



17 CHALMERS STREET

The history of the "Pink House" is tantalizingly obscure. In 1772 buildings in this area of Chalmers Street were recorded as sold. But Petrie's map, done in 1789, shows nothing on the site of No. 17. The first actual reference to this building is its sale in 1804.

Perhaps an earlier frame structure stood upon these same foundations and was a pre-Revolutionary tavern.

In more recent years, No. 17 Chalmers Street housed The Pink House Press, then the Pink House Galleries, and later the studio of the artist, Alice R. Huger Smith. It was restored in 1930 by Mrs. Victor Morawetz, whose initials, V. M., may be seen in the iron grill work on the sidewalk. In 1956 it was completely renovated for law offices by Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Bailey.

Historic Charleston Foundation

The goal of the Foundation is practical contemporary use of the large number of significant Colonial and Early American buildings still standing in Charleston.

ANSONBOROUGH REHABILITATION PROJECT

One of the methods is area rehabilitation. The first concentrated effort with its Revolving Fund is the Ansonborough Rehabilitation project. In an historic district, once prosperous and fashionable, but deteriorating toward slum conditions, are more than 100 antebellum houses of architectural value. These are being purchased for re-sale and a revitalized historic residential area is being re-created in the mid-city. Fine homes are being reclaimed in a pioneering restoration effort. This area is of interest to preservation-minded visitors.

OPEN HOUSE SERIES.

During the last two weeks in March and early April, when the city and the nearby gardens are most beautiful, Charleston opens many of her handsome private homes on a series of tours for the benefit of Historic Charleston Foundation's Revolving Fund for Preservation. The Foundation, incorporated in 1947, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Charleston's historic and architectural heritage.