhD., Preservation Technology Associates

While very helpful in determining the reuse of early components at Faneuil Hall, this paint study literally has only "scratched the surface" of the fascinating story of the decorative appearance of the building in 1899 and earlier. The subject should receive much closer scrutiny at a future date, in order to establish firmly the nature of coexisting color schemes — both interior and exterior — at Faneuil Hall over the years.

EXTERIOR

1. **Pilaster Brick:** found in crawl space under balcony — not in situ; the fact that one side and one end are painted indicates its probable provenance.

Bottom: brown (light) (brownstone?)
oxblood brown
dark cream (dirt?)
light yellow cream
gray-green khaki (dark)
medium greenish yellow
yellow cream
yellow
greenish yellow
red (brick)
gray

Top: brown (dirt?) (c. 1881?) prob. removed c. 1898?
About 10-12 layers

2. Brick: (from wall?) (found as above) (peeling)

Bottom: light tan (reddish)
gray-green khaki (as above) (dark)
dark yellow ocher
light peach cream (dirt line)
light yellow cream

Top: dark brick-red
About 6 layers (poor condition indicates paint loss and lowers
reliability of sample)

3. Window Frame: Gallery level outside main hall, south elevation (Ill. 124)
NPS Slide Nos. SX 2003 006, 035-037

Bottom: dark brown
light "brownstone" color (possibly another coat) 1
putty light cream dirt)
darker putty off-white dirt line) 2
lighter grayish off-white dirt line)
darker yellowish tan
lighter yellowish tan dirt
grayish off-white
darker yellowish tan (as above) dirt) 3
light yellow cream)
Top: light gray (present)
About 12 coats

Note: Numbered layers match those of Item 5.

4. Window Sash: main level outside Main Hall (Ill. 126)
NPS Slide Nos. SX 2003 007-012, 038-039

Bottom: black (tar-like)
lighter brown "brownstone" color (as above)
black (as above)
putty light cream (as above) dirt line (thick)
darker putty off-white dirt line (thick)
lighter grayish off-white dirt line
same (2 coats) dirt
same a little darker dirt
yellowish cream (2 coats?)
Top: tan off-white
About 10 to 12 coats (item removed from structure before most
recent painting)

5. Window Reveal: Market level, south elevation (Ill. 123)
NPS Slide Nos. SX 2003 001-003, 027-032

Bottom: white (whitewash?) primer?)
dark brown)
light reddish brown) 1
red brown ("brownstone" color?))
warm cream (dirt line))
grayish off-white (dirt line)) 2
" " " (same))
warm cream peach (dirt line)) 3
lighter cream peach (thick))
bright brick-red)
Top: light gray granite color (present) 4
About 10 to 12 layers

Note: Numbered layers match those of Item 3.

6. Window Frame: Market level, south elevation (Ill. 125)
NPS Slide Nos. SX 2003 004-005, 033-034

Bottom: dark reddish brown (same as above) "brownstone" color) 1
light cream (dirt line))
2 light creams (& 2 dirt lines)) 2
another warm cream)
warm cream peach (same as above) (evidence of peeling)) 3
lighter cream peach)
Top: light gray granite (no brick red) (present) 4
About 8 layers