

GOLD KEY REALTY, INC.



STREET ADDRESS:	304 Ridge Street
MAP & PARCEL:	28-152
VDHR FILE NUMBER:	104-25-4
CITY FILE NUMBER:	669
PRESENT ZONING:	B-2
ORIGINAL OWNER:	Diamond Corporation
ORIGINAL USE:	Offices
PRESENT USE:	Offices
PRESENT OWNER:	James N. Fleming
ADDRESS:	304-A Ridge Street Charlottesville, VA
HISTORIC NAME:	Gold Key Realty Building
DATE/PERIOD:	1962
STYLE:	Vernacular Modern Commercial
HEIGHT IN STORIES:	one story
DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA:	108.5' x 196' (21,266 sq. ft.)
CONDITION:	Good-Excellent
SURVEYOR:	Bibb/Pres. Assoc. of VA (Smead)
DATE OF SURVEY:	1993
SOURCES:	City Records Sanborn Map Co. - 1920, 1929-57

GOLD KEY REALTY, INC.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This brick commercial building, of Modern design, is built into the slope along the southeast side of Ridge Street as most of the buildings along that side of the street are, so it appears as a one-story structure at the front and has a raised basement at the rear. The building is of brick laid in running bond, with a flat roof, and sliding metal-frame two- and three-part windows. Its minimal decorative details are confined to the front facade. The front facade is symmetrical, with a central entrance flanked by three-part metal frame windows containing plate glass. Brickwork borders surround the front facade's windows, and which have brick sills. The building's roof extends in an overhang above the front facade, supported with metal brackets containing scrollwork ornamentation. Brick planting boxes stand at the base of the front facade. The building has one interior side chimney of brick inside the northeast wall. A small sign on a post, situated within a brick planter, stands in the front yard. With its construction date of 1962, the structure is too new to be considered a contributing resource in the Ridge Street Historic District.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Vassar R. Tarry purchased this lot in 1959 and sold a half interest to his nephew James N. Fleming three years later (City DB 215-128, 231-136). This small office building was built in 1962, according to tax records. Until that time, the lot had always been vacant.

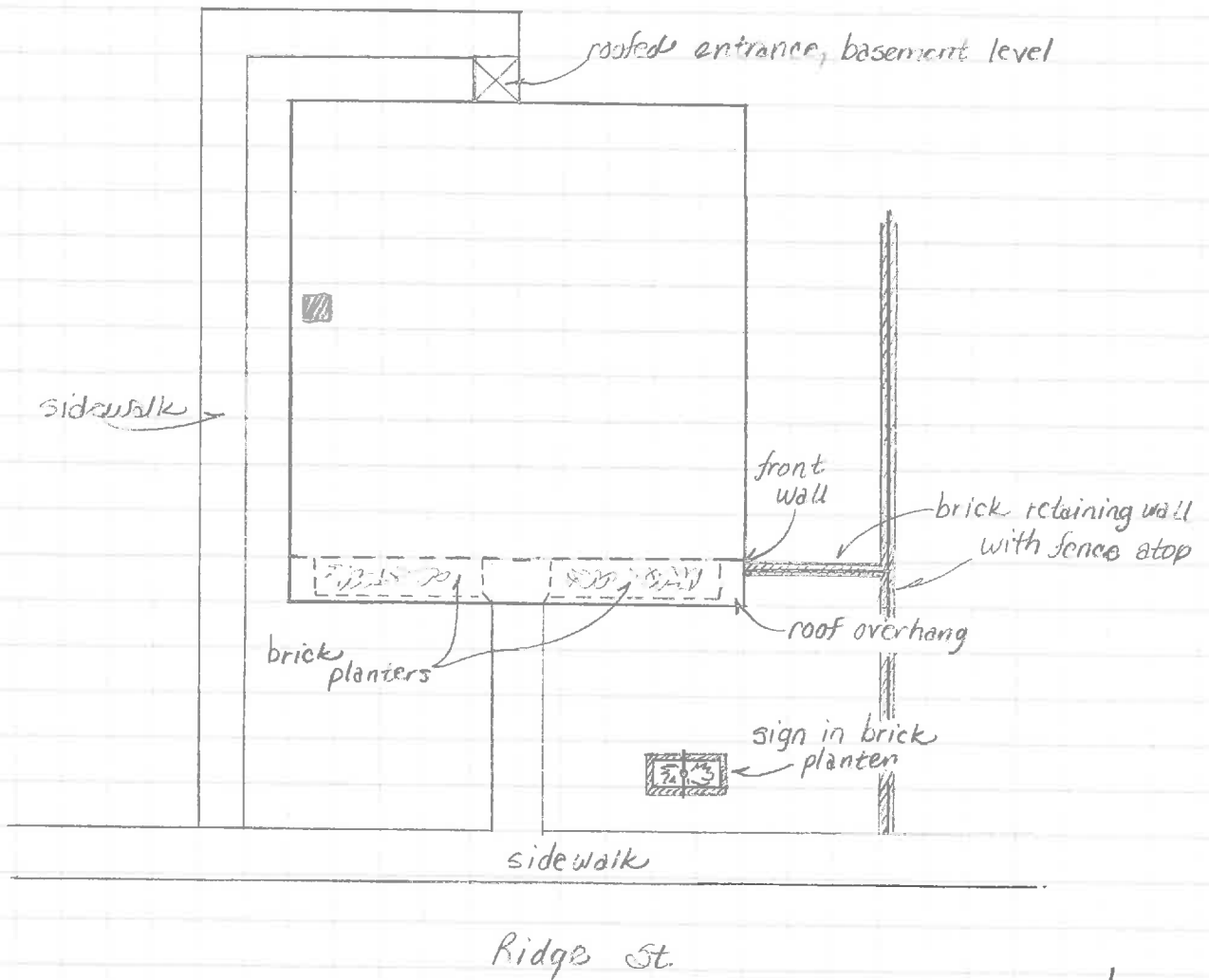
Additional Records: City DB 231-137, 275-161.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gold Key Realty building is a good example of a small, minimally-ornamented modern office building from the 1960s. Its projecting roof capping the front facade and its window treatments are characteristic of its period of construction. Although the building is not incompatible with its neighbors to the northeast and southwest, which are also one-story buildings less than fifty years of age with public-use functions, the Gold Key Realty building is out of keeping with the typical scale, form, age, and size of the houses in the District.

