

Information for Guides
of Historic Charleston

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by Walter Webb, a florist who also laid out gardens. The house has a dogtooth cornice under the eaves of the slate roof. The front door originally was centered in the facade and gave entry to a center hall, as in other single houses. Mrs. George Huntington, who bought the property in 1930, remodeled the house after an automobile crashed into the first level.

(Ravenel, DYKYC, Dec. 22, 1941. Stoney, This is Charleston, 61.)

50 King St. (AKA 6 Price's Alley) -- This tiny two and one-half story frame house was apparently built by John Cowan (or Cowen) sometime before 1729. It is also called the Dill House because that family occupied it from 1758 to 1848. The exterior features a nice cornice of wooden modillions. The house is two rooms deep, without a central hall, so the stair rises from the rear room. The interior has simple early paneling, crown molding and mantelpieces.

(Iseley & Cauthen, Charleston Interiors, 44. Stoney, This is Charleston, 61. Thomas, DYKYC, July 15, 1971.)

52 King St. -- This small two and one-half story frame house was built c. 1730 by Edgar Wells. In the 1780s, it was occupied by Dr. George Hahnbaum, physician to the German Fuseliers and later a founder of the Medical Society of South Carolina. The trajectory of a cannonball can be traced through the structure's timbers.

(Stockton, unpub. notes. Stoney, This is Charleston, 61.)

54 King St. -- This three and one-half story frame single house, with a two-tiered Regency piazza, is believed to have been built c. 1768.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 61.)



55 King St. -- This two and one-half brick house was

originally a double tenement built by Frederick Grimké, c. 1762. Subsequently, it was the home of his descendant, Charles Fraser, the noted miniature painter, author, attorney and amateur architect. Born in 1782 in British-occupied Charlestown, Fraser was a son of Alexander Fraser and Mary Grimké. He painted close to 500 miniatures, many of which survive. His most famous subject was Lafayette, whom he painted in 1825. In 1854 he published My Reminiscences of Charleston, a record of life in Charleston in the 1790s. As an architect he designed a cupola for the Old Exchange in 1833, which afterwards was removed, and a steeple for St. John's Lutheran Church, which apparently was never built. He died in 1860 and is buried in St. Michael's Churchyard.

(Ravenel, Architects, 159-162. Smith & Smith, Charles Fraser, passim. Smith & Smith, Dwelling Houses, 334. Stoney, This is Charleston, 62. Greene, unpub. MS.; SCHS.)

73 King St. -- This three and one-half story brick house is believed to have been built c. 1820.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 62.)

75 King St. -- William Elliott apparently built this house by 1739, when it appears on the "Ichnography" of that year. Its simple and robust design, thick walls and low ceilings, as well as simple paneling, point to an early construction date.

(Stoney, Charleston's Historic Houses, 1953, 14-15. , This is Charleston, 62. Iseley & Cauthen, Charleston Interiors, 76. Chamberlain & Chamberlain, Southern Interiors, 92-93.)

79 King St. -- This two and one-half story, stuccoed brick house is believed to have been built c. 1747 by Francis Baker.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 62.)