Form 10-300  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME  
COMMON:  
Herring House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  

2. LOCATION  
STREET AND NUMBER: West side of S.R. 1503, 0.4 mi. west of road on dirt lane,  
0.5 mi. southwest of intersection with S.R. 1502  
CITY OR TOWN:  
LaGrange vicinity  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
The Hon. Walter B. Jones  

3. CLASSIFICATION  
CATEGORY (Check One)  
□ District  □ Building  
□ Site  □ Structure  
□ Object  

OWNERSHIP  
□ Public  □ Private  
□ Both  
Public Acquisition:  
□ In Process  □ Being Considered  

STATUS  
□ Occupied  □ Unoccupied  
□ Preservation work in progress  
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC:  
□ Yes:  
□ Restricted  □ Unrestricted  
□ No  

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)  
□ Agricultural  □ Government  
□ Commercial  □ Industrial  
□ Educational  □ Military  
□ Entertainment  □ Museum  
□ Private Residence  □ Religious  
□ Park  □ Transportation  
□ Other (Specify)  □ Comments  

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY  
OWNER'S NAME:  
Mr. Jack Carey  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Highland Avenue  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Kinston  
STATE:  
North Carolina  
CODE:  
37  

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Lenoir County Courthouse  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Kinston  
STATE:  
North Carolina  
CODE:  
37  

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS  
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
DATE OF SURVEY:  
□ Federal  □ State  □ County  □ Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
STATE:  
CODE:  

SEE INSTRUCTIONS
The Herring House is a two-story frame dwelling built with beaded weatherboards on a Flemish bond brick foundation. The south (front) facade is five bays wide with a central entrance surmounted by a four-light transom. A single-story porch with a hip roof which carries around the front and the east gable end is a twentieth century addition. The east and west ends each have two bays separated by a stop-shouldered chimney of brick laid in Flemish bond with a molded cap. The west chimney contains a brick dated 1801. The rather narrow windows have nine-over-nine sash in the first story and nine-over-six in the second. The ornament of the handsome cornice is most curious. Apparently when the weatherboards just below the cornice were replaced, the rear sections of the modillions were cut off, leaving a peculiar row of modillion ends suspended from the cornice.

The interior has a center-passage plan with a large parlor on either side. The open-string stair features curvilinear brackets and a simple balustrade with posts and balusters square in section. It rises from the left side of the main hall in two flights. The east room contains a secondary enclosed stair which ascends to the second level.

The walls in the hall are plastered above a flat-panel wainscot while the rest of the house has plaster walls above and below a molded chair rail. The attic is unfinished.

The mantels are of typical Federal design, each individualized with gouged and carved ornament. The most elaborate is of modified three-part form, with the center tablet no wider than the end blocks. It features fluted pilasters beneath a horizontal lower frieze band adorned with gouge-work scallops, a motif repeated on the frieze blocks, and an intricate gouge cornice. The other mantels feature end blocks only, with various combinations of gouge and fretwork.

Of particular interest is an early cupboard, located at the head of the secondary stair next to the partition wall. It rises to the ceiling and is capped by a dentil cornice. The side facing the stair is flat-paneled. The accessible side has two doors: a small lower door with two flat panels, the upper with the normal six-panel arrangement.
8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [X] 19th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1801

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- [ ] Aboriginal
- [ ] Prehistoric
- [ ] Historic
- [X] Agriculture
- [X] Architecture
- [X] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Herring House was built by one of the early families to settle in Lenoir County. It is a well-preserved Federal farmhouse with the restrained yet inventive detail typical of the more ambitious vernacular dwellings of the period.

The Herring family settled very early in what is now Lenoir County. A deed of May 10, 1736, refers to a patent of August, 1720, to John Herring. John Herring of this area was a representative in the North Carolina Assembly in 1749. His son Joshua held the office of justice of the peace in 1776.

The Herring House, the construction date of which is suggested by a brick in the chimney marked "1801," was probably built by Joshua's son, Edward Matchet Herring (1755-1825), or Edward's son, William Herring (1779-1830).

In October 11, 1889, William's youngest son, Joshua James Herring, Sr., deeded the house with a 3½-acre tract to his son, Needham Whitfield Herring (1856-1942). The Herring homestead has remained in the family to the present.
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: H. G. Jones
Title: Director, Division of Archives and History
Date: 20 August 1973