

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS:	514 Seventeenth Street NW	HISTORIC NAME:	Steptoe House
MAP & PARCEL:	5-65	DATE / PERIOD:	c. 1890-91
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK:		STYLE:	Victorian
PRESENT ZONING:	R-3	HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES:	2 storeys
ORIGINAL OWNER:	Fannie W. Steptoe	DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA:	52' x 150' (7800 sq. ft.)
ORIGINAL USE:	Residence	CONDITION:	Good
PRESENT USE:	Rental Property (Residence)	SURVEYOR:	Bibb
PRESENT OWNER:	Thomas E. Spicer, Jr., & David S. Spicer	DATE OF SURVEY:	Winter 1982
ADDRESS:	Cismont, Virginia 22928	SOURCES:	City/County Records Thomas E. Spicer, Jr.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Much architectural detail and interesting contrast in surface texture was probably lost when this house was covered with asbestos shingles, but it retains its picturesque roofline and massing. Basically it is two storeys tall, two bays wide and double pile, with projecting bays at the south end of the facade and at the rear of both side elevations. A one-storey veranda wraps around the northwest corner between projecting bays, and the front plane of the roof sweeps down to shelter it. The house is set on a low brick foundation. The original weatherboarding has been covered with white asbestos shingles with green trim. Very likely parts of the second storey were originally covered with wooden shingles. The house has a medium pitched hip roof with gables over the projecting bays on the facade and south side. It sweeps down to one-storey height over the porch in the north bay of the facade and continues around the corner as a hip roof over that section of the porch. The roof is covered with silver-colored standing-seam metal and has shaped rafter ends. The second storey of the projecting bay on the north side projects beyond the first storey and is supported on rafter-like purlins. There is an interior chimney with a small cap. Windows are double-sash, 2-over-2 light, with architrave trim and green louvered shutters. They are the same height at both levels. The porch has a segmental-arched frieze, square posts, and simple balustrade. A plywood vestibule has been built on the porch around the entrance door and 3-light rectangular transom in the north bay of the facade. A 3-flight open-well Eastlake stair rises from the entrance hall in the northwest corner of the house, lit by a circular window on the north side of the house. Fireplaces in the principal rooms have coal grates. An original one-storey wing with low-pitched hip roof covers the rear elevation.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Fannie W. Steptoe purchased this lot in Preston Heights subdivision in 1890 (ACDB 95-357) and built the house that year or the next, according to tax records. The walls were covered with asbestos shingles in 1955 while the house was occupied by her daughter, Elizabeth W. Steptoe, to whom she had left a life estate. Thomas E. Spicer bought the house in 1974, after Miss Steptoe's death, and deeded it to his sons Thomas E. Spicer, Jr., and David S. Spicer the next year (City DB 359-515, 370-335). The house is used as rental property.

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VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File No. 104-130
Negative no(s). 7221

HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

Page 1 of 2 (see also attached City survey sheet)

Street address 514 17th St. NW
Town/City Charlottesville

Historic name Steptoe House Common name _____

- Material
- wood frame (siding: weatherboard, shingle, aluminum, bricktex, _____) *covered* *dr. Sides*
 - brick (bond: Flemish, stretcher, _____-course American, _____)
 - stone (random rubble, random ashlar, coursed ashlar, _____)
 - log (siding: weatherboard, shingle, aluminum, bricktex, _____)
 - stucco cast iron
 - concrete block terra cotta
 - enameled steel glass and metal
 - other: _____

Number of Stories	Roof Type	Roof Material
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2½	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> shed <input type="checkbox"/> mansard	<input type="checkbox"/> slate <input type="checkbox"/> tile
<input type="checkbox"/> 1½ <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gable <input type="checkbox"/> gambrel	<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle <input type="checkbox"/> pressed tin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> pediment <input type="checkbox"/> parapet	<input type="checkbox"/> composition <input type="checkbox"/> not visible
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hipped <input type="checkbox"/> flat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> standing seam metal
	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Dormers	Number of bays — Main facade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> shed <input type="checkbox"/> hipped	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> gable <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> pedimented	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 <i>Asym.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> _____

