

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 808 E. Jefferson Street	HISTORIC NAME: Carter-Gilmer Office
MAP & PARCEL: 53-81	DATE / PERIOD: 2nd quarter 19th Century, 1920's, 1962
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK:	STYLE: Vernacular
PRESENT ZONING: B-1	HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 1 storey
ORIGINAL OWNER: Dr. Charles Carter	DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 74' x 131.5' (9731 sq. ft.)
ORIGINAL USE: Doctor's Office	CONDITION: Good
PRESENT USE: Rental Property (Residence)	SURVEYOR: Bibb
PRESENT OWNER: Counterpoint Resources Corporation	DATE OF SURVEY: Winter 1983
ADDRESS: P. O. Box 733	SOURCES: City/County Records George Gilmer, Jr.
Charlottesville, VA 22903	Historic Landmark Study 1877 Gray Map Ch'ville
	Sanborn Map Co. - 1907, 1920, 1929

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Office in the yard of the Carter-Gilmer House is a small, low two-room building with a central chimney. It has been connected, by a small addition, to a smaller dependency just north of it. Set on a foundation of brick laid in 5-course American bond with a stepped water table, the Office is constructed of brick laid in 5-course American-with-Flemish bond on the facade and 5-course American bond on the other elevations. It has a medium-pitched gable roof with close eaves and verges and a mousetooth cornice. The original standing-seam metal has been replaced with composition shingles. Windows are paired 8-light casement with wooden sills and plain surrounds. A small entrance porch covers the north bay of the facade. Two Tuscan columns support a steep gable roof. The 5-panel entrance door has moulded surrounds. A beaded board-&-batten door in the other bay of the facade has been closed. The one-room dependency to which the office has been connected is constructed of brick laid primarily in 5-course American bond on a stone foundation. It also has a gable roof with close eaves and verges, but without the mousetoothing. Its wooden shingles have been replaced with composition ones. There is diamond-shaped pierced diapering in the gable. The only window and the plain door have plain surrounds. The connection between these two older sections is constructed of brick laid in stretcher bond. A semi-octagonal bay window conceals the seam in the brick between it and the office. A wooden wing covers the rear of the connection. The facade of the composite building was painted brick red at one time.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The Office is said to have been built by Dr. Charles Carter, who purchased three lots in Anderson's Addition in 1825 (ACDB 25-357) and probably built the main house soon afterwards. The Office cannot be dated with certainty. The brick bonding is the same as that in the third storey and the west wing of the house, both of which are believed to have been built after the Civil War, but the mousetooth cornice dates it as early nineteenth century, as does the tradition that Dr. Carter used it as his office. It is shown on the 1877 Gray map of Charlottesville. Dr. Carter died in the 1860's, and his daughter Mary L. Carter Singleton bought the house from his estate in 1872 (ACDB 67-628). On Mrs. Singleton's death in 1887, the property passed to her granddaughter Rebecca ("Decca") S. Haskell Gilmer (City DB 2-194, 6-118). The Sanborn Maps indicate that the office and the other small dependency were connected and remodeled for residential use in the 1920's, probably by her son George Gilmer, Sr. Mrs. Gilmer left her granddaughter Rebecca ("Decca") Gilmer Frackleton a life interest in the property (WB 5-385), and she purchased the rest from the estate (DB 125-380). She then deeded a life interest in the office to Mary Troy Keator (DB 146-310) and sold her interest to Henderson Heyward in 1955 (DB 182-210) when he brought the main house. His Hedgerow Corporation purchased Mrs. Keator's interest in 1962 (DB 231-33), remodeled the office, and added the frame wing. Counterpoint Resources Corporation bought the entire tract in 1978 (DB 396-744).

Additional Reference: ACDB 87-184; City DB 217-243. 227-475.

