

United States Department of the Interior,
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Aloah Hotel

other names/site number The Hendersonville Inn; Carson Hotel

2. Location

street & number 201 3rd Avenue West

not for publication

city, town Hendersonville

vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Henderson

code 089

zip code 28739

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic and Architectural Properties in Hendersonville, NC - A Partial Inventory

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls brick veneer

roof asphaltother wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The (former) Aloah Hotel, called the Hendersonville Inn since the 1930s, is a large three-story relatively severely designed brick hotel on a corner lot at 201 Third Avenue West, just west of downtown Hendersonville. The only stylistic elements are the modest Classical Revival porch and entrance. The rectangular building, with shallow "t" projections on the east and west sides, has a flat roof, overhanging, boxed and molded eaves, and an ample, one-story frame porch extending around three sides of the building. Porch entrances face Third Street and Church Street. The northernmost bay of the east sideporch is enclosed as a sunroom. Six-over-six pane windows occurring singly or in pairs or triplets, generously illuminate the building. The main entrance, facing Third Avenue, is a single beveled glass door with four pane beveled sidelights. The building rests on a low stone foundation, and a low rough quarried stone retaining wall outlines the narrow grassy lawn on the two street sides. The hipped roof porch is supported by paired square posts, occurring in triplets at the corners, with a plain wooden balustrade. The hotel is remarkable unaltered on the exterior. The only obvious change is the metal awnings which shelter the south side of the porch, probably replacements for earlier canvas awnings.

On the interior, the hotel is equally well-preserved. Like the exterior, the interior treatment is spare and utilitarian, with a slight Craftsman flavor to the dark stained woodwork and the fireplace in the lobby, a simple arched brick design with a heavy dark stained bracketed shelf. The lobby occupies the south half of the first floor, and this large space is supported at intervals by wooden paneled and plastered posts and exposed ceiling joists. The closed-string stair rises in two flights with a landing along the south front wall to the second floor. It has a handsome dark stained railing, with heavy square newels and simple balustrade similar to the front porch railing. A dark stained paneled registration desk, apparently original, is nestled beneath the staircase, facing the entrance. French doors open from the lobby into the dining room and kitchen area, which occupy the rear half of the first floor. The dining room space has paneled wooden posts and exposed boxed ceiling joists. The entire interior retains its original doors, with five horizontal panels, dark stained woodwork, and wooden floors and plaster walls. Each of the guest rooms has a louvered door in addition to the solid paneled door.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

c.1919-1929

c.1919

Entertainment/Recreation

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Aloah Hotel is one of the few hotels in Hendersonville still operated as an hotel. Known later as the Carson House and since the early 1930s as the Hendersonville Inn, the Aloah is one of the last of the town's hotels, and its plain sturdy brick design and ample wraparound porch reflect comfort and continuity. It is representative of the Inns, Boarding Houses, and Hotels property type. Its relationship to Hendersonville is explained in "Tourism Development in Hendersonville, N C in the Railroad Years, 1879-1929," Hendersonville Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Originally, this section of Hendersonville was filled with other hotels catering to the tourism boom, most notable the Hodgewell Hotel, which was at the corner of 4th Avenue West and Church Street, a block north of the Aloah Hotel, and the Kentucky Home at the northeast corner of Washington And 4th Streets, a block northeast of the Aloah Hotel. Both of these structures have been demolished, the site of the Kentucky Home now utilized as a parking lot. Aside from its historical associations, the Aloah Hotel is also notable for its continuous use as an hotel.

The 90 foot by 150 foot rectangular lot on which the Aloah Hotel sits was originally owned by Dr. Columbus Few, who sold the property for \$1500 to his son C. Few, Jr. in 1914 (Henderson County Deed Book 84, p. 257). The deed mentions the lot only, with no mention of improvements. Few, Jr. sold the property to J. O. Bell in 1919 for \$10.00, with a bank note of \$1800, indicating the balance due (Henderson County Deed Book 103, p. 155). It appears that J. O. Bell was the builder of the Aloah, because when he sold the property in 1921, Mrs. Etta Carson bought the lot "...being the same land conveyed by C. Few, Jr. and wife to the said Bell by deed dated September 10th, 1919, ... also all the furniture, furnishings, lien and equipment owned by said Bell now in the hotel building situated on the above lot and now being used in the operation of the Aloah Hotel" (Henderson County Deed Book 115, p. 222). The deed mentions a "DIT to Virginia Trust Company of \$10,000 which said party of the second part assumes." According to the Sanborn maps, and later City Directories, the building's name was changed to the Carson Hotel or Carson House. Apparently, Mrs. Carson lost the hotel during the Depression, because it was sold on the Courthouse steps at auction in 1932.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

At this time, Mr. W. H. Britt bought it for \$25.00 from the Green River Manufacturing Company (Henderson County Deed Book 203, p. 134). Once again, it experienced a change of identity, becoming the Hendersonville Inn. In 1943, the hotel was sold to Ira E. Johnson (Henderson County Deed Book 249, p. 305). Finally, in 1985, I. E. Johnson deeded the property to his son, E. Leland Johnson, the current owner, who continues its use as an hotel (Henderson County Deed book 668, p. 300).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Henderson County Deed Books, North Carolina State Archives. Raleigh, N C.

Hendersonville City Directory, 1926/7.

Hendersonville City Directory, 1937/8.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Western Office, Archives & History
Henderson County Deed Books, County Courthouse

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.31 acre

UTM References

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3	6	7	1	4	0
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3	9	0	8	8	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is outlined in red on the enclosed Henderson County Tax Map no. 9568.08. It is 90' x 150' in size. It is Parcel 5814.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary includes the entire city lot currently associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sybil Bowers, consultant; Ruth Little and Margaret Rothman, staff
organization North Carolina Historic Preservation Office date 1987-1988
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