

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC George W. Wall House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER SE corner of junction of NC 109 and SR 1723 in Wallburg

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
Wallburg

VICINITY OF

STATE
North Carolina

CODE
037

COUNTY
Davidson

CODE
057

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<u>N/A</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Clara Wall Teague

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 8

CITY, TOWN
Wallburg

VICINITY OF

STATE
North Carolina 27373

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Davidson County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Lexington

STATE
North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Ruth Little, Consultant

ORGANIZATION
Survey and Planning Branch

DATE
May 12, 1983

STREET & NUMBER
Division of Archives and History

TELEPHONE
919/733-6545

CITY OR TOWN
Raleigh

STATE
North Carolina 27611

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The George W. Wall House is one of the finest examples of late Victorian domestic architecture in Davidson County. The builder and owner, George W. Wall, erected this expansive two-story frame Queen Anne Revival style house in 1896 on Main Street in Wallburg, where he and his brothers had founded a lumber company in the late 1880s. The bracketted wrap-around porch with floor-length windows with stained glass accents, and the cross-gables with decorative sawnwork which enliven the front three elevations give the Wall House a splendor unmatched by typical late nineteenth century Davidson residences.

The main block of the house is three bays wide and two bays deep, set on a low brick foundation and covered by a deck-on-hip roof. A two-story, two-bay deep wing with a gable roof projects from the rear elevation. The walls are finished with plain weatherboard, the roof with composition shingles. Two interior chimneys supply corner fireplaces to each of the four rooms flanking the center hall, but the stacks have been removed above the roof level. The interior chimney between the two rooms on each floor of the rear wing is still intact. The house has undergone only three significant alterations since its construction. In 1908 a bathroom was added behind the kitchen. In 1916 a larger dining room was added behind the original dining room, with an entrance from the side porch, and the back porch was enclosed. In 1973 the east side porch which sheltered the rear wing was replaced by an enclosed sunroom.

The main entrance, in the center bay of the front (north) elevation, is a double paneled door with Eastlake trim. The upper half of each leaf is glazed, with colored glass borders. All of the windows are two-over-two sash with plain surrounds and wooden louvered shutters. The upper sash of the windows flanking the main entrance, and the window above the main entrance, have stained glass in decorative geometric patterns characteristic of the Queen Anne style. The side and rear entrances are single paneled doors with glazed upper halves. The wide boxed eaves have a dentil cornice. In the center of the front and side elevations is a large cross-gable covered with diagonal flush sheathing in decorative patterns. In the center of each gable is a segmentally arched single pane window with an Eastlake pediment. Bargeboards with scalloping and finials outline the apex of each gable. The rear wing has a pedimented gable end covered with plain weatherboard.

A one-story porch extends the full length of the front elevation and wraps around the west side elevation to the rear wing. Turned posts with fan-shaped brackets and a spindle frieze support the hip roof. A railing of slender turned balusters encloses the porch. The porch eaves are identical to the main roof eave treatment.

The interior follows a center-hall two-room deep plan on both floors, with a kitchen and dining room on the first floor of the rear wing and two bedrooms on its second floor. The two front rooms of the first floor served as parlors; the west rear room was a second dining room and the east rear room was the master

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bedroom. The most ornately finished room in the house is the entrance hall, which is completely sheathed with wood in a variety of intricate designs. Above the vertically sheathed wainscot and chair rail, the walls and ceilings are covered with diagonal sheathing. The focus of this space is the massive ornate stair railing of vernacular Eastlake design. The thick, chamfered newel has chevron, bead, rondel and finial ornament of applied wood. The stair railing consists of an open-string with a border engraved with a vine design and curvilinear brackets. Beaded balusters support a heavy molded rail. Between each baluster, a turned spindle occupies the lower half of the space, while a sawnwork panel below the rail silhouettes, in negative, a stylized flower blossom. The stair opening in the hall ceiling is richly decorated with two shallow arches, finished with vertical sheathing, with a heavy finial at the corner above the stair newel. These arches form a canopy effect over the staircase. The stair railing of the upper hall is similar to the lower railing, and a dripcourse of arched Gothic design is applied to the arches as a lower termination of the upper railing.

