

THEODORE YOUNG'S HOUSE c.1769

14 Water Street

It was known that Young was the builder of several houses in this neighborhood, including 35 Church and 30 Meeting Street. He also gave his name to a bridge that at the time connected the two parts of Church Street over Vanderhorst Creek that was later buried under Water Street, but a small piece of mahogany in which was cut "T. Young 1769" found built into the structure a few years ago obligingly confirms the indication given by his purchase of this lot a few years before.

LIVING ROOM

Upon entering the living room eyes are immediately drawn to the chandelier. It is French, made around 1880 for the breakfast room at Ashley Hall School. Ashley Hall was the home of the owner's grandfather.

On the English what-not is a lovely Blue Bristol vase amazingly intact considering it was unearthed when foundations were being repaired in the old kitchen building back of the house. Notice the plantation made "labor bed" from the owner's Virginia plantation.

The 18th century pier-glass above the mantle is said to have been designed so that a hostess could at a glance see all that was occurring in a room full of guests.

The late 18th century English secretaire is a particularly handsome piece. It is signed with the initials J. A. The sofa is Pleyfe in the Sheraton style, and is unusual in its design. The chairs on either side of the sofa are worthy. The one on the far side is French provincial, the other - an armchair - is covered

in its original prospect.

The cornices are good Victorian, and were made to order for a Charleston house that the owners lived in previously.

As you go upstairs through the hall please look at the mahogany strip on which is carved the name and date of the builder of the house. This strip was discovered behind plaster when restoration work was being done several years ago. On the way up the stairs you will see some charming humming bird prints. These are engraved by the famous Lizais.

SECOND FLOOR, LIBRARY

The planters desk was used in the office of Col. Dawson, famous editor of the News and Courier during and after the Reconstruction until his unsolved murder in 1876. It is most probably the most important piece of furniture in the room.

The Tiffany lamp is fun, and the box on the same table contains a family medicine chest. The hand carved rocking chair is German and stood in the nursery at Ashley Hall. The children in the family have always enjoyed poking their fingers through the mouth opening in the back as a wagging tongue.

The engraving of Generals Lee and Jackson above the mantle is an original artist's proof. The cunning Copenhagen porcelain on the mantle shelf are angels, one praying for the world - the other appears to have given up hope! The handsome firetools are hand cut steel.

The rugs in this room are particularly colorful, and are antique oriental as are the other rugs in the house. Please notice the wide floor boards.

BEDROOM

The bed is an early cannonball bed. Show the pegs for rope stretchers. This is a family piece from Virginia. Please notice the magazine rack. It had an earlier and much more practical use (a potty chair!). The Sheridan Dressing table is English. The candlestand is quite early c.1740-60 and has a Dutch foot.

Among other interesting ornaments on the mantle is an old Seth Thomas clock. And please notice the pair of rare antique candlesticks.

DINING ROOM

The mantle wall in this room is quite lovely. The cupboards are handcarved and original. Notice the watered glass panes. Black Cypress can be seen in the shelves that pull out underneath the cupboards. The house is made from this type cypress.

Please point out the unusual carving around the edge of the dining room table. The handsome silver urn on the table was copied by Tiffany and Co. from a brass Chinese urn that the owner's grandfather admired in the late 19th century.

The antique Sheraton liquor cabinet has been converted from a Gentleman's Dressing Table/