

*Staggon*

# *Old Homes of South Carolina*

**Drawings and Text by Joy Stagg Rust**

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## JUDGE GAGE HOUSE

### 143 York Street

York is a street of tall trees and beautiful old homes. The Judge Gage House is one of the most attractive. Originally, the bricks were red, but they are now painted white. Absolom Housar built this modified Georgian-style residence sometime before 1855. There were two rooms on each side of a hall on both levels. Housar suffered a reversal in his financial affairs and lost his home. It was sold in a sheriff's sale in 1858 to James Hemphill for \$2,050. Hemphill, an attorney, lived here with his family for a very short period. During that time he drastically changed the looks of the house by adding blinds to the windows and a two-story piazza. The large square columns and pediment are very impressive. Mr. J. Lucius Gaston purchased the property in 1859 for \$3,000. Captain Gaston was killed in the War Between the States, and his widow and children continued to live in the home.

Judge Gage married Mrs. Gaston's daughter and enlarged the house. Originally, the kitchen was in the backyard, but a kitchen was included as part of the wing which Mr. Gage added. The home remained in the Gaston family for many years. Gaston Gage, the grandson of Mrs. Gaston, sold the home to Mr. and Mrs. Cody Quinton.

The home is private.