All other rooms in the house are finished with plaster walls and ceilings and high molded baseboards. Symmetrically molded architraves with rondel corner blocks surround the windows and doors. All doors have five flat panels, with cast-iron rim locks and porcelain knobs. All of the mantels throughout the house are original, and most continue the Eastlake whimsy of the staircase, particularly the one in the west parlor. Paired bracketted colonnettes, with connecting spindles, frame a cornice with engraved floral decoration and a frieze with alternating applied spindles and rondels. The mirrored overmantel has a correspondingly ornate frame. In contrast to the parlor mantel, the dining room mantel is Neo-Classical in style, with Doric colonnettes flanking the fireplace opening and the overmantel mirror. Its chaste, standardized design indicates that it was probably ordered as a unit from a millwork factory, while the parlor mantel and the other more vernacular mantels and the staircase were probably assembled from disparate pieces of woodwork by the builders on the site.

On the second floor, all of the bedrooms contain subdued versions of the first floor mantels with the exception of the west front bedroom. Here is a vernacular design of equal originality to the west parlor mantel. Flanking pilasters, functioning as what-not shelves, frame a cornice with engraved floral ornament and a frieze with large sunburst designs. In the front east bedroom, an enclosed stair leads to the unfinished attic. A third stair, also enclosed, leads from the kitchen to the upstairs back bedroom, probably used originally for kitchen help. Most of the ceiling light fixtures in the house were installed in 1908 when a Delco generator at the lumber mill began to supply electricity to the house.

The large barn behind the house burned in 1936, but the smokehouse, woodshed, and chicken house, of indeterminate late nineteenth or early twentieth century date, survive. These are gabled frame buildings which were moved to the rear of the property and connected to one another at the gable ends, forming a single storage building.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

____ NATIONAL

____ STATE

XX

____ LOCAL

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George W. Wall

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George W. Wall House, built in 1896, is one of the finest and least-altered examples of Queen Anne Revival architecture in Davidson County. This vernacular reflection of a nationally popular style in the small crossroads community of Wallburg is typical of the impact of the late nineteenth century industrial boom throughout piedmont North Carolina. George W. Wall's family lumber business, founded in the late 1880s, provided the financial prosperity and sources for standardized and custom woodwork for the construction of a family residence. The staircase and mantels of vernacular Eastlake design are said to have been designed by George's wife Hattie and constructed by his brother Turner S. Wall.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. Associated with the revitalization of industry in the North Carolina piedmont in the late nineteenth century.
- C. The house is a vernacular interpretation of the Queen Anne Revival style, illustrating massing and porches typical of late nineteenth century vernacular farmhouses and original interpretations of Eastlake design for the interior woodwork.

The Wall family played a prominent role in the settlement of the Wallburg community in northeast Davidson County. By 1860 Samuel W. Wall, the second generation of the family in the area, had a coach making business with \$600 worth of capital investment, three employees, and was producing ten buggies and carriages worth \$1,100 annually.¹ By 1890 at least one of his sons was working with him, for Branson's North Carolina Business Directory of that year lists "Wagons, Abbott's Creek, S. W. Wall & Son."² Samuel served the people of the state for over twenty years, and the community which grew up around his farm and shop at the turn of the century was named "Wallburg."³

Two of Samuel's sons, Charles Moses and George, founded their own firm, the Wall Lumber Company, in the late 1880s, and began to prosper by providing processed lumber to the Lexington and High Point furniture companies. Their saw and planing mill transformed the raw lumber purchased from local farmers into planks, wooden boxes, and some finished products such as couch frames.⁴ In 1912 the company had become so successful that a branch was opened in Southmont, in south Davidson County. In 1918 C. M. Wall moved to Lexington and founded the C. M. Wall & Sons Lumber Company, thereby dissolving his partnership with George. C. M.'s company soon opened branches in Statesville and Thomasville, and furnished thousands of carloads of box shooks to the textile mills of nearby cities.⁵ George continued to operate the lumber company in Wallburg on a reduced scale in the same factory until 1933, and then in the barn behind his house until 1936 when the barn was destroyed by fire. About 1940, in failing health, George sold out to the Tuttle Lumber Company.⁶

