NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Windover
Waynesville, Haywood, HW0017, Listed 01/25/2018
Nomination by Clay Griffith, Acme Preservation Services LLC
Photographs by Clay Griffith, Acme Preservation Services LLC, December 2016 & August 2017

Exterior, looking southwest

Entrance hall, looking northeast
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Windover
   Other names/site number: James Harden and Pearl Howell House; The Windover Inn Bed and Breakfast
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   Street & number: 40 Old Hickory Street
   City or town: Waynesville
   State: NC
   County: Haywood
   Not For Publication: N/A
   Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
   ___national ___statewide __X_local
   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   ___A ___B __X_C ___D

   Signature of certifying official/Title: __________ Date __________
   North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

   Signature of commenting official: __________ Date __________
   Title: __________ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

__ entered in the National Register
__ determined eligible for the National Register
__ determined not eligible for the National Register
__ removed from the National Register
__ other (explain:) ____________________________

________________________  ______________________
Signature of the Keeper      Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:  X

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)  X

District

Site

Structure

Object
Windover
Name of Property

Haywood County, NC
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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<th>Noncontributing</th>
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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register **N/A**

6. **Function or Use**
   **Historic Functions**
   (Enter categories from instructions.)
   - DOMESTIC/single dwelling
   - DOMESTIC/secondary structure

   **Current Functions**
   (Enter categories from instructions.)
   - DOMESTIC/hotel
   - DOMESTIC/secondary structure
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:
Wood/weatherboard
Stone
Asphalt
Metal

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Windover is an imposing two-and-a-half-story Colonial Revival-style frame dwelling located at 40 Old Hickory Street, approximately one mile southwest of downtown Waynesville in Haywood County, North Carolina. Built in 1910 for James Harden and Pearl Howell, the house occupies a slightly elevated one-acre site. Pearl Howell purchased the lot from D. M. and Hassie Killian, who owned a significant tract of bottomland along Richland Creek and the Southern Railway. The well-appointed house erected for the Howells is restrained in form and style on the exterior, while the interior features richly detailed Colonial Revival-style woodwork. The stately house reflected the position of its owners, who were active in civic affairs. The house’s large size is due to Pearl Howell’s desire to use the additional bedrooms for a tourist home called Windover, which operated from 1911 to 1972.
Narrative Description

Built in 1910 for James Harden and Pearl Howell, the two-and-a-half-story Colonial Revival-style Windover stands at the southeast corner of Old Hickory and Killian streets approximately one mile southwest of downtown Waynesville. Bordered by an intact river rock retaining wall along Old Hickory Street, Windover’s lot is surrounded by mature vegetation and wood fencing, while adjoining parcels to the north, south, and west have been developed for mid-twentieth-century residences and a late-twentieth-century apartment complex. The historic Waynesville Junior High School’s athletic field is located directly across Old Hickory Street to the northeast. The school is separated from the house by railroad tracks and Brown Avenue. The Howells owned additional land immediately east of Windover, and the adjacent property contains a stone house, 48 Old Hickory Street, erected in 1946 by James H. Howell Jr., son of James Harden and Pearl Howell. A row of mature hemlock trees forms a natural boundary between the two houses, which remain the only two residences on Old Hickory Street.

The Windover property encompasses a little more than one acre of land along Old Hickory Street in Waynesville. The topography of the land is essentially unchanged since the date of the construction of the house, which sits on a slight promontory approximately ten to fifteen feet above street level. A retaining wall of irregularly-coursed river rock with raised mortar joints carries across the property’s frontage on Old Hickory Street. A pair of tall rock pillars with concrete caps marks the stone and concrete steps leading to the porch. The steps, framed by rock cheek walls, narrow as they rise, and the forced perspective accentuates the scale of the house on its elevated site. Rock retaining walls flank the driveway as it enters the property at its northeast corner. A single rock pillar with a concrete cap stands on the west side of the driveway where it joins the retaining wall along the sidewalk.

