INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

1 NAME
HISTORIC Adderton-Badgett House

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER S. side of SR 2529, 0.25 mi. W. of jct. with SR 2531
CITY, TOWN Denton
STATE North Carolina

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY DISTRICT _BUILDING(S) _STRUCTURE _SITE _OBJECT
OWNER(SHIP _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 _MUSEUM _COMMERCIAL _PARK _EDUCATIONAL _PRIVATE RESIDENCE _ENTERTAINMENT _RELIGIOUS _GOVERNMENT _SCIENTIFIC _INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTATION _MILITARY _OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME James M. and Evelyn Badgett
STREET & NUMBER 116 Kathland Avenue
CITY, TOWN Thomasville
STATE North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE Davidson County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Lexington
STATE North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY
NAME / TITLE Ruth Little, Consultant
ORGANIZATION Survey and Planning Branch
STREET & NUMBER Division of Archives and History
CITY OR TOWN Raleigh
STATE North Carolina
DATE February 28, 1983
TELEPHONE 919/733-6545
The Adderton-Badgett House, located in a beautiful field overlooking a branch in the community of Jackson Hill, southern Davidson County, is a substantial two-story farmhouse. With the exception of its half-dovetailed log walls, which may contain some logs recycled from an earlier structure or structures, the house is a unified example of mid-nineteenth century construction. The four-bay wide structure has an I-house form, with a gable roof and exterior end chimneys. It rests on fieldstone piers, and, with the exception of the recessed porch areas, all of the exterior siding, window frames, and the overhanging boxed eaves are twentieth century replacements. Both the front (north) elevation and the rear (south) elevation have full-length sheds containing a center porch flanked by small rooms accessible only from the porch. The front porch is three bays wide, with small flanking rooms; the rear porch is one bay wide with larger rooms. The main entrance, a door with two vertical panels flanked by six-pane sidelights, occupies an off-center position in the north elevation inside the porch. Beside it is a second identical door, without sidelights. The porch rooms have a single four-panel door each. Two nine-over-six sash windows flank the porch doors. The original simple molded surrounds have survived only on the porches, and original flush sheathing covers the walls and ceiling of the porch areas. The porch rooms and upper side elevations have original six-over-six sash, and the upper front and rear and lower side elevations have original nine-over-six and six-over-nine sash. All of the weatherboard siding and surrounds outside the porch areas is replacement. The side elevations contain single stepped shoulder brick chimneys, laid in random one-to-seven and one-to-nine common bond, with stepped brick bases set on low fieldstone pads. The bricks are stamped uniformly, identifying them as the product of an unknown commercial brick manufactory.

A center hall, one-room deep floor plan prevails on both levels. The east room, apparently the parlor, is larger than the west room and has more decorative woodwork. The porch room behind this room, which is the only porch room accessible from inside, may have been the dining room. The open-string stair rises, with winders, against the east wall of the hall to the second floor. The railing, quite rude in form, consists of a rectangular newel, a rounded rail, and plain balusters. A small room partitioned off the rear of the upper hall may have served as a trunk room.

The wall construction, visible in the upper east room where the sheathing has been removed, consists of half-dovetailed logs, six inches wide and twelve inches high, without any evidence of chinking. The unfinished attic contains hewn plates and sawn joists and rafters which appear to have been assembled contemporaneously, erasing any suspicion that the structure is the result of additions rather than having been built as a whole.

The interior finish is remarkably standard throughout the house. All walls and ceilings are covered with seven-inch horizontal tongue and groove sheathing applied with cut nails. All doors and windows have either two or four panel designs like the exterior doors. All have cast-iron rimlocks, several of earlier vintage, with small brass knobs, and the rest of later nineteenth century date. All surrounds are simple molded designs like the porch areas with the exception of the parlor.
Here, the wide beveled surrounds complement the ornate Greek Revival style mantel. The frieze contains applied sawnwork floral ornament, and the pilasters have applied fretwork detailing. The smaller west room mantel contains a millwork mantel of the same vintage but very different design. The pilasters, decorated with applied turned colonnettes, and the deeply molded cornice recreate a Georgian design. The upstairs mantels are small Greek Revival millwork designs.

Five outbuildings of frame construction stand to the south and east of the Adderton-Badgett House. All are apparently early twentieth century in date. Immediately behind the house are a wash house and garage, and three large barns are located east of the house.
The Adderton-Badgett House, built about 1850, is a two-story farmhouse in which folk and popular building features are combined. Although the walls are built of half-dovetailed logs and the floor plan contains shed porch rooms typical of the Federal period, the mantels are examples of commercial millwork and the chimney brick bear stamped imprints indicating mass-production. Stephen L. Adderton, grandson of the original Adderton settler who came to the lower Yadkin in the eighteenth century, may have built this house. He was a successful farmer and storekeeper in Jackson Hill until his death in 1878. His daughter married into the Badgetts, another merchant family in the community, and the house has been in the Badgett family since the late nineteenth century.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A. Associated with the prosperous mid-nineteenth century era of small farming and rural merchandizing in Piedmont North Carolina and Davidson County.

