

Reginald Armistice Hawkins House

1703 Madison Avenue, Charlotte, NC



The 1954 Reginald Armistice Hawkins House faces roughly north and occupies a relatively flat, approximately .4-acre corner lot at the intersection of Madison Avenue and Clifton Street in the McCrory Heights neighborhood. The modernist-style, side-gabled house is set back from Madison Avenue approximately 65 feet. The majority of the façade is veneered with rough-cut, irregularly-coursed sandstone. The western portion of the façade is pierced by a short tripart window set high in the wall, and a short shingle-sash window also set high in the wall. The house's entrance is set in a recessed, two-bay-wide section of the facade. The stone on the façade wraps the blank side walls of the recessed bay. The recessed bay is composed of a low, partial-height sandstone wall, topped by T1-11 siding. The wall is pierced by a

replacement slab door and a large, two-sash sliding window. A sandstone planter, and a concrete and sandstone stoop extend across the recessed bay. The stone sections of the façade are topped with a wide wooden band. The façade features a deep overhang with a soffit composed of T1-11. A significant portion of the roof is cut away over the engaged stone planter in the recessed bay. Two stone steps lead to the stoop.



The low-pitched roof is topped with a short stone chimney, and features integrated gutters. The sandstone found on the façade extends uninterrupted to the west as a partial-height wall.



The masonry veneer transitions to brick, laid in a running bond, on the three-bay-wide west elevation. The elevation is asymmetrical and is pierced by three original window openings set high in the wall. The window closest to the façade is a single sash, the middle window is a triple sliding window, and the rearmost original window is a two-sash slider. The windows sit on angled brick sills. The short gable is sheathed with T1-1,1 and features a wide louvered vent. The overhang is very shallow. A shallow gabled addition was added to the rear of the house in 1961. The addition is flush with the west elevation. A single-sash, short window pierces the west elevation of the addition.



A carport and flat-roofed wing were added in 1958 to the east elevation of the house. The carport extends past the façade. The carport's roof is supported on the west by three metal columns that rest on a partial-height sandstone wall that projects from the east edge of the façade. On the east, the carport is supported by three metal columns that rest on a freestanding stone wall. The east wall of the principal section of the house is sheltered by the carport and is veneered with brick. The brick wall is pierced by a single-sash window set high in the wall and a door opening, now infilled with a tall, single-light sash window. The east side of the carport is open and features a single metal post supporting a shallow I-beam. The rear wall of the carport is sheathed with T1-11, and is pierced by a single slab door.



The carport is engaged with the flat-roofed wing, which extends past the rear elevation of the principal section of the house. The east elevation of the wing is composed of a blank, partial-height brick wall topped with a full-width, eight-sash ribbon window.



The only exposed portion of the rear elevation of the principal section of the house is a single bay that contain a large two-vertical-light window. To the east of the exposed bay is a flat-roofed porch with jalousie windows. The porch features a tall brick foundation and a concrete floor embedded with roughly broken pieces of quarry tile. The porch shelters a replacement one-light door and a window opening now in-filled with shelving.



The flat-roofed rear wing aligns with the rear elevation of the porch, but the roof of the wing extends to the rear to form a shallow porch supported by two posts. The rear elevation of the wing is composed of a tripart glazed sliding door and four tall single-light sash at grade, all separated by minimal framing. The sliding door is topped with a large transom, and the sash are each topped a single-light square sash. The partial-height brick wall of the wing's east elevation extends past the shallow porch, and helps to define a patio paved with cut blue stones. A brick fireplace/grill is built against the projecting wall.



The asymmetrical rear elevation of the gabled addition is pierced by a tripart sliding windows set high in the wall and resting on an angled brick sill. The wall is topped with a wide simple band. The low-pitched roof features a deep overhang. The gable is sheathed with T1-11 and features a center louvered vent.



The interior of the Reginald Armistice Hawkins House has retained a good degree of integrity. The room layouts, minimalist trim, and original floors (including the oak flooring in the principal section of the house and the bluestone in the 1958 addition) have survived. Of especially note is the central sandstone fireplace that matches the masonry on the façade. The modernist-style firebox is open on two sides and features a steel corner-support post. The firebox opens onto a rear den, but the sandstone masonry extends into the front living room.