At the time of its construction, the house offered nearly unobstructed views of Eagles Nest Mountain to the west and the Blue Ridge Mountains to the south. The sweeping distant views from the house have been constrained by tree growth and mature vegetation, although winter views to the south and west are still present. According to arborists, many of the trees on the property are over 100 years old. The trees situated around the perimeter of the property create a sanctuary and enhance the more recent landscaping around the house, which includes meandering gravel paths, specimen trees, circular gardens, and a secluded fire pit. The inner circular garden was laid out directly behind the house on the site of an in-ground swimming pool that was filled in 2014. A black aluminum fence surrounds the inner garden with an arched gateway leading to the outer areas of Windover’s landscaping. A stand of cedar trees encircles a stone patio with a circular fire pit set in the center. The secluded garden room is located west of the carriage house.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Waynesville from 1924 depict Windover located on an unnamed access road from Killian Street. The access drive passed in front of the house before

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1 Appalachian Arborists, communication with Glenn Duerr, September 2007.
making a 90-degree turn and extending to a carriage house on the property. Thus, Old Hickory Street appears to have originated as the unnamed access road to the house and carriage house, which were the only two buildings it served. The 1931 Sanborn map identifies Old Hickory Street and shows the street continuing past the house, crossing the railroad tracks, and connecting to Hill Street (present-day Brown Avenue) to the north. The section of the road continuing past the railroad tracks to Brown Avenue was closed to vehicular traffic in June 2011 and now serves as a pedestrian walkway.

1. **James Harden and Pearl Howell House, 1910, 1980s, ca. 2004** Contributing building

Known historically as Windover, the two-and-a-half-story Colonial Revival-style frame house built for James Harden and Pearl Howell in 1910 rests on an irregularly-coursed stone foundation and is covered with weatherboards. A tall hip roof covered with architectural shingles and pierced by two interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps crowns the dwelling. The roof rises to a truncated, flat peak that spans between the two chimneys. The flat section consists of wood decking covered with a rubber membrane. Front-gable bays are located at each corner of the hip roof beginning at the northwest and rotating clockwise around the house; a two-story ell also projects from the rear (south) elevation. Two shed dormers covered with weatherboards are located above the façade with a single dormer located on the three remaining elevations. The original patterned tin shingles on the roof were removed and replaced in 2017 with architectural shingles that approximate the texture and color of the original roofing material. Tin shingles on the dormers were replaced with weatherboard siding.

The house has an asymmetrical three-bay façade with a front-gable bay at the west end and gable-end cornice returns. An attached one-story hip-roof porch carries the full width of the façade and wraps around the west elevation with a projecting octagonal corner bay. The windows throughout the house are typically one-over-one double-hung wood sash with flat-board frames, with the exception of the enclosed rear porch area. The upper story windows in the gable ends and dormers are replacement one-over-one double-hung sash.

The porch is supported by paneled wood posts on a stone balustrade with a concrete coping. The porch is accessed by concrete steps at either end and in the center entrance bay, which shelters the wide single-leaf wooden entry door. The door consists of a large single light over two raised panels with an applied molding beneath the light. A wood-frame screen door with a central raised-panel rail shields the entry door. Wide sidelights composed of a single light over a raised square panel flank the door, and a flat-board surround frames the entrance.

In addition to the prominent porch, the three-bay façade features a front-gable bay at the west end and two shed dormers on the front slope of the hip and side-gable roof that extends to the east. Two interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps rise from the edges of the tall, central roof hip. An octagonal porch bay projects from the northwest corner as the
porch wraps around onto the west elevation. A two-story polygonal bay rises on the west elevation and is sheltered by an overhanging roof gable with deep, enclosed eaves. A single shed dormer is located on the north side of the polygonal bay. A fixed two-light wood-sash window is positioned on the outer face of the bay at the second story. A two-story rear ell extends south of the polygonal bay, and a brick kitchen flue rises from the ridgeline of the gable roof. A small, fixed, single-pane window on the second story of the ell has been added to illuminate a bathroom on the interior, and seams in the siding show that it replaced an original one-over-one double-hung window.

From the rear, a pair of two-and-a-half-story gable-roof ells are visible and are located at either end of the house. A shed dormer is positioned at the center of the main hip roof, and a two-story shed-roof porch extends along the east side of the longer ell on the west side of the house. The two-story porch was enclosed in the 1980s by later owners using comparable weatherboard siding, two sets of French doors and floor-to-ceiling windows on the first story, and paired one-over-one windows on the second story. A plate-glass picture window is located at the southeast corner on the second story and the window on the south elevation is composed of two, fixed-sash, single-pane windows flanked by one-over-one double-hung sash. A replacement single-leaf glazed entry door at the south end of the west ell is topped by a small transom and accesses the kitchen.

