

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 101 W. Main Street

MAP & PARCEL: 33-255

CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK: 1-312

PRESENT ZONING: B-4

ORIGINAL OWNER: Leterman Company

ORIGINAL USE: Department Store (1899), Bank (1911)

PRESENT USE: Shoe Store & Offices

PRESENT OWNER: H&M Shoe Store, Inc.

ADDRESS: 101 W. Main Street

Charlottesville, Virginia

HISTORIC NAME: Leterman/Jefferson National Bank Building

DATE / PERIOD: 1899 and 1911

STYLE: Victorian

HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 3, 2 storeys

DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 27.83' x 103.25' (2873 sq.ft)

CONDITION: Good

SURVEYOR: Bibb

DATE OF SURVEY: Spring 1979

SOURCES: City Records

Holsinger Photographs

Sanborn Map Co. - 1920

Charlottesville City Directories

Moore, Albemarle: Jefferson's County

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This former bank building must have been an imposing structure before its vertical lines were interrupted by a glass storefront with a massive canopy. It is three storeys tall and three bays wide. Construction is of brick laid in stretcher bond in the 3-storey 1911 front section and in 5-course American bond in the 2-storey 1899 rear section. The new glass storefront has a recessed entrance loggia. A Mansard-roofed canopy covered with red pressed tin projects far out over the sidewalk on both the facade and the First Street elevation, replacing the original heavy wooden storefront entablature and obscuring much of the facade. Above the storefront, the facade is recessed between brick pilasters with stone capitals at each end and between the bays. This is repeated with coupled pilasters on the single bay of the First Street elevation. Windows at the second level are double-sash, 1-over-1 light, with shallow transoms, matching those in the side bays of the Leterman Building, but with jack arches and stone keystones. The short windows at the third level are the same size as those in the Leterman Building, but are triple casement with triangular lights. A projecting wooden cornice with modillions extends across the facade and First Street elevation. Above it, the pilasters continue on the concrete-capped parapet. This 3-storey front section has a shed roof covered with tar-and-gravel sloping toward the rear. Behind it, the 2-storey rear section extends five bays along First Street. A difference in floor levels within the building divides the side elevation into two distinct sections. The rear section with its lower ceilinged mezzanine level may have always been used as office space. Access is by a side entrance between the two sections. In each of the first three bays, there is a 3-part thermal window at the first level with moulded mullions and stone sill, and two tall windows with shallow transoms at the second level matching those on the facade. In each of the last two bays, there are two windows without transoms at each level, segmental-arched at the first level and jack-arched with keystones at the second, and a short segmental-arched basement window. A projecting wooden cornice on the parapet with brackets, plain frieze, and dentil moulding unites the two sections. Most of the segmental-arched rear windows have been bricked up.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In 1911 the Jefferson National Bank purchased the eastern third of the 1899 Leterman Building (City DB 22-311), rebuilt the 3-storey front section, and moved its offices there from the building which then became the Jefferson Theatre. After the bank was absorbed by the Peoples National Bank in 1917 (DB 32-265), the Farmers & Merchants Bank purchased the building and conducted business there for seven years before merging with the National Bank & Trust Co. in 1926 (DB 34-244, 53-260). Guy L. Miller bought it in 1928, and his family owned it for nearly 50 years (DB 61-418). Hyman's, a women's clothing store, occupied the store room from the 1930's to the 1950's. H. M. Shoe Store, Inc., which had leased the store room since the late 1950's and had already rebuilt the storefront, bought the building in 1976 (DB 372-325). Additional References: City DB 32-284, 55-460; WB 10-140.



101 W. MAIN ST.
105 N. 1ST ST.

"810" (assessor)

33-255



offices + apt.
#105 1ST ST. N.

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