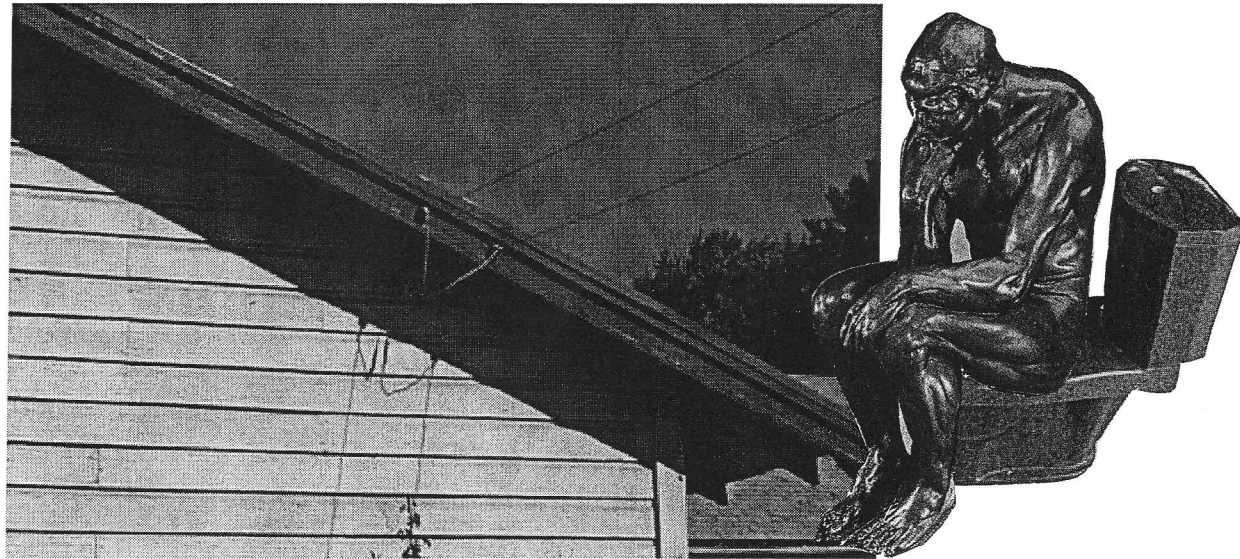


WORTH KNOWING WHILE YOU'RE GOING...



In this photo, there are two wires entering the structure instead of the modern and common three wires (or triplex). This electrical configuration is known as duplex and was used until it was replaced by the modern triplex configuration. This is an excellent indicator of "knob and tube" wiring, and is also an excellent indicator that balloon frame construction is present as both of these configurations were used during the same periods. Prior to triplex, duplex was the standard wiring configuration and consisted of two wires that traveled through a structure suspended on ceramic insulators and passed through ceramic tubes when traveling through a wall or plate. Unfortunately, this can present a significant hazard to a firefighter involved in suppression operations, specifically overhaul. As this type of wiring is now quite old, the insulation is brittle, and in some cases, has fallen from the wiring leaving bare wires. If this type of wiring is present, shutting off the electrical utility should be an initial priority.

**THIS TYPE OF WIRING IS VERY PREVALENT IN
OUR DOWNTOWN AREA!!!!**