A one-story gable-roof addition projects from the south elevation of the west ell and enclosed porch wing. The one-bay frame wing is covered with weatherboards and has a gable roof, a louvered vent in the gable end, and one-over-one double-hung windows. A single-leaf glazed entry door on the east side is accessed by brick steps.

The east elevation of the house is similar in treatment to the west elevation but substantially smaller. The gable-roof east ell extends only one bay to the rear and has a shed-roof dormer with a replacement single-pane, fixed-sash window. A small single-pane fixed-sash window has been added to illuminate a bathroom on the interior. The lower portion of the east elevation is obscured from view due to a row of evergreen vegetation that screens the lower rooms from the driveway and parking areas.

More ornate than the exterior, the interior of Windover is characterized by a center hall plan and Colonial Revival details. The large central hallway features a paneled L-shaped stair on the east side opposite a large fireplace executed with ashlar-faced block, corbelling, and a brick mantel shelf. Like all of the primary first-floor public spaces and bedrooms, the hall retains its original wood floor, tall baseboard and picture moldings, and flat-board door and window surrounds. The hall also displays a raised panel oak wainscot. The stair features a short run before it turns ninety degrees and rises against the east wall of the hallway. Square, paneled newel posts have molded caps and support a wooden handrail with turned wood balusters.

To the west of the hall, wooden pocket doors open into a front parlor, which communicates with the dining room through a second set of wooden pocket doors. Both the parlor and dining room contain corner, coal-burning fireplaces with glazed tile surrounds and hearths.
In the parlor, the fireplace mantel is composed of a bracketed shelf, beveled mirror, and a columned overmantel. The dining room fireplace displays bracketed mantel and overmantel shelves with wood pillars rising to a point above the mantel. Raised panel wainscoting continues in the dining room and is topped by an ogee-molded plate rail. Two bedrooms are located on the east side of the hall and are entered through five-panel wood doors. Both rooms contain a corner fireplace. A bathroom has been added to the front bedroom. The fireplace surround in the front bedroom is similar in composition to one in the dining room, but it is rendered with square columns more closely associated with the Arts and Crafts style. The fireplace in the second bedroom is less elaborate and is composed of a glazed-tile surround and a wood mantel with a simple, bracketed shelf.

At the rear of the hall, a five-panel door opens into a renovated area of the west ell and enclosed porch. A service staircase adjacent to the kitchen was removed for remodeling of the kitchen, pantry, and owner’s suite that occupy the rear section of the house. An arched opening connects the kitchen in the west ell with the owner’s suite in the enclosed porch. Flagstone flooring extends throughout the rear wing. A brick chimney that once served the wood-burning kitchen stove has been enlarged to hold the current ovens.

On the second story, the main stair rises to a wide central hall with a low wood balustrade and square newel posts. The four main rooms on either side of the hall have been arranged into three bedrooms on the second floor with the two rooms on the east side interconnected to form a large suite. The hall and bedrooms retain their original wood floors, tall baseboard and picture moldings, five-panel single-leaf doors, and flat-board door and window surrounds. Two sets of corner fireplaces serve the four main rooms and are finished with glazed-tile surrounds and wood mantels with simple, bracketed shelves. A large master suite was formed in the west ell and enclosed porch at the rear of the house. The heavily remodeled room has some of its original wood flooring, but features new additions like a decorative mantel, decorative columned door frame, and an open tub area with a ceramic tile floor.

A straight run of stairs on the east side of the second-floor hall rises to finished rooms on the upper story. It has square, paneled newel posts and square wood balusters. A single, paneled wood post supports the stair opening above. Originally part of the attic, the Howells occasionally used the third floor to house overflow guests during busy times. The space has been partitioned to form three additional guest rooms and bathrooms. The upper rooms have original wood floors, flat-board window and door surrounds, and rough finished walls.

