

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Selma MULTIPLE RESOURCE

OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

312 West Anderson Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Selma

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Third

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Johnston

CODE

101

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. R. D. Oliver

(919) 965-2288

STREET & NUMBER

312 West Anderson Street

CITY, TOWN

Selma,

VICINITY OF

STATE  
North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Johnston County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Smithfield,

STATE  
North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Thomas A. Greco - Principal Investigator

August, 1980

ORGANIZATION

Town of Selma

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 357

TELEPHONE

(919) 965-3388

CITY OR TOWN

Selma,

STATE

North Carolina

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House situated on a large town lot, is a prime example of the late Queen Anne style combined with Neo-Classical details. The large two story, white frame house, was designed early in the twentieth century, by Albert Atkinson, a Washington, D. C. architect, and was built shortly after 1911. The overall asymmetrical massing is typical of the Queen Anne buildings. The square main block of the house is expanded by gabled projecting bays and a three story octagonal tower which contains the main stair.

The main elevation is divided into two and a half bays and contains the entrance which features leaded and beveled glass sidelights and transom. A second story Palladian Window is located directly over the entrance. A wrap-around porch with elegant Ionic columns completes the three principal elevations. There have been several rear additions made to the buildings in the mid-1920's, which house a new kitchen and pantry.

The building has a side hall plan with three principal rooms on the first floor. A central chimney with elegant carved wood mantels serve the main rooms on the two floors. An Ionic column screen separates the entrance hall from the formal front parlor. Double sliding doors separate the dining room and the front and rear parlors from the hall and between each room. The main stair is a two run open string type with carved balusters and newel posts. A two step raised landing, from the hall, is in the octagonal turret, which contains built-in window seating and is separated from the main portion of the stair by an Ionic column screen. Very finely crafted hand-carved wood mantels form the primary focus of each of the three main rooms. The front parlor contains an elegant Queen Anne mantel with an oval overmantel mirror. There are six stained glass windows with floral motifs in the house; in the entrance/stair hall, and one each in the dining room, front parlor and front bedroom on the second floor. When the 1920's addition was made to the rear of the house, the original kitchen was converted into a study and a new kitchen and pantry were added. The service stairs were also removed at that time.

The house has several integral outbuildings which include a garage and a small bungalow style summer house. The main house and garage are connected by an open pergola and fence.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL

\_\_\_\_ STATE

°  X  LOCAL

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES    c.1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT    Albert Atkinson

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House, c.1912, is a significant example of the Queen Anne style and of the work of architect Albert Atkinson. Albert Atkinson was a Johnston County native. He later moved with his family to Washington, D. C., where he studied and set-up his architectural practice.

The house has finely crafted interior woodwork, including three hand-carved mantels and a fine open string stair. An unusual feature of the building is the built-in window seat within the corner turret.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- C. The Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver house is a significant example of the Queen Anne style and embodies finely crafted interior woodwork. The house is the work of Albert Atkinson, a Washington, D. C. architect and is one of four houses that he designed in Johnston County.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House was built by R. M. Nowell, c.1912. Mr. Nowell was the Johnston County Sheriff (c.1900-15) during the time that the house was constructed. Lot 36, Map 27 of the Town of Selma, upon which the house was built, was purchased by Mr. Nowell on June 11, 1904 from Sandy Hastings. At the time of the sale there was a small house on the property which was to be moved by Mr. Nowell no later than January 10, 1905. 1 In 1912 the ownership of the property was shifted from R. M. Nowell to his wife, Mattie Mizell Nowell. Included in the property transaction was the present house. 2 It can be reasonably assumed that the house had been completed just prior to the legal transfer, since the building was not included in the Sanborn Map Company's 1911 Map of Selma. 3

The house was originally designed for Henry Edgar Earp, an engineer with the Atlantic Coastline Railroad and Selma Postmaster (1934-1945). Albert Sidney Johnston Atkinson (1878-1945) served as the architect for the building. Mr. Atkinson was born in Johnston County, he later moved to Washington, D. C. where he studied architecture and established his architectural practice. 4 According to Miss Elizabeth Earp, Mr. Atkinson was a close friend of her father, Henry E. Earp. When the design for the house came back, Mr. Earp decided that the project was too ambitious for him to build. Consequently, Albert Atkinson designed a second house for the Earps which was completed in 1907. 5 The plans for the first house were presumably sold or given to R. M. Nowell. In 1915 the Nowells sold the house to Dr. Israel W. Mayerburg. 6 Under Dr. Mayerburg's ownership several rear additions were constructed to the house which created a new kitchen and pantry area. The old kitchen was converted into a study. Also built by Dr. Mayerburg were the outbuildings, including a fine Bungalow style summer house, the garage and the connecting pergola. In 1941, Dr. Robert D. Oliver purchased the house. 7 Dr. Oliver was a prominent Selma M.D. from 1939 to his retirement in 1974. The house continues to be occupied by Dr. Oliver's wife.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- 1. Obituary of Albert S. J. Atkinson - 1945 - Found in Family Bible.
- 2. Register of Deeds - Johnston County Courthouse.
- 3. Sanborn Map Company, New York, New York. 1911 Map of Selma.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .5 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 7	7 4, 6 0, 2, 0	3, 9 3, 5 8 3 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being Lot number 36, Tax Map 27 of the plan of the Town of Selma, N. C. lying on the west side of Anderson Street and described as follows:

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background Continued . . . EXP 12-31-84

FOOTNOTES

1. Register of Deeds - Johnston County Courthouse - Deed Book - W-8, page 71.
2. Deed Book - X - 11, page 38.
3. Sanborn Map Company, New York, New York. 1911 Map of Selma.
4. Obituary of Albert S. J. Atkinson - 1945 - Found in Family Bible - May have been from the Smithfield Herald.
5. Interview with Miss Elizabeth Earp - July, 1979.
6. Deed Book 1 page 17.
7. Deed Book 426 page 72.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES - Continued . . .

4. Interview with Miss Elizabeth Earp - July, 1979.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA . . . Continued . . .

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of Anderson and Sumner Streets; runs with Sumner Street 150 feet northeast; thence 90 degrees angle from Sumner Street and parallel to Anderson Street 150 feet southwest; thence 90 degree angle and parallel to Sumner Street 150 feet south west to Anderson Street; thence along Anderson Street 150 feet to point of beginning, containing one half acre more or less.

Everitt P. Stevens House  
E side SR 1003 at SR 1934  
Selma MRN #1  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
17 745000/3938230

L M A

Selma Graded School  
W Richardson Street  
Selma MRN # 4  
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
17 746400/39352000

Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House  
312 W. Anderson Street  
Selma MRN # 5  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
17 746020/3935830

Selma Historic Dist  
Selma MRN #2  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:2

17 745280/3935660

William E. Smith House  
309 W. Railroad Street  
Selma MRN #6  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
17 745990/3935620

Union Station  
E. Railroad Street  
Selma MRN # 3  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:  
17 746580/39353000

Noah Edward Edgerton House  
301 W. Railroad Street  
Selma MRN # 7  
Selma Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
17 745070/3935660