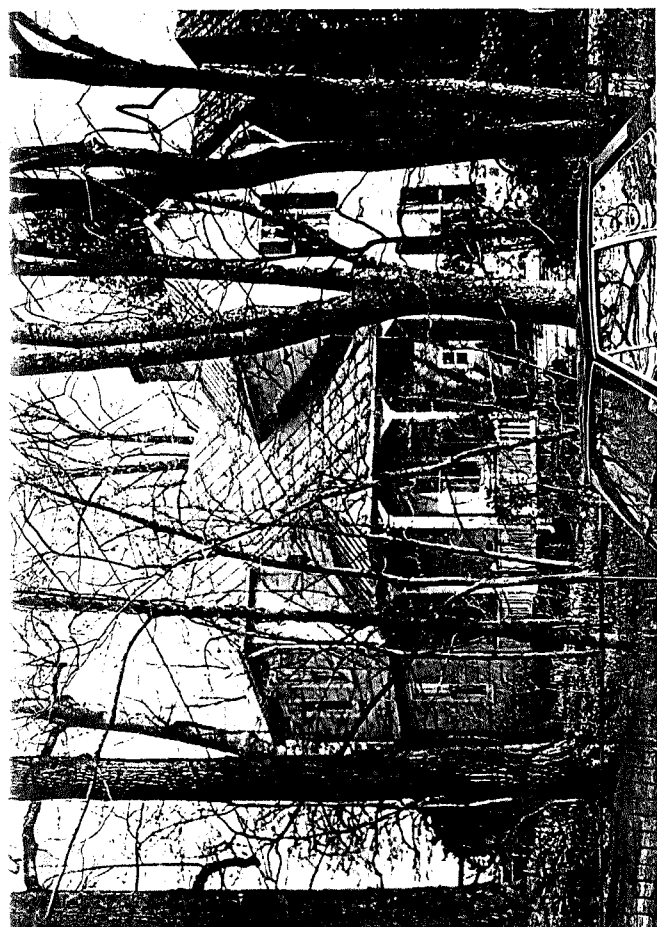
Porch	Stories	Bays	General description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 (center) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 4	Wraparound front porch at north corner of facade.
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 (side) <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> _____	

Building type

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> detached house	<input type="checkbox"/> garage	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
<input type="checkbox"/> detached town house	<input type="checkbox"/> farmhouse	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial (office)	<input type="checkbox"/> school
<input type="checkbox"/> row house	<input type="checkbox"/> apartment building	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial (store)	<input type="checkbox"/> church
<input type="checkbox"/> double house	<input type="checkbox"/> gas station	<input type="checkbox"/> railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

Style/period Victorian/Vernacular Date c. 1890-91 Architect/builder _____

Location and description of entrance



Miscellaneous descriptive information (plan, exterior and interior decoration, cornice/eave type, window type and trim, chimneys, additions, alterations)

complex

The odd roofline and elevations of this house distinguish it from its neighbors.

Historical information

See attached City survey sheet, 1982.

Source

5-65 ✓

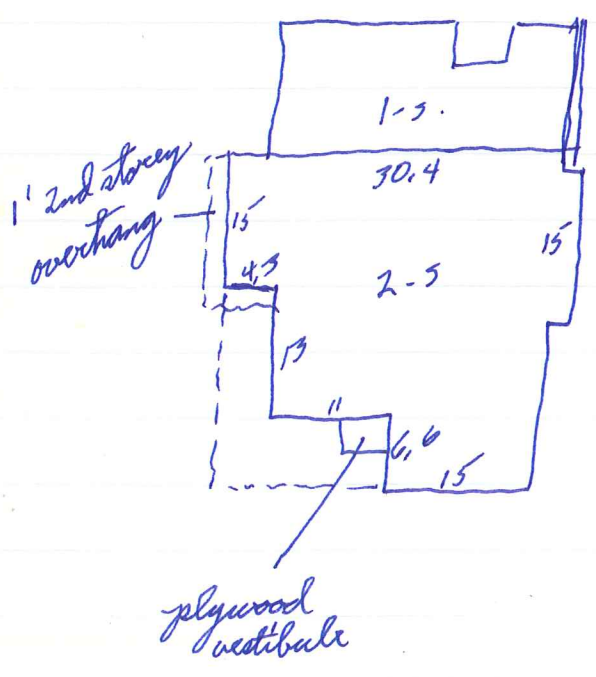
R-3
52x150 (4800)

