

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	North Carolina
COUNTY:	Wayne
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME				
COMMON: Vernon				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Anna Maria Ward House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Not to be published, see continuation sheet 2</u>				
CITY OR TOWN: Mt. Olive vicinity				
STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37			
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third The Hon. David N. Henderson				
COUNTY: Wayne				
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" 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: Mr. Henry Jernigan				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Mt. Olive		STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37	STATE: North Carolina
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Wayne County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Goldsboro		STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37	STATE: North Carolina
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Frances Benjamin Johnson Collection				
DATE OF SURVEY:		<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress		<input type="checkbox"/> Local		
STREET AND NUMBER: East Capitol and Independence Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		STATE: D. C.	CODE: 	FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

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(Continuation Sheet)

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2. Location

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

East side of S.R. 1117 at junction with S.R. 1118

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Vernon, a large two-story frame house of Federal design, stands in a large field at the end of a dirt lane. The structure, five bays wide and two bays deep, is set on brick piers with stone bases and capped by a steep gable roof covered with tin. Traces of the original beaded weather-boarding remain. The main entrance, in the center bay of the main (west) facade, is a triple door composed of three leaves. The original door contained two-flat paneled leaves, each three panels wide. The present door resulted from the removal of the innermost panel of each leaf and the insertion of an additional leaf between the original leaves. The door is surmounted by a large fanlight, divided in the center into two quarter-round sections. The wooden muntins of the fanlight form a lozenge pattern with a scalloped border--a bold vernacular design which hints at the exuberant vernacular interior ornament. The entrance is surrounded by a molded architrave and flanked by flat-paneled wall sheathing and flat-paneled pilasters. The one-story shed porch protecting the entrance is a twentieth century replacement for an impressive mid-nineteenth century two-story porch of Italianate Revival design.

Nine-over-nine and nine-over-six sash windows illuminate the first and second stories respectively, with the exception of the rear elevation, where nine-over-nine sash occurs in both stories. Large six-pane casement windows pierce the gable ends. Simple molded architraves surround the windows. The center bay at the second story of the main facade now contains a window, a replacement for the door which formerly opened to the upper porch. An elaborate Federal cornice with corbel, modillion, and dentil courses decorates the front and rear eaves, continuing around and into the pedimented gable ends. The cornice is interrupted in the two center bays of the rear elevation. At each end is an exterior brick chimney laid in one-to-five common bond, with single stepped shoulders and a molded cap, ornamented with a stuccoed band and sawtooth brickwork.

A one-story frame gabled wing with an interior brick chimney projects from the rear southeast corner of the house. This wing has been greatly altered, but beaded siding and nine-over-nine sash windows smaller than those which light the main block indicate that this wing may be a portion of the earlier Federal period house believed to have been on the site. The break in the rear cornice of the main block and slightly lower placement of the second-story windows beneath this break may indicate that the earlier house was two stories in height.

Vernon follows a center-hall plan one room deep. The remarkable interior trim is in an excellent state of preservation. The parlor (located north of the hall) is a vigorous and highly individualized vernacular interpretation of an elaborate room of late Georgian character; despite some Federal motifs. The tripartite mantel and overmantel form the focus of the retardaire room. Heavy turned colonnettes support the mantel entablature, which is articulated by projecting end blocks and a center tablet. The frieze is bordered below by an astragal band and above by a cornice of vertical pierced lozenge bands. Oval sunbursts in high relief adorn the center tablet (which is outlined by a beaded molding) and end blocks. Bold applied trefoil motifs flank the center tablet. The very

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7.

heavy molded shelf, which echoes the frieze projections, contains a horizontal pierced lozenge band. Identical colonnettes support the entablature of the overmantel, which is surmounted by an open pediment. The frieze is identical to the mantel frieze with one exception: in place of the trefoils are sinuous foliage motifs. The pediment, ornamented with trim identical to the mantel cornice and shelf, has in addition a dentil course outlining the tympanum and a three-tier finial rising within the open arms of the pediment. The posts and entablature of the overmantel frame a flat-paneled area with a central pedestal of small colonnettes supporting a molded shelf.

The other woodwork of the parlor, consisting of a wainscot, pedimented overdoors and windows, and a heavy cornice, is equally ornate, if less vernacular. The wainscot consists of a flat-paneled dado and a molded chair rail with a horizontal lozenge course. Wide molded, crossetted architraves surround the windows and the flat-paneled doors. Flat-paneled pilasters break out from the wainscot to form pedestals for the window surrounds. Above each opening is an entablature with a dentil course and an open pediment similar to that of the overmantel. The wooden ceiling cornice consists of a frieze ornamented with alternating pierced quatrefoil and arch motifs and a modillion course. In the center of the ceiling is a large plaster medallion composed of radiating acanthus leaves bordered by an outer acanthus ring. The original door in the rear parlor wall, identical to the other parlor doors, opened to a rear section which has been demolished.

