

**From:** Kevin R. Eberle  
**To:** Emmons, Karen  
**Subject:** RE: Mystery House  
**Date:** Friday, October 16, 2020 10:12:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

The house was known as 66 Rutledge before the renumbering in 1886. Here is the entry.

Also, while I was at the county library checking on this, I had to stand around for several minutes while someone else was using the microfilm reader. Social distancing limited the use of the other reader. So, I flipped through the earthquake report and snapped photos of all 160 or so pages just to have a set. Do you guys already have a print out of the full report? If not, I can send you a copy.

64	"	"	Captain P. T. Tullis, Danville	Frame	Tin	38	24	30	Good	Good	Good	Good	Down	35	Rebuild chimneys: O K
66	"	"							Good	Good	Good	Good	Have been used in wood		O K

**From:** Emmons, Karen <kemmons@historiccharleston.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 10:46 AM  
**To:** Kevin R. Eberle <keberle@charlestonlaw.edu>  
**Subject:** RE: Mystery House

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Rats. EQ assessment in the Archives doesn't go that far on Rutledge. Stops at 148.



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**From:** Kevin R. Eberle <[keberle@charlestonlaw.edu](mailto:keberle@charlestonlaw.edu)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 10:11 AM  
**To:** Emmons, Karen <[kemmons@historiccharleston.org](mailto:kemmons@historiccharleston.org)>  
**Subject:** Mystery House

My friend Sarah Fick asked whether the line at the bottom left of the photo of the mystery house taken at an angle might be a rail from the trolley system.

I couldn't tell but decided to use that to dramatically limit the locations it could be. I pulled a map of the trolley lines, and there are only a few spots where the trolley can through even possible neighborhoods including Rutledge Ave. So, I did a close inspection of the old Sanborns.

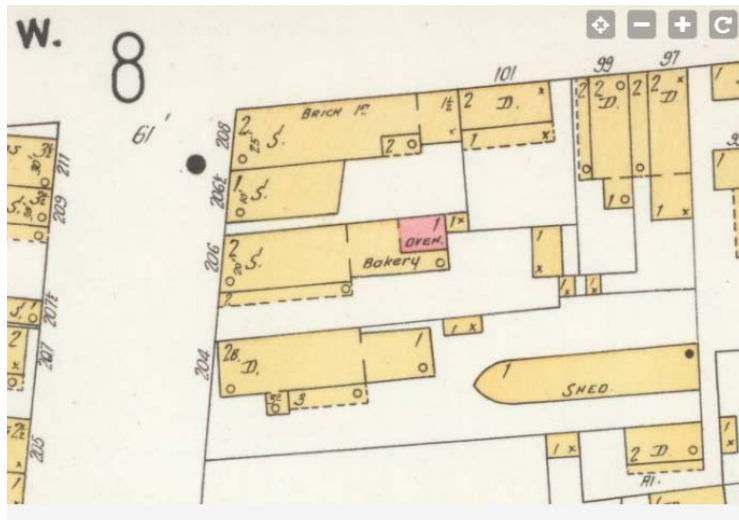
This shows 204 Rutledge which is a very strong contender!

The trolley ran in front of it, it is smack up against the street, and most importantly, it has those weird features (a double piazza only on the back half and a third-story tower sticking over the piazza).

The only negative is that it was shown as a frame house. I think that even veneered houses still showed up as brick in the Sanborns (at least they did in the later ones).

I'm going to look at the old tax records. I suspect that a brick veneered house would be recorded for tax purposes as a brick and not wooden house. And I'm going to check the earthquake damage reports. My hope is that the house was listed at first as a brick house, suffered wall damage in the quake, and then showed up as a wooden house. Given the identical footprint of the house, that would surely mean that the house was preserved but reclad in wood siding.

The house lasted until the early 1970s but it was demoed to make way for a parking lot that is there today. Ugh.



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