# 7

County: Cumberland

# 1 NAME

Historic:
Taylor-Utley House

# 2 LOCATION

Street & Number:
916 Hay Street

City, Town:
Fayetteville

State:
North Carolina

CODE
037

County Code:
Cumberland

CODE
051

# 3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building(S)</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Work In Progress</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Yes Restricted</td>
<td>Educational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
<td>Private Residence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name:
James Warner

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Kuhn

Street & Number:
916 Hay Street

City, Town:
Fayetteville

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
The Taylor-Utley House c. 1848 is a two-and-one-half story frame gable-roof dwelling which exhibits the vernacular Greek Revival style prevalent in antebellum Fayetteville. It was favored particularly in the outlying areas adjacent to the town which were just beginning to develop. One of these was the village of Belmont which, in the shadow of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, was founded just west of the town limits in Haymount. Numerous merchants of thriving antebellum Fayetteville, such as William Taylor and Joseph Utley, were attracted to the fledgling settlement, and the vernacular Greek Revival house which Taylor built and Utley later occupied is typical of the kind found there in the 1840s.

The original Taylor-Utley House is basically a two-and-one half-story gable roof structure with a three-bay front, shed porch, and a side hall plan. With present century modernizations, a two story west wing has increased the front facade to five bays, the front porch has been extended to wrap around the east end, and gable dormers have been added to the front and rear roof faces. The original Greek Revival characteristics are unaffected, however, and are faithfully reproduced in these additions and extensions.

Fenestration in the original three-bay front exhibits Greek Revival characteristics. Windows on the second story have 6/9 sash and those on the first are turn-of-the-century replacement 2/2 sash. Molded surrounds with plain corner blocks show refinement over the commonly used simple two step surrounds. As is typical of the Greek Revival, the side-hall entrance is highlighted by sidelights and a multi-pane transom, and is framed by a surround featuring pilasters and diamond head corner blocks. The three bay facade was originally shielded by a shed porch with paneled square-in-section columns and a balustrade; however, now due to a modern extension, it wraps around to the east side of the house.

The gable roof, sheathed with asphalt shingles, is distinguished by heavy returns. An exterior ridge chimney projects from the roofline, and a double-shouldered exterior end chimney has been constructed at the side of the 1930s west wing. Finally, the rear facade resembles the front in general form but has enclosed porches across the first and second stories of the original section.

The interior of the original section contains four rooms and a wide side hall which has an enclosed-string mahogany-railed straight staircase rising from it to the second floor. Common features include wide pine board flooring, baseboards, chair rail, flat four-panel doors, and channeled door and window surrounds bearing a ridge in the channel and diamond-head corner blocks. Mantels exhibit Greek Revival post-and-lintel construction, and those serving the back-to-back fireplaces of the first floor rooms have flanking double colonettes and plain shelves.

The Taylor-Utley grounds are well-treed and landscaped. They are complemented by brick walls (including one set in a herringbone pattern which leads up to the front door), ornamented entryway pillars, and patios. A gable-roof garage and two gable roof storage sheds -- substituting for the former smokehouse, stables, and barns -- stand at the rear. The pantry and kitchen once attached have been removed in favor of a modern interior kitchen.
The Taylor-Utley House c. 1848 represents the type of house being constructed by merchants and businessmen in the more sparsely settled regions of greater Fayetteville during the antebellum period. One of the most important was the village of Belmont which emerged in the shadow of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, both located about a mile west of the town limits in Haymount. A place favored by several businessmen/merchants of the prosperous antebellum inland port and trading town, such as William Taylor and Joseph Utley, the village of Belmont developed into a neighborhood with dwellings and a school. The Taylor-Utley House, a two-and-one half-story gable-roof frame dwelling exhibiting vernacular Greek Revival styling, is typical of the houses being built there in 1840s.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A. The Taylor-Utley House is situated in what was originally an antebellum Haymount settlement called the "village of Belmont" which, in the shadow of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, acted as a stimulus to westward development of the greater Fayetteville area.