B. Exhibits distinctive characteristics of both folk and popular mid-nineteenth century domestic architecture in the log walls, front and rear porch rooms, and commercially produced mantels and chimney brick.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

That the Adderton-Badgett House was the homeplace of Stephen Adderton is virtually proven by the plat map and description drawn in 1856 and copied on an 1879 survey laying out Stephen's widow's dower. A dwelling and store are shown on the plat. The description of the entire 228-acre tract includes the following references:

Beginning at an Elm on the South east bank of Cabin Creek a little below Surratts mill thence South . . . to a Stake in the publick Road . . . referred to in a later nineteenth century deed as the Thomasville Road/ to a Stake in the fork of the mill Road . . . to a willow oak on a branch. . . .

The southern third of the property, containing 92 acres, with the dwelling and store on the northern edge, was given to Temperance Adderton as her dower. The local landmarks described correspond to the present relationship of the Adderton-Badgett House to roads and waterways. Stephen Adderton, born in 1824, was the youngest son of William Adderton, the son of Jeremiah Adderton who settled on the lower Yadkin River in the eighteenth century. When William died in 1831 his will devised his land to his widow, Charity, and six of his seven children, including Stephen. In 1846 Stephen married Temperance Johnson, and by 1850 he is listed in the census as a head of household, with his wife, a two-year old daughter Martha, and his mother, Charity, living with him. No division of William's land can be found in the Davidson County records, and it is assumed that Stephen acquired full possession of a portion of the tract before 1850, and either remodeled his father's residence or built a new house in which the family was living when the census was taken.

Stephen became a successful farmer and storekeeper. His 228-acre farm is one of four listed in Jackson Hill in Branson's North Carolina Business Directory of 1872. In the same directory is listed the Adderton and Johnson General Store, perhaps operated by Stephen and his father-in-law. The next directory, of 1877-78, lists the Adderton and Johnson firm and also the Stephen L. Adderton General Store.

Stephen died in 1878, and in 1879 his daughter Martha and her husband Cicero Lowe Badgett petitioned the court to remove her father's store from the widow's dower tract. The dower tract is described in the petition as containing "a good dwelling house and outbuildings and also one-quarter of a mile from said buildings there is on said tract of land a good store house of great value in itself and on account of being a fine stand and location for merchandizing--having been successfully &

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 204.5 Acres

UTM REFERENCES

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<th>Zone</th>
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of Map 15, Davidson County Tax Office, contained in Lot 16, bounded on the north by Surratt Rd. (SR 2529), on the west by Lot 14, Lot 8, and N.C. 8 and on the south by Lots 10, 11, and 17 on Map 21. The eastern portion of the property is outlined in red on Map 22, and it is bounded on the south by Loflin Road and Lot 6, on the east by Loflin Road, and on the north by lots 4 and 1.
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profitably used as such for many years immediately preceding the death of said Stephen Adderton. . . ." Cicero apparently wanted to operate the store himself, and the court rewrote the dower grant in 1882, reducing the acres included from 92 to 77. Branson's 1890 directory lists only one store in Jackson Hill, "Adderton & Badgett," probably Stephen's old store operated by Cicero. In 1892 Martha and Cicero purchased the widow's dower and her brother's share of the homeplace tract.

When Cicero Badgett died in 1937, his estate included a 375-acre tract valued at $5,950. This apparently included the 228-acre Adderton farm. Cicero's will left a life estate in the dwelling house to his wife, and his property to his four children, Eugenia Wood, Stephen H., W. R. and Samuel B. Badgett. Between 1941 and 1943 Cicero's nephew, H. Val Badgett, purchased a total of 122 acres from two of the children, Eugenia Wood and Stephen H., which probably contained the homeplace. According to the present owner, H. Val reassembled the farm, and when he died intestate in 1950, his widow and two children, James M. and Rose Badgett inherited it. James M. received the portion containing the house and still owns the property.

These historical facts correlate with the physical evidence of the house itself. Stephen may have assembled the log framework from one of the old Adderton homeplaces nearby, perhaps his father William's house. Being a storekeeper, Stephen had easy access to the millwork shops and brickyards in the nearest metropolitan area, Salisbury, and the "storebought" bricks, fancy mantels and woodwork probably came from there. The Adderton-Badgett House, a two-story log house with remarkably uniform, up-to-date architectural finish, is the combination of folk and commercial elements that would be expected of a rural storekeeper in the mid-nineteenth century.

Footnotes

3. Will of William Adderton, 1831. Davidson County Wills, Book 1, page 173, Davidson County Courthouse, Lexington, N.C.

Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1890 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, Publisher).

Davidson County Deed Book 40, p. 527; Davidson County Deed Book 45, p. 5.

Davidson County Estate Records, C. L. Badgett Estate File, 1937.


Davidson County Deed Book 146, page 456; Deed Book 154, page 259, North Carolina State Archives.

Telephone Interview with Mrs. James M. (Evelyn) Badgett, February 26, 1983, notes in file; Davidson County Deed Book 207, page 266, Deed Book 228, pages 217 and 219, North Carolina State Archives.
Notes in file.

**Branson's North Carolina Business Directories.** Raleigh. 1869, 1872, 1877-78, 1884, 1890.


