

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 521 North First Street
Map and Parcel: 33-2
Census Track & Block: 3-506
Present Owner: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Vickery
Address: 521 North First Street
Present Use: Residence
Original Owner: Alexander Pope Abell
Original Use: Residence

BASE DATA

Historic Name: The Abell-Gleason House
Date/Period: 1859
Style: Greek Revival
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 2
Present Zoning: R-3
Land Area (sq.ft.): 167 x 476.85
Assessed Value (land + imp.): 8860 + 11,100 = 19,960

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The structure is one of the finest examples of the high degree of preservation furthermore, makes it one of the most important antebellum houses still extant. It is built of brick, two stories high, with four Doric pilasters on each facade supporting a cornice with large Italianate brackets. The roof is very low and the chimneys are placed in a formal, symmetrical arrangement. The windows are paired and are further enriched with paneled spandrels. The interior arrangement is based on the traditional double-pile plan with twin parlors on the south side. Much of the original interior finish is still intact, including the hardware, doors, architraves and coal grates.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

A deed made in 1859 gave title to the lot on First Street, then known as Green Street, to A. P. Abell, which noted that "...the said land embraces the site of a house lately built by Abell". It is therefore certain that this residence was standing in 1859. Abell was forced to sell the house in 1888 to satisfy the creditors who held the mortgage. To raise more capital, Abell partitioned the east side of the property, an area referred to as the garden, for building lots. These lots exist today as Nos. 532, 530, 526, 518, 516, and 514 North First Street. Deed References: ACDB 73-393, City DB 2-305, 20-336, 113-204, 147-153.

GRAPHICS



CONDITIONS

Good

SOURCES

City/County Records
Mrs. J. Emmett Gleason