In 1888, George married Hattie Charles and made his first land purchase, a forty-acre tract which he purchased from his father for \$400.⁷ The acreage adjoined land already owned by his brother C. M. The property description makes no mention of the Salem Road which now intersects the property, and the earliest reference to the road, now called N.C. 109, is in a 1910 deed.⁸ The road, leading from Thomasville to Winston-Salem, must have been constructed around the turn of the century.⁹ George and Hattie built a plain two-story frame house on their land, and began their family. By 1896, both the family finances and family size had increased to the point that a new residence was constructed. The first house was moved to an adjacent site, and between July and December of that year the present Wall residence was built.¹⁰ The two houses now occupy adjacent corners of the intersection of N.C. 109 and the Mottsinger Road (S.R. 1723).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	5, 7, 7, 3, 20	3, 9, 8, 5, 1, 7, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of Map 12, Davidson County Tax Office, contained in Lot 22, bounded on the north by NC 109, on the east by Lot 23 and Lot 24, on the south by Lot 21, and on the west by Mottsinger Road (SR 1723), as outlined in red on map.

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All building supervision was apparently done by George himself, using local workmen. The lumber most likely came from the family company. According to family tradition, the stained glass windows were ordered from High Point, and it is likely that much of the woodwork, including the doors, moldings, and some of the mantels, came from there also. Hattie is said to have designed the woodwork, and Turner Wall, who worked with his brothers in the lumber company, is credited with the construction of the most ornate features, such as the staircase and some of the mantels.¹¹

George and Hattie raised eleven children in the house, and lived there until their deaths, which occurred in 1943, only six weeks apart.¹² In 1938 they had deeded the house to their daughter Clara and her husband Clay Vann Teague, who were living with them.¹³ The Teagues continued to reside in the house until his death in the 1970s, and Mrs. Teague still lives there.

Footnotes

¹United States Census, Industrial Schedule, 1860, Davidson County, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

²Branson's 1890 North Carolina Business Directory, Davidson County, "Manufacturing" category, North Carolina State Library, Raleigh, North Carolina.

³Jeanne Williamson Wall and Julia Wall Dunn, "Wall Family History," The Heritage of Davidson County, North Carolina, 1982, no. 1187.

⁴Jewell M. Sink and Mary Green Matthews, Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina, 1972, p. 301; interview with Mrs. Clara Teague, 30 March 1983, Wallburg.

⁵Ibid.

⁶Interview with Mrs. Clara Teague.

⁷Davidson County Deed Book 47, page 180, State Archives.

⁸Davidson County Deed Book 69, page 289, State Archives.

⁹The village of Wallburg appears on the 1896 "Post Route Map of the States of North Carolina and South Carolina" in the State Archives, but the road had not been built at this time.

¹⁰Interview with Mrs. Clara Teague.

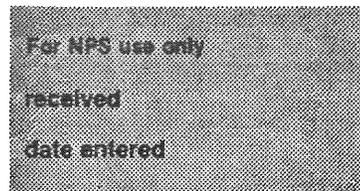
¹¹Ibid.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Davidson County Deed Book 132, p. 533, State Archives.

