United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See Instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name Kimrey-Haworth House
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number 5307 West Friendly Avenue
   city, town Greensboro
   state North Carolina code NC county Guilford code 081 zip code 27416

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   ☑ private
   ☐ public-local
   ☐ public-State
   ☐ public-Federal
   Category of Property
   ☑ building(s)
   ☐ district
   ☐ site
   ☑ structure
   ☐ object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing Noncontributing
   2 buildings
   0 sites
   0 structures
   0 objects
   Total 2
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property ☑ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official
   Date 1-28-91
   State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification
   I, hereby, certify that this property is:
   ☐ entered in the National Register.
   ☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
   ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   ☐ removed from the National Register.
   ☐ other, (explain) 
   Signature of the Keeper
   Date of Action
6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from Instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from Instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from Instructions)

Italian Renaissance

Materials (enter categories from Instructions)

foundation: BRICK
walls: BRICK
roof: TERRA COTTA
other: WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The ca. 1925 Kimrey-Haworth House is an Italian Renaissance style house facing north on a landscaped, shaded lot at 5307 West Friendly Avenue, a heavily-traveled east-west thoroughfare in Greensboro on which commercial and institutional developments are interspersed with residential areas. About 30 feet southwest of the house is a two-bay wide, three-bay deep garage of matching brick and west of the house is a gravel drive and small, shaded, gravel car-park. The front lawn is planted in an open, formal arrangement and the rear, heavily shaded, garden features a variety of mature deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs and plantings that create a park-like atmosphere.

The house is two stories tall with a partial basement and is five bays wide and three bays deep. The hipped roof is covered with rounded Spanish-style red tiles with a brick chimney in the east plane and deep overhanging eaves accented by wooden modillions on all elevations. The frame construction is faced with tan brick and there are wooden details on all elevations. The fenestration throughout the house is composed of double-hung wooden sash in a six-over-six pattern with brick sills and brick soldier courses linking paired windows. The main (north) elevation displays a symmetrical composition and is flanked on the east and west elevations by one-story, one-bay wide, tiled hipped-roof porches with overhanging eaves and wooden brackets. The main entry is distinguished by a one-story wooden segmental arched portico supported by wooden Doric columns under an engaged tile hipped roof with overhanging eaves and wooden brackets capped by a balcony with wooden balustrades. The six-paneled wooden door is surmounted by a fanlight and flanked by sidelights set in wooden panels. There is a full facade tile-paved brick terrace approached by a short flight of brick steps across the main elevation of the house.

The one story porch on the east elevation is enclosed with brick and is in its original condition. Access to the terrace on its north elevation is gained through a multi-paned door flanked by matching sidelights set in wooden panels. Its east and south elevations feature continuous bands composed of four windows. In 1986-87, the west porch was altered when the original screen stretched between the brick piers was replaced with glass to create an all-weather sun porch.

See continuation sheet
The rear (south) elevation features a wooden stoop that leads to a small one-story wing containing a screened porch and a small anteroom to the kitchen. An un-railed balcony on the roof of the wing shelters the rear entrance into the house. Between the rear stoop and the garage are a brick-paved patio and a wooden picket fence that were added about 1980.

The interior of the house is a double pile arrangement. The living room and dining room extend across the front of the house with the enclosed east porch off the living room and the west all weather sun porch off the dining room. Directly behind the living room is a den and behind the dining room and part of the living room is a stair hall that separates the kitchen and a bathroom from the front of the house. The main entrance opens into the living room which has access opposite the entrance to the stair hall, giving the illusion of an entry hall. Access between the dining room and the kitchen is gained through a small breakfast nook behind the dining room. Upstairs, there are four rooms and a bathroom arranged around a central hall.

