

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 309 N. Edward St.
(Northwest corner of W. William and N. Edward)
Legal description:
Western Addition (Plat H/103)
Lot 8 and E26 2/3' of Lot 7 (except N 66' of Lots 7 & 8)

Date of original construction:
Assessor's Office estimate - 1875.
Probable date - between 1864 and 1868.
(See below)

Name of original owner: Christian J. Barrackman.

History: 1. The following is a partial chain of titles to the land on which the house stands. Reference: Office of Recorder of Deeds of Macon County.

- 1838 - William T. Crissey to James Allen.
- 1839 - James Allen to William Crissey and Kirby Benedict (each, a half interest)
- 1840 - Kirby Benedict to William T. Crissey.
Death - Wm. T. Crissey May 15, 1851.
- 1860 - Wm. S. Crissey to Thomas O. Smith.
- 1864 - *Thomas O. Smith to Christian J. Barrackman.
- 1868 - *Christian J. Barrackman to Samuel Anderson.
- 1889 - Death - Samuel J. Anderson - May 6, 1888.
- 1930 - Death - Daughter, Josephine Anderson, May 17, 1930.
- 1931 - Worthie C. Smith to Harold A. Elliott.
- 1932 - Harold A. Elliott to Elizabeth C. Shellabarger.
- 1946 - Elizabeth C. Shellabarger and David S. Shellabarger to John C. Buckmaster.
- 1952 - John C. Buckmaster to Jesse K. Burkholder.
- 1961 - Jesse K. Burkholder to Wayne S. Grissom.

Present owners: Dr. Wayne and Mrs. Esther G. Grissom.

* Mrs. Wayne Grissom stated on July 1, 1974, that the abstract indicates the 1864 sale was for \$2000 while the 1868 one was for \$9000. She and her husband, the present owners, thus conclude that the house was built on the property between 1864 and 1868, accounting for the increase in its value.

2. The Samuel Anderson family who had title to the property for 43 years (1888-1931) was a large family. Among the girls in the family were Lora, Rane S. Bohon's first wife. She died while they lived where the Masonic Temple parking lot now is, and before he bought the 364 W. William property. There were also Josephine and Nannie. The last survivor was Miss Josephine Anderson who lived her last days at the Hotel Orlando. City Directories indicate that the last year Josephine Anderson lived in the house was 1928, and that it was vacant 1929-1933 at which time it became occupied by the Shellabargers.

Mrs. D. S. Shellabarger reports (July 10, 1974) that the first time she was in the house, the dining table was still set, a dish of jam on it, with a cover over the table as was the custom of the day. At that time Miss Josephine Anderson had not occupied the house for several years.

The "Anderson girls" in their later years also kept their father's overcoat, hat and cane, long after his death, in the hall opposite a big mirror. They saw this as a protection should strangers come to the front door.

Mrs. Shellabarger also described the house as having two fireplaces on each floor, or a total of four. On the first floor there was one on the south wall of the room they used as a library, the room to the left of the hall. The other was on the north wall of the parlor, the room to the right of the hall. The second floor fireplaces were directly above these. The parlor fireplace with a mantle of white marble, simple in design, is especially beautiful. The parlor, the Shellabargers kept exactly as it was, old-fashioned, with inside shutters that receded into the wall, pine woodwork, sliding door between parlor and dining room, and an ornamental design in the center of the ceiling. The walls, including moulding, are fifteen inches thick. The stairs, with walnut bannister, go straight up with a platform for entrance to the south bedroom over the library, but with two or three steps to the right and above the platform to the second floor hallway and master bedroom. The original three bedrooms have been made into this huge master bedroom plus closet space. Over the garage at a level two or three steps below the master bedroom are two more rooms, presently used as bachelor quarters for the Grissom son.

