

Carroll Daly House
1306 36th Street, N.W.
(Georgetown)
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-205

HABS,
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

CARROLL DALY HOUSE

Location: 1306 36th Street, N.W., (Georgetown), Washington, D.C.

Present Owner
and Occupant: Mrs. Sylvia P. Williams (1969).

Present Use: Private residence.

Significance: Although the interior of this dwelling has been greatly altered to suit the tastes and meet the needs of twentieth-century occupants, the exterior with its elaborate brickwork, characteristic of the late nineteenth century, remains intact. The original owner, a building contractor, may have used his own home as a showcase for his talents.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: ca. 1883-1887. The tax records of 1879 show no indication of a structure on the property. On the Hopkins map of 1887, there is a brick house and frame stable with the same dimensions as the present structure on the site. The house was probably built by Carroll Daly, a contractor who bought the property in 1883.
2. Architect: None known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The building is located in Square 1226, Lot 815 (formerly Square 56, Lot 93 in Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown). 36th Street was formerly called Lingan Street. The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. Reference is to the office of the Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

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1883 William Lord, W.W. Kirby vs. Patrick O'Donnoghue et al. March 21, 1883. Equity Cause 8429, Docket 22. Supreme Court of D.C.

There was a law suit involving several pieces of property, including the south half of Lot 93 (present Lot 815). Part of the court decision in the lengthy equity case was an order to sell the south half of Lot 93 to Carroll Daily for \$27.50 per front foot--a total of \$825.

1888 L. Cabell Williamson, Tr. to Carroll Daily (later "Daly"). Deed February 4, 1888. Recorded February 11, 1888. Liber 1296, folio 497.

Sale of property including south half of Lot 93, order by court decree in Equity Cause 8429, Docket 22.

1904 Daniel Daly (son of Carroll, deceased) and wife, Margaret vs: 1) Margaret Daly, widow; 2) John Daly; 3) Josephine, wife of John; 4) William Daly; 5) Jesse H. Wilson, Tr.] Liber 2659; 6) Levin S. Frey, Tr.] folio 387; 7) Edgar P. Berry, Treas., Citizens Equitable Building Assn. of Georgetown; 8) Joseph H. Bradley, Tr.]Liber 2746; 9) Charles F. Wilson, Tr.] folio 150; 10) Harry W. Blunt, Tr.] June 28, 1904. Equity Cause 24590. Supreme Court of D.C.

Carroll Daly died February 20, 1904 without leaving a Will. Survivors were his wife, 70 years old, and three children: Daniel, John and William. The real estate descended to the children. Real estate consisted of south part of Lot 93 (now Lot 815) and part of Lot 90 in same Square, at the southwest corner of 36th and O Streets. Real estate was "improved" by two brick dwellings, occupied by Margaret, widow, and John and William, sons, who were collecting rent from some of it, of which Daniel had received none. Since the real estate did not lend itself to partition, request was made to sell real estate and divide funds among interested parties and that a receiver be appointed to manage the estate.

The court decreed that the sale be made. Trustees were Michael Colbert and Hugh Taggart. Daniel Daly bought the south 30 feet of Lot 93 for \$3100. The two trustees were also paid off.

1904 Michael J. Colbert, Tr.; Hugh T. Taggart, Tr.; Daniel Daly to Margaret Daly. Deed November 18, 1904. Recorded November 22, 1904. Liber 2889, folio 61.

Daniel Daly bought present Lot 815 and "assigned" it to his wife, Margaret.

1921 Margaret Daly died August 9, 1921, leaving no Will. Survivors, all heirs-at-law, were husband, Daniel, and children: Carroll A. Daly, Raymond A. Donohue, Helen M. Glock, Mary M. Donohue.

1929 Daniel Daly, widowed; Carroll A. Daly, unmarried; Raymond A. Donohue, unmarried; Helen M. Glock; Mary M. Donohue to Charles David Wise and wife, Susie S., tenants by entirety. Deed March 15, 1929. Recorded March 19, 1929. Liber 6299, folio 125.