Throughout the house are the original wooden four panel doors and French doors, plain wooden baseboards, door and window surrounds, and hardwood floors. The living room and the den share a common chimney. The fireplace in the den is the original craftsman style brick design with a wooden mantle. In the early 1980s, the fireplace in the living room was remodeled into a contemporary, marble-lined opening with a molded, wooden mantle shelf. The only other changes to the house were the remodeling of the bathrooms between 1981 and 1984, and the enclosure of the west porch with glass in 1986 to 1987.

The two-bay wide, three-bay deep, hipped roofed garage is faced with brick that matches the house. Its roof has asphalt shingles and terminates in exposed rafter ends that overhang a wooden fascia board. The main (north) elevation is composed of a pair of double-leaf wooden doors with multi-paned glass lights in their upper sections. On the rear (south) elevation is an attached small brick, hipped roofed garden shed with a door in its east elevation.
Kimrey-Haworth House, Guilford County, NC

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally  ☐ statewide  ☑ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  ☑ A  ☑ B  ☑ C  ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  ☑ A  ☑ B  ☑ C  ☐ D  ☐ E  ☐ F  ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance  ca. 1925

Significant Dates  ca. 1925

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person  N/A

Architect/Builder  unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary Paragraph:

The ca. 1925 Kimrey-Haworth House, located at 5307 West Friendly Avenue in Greensboro, in a landscaped and wooded setting, meets Criterion C as a prominent and virtually intact example of the Italian Renaissance style of domestic architecture that enjoyed a brief burst of popularity in the 1910s and 1920s. The style is not widespread in early twentieth century North Carolina suburbs. While there are several stylish examples in the city's earliest suburbs, now considered part of central Greensboro, the Kimrey-Haworth House is the only one of its type in the early twentieth century country suburb on the railroad line adjacent to Guilford College (NR, 1990) that was annexed by the City of Greensboro in the early 1970s. The Kimrey-Haworth House is associated with Guilford College because it was the home from 1928 to 1957 of Samuel Lee Haworth, a professor of religion at Guilford College and an active national Quaker leader who participated in the church's missionary efforts abroad before World War II. The Kimrey-Haworth House recalls the rise of the American suburban ideal in Greensboro in the decades immediately preceding and immediately after World War I. It is an important and threatened example of the rosy, comfortable suburban, eclectic style dwelling that housed legions of middle-class North Carolinians who migrated to sylvan settings surrounding the state's burgeoning cities in the 1910s and 1920s and defined the suburban life-style that persists into the present.

Architectural Context:

The ca. 1925 Kimrey-Haworth House fulfills criterion C for listing on the National Register because it is an essentially unaltered example of the Italian Renaissance style of architecture that made a brief national appearance in the vocabulary of middle-class American building around 1910 and all but disappeared after World War II.
The style was introduced in New York in 1883 with the design of the Villard Houses designed by McKim, Mead and White and gained popularity with wealthy clients as architects began to design historically correct Italian Renaissance style landmark mansions of solid masonry construction with carved stone details. Following World War I, changes in building technology that permitted the application of a thin brick or stone veneer on a balloon-frame construction allowed contractors to build smaller versions of fashionable Italian Renaissance villas in the rapidly developing American middle-class suburbs. (1)

The rise and decline of the Italian Renaissance style for middle-class suburban homes can be traced in architectural pattern books dating from 1900 to 1946. The style is not featured in That House, published in 1900 by William P. Rose, a Raleigh architect, or in Radford's Combined House and Barn Plan Book, published in 1908 by the Radford Architectural Company. In 1913, American Country Homes of Today featured an Italian Renaissance house designed by Harry Gordon McMurtie, an architect from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and during the 1920s, variations of the style, often incorporating Spanish or Mediterranean details, appeared in national magazines and pattern books (2). But the style does not appear in the detailed House-of-the-Month Book of Small Houses, published in 1946 which features many American revival designs, but does not offer a plan in the Italian Renaissance style.

