

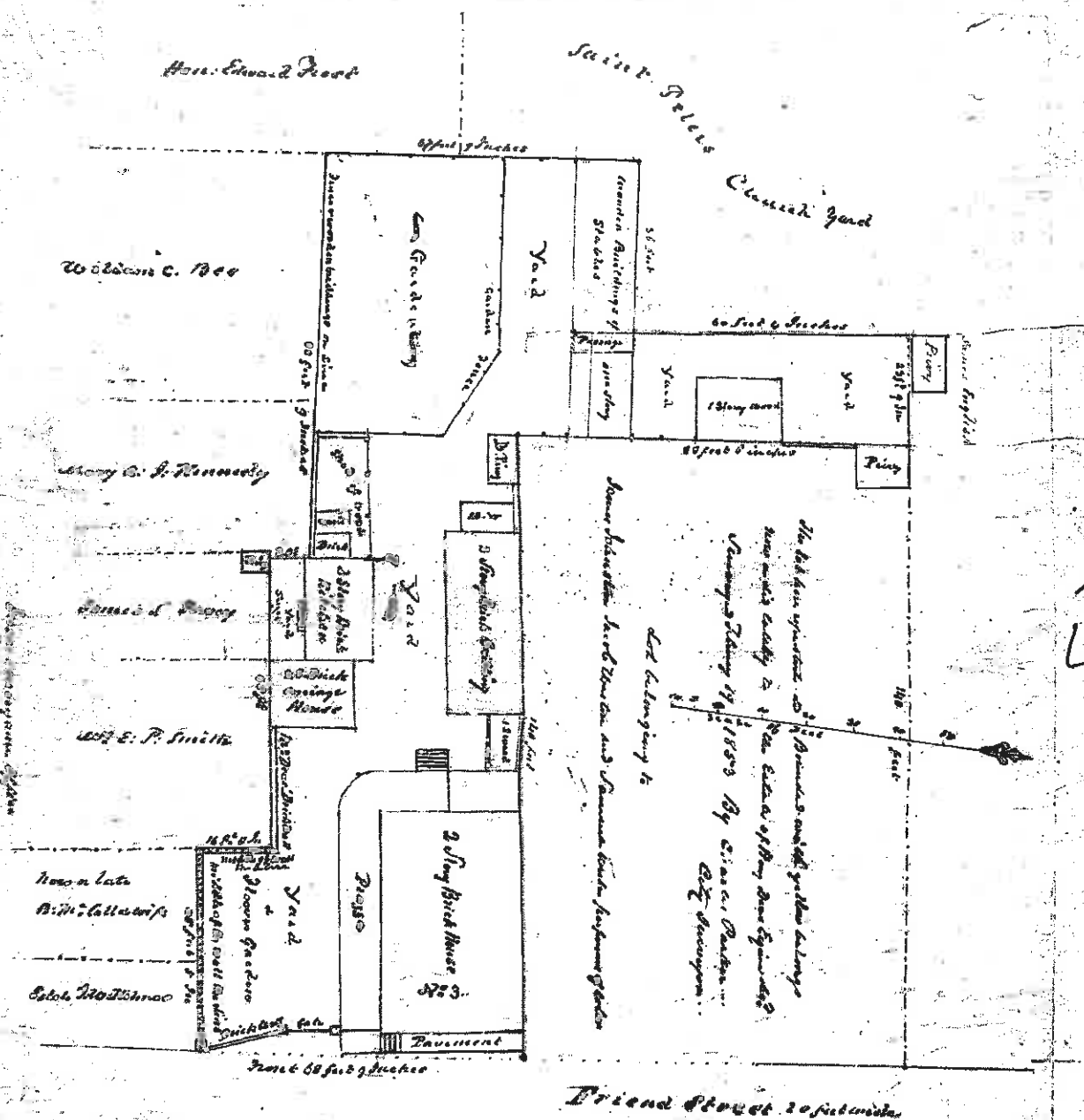
Plan of a Lot of Land in the City of Charleston, lying on the West side of Friend Street in Ward No. 11. Measuring in Front on the side of the lot 100 feet. The lot is 100 feet wide and 100 feet deep. The lot is 100 feet wide and 100 feet deep.

