# National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form

## 1. Name

Holloway-Walker-Dollardrite House

AND/OR COMMON

## 2. Location

**Street & Number:** S. side of SR 1514, 0.3 mi E. of SR 1512

**City, Town:** Bethel Hill

**State:** North Carolina

**Code:** 037

**Congressional District:** 2nd

**County:** Person

**Code:** 145

## 3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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## 4. Owner of Property

**Name:** Mrs. Mary Merritt Winstead

**Street & Number:** Rt. 5, Box 188

**City, Town:** Roxboro

**State:** North Carolina

**Zip Code:** 27573

**County:** Person

## 5. Location of Legal Description

**Courthouse:** Person County Courthouse

**Street & Number:** Person County Courthouse

**City, Town:** Roxboro

**State:** North Carolina

**Zip Code:** 27573

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

**Title:** None

**Determined Eligible:** NO

**Date:**

**Depository for Survey Records:**

**City, Town:**

**State:**
Standing in a clearing amidst a wooded area of northeastern Person County, the frame Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house comprises three principal sections: a one-and-a-half-story block with a shed addition, whose Georgian details and door hardware suggest a late eighteenth century date of construction; a two-story central block whose form and Greek Revival trim indicates that it was added to the original section of the house during the mid-nineteenth century; and a one-and-a-half story section that the present owner moved to the property in 1976 and whose surviving details suggest an early nineteenth century date of construction. Between the two-story central section and the portion of the house that was moved to the property, the present owner has constructed a connecting block containing a bathroom and passageway.

The original one-and-a-half story section of the house stands on a foundation of random-coursed stone laid with mortar. A sharply pitched gable roof shelters this part of the house, which is sheathed with characteristically Georgian molded and beaded weatherboards. A random-coursed stone chimney, which is laid up with mortar and has a pair of paved shoulders, stands on the southeast end of the one-and-a-half story block. Alongside it is a horizontal board-and-batten door with an iron latch and strap hinges. A nearly identical door provides an entrance on the opposite side of the house, and a third door connects the one-and-a-half-story block with the shed addition. The windows on the one-and-a-half-story block are small—a pair of tiny, square two-over-two sash windows lights the attic in the southeast gable end, and a narrow four-over-four window furnishes additional light for the attic in the northwest gable end. There is only one first floor window, a narrow four-over-four sash opening on the building's southwest side.

The one-and-a-half story section has a single room on the first floor, which is finished in plaster over a plain wainscot with a broad chair rail and baseboard. The fireplace is enframed by a mantel with a frieze that is divided into three panels and adorned with a dentil molding below a molded shelf. An enclosed stair, which retains its original vertical board-and-batten door and hardware, rises along the northeast corner of the structure to the unpartitioned and unadorned attic, which is also finished in plaster.

The one-room shed addition carries across the entire northeast side of the one-and-a-half-story main block. Like the main block, it rests on a stone foundation, and a stone, single-shoulder end chimney which stands on the southeast side of the house furnishes it with a single fireplace. This chimney and that of the house's original section are the dominant elements of the southeast elevation. A vertical board-and-batten door with iron strap hinges provides an entrance alongside the chimney, and there are two windows along the northeast side of the shed.

The interior of the shed is finished in plaster above a simple chair rail, a wainscot of sunken panels, and a baseboard. A later feature of the shed room is its unusual Greek Revival mantel, which has a broad frieze composed of symmetrical moldings and corner blocks framing two flat panels. Other atypical and possibly later features seen in the shed room are the flat, thin projecting hoods over the windows.
Like the earlier portion of the house, the central, mid-nineteenth century section rests on a continuous stone foundation. It is sheltered by a shallow hip roof often seen on Greek Revival houses of the North Carolina piedmont and is sheathed with plain weatherboards. The house was equipped with a set of metal downspouts, adorned with decorative stars on their fronts and ornamental moons at their sides, at each of its four corners. Only one of these downspouts has survived to the present, but the current owner of the house has made three copies of the surviving downspout and installed them at the three corners of the central block.

The house follows a two-bay division on both the front (southwest) and rear (northeast) elevations, which reflects its side hall interior plan. Porches shelter entrances at both the front and rear. The rear porch has a gable-front roof and is upheld by thick tapered posts and pilasters. The front porch has a shed and is supported by thick, square-in section posts and pilasters. The walls under both porches are set in flush sheathing, and both entrances have two-leaf, four-panel doors framed by plain broad, symmetrical surrounds. The front door is surmounted by a three-light transom. The windows of the central block have typically Greek Revival six-over-six sash.

