**1. NAME**

**COMMON:**
Roberts-Vaughan House

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**

**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
130 East Main Street

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Murfreesboro

**STATE:**
North Carolina

**CODE:**
37

**COUNTY:**
Hartford

**CODE:**
091

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

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**OWNERSHIP**

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**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

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**STATUS**

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**ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**

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**PRESENT USE**

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**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**OWNER'S NAME:**
Murfreesboro Historical Association, Inc.

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Box 3

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Murfreesboro

**STATE:**
North Carolina

**CODE:**
37

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**
Hartford County Courthouse

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Winton

**STATE:**
North Carolina

**CODE:**
37

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE OF SURVEY:**

**DATE OF SURVEY:**

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**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

**CITY OR TOWN:**

**STATE:**

**CODE:**

**DATE:**
The Roberts-Vaughan House was originally a two-story frame structure with a gable roof. During the Greek Revival period the house was enlarged and a central portico added.

The main (north) facade is five bays wide and features a large tetrastyle pedimented portico which covers the central three bays. Reeded Doric columns support a reduced entablature which carries around the house on all sides. It features brackets which resemble scroll modillions in profile, a row of pierced dentils, and a band of intricate fretwork. The central entrance has a double-door framed by a heavy molded architrave, flanked by sidelights, and surmounted by a leaded transom. The central doorway on the second story opens onto a rectangular balcony with a wrought iron balustrade. The door is framed similar to the main entrance but lacks a transom. The pedimented east and west ends each contain three bays separated by pairs of straight-sided brick chimneys. On the older east side the chimneys are laid in Flemish bond while those on the west are in American bond. Each tympanum contains a central oculus framed by a molded architrave with four keystones. The south (rear) side is six bays wide with three bays to the right of the central doorway. This facade features a single-bay, two-tiered, pedimented portico supported by plain square columns.

The walls in the east side of the south facade and on the east pediment are of the original beaded weatherboards. The windows in this section have nine-over-nine sash on the first story and six-over-nine on the second.

The remainder of the house is plain lapped weatherboards which date from the time of the Greek Revival additions. All the windows in this portion have six-over-six sash.

A single-story, frame kitchen with a gable roof and porches along its east and west sides has been added to the right side of the south facade. Its south gable features a small American bond chimney.

The interior of the Roberts-Vaughan house is essentially a center-passage plan with two rooms on either side. A stair decorated with ornamental brackets and marbelized treads rises from the left side of the main hall. The south-east room contains a secondary enclosed stair which ascends from the kitchen passage at the rear of the house. The walls in the hall and all rooms on the first floor are plaster above a flat paneled wainscot with primitive wood graining. The walls on the second floor have molded chair rails above simple baseboards. The older section of the house has its original Federal mantels.
Benjamin Roberts is thought to have built the east portion of the Roberts-Vaughn House in the first decade of the nineteenth century. Roberts was a wealthy local businessman and a member of the first board of trustees of Hartford Academy. Uriah Vaughan acquired the property about 1835 and enlarged the house. In Vaughan's will, dated March 11, 1862, he bequeathed his residence to his wife, Sarah, provided she did not remarry.

The Murfreesboro Historical Association purchased the house from the estate of Uriah Vaughan's daughter, Alice Vaughan Stencel.

The house is one of the most ornate vernacular structures in Murfreesboro. The intricate work on the cornice and the original delicate marbling and wood graining make the house a valuable example of decorating techniques in ante-bellum North Carolina. The Roberts-Vaughn House is to be restored by the Murfreesboro Historical Association. It will serve as the community library and as offices for the Murfreesboro Historical Association and the Chamber of Commerce.
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name: Dr. H. C. Jones
Title: Director, State Department of Archives and History
Date: November 16, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date