and feet. Building and beginning northwardly, partly on a Lot belonging to David Deas Esq. & partly on a Lot belonging to Charles C Rowland Esq. - Eastwardly on the said street, southwardly partly on a Lot belonging to Michael Jenkins Esq. - partly on a Lot belonging to Mrs Ann Derrall, partly on a Lot belonging to the Rev and Edward Jenkins, partly on a Lot belonging to Dr Philip Penick, partly on a Lot belonging to James H. Stevens Esq. and partly on a Lot belonging to the estate of Dr Peter Faybence dec'd and westwardly on a Lot belonging to David Deas Esq. - Which said Lot is now intended to be conveyed by Henry Deas Esq. - Having such shapes, forms and marks as expressed and represented above. From a Survey taken in October 1802. By - Joseph Purcell

CS 1802

see plate @ Decal Book L7, p 464

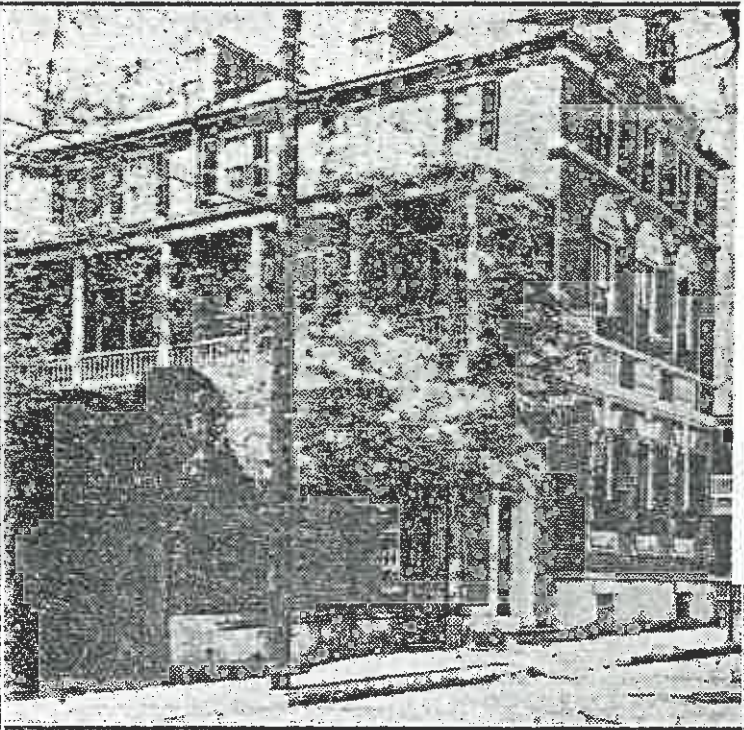
W. L. Kitchin



Know Your Charleston?

43 Legare Street

6-14-37



Buildings-43 Legare St.

According to Guide Book for
Historic Charleston
Foster remodelled 1911

Henry Rutledge Buist Residence Notable for Its Exquisite Woodwork and Well Proportioned Rooms

News & Courier 6-14-37

The early Georgian architecture of the residence at 43 Legare street, with beautifully proportioned rooms paneled in old pine, interests many an observer who peers through the gate and door that shut off the public view of the yard and house.

Like many a Charleston home, the "front porch" is on the side. Like comparatively few, however, is the door from the second floor all to the porch, one of the handsomest features of the house. The woodwork is exquisite, and Mrs. Henry Rutledge Buist, the present owner, suggests that this is in accordance with the custom of Charleston families in having their chief living rooms on the second floor.

Mrs. Buist probably has occupied the house longer than any previous owner, she and her late husband having purchased it June 12, 1911. Elizabeth O'Neill Verner, Charleston artist, once lived there and the Buists bought the house from her parents.