The broad stair hall occupies much of the space in the central block. The stair rises from the front of the house to a rear landing, and then rises forward to the second floor. It retains its original round handrail and thin balusters, but the simple original newel has been replaced with a late nineteenth century turned newel by the present owner. The stair hall windows have typical Greek Revival surrounds that are broad and plain on three sides with three-part molded sills and corner blocks. The hall is finished in plaster with a deep, two-part baseboard.

The first floor room is, predictably, the most elaborately finished part of the central, Greek Revival section of the house. The two-part baseboard seen in the hall recurs, but here the lower part is marbleized. The window surrounds in this room are also more elaborate than those in the hall—they consist of a broad, symmetrical molding, corner blocks, and a paneled apron. The most distinctive element of the room is the marbleized mantel, which displays the typical Greek Revival post-and-lintel form and a three-part frieze in which two undulating sections flank a central block. A recently added feature of this room is the door, constructed with nineteenth century features salvaged from other buildings, that connects the central Greek Revival section to the newly constructed wing containing the bathroom.

The second story room is less elaborate than the one below it—the window surrounds are plain on three sides with molded sills, and the deep, two-part baseboard is not marbleized. The mantel follows the familiar post-and-lintel form; its pilasters and frieze are fluted and its corner blocks are plain. As on the first floor, a door built of nineteenth century materials salvaged from other buildings, has been added to provide access to the newly constructed part of the house.
The early nineteenth century portion of the residence (known as the Dollarhite house) was moved to the property by the present owner in 1976; it formerly stood on South Hyco Creek near the Caswell County line. The previous owner had allowed the structure to deteriorate considerably, and gave it to the present owner, Mrs. Mary Merritt Winstead, provided that she move it. Mrs. Winstead added the Dollarhite house, as well as the small, newly constructed connecting block, so that she could provide the residence with kitchen and bathroom facilities without harming the integrity of the other sections of the house.

The one-and-a-half story Dollarhite house rests on a new, continuous stone foundation laid with mortar. It is sheltered by a gable roof and has a newly built random-coursed stone end chimney, also laid with mortar, which according to the present owner was designed to resemble the dwelling's original chimney. Both the front and rear facades have three-bay divisions with rebuilt six-over-nine sash windows flanking centrally placed doors. A pair of small four-over-four sash windows light the abbreviated second story at the gable end.

The interior follows a two-room plan on both the first and second stories. Both first floor rooms retain most of their original wainscot which consists of broad horizontally laid boards and is trimmed by a plain, deep baseboard and a simple chair rail. The most significant surviving feature in the Dollarhite house is the Georgian mantel in the principal first floor room, which is framed by a broad molding with mitred corners and is surmounted by a shelf with a bold, multi-part molding. An apparently original door with six flat panels, set in a thin, three-part frame, separates the principal first floor room from the smaller room where the kitchen has been installed. Most of the other doors are late nineteenth or early twentieth century five-panel ones installed by the present owner.

The stair rises along the northeast corner of the principal first floor room. The open portion of the stair rises seven steps to a two-panel door; the rest of the stair, which turns ninety degrees above a narrow landing, is enclosed. Below the enclosed landing on the first floor is a closet space whose door has four flat panels. The open portion of the stair has a balustrade whose turned newel, rounded handrail, and thin balusters were installed by the present owner. The rest of the stair is said to be original to the house.

The abbreviated second story of the house was originally finished with flush boards but is now sheet-rocked. The most notable surviving early feature is the balustrade lining the stairwell, which consists of a simple octagonal newel, a thick molded handrail, and plain, square-in-section balusters. A door with six flat panels, apparently original, separates the two second story rooms.
The newly constructed passage between the Dollarhite house and the central, Greek Revival section contains a passage and closet on the first floor and a passage and bath at the second story. There is a short stair on the second floor to connect the second story of the Dollarhite house and the slightly lower upper floor of the central, Greek Revival section.

There are two other structures on the site. The first is a one-room log building now used for storage but originally said to have been a dwelling, which was taken down, moved to the property from the site of an electric power plant under construction nearby, and rebuilt here by the present owner. The second structure is a stone well of undetermined age with a recently constructed frame canopy.

A final accessory feature of the house is the Walker family cemetery, located about one hundred yards southwest of the house. The cemetery is surrounded by a low iron fence. The gate has an iron plate with the name "J. D. Walker" inscribed upon it. The largest stones are those of Jesse Walker’s two wives; there are several other smaller stones whose inscriptions are illegible.

