

## MATTHEWS HOUSE



<b>STREET ADDRESS:</b>	501 Ridge Street
<b>MAP &amp; PARCEL:</b>	29-137
<b>VDHR FILE NUMBER:</b>	104-25-16
<b>CITY FILE NUMBER:</b>	672
<b>PRESENT ZONING:</b>	R-3
<b>ORIGINAL OWNER:</b>	J. C. and Mattie G. Matthews
<b>ORIGINAL USE:</b>	Residence
<b>PRESENT USE:</b>	Rental Property (Residence)
<b>PRESENT OWNER:</b>	Irene Allen Burton
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	P.O. Box 90051 Washington, D.C. 20090
<b>HISTORIC NAME:</b>	Matthews House
<b>DATE/PERIOD:</b>	1915
<b>STYLE:</b>	Four Square
<b>HEIGHT IN STORIES:</b>	Two stories
<b>DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA:</b>	57.5' x 129' (7437 sq. ft.)
<b>CONDITION:</b>	Good
<b>SURVEYOR:</b>	Bibb/Pres. Assoc. of VA (Smead)
<b>DATE OF SURVEY:</b>	1993
<b>SOURCES:</b>	City Records Mrs. J. Emmett Gleason (1978) Charlottesville City Directories Sanborn Map Co. - 1907, 1920

# MATTHEWS HOUSE

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This 2-story, 2-bay, four-square brick house, laid in seven-course common bond, has a pyramidal hipped roof clad with standing-seam metal. The front, north, and south sides have hip-roofed dormers with boxed cornices, frieze boards, and two-part windows with single panes that are replacements for what were probably one-over-one double-hung sash. The house has a boxed cornice above a frieze board, two interior chimneys of brick, and a part-exterior rear brick chimney. At the rear of the house is a one-story, hip-roofed section, one bay deep, with a porch in the southwest corner. The windows, some of which are paired, are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash, with shallow segmentally-arched lintels. Over the entrance is an elliptical fanlight, and the door is flanked by sidelights. There is a one-story, four-bay, Colonial Revival front porch with a hipped roof on Doric columns, with a wood railing containing square wood balusters. The house is sited on an elevated corner lot on the west corner of the intersection of Ridge Street and Oak Street, and there is a stone retaining wall along the front and northeast side of the lot.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

J. C. and Mattie G. Matthews purchased the Bibb-Wolfe House at 505 Ridge Street in 1908 (City DB 20-311) and subdivided its large lot. According to tax records, they built this house for their own residence in 1915, and two rental houses behind it on Oak Street in 1912 and 1915. They sold the Bibb-Wolfe House soon after the completion of their new house. J. C. Matthews owned an ice cream parlor on Main Street, and Mattie Gleason Matthews was the daughter of John J. Gleason, who lived at 528 Ridge Street. The house was sold by their heirs in 1946 (WB 3-488, DB 126-242) and divided into three rental units. Robert M. and Buford A. Thomas bought the house in 1958 (DB 210-8), and there have been several transactions within their family (WB 10-283; DB 449-97, 450-178, 458-229, 465-352).

Additional References: City DB 20-322, 141-303.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Matthews House is significant as an example of a four-square with Colonial Revival stylistic elements, and in form, scale, and style it is compatible with the other contributing resources in the Historic District. The house occupies a visually important site on an elevated corner lot, near the northeast end of the District and the commercial properties at that terminus.

VDHR Reconnaissance Survey Form

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
 PROPERTY SURVEY FORM  
 RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL

IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

VDHR File # 104-0025-016

Property Name: Historic Matthews House

NR Property Category: Building  
 Wuzit: House

Tax Code: Section Parcel  
 =====  
 29 137

County/City: Charlottesville (City)

USGS Map: USGS Quad: Charlottesville East

ADDRESS/LOCATION INFORMATION

Address: 501 Ridge Street

Location:

