INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Royal-Crumpler-Parker House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

512 Sunset Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTRY

Sampson

CODE

163

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNER

SHIP

X

PRIVATE

X

PUBLIC

X

BUILDING(S)

-STRUCTURE

-SITE

-OBJECT

STATUS

X

OCCUPIED

X

UNOCCUPIED

-WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

-YES: RESTRICTED

-YES: UNRESTRICTED

-NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

James H. Parker

STREET & NUMBER

512 Sunset Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

STATE

North Carolina

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

REGISTER OF DEEDS

SAMPSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

CLINTON, N.C. 28328

DATE

Research Branch

May 22, 1985

TELEPHONE

(919) 733-6545

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

REGISTER OF DEEDS

SAMPSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

CLINTON, N.C. 28328

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Thomas Butchko

Jim Sumner, Researcher

DATE

May 22, 1985

TELEPHONE

(919) 733-6545

ORGANIZATION

Survey & Planning

Research Branch

ADDRESS

109 E. Jones Street

Raleigh,

STATE

North Carolina 27611
The finest and most intact of the Bungalow style houses in Clinton and Sampson County, this house was erected by local contractor Hardy Royal as his residence about 1918. However, he lost the house in the 1920s because of financial reverses. In 1923 Edward L. Crumpler, a farmer, bought the house, which was later inherited by his son. James Parker, a Clinton florist, bought the house in 1955 from the Crumplers and still resides here. Clinton underwent a major period of growth from 1910 to the late 1920, with several new residential sections being opened, among them Sunset Avenue. Many Bungalows date from this period, the majority being fairly small and plain. This is the opposite, combining a broad front gable, excellent porch beams, shingled gables, bracketed eaves and an excellent interior into this eloquent, vivacious example of the city's dominant style for early 20th century residences.

The one-story, frame, weatherboard, structure is generally rectangular in plan, with several projecting bays and rooms. A wide, low, cross-gable roof of standing seam metal covers the house, pierced by interior common bond brick chimneys and having a shed dormer on the front south. The porch gable, projecting to the southeast from the roof's eastern corner, is carried by three short posts on tall brick pedestals; ornamental curved posts break its severity. The porch continues to the southwest across the front facade with a covered overhead trellis of notched beams. At the extreme southwest of the porch is an octagonal greenhouse with four-over-four sash. Engaged under the broad gable of the roof, the porch wraps along the house's northeast elevation, carried by the same post on pedestals. The house's gables are wood shingled with large triangular brackets supporting the eaves. Louvered vents and small diamond pane windows are in the gables. Eaves are projecting with exposed rafters. The windows have a diamond paned upper sash over a shingle bottom sash, another intriguing element of this house. In the middle of the southwest elevation is a three-window projecting bay. Balancing this on the other elevation is a projecting rectangular bay off the dining room with a trio of windows at the top of the wall (the inside being intended for a sideboard). The rear wing of the house's roof end with a hip roof, which engages to shelter the rear screened porch and pantry.

Entrance is into the large front southeast parlor, with a smaller room on the southwest. The rest of the house is divided with a center hall with dining room, pantry and kitchen along the northeast and three bedrooms and a bath along the southwest. The plaster interior has a handsome beamed ceiling in the front room and a large, simple mantel. Other mantels are simple, representative of the mantels readily available through building supply stores. Interior woodwork is simple, with doors being in the typical form of five horizontal panels.

At the rear of the pecan tree shaded lot is a frame shed and the garage, which has a wood shingled gable like the house.
The finest and most intact of the Bungalow style houses in Clinton and Sampson County, this house was erected by local contractor Hardy Royal as his residence about 1918. However, he lost the house in the 1920s because of financial reverses. In 1923 Edward L. Crumpler, a farmer, bought the house, which was later inherited by his son. James Parker, a Clinton florist, bought the house in 1955 from the Crumplers and still resides here. Clinton underwent a major period of growth from 1910 to the late 1920s, with several new residential sections being opened, among them Sunset Avenue. Many Bungalows date from this period, the majority being fairly small and plain. This is the opposite, combining a broad front gable, excellent porch beams, shingled gables, bracketed eaves and an excellent interior into this eloquent, vivacious example of the city's dominant style for early 20th century residences.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A. The house is indicative of the growth and expansion of Clinton during the first quarter of the 19th century.

C. In a town with several neighborhoods of pleasant 1910s and 1920s Bungalows, this residence is one of the earliest and finest. Its form and treatment displays the outstanding possibilities of the style in middle and upper level architecture.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Royal-Crumpler-Parker house is located in Clinton and is perhaps the finest Bungalow-style house in the county. The house dates from around 1918, a period when an expanding Clinton saw the creation of a number of new residential neighborhoods, including the Sunset Avenue section where the house is located.

The house was built by Hardy M. Royal, a Clinton contractor, as his residence. In January of 1924, Royal and his wife Roberta sold the house and three adjacent city lots to Edward L. Crumpler for $6,800.1 Crumpler (1868 - 1940) was a member of a leading Sampson County family. His father, Robert M. Crumpler, represented Sampson County in the North Carolina General Assembly for three terms from 1895 until 1900. Edward Crumpler was a successful farmer, then a Clinton businessman. He also served as chairman of the Sampson County Commissioners. At his death, he was survived by his widow, Mrs. Maybelle Marshburn Crumpler, and his son, J. F. Crumpler, a Rocky Mount physician.2 In 1955, Dr. Crumpler sold the house and land to its present owner, James Parker, a Clinton florist.

Footnotes

1 Sampson County Deed Book 402, p. 398.


3 Sampson County Deed Book 640, p. 211.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Owner
The News and Observer, Raleigh, August 4, 1940.
Sampson County Deed Book 402, p. 398, Sampson County Courthouse.
Sampson County Deed Book 640, p. 211, Sampson County Courthouse.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property to be nominated is the house lot at 512 Sunset Avenue in Clinton, being the parcel as described in the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office, Book 640, p. 211. A copy of the deed is attached.