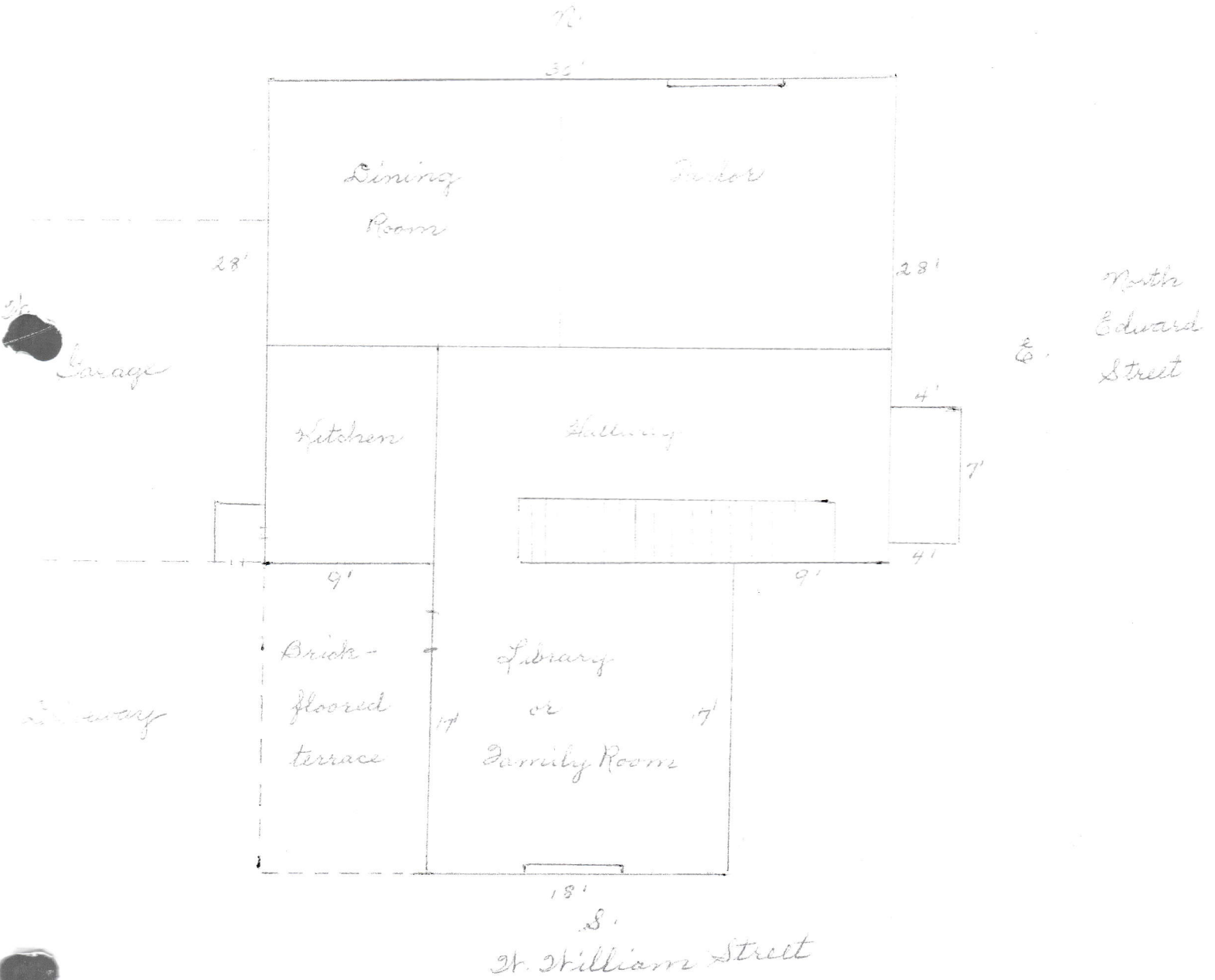
3. Major changes in the house by the different owners have been as follows:

a. The Shellabargers removed the front porch; however, the wash house with its fireplace and huge iron kettle were still there, approximately where the patio is now located. They also removed the enormous kitchen located where the garage now is.

3. b. The Buckmasters, operators of a local market, made the house into apartments.

c. The Burkholders lived on the first floor using the library as a bedroom, and renting the second floor apartments.

d. The Grissoms changed no original walls, but removed wardrobes, building closets and constructing the bachelor quarters over the new garage that they had attached to the rear of the house. The big job they did was to sandblast and tuck point the exterior. Sometime before the Grissoms purchased the house, the pine woodwork was stained or painted. It remains as they found it.



309 North Edward



Photo - Courtesy, H. Lynn Bohon, 1972