



SIMPLE, STURDY LINES MARK MARLE'S BAKE SHOP
Building Is Being Transformed Into Charming Residence

(Staff Photo.)

Do You Know Your Charleston?

Former Bakeshop Becoming Attractive City Residence

Attractive simplicity is the outstanding feature of No. 14 Queen St. As some houses are tall and dignified, this one might be called fat and comfortable. There is nothing pretentious about it, but it has a gemütlich feeling, as its former owner might have expressed it.

Perhaps some of the warm atmosphere of a bakeshop still lingers. For three generations it was known as "Marle's Bakery," and was the source of rock cakes, horse and ginger cookies for younger generation Charlestonians. For years local housewives had Marle bake their Christmas fruitcakes in his large 15 x 20 foot oven, which still stands in an accessory building in the yard.

Gustave Bernhardt Marle came from Saxony in Germany, and worked in a bakery as soon as he was tall enough to reach the counter. He was apprenticed from one baker to another, learning the speciality of each, and his stolen and pumpnickel were Charleston favorites.

RESTORING BUILDING

In 1953 the property was bought by Mary Drucker Zwingman Scott, who is restoring it. As was true of many Charleston houses, business was conducted on the first floor with the dwelling above. The front room, therefore, formerly the bakeshop has a wide two-panelled front door opening onto Queen Street. This Mrs. Scott has sanded down and is permitting to weather. On the step is her trademark, a footscraper made of a heavy hand iron sunk into the concrete.

To the left is a simple arch of English brick which she designed. Set in this is a gate made out of a converted wrought iron window guard. Through this a walk leads along the house to a door opening onto a small hall with a room on either side and a stair leading to the upper floors.

Both the hall and the two first-floor rooms have panelled wainscoting. The front room has a metal foil ceiling and cornice. This is to be painted off-white. The knotty pine wainscoting will be

left natural and hand rubbed, and the walls are to be papered in a Chinese rice pattern in gold and silver. The windows are wide and deep. All rooms except those on the third floor have large wood-burning fireplaces with simple mantels.

HUNTING SCENE

Mrs. Scott says the dining room is to be papered with a hunting scene complete to pink-coated huntsmen. From this room a door leads to a brick patio, which Mrs. Scott discovered beneath the back porch when it was removed.

A step leads up from the dining room to a kitchen, where she has made a glass front wall cabinet from the old bakery display case. Both the kitchen and bath are additions, and their walls are of

14 Queen Street

tongue and groove. Marle told Mrs. Scott that he purchased the wood from a man who used to ride through Charleston selling it from a horse and wagon.

Two bedrooms, the front to be painted Wedgewood blue, the rear papered in a pink flower design, to have plaster walls with a simple chair rail and baseboard. On the third floor there are two small attractive attic rooms under the hip roof, painted a warm yellow.

The old shutters are still in use on the second floor, and solid cypress shutters have been made for the front windows downstairs, and pine shutters for the side.

LARGE FIREPLACE

In the yard are two brick accessory buildings of four rooms each, two to a floor. All have large

fireplaces, fat wide doors and heart pine beams. The first used to house the flour which was loaded through a door on the second floor. The old bake oven lined with white tile has been left in the rear house. To the right where coal was placed Mrs. Scott has plans for bookshelves. She envisions both houses with pine paneling, a living room and kitchen occupying the first floor and a large bedroom and bath above.

Mrs. Scott has painted her house pink, which joins the mauve of No. 18 and sky-blue of No. 16 to form a miniature Rainbow Row on this section of Queen Street.

It affords a splendid example of how an unpretentious small house can be restored to a picturesque and comfortable dwelling.