

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Fayetteville

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Edgar Allan Poe House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

206 Bradford Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION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

Miss Elizabeth Poe

STREET & NUMBER

206 Bradford Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 28301

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		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edgar Allan Poe House, built between 1896 and 1898, is a rambling two story frame late Victorian dwelling with a rare local application of Eastlake detailing. One of the last to be constructed by active Fayetteville builder Ruffin Vaughn, the house, situated on a lot originally part of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, is distinguished by a wraparound porch which is double-tiered in the central bay and graced by delicate sawnwork and turned posts. It was built during the time of an expanding economy, when businesses like Edgar Allan Poe's brick manufactory were flourishing and Haymount neighborhoods, west of town where the house is located, were developing into fashionable residential areas for local industrialists, businessmen, and professionals.

The two-story three-bay frame house is sheathed with weatherboards and rests on brick piers with pigeonhole infill. Fenestration includes doors in the upper and lower stories of the central bay; the entrance on the lower story is recessed, heavily paneled, and bears double doors, while the door/window unit on the upper story, with its single door opening onto the upper porch tier, awning window above, and flanking narrow one-over-one sash windows, exhibits a three-part arrangement. Other fenestration consists mainly of 2/2 sash windows flanked by jalousie shutters. The entire main block is capped by a standing seam tin hip roof pierced by two corbeled chimney stacks.

The front facade is dominated by a rambling wraparound porch which rises to two tiers in the center front. It is adorned with turned balusters and posts, rectangular sawnwork near the roof edge, a standing-seam tin roof, and a pedimented gable roof on the upper tier. The gable has a louvered opening in the tympanum.

The main block, which is roughly square, hosts several additions, projections, and extensions. On the north side of the house is a two-story squared combination bay/balcony. Its pedimented gable roof echoes that found in the front. Today, a stairway rises to a second story door which the balcony fronts; it serves the upper level rooms which have been converted to apartment space. Also, the rearward profile is somewhat irregular due to the configuration of a projecting bedroom, a porch, and an added kitchen. Interior chimneys rise from the kitchen and bedroom.

The interior of the Edgar Allan Poe House follows a double-pile central-hall plan with four principal rooms on each of the floors. These boast notable woodwork. The two front parlors have narrow, even-width machine sawn floorboards, beaded wainscot with a finishing board atop, bullseye door, window, and mantel surrounds, and sliding doors with seven raised horizontal panels leading into the central hall. This hall is divided into parts by means of double doors, with the forward section serving the two front parlors and the rearward section containing the stairhall and serving the back rooms. Ceilings are particularly notable, as they are spoked into four sections and faced with parallel beaded boards. Both the left front room and dining room contain built-in glass front cupboards.

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National Park Service

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Edgar Allan Poe House Architectural

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The Poe House grounds are thick with greenery and are crisscrossed by brick walks, some set in a herringbone pattern. A brick smokehouse--now apartment--and a bricked over well stand at the structure's rear. These are only two of a whole collection of outbuildings which once stood on the property--a one story dwelling and three frame buildings. The removal of these outbuildings appears to be the only major change to the Poe House property; the main house stands today as it did in the second and third decades of the twentieth century.

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 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 1896-1898

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ruffin Vaughn

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A late-Victorian dwelling exhibiting rare local Eastlake detailing, the Edgar Allan Poe House was one of the last to be constructed by prolific local builder Ruffin Vaughn. The house, which was built on a lot originally part of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, is distinguished by two-story frame construction, an elaborate entrance bay protected by a rambling wraparound porch which rises two tiers at the central front, exterior sawnwork, and notable interior woodwork. The original owner, Edgar Allan Poe, was a brick manufacturer by trade and among the merchants, businessmen, professionals, and/or industrialists who favored the expanding Haymount neighborhoods just west of the Fayetteville town limits. Edgar Allan Poe helped to set a standard for size, scale, location, and design for houses of this fashionable district.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Edgar Allan Poe House is associated with the expanding fashionable neighborhoods of Haymount, Fayetteville's western suburb, around the turn of the century.
- C. The late-Victorian Edgar Allan Poe House c.1896-1898 exhibits rare Eastlake detailing for Fayetteville as well as substantial construction, a wraparound porch, and notable interior woodwork.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Edgar Allan Poe House was built on Lot #2 of the United States Arsenal Grounds. By Acts of Congress in 1872 and 1873, sale of lands to interested parties was authorized. A major transfer of property was performed in 1873, when John D. Cameron, Secretary of War, sold lands to William D. Smith and others.¹ In 1890, D. McDuffie, engineer, drafted a plat of these properties and parcels within.² Lot #2 was part of the survey, and passed through two owners before C.D. Sedberry deeded it to Josephine Poe, wife of Edgar Allan, on 10 August 1896.³ The Poe House was constructed on the site within two years.⁴

Edgar Allan Poe was a brickmaker by trade, the only one listed for Fayetteville in the 1896 Business Directory. This was a period of industrial and commercial expansion in the local economy which prompted the rise of other manufacturies such as cotton factories, planing, and machine companies.⁵

