

WA17-143

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Wake	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Hawkins-Hartness House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
310 North Blount Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh (Third Congressional District, Hon. Nick Galifianakis)

STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37	COUNTY: Wake	CODE: 183
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of North Carolina (Division of Property Control)

STREET AND NUMBER:
116 West Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Fayetteville Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37
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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:
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hawkins-Hartness House is a large, imposing two-and-one-half-story Victorian building of pressed brick dominated by a four-story tower. The total effect of the house, unusually severe for its period, is derived from the striking combination of the boldly modeled asymmetrical massing of projecting elements, the dramatic angularity of the complex roof forms, and the smooth surface of the pressed brick. Except for the verandah and the dormers, there is practically no exterior ornament to distract from the strong lines of the building itself.

The exterior configuration of the house expresses the asymmetrical plan, with rooms clearly indicated by numerous two-story projections. The doors and windows are set in molded surrounds and outlined by a sawtooth motif, which recurs at the molded cornice that marks the heavy overhang of the roof. The tall, rather narrow windows with plate glass sash are accented by plain stone sills and lintels. A band of the same stone marks the water table above the high basement. Four paneled interior chimneys rise from the roof, two on each side.

The tower in the center of the main (west) facade, essentially one bay wide, contains a paneled double door surmounted by a single-light transom. The upper panels of each leaf of the door are ornamented by delicate incised foliate patterns; the transom formerly contained ornamental frosted glass. The second level of the tower is marked by a pair of windows, and the third by a triple window. At the fourth level there are two small windows on each of the four faces of the tower. Their sills project from a continuous stone stringer that delineates the final section of the tower. The tower is surmounted by a cross-gable jerkin-head roof with splayed eaves. Like the roof of the main block, it is covered with patterned slate.

The demi-octagonal projection to the north of the tower has windows in each of the two stories marking the three front bays. The projection is capped by a steep demi-octagonal conical roof that merges with the roof of the main block. Corresponding to the windows below are gable-roof dormers with bracketed architraves. The one-bay south portion of the facade is slightly recessed and has a single dormer on the roof.

Extending across the front of the building and part way along the sides is a one-story hip-roof Eastlake style porch, said to have been added at the request of the first mistress of the house to relieve its overly severe appearance. Resembling that of the nearby governor's mansion, the porch achieves this effect. Raised on a brick foundation, it is supported by turned posts between which run a balustrade composed of two horizontal rails and, beneath the roof line, a spindle course. The porch ceiling features exposed chamfered rafters that create an interesting radiating pattern. Protecting the steps leading up to the porch is a small shed-roof extension defined by a small gable (between the main porch roof and the extension) filled with flat vertical slats with intricate pierced designs. To the north the porch extends into a porte cochere.

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7. A

The north and south sides and the rear of the house are each composed of asymmetrically arranged two-story projections, most having windows at both levels beneath the overhanging eaves of the roof. The most prominent projection on each facade features a jerkin-head gable with splayed eaves and has a small gable window or pair of windows. The south side is dominated by a projection two bays wide and one bay deep, which is flanked by a one-bay expanse to the west and a brief windowless expanse to the east. There is a two-story L on the north side of the rear which is one bay wide and two bays deep. An enclosed one-story shed porch is located between the L and the main block. The long north side is made up of a series of four different planes, each two bays wide, and is dominated by the one-bay-deep projection. The two west bays are marked by blind windows on the first level.

To the rear of the house are a garage and a servants' quarters, both one-story brick buildings. The latter repeats in simplified fashion the treatment of the house.

The interior of the Hawkins-Hartness House, while still not as ornate as seems usual in a major Victorian house, is more elaborately ornamented than the exterior. The conversion of the structure from a residence to a state office building has required the installation of temporary partitions and other minor changes. Considerable effort was made to retain the feeling of the house, however, and practically all the original interior finish remains.

Consistent throughout the house is the use of a panel motif that appears on doors, on wainscots, and below the windows. The panel, whether square or rectangular, is outlined by rails and stiles whose inner edges are deeply chamfered for most of the length of the panel; the chamfering stops shortly before reaching the corner. From a distance this treatment creates an optical illusion, making the corners appear to be rounded. Also used throughout the house are extremely heavy molded cornices and molded or reeded baseboards and door surrounds. The various fine woods (mahogany, pine, and walnut) used through the house are in most rooms not obscured by paint or heavy varnish but only oiled, thus revealing the character of each type. All of the major rooms feature individualized, elaborately modeled three-dimensional plaster ceiling medallions from which formerly were suspended gaslight fixtures. Handsome hardware with incised geometric patterns is found throughout the house.

