

James Reid and his mule, George, appear to be competing with a diesel-powered tractor on Reid's Moncks Corner farm. Lindy Anderson's tractor sends dust flying as Reid and George follow patiently, readying the soil for spring planting.

Hardware Merchant Built 345 King Street

By ROBERT P. STOCKTON
Special Writer

The two-story brick commercial building at 345 King St. was built in 1883 by Christopher P. Poppenheim, a hardware merchant, as his place of business.

Poppenheim bought the site in 1881 and demolished a 2½ story frame building to make room for the present building.

Poppenheim's hardware store remained in the building until 1892, when he completed and occupied the larger structure at 363-365 King St.

The property remained in the Poppenheim family until 1936, when it was purchased by Louis Garfield. In 1974, title was transferred to his son, Allen H. Garfield.

After Poppenheim moved his store in 1892, the building at 345 King St. was vacant for a time, then was occupied by the Home Made Candy Co. The proprietor, Thomas Tundas, lived upstairs.

In 1903, the candy company was taken over by the Papdakos brothers (James, Theo and Stavros), who resided upstairs and operated the business until 1915.

Athanas Tsiropoulos operated the Chrystal Ice Cream Parlor at 345 King in 1915-16, during which period the second floor ceased to be a residence.

From 1917 to 1925, the building was occupied by the Louis D. Rubin Electrical Co., with L.D. Rubin, president; W.P. Montague, vice president; and E.R. North, secretary-treasurer.

Louis Garfield moved his jewelry business to the location in 1925 and has remained there.

The body of the building is constructed of local grey brick (actually reddish-brown in color), laid in American common bond with oyster shell mortar.

The north wall retains a weathered

Do You Know Your Charleston?

painting of a Coca-Cola advertisement that shows in a photograph from the 1940s.

The facade is of pressed red brick and terra cotta, with thin mortar joints, in the fashion of the time. Originally the store front had plate glass windows and doors. That has been altered but the upper part of the facade appears relatively untouched.

Brick pilasters divide the facade into three bays, with paired windows in the center bay, flanked by single-window bays, in the second level.

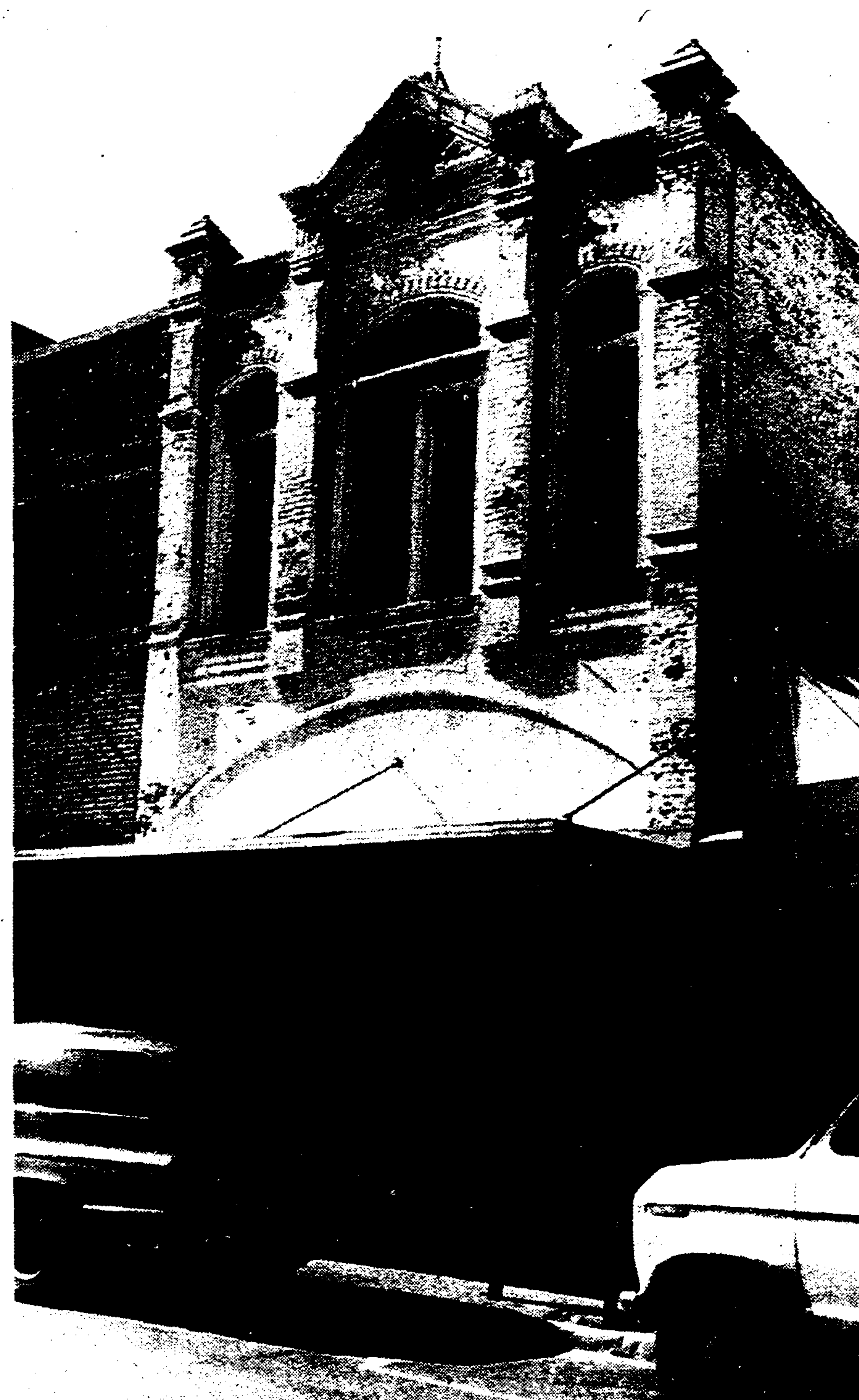
The pilasters on either side of the facade rise from ground level and terminate in square piers with stepped pyramidal pinnacles; the two inner pilasters rise from corbels on the second level and terminate in piers, between which is set a gable with corbelled brickwork on the face and the date "1883" in a sunk panel.

The gable has a terra cotta cornice of cyma recta molding which follows the rake of the gable, then continues at an angle across the top of the two inner piers. The cornice is repeated along the parapet between the inner and outer piers.

The piers are decorated with round doughnut-shaped sunk panels.

Windows on the second level have segmental arches, with radiating voussoirs, the top course of the voussoirs being slightly raised, with a pattern of alternating brick headers and stretchers.

The windows have deep reveals with multiple moldings in wood. Windows have one light to a sash and segmental-headed transoms with single lights.



Staff Photo by Brad Nettles

Jeweler Now Occupies 345 King St.

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