

## **The Moore Family Kitchen**

**Who lived here?** Bridget and Joseph Moore with their three young children Mary Catherine (age 4), Jane (age 3) and baby Agnes

**When did they live here?** 1868-1869

**What's in the room?** The kitchen is where Bridget spent most of her time as the main caretaker of her home. The Moore family was only one of two Irish families living at 97 Orchard Street when the neighborhood was mostly a German community.

Many objects relate to domestic work and housekeeping responsibilities (various mixing bowls, hanging herbs, dishware, a basket used for shopping at the local market). Chores included preparing meals for her family from such staples of the Irish-American diet as potatoes, cabbage, tea, soup, soda bread, and pork which would be cooked on a coal burning stove.

Coal would be especially dirty with soot coating the walls and dusting the floors. Cleaning would be done with the help of brooms, dust pans and scrub brushes. Bridget would keep busy throughout the day, all while keeping an eye on the young children. What other smells might be coming from various kitchens during the dinner hour?