

**Number Sixteen Savage Street  
c. 1860  
Residence of Mrs. John E. Gary**

**1998**

Built in 1860, this house has survived many disasters including the 1989 hurricane which dumped 38 inches of water and silt downstairs. Most of the furniture is early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and has been passed down in the family.

### **Front Room**

Two Hitchcock chairs as you enter the hall.

Banjo clock, passed down to the homeowner by her mother.

High-boy, or chest on chest, c. 1790, is mahogany, English, notably not a family piece

Writing box, English

Two small tables, made by a great-great uncle who was a craftsman. One is a miniature butler's tray and the other a tilt-top.

Small table to the right of the sofa is English Chippendale c. 1770

China pieces, on the wall.

Tucker China is over the fireplace, is one of the first chinas made in America, the company was in business in Philadelphia in the 1820s and 1830s, very little in museums, considered an amateur copy of the French Sevres

Pine floors, restored after Hugo, still show a little damage.

### **Dining Room**

The furniture in the dining room is mahogany and English formal style.

Oil portrait, over fireplace, c. 1840, of owner's great-great-grandfather Ward, a preacher of note, painted by an itinerate painter (many worked by painting lots of portraits of bodies only and then traveling to your house and adding your head to the body which matched best)

Table and sideboard were practically rebuilt by Robert Sarco following extensive damage from Hurricane Hugo.

Blue willow soup tureen with flower arrangement on dining room table (after Hugo the tureen was found floating in the den undamaged)

Chandelier, brass

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### Den

Blue willow china, on the wall  
Gellar print, on the wall

### Garden

Gate is Philip Simmons' work. The master ironwork craftsman from Charleston, Mr. Simmons has a commemorative landscaped garden in honor at 91 Anson Street.

He has repaired, designed, and made many of the wrought iron gates, fences, stair rails and balconies throughout the city. A few of his many other works are at 72 Anson, 74 Anson, and 329 East Bay (Snake Gate).

The carriage house is rented as a bed and breakfast house and not on tour.



## NUMBER SIXTEEN SAVAGE STREET

2004

c. 1860

### Residence of Ms. Ruth Edwards

This weatherboard two story house was constructed in 1860s after this area of lower Charleston had been devastated by the fire of 1861. The facade is closed with a gable end and the entrance is surmounted with a simple hood supported with two brackets. The footprint is not the expected single house plan, but a later design, in Charleston referred to as the side hall plan. The house is entered from the street and a long stairhall gives access to rooms on the first floor. This provides easier circulation among the rooms on this floor. Double piazzas line the southern side of the house.

### LIVING ROOM

The spacious window arrangement provides the room with welcome light and air. The moldings are simple and the two front rooms are separated with pocket doors.

Sofa, Sheraton style, mahogany, New York  
Wing chair, 18<sup>th</sup> c. English with 19<sup>th</sup> c. upholstery  
Nest of tables, "Japanned", a method of imitating oriental lacquer  
Needlework, framed piece, late 19<sup>th</sup> c.  
Game table, demi-lune in shape  
Tilt-top table, finished with painted paper surface  
Pottery, collection of Staffordshire dogs  
Mirror, above mantel, Venetian  
Girandoles, with Robinson Crusoe motif, on mantel  
Collection of miniature candlesticks on miniature library steps  
Club chairs, pair,  
Arm chairs, pair, painted, from collection of Historic Charleston Reproductions

### DINING ROOM

Dining table, also from Historic Charleston Reproductions  
Side chairs, English, mahogany, 18<sup>th</sup> c. design  
Sideboard, Hepplewhite style, New York  
Serving table, Irish  
Plates, collection, Chelsea  
Oval portrait, c. 1870, Victorian  
Cupboard, painted, early 20<sup>th</sup> c.

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**DEN**

This room was added later. It's a comfortable family library.

Smoking chair, with old Scottish upholstery, men straddled the chair in front of the fireplace and used the receptacle at the top of the chair to store their pipes. Note pipe and tobacco design in wood back of chair.

Corner chair, period design.

Nutcrackers collection, maybe on display. These are part of a family tradition, adding one each year for a December birthday.

Exit to rear garden and guest cottage.

**GUEST HOUSE**

This was the kitchen house originally for the front residence. In today's world the owner uses it for visiting children and guests. If opened the bedroom will be ribboned off. Visitors may either look in or enter front room.

The rear of the property is a handsomely designed brick courtyard in an undulating design. Ferns which thrive in the shade of Charleston trees fill the beds along with other Lowcountry plantings.

Return to street by way of driveway.

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October 16, 1989

Ms. Gertrude Gary  
16 Savage Street  
Charleston, SC 29401

IN RE: Site Inspection  
16 Savage Street  
Hurricane Hugo Damage

Dear Ms. Gary:

On October 5, 1989, a partial inspection of 16 Savage Street was performed. The purpose of this inspection was to advise on the structural characteristics of the site.

Our conclusions are that the house is structurally stable, however, there is extensive cosmetic damage to the interior and exterior of the house. On the interior of the house, the damage is most evident at the flooded areas, specifically, cupping floors and molding walls. Cracks are on the walls and ceilings due to the flexure of the structure due to the forces of the winds.

The most notable damage on the exterior of the house is the trim and lap joints. These joints have moved relative to each other breaking the paint at these joints and now making them water entry points which should be sealed as soon as practical. The brickwork under the house is in fair shape. Due to repetitive loading conditions on the foundation of this structure, as well as sway and the scouring action of the wind and water and storm surge, the mortar work under the house and all exposed brick areas of the foundation should be pointed to re-establish the bearing areas. Due to the flexure of the chimneys during the storm, some of the interior mortar joints may have been damaged, as well as the interior of the brick courses. It is our recommendation that these chimneys be lined in accordance with standard building practices to re-establish their structural integrity.

Ms. Gertrude B. Gary  
October 16, 1989  
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Specifically, the findings were that the doors on the first floor have swelled. The corner of the shower (second floor, northwest of house) cracked. The molding at the chimney on the second floor is cracked, as well as cracks in the plaster throughout the house due to sway during the storm. There is water damage to the ceiling in the efficiency and water damage in the rear room. Additionally, there is a water stain at the second floor hall behind the chimney. The downspouts at the rear of the house are broken. A sill plate is missing at the north side. The foundation is cracked at the southwest corner. There is some roof damage due to the storm.

This inspection and report are done with the best of our experience and ability. However, we cannot be responsible for items we may have overlooked, concealed conditions, or defects which may develop at a later date.

We would like to thank you for allowing us to be of assistance during this time of urgency. We have all felt the effects of Hurricane Hugo and hope that our services have helped to ease your feelings of anxiety and loss in the wake of this tragedy.

Very truly yours,

Charles N. Cox

CNC:vlc

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