This property, with a frontage of sixty-nine feet one inch in Legare

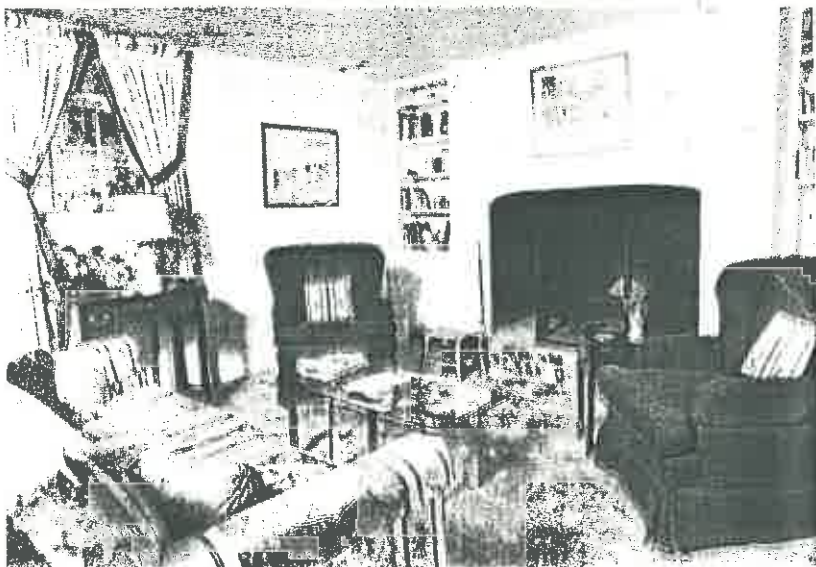
street, was the eastern portion of that conveyed to the O'Neills September 12, 1888, by William H. Huger for \$3,200. At that time it was in Friend street, as Legare from Tradd to Queen was known then. Mr. Huger acquired the property from the heirs of Miss Elizabeth Pringle.

The Henry Rutledge Buists restored the home, modernizing and improving it but retaining its originality. They opened up the living room, and put an iron gate, apparently from an old Charleston residence, on the entrance to the driveway in place of the broken down gate once there.

The library upstairs and the drawing room downstairs are entirely paneled. Other rooms are paneled at the fireplaces and wainscoted on the walls.

On the first floor are a screened side porch, dressing room, pantry, kitchen and spacious drawing room. The "hall" is over the drawing room. A bedroom and boudoir also are on the second floor. Two bedrooms and a den are on the third.

L. M. W.



The original cooking fireplace is still in the kitchen house.

Restoration Brings Home Back To Traditional Look

By LISA DENNIS
Post-Courier Reporter

Most people, at one time or another, have fantasized about many of the beautiful and historic houses in downtown Charleston.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to own one, restore the place to its original elegance and decorate it to suit your tastes?

Dr. F. Strait Fairey and his wife Charlotte have done just that with the Charles Elliott House at 43 Legare St.

Charles Elliott, heir to one of the wealthiest families in the colony, built the house in 1759. His daughter Jane grew up there before marrying William Washington, cousin to America's first president.

Since then the Legare Street (formerly Friend Street) home has passed to a string of Lowcountry families including Beresfords, Brailsfords, Deas, Pringles, Hugers, Buista and Sinklers. From 1953-1963 the house was owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston and used as a residence for the Sisters of Charity who taught at Bishop England School.

The property had three other owners before the Faireys purchased the four-story brick residence last June. Four months of restoration work was done before they moved in October and Mrs. Fairey says there's lots more to be done.

The traditional single house with side porches features beautiful early Georgian woodwork and paneling in the first and second-floor drawing rooms. There are also ornately carved, fully functional marble mantles and delicate crystal or brass chandeliers in almost every room.

Other rooms include a master bedroom on the second floor with a spacious adjoining dressing room (which was probably added at the turn of the century, according to Mrs. Fairey), two more bedrooms on the third floor, plus dining room, modern kitchen (added by a previous owner) and incidental rooms.

The main rooms are enormous, approximately 28x18 feet with 12-foot ceilings and a generous number of oversized windows to let the sunshine in. The second floor drawing room features glamorous French doors which open onto the porch. And most of the house is in excellent condition.

"We had looked at the house nine years ago but couldn't afford it or furnish it at that time," says Mrs. Fairey. "We've always loved this house and when it came back on the market we worked things out so we could purchase it. It's our permanent home now."

Previously the Faireys resided in a

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Wentworth Street house which they also partially restored. Mrs. Fairey says she and her husband both enjoy this type of project and did most of the interior cosmetic work in their new home together.

"We did a lot of wallpapering, painting and spackling where the plaster was falling off. We canvassed some of the walls before painting them as an extra reinforcement and sealer.

"The house was in pretty good shape," she adds, "especially the interior, except for a ceiling on the third floor which was falling in due to a leak. Modern plumbing, heat and air conditioning were already here. It seems the previous owners did piecemeal work but never finished the job. That's a problem with big old houses. They require a lot of upkeep and it can be very expensive."

Major restoration of both porches and the kitchen house in back has already been completed and Mrs. Fairey says they'll work on the little things by and by. Her next project is to work on the garden, which they have already improved through bulldozing, taking out concrete, tearing down an old garage and laying a twisting brick path.

