



IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 309 Twelfth Street
 Map and Parcel: 54-211
 Census Track & Block: 3-211
 Present Owner: Eugene G. Beagle
 Address: 309 Twelfth Street
 Present Use: Residence
 Original Owner: Nicholas Lewis
 Original Use: Residence

BASE DATA

Historic Name: The Nicholas Lewis House
 Date/Period: cir. 1770
 Style: Vernacular
 Height to Cornice:
 Height in Stories: 2
 Present Zoning: R-2
 Land Area (sq.ft.): 106 x 171
 Assessed Value (land + imp.): 2550 + 5910 = 8460

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This structure is an example of the vernacular, utilitarian architecture which was built when Albemarle County was still in its early stages of growth. The most prominent feature of the exterior is the hugh buttressed chimney characteristic of early Virginia houses. The cornice is decorated with modillions formed out of bricks brought forward from the wall plane. The interior features a large cooking fireplace with two ovens flanking it. Unfortunately the house has suffered from unsympathetic "improvements" including the addition of large dormers and French windows on the east elevation.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The first house was built by Nicholas Meriwether about 1735. Sometime before the Revolution the house burned and Col. Nicholas Lewis, grandson and heir of Meriwether, built the present one. The house served as the headquarters for Baron Tarleton during his one day "occupation" of Charlottesville in 1781. Mrs. Lewis, formerly Mary Walker of Castle Hill, after being hostess to Col. Tarleton, was called "Captain Moll" because she handled the enemy so well. The property remained a part of "The Farm" until 1949 when this house was sold to Charles Lupton. City DB 145-334, 168-449, 168-457.

SIGNIFICANCE

This house is one of Charlottesville's few surviving 18th century buildings. Colonel Nicholas Lewis, the builder of the house, was a prominent Charlottesville citizen and a close friend of Thomas Jefferson. Colonel Barastre Tarleton, the British Revolutionary War commander, had his headquarters in this house at the time of the raid on Charlottesville in June, 1781. Colonel Lewis was then in the field with the Virginia Militia. Said Jefferson of Lewis "This member of the family of Lewises was endeared to all who knew him by his inflexible probity, courteous disposition, benevolent heart, and engaging modesty and manners."

CONDITIONS

Average

SOURCES

City and County Records
 Stevens' Virginia House Tour, p. 123.

LANDMARK



SURVEY

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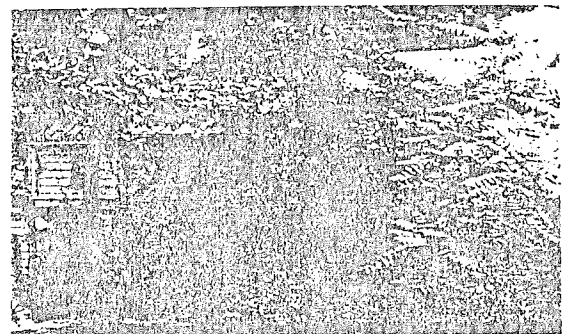
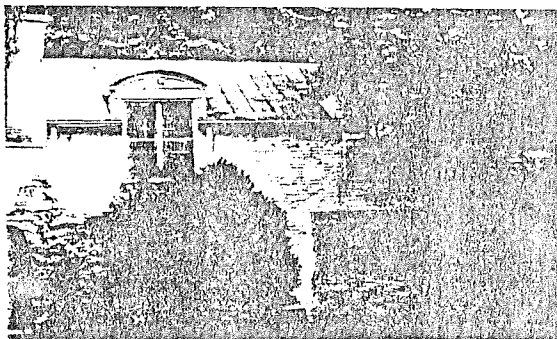
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GRAPHICS



CONDITIONS

Average

SOURCES

City and County Records
 Stevens' Virginia House Tour, p. 123.

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Historic Name:

Map & Parcel:

Date/Period:

Census Tract & Block:

Style:

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Height to Cornice:

Address: same

Height to Stories: 2

Present Use: Residence

Present Zoning: R-2

Original Owner:

Land Area (sq. ft.): 106 x 171

Original Use:

Assessed Value (land+imp)

