

Basic Detail Report



Title Sign for Williams's Inn

Date 1803-1826

Primary Maker Benjamin Williams

Medium Paint on pine board, unidentified hardwood columns, possibly maple,
gold leaf, iron hardware

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Description Images: On side 1, exterior scene of stage coach with two horses, off-

center in oval outline, over a central rising sun. On side 2, interior scene of one

man seated at a table with decanters and drinking glasses (presently illegible

but documented photographically in 1900). Text: On both sides, in pediment,

"1826." over "1803"; in name band below image, "H.W." over earlier initials, not

decipherable. Construction: Two boards, grain oriented vertically. Thin,

bullnosed, horizontal rails, and fluted, columnar posts. The two boards are

joined with four dowels, which appear to be original. The frame is ornamental

rather than structural, and is unusual in that it is not tenoned together. Instead,

the posts pass through square holes in the rails, which are held in place by nails.

Pediment is a separate board, grain oriented horizontally, hand-sawn to create

decorative profile and nailed to top rail. Applied moldings, mitered at corners,

are nailed to both faces of board. Thin bullnose strips are nailed to side edges of

board.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width including hardware): 57 3/4 x 35

1/8in. (146.7 x 89.2cm) Other (height x width of sign only): 54 3/4 x 35 1/8in.

(139.1 x 89.2cm)