

Information for Guides of  
the historic Charleston

241

title in 1917, they did not occupy it until 1921. In 1972, the restoration of the Exchange Building was adopted as a project for the American Revolution Bicentennial. The Old Exchange Commission was established in 1976 for the purpose of leasing and renovating the building. The restoration, paid for with state and federal funds, cost \$1,910,000 and was completed in 1979-83. The Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon, however was reopened in 1981, as a museum and meeting place. The restoration is a modern adaptation of the historic building, not meant to be an exact replication of the original appearance. The stair towers, for example, were replaced, not on the west front where they would again have impeded traffic, but on the east side. Portions open to the public include the reconstructed Great Hall and the Provost Dungeon, where also can be seen an excavated portion of the Half Moon Battery of c. 1701.

(Miller & Andrus, Eyewitness to History. Smith & Smith, Dwelling Houses, 262, 265-268. Fraser, Reminiscences, 18. Whitelaw & Levkoff, v, 32, 74, 93. Rogers, Charleston in the Age of the Pinckneys, 61-62, 82. Ravenel, Architects, 36, 41-46. Stockton, DYKYC, June 7, 1982. Bryan, "A Most Notable Appearance.")

132-134 East Bay -- Gabriel Manigault, Charleston's "gentleman architect," built this structure sometime after purchasing the site in 1797. The building was originally a brick double tenement of three stories, under a common hipped roof. In the 1890s, Pauline S. Heyward had the structure converted to a two story building, with a new stone facade.

(Stockton, unpub. MS.)

141 East Bay -- Old Farmers and Exchange Bank, built in 1853-54, is in the eclectic Moorish Revival style. Architect Francis D. Lee designed the building, with its horseshoe arches and striped stonework which are

*Bray*

*Edward Jones House*  
*Smith St.*

reminiscent of the Alcazar at Seville. To achieve the striped effect, Lee used pale Jersey and darker Connecticut brownstone. Lopez and Trumbo were the contractors. The building was vacant, in disrepair and in danger of demolition for a parking lot was purchased and restored in 1970.

(Whitelaw & Levkoff, 94. Ravenel, Architects, 225-226. Stoney, This is Charleston, 45.)

153 East Bay -- This 19th century commercial facade masks the entrance to McCrady's Tavern, built c. 1779 by Edward McCrady. The long room of the tavern is at the rear of the building with an entrance on Unity Alley; that portion has been restored as a restaurant. The Society of the Cincinnati gave a dinner for President George Washington in McCrady's long room in 1791. It possibly is the oldest surviving building used for theatrical productions in the United States. The building continued in use as a coffee house or restaurant until c. 1855. Afterwards, it became a warehouse.

(Stockton, unpub. notes. Thomas, DYKYC, Jan. 31, 1972)

155 East Bay -- This stuccoed brick building was built in the 1850s by Etienne Poincignon, a Frenchman who made a fortune as a tinsmith and real estate investor.

(Stockton, N&C, March 14, 1973.)

154-162 East Bay -- Prioleau's Range. Samuel Prioleau, Jr., built this range of three story brick buildings sometime before his death in 1813. After 1836, the range was remodeled by his son, Dr. Philip Gendron Prioleau and his daughter Mrs. Catherine Ravenel, in the then popular Greek Revival style, with a continuous front of Quincy granite post-and-lintel system along the first level, and a parapet roofline, punctuated by false attic windows filled with decorative grills. Subsequently,