B. William Taylor and Joseph Utley were prominently connected with the mercantile activities of the thriving inland port and trades center.

C. The Taylor-Utley House, a typical example of the vernacular Greek Revival as exhibited in both 1840s village of Belmont dwellings and those in the more remote regions of greater Fayetteville, is characterized by two-and-one-half-story gable-roof configuration, shed porch, entrance distinguished by sidelights and transom, and interior Greek Revival woodwork and post-and-lintel fireplace construction.
The Taylor-Utley House was built c. 1848 in the village of Belmont, a small settlement in Haymount approximately one mile west of the city limits. The settlement was located in the shadow of the United States Arsenal at Fayetteville, and was a part of a tract purchased by Captain James A. J. Bradford, commander of Arsenal operations, for residential development purposes. He parcelled and sold individual lots upon which houses and even a school called the "Buieville Academy" were erected.1

William Taylor purchased a three and one-half acre tract at the corner of Morganton Road (now Hay Street) and Spring Streets from Bradford in 1847.2 He built a two-and-one-half story frame dwelling there in which he and his family, consisting of a wife and at least six children, resided. Taylor was a merchant, an occupation common to several new village of Belmont residents.3

Taylor suffered financial reverses and in 1857 his real and personal property were placed in trust to cover outstanding debts.4 He defaulted and in January of the following year the house lot and an adjacent lot totalling five acres were sold for $3,000 to Joseph Utley.5

Joseph Utley had a family comparable in size to William Taylor's.6 He, too, was a merchant, specializing in "forwarding and commission" rather than retail sales of grocery items.7 A man of some means, he owned extensive acreage besides that on which his house was situated, a slave family, and possessed an estate in 1860 worth over $30,000.8 Good business sense apparently helped him to qualify for the offices of deacon and treasurer, positions which he held at the Presbyterian Church in downtown Fayetteville.9 Utley appears to have been a respected member of the community and he served on an 1862 "Committee of Safety" formed locally to keep a firm hold on the strategic Cape Fear River during the Civil War.10 He died on 20 May 1877,11 still owning the property which became known in successive transfers as "Utley's Residence".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>EASTING</th>
<th>NORTHING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1, 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of Lot 1, Subdivision 1896, Map 62-1-4, Cross Creek Township, as outlined in red on map. See map section.
TAYLOR-UTLEY HOUSE:

History - Continued

Utley's four unmarried daughters gained possession of the home by will probated 28 May 1877. Subsequent owners included Thomas Love, Neill McQueen who in 1885 became sheriff of Cumberland County and moved from Gray's Creek to the former Utley place closer to town, and Herbert Lutterloh, member of a family long established in Fayetteville. In 1932, O. J. and Lillian McConnell purchased the house which today is owned by their son-in-law, James Warner. Renovations were carried out during McConnell's period of ownership, which included a two-story west wing constructed by local builder William Rowan in 1932, interior modifications such as installation of modern kitchen facilities in the old rear porch area, some of which were carried out by local contractor/builder E. W. Reinecke, and exterior brickwork laid by brickmaker Clyde Canipe.
TAYLOR-UTLEY HOUSE:

Reference Notes:


2Cumberland County Deeds, Book 47, Page 440.

3United States Census of 1850, Cumberland County, N.C., Schedule I, p. 119. Microfilm copy in Cumberland County Core Collection, Anderson Street Library, Fayetteville, North Carolina (hereafter cited simply as Census with appropriate references to schedule and year).

4Cumberland County Deeds, Book 53, Page 432.

5Cumberland County Deeds, Book 54, Page 423.


12Cumberland County Wills, Book E, p. 170.

13Cumberland County Deeds, Book 80, Page 541; Book 99, Page 531.

14Cumberland County Deeds, Book 374, Page 57; Book 902, Page 66.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland County Records:</td>
<td>Deeds, Wills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayetteville Observer, 8 January 1855.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>