Edgar Allan Poe operated a brick manufactory with a certain Mr. Newton as early as 1884, and soon took steps to establish his own brickmaking concern.⁶ In 1888, he purchased land in the area of Gillespie and Cool Spring streets (near the fairground lot), and within six years added the nearby "McIntyre or Brick Yard Farm" to his holdings.⁷ This became Poe's Brickyard Plant, a business which grew throughout the last decade of the nineteenth century and into the first quarter of the twentieth. The E.A. Poe Brick Company was formally incorporated in 1906⁸ and grew by 1914 to include two plants, complete with dry houses and kilns which were serviced by Atlantic Coast Line and Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad spur tracks.⁹

Josephine and Edgar Allan Poe had seven children when they built their Bradford Street house just before the close of the nineteenth century (one more child was born later).¹⁰ Bradford--earlier Adams--Street originally formed the eastern boundary line of the United States Arsenal property. Although the surrounding area of Haymount was not densely populated or developed, its neighborhood character was established half a century earlier with the formation of the nearby village of Belmont. This section was rapidly becoming fashionable around the turn of the century as professionals, industrialists, merchants, and businessmen moved into the neighborhoods west of the city, which were developing alongside an expanding economy. Homebuilders like Edgar Allan Poe helped to set a standard for new house construction in the area.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Please see continuation sheet .

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1 7	6 9 3 3 6 1 0	3 8 8 0 8 9 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of lot 6, Block C, Map 78-2-3-4, Cross Creek Township, as outlined in red on map. See map section.

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Much evidence shows that E.A. Poe was an influential person in several spheres besides business and the home. He held public service positions; in 1904 he served as a Cumberland County Commissioner and in 1921 on the Board of Aldermen.¹¹ The Poes were members of Hay Street Methodist Church, where Edgar Allan functioned in the capacities of trustee and steward.¹²

Family interests were carried on by Poe's widow, sons, and daughters after his death on 11 May 1934.¹³ A son, James C. Poe, operated the family brickworks until the early 1940s when it ceased to operate.¹⁴ The Bradford Street house continued to be occupied by family members and today is still the home of Edgar Allan's daughter, Miss Elizabeth Winslow Poe.

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Reference Notes:

¹John D. Cameron to Wm. D. Smith and Others, 11 October 1876, Cumberland County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, Book 68, Page 650, hereinafter cited as Cumberland County Deeds.

²Cumberland County Deeds, Book 88, Page 144.

³Cumberland County Deeds, Book 100, Page 259.

⁴Based on information, both oral (interview on 6 Nov. 1978) and written (letter to Dr. Larry Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer, dated 25 June 1979), given by daughter of Edgar Allan and Josephine Poe, Miss Elizabeth Winslow Poe.

⁵Levi Branson, A.M., editor, North Carolina Business Directory (Raleigh; N.C.: Levi Branson, Office Publisher, 1896), 215-216, hereinafter cited as Branson's Business Directory, with appropriate references to year and page number.

⁶Branson's Business Directory, 1884, 250.

⁷Cumberland County Deeds, Book 93, Page 519 and Book 97, Page 386.

⁸Articles of Incorporation, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, Book 2, Page 210.

⁹Sanborn Insurance Maps for Fayetteville, North Carolina, 1908 and 1914, microfilm copies from the North Carolina Collection, The Wilson Library, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

¹⁰Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900: Cumberland County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, Cross Creek Township, 8-A, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Cumberland County Core Collection, Anderson Street Library, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

¹¹John A. Oates, The Story of Fayetteville and the Upper Cape Fear (Charlotte, N.C.: The Dowd Press, Inc., 1950; reprinted, Raleigh, N.C.: Litho Industries Incorporated, 1972), 255, 317.

¹²Elizabeth Lamb, compiler, Historical Sketch of Hay Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Fayetteville, North Carolina (Fayetteville, 1934).

¹³Cumberland County Vital Statistics, Deaths, Book 22, Page 134.

¹⁴The last entry for the E.A. Poe Brick Company (run by James C. Poe) is on page 376 of the 1943 City Directory for Fayetteville, N.C.

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Branson, Levi Rev., A.M. ed. North Carolina Business Directory, Raleigh: Levi Brown, Office Publisher, 1884, 1896.

City Directory for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1943.

Cumberland County Records: Articles of Incorporation, Deeds, Vital Statistics--Deaths.

Lamb, Elizabeth, compiler, Historical Sketch of Hay Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Fayetteville, N.C., 1934.

Oates, John A. The Story of Fayetteville and the Upper Cape Fear. Charlotte, N.C.: The Dowd Press, Inc., 1950; reprint ed. Raleigh: Litho Industries, Inc., 1972.

Poe, Elizabeth Miss. Fayetteville, North Carolina. Interviews by Dru Haley, 6 November 1978, and Linda Jasperse, 1 June 1981.

Sanborn Insurance Map for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1908, 1914.