Vicinity of: Municipality: ZIP: 22901

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

Property Boundaries:  
 Ownership: Private

RESOURCE COUNT -

#	Category	Contributing?	TOTAL:	
0	Building	Contributing	0	
			Contrib:	0
			Non-Contrib:	0

WUZIT COUNT -

#	Wuzit	Contributing?	TOTAL:	
0	House	Contributing	0	
			Contrib:	0
			Non-Contrib:	0

RESOURCE - GENERAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Resource Level:  
 Estimated Construction Date: 1915  
 Source of Date: Tax Records  
 Physical Status: Existing  
 Condition: Good  
 Threat: None Known  
 Degree of Historic Integrity:  
     Association:  
     Design:  
     Feeling:  
     Location:  
     Materials:  
     Setting:  
     Workmanship:

PRIMARY RESOURCE RECONNAISSANCE DESCRIPTION

Architectural Style/Derivative: Four Square

# of Stories: 2.0 # of Bays Wide: 2 # of Bays Deep: 3  
 Arch Config: Geo Config:  
 Footprint:

Component	#	Form/Treatment	Material	Matr'l Treatment
Chimneys		2 int., 1-1/2 ext.	Brick	
Dormers		Hipped	Wood	
Porch		Front	Wood	Colonial Revival
Roof		Hipped	Metal	Standing seam

Brief Architectural Description of Primary Resource:

This two-story, two-bay, Four Square brick house, laid in seven-course common bond, has a pyramidal hipped roof clad with standing seam metal. The front, north, and south sides have hip-roofed dormers, with boxed cornices, frieze boards, and two-part windows with single panes that are replacements for what were probably one-over-one double-hung sash. The house has a boxed cornice above a frieze board, two interior chimneys of brick, and a part-exterior rear brick chimney. At the rear of the house is a one-story, hip-roofed section, one bay deep, with a porch in the southwest corner. The windows, some of which are paired, are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash, with shallow segmentally-arched lintels. Over the entrance is an elliptical fan light, and the door is flanked by side lights. There is a one-story, four-bay, Colonial Revival front porch with a hipped roof on Doric columns, with a wood railing containing square wood spindles. The house is sited on an elevated corner lot on the west corner of the intersection of Ridge Street and Oak Street, and there is a stone retaining wall along the front and northeast side of the lot.

Brief Architectural Description of Additions and Alterations  
Dormer windows replaced.

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:

J. C. and Mattie G. Matthews purchased the Bibb-Wolfe House at 505 Ridge Street in 1908 (City DB 20-311) and subdivided its large lot. According to tax records, they built this house for their own residence in 1915, and two rental houses behind it on Oak Street in 1912 and 1915. They sold the Bibb-Wolfe House soon after the completion of their new house. J. C. Matthews owned an ice cream parlor on Main Street, and Mattie Gleason Matthews was the daughter of John J. Gleason, who lived at 528 Ridge Street. The house was sold by their heirs in 1946 (WB 3-488, DB 126-242) and divided into three rental units. Robert M. and Buford A. Thomas bought the house in 1958 (DB 210-8), and there have been several transactions within their family (WB 10-283; DB 449-97, 450-178, 458-229, 465-352). Additional References: City DB 20-322, 141-303. The Matthews House is significant as an example of a Four Square with Colonial Revival stylistic elements, and in form, scale, and style it is compatible with the other contributing resources in the Historic District. The house occupies a visually important site on an elevated corner lot, near the northeast end of the District and the commercial properties at that terminus.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Type of Record                      Citation

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City Records  
Charlottesville City Deed Books and Will Books

Interview  
Mrs. J. Emmett Gleason

City Directory  
Charlottesville City Directory

Map  
Sanborn Map Company

PHOTOGRAPHIC/DRAWINGS DOCUMENTATION

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MISSING DATA ELEMENT

Media	VDHR Neg #	Frames	Date
B&W 35mm photos	13466	4 - 6	11/23/1993
B&W 35mm photos	13467	25 - 0	11/26/1993

