

The Sloop-Jones House
204 N. Mason St.



Built c. 1914
Owners: Phillip J. Sloop and Jane E. Jones





The Sloop-Jones House

Our research on this property will begin July 5, 1881 when A. N. Betts and his wife, Elizabeth F., conveyed 28 acres more or less (excepting the second part which contained the house in which the Betts resided and the graveyard place on the North side; said parcel consisting of approximately four acres.) to Mary A. Gibbons, Trustee, for the amount of \$2200, the property to be owned by Eugene B. Sturgeon and his wife, Annie D. Sturgeon (sometimes known as Annie L.Y.) recorded in Deed Book 107, p. 431.

At this time we assume that by March 4, 1913 Mr. Eugene B. Sturgeon was deceased because a deed made by T. F. Wilkinson and Mary S. Wilkinson, his wife of Wake County, NC and M. T. Sturgeon and Marion W. Sturgeon, his wife, also of Wake County, NC, C. A. Collier and Elizabeth S. Collier, his wife, of Fulton County, GA, and Amelia P. Sturgeon, unmarried, of Fulton County, GA deeded the parcel on which the Sturgeon home sat to Annie D. Sturgeon. This parcel contained two and one half acres according to a survey of W. C. Riddick, C. E., dated Feb. 7, 1913. This deed is dated March 4, 1913 and found in Deed Book 276, pp. 49, 50 and 51.

Deed Book 354, pp. 599 and 600 references the conveyance of parcels known as the "Sturgeon property". The property having been divided as shown on a survey by James C. Field Oct. 3, 1913, on Magnetic Meridian. In this deed Annie D. Sturgeon, Mary B. Wilkinson, Amelia P. Sturgeon and Elizabeth C. Collier, the only heirs "at law" of the late Eugene B. Sturgeon, deceased, all being of full age, jointly owned in fee as tenants in common (Marmaduke T. Sturgeon having conveyed his interest to Annie D. Sturgeon) the real estate ..., known as the Sturgeon property, ... recorded in Deed Book 107, p. 431. This remaining Sturgeon property was "to be sold to the greatest advantage and in the most economical way for the purpose of dividing the proceeds derived therefrom among said tenants in common".

Aug. 1, 1913 all of said real estate was conveyed to T. F. Wilkinson, Trustee. This is recorded in Book 279, p. 265. The Trustee sold property to A. C. Hughes, L. J. Sears and R. P. Beasley for \$365. Wilkerson also sold three lots in Block E, being numbers 11, 12 and 13 for the amount of \$325 to C. Whalan Matthews on January 27, 1914. These lots would be at the corner of what are now North Mason and Culvert Street. The deed for this property was recorded in Book 354, p. 599 on May 11, 1920.

A deed was made April 30, 1919 by Atlantic Coast Realty Co. to C. W. Matthews who purchased lots 14, 15, 18, 19, and 20 in Block E in the amount of \$435. This deed was registered May 23, 1919, and recorded in Book 338, p. 285 on June 2, 1919.

C. W. Matthews in his will, Item 7 devised to Porter W. Matthews lots 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Block E of the Sturgeon property. This is the same property conveyed to C. W. Matthews in Book 354, p. 599 and a portion of same property conveyed to C. W. Matthews in Book 338, p. 285. Porter W. Matthews and wife, Alice M., sold said property, lots being contiguous, located on the East side of Ferrell Street (now being North Mason) and on the North side of Culvert Street. The property was sold to W. G. Cooke and wife, Lovie L., for the sum of \$100 and other good and valuable considerations to them on Oct. 12, 1949 as recorded in Book 1030, p. 423. Possession of this property was to be given Nov. 15, 1949.

W. G. Cooke and wife, L. L. Cooke, deeded to Roy Eugene Wood and wife, Geraldine Patsy P. Wood, the above said property for \$10 and other considerations May 7, 1965 as recorded in Deed Book 1650, p.35.

Roy Eugene Wood and wife, Geraldine Patsy P. Wood transferred to W. G. Cooke and wife, Lovie L. Cooke for ten dollars and other valuable considerations on June 7, 1966, Deed Book 1715, p.276 the following property: Northern part of lots 11, 12 and 13 and the Northern end of the West half of lot 14 being a portion of land conveyed to Cooke and wife by Porter W. Matthews and wife, deed dated Oct. 12, 1949 and recorded in Book 1030, p. 423.

On Sept. 5, 1969, Deed Book 1892, p. 399, W. G. Cooke and wife, Lovie L. Cooke, deeded to Jack H. Blalock and wife Dorothy B. for \$10 and other valuable considerations, the above mentioned property as originally recorded in Deed Book 1030, p. 423.

Upon Mr. Blalock's death, the property formerly described, Dorothy B. Blalock became owner by right of survivorship. April 27, 1993 as recorded in Deed Book 5597, p. 171, Dorothy B. Blalock deeded to Phillip J. Sloop and Jane E. Jones the property now identified as 204 N. Mason Street for the sum of \$75,550. On Aug. 10, 2000 a permit in the amount of \$128,000 was issued for the addition and renovations. Real Estate ID: 0006506;YR2002.

The home at 204 N. Mason Street having been built c. 1914 by Mr. C. W. Matthews, a prominent black farmer and land investor,

retains some of the original architectural appointments: the diamond shaped gable vents and expanded boxing at each gable, the original brick inside chimney, and 1/1 sash windows in the original part of the home. The home is not within a Historic District; however, it is sad to realize the home would be noncontributing because of several factors; one of which is lowering the floor of the front porch and the large addition to the rear. These remarks should not be perceived as negative because it is evident that good design and planning were incorporated in the vision of this addition. We must remember that family life-styles have changed since the original construction in 1914. The Sloop-Jones Family has indeed provided for our community an historical structure that shows the basic architecture of the original neighborhood in which it is located. The interior remodeling and preservation of the original part of the home has been done by Mr. Sloop, a talented craftsman. Additionally, it is acknowledged that the rear portion, which is two stories, was uniquely planned for and by the Sloop-Jones Family. Historians should appreciate the tremendous efforts shown to blend old with new.