2. Carriage House, ca. 1910  

A one-story gambrel-roof carriage house is located at the southeast corner of the property, approximately 100 feet behind the main house. Judging from its construction materials, the eighteen-by-twenty-foot frame building was built around the same time as the house, or
shortly thereafter. Later converted to a garage, the building has a poured concrete foundation, metal front-facing gambrel roof, weatherboard siding, and exposed rafter tails. The vehicle bay is open, and a single-leaf solid wood door on the façade also provides access to the interior. Two central, square openings in the gambrel end have square wood doors. A loft area on the interior is accessed by a wooden ladder. A shed-roof extension on the west elevation is enclosed on the side and rear with weatherboards. In addition to housing the family vehicle, the building has been used to store gardening equipment and supplies.

3. **Pool House, ca. 1990**  
   **Non-contributing building**

   A one-story front-gable pool house stands to the southwest of the main house. An in-ground swimming pool was constructed immediately behind the main house in the 1980s, but the pool was filled in around 2014. An L-shaped wood deck connects the rear door of the house with the pool house, which is constructed of frame and has an asphalt-shingle roof and weatherboard siding. The building rests on a concrete slab foundation. Two single-leaf entry doors are located on the front elevation, with one door located within an inset bay. A black aluminum fence, 54 inches tall, surrounds the area where the pool was located. The fence was installed in 2011.

4. **Gazebo, ca. 1990**  
   **Non-contributing structure**

   Located in the southwest corner of the rear yard, the frame gazebo is octagonal in shape with a wood post foundation, wood floor, turned wood posts, and a wood shake roof. A louvered octagonal cupola rises from the roof peak. The structure displays sawn brackets, a spindlework frieze, and turned balusters. A wood swing hangs from the roof structure at the center of the gazebo.

**Archaeology Potential Statement**

Windover is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash deposits, wells, and structural remains that may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the property. Information concerning land use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details, is often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is likely that they exist, and these potential remains should be considered in any development of the property.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☐ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes

☐ B. Removed from its original location

☐ C. A birthplace or grave

☐ D. A cemetery

☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

☐ F. A commemorative property

☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1910

Significant Dates
1910

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown
Windover, built in 1910 as a residence and tourist home, is an excellent and intact example of Colonial Revival-style architecture in Waynesville. Beginning in the 1880s, Waynesville and Haywood County’s economy was greatly influenced by seasonal residents who came to the mountains to escape the heat of southern coastal summers, and the area enjoyed an extended period of growth and prosperity. James Harden Howell, a Haywood County native, married Pearl Marshall of Roseland, Virginia, and returned to Waynesville to establish a law practice in 1906. Four years later, they constructed the Colonial Revival-style, two-and-a-half-story frame dwelling as their family home. The Howells intended to open their commodious residence as a tourist home, which they called Windover. Pearl Howell welcomed guests at Windover from 1911 to 1972. The stately house, which occupies a generous lot, incorporates refined proportions and quality materials. The more lavish interior presents features common to the Colonial Revival style during the first decade of the twentieth century, including a wide entrance hall with paneled stair, quarter-sawn raised panel wainscot with an ogee-molded plate rail in the dining room, and columned and pillared mantels with mirrors. Windover retains a high degree of architectural integrity and meets National Register Criterion C as an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style in the town of Waynesville. The period of significance for the locally significant property is 1910, the year of its construction.

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**Historical Background**

Built in 1910 for James Harden and Pearl Howell, Windover stands approximately one mile southwest of downtown Waynesville in a low-lying area along Richland Creek. Waynesville, the seat of Haywood County, was laid out in 1808 along a northeast-southwest ridge bounded by Richland and Raccoon creeks. The town remained isolated and sparsely populated for much of the nineteenth century due to the rugged geography and unimproved transportation routes into the county. Following the completion of a railroad connection to Waynesville in 1882, the area was opened to tourism and timber-related industries that greatly influenced the development of the town.\(^2\) The area of Waynesville near the depot, known as Frog Level (NR

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district, 2003) for its location in the bottomlands of Richland Creek, grew into an active trading and industrial center as the railroad spurred an influx of new residents, visitors, and businesses to Haywood County.³

