

COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON

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HISTORY AND CULTURE

**Inventory of the
Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer's Charleston
"Freedman's Cottage" Project Collection**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer's Charleston "Freedman's Cottage" Project Collection
Dates	2006
Creator:	Felzer, Lissa D'Aquisto
Abstract:	<p>Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer is a former Senior Preservation Planner for the City of Charleston and adjunct professor with the College of Charleston. This collection contains final reports from Professor Felzer's course, "Researching Historic Properties" (ARTH-290) taught at the College of Charleston in 2006. Students were assigned to write detailed property histories of houses identified as "Freedman's cottages." The property histories are derived from a variety of documents: deeds and indices; Charleston County and City ward books (tax records) and probate records; City Directories (Charleston, South Carolina); the Freedman's Bank Records; historical maps, plats, census records and photographs.</p> <p>The collection is organized by the geographical sections of Charleston, South Carolina: the Lower Peninsula, the West Side, the East Side, and the Upper Peninsula.</p>
Extent:	1.7 Linear feet (4 archival boxes)
Repository:	Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston
Call Number:	AMN 1140
Language of Material:	Material in English

Historical Note

"Freedman's cottages" are one-room wide, single-story dwellings with side piazzas and a gable roof. They are occasionally described by architectural historians as a subset of the Charleston single house. The homes are considered a prime example of "vernacular architecture," a term for architecture which reflects local needs, traditions, and construction materials. Many cottages have been identified as being built in clusters by developers for rental in the years following the Civil War. By the early 20th century, there were more than one thousand cottages on the upper peninsula.

There is an ongoing debate as to whether the term "Freedman's cottage" is a valid description. Originally these houses were considered solely inhabited by newly freed slaves. Recent literature contends the phrase is a misnomer as the homes were built and occupied by people of many ethnicities. For this reason, many refer to these homes as "Charleston cottages."

Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer has a Master of Science in historic preservation from the University of Pennsylvania, and has been working in this field since 1996. Felzer has worked with the City of Charleston as a Senior Preservation Planner, and as an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston. She is currently a Historic Preservation Consultant and partner with Felzer Consulting, Incorporated in Fort Mill, South Carolina.

Works Cited

"Employee List." Felzer Consulting, Inc. Web. 1 December 2014.

Miles, Suzannah Smith. "So Charleston: Charleston Cottages." Charleston Magazine. Web. 2 December 2014.

"Neighborhood Impact Initiative House Dedication." Historic Charleston Foundation. Web. 2 December 2014.

"Preservation Society buys Charleston Cottage..." Web. Preservation Society of Charleston. 2 December 2014.

Collection Overview

Series 1. Charleston "Freedman's Cottage" Property Histories This series holds final reports (some with drafts) written by students in Professor Felzer's preservation course: "Researching Historic Properties," (ARTH-290). Reports were created in the Spring and Fall semesters of 2006 at the College of Charleston. The detailed property histories are derived from a variety of documents: deeds and indices; Charleston County and City ward books (tax records), and probate records; Charleston City directories; the Freedman's Bank Records; historical maps, plats, and census records. Each report includes a current photograph of the said property.

This series is organized in four (4) sub-series, depicting the geographical sections of Charleston, South Carolina: The Lower Peninsula, The West Side, The East Side and The Upper Peninsula.

Several of the student's property histories are referenced in Felzer's book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage:" An Architectural Tradition*, and are noted as such.

Collection Arrangement

This collection contains one series:

1. Charleston "Freedman's Cottage" Property Histories, 2006

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

No Restrictions

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Related Material

Book: Felzer, Lissa D'Aquisto. *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage:" An Architectural Tradition*. Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2008.

Subject Headings

African Americans--Dwellings--South Carolina--Charleston--History

Charleston (S.C.)--Buildings, structures, etc.

Charleston (S.C.)--History.

Cottages--South Carolina--Charleston

Freemen--Dwellings--South Carolina--Charleston--History

Historic buildings -- Conservation and restoration -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer Collection of the Charleston "Freedman's Cottage" Project, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisition Note

Student's final reports/property histories were donated by Lissa D'Aquisto Felzer, 2006.

