

8 BEDON'S ALLEY
Home of Mrs. Richards Lewis

On the Grand Model Plat of 1680-94 Bedon's Alley was divided into four 1/2 acre plots running across to East Bay. 8 Bedon's Alley was in plot #8 which was assigned to Edward Musson in 1681.

In the survey of the walled city 1703, buildings are shown probably wooden. Bedon's Alley was one of the principal business streets with a mercantile, naval stores and ship Chandler stores. Brick construction was probably started in the early 1700's, and foundations are discovered nearly every where one puts a spade to the ground.

The walls of this house are 2 feet thick on 3 sides and over 3 feet thick on the north wall. In digging an opening through the north wall in 1945 a grape shot cannon ball (used during the War between the States) was found imbedded.¹ The walls would seem to date 1780 (circa) and it is believed this was first a business structure by Adam Tunno who owned the property through to East Bay and had purchased the brick house there probably built 1740 (circa).

The wrought iron entrance gate has an interesting eight pointed star design. As you move along in this well kept Charleston garden, you will notice the use of many attractive plants for which Charleston is remembered. The Pittosporum, Loquat, Japanese Yew, Oleander, and Banana Shrub in combination with the Azaleas and Camellias present an extremely pleasing picture. In the front corner of the garden - also along the house wall - are lovely herried trees called Cassena trees (Yaupon Holly). In the rear corner is quite a large, old Palmetto tree. When you look at the secluded patio, you can understand the pleasure that is felt when you are able to visit here.

¹ When the opening was created a brick floor basement 8 feet high approximately 10' x 15' was discovered.

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Susan Frost, one of the first preservationists purchased this derelict property April 27, 1920 and restored its use to a residence. Since then the walls surrounding have been built, many on old foundations.