State of North Carolina
Division of Archives and History

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Iredell County

X MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Holland-Summers House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER End of 0.8 mile dirt lane, entrance on N
side SR 1904 at jct. with SR 1907

CITY, TOWN

X VICINITY OF Central

STATE

North Carolina

COUNTY

Iredell

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

X OCCUPIED

X UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES RESTRICTED

YES UNRESTRICTED

X NO

PRESENT USE

Agriculture

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Elsie Hall

STATE

North Carolina

STREET & NUMBER

Route 5, Box 279

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Statesville

STATE

North Carolina

5037

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Laura A. W. Phillips (Winston-Salem)

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

February 4, 1980

TELEPHONE

919/733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina
Located in north central Iredell County, the Holland-Summers House is one of Iredell's most impressive and unusual Greek Revival dwellings, distinguished by its bold pilasters that define the facade. Set on a knoll among large trees, the house once looked out across the "Georgia Road," the stage route from Elkin to Atlanta.

Built in 1850, the house is a two-story, L-shaped brick structure with low hipped roof. The wide boxed eaves extend beyond the three exterior chimneys, which are placed with symmetrical consideration. One is centered on the left end of the house, and two are symmetrically located on the right side, where the two-story ell (not an addition) creates a two-room depth.

The five-bay facade is articulated by a white cement colonade of heroic Doric pilasters supporting the eaves and resting on the water table. The corner pilasters are repeated at each additional corner, enhancing the sense of height and importance of the house. The facade bays contain 9/9 sash windows on the first story and 9/6 sash on the second story. These windows are well constructed with carefully laid flat arches. (The same window arrangements are found on the rest of the house.) Covering the center three bays is a one-story porch with a very shallow hipped roof. The flagstone porch floor, originally wood; the ironwork porch posts, originally curvilinear sawnwork posts (perhaps similar to those at Daltonia); and the single front door, originally a double door, are all replacements. The details of the center bay received careful attention. Here the pilasters are more slender, accentuating the entry with transom and sidelights as well as the second-story window, which also has sidelights.

A one-story rear porch (now enclosed) fills the inside of the ell and completes the rectangular perimeter of the house.

The interior of the Holland-Summers House follows in a center hall plan one room deep. The walls are plastered. The mantels are simple, with plain pilasters, friezes and shelves. Door and window surrounds on the first story are boldly fluted with flat corner blocks, and the window surrounds extend to the floor, framing plaster aprons. The center hall stairway has a simple open string, a molded handrail, rectangular section balusters, and a handsome vase-turned newel.

One outbuilding is of particular interest. Behind the house is a heavy-timber frame smokehouse, probably contemporary with the house, which retains its front gable overhang. On the south side of the house is the well, and farther south are a frame barn and frame shed, both of which probably date from the turn of the century. Other outbuildings—sheds and barns—which appear to date from the twentieth century are located behind the house and across the dirt lane east of the house.

This unusual pilaster treatment links the design of the house to the ca. 1848 Helper Hotel in Davidson, N. C., believed to have been built by Lewis Dinkins, the builder of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Halls at Davidson College.
The Holland-Summers House is a handsome, brick, Greek Revival dwelling whose bold pilasters distinguish it from the many simpler vernacular Greek Revival architecture in Iredell County. It was built for Baker Holland, a wagon-maker and farmer, in 1850.

A. Associated with antebellum agrarian prosperity of Iredell County.

C. Exemplifies an unusually bold and vigorous execution of Greek Revival motifs—notably the dramatic pilasters—in a county where houses more typically exhibit modest versions of popular styles.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Around 1850 Baker E. Holland, a wagon maker and farmer, built a house known as the Holland-Summers House in central Iredell County. The structure was constructed on the Old Stage Coach Road (later called the Georgia Road) which ran from Elkin, North Carolina, to Atlanta, Georgia. According to one tradition, slaves constructed the house from brick made of clay found in a nearby field.

Baker E. Holland (1806-1866) was the son of a Maryland wagon maker, Basil Holland, who had come to Iredell County sometime in the first half of the nineteenth century. Baker Holland followed his father's trade, at least for a time. The 1850 population census lists him as a wagon maker, but he does not appear in the industrial schedule. Apparently by 1860 Holland was devoting most of his time to farming, and he is listed as a farmer in the census of that year. His real estate at that time consisted of 75 acres of improved land, and 300 unimproved The value of his real estate was $3,000 and his personal estate, $810. His chief crops were wheat and corn, and he raised a number of livestock that included 25 swine. He owned one female slave, age 50.

In 1866, Holland died intestate, and in 1870 the house tract passed to one D. H. Perry, an in-law. It subsequently went to one S. A. Fowler and then to John I. Douglas in 1899. The Douglas family sold the land to Thomas P. Summers in 1903. Summers was an Iredell County farmer who served in the Confederate Army, was wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines in 1862, and paroled at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, April 9, 1865. Since his possession, the house has remained in the Summers family, and Mrs. Elsie Hall, his granddaughter, is the present owner.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Iredell County Records: Deeds, Estates Papers.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 79 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A [1.7] [5.0] [2.3] [1.9] [1.7] B [1.7] [5.0] [5.6] [1.6] [1.0]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C [1.7] [5.1] [2.4] [3.2] [2.4] D [1.7] [5.1] [8.2] [3.2] [2.4]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of Tract 20, Block A, Map 13C, Olin Township, lying within an 800'-wide corridor measuring 400' on either side of a line running northeast from the intersection of SR 1907 and SR 1904 and passing through the southeast corner of the house, terminating at the north property line, as outlined in red on map.
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Holland-Summers House
Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Iredell County

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Bibliography (Cont'd)


FOOTNOTES

1 Virginia Fraser Evans (compiler), Iredell County Landmarks (Statesville: Iredell County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1976), 38, 56; Eighth Census of the United States 1860. Iredell County Population Schedule, 166.

2 Homer M. Keever, Iredell Piedmont County (Statesville: Iredell County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1976), 141.

3 Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Iredell County, Population Schedule, 166; Agricultural Schedule, 300; Industrial Schedule, 1; Slave Schedule 300.

4 Iredell County Estate Records, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh: Iredell County Deed Records, microfilm copies in the State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, Deed Book D4, p. 589, hereinafter cited as Iredell Deed Books.

5 Iredell Deed Book D 24, p. 388.

6 Iredell Deed Book D 29, p. 450.

Geographical Data (Cont'd)

The property being nominated includes the house, outbuildings and the roadbed of the old George Road (which ran from Elkin to Atlanta, passing directly in front of the house, and which was so essential to Baker Holland's wagon-making trade), along with their immediate surroundings.
Holland-Summers House
N side Sr 1904, Central vic.
Iredell Co., Central Quad
Scale 1:24000, 79 acres
UTM References: Zone 17

A Easting 508830 Northing 3974000
B 508560 3974000
C 509030 3975200
D 509280 3975200

7D 25

HOLLAND-SUMMERS HOUSE
F8 SNOW CREEK
METHODIST CHURCH