The popular domestic translations of the Italian Renaissance style are closely related to the multitudinous "Spanish Style" houses that added variety to the middle class American architectural scene in the 1920s. In 1927, it was observed: "It so happens that the style in this instance is Spanish in feeling though Italian details are introduced here and there effectively,--yet [it is] distinctly American in character. . . in recent years the more thoughtful men in the architectural profession. . . have sought out this style with no little interest and from their study received much inspiration for designing houses in the Spanish, Italian or Mission styles." (3)

The Italian Renaissance style is generally distinguished by rectilinear compositions and by the use of brick or stucco for exterior walls and low-pitched tile roofs. The ornamental embellishments to the basic building include round-headed openings, broadly overhanging eaves with decorative wooden brackets, quoins, roof-line balustrades, Classical door surrounds, cornices and belt-courses. (4) Most examples in the Guilford County area feature the hallmark rectilinear compositions, brick or stucco walls and tile roofs with Colonial Revival fenestration and details. (5)
The ca. 1925 Kimrey-Haworth House is part of a small, two-tier collection of grand and more modest Italian Renaissance style houses in Guilford County. The grand tier of the collection is represented by the ca. 1930 Sigmund Sternberger House (now the United Arts Center) at 710 Summit Avenue in Greensboro, and in High Point, the Adams House on North Main Street and the Penney Mansion (now the Mayfield Nursing Home) on the Greensboro Road. The more modest examples of the style are the ca. 1926 Sidney Bumpass House on Pleasant Garden Road in Guilford County, the ca. 1923 Gurney Kearns House at 308 Hillcrest Road in High Point and a few scattered examples in the Fisher Park and College Hill neighborhoods in central Greensboro. The Kimrey-Haworth House is the only Italian Renaissance style house in the Guilford College neighborhood that, when it was developed in the 1920s, was several miles west of Greensboro. (6) There appears to be a greater concentration of the Italian Renaissance style in Guilford County than elsewhere in North Carolina, suggesting that the style may have become locally popular among wealthy Piedmont industrialists and copied by the builders of middle-class housing stock. Whether this was through the offices of a particular architect or builder is not known at this time.

Historical Background:

The Kimrey-Haworth House was built during a real estate boom that occurred in and around the city of Greensboro during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Sanborn Insurance maps from 1925 show that the semi-rural neighborhood near the Guilford College Depot of the Southern Railway train line was developing a suburban flavor along West Friendly Avenue south of the 300-acre Guilford College campus. The rapidly increasing population of the Greensboro area put immense pressures on the housing stock of the city; by 1920, the population of Greensboro had increased over six-fold from its 1890 count of 3,155 to a count of 19,861. This growth produced the need for planning and zoning in the greater Greensboro area and, in 1923, the General Assembly of North Carolina revised the Greensboro city charter to quadruple the area included in the city limits from four square miles to 17.84 square miles, giving the city a total population of 43,525. This legislative act made greater Greensboro the third most populous area in the state at that time. (7)

This turn-of-the-century climate of booming growth made the Greensboro area attractive to real estate entrepreneurs and bankers. In 1890, Edward P. Wharton, Dr. John M. Worth, Thomas C. Worth and Alexander Worth McAlister, related men of prestige and consequence in the city, organized the Worth-Wharton Real Estate and Investment Company. By 1903, the company included fire insurance companies, a
real estate department, a loan department, a trust department, a life insurance department and a banking department. Its real estate department, the Southern Real Estate Company, introduced guaranteed loans to the real estate business in North Carolina. The president of the Southern Real Estate Company was W.C. McAlister and its Vice Presidents were R.G. Vaughn and A.M. Scales. Beginning in 1911, the Southern Real Estate Company developed Irving Park (a National Register Historic District) and in the 1920s embarked upon the development of the prestigious Sedgefield community between Greensboro and High Point that included a resort hotel, a champion golf course, equestrian facilities and a residential neighborhood. Shortly after, in 1929, A.M. Scales began the Hamilton Lakes residential development west of the city (now a part of Greensboro) that was named for three fresh-running lakes that offered swimming and boating to the residents of the neighborhoods. (8)