1500 + 2640 = ~~4140~~ 4140

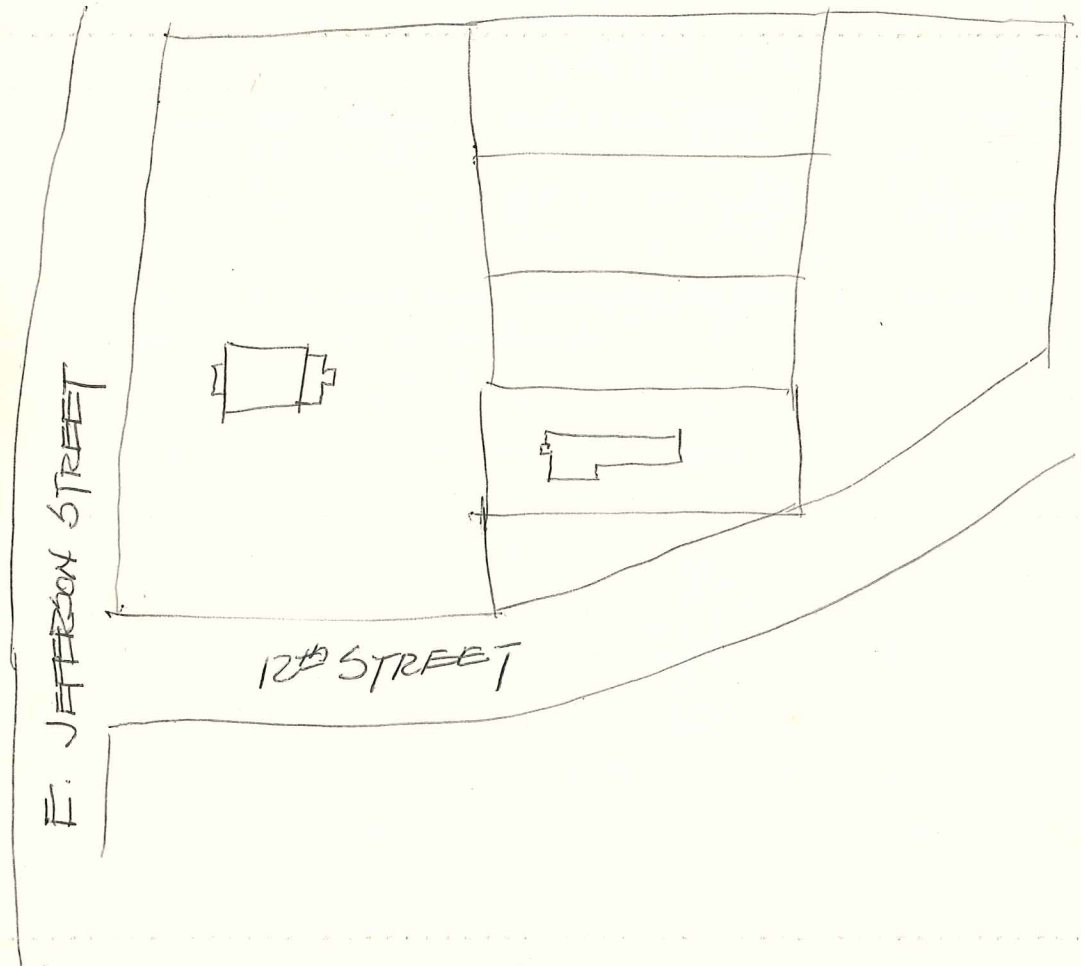
brick - side-back orig walls - Description
 huge buttressed chimney -
 2 room - 2 end chimneys - buttressed
 1 every other projecting brick cornice -

Tauleton Hdq. here 1787 - Nicholas Lewis - uncle Meriwether

Name of Persons Interviewed:

EUGENE BEAGLE 1952 168 - 457
LUCY BARRETT 1952 168 - 449
CHARLES LUPTON 1949 145 - 334

PLAT OF SUBDIVISION



5 June 87 / Lay + Langhorne visit to

THE FARM OLD / 309-12th St / Nicholas Lewis House / C-ville

1949-50 owned by Charles Lupton, Architect with
Stainback + Scribner.

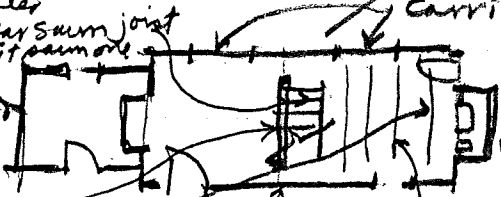
c. 1950 purchased by present owner,
Eugene G. Beagle, former Postmaster of C-ville
Whose mother owned The Farm (John A. G. Davis Use)

At some time, possibly as early as 1826, the bldg.
served as a carriage house for the larger Davis
mansion.

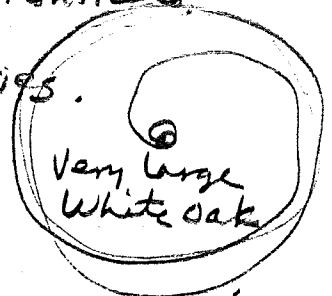
Sits high on hill for
View to River and Monticello.

It is a Hall / Parlour Use of 1 1/2 stories.

