

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 425 Seventh Street N.E.
MAP & PARCEL: 53-122
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK: 3-419
PRESENT ZONING: B-1
ORIGINAL OWNER: E. L. Cave
ORIGINAL USE: Residence
PRESENT USE: Offices
PRESENT OWNER: Robert M. Musselman
ADDRESS: 413 Seventh Street N.E.
Charlottesville, VA

HISTORIC NAME: E. L. Cave House
DATE / PERIOD: 1912
STYLE: Vernacular
HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 2 storeys
DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 65' x 63' (4095 sq. ft.)
CONDITION: Good
SURVEYOR: Bibb
DATE OF SURVEY: Fall 1980
SOURCES: City Records

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The facade of this house was significantly altered when the front entrance was removed and its veranda enclosed. It is two storeys tall, three bays wide, and double pile. It is set on a low concrete foundation has a partial basement. Wall construction is of brick laid in 6-course American bond on the facade and 7-course elsewhere. The medium-pitched hip roof is covered with standing-seam metal and has projecting eaves, a boxed cornice, and a wide frieze. Small hip-roofed dormers are centered on the front and rear elevations. The rear one has a 6-light casement window, but the window on the facade has been replaced with an air vent. Small capped interior chimneys are centered between the rooms on both sides of the central hall. Windows are segmental-arched, double-sash, 1-over-1 light, with wooden sills and architrave trim, the same height at both levels. A one-storey veranda, now enclosed with white vinyl beaded weatherboarding, covers the central bay of the facade. It has a low-pitched hip roof with boxed cornice. There is a tri-partite window on the facade of the enclosed veranda and an entrance door in the south end. Broken fluted columns in the yard, matching those on the veranda of the house next door, are probably from this veranda. The original side entrance on the south side of the house now serves as the main entrance. It has a small gable-roofed entrance porch with square posts, simple balustrade, and wooden floor. A back porch with a sleeping porch above is set into the northern two bays. The first level porch has been enclosed with fiberboard; the sleeping porch has walls of vertical wooden siding and 6-over-6 light windows.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

When Ernest L. Cave bought this lot from the heirs of Mrs. Lucy A. Vest in 1905 (City DB 16-73), there was a two-storey brick house on the site, but facing on Maple Street. Tax records show that he replaced it with the present house in 1912. Cave lived there until his death in 1956, and Robert M. Musselman purchased it from his estate in 1960 (WB 7-435, DB 222-415) and converted it into offices. This involved enclosing the veranda and re-orienting the house toward the parking lot on the south.