

**502 10 ½ Street NW**



**Significance:** High

**Date of Construction:** c.1926

**Architect:** Unknown

**Parcel ID:** 040064000

**Original Owner:** Annie Gilmer

**Builder:** Unknown

**Building History:**

This two-bay, two-story, frame and stucco house was built around 1926. The current dwelling has a gabled, asphalt shingle roof and a central interior brick chimney. A two-story, two-bay, cross-gable addition was constructed in 1955. Across the façade is a two-bay, shed roof porch with a parged concrete foundation and modern rectangular wood posts built in 1976. The front-facing windows are 6/6 wood sash type, and the front door frame is wood with a single light transom above. The lot is slightly elevated with concrete steps and a metal pipe railing leading to a concrete path that goes to the front entrance. There is also a side entrance with concrete steps and several hedge plantings on the front lot.

**Ownership History:**

Annie Gilmer sold part of the property to her brother Jesse Gilmer on January 29, 1929 and the remainder of the lot to another male relative Walter Gilmer (possibly her son) in 1946 (City 72 – 270) and (City 126 – 371).

**Social History:**

The Gilmer (also called Gilmore) family lived in the house from 1927 until 1929. The home was rented for about three years from 1929 until 1931 to Lloyd Banks, an African American orderly at the UVA Hospital, and his wife Sallie Banks. The Banks family moved next door to rent out another home previously owned by the Gilmer family at 500 10 ½ Street. From 1932 – 1958, various members of the Gilmer family lived in the home or owned and rented it out to other African American families, including Mrs. Catherine C. Chapman a widow and her children, and Mrs. Ruby Thompson, a food server at the UVA Hospital. George W. McGruder, an African American helper at Sears and Inez M. McGruder, his wife, began renting the home in 1960 and eventually purchased it from the Gilmer heirs in the 1970s. Inez McGruder still owns the house today.

**Statement of Significance:**

The Gilmer family owned and rented this house throughout the course of fifty years in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Gilmer family owned other properties in the area as well. The house appears to retain original windows and front door.