1941 Charles D. Wise, surviving tenant, to Jean L. Rehbock. Deed June 16, 1941. Recorded June 20, 1941. Liber 7630, folio 168.

1948 Jean L. Rehbock and wife to Robert P. Williams Jr. and wife. Deed January 16, 1948. Recorded January 21, 1948. Liber 8668, folio 321.

1958 Robert P. Williams died in 1958. Will October 5, 1954. Probated March 7, 1958. Will Book 505, page 593.

4. Builder, contractor: Carroll Daly, a contractor whose sons were skilled in construction work, bought the property in 1883, and probably built the house soon after. He and his family are listed as living in the house in 1888.

5. Alterations and additions: The interior was remodelled in the mid-twentieth century, leaving practically no trace of the original floor plan. The original front door and stoop have been replaced

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

In 1883 a court order forced Patrick O'Donnoghue to sell the south half of Lot 93 (the present Lot 815). It was purchased by Carroll Daily (late spelled "Daly") for \$27.50 per front foot, a total of \$825. However, it was not until five years later, in 1888, that the final deed was conveyed to Daly.

During the year 1888 Daly a contractor was living at 3610 O Street He and his wife Margaret had three sons one of whom Daniel is recorded as living with them John another son lived across the street at 3609 O Street Both John and Daniel were laborers at that time. (City Directory)

There is no record in 1888 of where William, the third son, lived, although ten years later William is listed as a clerk living at 1306 36th Street, in the house with his parents, while his brother John is listed as living at 3610 O Street, although the word "stable" at his parents' address also appears beside his name. At the time John and his brother Daniel were firemen. (City Directory).

By the turn of the century Carroll Daly had become a "driver." He lived in the house with his wife until his death in February 1904. At the time of his death he owned, besides the house he was living in, a brick house on the southwest corner of 36th and O Streets. (City Directory).

Carroll died in 1904 without leaving a Will. He was survived by his wife, 70 years old, and his three sons. The real estate descended to the children. The two homes were occupied by the widow and two of the sons, John and William, who also rented out rooms in their homes. Daniel, the third son, received no income from the rentals, so brought court action against his mother and two brothers. Since the two houses were not adjoining, and therefore could not be partitioned, Daniel requested that the real estate be sold and the funds be divided among the four Dalys. (Equity Cause 25490, Supreme Court of the District of Columbia).

In 1904 the court ordered sale of the property. Daniel Daly bought the south 30 feet of Lot 93, 1306 36th Street, for \$3100 and "assigned" it to his wife, Margaret.

Daniel Daly and his family later moved into the house. In 1921, Margaret died, leaving no Will. She was survived by her husband, Daniel, and four children, all heirs-at-law. Daniel continued to live at 1306 36th Street until 1926 when he and two of his sons moved to 2011 Park Road, N.W. and rented the 36th Street house. (City Directories).

In 1929 Daly and his children sold the house to Charles D. Wise, an iron worker who later became a bricklayer. Wise and his wife occupied the house. After her death Wise sold the house.

In 1941 it was purchased by Jean L. Rehbock, Director of Berlitz Schools of Languages, and was occupied by him and Hazel, his wife. The Rehbocks remodeled the house extensively during their tenancy. (City Directories).

Six and a half years later they sold it to Robert P. Williams, Jr. and his wife, Sylvia Williams. Mr. Williams, who was with the Rheems Manufacturing Co., died in 1958, leaving the house to his wife, who presently occupies it.

C. Bibliography

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Equity Cause 25490, Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, June 1904.

Guardian Docket No. 2, folios 730, 750, 751, 752, 753, Administration #3, folio 768, Register of Wills, Washington, D.C.

Record Group 351, National Archives, Records of the City of Georgetown (D.C.) 1800-79: Assessment of Real and Personal Property, Microcopy 605, Roll 26 (1879).

2. Secondary and published sources:

City Directories:

Boyd's Directory of the District of Columbia, 1888, p. 328; 1898, p. 347; 1904, p. 354.

Boyd's District of Columbia Directory, 1921, p. 538; 1923, p. 547; 1925, p. 506; 1926, pp. 492, 538; 1927, pp. 484, 2069; 1941, p. 1546; 1942, p. 1342.