Although she hasn't redecorated every room exactly the way she wants it, Mrs. Fairey's decor reflects good use of design and color in a semi-traditional Charleston style.

"We worked with what we had as far as furnishings and rugs go, but we'll be able to add new things later. I like traditional furnishings but would like to introduce some more contemporary flavor when I redo my kitchen."

An appealing floral wallpaper in peach and rose tones already adorned the large foyer so Mrs. Fairey decided to keep it, selecting colors from the print for each of the other rooms.

For instance, the dining room win-

dows are draped with curtains in a deep rose tone and other colors are picked up through paintings and woven rugs. Her daughter's room is the epitome of ruffled girlishness with pale pink walls, and a rosebud print border wrapped around the height of the room. The adjoining sitting room continues the pink theme paired up with spring green accents.

The draperies selected for Dr. and Mrs. Fairey's room will be a peach and mauve print which coordinates with peach tones in the couple's dressing area. Warm green and neutral tones appear in the second-floor drawing room, where the family spends a good deal of their time. A hefty dose of plants helps bring the outdoors in and makes the room look cozy and lived in.

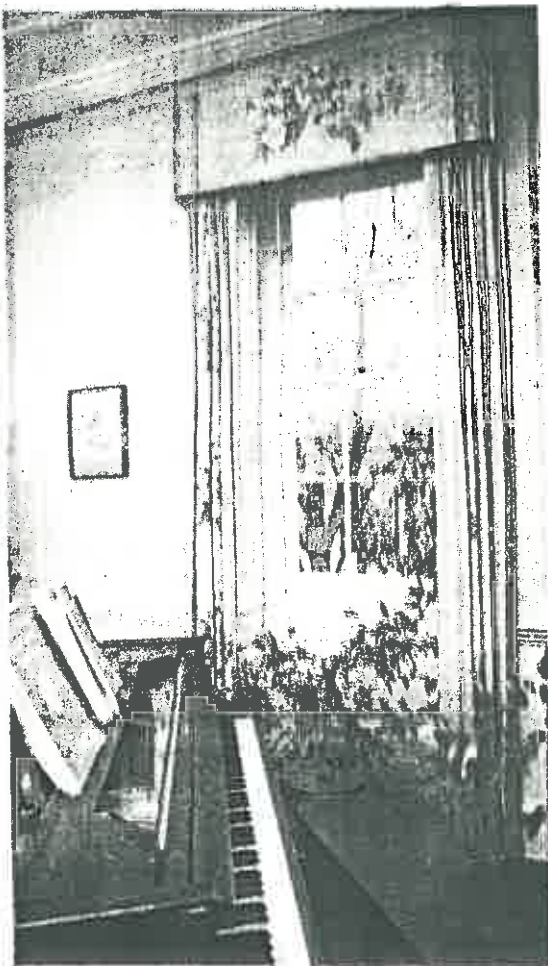
Mrs. Fairey's creative touches are evident in her son's room where a border print of maroon and gray sailboats was used to introduce more color. She plans to add maroon shutters for a more masculine look eventually. Another nice touch is a sunken powder room tucked under the stairs on the first floor, which she spiced up with fresh wallpaper in another pink and white print.

But the room Mrs. Fairey enjoys most is her first-floor drawing room, done in a pale butter yellow and other muted pastels. The spacious room is light and tasteful, with a comfortable seating group in the center, a large desk in one corner and little decoration other than the original molding around the walls.

This is Mrs. Fairey's office, where she handles coordination for Historic Charleston Bed and Breakfast, a business she started in September 1981. "So many people don't even go into their living room unless they have formal company. But I enjoy it every day," she says with a smile. "It's got to be one of the prettiest offices in town."

Mrs. Fairey now rents out her kitchen house as a bed and breakfast, but it required extensive restoration and remodeling when they first purchased the house. What was once a three-room stone pit is now a quaint apartment featuring a living room, eat-in kitchen, two bedrooms and two baths. An added attraction is the oversized fireplace, stretching across one wall. This was the original cooking fireplace in the kitchen house, she explains.

More contemporary tastes are reflected in the kitchen house cottage. Charming tie-back curtains, interesting, well-placed accents and good use of rich colors, particularly blue, yellow and rust tones, work together make the Faireys' guests feel right home.



Plants add a cozy look to the drawing room.

Staff Photos by Wade Spees

Charles Elliott
1759
1757-1759

He would have been 22 when
he built it. Mighty young.
The date "1759" has been
assigned to this house for years.
Everyone has just picked up