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Davidson County Deed Books. State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

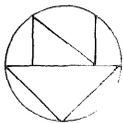
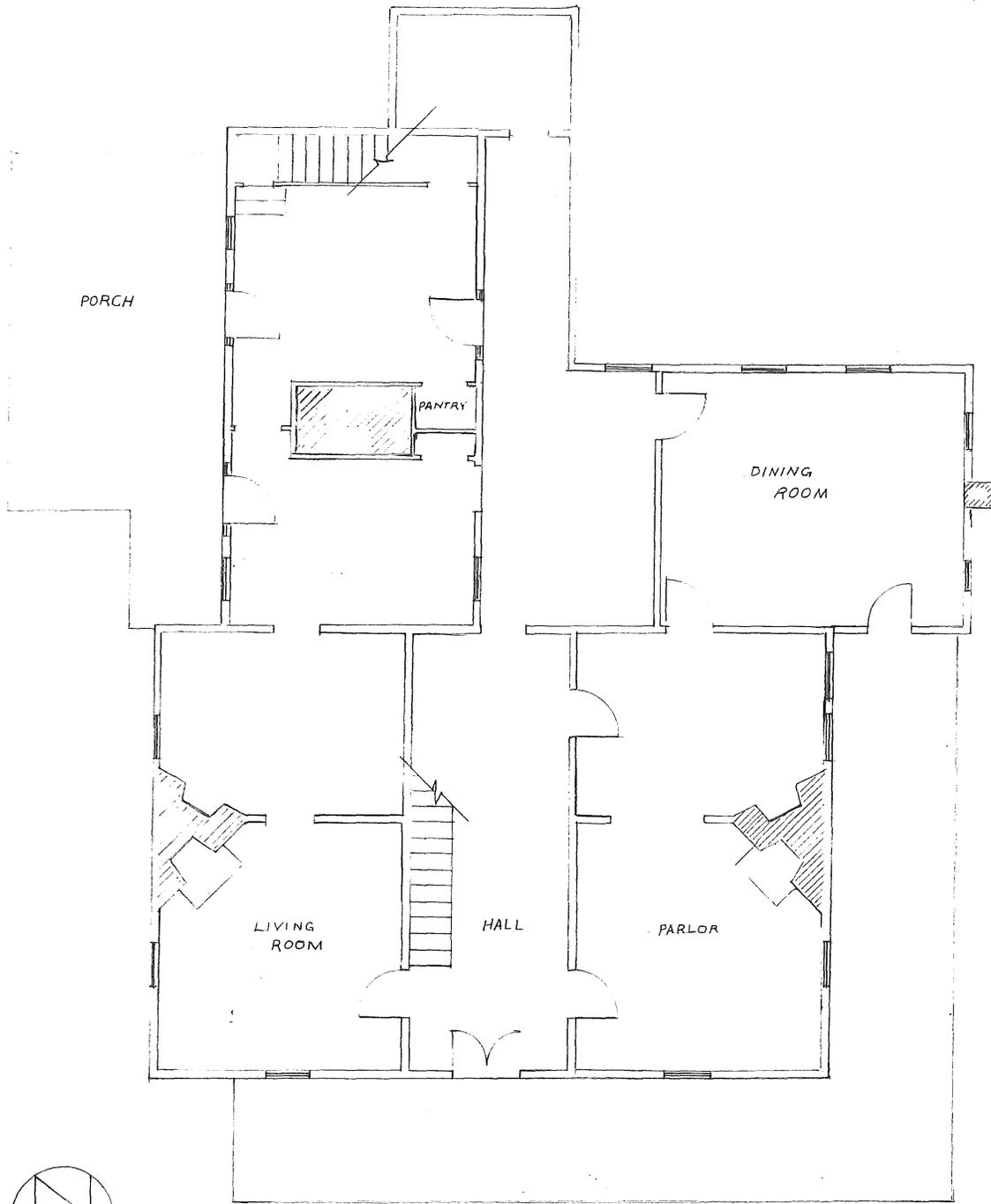
"Post Route Map of the States of North Carolina and South Carolina," 1896. State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Sink, Jewell M. and Matthews, Mary Green. Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina (1972).

Teague, Mrs. Clara. Interview with. 30 March 1983. Wallburg, North Carolina.

United States Census, Industrial Schedule, 1860, Davidson County. State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Wall, Jeanne Williamson and Dunn, Julia Wall. "Wall Family History," The Heritage of Davidson County, North Carolina (1982).



G. W. WALL HOUSE WALLBURG 1896

1/8" = 1'0" PBT