FOOTNOTES

1 Mary Merritt Winstead to Catherine W. Bishir, July 6, 1978.
The Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house comprises three principal sections: a one-and-a-half-story block with a shed addition, whose Georgian detail and door hardware indicate a late eighteenth century date of construction; a two-story central block whose form and Greek Revival trim denote a mid-nineteenth century construction date; and a one-and-a-half story section, moved to the property by the present owner, whose surviving details suggest an early nineteenth century date of construction. The original one-and-a-half story section is a relatively rare surviving example of late eighteenth century frame construction, and retains nearly all of its early trim and hardware. The mid-nineteenth century section is also well-preserved and features a notable marbleized mantel with a distinctive undulating frieze. The early nineteenth century section had deteriorated considerably prior to its removal from its original site and retains relatively few of its original details. Its addition to the house has, however, permitted the installation of modern kitchen facilities without damage to the two other more significant sections of the residence. The Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house is associated with two prominent Person County families: the Holloway family, whose members had large landholdings in late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Person County; and the Walker family, whose members were important figures in the mid- and late-nineteenth century tobacco industry of Person County and in the late nineteenth century tobacco industry of Durham. The one-and-a-half-story section of the house recently moved to the property was owned by Charles Smith Winstead, a Person County lawyer who was elected to several terms in the North Carolina legislature, for much of the nineteenth century.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A. The Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house is associated with both the cultivation and manufacture of tobacco during the middle and late nineteenth century, and with the increasing prosperity of the northeast piedmont as a result of tobacco's importance during this period.

B. The Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house is associated with the Holloway family, which was prominent in late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Person County. The house is also associated with the Walker family, which played a prominent role in the development of the county's tobacco industry during the middle and late nineteenth century. Jesse Walker, who built the central two-story portion of the house, was a large tobacco grower who, along with
his brother Alexander, operated a successful tobacco factory near Jesse Walker's farm. Alexander Walker later became a leading figure in the development of Durham's tobacco industry. The section of the residence known as the Dollarhite house was owned for much of the nineteenth century by Charles Smith Winstead, who was elected to several terms in the North Carolina legislature and served as both president pro-tem and speaker of the state Senate during the 1860s.

C. The one-and-a-half story eighteenth century section of the Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite house and the central, two-story, mid-nineteenth century portion, embody distinctive characteristics of the regional Georgian and Greek Revival styles, respectively. The one-and-a-half-story section is particularly significant as a rare surviving example of late eighteenth century frame construction. The central Greek Revival section retains an unusual vernacular mantel with marbleizing and a distinctive undulating frieze.
Sometime in the last two decades of the eighteenth century John Holloway built a house near what is now Douglas Road in northeast Person County. He constructed the dwelling on a tract which he had received in two parts in 1783 and 1785 when Person was part of Caswell County. The structure subsequently served as a residence for Holloway and his descendants as well as other prominent Person County families. Since its construction it has undergone two major additions. As one of the county's oldest buildings, it reflects the history of rural piedmont North Carolina.

John Holloway was a successful farmer with large landholdings in Person County. He probably grew tobacco which was the primary cash crop in the upper piedmont counties, including Person, in the period 1790-1860. Holloway township was named in honor of his family. When he died in 1799, Holloway left the tract on which he lived and 500 acres to his son James Holloway.

James Holloway owned and farmed the land until 1835 when he deeded it to his son John A. Holloway. James Holloway died approximately five years later. John A. Holloway continued to operate the farm and served in the state legislature, 1842-1843. He then migrated to Texas where he died around 1847. At his death his brother and executor William D. Holloway sold the house and 407 acres to one Jesse Walker. Walker was also a tobacco planter, and he subsequently bought an additional 225 acres from the Holloway family. In 1850 he owned twelve slaves and produced 6,500 pounds of tobacco. Like a number of North Carolina farmers and planters, he benefited from the economic surge which occurred in the state and South in the decade before the Civil War. In Person County this moderate boom was marked by the growth of the production and trade of plug and smoking tobacco. During this period of relative prosperity Walker constructed the two story Greek Revival dwelling as an addition to the Holloway house. The new structure embodied the classical features and modest elegance made possible by the profits of the antebellum era.

