

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Fayetteville

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Holt-Harrison House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

806 Hay Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

7th

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

051

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John ^{J.} Rose

New owner

Beaver, Thompson, Holt & Richardson, PA

STREET & NUMBER

310 Circle Drive

PO Box 53247

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 28305

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2039

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE

North Carolina 28302

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Linda Jasperse, Principal Investigator, City of Fayetteville

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

March 31, 1982

STREET & NUMBER

Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street

TELEPHONE

1-919-733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Holt-Harrison House c.1897, situated at the northwest corner of Hay Street and Woodside Avenue in Haymount, is an example of Colonial Revival architecture which was much favored for residential construction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This was especially true for Haymount neighborhoods west of town which were developing rapidly in response to an expanding local economy and growing population. Many of the homes lining Hay Street into Haymount, which were owned primarily by local industrialists, business, and professional men, exhibit the familiar two-story rectangular floor plan with expansive porches, porticos, entrances with sidelights and transom, bay-like projections, and gable and/or hip roof dormers. The Holt-Harrison House is distinguished by being one of the earliest built during Haymount's rapid turn-of-the-century development, by its substantial construction, and by its important associations with textile industrialist Walter L. Holt.

The dwelling follows a basic two-story double-pile central-hall plan with squared projections, bays, porches, and minor additions to create interest. Its three-bay front, shielded by a two-story replacement porch, is articulated on the first floor by a three-sided projection on either side of the entrance. The centrally-placed entrance is framed by pilasters and sidelights and surmounted by a single light transom and simple entablature. Also within the protection of the porch is the second floor's centrally-placed archway with its recessed doorway and railed balcony. The archway is flanked on each side by shuttered 1/1 sash windows, the fenestration which occurs throughout the main block.

The structure is capped by a hip roof with bracketed eaves. Two gable dormers, featuring windows with fanlights echoing the gentle curve of the second story archway, punctuate the front slope of the primary roof. Rising also from the roof are two symmetrically-placed interior chimneys with corbeled stacks and two minor ones at the rear.

The interior of the Holt-Harrison House revolves around the wide center hall with staircase at the rear. Double-pile plan places two rooms on either side of the hall with one chimney flue and double fireplace openings serving each side. Original mantels are classically inspired with Ionic and Doric detailing and have complementary mirrored overmantels. Interior woodwork is robust with random width pine floors and stairway detailing consisting of heavy newel posts and turned balusters. Rooms are currently lending themselves well to adaptive use as reception, office, storage, and studio space.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

____ NATIONAL

____ STATE

 x

____ LOCAL

PERIOD**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1897

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Holt-Harrison House was built by textile industrialist Walter L. Holt (of the well-known Alamance County Holt family which during the nineteenth century stimulated the cotton mill industry of Piedmont North Carolina) who worked to establish four of Fayetteville's important turn-of-the-century textile mills. These efforts, which reflected a statewide industrial revolution, boosted the local economy. Holt and other industrialists, merchants, businessmen, and professionals who contributed to late nineteenth/early twentieth century prosperity favored the expanding neighborhoods of Haymount, Fayetteville's western suburb, for new house construction, and he helped to set a standard for these dwellings after building a large, Colonial Revival house there c. 1897. Given its two-story front portico by later owner and former mayor, Jesse Harrison, the house stands as a reminder of an important period of rapid social, residential, economic, and industrial development in Fayetteville's history.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Holt-Harrison House is associated with the rapid social, economic, residential, and industrial development of turn-of-the-century Fayetteville.
- B. Owners of the house were well-known locally; Walter Holt, textile industrialist who had a controlling interest in four out of five to six of Fayetteville's mills, built the house; his family's successor was Jesse R. Harrison, former Fayetteville mayor and realtor.
- C. The house is built on a two-story double-pile plan and exhibits Colonial-Revival inspired detailing in features such as door surrounds, dormers, and mantels, representative of houses which were built in Haymount neighborhoods of the late nineteenth/early twentieth century.

United States Department of the Interior
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Holt-Harrison House Significance/

Continuation sheet

Historical
Background

Item number 8

Page 2

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Once there, Holt worked to develop the local textile industry. Fayetteville had a strong cotton mill history which was interrupted by Civil War activity and attendant destruction. It was the late nineteenth century re-establishment of mills, by persons such as Walter Holt, which boosted the local economy.

He worked to establish and/or operate at least four area mills. The first was Holt-Morgan Mill which was built in 1895. Holt-Williamson Manufacturing Company followed in 1898. Close to 1900, Tolar, Hart & Holt Mills were established with Walter Holt as a director. The manufacturer also served as president and treasurer of Fayetteville Lakeview Mills. He, with the help of his cousins and friends who served as secretaries, treasurers, and co-directors had a controlling interest in four out of five to six local textile concerns. These men played a large part in Fayetteville's turn-of-the-century economic and industrial development.⁵

Walter Holt, along with his wife, two sons, and two daughters, made Fayetteville's Haymount neighborhood his home. His property holdings were described in this way:

Walter Holt is an extensive property owner, and on Haymount, the charming western suburb of Fayetteville, his beautiful home - an elegant colonial residence, with the furnishings and comforts of refinement and culture, surrounded by ornamental grounds, grove, etc., kept in faultless taste - is the abode of an ideal domestic life.⁶

