

9 George- General History

This house is somewhat of a mystery. A newspaper article of 14 July 1959, announcing its' destruction, identifies this residence as antebellum. The News-Courier states nothing more concerning its' story. The Bridgens and Allen survey map of 1852 seems to indicate a house on that lot in that year. The photo seems to place this house's date before 1852. There is a possibility that this house was constructed in the early 1820's and features common to the antebellum period were added at a later date. The one article on record consists of only a photograph and brief caption explaining the house's impending destruction by the Charleston Commissioners of Public Works for use as a parking lot for the waterworks; then at 14 George. Suitable repairs, the waterworks manager stated, would cost between 5,000 and 6,000 dollars. The house was listed as part of a group of three which was notable as a group in Stoney's This is Charleston.

Architectural description-

This house was a superb example of antebellum architecture. The house was two and a half stories on a raised basement, built of brick, which was unstuccoed, with a gabled roof. The gable was notable by its steep pitch, and its elaborate cornice. The cornice was supported by mutules underneath, and pedestals on either side. The pedestals carried on the well developed cornice from the gable, yet had dentil moulding beneath it, instead of mutules. The window in the gable was tripartite with a tabernacle window head. Beneath this window and above the second floor was a cornice of brick made prominent by a row of bricks set in a dog-tooth pattern. One characteristic of this dwelling was it's fine brick masonry. Another example of this was a partial belt course between the first and second floors, which caused the eye to be drawn to the center portion of the building. The fenestration on the first and second floors was six over six, with the windows surmounted by tabernacles on the first floor and flat entablatures on the basement and second floors.

9 George continued:

The door and piazza screen were so badly damaged by the time of the photo that it is difficult to describe them. The piazza was raised on brick piers and was two stories. The entablature on the piazza was well developed, but difficult to describe from the photo. The columns supporting the piazza were Doric and a simple balustrade of slender balusters set in between them.