

A REMARKABLE CHARLESTON TREASURE

69 Church Street is an extraordinary eighteenth-century residence in the heart of the Old & Historic District – a home of architectural beauty, rich history, and enduring significance. Constructed circa 1745, this grand house embodies the refinement of Georgian Charleston with elegant Federal-period enhancements, and offers a rare opportunity to own a piece of the city's remarkable past.

A Storied Past.
An Enduring Legacy.
A Rare Opportunity.



HISTORIC KITCHEN HOUSE









ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Circa 1745, this pre-revolutionary estate is a three story, stucco-over-brick with a hipped slate roof, 69 Church Street is a classic Charleston double house with a center hall and flanking rooms. The primary elevation features five bays, nine-over-nine windows, and a crowning pediment with a semi-circular fanlight.

The period interior boasts extraordinary woodwork throughout – including mantelpieces, overmantels, wainscot, paneling, and cornices. A highlight is the second-floor ballroom and drawing room with a delicate Federal mantel carved with figures of Ariadne and Bacchus.

A separate two-story kitchen house, connected by a hyphen, features a center hall plan and distinctive lancet-arched windows and doors, a Gothic motif also found in the extant privies.

The estate size lot features extensive gardens and a pool.

A DISTINGUISHED HISTORY

Originally owned by Richard Capers, the property dated to 1745. In 1761, it was occupied by Jacob Motte, Public Treasurer for the colony, who lived here until 1770. The house served as a temporary meeting place for the Commons House of Assembly before the construction of the statehouse, and in 1778 became the residence of James Parsons, member of the Provincial Congress.

After sustaining damage during the Civil War, it was purchased in 1869 by Eliza Middleton Huger Smith, whose granddaughter, Alice Ravenel Huger Smith – renowned artist, author, and preservationist – lived here for most of her life.

The home remained in the Smith family for over a century, its legacy intertwined with Charleston's cultural and artistic history.

PRESERVATION & LEGACY

In 1971, Mrs. Anthony Cecil undertook a major restoration, returning the house to its eighteenth-century appearance by removing later piazzas, restorying the central entrance, and carefully reintroducing original architectural elements.

The current owners, Dan and Ellen Kiser, have continued this stewardship, reversing less sensitive alterations, reconstructing the Federal-period door surround, and enclosing the hyphen between the main house and kitchen building.

Today, 69 church stands as one of the earliest and most significant dwellings in Charleston – a home that has welcomed statesmen, artists, and visionaries, and that continues to contribute to the architectural and historical fabirc of the city.

AN ICONIC ADDRESS. A TIMELESS HOME.

OLD & HISTORIC DISTRICT | CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA