The ceiling medallion in the entrance hallway is Victorian; to the left is a Regency-style arched doorway, cut originally to unite the wood and brick portions of the house, but now sealed. The beautiful woodwork and molding in the dining room is probably original. The ceiling medallion in the dining room is identical to that in the ballroom and may be a reproduction of it. Note also the beautiful mantels throughout the house. They are in the Adam style, having replaced the original marble mantels of the Regency style.

HOUSE "C"

22 Legare Street. The Charles Elliott House (ca 1764).

The Elliott house stands on Lot #240 of the "Grand Modell" plat, and its dimensions have been unchanged since that plat was drawn. Deeds show Reubin Willis as the initial owner in 1694 and the next owner as William Livingston and his son George.

In 1736, Livingston sold the lot and premises to James Stobo. The lot and premises then passed to James Skirving in 1763 and to Charles and Anne Elliott in 1764. Although the book, This Is Charleston, gives 1764 as the probable date of construction, the above information may place its date even earlier.

Elliott was a prosperous planter who also owned a plantation, Sandy Hill, near Rantowles. Both he and his wife were ardent patriots. Anne is said to have made a hospital of her home (presumably the town house) to care for war wounded. Their daughter Jane is credited with making a flag from draperies from Sandy Hill to present to Colonel William Washington. This banner is known today as the Eutaw Battle Flag and was later presented to the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston. Jane married Col. Washington after the war, and they are buried at Sandy Hill.

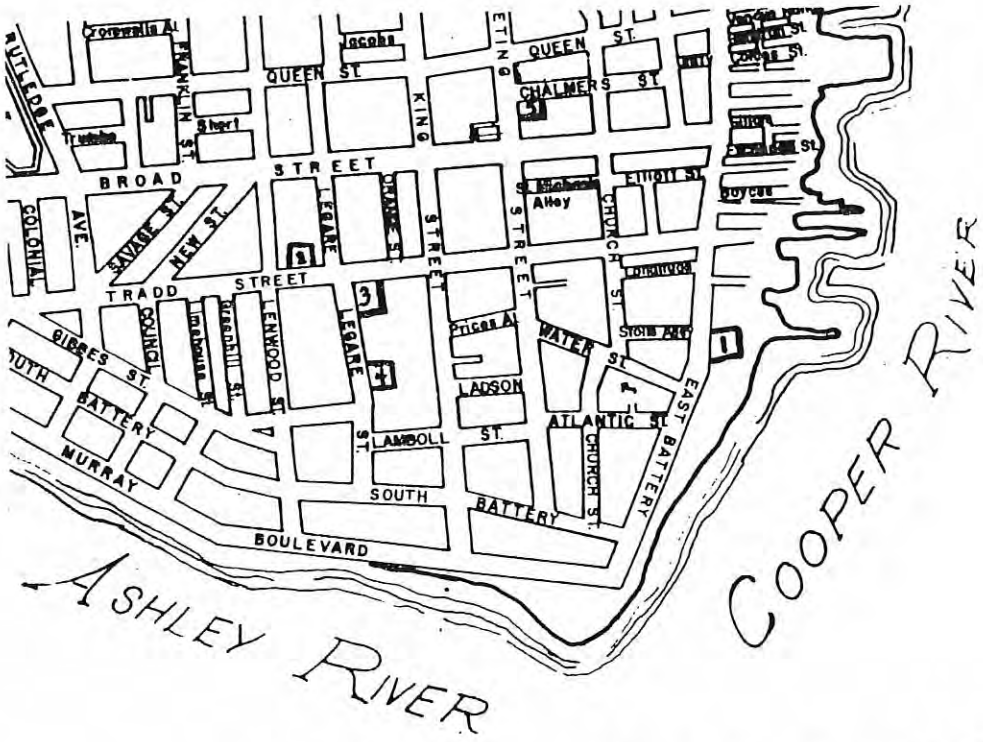
The Elliott town house is a double Georgian style constructed of black cypress. The extensive interior woodwork is also of cypress. An interesting structural feature of the house is the the thick brick firewall between the main rooms. The wall begins in the basement and continues its width to the attic. The idea was to contain fire within the side of the house where it started.

