

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE.

INGE'S GROCERY STORE, FOUNDED IN 1891 BY GEORGE INGE, WAS A CHARLOTTESVILLE INSTITUTION AT THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY. IN ADDITION TO A THRIVING GROCERY BUSINESS, THE INGE FAMILY OFTEN OPENED THEIR HOME TO DISTINGUISHED AFRICAN-AMERICAN VISITORS, INCLUDING BOOKER T. WASHINGTON. AT THAT TIME, WHITE OWNED HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES REFUSED TO SERVE AFRICAN AMERICANS. THIS WAS ONE OF THE ONLY BUILDINGS SAVED FROM DEMOLITION DURING URBAN RENEWAL, THANKS TO THOMAS INGE, WHO CONTINUED TO RUN HIS FATHER'S BUSINESS UNTIL 1978. THIS BUILDING STILL SURVIVES AT THE INTERSECTION OF 4TH AND W. MAIN STREETS.

PHOTO OF INGE'S GROCERY BUILDING, CIRCA 1960, FROM THE ALBEMARLE CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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