CRM MANAGEMENT EVENTS

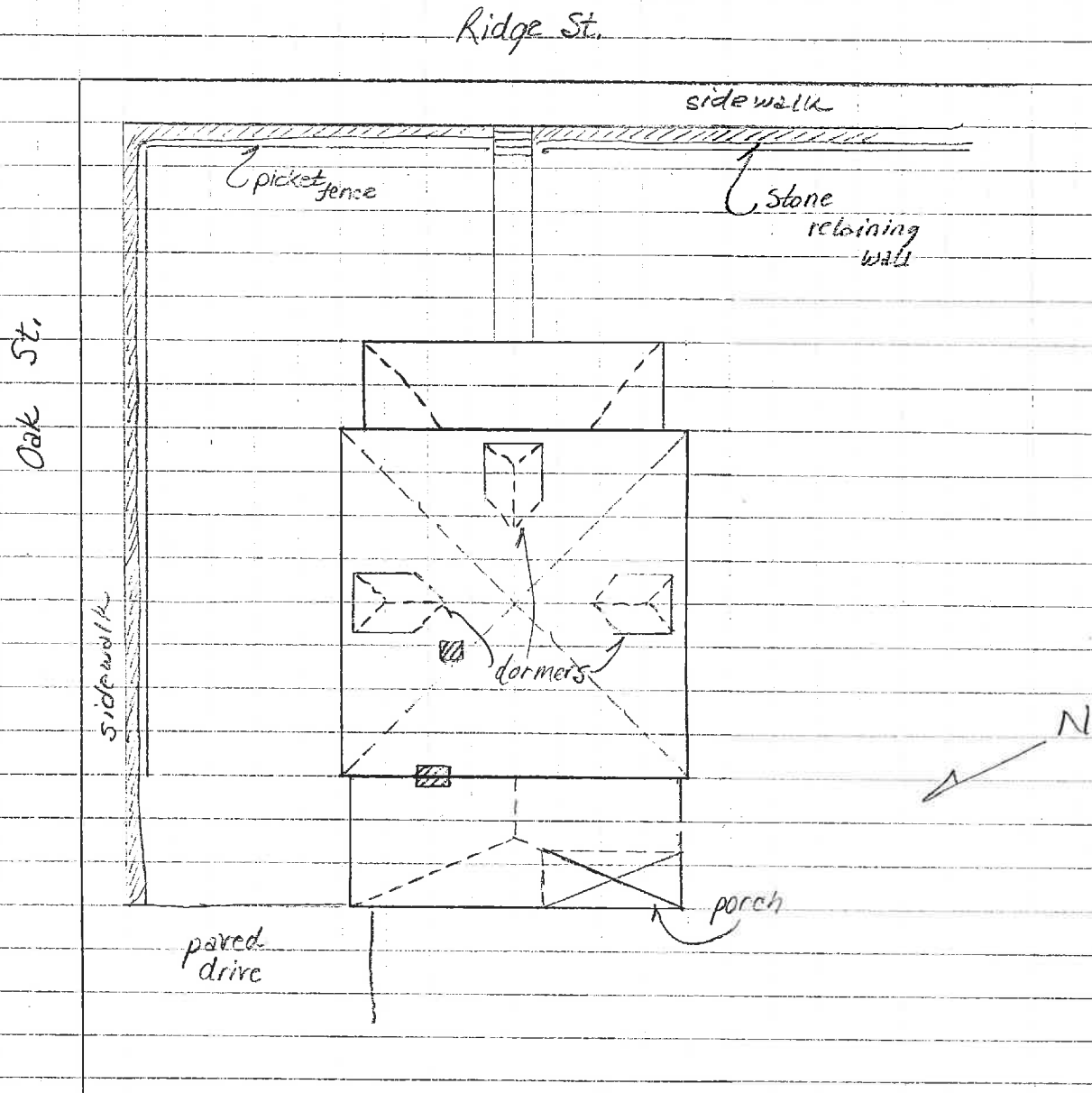
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MISSING DATA ELEMENT

CRM Event	Agency/Organization	Date
Reconnaissance Survey	Smead, Susan and Bibb, Eugenia	11/23/1993

MATTHEWS HOUSE  
501 RIDGE ST.

VDHR FILE NO. 104-25-16



SUSAN E. SMEAD  
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATES  
OF VIRGINIA

JANUARY 1994



Date 11/23/93 File No. 104-25-16

Name Matthews House, 501 Ridge St.

Town City of Charlottesville,

County \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer Susan E. Smead

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