



## IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 713 Park Street  
 Map and Parcel: 52-56  
 Census Tract & Block: 3-519  
 Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. William Isaccs  
 Address: 713 Park Street, City  
 Present Use: Residence  
 Original Owner: Judge Egbert Watson  
 Original Use: Residence

## BASE DATA

Historic Name: Judge Watson House  
 Date/Period: 1861  
 Style: Victorian  
 Height to Cornice:  
 Height in Stories: 2  
 Present Zoning: R-1  
 Land Area (sq.ft.): 135 x 295  
 Assessed Value (land + imp.): 4770 + 13,950 = 18,720

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The styling of this handsome two story brick house is delightfully unique. The peaked gables and large brackets under the overhanging eaves recall the Italianate as do the segmental windows while the mass of the house continues in the late Georgian detached house tradition. The repetition of the segmental arch in all the windows, original blinds, the tripartite entrance door with sidelights, and the frieze of the porch adds lightness and grace to the structure. The porch is particularly handsome with octagonal piers and a balcony with a semi-circular motif in the balustrade. The double pile house with interior fireplaces designed for coal grates and robust woodwork characteristic of the sixties originally had a dog leg staircase. About the turn of the century the stair hall was lengthened and a single flight staircase in the Colonial Revival style added. A kitchen wing was added to the north-western side of the house. Much of the original fabric of the 1861 house has survived.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In 1861 Judge Egbert R. Watson, who read law under James Monroe's son-in-law Judge Hay and was a personal friend of the former President, purchased 2 3/10 acres from Richard K. Meade. The lot was off the southern side of his Meadlands estate (ACDB 59-434). 1862 tax records show an assessment of \$500 for improvements on Watson's property. Judge Watson resided here until his death in 1887. His heirs conveyed the property to George Rives in 1887 (ACDB 89-60). Upon George Rives' death in 1903, the house passed to his widow Sallie. It became the Episcopal Rectory in 1919 (DB 34-11). In 1971 the trustees of Christ Episcopal Church sold the house to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. William Isaccs. During the Civil War a northern Colonel and his orderly were quartered here. A handsome Newfoundland dog, which had been the Colonel's companion throughout the war, strayed back to Watson's house about a week after the troops had left. Judge Watson sent a letter through the lines to the Colonel telling him of his dog's whereabouts, and immediately after the surrender at Appomattox, the orderly came for the dog.

## GRAPHICS

## CONDITIONS

Very Good

## SOURCES

Alexander, Recollections, p. 44.  
 Mrs. William Isaccs  
 City/County Records  
 Mrs. Velora Thomson


Street Address: 713 Park Street  
Map & Parcel: 52-56  
Census Tract & Block:  
Present Owner: W<sup>m</sup> Jones  
Address: Same  
Present Use:  
Original Owner:  
Original Use:

Historic Name:  
Date/Period: 1840-50  
Style:  
Height to Cornice:  
Height to Stories: 2  
Present Zoning: R-1  
Land Area (sq. ft.): 135 x 295  
Assessed Value (land+imp)  
3340 + 6960 = 10300


- Walker School

Historic Description 293-2024

4 room deep - good level in basement -  
Kit. in basement - just hall (ens. there) -  
Endwall at rear of stair hall moved back -  
Good moldings on doors.  
org. coal fireplaces -  
fancy cut Vict. mantles - wide pine boards -  
1 col. Rev.

balcony from upstairs hall  
back brick addition - on all w/ 2 on high basement -  
Ext. water table - 3 on side - seg. windows - w/ org. blinds  
large brack on overhanging eaves - 4 

arched tripartite entrance Historic Description

octagonal columns - 4 -   
segmental frieze w/ ballustrade  
Central gable - tin roof -  
random bond -  
Central chimneys -  
3 bay -

Name of Person Int. Viewed:

William Isaac 1971 324-464  
 Christ Episcopal Church 1919 34-11 \$11,000 -  
 from Sallie Rivers - 2 1/10 acres  
 George Rivers from W<sup>m</sup> Watson 1887 ACDB 89-60 \$6,000  
 Watson from E.R. Watson 1885 88-331 \$3,000  
 Watson from R.K. Meade \$ 1861 59-434 plat \$1,200  
 Richard K Meade partition of 2 3/10 acre  
 strip of meadowland

~~Rev. Meade~~

~~Isaac's House~~  
Isaac's

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded \_\_\_\_\_

Deed Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_

Consideration \_\_\_\_\_

Internal Revenue Stamps Affixed \_\_\_\_\_

Appropriate Fees & Taxes \_\_\_\_\_

Warranty \_\_\_\_\_

Covenants \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_

Date Acknowledged \_\_\_\_\_

Description:

324-464 1971 Wm Isaac from trustees Christ  
Eps Church \$38,000.