The house has a center-hall plan with two major rooms on either side. The rooms are unequal in size and their arrangement is not symmetrical. The front double door opens into a small vestibule that was formerly separated from the main hall by inner double doors, now removed. The long central hall has a paneled wainscot five feet in height composed of a range of small horizontal panels above a range of vertical ones. (The walls of the vestibule are similarly treated.) The lozenge-shaped ceiling medallion features

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7. B

intertwined shell and fern motifs. The northwest room, whose front portion is semi-octagonal in plan, has the three large front windows. They are surrounded by heavy molded architraves that extend to the floor, framing three flat panels beneath each window. The original wooden drapery fixtures in this room remain. As in all rooms except the halls on each floor, the walls are plastered between a high baseboard and a heavy molded cornice. The mantel consists of a heavy shelf supported by elongated consoles incised with delicate floral patterns. The opening, framed by multicolor geometric tile which is repeated on the hearth, contains an ornate cast-iron fireplace cover ("summer grate front") featuring a grotesque bearded mask. Paneled double doors lead into the northeast room, formerly the dining room, as is indicated by the appropriate use of fruit in the ceiling medallion. The mantel and woodwork here are basically like that in the northwest room, although one panel, not three, occurs beneath each window. (The single panel recurs throughout the rest of the major rooms.) Behind the dining room is a large butlers' pantry finished with vertical sheathing.

The other front (southwest) room features a particularly remarkable medallion. It is round and has four fully-modeled classical female heads projecting from circular frames with Greek key patterns entwined by vines and flowers. The mantel in this room is similar to those previously described, but lacks the colorful tile and is somewhat less ornate. The mantel in the southeast room is quite different, however, for it is of marble with plain, heavy pilaster strips supporting a simple shelf above an arched opening. Applied geometric shields and bosses provide the only ornament. The fireplace cover features a disc with a flying draped figure in low relief. The ceiling medallion employs entwined foliage.

At the rear of the hall, to the south of the stair, a paneled double door leads to the cross hall that provides access to service rooms, a rear stair, and a recently enclosed porch. Each leaf of the door contains a large pane of frosted glass delicately ornamented with a fountain, doves, and foliage. The closed-string stair ascends in two flights with an intervening transverse landing. The heavy square newel topped by a ball is elaborately ornamented with incised floral and geometric designs. The molded handrail is supported by sturdy turned balusters. The hall wainscot continues up the stair. At either end of the landing is a paneled door with a frosted pane; the north door leads to the service area and stair, the other to the attic stair.

The second floor hall has a wainscot similar to that of the main hall, but only four feet in height. On this floor most of the woodwork has been painted white. The plan is essentially similar to the first floor, except that the northeast section contains a number of smaller rooms. The major second-floor rooms have simple marble mantels with openings that are filled by ornate fireplace covers. Among the most interesting of the ceiling medallions is that in the southeast room, a sinuous composition of shells and ferns.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On October 26, 1881, Dr. Alexander B. Hawkins of Leon County, Florida, bought the house located on Raleigh city lot 267, at the southeast corner of Blount and North streets. The house had formerly belonged to Mary W. Bryan. Family tradition says that Dr. Hawkins purchased it because his wife Martha, was particularly fond of it. Dr. and Mrs. Hawkins then returned to their home in Florida, the tradition continues, after asking Dr. Hawkins's brother, Dr. William J. Hawkins of Raleigh, to have the Bryan house renovated for them during their absence. When they returned, it is said, the Hawkinses found to their dismay that the brother had removed the Bryan house and built a new house of his own design for them. Mrs. Hawkins is believed to have added the verandah to modify what she considered to be the overly severe appearance of the exterior. Whatever their original reaction to it, the Hawkinses found the house enough to their liking that they lived there for the rest of their lives.

Before Raleigh had a city-wide water system, Dr. Hawkins devised an elaborate arrangement of his own. A windmill in the back yard pumped water from a well into a tank located in the attic. This water was used for utilities. A 6,000-gallon rainwater cistern in the north garden furnished filtered drinking water for the Hawkins house and the governor's mansion just to the south. According to Mrs. Marshall D. Haywood, who lived in the Hawkins House as a girl, "Uncle David [one of the governor's servants] came over there with his cedar bucket and toted the water over to the mansion for them to drink. When that governor would end his regime, Dr. Hawkins would call up the next governor and invite him to have water from the cistern."

A. B. Hawkins conveyed the house to his sister-in-law, Martha H. Bailey, on June 19, 1895, with two deeds. Miss Bailey had been living with the Hawkinses for many years, and the housing arrangement continued until the death of Dr. Hawkins, Mrs. Hawkins having died some time previously. Following Dr. Hawkins's death, Miss Bailey sold the house on January 6, 1922, to Sadie L. Erwin, the wife of William A. Erwin, manufacturer and philanthropist. The Erwins, who kept the house until May 5, 1928, but apparently never lived there, sold the house to Mrs. Annie Sloan Hartness, whose husband, James A. Hartness, was North Carolina Secretary of State between 1929 and 1931. The state of North Carolina acquired the property in July, 1969, following Mrs. Hartness's death. The house, currently being used by the State Department of Local Affairs, has been converted to use as offices. Despite the installation of partitions and other necessary modifications, it was changed as little as possible.

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8.

