

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 1411-1415 University Avenue	HISTORIC NAME: Chancellor Building
MAP & PARCEL: 9-75	DATE / PERIOD: Before 1891 and/or 1920
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK:	STYLE:
PRESENT ZONING: B-2	HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 2
ORIGINAL OWNER: C. P. McKennie or S. C. Chancellor	DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 9627 sq. ft. (triangular lot)
ORIGINAL USE: Bookstore?	CONDITION: Good
PRESENT USE: Newstand; Framing Shop; Drug Store	SURVEYOR: Bibb
PRESENT OWNER: Landon and William M. Timberlake	DATE OF SURVEY: Fall 1980
ADDRESS: 306 Church Ave., Hartsville, SC 29550	SOURCES: City/County Records Sanborn Map Co. - 1896, 1907, 1920, 1969 Eddins, Around the Corner After World War I

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Chancellor Building is two storeys tall and four bays wide, with a stair entrance in the narrower second bay and a storefront in each of the other bays. Construction is of pressed brick laid in 3-course American-with-Flemish bond on the facade and ordinary brick laid in 5-course American bond elsewhere. The foundation is of coursed cut stone. There are piers of rusticated brick at the corners of the facade and between the bays. The pier between the third and fourth bays is narrower than the others and is not rusticated at the second level. Each of the three storefronts has a stone entablature with triglyphs. The arcaded storefront in the western bay (#1415) is original. There is fluted wooden paneling above, and leaded multi-light transoms below, the three wooden round arches with cartouches. The wall is faced with marble below the display windows, and there is a recessed central entrance. The other two storefronts are no longer arcaded, and both have recessed side entrances and plain rectangular transoms over doors and display windows. The stair entrance has a stone hood on consoles above a pair of single-light doors with stone architrave and dentiled cornice. A sign replaces the transom. An early picture appears to show a stone roof balustrade on the hood. Raised two steps above street level within the vestibule, a pair of interior doors with sidelights and transom give access to a stair hall with a two-flight open-well stair. Interior doors and windows have cornices and plain surrounds. There is a pair of double-sash, 6-over-6 light windows with stone lintels and end blocks in each of the larger bays at the second level. Above the stair entrance there is a segmental-headed tripartite window with stone arch, keystone, and end blocks. The facade is crowned by a stone parapet entablature with geometric decoration on the frieze and the name CHANCELLOR in raised letters above the stair entrance. There is a triglyph with a sort of flat pendant above each pier. A pedestal at each end of the facade is all that remains of the roof balustrade. Side and rear windows are segmental-arched. The window at the rear of the stair hall matches the one on the facade.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

A narrow two-storey brick building stood on this site when John E. Gibbon purchased the property from the estate of Dr. Marcellus McKennie in 1891 (ACDB 95-393). McKennie had inherited it from his father C. P. McKennie, who purchased it in 1835 as part of a larger tract (ACDB 32-142). Tax records indicate that there were no buildings on the tract before 1850. When Gibbon sold it to S. C. Chancellor in 1897, the deed mentioned "a brick building in which G. W. Oliver's Book Store is now kept" (ACDB 103-460). John LaRowe's pool hall occupied the building in the early years of this century. Tax records and the Sanborn maps indicate that the present building was erected in 1920, probably incorporating the older building. Chancellor's Drug Store, which had previously occupied a store room in the Anderson Brothers Building, has now occupied the western store room (#1415) of this building for half a century. The store room was gutted by fire in the 1950's, destroying a handsome marble soda fountain. M. Timberlake, Inc., bought the building from Chancellor's estate in 1923 (City DB 45-5) and sold it to Howard B. Cook two years later (DB 51-131), but bought it back in 1933 (DB 79-411). It is still owned by the Timberlake family.

SIGNIFICANCE

This nicely detailed early 20th century commercial building is one of the finest on the Corner. Chancellor's Drug Store has been an institution on the Corner for over half a century.

UTM: 17/719395/4212395

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Graphics