The Georgian mantles have been retained in the upstairs rooms, but elaborate Adam style ones were installed downstairs in the

over

1800's. The window treatment in the back hall is also of Adam design, probably done at the time the mantles were replaced. The house does retain its original H & L hinges and handsome door locks and hardware.

22 Legare remained the property of the Elliott family until 1849. It was subsequently owned by Dr. Francis Parker, the Henry E. Young family, and Mrs. Lane Mullally. Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Street, the present owners, purchased the property from Mrs. Mullally's children in 1964.



1 Carolina Yacht Club

2 125 Tradd Street

3 32 Legare Street

4 22 Legare St.

5 Fireproof Building

22 Legare Reflects Eclecticism

The News and Courier — Do You Know Your Charleston?

By ROBERT P. STOCKTON

Twenty-two Legare St. is one of those Charleston structures in changing tastes in which decoration has conspired to develop a charming blend of styles and influences.

The dwelling is no longer in the pristine Georgian state in which it was constructed in the mid-18th century, but only a pedantic purist would advocate removal of its Adam, Gothic, Greek Revival and Victorian features.

Traditionally, the house has been attributed to Charles Elliott, planter in St. Paul's Parish, and its construction date has been set at c. 1764.

The house stands on Lot No. 240 of the "Grand Modell" of Charlestown, which lot was granted to Reubin Willis in 1694.

Subsequent deeds have disappeared, but a history of the property is recited in the deeds of lease and release to Charles Elliott, dated April 20 and 21, 1764.

The deed of release states that William Livingston, "formerly of Charlestown, Clerk, deceased," in his will, dated July 17, 1723, bequeathed the lot to his son, George.

This will, recorded Sept. 6, 1723, bequeaths to "my youngest Son George...that Lot of Land I have lyeing behind John Toper's (Tipper's) in Charles City."

The deed of release further recites that George Livingston by lease and release dated Dec. 20 and 21, 1736, conveyed the property to James Stobo, who by lease and release dated Feb. 24 and 25, 1763, conveyed it to James Skirving.

Finally, Skirving and Sarah his wife conveyed the property to Charles Elliott for 2,500 pounds "current money," in other words, paper currency issued by the S.C. Commons House of Assembly.

The existing records leave open the possibility that the lot, which then as now retained its original measurements of 110 feet by 288 feet, had a house on it when purchased by Elliott.

In any case, the house was one of two on present-day Legare St. which were owned by and have been attributed to Elliott. The other is 43 Legare, where, according to his will, the family lived when in town.

Elliott was one of the largest landowners in South Carolina and maintained his seat at Sandy Hill in St. Paul's Parish. He and his wife, Anne, were noted patriots, and their only daughter, Jane Riley Elliott, married Col. William Washington, the celebrated cavalry leader.

Elliott's will, probated Jan. 18, 1783, devised all his property to his widow and his daughter, Jane.

From them, the property now known as 22 Legare St. passed to other Elliott family members. The property left the family in 1849 when it was bought by Dr. Francis S. Parker, physician.

(See Page 8-B, Column 9)

(Staff Photo by Bill Murton)

22 Legare St.

NC 2-8-76

...Eclectic

Continued From Page 1-B

Subsequently, it was owned by the Henry E. Young family and Mrs. Lane Mullally. Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Street, the current owners, bought it from Mrs. Mullally's heirs in 1964.

Twenty-two Legare is a Georgian double house in the sense that it has two rooms on either side of a central hall on each floor. But the rear rooms were so small originally that it might be said that the dwelling is a modified single house.

Of two stories with a hip roof, the house is constructed of black cypress, with interior woodwork also of cypress.

An unusual structural feature is a thick brick firewall between the main rooms. The wall begins in the basement and continues its width to the attic and was designed to contain fire within the side of the house where it started.

An unusual decorative feature is the Gothic arched opening between the front and rear parlors, with a companion Gothic arch over bookshelves in the front parlor.

Whether these Gothic arches were added during the Gothic Revival period of the first half of the 19th Century, or are 18th Century "Gothick" manifestations and therefore original to the house, is unknown.