

FOOD MASTER CONVENIENCE STORE



STREET ADDRESS: 308 Ridge Street
MAP & PARCEL: 28-152
VDHR FILE NUMBER: 104-25-5
CITY FILE NUMBER: 670
PRESENT ZONING: B-2
ORIGINAL OWNER: James N. Fleming
ORIGINAL USE: Convenience Store
PRESENT USE: Convenience Store
PRESENT OWNER: James N. Fleming
ADDRESS: 304-A Ridge Street
Charlottesville, VA

HISTORIC NAME:
DATE/PERIOD: 1967
STYLE: Vernacular Modern Commercial
HEIGHT IN STORIES: one story
DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 108.5' x 196' (21,266 sq. ft.)
CONDITION: Good-Excellent
SURVEYOR: Bibb/Pres. Assoc. of VA (Smead)
DATE OF SURVEY: 1993
SOURCES: City Records
Alexander, Recollections of Early Charlottesville
Sanborn Map Co. - 1920

FOOD MASTER CONVENIENCE STORE

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This Modern commercial building is built into the slope that runs along the southeast side of Ridge Street, as are most of the buildings on that side of the street, so that the basement or ground level is open to the rear and at the rear of the southwest side. The building is of brick laid in running bond, and it has a flat roof with concrete block coping. There is one exterior side chimney of brick, standing at the northeast wall. The windows are plate glass with metal frames. The front facade is asymmetrical, with the entrance to the side of a large plate-glass window. Commercial use spaces in the lower level of the building have an entrance on the southwest side of the building, accessed from Dice Street. In front of the store is a paved parking lot with a sign mounted on a signpost at the edge of the sidewalk fronting the property. The building's 1967 construction date means that it is a non-contributing structure within the District.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

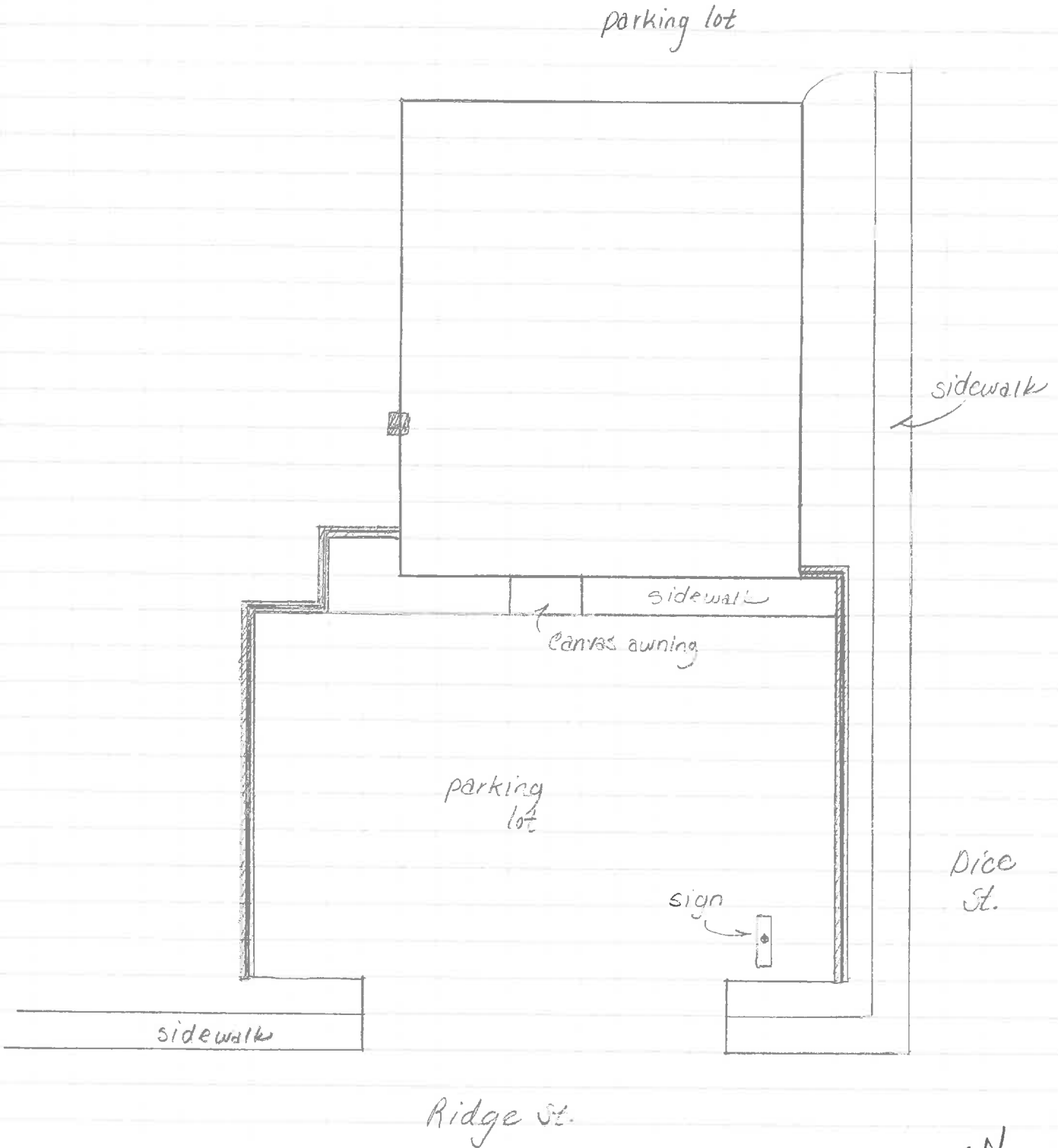
This was the site of the William Brown House, built c. 1873. It appears to have been a two-story, weatherboarded Virginia I-house. This African-American family lived on the predominantly white northern end of Ridge Street during its most fashionable era. Vassar R. Tarry bought the house in 1959 and sold a half interest to his nephew James N. Fleming three years later (City DB 215-128, 231-136). The old house was demolished c. 1960, and this store building was built on the site in 1967, according to tax records. Additional Records: City DB 231-137, 275-161.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The lot on which the Food Master Convenience Store stands is significant as the site of the William Brown House. The store building is a typical example of a late-1960s Modern convenience store, but it is unusual for its basement-level commercial/office spaces. Although the store is similar in scale and date to its northeastern neighbor, the Gold Key Realty building, it is not compatible with the houses along Ridge Street that make up the Historic District.

