## Architectural And Historic

Survey

## Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 214 E. Main Street

MAP & PARCEL: 28-36

CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK: 1-123

PRESENT ZONING: R-4

ORIGINAL OWNER: James Lobban
ORIGINAL USE: Auction House?
PRESENT USE: Jewelery Store

PRESENT OWNER: H. H. George Real Estate Trust

ADDRESS: c/o Mrs. Theodore Murphy

1837 Fendall Avenue Charlottesville, Virginia HISTORIC NAME: Lobban-George Building

DATE / PERIOD: 1860

STYLE: No Identifiable Style

HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 3 storeys

**DIMENSIONS** AND LAND AREA: 25.5' x 155.7' (3318 sq. ft.)

CONDITION : Good SURVEYOR : Bibb

DATE OF SURVEY: Fall 1979

SOURCES: City/County Records Ch'vlle City Directories

Mrs. Theodore Murhpy 1920's postcard, ACHS Alexander, Recollections of Early Charlottesville

Sanborn Map Co. - 1886,1891,1986,1907,1920,1969

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Daily Progress, Ch'vile Bicentennial Edition, 4/13/1962

This building and the adjacent one were built at the same time and are now among the oldest ones remaining on the street. This one is two storeys tall and the other is three storeys, but both are the same height, and they originally shared a common stair. This building is four bays wide. Construction is of brick laid in stretcher bond on the facade and now painted dark green. This is a very early example of stretcher bond in this area. The walls of the storefront are faced with green marble nearly up to the second storey windows. There is a recessed central entrance and a window at the eastern end in what was probably once a stair entrance. Windows at the second level are double-sash, 6-over-6 light, with plain surrounds. There is no window in the eastern bay. The projecting cornice (probably not original) with brackets, finials, and cornice stops, has been removed, leaving a plain parapet. Behind it, a shed roof covered with standing-seam metal slopes to the rear. There are several round arches in the front wall of the basement. They were bricked up many years ago, and there is no clue as to their purpose. This building had a one-storey rear wing, probably original, which was raised to two storeys and extended farther back c. 1907-1920, and still farther by a cinderblock addition in 1963.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

James Lobban bought this 1ot in 1850 (ACDB 49-200, 56-61) and erected two store buildings in 1860. H. H. George purchased them in 1877 (ACDB 84-146, dated 1884), and they are still owned by his heirs (City DB 380-338). Their Victorian cornices were removed in the 1930's or 1940's and the common stair c. 1960. Keller & George, Inc., has occupied this building since 1918. The marble storefront probably dates back to that time. The firm, successor to one founded by F. A. Balthis in 1883 and joined the next year by Thomas S. Keller, was founded in 1893 by Thomas S. Keller and H. A. George. It had previously occupied a building across the street and one on the site of the Peoples National Bank Building. The building was damaged by fire in 1963.

HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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