



***Do not use any kind of tape
to tape runners to the floor,
to other runners or to
anything else.***

WILLIAM BOONE HOUSE

2005

25 Tradd Street

c. 1748

Residence of Ms. Joanne Campbell

William Boone, a leading planter and an important public figure is thought to have built this house. He was born in SC in 1696 but seems to have lived both here and in Antigua. Boone was church warden, a member of the Charleston Library Society, served in the Royal Assemblies and probably owned plantations. He was active in the militia and rose to the rank of major. Dying soon after this house was constructed, he was buried on John's Island.

His son and namesake was a justice of the peace for Colleton County and served in the 29th Royal Assembly. The property passed to his sister who had married John Mitchell, a school master.

The house was at one time owned by Nathaniel Russell, whose mansion at 51 Meeting Street is a house museum owned by Historic Charleston Foundation. Russell purchased the house in 1818 and used it as rental property.

The house survived the great 1778 fire which swept through this neighborhood and today it is an excellent example of the architectural styles that developed in Charleston in the early colonial period.

The colonist's keen interest in gardening and botany finds expression today in the well planned smaller gardens tightly fitted into complex areas throughout the city. This gives Charleston a visual interest that is often missing in urban areas.

LIVING ROOM

This floor plan is somewhat different from a standard single house footprint. The entrance is close to the street and opens directly onto the living room. The stairway to the second floor is along the side wall.

The ceiling cornice and mantel are fine examples of simple mid-Georgian design. The furnishings are a handsome grouping of comfortable seat furniture and wood pieces.

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LIVING ROOM (Continued)

Easy chairs, pair, wood frame, style of Louis XVI, French

Two chests, one on each side of the fireplace.

Left: interesting veneer with bun feet,

Right: classic Georgian, mahogany holding Chinese exportware porcelain

Pair of mirrors, above in the style of Robert Adam

Desk, bombé – with cross veneer

Glass coffee table with metal legs, in contemporary design, mix of styles works

Paintings, collected by the owner's late husband, special interest in watercolors:

Street scene, French, turn of 20th c.

Autumn Scene, in Warren, RI. Area

Oil painting of young girl, early 20th century, by Germain Grobe

Rug, Oushak, a Turkish carpet

DINING ROOM

The mantel is decorated with dental wood trim, typical mid-Georgian ornament.

Pair of cloisonné vases and painted box on mantel, oriental motif

Shelves on either side filled with owner's eclectic collection of decorative objects,

clock, boxes, books, porcelain, shells, etc. , all artfully arranged

Double pedestal mahogany dining room table

Side chairs and arm chairs, Chippendale style

Silver and crystal epergne on mirror plateau, on dining table

Oriental screen, carved wood frame with insets of ivory and mother-of-pearl

Sideboard with wood frame mirror above, with carved giltwood canopy.

Two large landscapes

Small watercolor, part of owner's collection

KITCHEN

This was renovated by a previous owner along with the addition of the family room. The light wood cabinets and state-of-the-art appliances are enhanced by the black and white rug.

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FAMILY ROOM

This room enjoys a restful vista across the rear garden. Comfortable seat furniture mixes with period wood pieces. The modern computer sits on a desk of period design with robustly carved paw feet.

Working desk, French influence

Collection of watercolors are hung on the back and side walls.

Oil, a winter scene

GARDEN

Step out to the stone patio and onto a bricked area with brick edged beds. A grassy lawn alongside provides a pleasant green complement to the hard surface. Two enormous magnolia trees anchor the garden space. A collection of garden ornaments and potted plants add additional interest. A portion of the yard is set aside for outdoor dining. Note the Cotswold stool sitting in the garden bed. A series of these were used to raise a barn off the ground. This discouraged invasion of unwanted animals. They have been recycled as garden ornaments. The building in the rear amidst all the greenery is a two car garage, opening onto Longitude Lane. This is a great luxury for downtown Charleston.

