

No. 14 LEGARE STREET.

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bushrod B. Howard.

- 1672 This lot was laid out as #243 of the Grand Model of Charles Town. It was granted later to Richard Phillips. Later still it was halved.
- 1767 The northern half of #243 was sold by Ralph Izard to Barnard Elliott. He sold it shortly to his sister, Mrs. Baker, from who it was inherited by Richard Bohun Baker II.
- 1779 R.B. Baker II sold to Andrew Johnston. Elizabeth Elliott (Mackewn) Johnston inherited it from her husband.
- 1800 Elizabeth Elliott Johnston sold to Francis Simmons. The ^{price,} five hundred and ten pounds of South Carolina currency, is a clear indication that there was no building of consideration on the property.
- 1802 The Directory of Charleston gives Francis Simmons as a resident here.
- 1810 Simmons bought the southern half of #243 from William Brisbane with a wooden house upon it that appears to have been there for some time. The price of twelve hundred pounds "sterling money of South Carolina" is a check against the value of the northern half of the lot.
- 1814 Simmons died leaving a life interest in the south half of the property to female relatives.
- 1816 George Edwards purchased the northern half of ~~the~~ #243 for \$20,000.
- 1818 He purchased the southern half for \$4,000, subject to life interests.
- The wooden house then on the property seems to have been removed to its present site at # 1 Legare Street.
- 1796 Francis Simmons married Sarah Ruth Rawlins, daughter of Rawlins Lowndes, sometime President of South Carolina.
- 1797 Rawlins Lowndes wills his property on Tradd Street to his three daughters. It being at that time under occupation by Mr. Francis Simmons for Marriot Lowndes Brown, daughter of Rawlins Lowndes and widow (apparently) of Joseph Brown, who was shown as resident on this property in the Directories of 1790 and 1794.
- 1798 Francis Simmons made a deed of separation from his wife stipulating his allowance of ~~and~~ annuity, and the sum of fifteen hundred pounds, in lieu of dower rights, on his death.
- 1800 Rawlins Lowndes died. There is no indication when Mrs. Simmons built the house on the property she then inherited. She resided in it certainly by 1809, when she is noted first in a Directory. She continued to live there until her death in the 1850's.

Tradition states that Simmons never cohabited with his nominal wife, or consummated the marriage. From the above it would seem positively that she had nothing to do with his house on Legare Street, whatever their previous relations.

GARDEN AT 14 LEGARE STREET.

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bushrod B. Howard.

- 1784 In the settlement of the estate of Benjamin Wilkins a house and lot on Legare street were sold to Benjamin Waller. Price eleven hundred pounds.
N.B. In one account of this property this house is said to have been brick. No such description appears in the deed. This "brick" house has been confused with that on the northern part of this lot, with which Waller had no connection.
- 1786 Benjamin Waller sold this property to John McPherson, who resided there in 1790. Price two thousand three hundred and ninety two pounds ten shillings current money. The jump in value would seem to indicate improvements, but the price in the next sale should be considered as well.
- 1791 John and Susannah McPherson sell to Joseph Allen Smith. Price eleven hundred pounds current money.
- 1800 John Splatt Cripps atty. for Joseph Allen Smith sells to William Brisbane. Price One thousand pounds "sterling" money. The directories show Brisbane in residence here.
- 1810 Property sold by Brisbane to Simmons.