After Holt's death in 1913, the property was retained by his widow and children and in 1934 was transferred to Jesse R. Harrison through the Sussex Corporation, a Virginia Trust Company.⁷ This began a new era for the "Holt Place". Jesse R. Harrison was a former Fayetteville mayor from 1929-1931, active locally in real estate endeavors, and later an officer in the Fayetteville Building and Loan Association.⁸ He saw an opportunity for turning his hilltop purchase into an income-producing venture and converted it into a four-unit apartment house.⁹ At that time, the porch was altered from its original one story wraparound style to its present two-story type with columns.¹⁰ Harrison was living on Gillespie Street at the time of the adaptations, but by 1943 was living in Apartment Number 1 at 806 Hay Street. His widow lived there after him.¹¹

Also part of the hilltop venture was the building of a gas station at the corner of Hay Street and Woodside Avenue around 1940 (where the Holt-Harrison House parking lot is now).¹² This was done by J.R. Harrison or by another party on land leased from him. The "two-bay hollow tile and stucco service station with concrete driveways" was occupied by Gulf, Texaco, and AMOCO distributorships during its history.¹³ It no longer stands today.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Holt-harrison house Significance/

Historical
Background

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

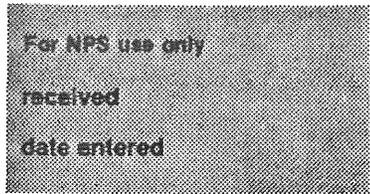
Page 3

The Holt Place - Harrison Apartment House suffered throughout the 1960s from the effects of rapid suburban development. In order to handle increased traffic flow, the Central Business District Loop was created to bypass the downtown area and connect points north with those west. An entrance ramp to this highway was created along the western boundary of the Holt-Harrison property, which made it necessary for the State Highway Commission to petition for right-of-way agreements, easements, and the like.¹⁴ The end result was that property lines were pared and redrawn, and that now the backdrop of the home is slick concrete rather than "ornamental grounds". It provides a valuable function, however, in acting as a buffer for the largely intact residential area lying immediately to the east and as a shield against further encroachment.

With the 1970s, the Holt-Harrison House entered yet another phase. It was -- and is -- used for both commercial and professional purposes. After being transferred out of the Harrison family, it was used between 1974 and 1979 as James Lentz's Highlander Antiques.¹⁵ In the latter year, John Rose received a warranty deed for the property and has adaptively restored it for use as offices, studios, a library, and an interior design center.¹⁶

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Holt-Harrison House Significance/
Continuation sheet Historical Item number 8 Page 4
Background

Reference Notes:

¹Dr. S.J. Hinsdale by executor to Mary de Rossett Holt, 1 April 1897, Cumberland County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, Book 101, Page 297, hereinafter cited as Cumberland County Deeds.

²Samuel A. Ashe and Stephen B. Weeks, eds., Biographical History of North Carolina From Colonial Times to the Present. 7 Vols. (Greensboro, N.C.: Charles L. Van Noppen, 1908), 7: 183, 216, hereinafter cited as Ashe and Weeks, Biographical History.

³Ashe and Weeks, Biographical History, 7: 183-185.

⁴Ashe and Weeks, Biographical History, 7: 216-217.

⁵Ashe and Weeks, Biographical History, 7: 217.

⁶Ashe and Weeks, Biographical History, 7: 217-218.

⁷Cumberland County Deeds, Book 378, Page 443.

⁸"Hay Street Linked to Noted Family" by Lucille Johnson, Fayetteville Observer, 4 February 1979, Sec. E, p. 6; Fayetteville City Directories, 1937: 122; 1939: 125; Vertical file marked "Fayetteville-Mayors" in Anderson Street Library, Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville.

⁹See Fayetteville City Directory, 1937: 321.

¹⁰Fayetteville Observer, 4 February 1979, Sec. E, 1 and 6.

¹¹Fayetteville City Directories, 1943: 208; 1946: 199; 1948-49: 219.

¹²Fayetteville City Directory, 1943: 712.

¹³Fayetteville City Directory, 1961: Directory 3, p. 98; 1969: Directory 3, p. 136; s.a. Cumberland County Deeds, Book 557, Page 56 and Book 839, Page 477; Cumberland County Wills, Book M, Page 59.

¹⁴Cumberland County Deeds, Book 1018, Page 418; Book 2201, Page 19; Book 2172, Page 190; Book 2027, Pages 499 and 501.

¹⁵Fayetteville City Directories 1974: Directory 2, p. 245 and Directory 3, p. 104; 1975: Directory 3, p. 106; 1976: Directory 3, p. 106; 1977: Directory 2, p. 249 and Directory 3, p. 120; s.a. Cumberland County Deeds Book 2383, Page 553.

¹⁶Cumberland County Deeds, Book 2674, Page 311.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Holt-Harrison House Bibliographical
References

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 2

Ashe, Samuel A. and Weeks, Stephen B. Biographical History of North Carolina From Colonial Times to the Present. 7 vols. Greensboro, N.C.: Charles L. Van Noppen, 1908.

City Directories for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1937, 1939, 1943, 1946, 1948-49, 1969, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977.

Cumberland County Records: Deeds, Wills.

Johnson, Lucile. "Hay Street Linked to Noted Family." Fayetteville Observer, 4 February 1979, E6.