Processing Information

Processed by Georgette Mayo, December 2014

Edited by Aaron Spelbring, June 2015

Encoded by Aaron Spelbring, June 2015

Series 1: Charleston "Freedman's Cottage" Property Histories, 2006

Contains student's final projects from Professor Felzer's "Researching Historic Properties" course at the College of Charleston. The reports are organized by geographic regions on the Charleston, South Carolina peninsula.

1.1: The Lower Peninsula, 2006

Includes properties "South of Calhoun Street."

Box 1 Folder 1 56 Bull Street, 20 November, 2006

Report by David Dereamer. This house is featured in book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage": An Architectural Tradition*.

Box 1 Folder 2 13 Council Street, 18 April, 2006

Report by Mary Frances Craig. Includes draft with final report. *This house is featured in the book, The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.

Box 1 Folder 3 14 Council Street, 18 April, 2006

Report by Dustin Pate. This house is featured in *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.

Box 1 Folder 4 187 Coming Street, Fall, 2006

Report by Sarah Lewis.

1.2: The West Side, 2006

Includes properties "South of Line Street and North of Calhoun Street."

Box 1 Folder 5 266 Ashley Avenue, September, 2006

Report by Lissa Felzer and Frances Ford. This property history is featured in the book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.

Box 1 Folder 6 44 Bogard Street, Spring, 2006

Report by Niki Riesberg. This property history is referenced in the book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.

Box 1 Folder 7 277 Coming Street, 18 April, 2006

Report by June Taylor. This property history is referenced in the book, *The Charleston "Freeman's Cottage"*.

Box 1 Folder 8 40 Morris Street, 18 April, 2006

Report by Kenlyn Bass. This property history is referenced in the book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.

Box 2 Folder 1 189 Smith Street, 14 April, 2006

			Location is the former 91 Smith Street. Report by Christina Shedlock. Includes draft. This property history is referenced in the book, <i>The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"</i> .
Box 2	Folder 2	82 1/2 Cannon Street,	18 April, 2006
			Report by Elizabeth Benhard. Includes draft. This house is featured in the book, <i>The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"</i> .
Box 2	Folder 3	170 Fishburne Street,	2006
			Report by Craig Swenson.
Box 2	Folder 4	172 Fishburne Street,	Fall, 2006
			Report by N. Stephanie Zika.
Box 2	Folder 5	14 Kracke Street,	Spring, 2006
Box 2	Folder 6	2 and 2 1/2 Larnes Street,	2006
Box 2	Folder 7	5 Rosemont Street,	2006
			Report by Paul D. Saylor.
Box 2	Folder 8	14 Rosemont Street,	Fall, 2006
			Report by Rachael Hartofelis.
Box 2	Folder 9	22 Orr's Court,	2006
			Report by Jared Blevins.
		1.3: The East Side, 2006	
			Includes properties "East of Rutledge and South of Line Street."
Box 3	Folder 1	111 and 113 Cooper Street,	Fall, 2006
			Report by Phillip Edward Reed. This property history is referenced in the book, <i>The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"</i> .
Box 3	Folder 2	32 Sheppard Street,	Fall, 2006
			Report by William Pitonyak. This house is included in the book, <i>The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"</i> .
Box 3	Folder 3	193 Jackson Street,	18 April, 2006
			Report by Marisa A. Cefalo-Cox. Includes draft.
Box 3	Folder 4	195 Jackson Street,	16 April, 2006
			Report by Carrie McClanahan.
Box 3	Folder 5	197 Jackson Street,	April, 2006

- Report by Rebecca Thackston. Includes draft.
- Box 3 Folder 6 199 Jackson Street, 18 April, 2006
- Report by Rob Gettings. Includes draft.
- 1.4: The Upper Peninsula, 2006
- Includes properties "North of Line Street and South of Mount Pleasant Street."
- Box 4 Folder 1 7 Court Street, 2006
- Location presently known as "23 Maranda Holmes Street." Report by Lindsay Stuber. This property is included in the book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.
- Box 4 Folder 2 308 President Street, 18 May, 2006
- Report by Abigail Heston. Includes draft. This house is included in the book, *The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.
- Box 4 Folder 3 553 Rutledge Avenue, 2006
- Report by Lillian Rudacille. Includes draft. This property history is referenced in the book, *"The Charleston "Freedman's Cottage"*.
- Box 4 Folder 4 148 Congress Street, 20 November, 2006
- Report by Katherine M. Schultheis.