514 17th NW

340-335	Thos E Jr & David S Spicer	^{Cement} 1975	gift
359-515	" " -	" 1974 \$29,000	plat 359-519
WB 17-212	Eliy W. Steptoe est	1973	
	" " " -		

1 1/2 - 5, 2-fam, 7 rooms, 2 baths
 brick found, asbestos shingle, metal ties
 2 fireplaces
 built 1890, arc const
~~1956 - imp~~
 1955 - asbestos shingles over wood siding
 1953 - stairs

Steptoe House
c. 1890-91



E-9

City Div

1953, '62, '65 Ely W. Steptoe, furnished rooms, 514 17th NW

1910-11, '14-15 Steptoe m.l.

1920 Sanborn - in row

fancy work on cornice, "real different"

1923 - what's higher was not being
 1923 - other
 built 1880, no water
 2 floors
 built 1880, no water
 2 floors
 built 1880, no water
 2 floors

19-0781



~~1015~~ 514 17th NW

359-515 Mary W S & Wm H Oglesby, Philip P & Drene H Steptoe, Thos W & Mary C
10/10/1974 Steptoe, Robt M & Sarah D Steptoe, Nancy M S & Stanley E
M^{rs} Kinley → Thos E Spicer \$29,000

lot of imp^{ts}, 52' ^{E side} 17th st NW x 150' back to alley

Lot 9 Block 13 on Preston Hgts plat ACDB 97-346

514 17th st NW

same as ACDB 95-357, 10/10/1890,

Ch' v West End Land Co → ^{mn} Fannie Wallace Steptoe

Fannie W. Steptoe dec. ~~1933~~ 1933 (WB 4-26), (apparently
living in L'by) & left property to dau E Liza Wallace
Steptoe for life, then to @ granda Mary Wallace
Steptoe (now Oglesby) & to chn of son Philip P. Steptoe
E Liza W Steptoe dec 1973 (WB 17-215)

ACDB

95-357

Tax

1891

Stetson n l

1892

Mrs F W Stetson

PH

+ 1500 = 1600

for WELCO & Smythe

514 17th

2-5, ^(3 rear) 2-bay, double pile

loot bricks found

white ash shing, green shutters, trim green

med hip roof, silver ssm, exposed rafter ends
gable over proj pav on facade of 1st proj bay on S side
sweeps down to 1-storey, lit over ^{facade} front porch wrapping
around NW corner bet proj bays

rear bay N side also proj, w/ 2nd level extending beyond 1st
on shaped "rafters"

windows 2/2, arch. trim, lowered shutters, same lit

veranda: 1-5; med hip roof cont on facade into main
roof w/ no change of pitch; exposed rafters; seq-arched
frieze; sq posts, simple bal, wooden fl, 4 steps

plywood vestibule around

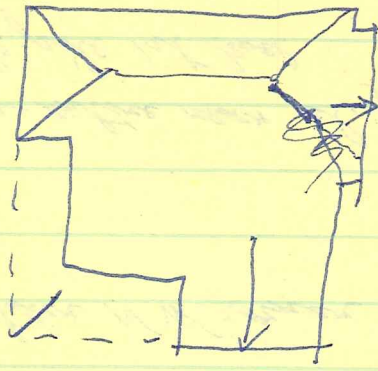
ent door w/ 3-l root beam

0 attic vents

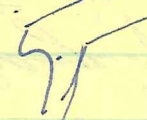
3-fl open Eastlake stair NW corner
coal grates

orig. 1-5 wing covers entire rear el.; low-pitched hip roof
match; ∴ triple-pile 1st level

1 int chim, small cap; also flue



garage on alley

1-5, 1-room; white weatherboarded; ^{gabled roof,} steps, asb shing, close verge,
bevel cornice w/ 
1 br.b door
4l cement window ^{above} in gable

⊕ window 2nd level N side over porch under sweep of roof

