# National Register of Historic Places
## Inventory - Nomination Form

### 1. Name
- **Common:** Market House
- **Or Historic:** Market House

### 2. Location
- **Street and Number:** Market Square
- **City or Town:** Fayetteville
- **State:** North Carolina

### 3. Classification
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Accessible to the Public</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Owner of Property
- **Owner's Name:** City of Fayetteville
- **Street and Number:** 234 Green Street
- **City or Town:** Fayetteville
- **State:** North Carolina

### 5. Location of Legal Description
- **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**
  - Cumberland County Courthouse
- **Street and Number:** Gillespie Street
- **City or Town:** Fayetteville
- **State:** North Carolina

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys
- **Title of Survey:** Historic American Buildings Survey
  
### For NPS Use Only
- **ENTRY NUMBER:**
- **DATE:**
- **STATE:** North Carolina
- **COUNTY:** Cumberland
- **FOR NPS USE ONLY**
There are numerous examples of eighteenth-century English town halls with an open arcade ground floor, a second story containing one or more public rooms, and a hipped roof surmounted by a cupola. Two examples which have been compared to the Fayetteville Market House are the town halls of South Shields and Stockton-on-Tees, both in northeastern England. A better known town hall is the one designed by Sir Christopher Wren in Abingdon, Berkshire. The similarity of the Fayetteville building to these English examples is marked, but, since its architect is unknown, it is impossible to determine which of those served as its model.

The Market House sits in the center of the intersection of four of the city's main thoroughfares. The north and south sides on axis with Green and Gillespie Streets are the more impressive. The three-bay center block features an open arcade composed of a wide semi-circular center arch with narrow pointed arches on each side. There are one-story wings featuring single elliptical arches on either side. The wings have a classical balustrade punctuated by solid paneled pedestals. Above the belt course of the main block there are three bays divided by Ionic pilasters. In each bay is a tall arched window. The hipped roof is crowned by an elaborate cupola, the design of which was certainly inspired by those of Wren and Gibbs. The lower section of the cupola is square in plan, has attenuated Ionic columns at the corners, and features a round clock face on all four sides. At each corner of the splayed roof is an obelisk. The upper section of the cupola is octagonal and has a low domical roof surmounted by a weathervane finial.

The east and west sides on axis with Person and Hay Streets are only three bays wide. They are like the north and south sides except that the first floor arcades project forming flat esplanades at the second floor level which are served by the double doors beneath lunettes which occupy the center bays on either facade.

On the interior, the second floor takes the form of one large room. The windows, doors, and their surrounds are original, but the rest of the fabric has been renewed at various periods.
Built in 1833, the Market House in Fayetteville was constructed on a site which may have been the location of the building used by the General Assembly from 1788 to 1793 when Fayetteville was the "temporary capital" of North Carolina. As originally planned, the Market House performed two functions: under its arched mezzanine and produce were sold by local farmers, while the second floor served as the Town Hall. Since then it has ceased to be used as a market house and the second floor has served as a library and offices for the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce. In March of 1865, the Market House was the scene of several skirmishes between the forces of General Sherman and generals Hardie, Wade Hampton, and Wheeler. In 1906 the threatened destruction of the Market House was prevented by the formation of the Civil Improvement Society. The society, now the Fayetteville Women's Club, maintains the property by way of a lease given to them in 1906 by the City Council.

At various celebrations held in the city of Fayetteville, a number of distinguished people have spoken from the Market House balconies. Among these are North Carolina Governor Zebulon B. Vance, Senator Matt W. Hansom, General John J. Pershing, William Jennings Bryan, and Chief Justice Walter Clark.

The Market House continues to be the focal point of downtown Fayetteville. The hours are chime by the clock, and in addition the bell in the cupola still rings at 7:30 for breakfast, 1:00 for dinner, at sundown, and at 9:00 which was the curfew hour for slaves.

Architecturally the design of the Market House is unique in North Carolina. It is one of the few structures in America which employs the town hall-market scheme found in England. Though not as architectonic as some English examples it was as functional and well designed as many of them.
Cumberland County Records, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Cumberland County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.


### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATEs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Approximate acreage of nominated property:** 1 acre

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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### 11. FORM PREPARED BY

**Name and Title:**

J. D. Zeimer, Survey Specialist, and Sherry Ingram, Survey Assistant

**Organization:** State Department of Archives and History

**Street and Number:** 107 East Jones Street

**City or Town:** Raleigh

**Date:** May 21, 1970

### 12. STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

- National [ ]
- State [ ]
- Local [ ]

**Name:** Dr. H. G. Jones

**Title:** Director, State Department of Archives and History

**Date:** May 21, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

**Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

**Date:**

**ATTEST:**

**Keeper of The National Register**

**Date:**
Correction to nomination for the Market House in Fayetteville, Cumberland County, North Carolina, which was entered on 15 September 1970:

In the original nomination, the date given for construction of the Market House was 1838, based on secondary sources. Recent research has revealed that a construction date of 1832 is the correct one. The May 29, 1832 issue of the Carolina Observer clearly establishes that it was built in 1832, which is validated by frequent references to the Market House in Fayetteville newspapers between 1832 and 1838.

William S. Price, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer
June 28, 1984