Apparently, the Southern Real Estate Company began developing lots on Greensboro Road (now West Friendly Avenue) in the mid-1920s. In 1926, the company sold the property at 5307 West Friendly Avenue to Benson S. Kimrey, an employee with Guilford Hardware Company, for $5,000. (9) Kimrey family photographs dated ca. 1925, show their new two story Italian Renaissance style house on its un-landscaped lot (copies on file at the Survey and Planning Office, N.C. Division of Archives and History). Shandra Kimrey, daughter of Benson and Minnie Kimrey, recalls that her father helped the builder lay out the floor plan for the house and that her parents chose the finishing details. (10) A bathtub removed from the house in the early 1980s was imprinted with the date 3/5/25, so the house was probably started in late 1925 and finished in early 1926.

The Kimreys did not enjoy their new house for long. Apparently they developed financial difficulties since they used their property to raise cash as shown by a deed of trust, dated 21 April, 1927, obligating Benson and Minnie Kimrey to the Morris Plan Industrial Bank of Greensboro for the sum of $700 with the house as collateral. On 23 September, 1927, Benson Kimrey transferred the property to his wife, Minnie, for the sum of ten dollars, possibly in an effort to keep it from being seized for his debts. Then, on 13 January, 1928, Benson and Minnie Kimrey took out another loan with the Morris Plan Industrial Bank of Greensboro for $750, again using their property as collateral. (11) The Kimreys' financial problems mirrored those that were developing in the rest of the state. Although the economy seemed stable in the late 1920s, prices for farm goods, the bedrock of the state's economy, dropped in relation to the cost of manufactured goods, while the wages of industrial and mercantile workers did not keep pace with the rising cost of living. (12) Finally, on 14 July, 1928, the Kimreys sold their house to
Samuel and Evelyn Haworth for "the sum of ten dollars and other valuable considerations," (13) and, according to Shandra Kimrey, her family lost the proceeds of this sale when a bank in Greensboro failed.

Samuel Lee Haworth (1868-1957) and Evelyn Martin Haworth (1877-1967) arrived in Greensboro in 1924 in order for Professor Haworth to join the faculty at Guilford College as a professor of religion. A native of New Market, Tennessee, he attended Marysville College and graduated from Chattanooga University in Tennessee in the Spring of 1892. Between 1892 and 1903, he served as pastor to Friends Meetings in Iowa, Nebraska and Tennessee. In 1908, he became a professor of Bible and philosophy at Wilmington College in Ohio, and in 1913, was awarded a Master's degree from Brown University. During his tenure at Guilford College, he expanded and reorganized the Department of Religion, was a contributing editor to American Friend, and served as a delegate and Clerk to the quinquennial sessions of the Five Years (Friends) Meeting and as an American delegate to the Conference of Universal Christian Council for Life and Work in Switzerland in 1936. During the course of his involvement with the North Carolina Friends Meeting, he and his wife became active in establishing a Friends Meeting in Cuba which, after the revolution in 1960, removed to Miami, Florida where it is active today. Samuel Haworth died in his home on 5, April, 1957. (14)

Evelyn Haworth was the one of the founders of the Guilford Art Appreciation Club, a member of the Girl's Aid Committee of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting, and an early president of the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union of Friends. Following her husband's death in 1957, she sold their house the Trustees of Guilford College (who then sold it to Donald Badgley) and moved to High Point, North Carolina, where she died on 28 March, 1967. (15)

Donald Badgley (1919-1988) was a resident of Greensboro from 1958 until 1967. A native of Poughkeepsie, New York, he was a 1940 graduate of Guilford College, an air force veteran and a salesman for the New York Life Insurance Company. In 1962, he was elected to the N.C. House of Representatives in an unprecedented Republican sweep of the Guilford County legislative delegation, all open seats on the Board of County Commissioners and the offices of sheriff and district attorney. In 1964, he ran in the first Republican primary for Governor in the state and, after losing that race to Robert Gavin, he returned to New York in 1968 where he became a religious mystic. In 1980 and 1984, he ran for President of the United States. (16)

Between 1968 and 1980, the Kimrey-Haworth House changed owners six
times. (17) Before the present owners, Robert and Vickie Cannon, purchased the house in 1980 to restore as a home for their family, it was used for a showroom by the Priha Furniture Company. Since 1987, the Kimrey Haworth House, together with its shady, landscaped grounds, has been threatened with the proposed construction of the same expressway that threatens the nearby Guilford College National Register Historic District.

