

# The Chart House Restaurant, Charleston, SC

Architects/Engineers: Cummings & McCrady, Inc. Charleston, SC  
Contractor: Whalley Construction Co.



**T**his structure, Circa 1790, is located in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. It burned in a fire in 1978 and sat roofless until The Chart House Restaurant owners acquired the property.

Since all of the interior finishes had been destroyed, architectural and engineering work began with a masonry shell and some heavy timber framing that escaped the fire. Everything that was original has been retained and expressed. The new items were generally detailed, but the craftsmen were responsible for developing the specific details and laying out the work for approval.

The salad bar uses the same paneling, but it also includes a

polished brass top and ice well. The sneeze guard (a state health requirement) is crafted from solid polished brass tubing which is cantilevered from the back of the salad bar. The tubing is then infilled with beveled edge glass in lead framing. The ends of the sneeze guard recalls the traditional fan lights over many of the entrances to Charleston houses.

The paneling is of mahogany. It is detailed with rails and panels to give it the scale of traditional paneling; however, all of the pieces are flush jointed with only  $\frac{1}{8}$ " grooves for relief rather than having "raised" or moulded joints. □

*Above: The building is located in downtown Charleston, SC, at 87 Broad Street immediately west of the Post Office at the corner of Meeting Street and Broad Street.*

*Below and right: The use of brass and mahogany was to recall the feeling of the traditions of the old buildings in Charleston and also of fine old yachts.*