GOLD KEY REALTY, INC.
304 RIDGE ST.

VDHR FILE NO. 104-25-4



SUSAN E. SMEAD
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATES
OF VIRGINIA

JANUARY 1994

VDHR Reconnaissance Survey Form

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
 PROPERTY SURVEY FORM
 RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

VDHR File # 104-0025-004

Property Name:
 Historic/Current Gold Key Realty Building

NR Property Category: Building
 Wuzit: Real Estate Office

Tax Code: Section Parcel
 =====
 28 152

County/City: Charlottesville (City)

USGS Map: USGS Quad: Charlottesville East

ADDRESS/LOCATION INFORMATION

Address: 304 Ridge Street

Location:

Vicinity of: Municipality: ZIP: 22901

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

Property Boundaries:
 Ownership: Private

RESOURCE COUNT -

#	Category	Contributing?	

1	Building	Non-contributing	TOTAL: 1
			Contrib: 0
			Non-Contrib: 1

WUZIT COUNT -

#	Wuzit	Contributing?	

0	Real Estate Office	Non-contributing	TOTAL: 0
			Contrib: 0
			Non-Contrib: 0

RESOURCE - GENERAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Resource Level:
 Estimated Construction Date: 1962
 Source of Date: Tax Records
 Physical Status: Existing
 Condition: Good-Excellent
 Threat: None Known
 Degree of Historic Integrity:
 Association:
 Design:
 Feeling:
 Location:
 Materials:
 Setting:
 Workmanship:

PRIMARY RESOURCE RECONNAISSANCE DESCRIPTION

Architectural Style/Derivative: Vernacular Modern Commercial

of Stories: 1.0 # of Bays Wide: 3 # of Bays Deep: 2
 Arch Config: Geo Config:
 Footprint:

Component	#	Form/Treatment	Material	Matr'l Treatment
Chimney		Interior Side	Brick	
Foundation		raised rear	Brick	
Roof		Flat	Not Visible	
Windows		Sliding	Metal	2- and 3-part

Brief Architectural Description of Primary Resource:

This brick commercial building, of Modern design, is built into the slope along the southeast side of Ridge Street as most of the buildings along that side of the street are, so it appears as a one-story structure at the front and has a raised basement at the rear. The building is of brick laid in running bond, with a flat roof, and sliding metal-frame two- and three-part windows. Its minimal decorative details are confined to the front facade. The front facade is symmetrical, with a central entrance flanked by three-part metal frame windows containing plate glass. Brickwork borders surround the front facade's windows, which have brick sills. The building's roof extends in an overhang above the front facade, supported with metal brackets containing scrollwork ornamentation. Brick planting boxes stand at the base of the front facade. The building has one exterior side chimney of brick inside the northeast wall. A small sign on a post, situated within a brick planter, stands in the front yard. With its construction date of 1962, the structure is too new to be considered a contributing resource in the Ridge Street Historic District.

Brief Architectural Description of Additions and Alterations
N/A

Brief Architectural Description of Secondary Resources:

Potentially Contributes to Historic District:
Ridge Street Historic District

Potentially Associated with NR Multiple Property:

Architectural and Historical Summary:

Vassar R. Terry purchased this lot in 1959 and sold a half interest to his nephew James N. Gleming three years later (City DB 215-128, 231-136). This small office building was built in 1962, according to tax records. Until that time, the lot had always been vacant. Additional Records: City DB 231-137, 275-161. The Gold Key Realty Building is a good example of a small, minimally-ornamented modern office building from the 1960s. Its projecting roof capping the front facade and its window treatments are characteristic of its period of construction. Although the building is not incompatible with its neighbors to the northeast and southwest, which are also one-story buildings less than fifty years of age with public-use functions, the Gold Key Realty Building is out of keeping with the typical scale, form, age, and size of the houses in the District.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Type of Record	Citation
City Records	Charlottesville City Deed Book
Map	Sanborn Map Company

PHOTOGRAPHIC/DRAWINGS DOCUMENTATION

MISSING DATA ELEMENT

Media	VDHR Neg #	Frames	Date
B&W 35mm photos	13467	16 - 17	11/26/1993

CRM MANAGEMENT EVENTS

MISSING DATA ELEMENT



Date 11/26/93 File No. 104-25-4
Name Gold key Realty, Inc., 304 Ridge St.
Town City of Charlottesville
County _____
Photographer Susan E. Smead
Contents 3 exteriors