Footnotes:


5. Interview with Callie Dalton, architectural historian, Greensboro Preservation Society, 31 July, 1990. Ms. Dalton is completing an updated inventory of Greensboro that will be published within a year.


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9. Guilford County Register of Deeds, Book 539, page 687. (copy of
deed on file at the Survey and Planning Office, N.C. Division of
Archives and History)

10. Robert and Vickie Cannon's recollections of a conversation with
Shandra Kimrey, and their notes on the renovation of their house.

11. Guilford County Register of Deeds, Book 581, page 47, Book 581,
page 570 and Book 593, page 263. (copies of deeds on file at the
Survey and Planning Office, N.C. Division of Archives and History)

12. Lefler, Hugh Talmadge and Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina,
the History of a Southern State. The University of North Carolina

13. Guilford County Register of Deeds, Book 600, page 224. (copy of
deed on file at the Survey and Planning Office, N.C. Division of
Archives and History)

14. Samuel Lee Haworth papers, Friends Historical Collection,
Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina. (an outline of the
Haworth material available at the collection and copies of Haworth
obituaries and testimonials are on file at the Survey and Planning
Branch, N.C. Division of Archives and History)

15. Guilford County Register of Deeds, Book 1734, page 180. (copy of
deed on file at the Survey and Planning Office, N.C. Division of
Archives and History) and Samuel Lee Haworth papers, Friends
Historical Collection, Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina.

lurks behind those silver locks." and July, 1988, obituary of Donald
Badgley. (copies on file at the Survey and Planning Office, N.C.
Division of Archives and History)

17. Guilford County Register of Deeds, Book 2810, page 812, Book
2859, page 280, Book 2959, page 330, Book 3005, page 284, Book 3051,
page 357. (copies of deeds on file at the Survey and Planning
Office, N.C. Division of Archives and History)
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings

Survey # ________________________________
Record # ________________________________

Primary location of additional data:
☐ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:
____________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.8 acres

UTM References

A [Zone] [Easting] [Northing]
B [Zone] [Easting] [Northing]
C [Zone] [Easting] [Northing]
D [Zone] [Easting] [Northing]

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundary Justification

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda Harris Edmisten
date 9 October, 1990
organization ____________________________
street & number 2121 Lake Wheeler Road
telephone 919-821-9175
city or town Raleigh
state North Carolina zip code 27603
Bibliography:


Geographical Data:

Verbal boundary description:

BEGINNING at a stake in the present southern Margin of Friendly Road located South 69 degrees 27 feet 30 inches West 40.0 feet from O. Joe Howard's original northwest corner, said corner being 277.46 feet measured in a westerly direction from the southwest corner intersection of Friendly Road and Cannon Road; thence from said beginning point South 10 degrees 32 feet 38 inches east 148.91 feet to a new iron pipe in the west line of O. Joe Howard; thence with the Howard line South 03 degrees 38 feet 26 inches West 90.45 feet to a new iron pipe; thence a new line the following courses and distances: North 85 degrees 11 feet 52 inches West 114.42 feet; North 04 degrees 49 feet 30 inches East 40.0; North 85 degrees 10 feet 30 inches west 18.0 feet; and North 03 degrees 08 feet 30 inches West 153.27 feet to an iron pipe in the present southern margin of Friendly Road, North 74 degrees 11 feet 30 inches East 120.0 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

Verbal Boundary Justification:

The property described is all of the legal parcel currently and historically associated with the ca. 1925 Kimrey-Haworth House.