

302 and 304 10 ½ Street NW



Significance: Medium

Date of Construction: 1940

Architect: Unknown

Parcel ID: 040189000

Original Owner: W.H. Haden

Builder: Unknown

Building History:

This pair of almost identical three-bay, one-story, frame and stucco dwelling houses was built around 1940. Repairs were made on the structures in 1959, 1974, 1983, and recently in 2007. The current dwellings have gabled asphalt shingle roofs and a central interior brick chimneys (#304 has a pair of chimneys these chimneys). Both structures have modern wooden stoops raised on steps with railings and 2/2 vinyl sash windows. 302 has a shed metal roof rear porch that runs the full length of the house. 304 has a shed metal roof porch that runs only one-and-a-half bays (about have the length of the structure). The pair of houses share a front yard with only a few bush plantings separating them. Each house has a path of brick pavers leading to the central front entrance. A chain-link fence separates the property from the sidewalk.

Ownership History:

John West willed the land to his daughter Septimia West Butcher on August 12, 1927 (At the time, two tenement structures known as the “Maury Flats” were located on the property) (Will Book 3 – 211). W.D. Haden purchased the property in 1936, (“with the old brick tenement house(s) there on known as... the ‘Maury Flats’”). Haden demolished the two tenement buildings and had this pair of houses built in their place. Haden’s estate continued to own the property until 1970 (City 321-126).

Social History:

302

A number of African American families rented this house throughout the years, including: Maggie Brown, a domestic servant (1945-1950); David E. Burns, a houseman at UVA, and his wife Mary Burns, a hospital aide at UVA (1950-1957); Josephine Fortune, a widow and maid at Jackson Burley High School) (1957-1960); and Cora B. Jones, a maid (1960-1964).

304

A number of African American families rented this house throughout the years, including: Mrs. Susan Scott, a domestic servant (1945-1956); and Mrs. Mary E. Burns (previously renting 302), a hospital aide at UVA (1957-1964).

Statement of Significance:

Originally owned by John West, this land was once the location of the “Maury Flats”, tenement buildings West owned that were built in the early 1900s. These small rental houses replacing the tenements were rented mostly by single women (widows) and their children.