



## **NUMBER THIRTY-SIX LEGARE STREET**

**1997**

**c. 1861**

**Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett L. Helms**

This two-story frame house is an adaptation of the single house floor plan. The original portion was constructed c. 1861 after a fire had destroyed most of an earlier building. The remaining portions were incorporated into the new structure. Over the years many changes were made to this original building. It is thought the piazzas were enclosed for additional interior space and new ones constructed. More recently, renovation work was completed along with the addition of a two story frame wing on the north side of the house.

### **ENTRANCE HALL**

The moldings and wood trim have been antiqued. The chandelier is an antique Waterford one. If there is enough time, show the lavatory which is attractively done. The design motifs of the flowered wallpaper have been painted on the wash stand.

Tilt-top table, English

Japanned mirror, hangs above card table

### **LIVING ROOM**

The wall color of this room was taken from the exterior of the Secretary-Bookcase. The rooms on this floor contain the owner's collection of antique rugs and 18th and 19th century paintings. The mantel is in the style of Robert Adams is a reproduction. Note the elaborate coal grate insert.

Secretary-bookcase, English, lacquered, late 18th century, found in Spain but probably made in England.

American Flamingo, drawn from life by J.J. Audubon, produced in England by Robert Havell, the engraver, in 1838

Painting, late 18 century, over mantel

Drop leaf table, mahogany, with simple lines, family piece. left of mantel

Brass basket, Turkey

Armchair (elbow chair), with inlay on crest

Large rug, antique Tabriz

Sofa, period, with carved feet, purchased in Charleston some years ago

Chest, Oriental, painted, used as a coffee table

Canned arm chair, displays many earlier furniture motifs

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### **DINING ROOM**

The wall color of this room was taken from the interior color of the Secretary Bookcase in the Living Room. This spacious room is filled with pieces that reflect the owner's delight in a variety of wood tones. The Adam style mantel is original to the house.

Buffet and chest of drawers, Hepplewhite style, with well executed inlay  
Double pedestal dining table, mahogany  
Side chairs, Queen Ann style.  
Low chest, mahogany, English  
Corner cabinet, cherry  
Service table and tea table, simple lines of country pieces.

### **KITCHEN/MORNING ROOM**

This is part of the original house. Note the wide boards of flooring. A 19th century cistern is located under the small round table. The original cabinetry was retained in the last renovation.

The decor of the kitchen/morning room area was taken from the colorful wallpaper border. The melons have been painted on the lounge chair and ottoman and the golden wall columns are enlargements of those seen in the border. Note the painted ornament on the top of the small drop leaf table. Fruit motifs are resplendent in china and glassware also.

### **LIBRARY**

This room was added during the recent renovation. The bookshelf/entertainment center was designed by the owners daughter who is an architect working in Oregon. The wood grained mantel and fireplace surround were done by a local artist. All decorative work in the house has recently been completed by two talented Charleston artisans.

Collection of antique duck decoys, in the bookcase  
Face jugs, done by a Georgia potter  
Painting of mountain landscape above the mantel dates from 1873  
Slant front desk, American, in Chippendale style, mahogany  
Pair of Windsor chairs, English

Exit by way of door to courtyard and return to Legare Street.