

353 10 ½ Street NW



Significance: High

Date of Construction: 1918

Architect: Unknown

Parcel ID: 040168000

Original Owner: John and Lela Payne

Builder: Unknown

Building History:

This two-bay, two-story, frame and stucco dwelling house was built around 1918. The house was stuccoed by James Johnson in 1966 and the porch was replaced in 1976. The current dwelling has a hipped metal roof and a central interior brick chimney. Across the façade is a two-bay, shed roof porch with asphalt shingles, a parged concrete foundation and modern rectangular wood posts and wood rails. The dwelling also has a one-bay, lean-to addition at the rear with aluminum siding. The front-facing windows are 1/1 vinyl sash. There is a concrete walkway leading from the sidewalk to the entrance and a one-bay by one-bay, one-story shed in the rear yard (likely pre-fab and contemporary).

Ownership History:

Glenna F. Sinclair sold the land to Julian Corbett on October 2, 1916(City 29 – 314). Corbett sold to John Payne and his wife Lela Payne in 1918 (City 31 – 481). The Payne family continues to own the land today.

Social History:

From 1918 until 1934, John Payne, an African American boiler washer lived in the house at 353 10 ½ Street with his family. After his death in the late 1930s, his wife Lela Payne continued to live in the house with their children. After Lela passed away in 1950, their daughter Mary Payne Blair (wife of John K. Blair Jr.) lived in the house with her family. The Payne-Blairs lived in the house until the 1970s. Mary Payne Blair still owns the home.

Statement of Significance:

The Payne/Blair family has owned this house since its construction in 1918 with multiple generations of the family living in the house, giving it social and community significance. Most of the original materials

appear to have been replaced. The house is a simple “two-over-two” plan common in the 19th and early 20th century in Charlottesville.