

ROBERT PRIMROSE HOUSE

*Constructed 1817 with later Greek Revival additions
332 East Bay Street*

Constructed in 1817, the Robert Primrose House is a brick two story single house built over a basement in the Federal style. Its Greek Revival piazza, probably added in the late 1830s, and elliptical porch mask relatively plain Federal features that, like the single house plan, were common to early nineteenth century Charleston. The two public faces of this dwelling have received stucco coats. An early addition extends to the east. The roof system is accessible through a steep stair from a second floor hall and reveals that the erection of robust principal rafter/principal purlin frames remained a common part of house framing in Charleston. The accommodation of the frame for the cross gable to the primary frame of the gable roof is telling of the level of craft competence among the framers who built this roof.



332 East Bay, Primrose House before restoration