

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 208 Eighth Street, NE
Map and Parcel: 53-174
Census Track & Block: 1-115
Present Owner: Hedgerow Corporation
Address: c/o Henderson Heyward
111 West High Street
Present Use: Rental Property (residence)
Original Owner: Mrs. R.S. Gilmer
Original Use: Garage

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Gilmer Garage
Date/Period: 1918
Style: Colonial Revival
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 1
Present Zoning: B-3
Land Area (sq.ft.): 8,160 sq. ft. (60' x 136')
Assessed Value (land + imp.): 19,800 + 13,300 = 33,100

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This is now a small brick cottage, built directly on the street, with a shed roof sloping gently back from the facade. It has a heavy boxed cornice and a cornice board which covers the tops of the three rear windows. The three round-arched garage entrances are still plainly visible on the facade, filled in with brick around the present cottage windows (a pair of round-arched windows in each side arch, and a round-arched door with a tiny window on each side in the center arch, the door and one tiny window now also bricked up). The cottage's round-arched entrance door and a large multi-paned window are on the side, facing the yard of the Carter-Gilmer house. The brick on the facade is laid in stretcher bond. Some traces of beaded joints remain, despite much re-pointing. The brick on the sides and back is laid in "haphazard bond", with headers and stretchers mixed at random.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

This was originally the stable lot for Fitch Inn, a handsome 1828 house which stood at 704 E. Jefferson Street, the present site of the Federal Building, until 1954. Mrs. Rebecca S. Gilmer purchased the stable lot in 1913. (It is located directly behind the Carter-Gilmer House, 802 E. Jefferson Street). The 1877 city map and the 1907 Sanborne Insurance Company map both show a building of the same dimensions as this and in the same location. The latter map identifies it as a 1½ story frame stable. Tax records, however, indicate that there was no building on the lot after 1905 until George Gilmer built this and another brick garage in 1918. Apparently the garage was built on the foundation of the earlier building. It is not known whether anything else of the old building remained to be incorporated into the new. Charles B. Tanner purchased this lot from the Gilmer family in 1946 and converted the garage into a three-room cottage in the early 1950's. The present owners remodeled the cottage in 1961.

Deed References: ACDB 86-338; City DB 24-416, 125-380, 127-231, 227-477.

GRAPHICS

CONDITIONS

Average

SOURCES

City/County Records
Henderson Heyward
Mrs. George Gilmer

Roger C. Tanner
Alexander, Recollections of
Early Charlottesville