James Harden Howell (1883-1972) was born to Erastus and Sarah (Brown) Howell in the rural Haywood County community of Jonathan’s Creek. His father, an active Democrat, owned one of the largest and finest farms in the county and served as a member of the Board of County Commissioners for about twenty years. Harden Howell, as he was commonly called, attended public school in Haywood County and later attended Rutherford College in Burke County, North Carolina, and Eastern College in Front Royal, Virginia. He received a law degree from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, and was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1906.⁴

On October 28, 1908, Harden Howell married Pearl Marshall (1885-1976) of Roseland, Virginia.⁵ The daughter of Thomas A. and Perraza Marshall, Pearl Marshall graduated from Eastern College, where she met Harden Howell. The couple had one son, James H. Howell Jr., born June 2, 1915, who later became a prominent Haywood County lawyer and judge.⁶

Harden Howell spent ten years as a practicing attorney in Waynesville and served in the infantry during World War I, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. Howell served his community as the Waynesville town clerk and treasurer, mayor of Waynesville from 1921 to 1929, and state legislator for one term in 1933. Howell was appointed postmaster of Waynesville in 1934, a position he held until his retirement in 1953. At age 70, he became the veteran’s service officer for Haywood County and worked another fifteen years until his second retirement in December 1970.⁷

Pearl Howell purchased the one-acre property for the couple’s home from Hassie and D. M. Killian on September 15, 1910 (Deed Book 29, Page 275), and the house was built soon thereafter. A note in the Waynesville Courier, dated October 10, 1910, stated that “Mr. Hardin [sic] Howell is erecting a nice house near Mr. Killian’s.” The residence was completed in late 1910, and by the spring of 1911, Pearl Howell opened the additional bedrooms to the public as a tourist home, which she named “Windover.” The spacious dwelling had been constructed with the intent of opening it to guests.⁸ Her granddaughter, Cary Howell Duss, recalls Pearl Howell telling her that running a tourist home was “one of the few legitimate ways for a woman to earn money” in those days.⁹ Tourist homes were popular in this area from the early twentieth century through the 1950s, and numerous examples stood as alternatives to the region’s grand hotels, which had entered a period of decline during the Great Depression.

⁵ The Waynesville Courier (November 3, 1908).
⁶ Allen, 324-325.
⁸ The Mountaineer, October 27, 1958, 2.
Pearl Howell operated the guest house seasonally between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and entire families came to Windover from the coastal regions of the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida to escape the summer heat and enjoy the mountains around Waynesville.\textsuperscript{10} A listing of Waynesville boarding houses, including Windover with Mrs. J. H. Howell as the proprietor, was given in a publication entitled \textit{Cool Places in Summertime: Resorts along the Southern Railway}, published in 1911, just one year after the house was built.\textsuperscript{11} A brochure published by the Waynesville Chamber of Commerce in the late 1920s or early 1930s, lists Windover as one of twenty-five tourist homes and boarding houses. Six additional properties were designated as hotels or inns. Windover reported a capacity of twenty guests, and Mrs. Howell’s rates were $15 per week. Most other establishments charged between and $15 and $25 per week.\textsuperscript{12}

To operate Windover, Pearl Howell managed a small staff to maintain the property, provide housekeeping services, and cook meals for both the Howells and their guests. A full-time maid lived in the bedroom above the kitchen. A small stone structure constructed some time before 1924 stood behind the house and was used to accommodate some of the staff during the summer months; it was demolished around 1981. Windover staff typically included migrant laborers who did the gardening and other labor-intensive work around the property during the summer months. Other employees lived nearby but did not reside at Windover.\textsuperscript{13}

The origin of the name Windover is not certain, but several conjectures exist. The first explanation posits that the name may be a variation of an old Welsh name, Wyndeover. A second explanation is that the house sits in a low area between two ridges so that residents and guests heard the wind blowing over the property. Finally, the Common Kestrel hawk found in western North Carolina is also known as the windhover, especially in England. The hawk was more commonly referred to by this name in the region many years ago. Pearl Howell’s granddaughter recalls that the name originally contained an extra letter.\textsuperscript{14}

Pearl Howell operated Windover until the early 1970s, retiring following the death of her husband in 1972. The house remained essentially unchanged until Reimar and Judy Steffen purchased the property on February 17, 1981, from the Howell’s son, James H. Howell Jr., and his wife Miriam (Deed Book 321, Page 890). James Howell Jr. (1915-1982), an attorney, lived next door at 48 Old Hickory Street and inherited the property following his mother’s death in 1976. The house stood vacant for nearly ten years before the Steffens acquired it for their personal residence.\textsuperscript{15}

\textsuperscript{10} Ibid., Fay (Cease) Clark, interview with Glenn Duerr, September 2008. As a teenager Fay Clark worked for Pearl Howell as a housekeeper at Windover from 1950 to 1955.

