

TRENHOLM'S
TENEMENT
C. 1870





Trenholm's Tenement
No. 62 Logan Street (c. 1870)
Charleston, SC

**Also referred to as No. 4 Mazyck Street (c. 1870-1888),
 No. 10 Mazyck Street (1888-1919), No. 30 Logan (1919-1944)*

No. 62 Logan Street is located within original Lot #275 of the Grand Model of Charles Towne. Lot #275 was historically owned by the Legare family and occupied the east side of Logan Street (then called “Mazyck Street”) from the base of Short Street to Queen Street. As early as 1801, Joseph Legare parceled the large property into small narrow lots, each measuring approximately 26’x92’.¹ The property known today as No. 62 Logan Street retains these same dimensions.

Between 1801 and 1861, Henry Lyall purchased two of the parceled lots: the properties of current day No. 60 and 62 Logan Street. By the 1850s, both lots were occupied by two-story wooden dwellings (most likely single houses). Thomas Arnold (1829-1892) occupied the house on the No. 62 Logan Street property.²



“A Platt of Charles Towne in the Province of Carolina, 1668,” Charleston County Public Library
 Joseph Legare to Christina Colvra, Deed Book E-7, page 152, Charleston County Register of Mesite
 Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

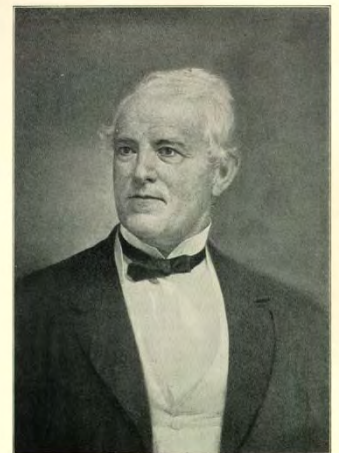
² City of Charleston Ward Books, 1851-1855, Ward 2, Charleston County Public Library, Charleston, SC.

On the evening of December 11, 1861, a large fire began near the east end of Calhoun Street, and for several hours, traveled southwest towards the region of Colonial Lake. The fire destroyed over 500 homes, including Arnold's wooden house. The next morning, Arnold's dwelling, as well as the wooden house at current day No. 60 Logan Street, was listed among the "victims" of the fire.³

It is after the Great Fire of 1861 that the brick dwelling at No. 62 Logan Street was constructed.

1864: Despite the loss of his home, Arnold paid his mortgage in full to Henry Lyall.⁴ He and his wife, Sarah Theodosia Whilden, sold the damaged lot to George Trenholm (1807-1876), Treasurer of the Confederacy.⁵

As a cotton broker and financier of many markets, including slave trading, Trenholm was considered one of the wealthiest men in the Confederacy prior to the Civil War. At the time of his purchase, however, he was bankrupt due to the impending Confederate loss, and with the assistance of creditors, he purchased the damaged property to reengage in business, this time through real estate. It is unlikely that Trenholm immediately built on or improved the lot, as shortly after his purchase he was imprisoned by Union forces and held in Fort Pulaski, Georgia until the war was over.⁶



HON. GEORGE A. TRENHOLM
Secretary of the Confederate States Treasury

1869: Returning to Charleston after the war, Trenholm bought a mortgage for the property from James T. Welsman, who had just purchased the property known today as No. 60 Logan Street.⁷ Welsman was a major landowner, selling and buying 55 pieces of property between 1840 and 1874. Welsman most likely constructed the brick buildings at current day No. 60 and No 62 Logan Street as rental properties for both himself and Trenholm. The buildings were originally identical in design and floor plan. Today, however, No. 60 Logan Street features a mid-to-late 1900s addition at the façade.

*Image of George Trenholm from
Recollections of a Rebel Reefer by
James Morris Morgan (1845-1928)*

³ "The Great Fire Of 1861, Full List Of The Losses," *Charleston Mercury*, Charleston, SC (December 21, 1861)

⁴ Thomas Arnold to Henry Lyall, Mortgage Book H-14, page 5, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

⁵ Thomas Arnold and Sarah Theodosia Whilden Arnold to George Trenholm, Deed Book U-14, page 243, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

⁶ "George A. Trenholm Papers," Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

(<http://rs5.loc.gov/service/mss/eadoxlmss/eadpdfmss/2016/ms016030.pdf>)

⁷ George Trenholm to James T. Welsman, Mortgage Book H-15, page 573, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

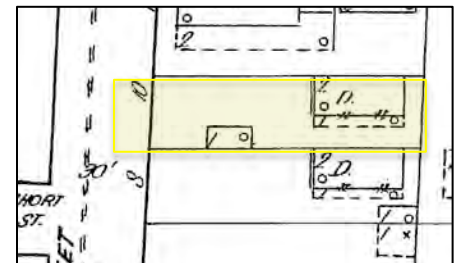
1871: The two-story brick building was first recorded in city records and identified as “No. 4 Mazyck Street.” The property was registered under Welsman, as Trenholm had not yet paid the mortgage in full.⁸

A second, two-story brick dwelling also owned by Welsman was recorded next door.