The Hawkins-Hartness House is notable for the imposing dignity of its relatively severe exterior and the fine craftsmanship of its interiors. One of a group of late nineteenth century houses remaining on North Blount Street, it is an exemplary instance of an urban dwelling preserved through well-executed adaptation for office use.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroup: Deeds).

Wake County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroup: Deeds).

Wakefield Junior Historian Club interview, 1968, with Mrs. Mattie D. Haywood, (long-time resident of Hawkins house and niece of Mrs. A. B. Hawkins). Transcription of interview in possession of State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		35 00 48	78 00 36	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0			57"	
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 Acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Survey and Planning Unit, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: September 7, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 *J. B. Wells*

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date September 7, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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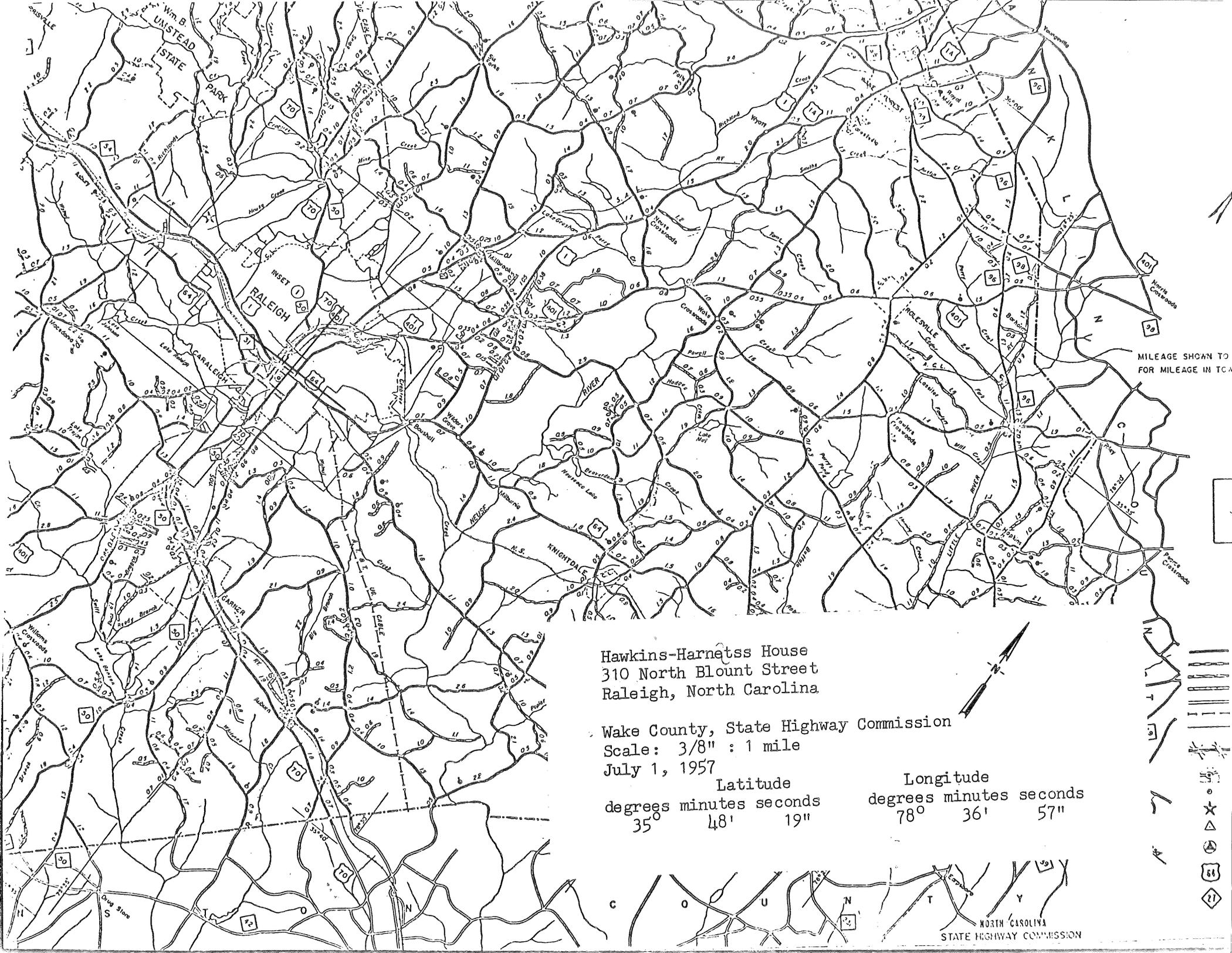
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9.

Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson. North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh. Raleigh,
North Carolina: North Carolina State University Print Shop, 1967.



MILEAGE SHOWN TO
FOR MILEAGE IN TO

Hawkins-Harnetts House
310 North Blount Street
Raleigh, North Carolina

Wake County, State Highway Commission
Scale: 3/8" : 1 mile
July 1, 1957

Latitude
degrees minutes seconds
35° 48' 19"

Longitude
degrees minutes seconds
78° 36' 57"