Following the Civil War and Reconstruction the tobacco industry in Person County revived and Jesse Walker and his brother Alexander began operating a tobacco factory near the Walker Farm. The factory was called Rose Hill, and the small community which grew up around it became known as Daysville. In 1870 the factory produced 3,000 pounds of leaf tobacco and 2,000 pounds of plug tobacco. The Walkers employed sixteen hands at the factory: six men, two women, and eight children. The Walker tobacco farm and factory remained successful throughout the late nineteenth century when the production of bright-leaf tobacco and the new popularity of cigarette smoking proved to be a boon to the tobacco industry. Alexander Walker eventually became a leader in that industry, statewide. In the 1880s he became a member of the Bull Durham firm and the Durham Tobacco Board of Trade. He helped open the first tobacco warehouses in Durham and was a strong backer of bright-leaf production. As a promoter of the Farmer's Alliance he worked to protect tobacco farmers from speculation.

In 1893 Jesse Walker deeded all his property, including his house, to his son E. M. Walker. In 1908 E. M. Walker sold the homeplace to W. H. B. Newell, a Roxboro merchant. In the following year Newell deeded the house and land to O. D. and R. D. Bailey, who were farmers and neighbors. R. D. Bailey subsequently bought out the interest of O. D. Bailey and in 1919 sold the property to Person County physician, Dr. John H. Merritt,
whose father Dr. William Merritt had been a member of the North Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1868 and of the state Senate in 1893 and 1897. When Dr. John H. Merritt died in 1944 his daughter Mary Merritt Winstead inherited the house and 192 acres. In 1976 she moved a structure known as the Dollarhite House to the site and attached it to the Holloway-Walker dwelling.

The Dollarhite House dates from the early nineteenth century and once stood on South Hyco Creek near the Caswell County line. The house tract was owned by Ezekiel Dollarhite, a farmer, who had purchased several hundred acres in the area in the 1770s. Whether he or his descendants built the homeplace is not certain, but the structure was ultimately sold by one descendant Cornelius Dollarhite to Charles Smith Winstead in the mid-nineteenth century. Winstead was a successful lawyer and landowner, and he served several terms in the state legislature, 1850-1881. He was president pro tem of the state Senate in 1868-1869 and speaker in 1865-1866. After Winstead's death in 1908, the Dollarhite House went to his heirs who gave it to Mrs. Mary Winstead in 1976 provided that she move it. She was married to Harry Wharton Winstead, grandson of Charles Smith Winstead. Mrs. Winstead moved the Dollarhite House to the present location and attached it to the Holloway-Walker dwelling "with a small link (to use as baths)."

The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are 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 probable that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.
NOTES

1 Caswell County Deed Books (microfilm), Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, Deed Book B, pp. 152, 288-289, hereinafter cited as County Deed Books with appropriate county name, book, and page number.


3 Person County Will Books (microfilm), Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, Will Book 4, p. 166, hereinafter cited as Person County Will Books.

4 Person County Deed Book O, p. 78; Person County Estate Records, James Holloway, 1840, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, hereinafter cited as Person County Estates with appropriate name and date.


6 Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Person County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 60; Slave Schedule, 13; Agricultural Schedule, 31, hereinafter cited as Person County Census with appropriate year and schedule.


8 "Notes on Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite House by Mary Merritt Winstead," two unpublished manuscripts at Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, hereinafter cited as "Winstead Notes"; Person County Census, 1870: Manufacturing Schedule, Holloway Township, 1.


10 Person County Deed Books MM, p. 63; 15, p. 383; "Winstead Notes."


12 "Winstead Notes."
13 Caswell County Deed Book A, p. 367.


15 "Winstead Notes."
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approx. 11 acres

UTM REFERENCES

Quadrangle name--Roxboro

Quadrangle scale--1:62,500

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A [1,7] 618,740,0 [4,0] 39,8,0

B [1,7] 618,760,0 [4,0] 39,7,0

C [1,7] 618,750,0 [4,0] 39,5,0

D [1,7] 618,721,0 [4,0] 39,6,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See enclosed sheet with boundary description and tax map

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Description prepared by Peter R. Kaplan, Survey & Planning Branch

Significance statement prepared by Joe A. Mobley, Research

ORGANIZATION

N. C. Division of Archives and History

DATE

December 22, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

109 E Jones Street

TELEPHONE

(919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh, North Carolina

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE

April 14, 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
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"Notes on Holloway-Walker-Dollarhite House by Mary Merritt Winstead." Two unpublished manuscripts at Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.


Person County Tax Map A-68, parcel 9 (portion of parcel), Holloway Township
Holloway-Walker Dollarhite Hse.
S. side SR1514, 0.3 mi. E. of SR1512
Bethel Hill, N. C. approx. 11 acres
Zone 17/687400/4039800
Roxboro Quad Scale 1:62,500