

from ships to slaves. He retained the property until 1888, when O'Neill acquired it. O'Neill was a prosperous wholesale grocer who had immigrated from Ireland about 1840. He was the grandfather of the famous local artist Elizabeth O'Neill Verner. The O'Neill family retained the house until 1926, when it was sold to Mrs. Robert E. Lee, III, wife of the grandson of the Confederate general. Currently, the house is divided into three residences.

(Mazyck & Waddell, illus. 70. Stockton, unpub. notes. Stoney, This is Charleston, 38. Smith & Smith, Dwelling Houses, 183.)

5 East Battery -- The three story stuccoed brick house was built between 1847 and 1849 by John Ravenel. Ravenel, who was completely of Huguenot descent and a member of the planting aristocracy, sold his patrimonial acres to become a merchant, and built up one of the city's leading shipping houses. He was also president of the South Carolina Rail Road and was instrumental in developing the Northeastern Rail Road. This house was also the home of his son, Dr. St. Julien Ravenel, the noted scientist who designed and built the Civil War semi-submersible torpedo boat, the Little David, and was a leader in the development of the phosphate fertilizer after the Civil War. It was also the home of Dr. Ravenel's wife Harriott Horry Rutledge who, using the name Mrs. St. Julien Ravenel, authored the book Charleston; The Place and the People, and other works on local history. In 1886, the property was purchased by John Ravenel's son-in-law Elias Horry Frost, president of E.H. Frost & Co., one of the city's leading cotton brokerage houses. He was also head of the Stono Phosphate Company and president of the South Carolina Loan and Trust Company. Frost was a noted art collector and owned one of the best libraries in

the South. The house was built in the Italianate style popular in Charleston in the antebellum period. After suffering severe damage in the 1886 earthquake, the house was extensively rebuilt by Frost, who kept the original plan and mass, including the prominent bay on the front, and added features in the Victorian Italianate style fashionable in the 1880s. The property remained in the hands of John Ravenel's descendants until 1953, when it was sold.

(Stockton, unpub. MS. _____, DYKYC, Dec. 13, 1975.)

- 9 East Battery -- Built c. 1838 by Robert William Roper, this is an outstanding example of Greek Revival architecture. The three story brick structure has giant order Ionic columns on an arcaded base. The initials in the front door are those of Rudolph Siegling, a subsequent owner, who was the publisher of the News and Courier. He bought the house in 1877 and his heirs retained it until 1929. The house has very fine Greek Revival interior features. A 500-pound piece of cannon has been in the attic since 1865, when the evacuating Confederates blew up the gun on the corner of East Battery and South Battery.

(Stockton, DYKYC, March 17, 1975. Stoney, This is Charleston, 38. Jack Leland, DYKYC, June 6, 1983. Smith & Smith, Dwelling Houses, 183-184.)

- 13 East Battery -- William Ravenel, a wealthy shipping merchant (brother and partner of John Ravenel who built 5 East Battery), built this house c. 1845. The builder solved the problem of erecting a large house on a narrow lot by running the porte-cochere under his drawing room. Only the arcaded base remains of the front portico, the giant order Tower of the Winds columns of which were shaken down in the 1886 earthquake and never replaced. After a hurricane in the