NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
   COMMON:
   Tucker-Carriage House
   AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   East side 100 block, St. Mary's Street
   CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
   STATE: North Carolina

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (Check One)
   ■ District
   ■ Site
   ■ Object
   ■ Building
   ■ Structure
   ■ Structure
   ■ Object
   OWNERSHIP
   ■ Public
   ■ Private
   ■ Both
   PUBLIC ACQUISITION:
   ■ In Process
   ■ Being Considered
   ■ Not Applicable
   STATUS
   ■ Occupied
   ■ Unoccupied
   ■ Preservation
   ■ Other (Specify)
   ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
   ■ Yes
   ■ Restricted
   ■ Unrestricted
   ■ No

4. MOTION TO EXPAND (Check One or More as Appropriate)
   ■ Agricultural
   ■ Government
   ■ Park
   ■ Transportation
   ■ Commercial
   ■ Industrial
   ■ Private Residence
   ■ Other (Specify)
   ■ Educational
   ■ Military
   ■ Religious
   ■ Storage
   ■ Scientific

5. POWER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   Mrs. Norman Edgerton
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Tatton Hall, Oberlin Road
   CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
   STATE: North Carolina

6. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
   Wake County Courthouse
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
   STATE: North Carolina

7. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   TITLE OF SURVEY:
   DATE OF SURVEY:
   DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORD:
   CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
   STATE: North Carolina

8. FOR NPS USE ONLY
   ENTRY DATE:
   CODE:
   STATE:
   COUNTY:
   FOR NPS USE ONLY
   ENTRY DATE
7. DESCRIPTION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Deteriorated</th>
<th>Ruins</th>
<th>Unexposed</th>
<th>Altered</th>
<th>Unaltered</th>
<th>Moved</th>
<th>Original Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

The Tucker Carriage House is a handsome one-and-a-half story frame structure, the last remaining building of a once splendid nineteenth century Raleigh estate. The building, the only surviving carriage house of its size and era within the city, is a functional structure executed with all the flamboyance of the Queen Anne style. Despite encroachment by one of Raleigh’s main traffic arteries and accompanying commercial district, the site is heavily wooded and retains much of its original suburban character.

A stone retaining wall built of rock-faced random ashlar runs along the street (west) edge of the yard; at either lateral end the wall terminates in sturdy ashlar posts framing the carriage path which leads up from the road to the south (main) entrance, sweeps around the building and descends on the north. The building, which measures 35 feet deep, 100 feet long, and 48 feet high, is three bays deep and seven long; it stands at the north end of the lot upon a foundation of brick piers laid in one-to-three, one-to-five, and one-to-seven common bond. A small one-story shed, walled with large louvered panels, projects from the northwestern end of the west elevation and rests on a common bonded brick foundation.

The carriage house is sheathed with weatherboarding trimmed by plain beaded board cornerposts at the first level, and with imbricated shakes arranged in a pattern of alternating rectangular and rounded elements at the loft level. The whole is covered by a steep hip roof, gabled on the main facade, irregularly punctuated by shed dormers. Along the center bay of the roof is pierced by a square-in-plan louvered cupola crowned by a bellcast hip roof with a slender lance-like finial. Covering the roof are semi-octagonal imbricated slate shingles polychromed in the form of large rosettes. Several gablets project from the main body of the roof: two on the western elevation, one located towards the front and one towards the rear; and one on the eastern elevation, centered directly beneath the cupola and containing a hoist for lifting bales of hay into the stable loft. In addition, the two western bays of the main facade feature a loft level gable end overhang whose soffit is sheathed with thin diagonally laid ceiling. Each gablet and gable end is covered with sawtooth shakes and supported by elongated cyma reversa consoles, each incised with a delicate volute. The boldly molded cornice returns slightly into both gablets of the western elevation.

The central entrance consists of massive sliding double doors, each leaf containing six flat panels diagonally sheathed with thin beaded boards and surmounted by a large plate glass window bordered by sixteen small square lights. The rear double doors are similar in design, although each leaf contains eight panels, with the uppermost pair glazed.

