

12 Bull Street

Hugh P. Cameron House

Constructed c. 1851; altered 1890s

Built by crockery merchant Hugh P. Cameron, this house has an unusual plan with two parlors in front, a small room and stair hall at the rear, and the entrance in a pavilion on the east side. The interior was remodeled in the 1890s in the Colonial Revival style. The initials of a subsequent owner, David Bentschner, a clothing merchant, appear in the cast iron gate.

The College of Charleston purchased the house in 1972 for use as a faculty residence. It currently serves as the Caroline and Albert Simons Jr. Center for Historic Preservation for the program in historic preservation and community planning at the College of Charleston.

18 Bull Street

William Blacklock House

Constructed 1800; restored 1973

The William Blacklock House is one of the nation's most important Federal style houses. The brick house is two stories on a high brick basement. Its 18" thick Charleston grey brick laid in Flemish bond is accented by stone trim. The facade features a large lunette in the pediment, openings set in blind arches, delicate tracery in the fanlight and sidelights, and a double flight of iron-railed steps. The date of the house is engraved in stone under the stairs. The interior has fine Adam woodwork and plasterwork and a graceful circular stair under an unusual vaulted ceiling. The property has Gothic Revival outbuildings.

No architect has been identified for this sophisticated structure, although it is often attributed to Gabriel Manigault. One of Charleston's wealthiest British merchants, Blacklock was a member of the building committee for the structure that is now Charleston City Hall, which was built in the same year as this house. The most distinctive similarity to Manigault's known work is the use of Tuscan column with fluted necks, which Manigault used on the Orphan House Chapel. The house represents a suburban retreat (for at that time, this

neighborhood was sparsely populated) from the bustle of Charleston's busy mercantile district.

This house has had a series of prominent owners and occupants, including Emil H. Jahnz, who was the German consul in 1916. Over time, it also served as a fraternity house, a boarding house, and even an apartment complex. In 1958, Dr. Maxcy Harrelson obtained the city's permission to demolish the house. Fortunately, Dr. Harrelson never exercised his authority and his permit to demolish expired.

With assistance from philanthropist Richard H. Jenrette, the College of Charleston purchased the house in 1971 and undertook a massive restoration effort, after which the building served as an event venue. The house was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1974. Today it houses the college's alumni office and is available as a rental to faculty, staff and alumni.

24 Bull Street

Benjamin Lucas House

Constructed c. 1858; rehabilitated 1969

This three-and-a-half story, stuccoed brick house in the Greek Revival style was built by Benjamin Lucas, a builder and city building inspector, who used it as his residence. Beginning in the 1880s, it served as the Lucas Academy for young ladies. For most of the 20th century, it has been used as apartments. The building was rehabbed in the late 1960s. The College of Charleston purchased the building in the 1970s and is now used as student housing.

43 Bull Street

John C. Simons House

Constructed c. 1850

This house features interesting ironwork and a notable fountain in the garden. It was built by John C. Simons, a prosperous merchant on King Street who dealt in paints, oils and hardware. From 1946 to 1961, it was the home of Judge Joseph Fromberg, an outspoken proponent of judicial and prison reform.