\textsuperscript{11} Curtis W. Wood Jr., ed., \textit{Haywood County: Portrait of a Mountain Community} (Waynesville, NC: The Historical Society of Haywood County, 2009), 158.


\textsuperscript{13} Fay (Cease) Clark interview.

\textsuperscript{14} Cary Duss interview.

\textsuperscript{15} Cary Duss interview.
The vacant house was in a state of advanced deterioration and disrepair when the Steffens bought it, and they made significant efforts to reclaim the structure, extensively rehabilitating the historic fabric and upgrading the mechanical systems. The Steffens enclosed the rear porches and added an in-ground swimming pool and pool house. In 2003, the Steffens began operating a bed-and-breakfast inn out of the house, which they called “Windover Inn” in honor of the name given to the house by Pearl Howell.16

Pam and Jeff Ferree purchased the property from the Steffens on March 5, 2004 (Deed Book 590, Page 671). The Ferrees undertook extensive interior renovations to convert the house to a modern eight-room inn. They added new bathrooms, whirlpool tubs, plumbing, and air conditioning to the house, but were careful to preserve the architectural character of the house. In particular, the Ferrees avoided painting or staining the original oak woodwork or refinishing the floors, wainscoting, staircases, or molding. The current owners, Glenn and Jennifer Duerr, bought the Windover Inn Bed & Breakfast from the Ferrees on August 2, 2006 (Deed Book 676, Page 786) and continue to operate the inn and open the house to guests.

*Architecture Context*

The Western North Carolina Railroad arrived in Waynesville in late 1882, opening the area to tourism and timber-related industries. The new era of prosperity ushered in by the railroad connection was reflected in the built environment. Simple, traditional building forms were soon replaced with buildings constructed in popular late nineteenth-century architectural styles such as the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival. In the early decades of the twentieth century, the Colonial Revival style supplanted the Queen Anne as Americans increasingly eschewed the richly ornate detailing of nineteenth-century dwellings in favor of simpler, more modern houses.17 Waynesville possesses a number of well-executed examples of both styles, as well as transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival style residences from the turn of the twentieth century. Windover is among the area houses that combine the irregular forms and massing of the Queen Anne with the more restrained and classically influenced finishes of the Colonial Revival.

Despite having an appreciation for Colonial-era architecture, early proponents of the Colonial Revival style rarely offered historically correct copies of colonial precedents, but instead freely interpreted details and proportions that were applied to a wide range of house types and forms. As a result of this creative interpretation and application, the Colonial Revival style became the most popular domestic architectural style of the early twentieth century. Characterized by rectangular footprints, Colonial Revival-style houses typically exhibit gable or hip roofs, symmetrically arranged facades, center hall plans, and multi-paned double-hung windows. The common forms and stately proportions were frequently embellished with

classically inspired details including columned porches, Palladian windows, dentil cornices, and pedimented entrance surrounds with pilasters, fanlights, and sidelights. Dissemination of published sources in the 1910s and 1920s encouraged greater historical detail, but the economic depression of the 1930s, among other factors, led to a simplification of the style in the mid-twentieth century.18

The rigid formality of the Colonial Revival style spurred further simplification in domestic architecture during the early decades of the twentieth century, which was manifest in the growing popularity of the Arts and Crafts movement and philosophies espoused by Gustav Stickely’s The Craftsman magazine (1901-1916). Through his publication Stickley became the chief disseminator of Arts and Crafts ideals in the United States, and his company, Craftsman Workshops, produced furniture that promoted design unity of both house and furnishings. Stickley and others argued that the beauty inherent in simple forms and natural materials, if finely crafted, was sufficient decoration in itself—a direct response to the Queen Anne style of the late nineteenth century. Many reformers of the early twentieth century asserted that creating a comfortable and secure home environment was the natural antithesis of the commercial and industrial expansion that was perceived to be corrupting the nation and its citizens.19