34-11 1919 Sallie River to C. Ep. Ch. 11,000  
2 <sup>69</sup>/<sub>100</sub> acres  
Widow Ge. River

Ac 89-60 Ge. River from W.O. Watson 1887 <sup>E.R. Watson</sup> <sub>widow</sub>  
1903 die - leave to wife Sallie  
6,000

88-331 E.R. Watson to W.O. Watson 1885 /

Judge <sup>about</sup>  
E.R. Watson from Rich. K. Merrell 2 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>10</sub> acres  
off Meadlands - 59-434 1861  
\$1200. 2 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>10</sub> acres

1862 - \$500 for improvements -

Alexander - p. 44N - built about 1856 -

Newfoundland C.W. dog - Judge Watson  
return -

Street Address:

Historic Name: JUDGE WATSON HOUSE

Map & Parcel:

Date/Period: 1858

Census Tract & Block:

Style:

Present Owner:

Height to Cornice:

Address:

Height to Stories:

Present Use:

Present Zoning:

Original Owner: JUDGE WATSON

Land Area (sq. ft.):

Original Use:

Assessed Value (land+imp)

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Architectural Description

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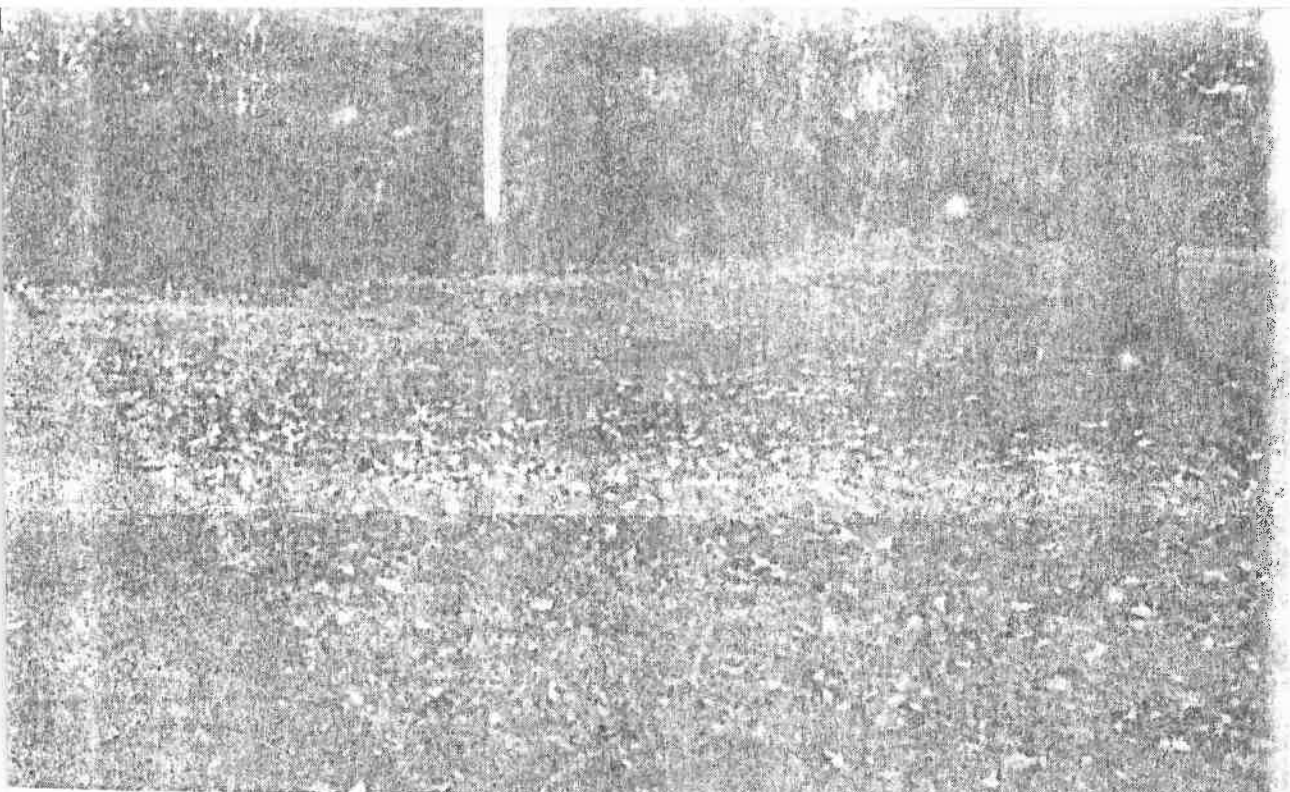
Historic Description

