

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 211 Fifth Street N. E.
MAP & PARCEL: 53-42
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK: 1-111
PRESENT ZONING: B-3
ORIGINAL OWNER: James H. Rea
ORIGINAL USE: Law Offices
PRESENT USE: Law Offices
PRESENT OWNER: Vesta Lee Gordon
ADDRESS: 114 Bollingwood Road
Charlottesville, Virginia

HISTORIC NAME: Rea-Wood Building
DATE / PERIOD: 1905
STYLE: Victorian
HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 2 stories
DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 24' x 55' (1332 sq. ft.)
CONDITION: Good
SURVEYOR: Bibb
DATE OF SURVEY: Winter 1980
SOURCES: City Records
Mrs. Henry B. Gordon (Vesta Lee Gordon)
Sanborn Map Co. - 1896, 1920

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This office building is two stories tall and two unequal bays wide. Construction is of red pressed brick laid in stretcher bond on the facade, and of ordinary brick roughly laid in 6-course American bond elsewhere. The foundation of rock-faced coursed stone continues up to windowsill level. Upon it, at each end of the facade and between the bays, rest rusticated brick pilasters, two stories in height with moulded brick bases and capitals. The facade is recessed between these pilasters, with the recessions corbelled out above the capitals. The wide north bay has a group of three windows at each level, double-sash, 1-over-1 light, with brick piers between them and stone sills and lintels extending between the pilasters. The narrow south bay has an entrance at the first level and a single window at the second. There are inset panels outlined with egg-dart moulding between the first and second levels. A projecting wooden cornice with dentils and shaped modillions crowns the parapet. Behind it, a shed roof slopes gently to the rear. Windows on the side and rear elevations are segmental-arched, 2-over-2 light.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

James H. Rea purchased this lot in 1905 (City DB 16-166), tore down a stable on the site, and erected this building the same year. He sold it to J. B. Wood and E. N. Vest in 1919 (DB 33-236, 34-223). R. H. Wood, L. W. Wood, and J. B. Wood purchased it two years later (DB 39-368). After the deaths of R. H. Wood and James B. Wood, the latter's two sons L. W. Wood and J. Drury Wood owned the building from 1929 until 1956 (DB 64-271, WB 4-273). J. Drury Wood sold his half interest to Henry B. Gordon in 1956 (DB 191-360), and the Wood family's association with the building ended when Gordon purchased the other half in 1962 (DB 233-352). Additional Deed References: City DB 300-139, 333-108; WB 18-443.