Known as Windover, the James Harden and Pearl Howell House, built in 1910, embodies the characteristics of the Colonial Revival style as it evolved from, and in response to, the Queen Anne style in the early twentieth century. While the exterior form suggests the irregular massing common to Queen Anne houses, Windover exhibits a more symmetrical organization with its three-bay façade, center hall plan, and a tall hip roof. The exterior is finished with weatherboards, gable-end cornice returns, and simple window and door surrounds. While the exterior expression is restrained, the interior woodwork is finely crafted with high-quality materials and subtle classical elements. The formal qualities of the wide entrance hall, paneled stair, raised-panel oak wainscot, and columned and pillared mantels were characteristic of the Colonial Revival style in the early twentieth century, and the sumptuous interior is on par with many of the well-executed houses erected in Waynesville during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The ca. 1890 Robert D. Gilmer House at 31 Suyeta Park is an ornately finished two-and-a-half-story hip-roof frame house that exemplifies the transitional forms and details of Queen Anne and early Colonial Revival style architecture. The house sits on a raised stone basement with a one-story wraparound porch carried on paired columns that extends to form a porte cochere. The more restrained material expression on the exterior is offset by lavish interior woodwork including a wide central hall, beamed ceilings, paneled wainscoting, paneled pocket doors, and an open double-run stair with turned balusters and Eastlake-style spindle work.

The Clyde Ray Sr. House (NR, 1996) at 224 Love Lane occupies a prominent hillside site overlooking downtown. The commodious two-and-a-half-story frame house was built from 1898 to 1900 by the Rhinehart Brothers of Tennessee. The house retains original Queen Anne-Colonial Revival elements including its mantels, moldings, and ornate stair, and is notable for the distinctive high hip roof, shingled dormers and gabled bays, and wraparound porch on the exterior. The house’s location, scale, and quality of construction reflect the importance of its owner, Clyde H. Ray Sr., who was one of Waynesville’s most successful merchants and an active civic leader.

The 1899 Dr. J. Howell Way House (NR, 1980), located at 145 South Main Street, is an imposing two-and-a-half-story brick house with a wraparound porch supported by turned posts spanned by turned balusters. Built for a prominent physician, the Way House blends Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style elements including irregular massing, a tall hip roof, bracketed cornice, and enriched porches on two levels, with one side of the porch extending to form a porte-cochere. A one-story brick building that originally housed Dr. Way’s medical office is attached to the southwest corner of the house.20

The Charles and Annie Quinlan House (NR, 2005), built in 1902 at 274 South Main Street, similarly embodies the distinctive characteristics of a transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival style dwelling built at the turn of the century, although its restrained qualities point to the growing popularity of the Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles. The asymmetrical massing of the frame house, with numerous projecting bays under a tall hip roof and dormers, clearly draws from the Queen Anne style, while the Tuscan porch columns and plain entablature reflect the greater restraint of the Colonial Revival. The interior continues the reserved architectural expression evidenced on the exterior and combines Victorian hardware and Colonial Revival mantels and moldings with Craftsman details in the library and dining room.21

The Dr. Samuel Stringfield House at 28 Walnut Street is an eclectic Colonial Revival-style residence incorporating a variety of forms and stylistic elements. The irregular massing of the two-story, double-pile house is suggestive of a Queen Anne influence with its asymmetrical façade, projecting entrance pavilion, porch that extends into a porte cochere, and complex roof line. Despite the irregular forms, the overall order of the façade and restrained exterior details reflect the popular Colonial Revival style of the time. The house exists among a small group of early twentieth-century brick residences in Waynesville since weatherboards and wood shingles were the predominant exterior materials for domestic architecture. The availability of pre-cut building materials and architectural details allowed for a greater range of ornament that could be applied to wood-sided houses, but here the exterior embellishment is subtly expressed through variations in form, the surface texture of the brick, varying brick courses around the window and door openings, corbelling of the porch posts, and contrasting the deep red brick

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with cast-concrete and frame elements painted white. A few Craftsman elements are also present in the open eaves, exposed rafter tails, and decorative purlin brackets. The interior of the Stringfield House is characteristic of the Colonial Revival style with its formal stair, tasteful moldings, paneled wainscoting and doors, and Federal-style mantels. The large size of the house contributed to its brief use accommodating boarders in small apartments during Dr. and Mrs. Stringfield’s later years and its adaptive reuse as offices in the 2000s.