The remaining rooms, although more restrained, follow the same pattern of interior treatment as the parlor: plastered walls and ceiling, an ornate vernacular mantel, and more academic woodwork. Simple molded architraves occur in these rooms. The flat-paneled dado and molded chair rail are present in the first-floor south room and in the second-story north room, while a plastered dado and molded chair rail occur in the hall at both levels and in the second-floor south room. The most interesting of these mantels is the second-floor north room mantel, a large tripartite mantel with a center tablet containing a sunburst with two pierced focii which bear an eerie resemblance to eyes. The simple stair rises in a double flight against the north wall of the hall at both levels to the unfinished attic. The stair railing consists of a plain square newel and balusters and an oval handrail. The open string is adorned with curvilinear brackets, and the spandrel, which conceals a closet on the first floor, is covered with flush sheathing.

The rear wing contains two rooms and a hall. The west room, adjoining the main block, has a small mantel with a molded surround, a raised-paneled frieze, a dentil cornice, and a molded shelf. The design of this mantel appears to predate those of the main block, and is perhaps a remnant of the fabric of the earlier house. The woodwork of this room matches that of the main block. The remaining fabric of the wing is of twentieth century vintage.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

8. SIGNIFICANCE																																									
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)																																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century		<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century		<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century																																					
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)																																									
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)																																									
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<p>Vernon, the most ornate antebellum house in Wayne County, was probably finished circa 1837 for Anna Maria Ward. The house has statewide architectural significance as a remarkable example of vernacular inventiveness. The surprising juxtaposition of bold original forms and competently executed academic trim demonstrate the technical and creative ability of the anonymous craftsman responsible for the ornament. The retardataire Georgian parlor, the most lavishly ornamented room in the house, is an important example of North Carolina nineteenth century folk art.</p> <hr/> <p>Vernon is located near the deed lines of two tracts of land, making it difficult to determine when the house might have been built. On March 22, 1820, Edward and Anna Maria Ward gave a "life interest deed" (amounting to a lease) on land inherited from her mother, Ann Bass Blackman, to Ezekiel Slocumb, containing "all that part of the aforesaid land which lies between the road leading from the said Mrs. Blackman's Mill to Thunder Swamp Meeting House and a Branch called the big branch or Blunt's Branch being the lands on which the said Ward is now building." This deed stipulated that Slocumb was to return use of the land to Mrs. Ward if General Ward died before she did. General Ward died in August 1834. Slocumb returned the land to Anna Rhodes Ward in a deed of 1835.</p> <p>On July 27, 1835, Daniel Kornegay deeded to Ann M. Ward, 103 acres "on the east side of Thunder Swamp on the west side of Brooke's Swamp joining the lands of Samuel Flowers and others." This tract is included in all the subsequent sales of the Vernon property, and it is now impossible to determine if the house sits on this land, or on the earlier tract that had originally belonged to Ann Bass Blackman. Strong local tradition states that a two-story back section of the house was the original house. This section was removed sometime between 1884 and 1900, and a service section was added to replace it. This two-story section may have been the house Ward was building in 1820 before he and Anna Maria removed to his native Onslow County.</p> <p>Anna Maria was the daughter of General James Rhodes and his wife Ann Bass. Anna Maria (1797-1859) married first Major General Edward Ward of Onslow County (1779-1834), who was an outstanding soldier in the War of 1812. Her second husband was Dr. Buckner L. Hill of Duplin County (1800-1860). Tradition has it that Anna Maria and General Ward went to Onslow County to live about 1820. The deed to Slocumb would substantiate this.</p>																																									

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When Ward died in 1834, Anna Maria apparently returned to Wayne County. From extant deeds and from strong local tradition, it is believed that after her return to Wayne County Anna Maria Ward built the major portion of the house on her plantation (which she called "Vernon" at least as early as 1840). The back two-story section may have been the house she built with her first husband, but it seems likely that the major portion of what remains was built about 1837, the date put forward by local tradition.

In her will, dated September 26, 1857, Anna Maria Hill left to her adopted daughter, and namesake, Anna Maria Garber, "the plantation I now live on and all the land belonging to me on the south side of Brooks Swamp, and my plantations lying in Duplin County on the south side of Goshion /sic/." This Anna Maria Garber was the daughter of James Rhodes, brother to Anna Maria, and his second wife, Edna Maria Kornegay, a daughter of Daniel Kornegay. She also left Mrs. Garber a large amount of mahogany furniture and silver, which Garber descendants say was sent from Wilmington to Mobile, Alabama, by boat and then by land to the home of Dr. and Mrs. Garber in Sumter County, Alabama.

Anna Maria's nephew, Joseph Rhodes Hatch (1821-1884), purchased the property from the Garbers. The property passed out of the Hatch family in 1884 when it was sold to C. F. R. Kornegay, in whose family it remained from 1884 to 1918. It is now owned by Henry Jernigan.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Research by John Baxton Flowers, survey specialist; architectural description by Ruth Little Stokes, survey specialist.
- Moore, Claude Hunter. "Hatch Family Traces History to Englishman," Mount Olive Tribune, November 9, 1971.
- Wayne County Records, Wayne County Courthouse, Goldsboro, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
- Wayne County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, and Gravestone Records).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	O R	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	0 ° 0' 0"	0 ° 0' 0"		35 ° 13' 50"	78 ° 05' 51"
NE	0 ° 0' 0"	0 ° 0' 0"			
SE	0 ° 0' 0"	0 ° 0' 0"			
SW	0 ° 0' 0"	0 ° 0' 0"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Division of Archives and History

8 May 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:

109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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



Thornton W. Mitchell

Title Acting Director, Division of Archives and HistoryDate 8 May 1974

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____