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Persons Interviewed:

SOURCE DATE - PHOTO AHS





LY BUILT IN 1861 BY JUDGE EGBERT R. WATSON, A CLOSE FRIEND OF JAMES MONROE  
e. Which Was Carved From the Mead lands Estate Progress Photos by Nell Lee

## ry Has Interesting Past

# Street Home 'Perfect' Site

help themselves to a log  
wo.  
dge Watson lived in the  
e until his death in 1887. His  
ly sold the house to George  
s in 1887 and in 1919 it be-  
e the Christ Episcopal  
rch Rectory.  
fore the Isaccs purchased  
house in 1971, they weren't  
ecularly looking for a his-  
older home. They had  
ed to Charlottesville from  
ucky.  
e didn't see anything we  
y liked, old or new," said  
Isaccs "But as soon as I  
this house, I wanted it."  
y love the Park Street lo-

markably energy efficient  
"We never have to air condi-  
tion in the summer," said Mrs.  
Isaccs. "And our heating bills  
are about the same as a friend's  
small brick home."  
The Isaccs are gradually get-  
ting the house like they want it,  
doing much of the painting,  
sanding and wallpapering them-

selves. They still have not com-  
pleted all the rooms: several  
rooms are just used for storage.  
Mrs. Isaccs' one complaint  
about the house is the base-  
ment. Originally, the kitchen  
was downstairs, along with  
rooms used by servants.  
"We can't store things down  
there because it's very damp,"

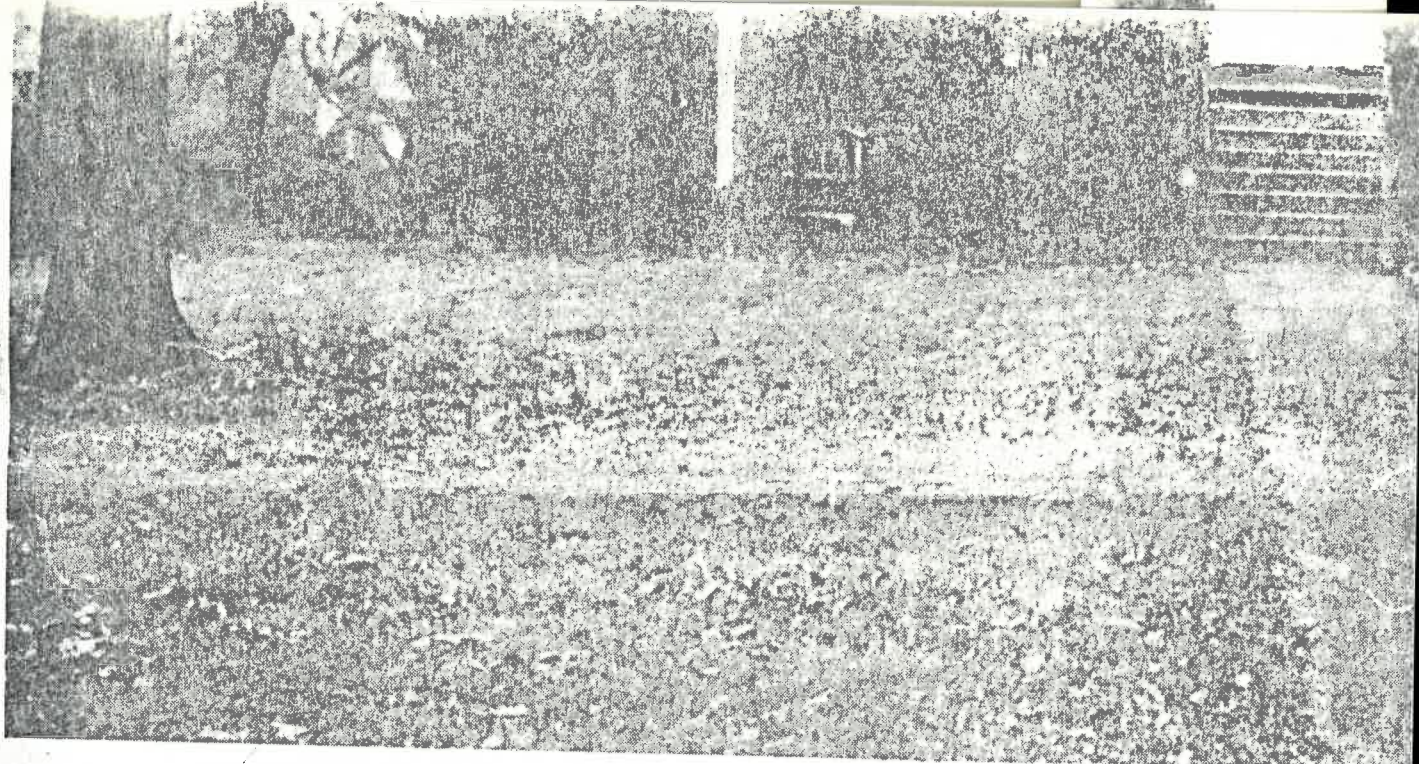
she said.  
Living in an old home doesn't  
mean retaining an archaic life-  
style. The Isaccs have a micro-  
wave oven and numerous other  
conveniences in their kitchen.  
But remnants of the past are  
still very much evident, such as  
the dining room servants' bar  
(now disconnected) in the floor

