

402 10 ½ Street NW



Significance: Medium

Date of Construction: 1948

Architect: Unknown

Parcel ID: 040061000

Original Owner: Jack and Sallie Brown

Builder: Unknown

Building History:

This three-bay, one-story, frame house with vinyl siding was built around 1948. The current dwelling has a front-facing, gabled, asphalt shingle roof and a central interior brick chimney. Across the façade is a one-bay, shed roof porch on a concrete pad and decorative cast iron posts. A two-bay, shed roof, concrete block shed with a 1/1 aluminum window storage shed was constructed in the rear yard in 1975. Two front-facing windows are 6/6 wood sash window. A concrete walkway leads from the sidewalk to the central entrance.

Ownership History:

John West sold the property to James Gilmer on July 13, 1886 (County 86 – 429). After his death, James Gilmer willed the property to his daughter Annie Gilmer (W.B. 32 – 322). Annie sold the property to another male relative Jesse C. Gilmer on March 27, 1926 and they traded the property again in 1928 and 1929. In the deed the furniture is deeded with the house, all former property of James Gilmer. This furniture includes: a table, parlor chairs, and a McEwen piano (City 53 – 193), (City 62 -276) and (City 72 – 270). The property was sold out of the Gilmer family by Walter and Ella Gilmer to Jack and Sallie Brown in 1948 (City 139 – 319). The Gilmer house was demolished around this time. The Brown family continued to own the home until 1973.

Social History:

Jack Brown an African American construction worker who worked at the University of Virginia and his wife Sallie L. Brown lived in the house together from 1948 until 1956. After Jack's death in the late 1950s Sallie continued to live in the house with her son Earl A. Brown. Earl Brown lived in the house until 1973.

Statement of Significance:

This dwelling is a typical example of a traditional concrete block mid-century house design. The windows are likely original, although the house is clad in vinyl siding. The original owning family of Jack and Sallie Brown lived in the house from 1948 until 1978, thirty years. It is similar in form to neighboring 400, 406, and 404.