

307 10 ½ Street NW



Significance: High

Date of Construction: 1914

Architect: Unknown

Parcel ID: 040182000

Original Owner: Bettie Harris

Builder: Unknown

Building History:

This one-bay, two-story, frame and stucco “one-over-one” house was built around 1914. The multi-gable asphalt shingle roof has a central pediment gable. Replacement vinyl 1/1 sash windows, door, and vinyl shutters are located at the front of the structure. There is a shed-roof porch with a parged concrete foundation and rectangular wood posts. A three-room, one-bay, two-story gable roof addition was attached to the rear of the structure in 1966. The front of the lot has a concrete walkway leads from the sidewalk to the front entrance. There is a paved driveway on the north side of the house and a screen of overgrown bushes and evergreen plantings along the north edge of the property.

Ownership History:

C.L. Brooks sold the property to Bettie Harris on July 17, 1913(City 25 – 107). Bettie willed the property to Mary Walker Harris and Fannie Campbell Harris who sold the land and house to Rosa Johnson in 1932(City 76 – 188). Jack and Mary Hicks (owners of the nearby 313-315 property) bought the lot in 1956 (City 194 – 282). Lucille and Louis Bowles (who bought the 313-315 property after the Hicks) purchased the land and house in 1967 and owned it until 1973 (292-345).

Social History:

From 1914 until the mid-1920s, the African American Harris family lived in the house. The Harris family then rented the home to another African American family – James Mason, a porter, and his wife Glendora Mason – from 1929 through the early 1930s. The new owners, the Hicks family, rented the house to other African American families as well during the next decades including: Raleigh Hawkins, a laborer, and Ruth Hawkins, a grocer who operated a small corner store at nearby 305 10 ½ Street (1948 – 1956); and Linwood and Marian Carey (1956 – 1964).

Statement of Significance:

This house has mostly replacement materials but has a rare form, a “one-over-one” house. The house is connected through Ruth Hawkins to nearby 305 where she ran the grocery store.