

In 1866, when real estate values were severely depressed, Mikell sold his town house to Edward Willis, a local merchant, for \$22,500. It then passed through several owners, including Mayor John Ficken. From 1935 to 1960, it housed the Charleston County Free Library. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woodward purchased the property and restored it in the 1960s, protecting it through easements donated to Historic Charleston Foundation.

Its dependencies were later redeveloped as apartments. Actors Don Johnson and Melanie Griffith briefly lived here while filming *Paradise* in 1991. In 2008 the entire property was purchased and restored as a single family residence. Its value has quadrupled since Hurricane Hugo.

### **95 Rutledge Avenue Grimke-Seabrook House**

*Constructed c. 1815-26*

Construction of this substantial, stuccoed brick house began under the ownership of Judge John Faucheraud Grimke', father of the famous abolitionist Grimke' sisters. The Grimkes likely never lived here. It was completed by Thomas Bannister Seabrook, an Edisto Island cotton planter.

### **97 Rutledge Avenue Gibbon House**

*Constructed c. 1885*

*Henry Oliver, contractor*

George Gibbon built this frame dwelling house as his residence. Its foundation is built of Stoney Landing brick. This was later the home of Maud Gibbon, who founded the Charleston Symphony Orchestra in 1919. Pablo Casals, the noted cellist and conductor, was among her famous guests.

### **101 Rutledge Avenue William Stevens Smith House**

*Constructed c. 1796-1804*

This house and its outbuildings were built by William Stevens Smith, an attorney, planter and legislator, on land that he thought belonged to his wife, Juliette Waring Smith. It was legally owned by her kinsman, Benjamin Waring of Columbia.

Smith had to initiate a court suit to clear up the matter so that he could sell the property in 1804. According to court records, Smith said he built this house as his residence, but never lived in it.

A subsequent owner, physician Dr. Thomas Ballard McDow, achieved notoriety when he fatally shot his neighbor, Capt. Francis Warrington Dawson, in the basement office in 1889. Dawson was editor and publisher of the *News & Courier*. He had gone to McDow's office to protest the doctor's alleged improper attentions to a young French woman in Dawson's employ. After a sensational trial, McDow was acquitted of the murder charge.

### **104 Rutledge Avenue Bannister Seabrook House**

*Constructed c. 1816; alterations 1880s*

This stuccoed brick single house was built by Thomas Bannister Seabrook, a prosperous Edisto Island planter. The Victorian tower was a later addition, as were the Queen Anne style window heads and Victorian cornice.

### **121 Rutledge Avenue Cannon Park and the Ruins of the Charleston Museum**

*Established by 1880; some redevelopment c. 1985*

By 1880, Bennett's Mill Pond, which had covered this lot, had been filled in. the lot was designated Cannon's Mall in honor of Daniel Cannon, who along with Thomas Bennett Sr., had developed sawmills in the vicinity.

A landscape design was executed by Frederick Law Olmstead, who also designed New York's Central Park, but it was never completely executed because the park was chosen as the site of the Thomson Auditorium in 1898. Upon his death, John Thomson bequeathed \$30,000 to the city, which met most of the \$35,000 cost of the auditorium. Architect Frank P. Milburn designed the Beaux Arts style building that, according to contemporaneous accounts, was meant to be a lasting memorial

The building was completed in 90 days so it would be ready for the United Confederate