my husband didn't work  
town (he's quality control  
ger for Crous-Hines in  
sville) we wouldn't even  
a car," she said. "We're  
to everything downtown  
we're on two bus routes."  
home was structurally  
when the family moved  
though they did have to do  
bathroom renovation and  
the dilapidated back  
es.  
of the more striking fea-  
of the house's interior are  
ft. ceilings. There are  
rooms on the first floor,  
ve on the second. All have  
fireplaces, although only  
ing room fireplace is cur-  
used.  
house originally had a  
g staircase, but at the  
the century the stair hall  
lengthened and a single  
staircase in the Colonial  
l style was constructed.  
kitchen wing was added  
house at the same time.  
he rooms of the house  
ne floors and solid brick  
The Isaccs are continual-  
zed at their heating bills.  
size, the house is re-



THE DINING ROOM FEATURES AN ORNATE VICTORI-  
A Cupboard Is Also Built Into the Wall





**THE BRICK VICTORIAN HOME NOW OWNED BY MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM ISAACS WAS ORIGINALLY**  
 During the Civil War a Northern Colonel and His Orderly Were Quartered in the House.



**MRS. ISAACS STANDS IN THE TRIPARTITE DOORWAY**  
 The Front Entrance Has Sidelights and a Raised Panel Door

## Former Rector Park St

By NELL LEE  
 of The Progress Staff

Park Street is not lacking for houses with histories. But few have as interesting pasts as the brick Victorian structure at 713 Park Street.

The house has been the home of the William Isaacs since 1971, but its origins go back more than a 100 years before.

The two-story, gabled home was constructed in 1861 by Judge Egbert R. Watson, who read law under James Monroe's son-in-law, Judge Hay. Judge Watson was a close friend of the former president.

He purchased over two acres from Richard Meade from the Meadlands estate. The house he built features large brackets under the overhanging eaves in a rather Italianate style.

But the mass of the house is along Georgian lines. The front door is flanked by handsome sidelights. Particularly interesting are the front porch frieze, octagonal piers and balcony with semi-circular motif.

Judge Watson and his family had not lived in the house long when the Civil War began. In fact, a northern colonel and his orderly were quartered there for a short period of time near the end of the war. The colonel's Newfoundland dog strayed back to the house about a week after the Union troops left and Judge Watson sent a letter through the lines to notify the colonel that the dog was in Charlottesville. Shortly after Appomattox, the colonel sent his orderly back to Charlottesville to pick up his dog.

Judge Watson's kindness was not limited to animals. It is said that the judge used to leave his backyard woodshed unlocked on winter nights so anyone in rather desperate financial straits

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