Polk's Washington City Directory, 1956, p. 1405.

Hopkins, Griffith Morgan, compiler, A Complete Set of Surveys and Plats of Properties in the City of Washington. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: G.M. Hopkins, 1887, plate 39.

Prepared by Volunteers
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PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: One of several late nineteenth-century houses on the street, this building demonstrates the fondness for decorative brickwork typical of the period. Though not identical, it shows a marked similarity to the buildings on both sides of it.
2. Condition of fabric: Good, well-maintained:

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Approximately 16'-0" by 30'-0" with a 12'-0" by 16'-0" ell at rear. Two stories high. Three bays wide across the 36th Street facade.
2. Foundations: Brick.
3. Wall construction: Pressed brick facade, common brick side walls; painted. Between basement, first and second stories there are projecting string courses of three rows of brick stretchers, the center row of which is embossed.
4. Porches: Brick stoop at front door.
5. Chimneys: Two on south side.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doors and doorways: The original front door and stoop have been replaced, but see 1304 36th Street for the design of the cast iron stoop railing. There is an segmental arched molded brick lintel above the door opening, and a sunburst design within the arch over the door.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Windows in general have two-over-two-light double-hung wooden sash. There is a small wood segment with machine carving in the space between the flat window head and the segmental arch of molded brick. The shutters are louvered wood. A course of projecting brick forms a continuous line between the stone sills on both stories.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: Flat, pitched toward rear (west). Metal covering.
- b. Framing: Wood (assumed).
- c. Cornice: A frieze of alternating sets of three vertical and three horizontal stretchers between two projecting stretcher courses supports shaped and corbelled brick machicolations.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The interior of this house has been greatly remodeled in the past twenty-five years, leaving practically no trace of the original disposition of the rooms. At present the first floor has a living room across the east end, a dining room behind that, leading into a kitchen at the rear. The kitchen was originally in a wood lean-to at the rear, the roof line of which may be seen in the party wall to the north. The second floor has a bedroom across the east end, a small room and bath along the south side, and a bedroom across the rear. The basement is one large space, undivided except by several small closets.
2. Stairways: Ascending from west to east along the north wall of the dining room is a modern closed-string stair with nineteenth-century newels, balusters, and rails. Visible framing in the basement and a skylight on the second floor suggest that the original stair was located in the center of the south side.
3. Flooring: Modern oak strip flooring.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster, painted; some walls papered.
5. Doors and doorways: A variety of late nineteenth-century four panel doors are combined with mid-twentieth century batten door and flush doors.
6. Decorative features and trim: No trace of the original mantel exists, and all the rooms have been re-trimmed with twentieth century stock moldings. There are wainscots with

panels of applied moldings throughout the first floor and stairwell.

7. Heating: Radiators throughout.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Located on the west side of 36th Street, this is one of an irregular row of similar houses facing the Holy Trinity Church and School complex.
2. Enclosures: Wrought-iron carriage gates across drive. Believed to have come from Georgetown Medical School. Wood plank fences at sides of rear yard.
3. Outbuildings: One-story garage across west end of lot, upper floor removed about 1940.
4. Walks: Brick, concretes, and flagstone.
5. Landscaping: Semi-formal residential planting in the rear yard; large statue in pool originally from a fountain group at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans. There is no front yard.

Prepared by The Office of
Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA
Architect
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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of a project to record structures in the western part of the Georgetown Historic District in Washington, D.C. The project was conducted by the Commission of Fine Arts with the cooperation of the Historic American Buildings Survey. The resulting documentation was donated to HABS by the Commission and published in 1970 in HABS Selections Number 6, "Georgetown Architecture - Northwest: Northwest Washington, District of Columbia." Research for the project was conducted by volunteers under the supervision of Ms. Nancy Black, staff member of the Commission of Fine Arts. Architectural information was prepared by the Office of Walter G. Peter, Jr., AIA. The photographs were taken by J. Alexander. The data was edited and prepared for transmittal to the Library of Congress by HABS architectural historian Emily J. Harris in 1979.