Dr. Thomas Stringfield, brother of Samuel Stringfield, erected a two-story Colonial Revival-style brick house at 52 Walnut Street a few years after his brother. Thomas Stringfield’s house is more subdued in its form and massing with a low-pitched hip roof and a symmetrical three-bay façade. A one-story hip-roof porch carried on brick posts shelters a portion of the façade and wraps around the north elevation of the house where it terminates in a porte cochere. Organized around a central hall, the interior details show a greater Craftsman influence, with rich earth tones and dark, stained wood moldings, heavy brick fireplace surrounds, built-in bookcases and benches, and solid or multi-light doors.

Like a number of other houses in Waynesville, the large size of Windover contributed to its use as a tourist home to accommodate seasonal guests, and the tasteful materials and finishes speak to the availability of quality lumber products in the area due to local industry. Subsequent alterations to the house by later owners have allowed for its continued use as a bed-and-breakfast following a period of vacancy and use as a single-family residence. The alterations include enclosure of the rear two-story porch, a one-story rear addition, and the construction of a swimming pool and pool house; the swimming pool has since been filled in. These alterations are located at the rear of the house and out of view from the street. Changes on the interior have included upgrades to the mechanical systems, creation of bathrooms for each guest room, and attic partitions for additional guest rooms. The majority of these changes have not substantially affected the principal arrangement of the rooms, hallways, and stairs. The most significant changes have occurred in the rear ell and enclosed rear porches, which have been reconfigured for the kitchen, pantry, and owner’s suite on the first floor and a large master suite on the second floor. The interior alterations and additions have allowed the owners of the house to successfully continue the Howell’s tradition of hospitality at Windover.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)


Newspapers
   The Mountaineer (Waynesville, NC)
   The Waynesville Courier


Windover
Name of Property

Windover
Haywood
Co

County and State

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 # __________
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # __________

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
X Other

Name of repository: Haywood County Public Library, Waynesville, NC

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): HW 0017

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.045 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: __________

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: Longitude:

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
Windover
Name of Property

Haywood County, NC
County and State

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[NAD 1927] or [x] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 17  Easting: 356890  Northing: 3938450
2. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
3. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
4. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property is all of the tax parcel (PIN 8605-95-1937) occupied by Windover. The boundary is shown by a heavy dashed line on the accompanying Haywood County Land Records map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the full extent of the property historically associated with Windover.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Clay Griffith
organization: Acme Preservation Services, LLC
street & number: 825C Merrimon Ave., #345
city or town: Asheville state: NC zip code: 28804
e-mail: cgriffith.acme@gmail.com
telephone: 828-281-3852
date: July 31, 2017
**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
Photographs

The following information pertains to each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Windover
Location: 40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, North Carolina
County: Haywood
Name of Photographer: Clay Griffith / Acme Preservation Services
Date of Photographs: December 12, 2016, unless otherwise noted
Location of Digital Master: Historic Preservation Office
North Carolina Division of Archives and History
109 E. Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2807

Photographs:
1. Façade, oblique view to southeast, August 8, 2017
2. East elevation, view to southwest, August 8, 2017
3. Rear (south) elevation, view to north, August 8, 2017
4. Porch, view to west
5. Entrance hall, view northeast to entry
6. View south from living room into dining room
7. Dining room mantel, view to north
8. Carriage house, façade, view to south
Windover (James H. and Pearl Howell House)
40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina

Boundary Map
Scale: 1” = 65’ (approx.)
PIN 8605-95-1937
(Base map: Haywood County GIS)
Windover (James H. and Pearl Howell House)
40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina

Boundary Map
Scale: 1” = 65’ (approx.)
PIN 8605-95-1937
(Base map: Haywood County GIS)
James H. and Pearl Howell House
40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, Haywood County, NC

First Floor Plan
James H. and Pearl Howell House
40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, Haywood County, NC

Second Floor Plan
James H. and Pearl Howell House
40 Old Hickory Street, Waynesville, Haywood County, NC

Third Floor Plan