FOOD MASTER CONVENIENCE STORE
308 RIDGE ST.

VDHR FILE NO. 104-25-5



SUSAN E. SMEAD
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATES
OF VIRGINIA

↙ N
JANUARY 1994

VDHR Reconnaissance Survey Form

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
 PROPERTY SURVEY FORM
 RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

VDHR File # 104-0025-005

Property Name:
 Current/Historic Food Master Convenience Store

NR Property Category: Building
 Wuzit: Convenience Store

Tax Code: Section Parcel
 =====
 28 152

County/City: Charlottesville (City)

USGS Map: USGS Quad: Charlottesville East

ADDRESS/LOCATION INFORMATION

Address: 308 Ridge Street

Location:

Vicinity of: Municipality: ZIP: 22901

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

Property Boundaries:
 Ownership: Private

RESOURCE COUNT -

#	Category	Contributing?	TOTAL:	
1	Building	Non-contributing	1	
			Contrib:	0
			Non-Contrib:	1

WUZIT COUNT -

#	Wuzit	Contributing?	TOTAL:	
1	Convenience Store	Non-contributing	1	
			Contrib:	0
			Non-Contrib:	1

RESOURCE - GENERAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Resource Level:
 Estimated Construction Date: 1967
 Source of Date: Tax Records
 Physical Status: Existing
 Condition: Good-Excellent
 Threat: None Known
 Degree of Historic Integrity:
 Association:
 Design:
 Feeling:
 Location:
 Materials:
 Setting:
 Workmanship:

PRIMARY RESOURCE RECONNAISSANCE DESCRIPTION

Architectural Style/Derivative: Vernacular Modern Commercial

of Stories: 1.0 # of Bays Wide: 2 # of Bays Deep: 5
 Arch Config: Geo Config:
 Footprint:

Component	#	Form/Treatment	Material	Matr'l Treatment
Chimney		Exterior side	Brick	
Foundation		raised rear	Brick	
Roof		Flat	Not Visible	
Windows		Plate glass	Metal	

Brief Architectural Description of Primary Resource:

This Modern commercial building is built into the slope that runs along the southeast side of Ridge Street, as are most of the buildings on that side of the street, so that the basement or ground level is open to the rear and at the rear of the southeast side. The building is of brick laid in running bond, and it has a flat roof with concrete block coping. There is one exterior side chimney of brick, standing at the northeast wall. The windows are plate glass with metal frames. The front facade is asymmetrical, with the entrance to the side of a large plate glass window. Commercial use spaces in the lower level of the building have an entrance on the southwest side of the building, accessed from Dice Street. In front of the store is a paved parking lot, with a sign mounted on a signpost at the edge of the sidewalk fronting the property. The building's 1967 construction date means that it is a non-contributing structure within the District.

Brief Architectural Description of Additions and Alterations
 N/A

Brief Architectural Description of Secondary Resources:

Potentially Contributes to Historic District:

Ridge Street Historic District

Potentially Associated with NR Multiple Property:

Architectural and Historical Summary:

This was the site of the William Brown House, built c. 1873.

It appears to have been a two-story, weatherboarded Virginia I-house. This African-American family lived on the predominantly white northern end of Ridge Street during its most fashionable era. Vassar R. Terry bought the house in 1959 and sold a half interest to his nephew James N. Fleming three years later (City DB 215-128, 231-136). The old house was demolished c. 1960, and this store building was built on the site in 1967, according to tax records. Additional Records: City DB 231-137, 275-161. The lot on which the Food Master Convenience Store stands is significant as the site of the William Brown House. The store building is a typical example of a late-1960s Modern convenience store, but it is unusual for its basement-level commercial/office spaces. Although the store is similar in scale and date to its northeastern neighbor, the Gold Key Realty Building, it is not compatible with the houses along Ridge Street that make up the Historic District.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Type of Record	Citation
City Records	Charlottesville City Deed Book
Book	Alexander, Recollections of Early Charlottesville

PHOTOGRAPHIC/DRAWINGS DOCUMENTATION

MISSING DATA ELEMENT

Media	VDHR Neg #	Frames	Date
B&W 35mm photos	13467	19 - 21	11/26/1993

CRM MANAGEMENT EVENTS

MISSING DATA ELEMENT

CRM Event	Agency/Organization	Date
Reconnaissance Survey	Smead, Susan and Bibb, Eugenia	11/26/199



Date 11/26/93 File No. 104-25-5

Name Food Master Convenience Store, 358 Ridge St.

Town City of Charlottesville.

County _____

Photographer Susan E. Smrad

Contents 3 exteriors