The rear portion of the garden contains a circular pool surrounded with inset decorative ceramic tiles and watered by a "Grecian" style urn. A joggling board completes the garden furniture. Note the coal grate grill incorporated into the back gate. The garden contains camellias, azaleas, a windmill palm, hawthorne bushes and other Lowcountry plantings.

As you exit beside the house note the shade loving shrubs: ferns, holly, yew and espaliered sasanqua along wall of house.

Exit by way of walkway along side of the house to Tradd Street.

GARDEN OF MAJOR WILLIAM BOONE'S HOUSE
25 Tradd Street
c. 1748
Home of Dr. and Mrs. B. Owen Ravenel

1992

William Boone is believed to have built this house in the late 1740's. Boone was a leading planter and an important public figure in the colonies. He was born in SC in 1696 but seems to have lived both here and in Antigua (having a daughter born there in 1735). Recent research indicates that Boone was church warden, a member of the Charleston Library Society and served in the 15th, 18th, and 19th Royal Assemblies (representing the Parish of St. John's-Colleton County. Boone probably owned plantations in that county. He was active in the militia and rose to the rank of major. He died soon after this house was constructed and was buried on John's Island.

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The house was at one time owned by Nathaniel Russell, whose mansion at 51 Meeting Street is a house museum owned by Historic Charleston Foundation. Russell purchased the house in 1818 but never lived there. It served as rental property at that time.

The house survived the great fire of 1778 which swept through this neighborhood and it survives today as an excellent example of the architectural styles that developed in Charleston in the early colonial period.

The colonist's keen interest in gardening and botany finds expression today in the well planed smaller gardens tightly fitted into complex areas throughout the city. This gives Charleston a visual interest that is often missing in urban areas.

The narrow pathway to this garden is most effectively planted with carefully pruned **azaleas** and **camellias**.

A columnar **tea olive** and hanging baskets frame the entrance to the main garden. Stand on the patio for a moment and survey the view. At the back right is what appears to be a private guest house, but is actually a garage. The creeping **fig** is being carefully trained on the "front". One severely pruned **ligustrum tree** make interesting forms here. As you walk toward the pool area notice the interesting millstone set in the ground. On the garage is a Della Robia plaque also, **orchids** are hanging alongside.

A coal grate grill has been incorporated into the back garden gate. The tiles set around the pool are of birds and animals. One is a Tri-centennial tile. There are similar tiles set into the stucco around the front entry.

Camillia, Camillia Sasanqua, Azalea, Nandina, Tea Olive, Boxwood, Magnolia, Hydrangea, Lirope, Ligustrum, Pansies, Daphne, Ajuga, Magnolia soulangeana.

19 Tradd St. -- John McCall built a house c. 1745 on this site, which he inherited from his great-grandmother, Mary Fisher Crosse, the Quaker preacher. The two and one half story brick house may have survived or been rebuilt after the great fire of 1778.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 101.)

23 Tradd St. -- William Bell, a merchant, is credited with building this three story stuccoed brick house between 1797 and 1800.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 102.)

25 Tradd St. -- William Boone acquired this site in 1748 and wrote his will in 1750, bequeathing "the house and grounds whereon I now dwell," to his "well beloved wife Jane." Maj. Boone was born in South Carolina in 1696, and married Jane Wilkinson. Their daughter was born on Antigua in 1735. He had a Johns Island plantation and represented St. John's Parish in the Commons House of Assembly. In the 1920s, this was the home of Postmaster Edward Jennings and his son Edward I.R. Jennings (1898-1929), one of Charleston's jazz age artists, whose works are in the Gibbes Art Gallery collections.

(Greene, unpub. MS; SCHS)

26 Tradd St. -- This three story brick house is believed to have been built c. 1785 by Robert Ewing.

(Stoney, This is Charleston, 102)

35 Tradd St. -- This is actually two structures, now joined together as a residence. They are believed to be two structures mentioned in the will of Col. Miles Brewton in 1747. The easternmost structure was the kitchen to Col. Brewton's house on the corner of Tradd and Church (since replaced); the westernmost structure was a tenement which Brewton bequeathed to his third wife Mary.