Penetration placement is highly irregular but can generally be divided into two types: high square casement windows and double-hung sash of various sizes with the upper half skirted by tiny square panes. Exterior window trim is rather consistently composed of plain board surrounds onto which fillet and ovolo molded sills and lintels are superimposed.
### S. SIGNIFICANCE

**PERIOD** (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 16th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

**SPECIFIC DATES** (If Applicable and Known)

- ca. 1890

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE** (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Aboriginal
- Prehistoric
- Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Religion/Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Human
- Italian
- Urban Planning
- Other (Specify)

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tucker Carriage House is a large, picturesque frame building, located near the heart of downtown Raleigh. Its ambitious scale, irregular form, and rich surface treatments of patterned shingled walls, polychromed slate roof, and essentially unaltered condition make it an impressive and rare example of a Queen Anne style outbuilding, representative of the nineteenth century suburban estates that wealthy citizens once occupied on the edges of Raleigh. It served the grand Italianate house (now gone) and perhaps the business of Rufus S. Tucker, one of Raleigh's leading merchants and most influential citizens.

The Tucker Carriage House is the only building known to survive that was connected with Rufus Sylvester Tucker, one of Raleigh's post-Civil War wealthiest merchants. Tucker began his mansion house in 1858, probably designed by William Percival, an outstanding architect then working in Raleigh. It was completed the next year, with the firm of Thomas Briggs and James Dodd as the builders. (Percival also designed in the 1850s the First Baptist Church and Montfort Hall in Raleigh, New East and New West at Chapel Hill, plus several buildings in Tarboro.) This large, brick, Italianate mansion was razed in 1964. It had a number of outbuildings of varying uses, including carriage house, servants' houses, and wagon and wood sheds. As early as 1909 a Raleigh map shows the estate had a bowling green or alley, in front of the house. Today, only the great carriage house remains.

Rufus Sylvester Tucker (1829-1894) was one of the most influential men in Raleigh. He rose to the rank of major in the Confederate army, became a director of the North Carolina Railroad Company, the Seaboard Airline System, and the largest private stockholder in the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company. He was a director of banks in Raleigh and New Bern, was for over thirty-one years a director of the institution for the deaf, dumb and blind in Raleigh, and was for many years its president. Major Tucker was one of the largest owners of city property in Raleigh, and he had extensive farming and cattle operations in Wake County. With his brothers he was a partner in the mercantile firm of W. H. and R. S. Tucker, which had been established by his father, Ruffin Tucker, in 1818.

The exact date of construction of the carriage house is uncertain. A map, entitled "Birds Eye View of the City of Raleigh," dated 1872, shows...
the Tucker estate, but the carriage house is not shown. O. W. Gray and Son, of Philadelphia, mapped the Raleigh area in 1882, but no carriage house is shown at the Tucker mansion. The first time the Sanborn Insurance map showed the Tucker property is 1909, the year the widow Tucker died. In that year the great carriage house is shown. As early as 1883 the account books of Thomas Briggs show the firm of W. H. and R. S. Tucker buying materials for a "wagon shed." This was probably the wagon shed shown on the 1909 Sanborn map. It is likely that the firm of Thomas Briggs also built the carriage house.

The building may have served also as stables and storage for the large Tucker mercantile operations. The carriage house has a large amount of storage space, and there were numerous stalls for mules or horses.

Dr. James N. Rogers, a prominent Raleigh physician, and large owner of city real estate, purchased the estate from the Tucker heirs. Several parts of the horse stalls were removed by Dr. Rogers’s daughter, Mrs. Norman Edgerton, about 1940, and installed at the stables at her house, Tatton Hall on Oberlin Road in Raleigh. The carriage house is now owned by the heirs of Dr. Rogers, and is currently for sale. An option has been purchased by the Raleigh Housing Authority.
## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Clipping File, North Carolina Collection, UNC Library, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Interview with Mrs. Norman Edward Edgerton, Raleigh, North Carolina.

December 1, 1974.


Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina

(Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

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## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES

**DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY**

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<thead>
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<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
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**OR**

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<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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### APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

2 acre

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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### FORM PREPARED BY:

**NAME AND TITLE:**

Research by John Baxton Flowers, III, survey specialist;

architectural description by Mary Alice Hinson, survey consultant.

**ORGANIZATION:**

Division of Archives and History

**DATE:**

23 January 1975

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

109 East Jones Street

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Raleigh

**STATE:**

North Carolina

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## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION 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:**

Robert F. Stipe

**State Historic Preservation Officer**

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## NATIONAL REGISTRY VERIFICATION

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

**Director, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation**

**Date:**

**ATTEST:**

Keeper of The National Register

**Date:**
Wake County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Deeds, Wills)