

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 412 East Jefferson Street
 Map and Parcel: 53-44
 Census Tract & Block:
 Present Owner: Edward O. McCue, Jr.
 Address: 412 East Jefferson Street, City
 Present Use: Office
 Original Owner: Opie Norris
 Original Use: Shop and/or Residence

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Norris-McCue Building
 Date/Period: Second Quarter of the Nineteenth Century
 Style: Federal Rowhouse
 Height to Cornice: 24.67
 Height in Stories: 2 on High Basement
 Present Zoning: B-3
 Land Area (sq.ft.): 20.53 x 85
 Assessed Value (land + imp.): 4580 + 6180 = 10,760

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Sandwiched between the Cochran House (gone) and the Butler Norris House (410 East Jefferson Street) is a very narrow brick building which utilized their side walls. Built in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the four bay, two story shop set on a high basement was built on Opie Norris' property and remained in his estate until 1874. The most interesting feature of the structure is the passageway on the ground floor which permitted convenient access to the rear area without going around the three buildings. Such passageways are frequent in rowhouses, but this is the only surviving example in Charlottesville. Built as a shop on an extremely narrow lot, its plan is quite simple with a storeroom in front entered directly from the street and a room and staircase behind. The brick facade is detailed with jack arches and a mousetooth cornice. Little of the original interior fabric remains. The second floor is 4.33 feet wider than the first floor because of the area over the passageway.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Opie Norris probably built this structure adjoining his residence prior to his death in 1839. The passageway went with his house at 410 East Jefferson while the 4.33 feet on the second floor over the passageway belonged to 412. This arrangement continued until 1963 when Edward McCue, Jr. purchased the rights to the passageway from the owners of 410. The narrow brick shop which was once a saddlery was sold by the Norris estate in 1874 to B. L. Powell (ACDB 69-217). In 1937 Edward McCue, Jr. purchased the property from Frances E. Mithcell whose family had owned it since 1888 (DB 93-417).

GRAPHICS

P-49 (M)

CONDITIONS

Average

SOURCES

City/County Records
Alexander, Recollections, p. 35.