STREET ADDRESS:

852-854 West Main Street

MAP & PARCEL: FILE NUMBER:

30-3 699

PRESENT ZONING:

B-3

ORIGINAL OWNER:

George Gilmer

ORIGINAL USE:

Automobile Dealership

PRESENT USE:

Tire Store

PRESENT OWNER: ADDRESS:

University Firestone, Inc. 852-854 West Main Street Charlottesville, VA 22902

HISTORIC NAME:

Charlottesville Motors Building

DATE/PERIOD:

1939

STYLE:

HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: One Story

DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 55.357 sq. ft. (1 1/4 acres)

CONDITION:

Good

SURVEYOR:

Bibb

DATE OF SURVEY: SOURCES:

Spring 1995 City Records

Sanborn Map Co. - 1896, 1920, 1929-57, 1965 The Daily Progress -- 1906 Special Edition

Ch'ville City Directories

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This one-story flat-roofed automotive building is seven bays wide. constructed of cinderblock faced with white stucco. This building is set back from the street, behind a small parking lot listacade is dominated by a showroom wing that projects from the western bay and extends along the side wall of the building to the west, with a faceted terminus at the front of the lot. A band of plate glass display windows extends along the entire wing. The central bay of the facade is marked by these projecting piers and a stepped parapet with a raised panel. The entrance in this bay has flanking windows and a transom, and there is an inset panel above it. The name of the automobile dealership was probably displayed on one of the three panels. There are smaller entrances in the first and sixth bays. One garage door remains in the fifth bay; those in the second and third bays have been infilled. The rear elevation is four bays wide, with garage doors in the central bays and huge industrial-sash windows in the end bays. On the eastern elevation, there are three matching windows with glass brick panels above, and three glass brick windows of the same size. Another window was probably covered by a recent cinderblock wing near the front of the eastern elevation. Its facade is blank and there are two garage doors on the rear elevation.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

century

This is the site of the Cabell House, one of the small inns that sprang up along West Main Street near the Union Station in the nineteenth Century. It was a 2-story, gabled-roofed house, seven bays wide, with a one-storey verandah. East of the Cabell House an set far back from the road, was a one-story brick house once covered by the Porrow and later by the Williams family. Still father east was as small wooden church building, built by the Presbyterian Church in 1888 and later leased (1900) and then

(When & presspeed this & realized it was even more confusing, than usual, so I re-organized the material + hope it will be better,)

sold (1908) to the Lutheran Church. It was moved across the street in 1916 when the railroad bridge was built. George Gilmer purchased the Cabell House lot in 1937 (City DB 93-13) and erected this building in 1939, according to City records. Charlottesville Motors, Inc., the Ford dealership, and its successor occupied the building until it moved to Pantops in the late 1960's. University Firestone, Inc. bought the building from the Gilmer family in 1972 (DB 339-44). Firestone also bought the eastern lot in 1978 (DB 393-271) giving it room to add the western wing to this building. Two service stations on the eastern lot have now been demolished.

#699 A4B 236,6X3,0I 339-44 Univ. Firestone, Inc. 1942 plat 339-46 uppercel 3 129-458 Decca G, Fucketter, etal bull 1937 1976 - alterations 1978 - 2-bay general

339-44 Fecca & + Robt & Frankelton, Betsy & 4 Moren E 6/23/1972 Truman, Geo 4 Nanoy & Colome -> Univ Francisie, Inc L-shaped let, 8544 856 N Man at 9th 5n Lot A on attached 1972 plat from Geo @ 4 Rath D Gilmon 1944 (03 129-458) x 1948 (DB 136-29) inel int in bldg on 7th on Ga En Really last

both now part of 38-3 E Went 372 1772 Humble Del Co-Eno Stof "" land owned by de Industrial Really Com remodeled 175 5-50-1,100 to 840 mmein Jun Dil Ca land omales Carl 6 1755 225 X2/0 = lots AYB plat 393-225 393-276 Unio Fixestore 1978 399-271 mane share 1946

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II proved C on 1978 plat

somprised of) DB 29-284, 1916, for C, W. Rogers

2) DB 29-418, 1916, for Hericha Laure Bornette
etal

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garage door and 3 nd (3nd reduced) Ell - 3 huge ind wind uf glass brisk treen white above, buch red below 2 garage loor durcoal & 3 blank 7 Hogy: E- gange door inflled up fan door bet 2 - gange doors infelled 4th - proj poto ; ent devi wond & trem 5th - genagelore levile and 7th - essecul by gray

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