Stair might be later
since peaked - on circular sawn joint
one story on pit sawn
5-Course
Amer. Bond



Brick



Large kitchen fireplace
with two ovens, (segmented
above with
relieving
one above)

3 Joists with Pit Sawing
others put in later
are circular sawn.

Brick wall

6-course and
eratic bonds

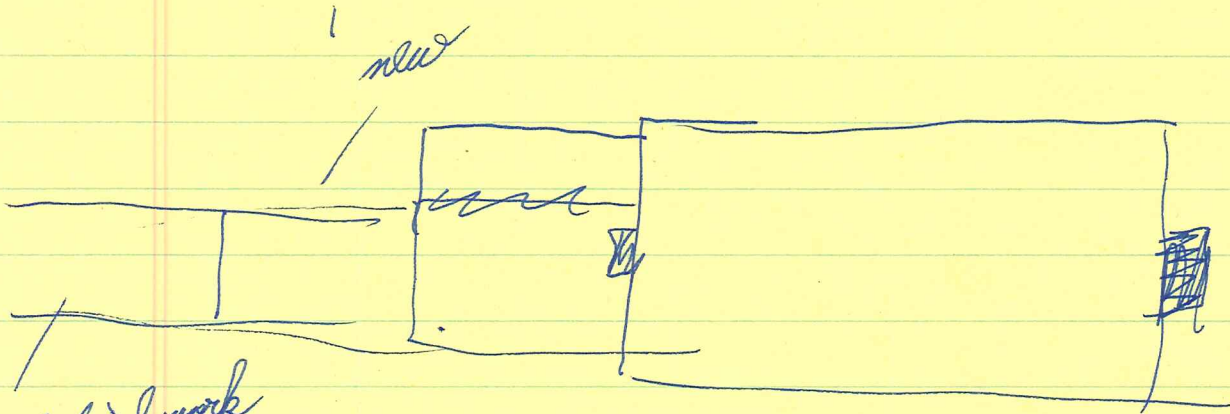
Mortise and tenon in
d.g. for hearth above

Wide planks in attic rooms and
rafters are pit-sawn and mortise
and tenon

Henderson Heyward, who did sketch of the
house for Rawlings book also, with
Lorens, renovated the house about 1939 -
Probably the time the carriage doors were
enclosed with glass and the dormers to
the east installed.

K. Edward Lay

N. Lewis House



rough brickwork
 1-5 low shed → E
 garage

1-5 brick w/ w/s above
 5-c Am
 gable roof

2-5, low found, 2 bay
 steep 55% roof, close exis,
 mounted thing
 7-c Am, false Chim
 alum over window trim
 am sq 2nd level wind,
 incl 1 by sum,
 ent door E of chim near
 were carriage ent on E?
 stacks of 2 sqt end chim
 match

1920 Sanborn



54-211

168-457	Eugene C Beagle	1952	1/2 int	plat 168-458
" -449	Lucy B. Barrett	"	"	145-499
145-334	Chas T Lupton, Jr	1949	"	497



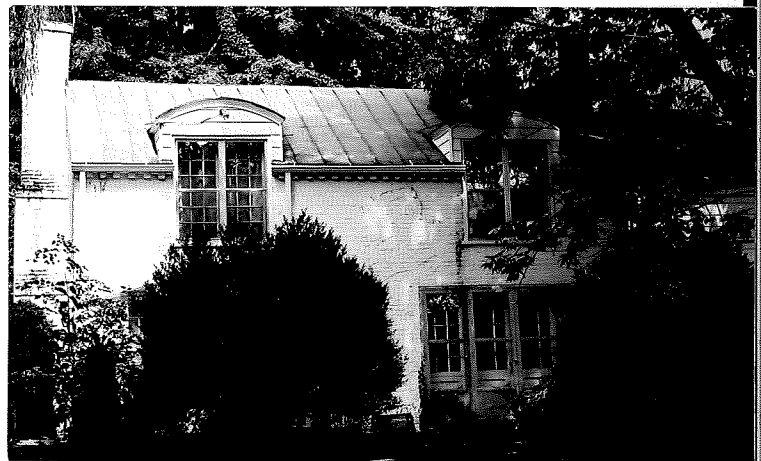
[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes and scribbles, possibly describing survey details or measurements.]

[Faint handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a date or reference.]

stair was dark
4 rooms w/ tiny windows on back,
up, not dormers; so added windows
put doors there, were not carriage
doors

Henderson Hayward





p.191

108

309 12th ST.

191(L.)

NICHOLAS LEWIS HOUSE

Aug. 1974

#157

108

309 12th ST.

p.191 (R.)

NICHOLAS LEWIS HOUSE

Aug. 1974