**Name**

**Location**

232 Person Street

**Classification**

- **Category:** Building
- **Ownership:** Public
- **Status:** Occupied
- **Present Use:** Commercial

**Owner of Property**

Mrs. J. A. Holmes

232 Person Street

**Location of Legal Description**

Cumberland County Courthouse

**Representation in Existing Surveys**

- Federal
- State
- County
- Local
### DESCRIPTION

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Sedberry-Holmes House (232 Person Street), is a two-story frame house of representative Queen Anne design. The well-preserved house is distinguished by a polygonal corner turret with a pointed spire and the sunburst motif which appears in three different forms in the porch, dormer, and bargeboard ornament.

The two-story main block of the house, five bays wide and three deep, has a shallow two-story gabled projection with an attached corner turret at the west end of the main (north) facade. The third stage of the tower breaks out of the facade gable. A one-story porch extends across the main facade east of the facade projection, wrapping around the east side elevation to the one-story gabled wing which is attached to the rear bay of this side. Across the rear elevation is a two-story early twentieth century addition. The house rests on a low brick foundation and is capped by a steep gable roof with clipped gables. Plain lapped siding covers the two main stories, and staggered lapped shingles cover the gables, dormer, and turret above this level. The main block roof has wide overhanging eaves with exposed curvilinear rafters and corner curvilinear brackets. Curvilinear bargeboards outline each of the gable ends. The eaves of the turret, east wing and porch are boxed and accented with curvilinear brackets. A turned wood finial surmounts the turret spire. Two interior chimneys with paneled stacks and corbeled caps project from the roof. The east wing has an exterior end chimney laid in common bond, with a single stepped shoulder.

The main entrance, located in the center bay beside the facade projection, is recessed within splayed reveals and consists of a double door with a round-arched etched glass panel in the upper half and two raised panels in the lower half of each leaf. The soffit and reveals are ornamented with raised panels echoing the door panel configuration. At the second level, above the main entrance is a single door, similar to the main door but with a transom, which opens out to the upper porch. The house has one east side and several rear entrances. The house also has a variety of window opening types. A one-story bay window projects from the center west side bay. The windows of the original block contain two-over-two double-hung sash, with the exception of the porch windows, which have two-over-two-over-three triple (floor-length) sash and the tower and bay windows, which have one-over-one sash. The front and east side windows have molded surrounds and louvered shutters; the others have plain surrounds and lack shutters. The north and west faces of the turret each contains an oculus within a plain surround. The main facade gable, the gabled main facade dormer, and the west face of the bay window each contain a Queen Anne style single sash window with a colored glass border. Above each of these is a sawwork sunburst: That in the dormer is applied to the shinglework; that in the gable end of open sawwork, forms the apex of the bargeboard.

The most striking use of the sunburst motif is in the front porch. Beaded posts with curvilinear sawwork brackets and a cornice frieze formed of wave-shaped sawn members echoing the rays of the sunbursts, support the boxed eaves and low shed porch roof. The main entrance bay is differentiated from the other porch bays by a round-arched screen composed of chamfered colonnettes which spring from the side posts, corner sunburst brackets and a center pendant. The porch balustrade, consisting of turned
balusters and a molded rail, extends out to flank the wooden entrance steps at the main entrance bay and at the subsidiary porch entrance in the east corner porch bay. The front railings of the porch are bowed. A similar balustrade with straight railings outlines the porch roof.

The interior, a center-hall plan two rooms deep, is virtually unaltered. The house has heavy late Victorian woodwork and ornate mantels. The walls and ceilings are plastered throughout, and the hall has a high wainscot of narrow vertical sheathing. The stair, which rises against the east wall in two flights with a landing to the second story, has an open string adorned with curvilinear brackets and a railing with turned balusters, a molded handrail and heavy turned newels. The openings have beaded surrounds with rondel corner blocks. Each door has four raised panels, and those opening to the hall have single-pane transoms. The Eastlake style mantels in the front first-story rooms are made of marbleized slate, and retain their built-in coal boxes and curbs. The remaining mantels are simpler, constructed of wood, and have chamfered or turned pilasters and a variety of panel, rondel and bracket ornament. The turret space is fully open to the adjoining rooms, functioning as an extension of the interior living space.