1876: After Trenholm’s death, Welsman claimed ownership of the property, engaging in a legal suit with Trenholm’s son and estate executor William L. Trenholm. Welsman died during the litigation and named Emma A. Welsman, Robert N. Gourdin and Wilmot G. Desaussure his executors to handle the suit.⁹

1879: The parties of the lawsuit, including William Trenholm and Emma Welsman, agreed to sell the property through public auction. The brick dwelling, still identified as “No. 4 Mazyck,” was sold to cotton merchant James F. Walsh (1850-1913).¹⁰

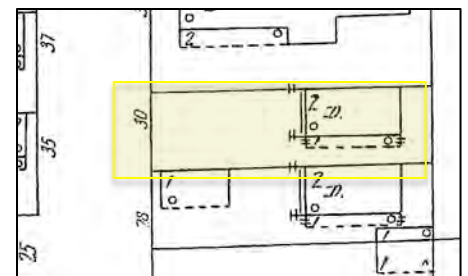
1888: Street addresses changed significantly after the Great Earthquake of 1886, as many buildings were destroyed. On the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map two years later, the dwelling was identified as “No. 10 Mayzck Street.” It appeared identical to its current floor plan, with the exception of its one-story, rather than today’s two-story, piazza. A one-story auxiliary building was also recorded in the front yard.



The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1888

Walsh resided with his family on Bull Street until his death in 1913, confirming that he also utilized the house as a rental property.¹¹ In addition, he owned other property on the west side of Logan near Broad Street and property on the corner of Logan and Short Streets.

1902: Between 1888 and 1902, Mazyck Street was renamed Logan Street. In the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, the house was identified as “No. 30 Logan Street” and remained identical to its 1888 depiction. The one-story building in the front yard was no longer extant



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1902

1919: Oriole W. Nohrdenn, executor of Walsh’s will, sold “formerly 4 Mazyck, now 30 Logan,” to Exchange

⁸ City of Charleston Ward Books, 1871-1875, Ward 2, Charleston County Public Library, Charleston, SC.

⁹ William Trenholm, executor for George Trenholm, and Emma Welsman, executrix for James T. Welsman, to James F. Walsh, Deed Book F-18, page, 55, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.; 1900 U.S. Federal Census

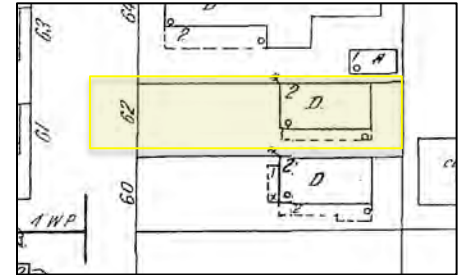
¹⁰ *Ibid*

¹¹ 1880 U.S. Federal Census

Realty Company, who most likely planned to “flip,” or renovate before reselling, the property.¹²

1920: Exchange Realty Company sold the property to 65-year-old Julius Seabrook.¹³ Seabrook was the first owner to use the house as a primary residence. He moved into No. 62 Logan Street from Queen Street with his 73-year-old brother, Isaac, a rare bookseller.¹⁴

1930: After the death of Isaac, 75-year-old Seabrook resided in the dwelling by himself. He was registered as a clerk at the U.S. Federal Court on Broad Street.¹⁵ Seabrook remained in the house until his death in 1948.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1944

1944: In the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, the dwelling was first identified as No. 62 Logan Street and still possessed a one-story piazza.

1948: After Seabrook’s death, his sister Kate Hamilton advertised the “small brick residence” at 62 Logan Street for sale. Shortly thereafter, A. Baron Williman purchased the property for \$3,250.¹⁶ Williman also used the dwelling as his primary residence with his wife and their young family.¹⁷

1951: A. Baron Williman sold the property to Mary Z. Scott and Mary Ducker Zwingman.¹⁸

1955: No. 62 Logan Street was advertised for sale as an “old Charleston brick house” in good condition with four rooms and a large yard.¹⁹

1956: Deciding not to sell, Scott and Zingman divided No. 62 Logan Street into apartments.²⁰ It probable that at this time the current stair hall is added in an effort to accommodate two different living spaces. During this transition, the dwelling’s front entry was most likely moved from the center of the south wall (which now leads to the stair hall). The current front door was created from an original window.

¹² Oriole W. Nohrdenn, executor for James F. Walsh will, to Exchange Realty Company, Deed Book K-29, page 331, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

¹³ Exchange Realty Company to Julius Seabrook, Deed Book P-29, page 273, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

¹⁴ 1920 U.S. Federal Census

¹⁵ 1930 U.S. Federal Census

¹⁶ No Title, *Charleston News and Courier*, Charleston, SC (July 7, 1948)

¹⁷ No Title, *Charleston News and Courier*, Charleston, SC (February 3, 1951)

¹⁸ A. Baron Williaman to Mary Z. Scott and Mary Ducker Zwingman, Deed Book U-53, page 337, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, SC.

¹⁹ “Old Charleston Home,” *Charleston News and Courier*, Charleston, SC (July 19, 1955)

²⁰ No Title, *Charleston News and Courier*, Charleston, SC (March 18, 1956)

1966: Mary Z. Scott sold the property to Ethel Norvell.²¹

1967: Norvell received a Carolopolis Award from the Preservation Society of Charleston for the restoration of No. 62 Logan Street. The Carolopolis Awards are still awarded by the Preservation Society and recognize excellent examples of preservation, restoration, and new construction projects in Charleston. Although records do not exist regarding Norvell's 1967 restoration, the award suggests the house was in poor condition prior to her purchase. Norvell most likely repaired many of the building's features, added a second story to the piazza and returned the floor plan back to a single-family residence after it served as apartments the decade prior.



Image of Edith Norvell from the News and Courier dated April 7, 1969

1974: Norvell deceased and the property was sold to Henry B. Gregorie Jr.²²

The dwelling went through several owners before purchased in 1992 by current property owner Beverly Carson.



Current day photograph of the façade with indication of 1967 Carolopolis Award

²¹ Mary Z. Scott to Ethel Norvell, Deed Book E-85, page 10, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.

²² Probate Court File No. 71-757, Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S.C.