



Julius M. Johnson, CPA

The property was constructed around 1918, where it served as a private residence for almost 50 years. The home retains most of its original architecture, but has had some renovation done on the exterior.

The home might be best known as carrying the last of the popular craftsman-style residential architecture popular from 1901—1918 in the City of Toccoa.

In 1972, Amidec, Inc. bought the historic property from Mrs. A.O. Teasley and proceeded to convert the home to an office space for Mr. Julius M. Johnson and his accounting firm.

The firm, originally founded in 1964, was the first certified public accounting firm in Toccoa. The firm has changed names since and was recently operated as Johnson and Fields. Today, it is now owned and by Mr. Johnson's son, Sam as J. Sam Johnson, CPA, continuing the legacy of apt and professional public accounting in Downtown Toccoa.

Business has continued to operated out of this beautiful historic home for nearly 50 years.



Snapshots of Toccoa's History



114–118 N. Sage Street

By 1956, the building was also home to State Farm Insurance Company, headed by agents Miles C. Davis and Robert W. Service, in addition to Teasley's company. Its primary business, Stephens Federal Savings & Loan, was still in operation out of this location in 1956 before moving to the corner of Pond Street and Doyle Street in 1958. W. Truman Blasingame was the Executive Vice President of Stephens Federal Savings & Loan while operating out of this location.

In 1959, once Stephens Federal Savings & Loan moved to its new location, the business opened up to serve as the side entrance to the Andrews/Hamby Men's Store, with Mr. James A. Andrews as the President, and Mr. Earl H. Freeman as the Vice President. In the same storefront housing Mr. Teasley's business was Gulf Life Insurance Company, and State Mutual Insurance Company. By 1962, Carolina Life Insurance Company had also opened in the same storefront housing Gulf Life Insurance.

By 1968, the Andrews/Hamby Men's Store entrance closed and Carolina Life Insurance was gone, with Georgia Finance Corporation opening in its place. In 1971, Georgia Finance was gone, replaced by Landmark Finance Company. By 1973, State Farm Insurance moved out of this location, and later moved just down the street.

The architecture of 114/118 North Sage Street is consistent with that of the early- to mid-century Commercial style that populates the majority of Historic Downtown Toccoa. Large bay windows frame a singular transom window, allowing for maximum view into the storefront's interior on the left storefront, while the right storefront is slightly modernized, featuring stylized closed transoms framing the entry space. All brickwork is original to the structure.

Presently, this building houses two downtown businesses on the first floor: Russell's Tax Service, a CPA firm, which has been operating since at least 1982 (operating previously as James Russell Income Tax & Bookkeeping), and Angel Oak Home, a design consultant and home renovation storefront. The second floor of the building is occupied by fully renovated and expansive luxury loft apartments.

-Historical information has been provided with the invaluable assistance of Steven Gilmer and Stan Smith.

Snapshots of Toccoa's History