The well with a hip-roofed frame shelter and a frame barn stand in the rear yard. The site, which is heavily landscaped with large bushes and trees, is strongly bounded on the west by the Holmes family business, a stable and saddle shop. This is a narrow, rectangular early twentieth century building which is connected to the residence by a covered breezeway at the rear west side.
The fashionable Victorian neighborhood which developed along Person Street, the main artery extending east from the Market House, Fayetteville's commercial and governmental focus, to the Cape Fear River landing, has disappeared. The Sedberry-Holmes House, the finest of the few remaining nineteenth century residences on Person Street, is a well-preserved, representative Queen Anne style house with a delightful variety of sunburst scrollwork. It was constructed for Bond Sedberry, a local pharmacist, between 1886 and 1891, soon after he received his pharmaceutical license and opened his own drugstore.

Bond Sedberry acquired the two-acre lot on the south side of Person Street, two blocks east of Market Square, in October, 1886, from John M. and Margaret S. Horah for $1,000. The 1885 Sanborn Insurance Map of Fayetteville shows a residence on this lot, but on the 1891 map a different residence appears, identical in configuration to the present building. In July, 1893, Sedberry conveyed this lot to his wife Sue for $1.00. The deed makes no mention of a house on the lot, but it is likely that Sedberry transferred the deed to his wife in order to give her dominion over their homeplace.

Bond Sedberry was born in North Carolina about 1841. In April, 1861, he enlisted as a private from Cumberland County in Company H, First Regiment North Carolina Troops. He later served in another unit and was captured at Gum Swamp, May 22, 1863. He was soon released, however, and served in the 13th Battalion North Carolina Light Infantry until February, 1865.

After the Civil War Sedberry returned to Cumberland County, where by 1870 he had become a "drug clerk" in Fayetteville. He became a registered pharmacist about 1880, and opened his own drugstore in Fayetteville sometime before January, 1883. He continued to operate this establishment, located in the McKethan Building at the southeast corner of Market Square, as "B. E. Sedberry & Sons" until his death on March 16, 1901. After his death his two sons carried on the business "for a number of years."

It is uncertain when Sue Sedberry died, but in December, 1919, her heirs conveyed the Sedberry House to C. J. Chaison for $6,000. Two years later Chaison sold the house to J. A. Holmes, who operated a stable and saddle shop beside the house. This is now operated by his son. Holmes' widow is the present owner, having lived in the Sedberry House for over fifty-four years.
GEORaphICAL DATA

acreage of nominated property 2

utm references

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VERBAl BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Research by Robert Topkins, survey specialist, architectural description by Ruth Little-Stokes, survey specialist

ORGANIZATION Division of Archives and History

street & number 109 East Jones Street

city or town Raleigh

STATE North Carolina

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

At this designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer DATE 20 June 1975

APPLICATION ONLY

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE


Sanborn Insurance Maps, Fayetteville, 1885, 1891 and after. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.
The approximate acreage of the Sedberry-Holmes House, Cumberland County, North Carolina, nomination which was given as 2 acres, is to be changed to exclude the parcels south of the house containing the barn and west of the house containing the stable and store that have already been purchased by the Cumberland Redevelopment Commission. The revised acreage consists of a lot: beginning the south side of Person Street at the east corner of Holmes Stables, thence east 108 feet more or less to a point, thence south 170 feet more or less to a point, thence west 113 feet more or less to the east wall of a frame building, thence north with this wall 90 feet more or less to a point, thence with the east wall of a brick building north 80 feet more or less to the beginning, containing 18,810 square feet. This lot contains the entire landscaped portion of the Holmes property which is visually related to the Sedberry-Holmes House. The brick store and frame stable west of the house are not integral components of this nomination because they are linked to the house by a carport of recent vintage, a tenuous connection of no historical significance to the house, and because the store with its rear stable form the easternmost section of the one-story commercial building of mixed use which bounds the house on the west.

Two xeroxes are attached to clarify this change in acreage:

