



150-Year-Old House Restored, Renovated And Modernized

Do You Know Your Charleston 8/18/48

## House On Longitude Lane Was Charmingly Restored

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By ISABELLA G. LELAND

Just off Church St. down cobblestoned Longitude Lane is a small picturesque brick dwelling dating from about 1790. A Cherokee rose makes an arbor inside the old brick fence. A raised flower bed runs the length of the south wall and a large oleander blooms here in the summer.

Built for Alexander Jones, who came to Charleston from Massachusetts and worked as accountant on Church St., it originally consisted of "four upright rooms and a kitchen." After his marriage these became somewhat cramped for his growing family and the Joneses moved to the John Stuart House at the corner of Tradd and Orange Street.

The property retains much of the quaint flavor of its early days. With adaptations fitting it for modern living, The late Miss Marguerite Pinckney Walker bought the property about 1929 and cleverly joined the house to the detached kitchen, building a new kitchen and adding modern baths.

The house consists of two main floors, an attic and a deep basement, the latter effectively housing the furnace. From the entry a door leads under the stairway to a small hall, formerly the space between the houses, from which doors open onto the yard and the new kitchen, and beyond to the right a den with fireplace and French doors opening to the yard.

The old portion of the house has wide gleaming floorboards, narrow mantels, and recessed windows with seats. The fireplace in the

living room has been faced with old brick and the mantel is dentil trimmed. The dining room is similar with simpler woodwork.

The kitchen, with plenty of cabinet space, is unusual in that the north wall runs at an angle. The lot is crooked; even the old fence had a kink in it, and the kitchen wall was angled to get the maximum amount of interior space.

Halfway up the stairs is the second-floor-back, a bath and bedroom over the old kitchen. The second floor proper has a tiled bath and two bedrooms, both with fire-places and fascinating door latches. The east room looks out on magnolia blossoms, and the west to the slate and tiled rooftops.

Chimney alcoves on either side of the east room mantel have been made into closets, and a large closet converted from the waste space of the upper hall opens into the west bedroom.

With three bedrooms, three baths, a sizeable yard, 2 large attics rooms and a basement, Alexander Jones' "four upright rooms and kitchen" seem to have magically expanded, thanks to Miss Walker's imaginative treatment.

The property is now owned by Miss Walker's niece, Mrs. Austin Igleheart, Jr. of Evansville, Indiana.

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