

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).

1. Name of Property

historic name Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House other names/site number Masonic Temple, Charles A. Hobbs House

2. Location

street & number 229 5th Avenue West city, town Hendersonville state North Carolina code NC county Henderson code 089 zip code 28739

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Properties in Hendersonville, N C: A Partial Inventory

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.

5. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. determined eligible for the National Register. 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: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls brick

roof asphalt

other wood

aluminum

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House, 229 Fifth Avenue West, acquired by the Masons in 1958, at which time a rear brick wing was added, doubling the size of the building, is one of the most imposing historic residences remaining near downtown Hendersonville. The two-and-a-half brick transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival style house, built about 1907, stands in nearly unaltered condition, and the brick addition made to the rear of the house soon after 1958, affects the integrity only of the rear elevation of the house. The two-story brick addition, of utilitarian design with metal casement windows and a flat roof, fortunately is relatively inconspicuous from the street, and does not, therefore, prevent the Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House from retaining sufficient integrity to be listed in the Register. The house is located on a narrow city lot on the north side of West Fifth Avenue, and is adjacent to the Smith-Williams-Durham Boarding House, located immediately west. A high retaining wall, of the same rough-quarried stone used in the house foundation and porch posts, encloses the front yard along the front and sides, with wide steps ascending to the porch in the centre of the front yard.

The symmetrical (south) facade features an one-story full-width hipped roof porch supported by rough stone foundation posts on which rest paired and, at the corners, triple Doric colonnettes, with boxed eaves. The double leaf front door has paneled lower halves and glazed upper halves, set in a molded surround, with a stone lintel. Large one-over-one sash windows with stone sills and lintels illuminate the entire house. A bay window projects from the centre bay of the second story facade, resting on the porch roof, and a large pedimented dormer window projects from the roof above it, giving a pronounced central axis to the main facade. Identical dormers project from the east and west sides of the roof. The walls are laid in red pressed brick, in running bond. The tall deck-on-hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the deck probably originally had a railing that is now gone. The deck and the boxed eaves of the dormers have simply molded brackets. Two interior chimneys with corbeled caps project from the tall hipped roof. The only major alteration on the exterior of the Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House is that the roof eaves and the window surrounds have been covered with aluminum siding. On the east side, in the centre second floor bay, is an unexpected touch of Queen Anne whimsy--an oriel window with a wide brick stepped base and a row of three bowed sash windows.

The interior of the Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House, featuring a centre hall plan, two rooms deep, exhibits extensive, ornate natural oak woodwork, and retains a high degree of integrity. All of the door and window surrounds have five-part robustly molded

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

frames. All of the original doors feature narrow horizontal panels. The entrance hall is completely wainscotted, and just beyond a pair of Doric colonnettes on paneled bases, a transverse stair hall intersects on the west side, with a closed string dog leg stair with a landing, with heavy newels, turned balusters, and a molded handrail. At the rear of the centre hall is an inglenook with a brick fireplace, original mantel, and flanking benches. The two most elaborately finished rooms on the first floor are the parlor, the front right room, and the dining room behind it. Both rooms have paneled wainscotting. The parlor has the most elaborate mantel in the house, with tall Ionic colonnettes supporting an high shelf and mirrored overmantel. Arched niches flanking the fireplace hold built-in cabinetry and a doorway to the dining room. The dining room features a deeply coffered ceiling and built-in cabinetry.

Woodwork on the second and third floors is a slightly reduced version of the first floor finish. The Masons have created a new bathroom on the second floor, and added a few closets, but otherwise the original structure is unaffected by its adaptive reuse as a Masonic Temple.

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)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1907

Significant Dates

c. 1907

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 Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House, a Masonic Lodge since 1958, is an handsome former residence built c.1907. Brick exteriors are relatively rare in Hendersonville in houses of this age. A sizeable addition was made in its conversion to a Masonic Temple, but without changing the character of the original structure. This building stands as one of Hendersonville's finest examples of early 20th century domestic architecture, exemplifying the transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style, which gained popularity in the area at this time.

According to the Henderson County Deed Book 53, p.344, Charles S. Clarke and wife Louise bought the 105' by 148.5' Broad Street (later 5th Avenue) lot for \$1,050.00 from J. A. Maddrey on January 23, 1906. In March, 1907, Charles Clarke sold the property to his wife Louise for \$5,000.00 (Henderson County Deed Book 58, p.94). Possibly there was some sort of domestic upheaval at this point, since the deed book records separate notarized forms for the Clarkes, his in Pennsylvania, hers in North Carolina. The house probably was built by the Clarkes, since, despite the March, 1907 sale, both the Clarkes are listed on the deed transferring ownership to Alfred J. Hobbs of Connecticut on May 6, 1907 for \$11,000.00, a substantial increase in value (Henderson County Deed Book 57, p.114). Later that year, the house once again was sold, this time to Charles A. Hobbs and wife Harriet G. of North Carolina (Henderson County Deed Book 57, p.278). The price did not change. Four years later, the Hobbs sold the house "being the lot on which now stands the brick house known as the Charles A. Hobbs residence, together with all the furniture and fixtures now in said house," to Mrs. Ada S. Davidson for \$8,000.00 (Henderson County Deed Book 71, p.95, June 1, 1911). Mrs. Davidson (later Ada S. Rose) left the property to her brother Edgar Sutton and wife Eleanor (Henderson County Record of Wills 1928-1935, vol. 7, pp.229-231). On November 4, 1932, the Suttons sold the house "being same lot conveyed by Charles A. Hobbs and Harriet to Ada S. Davidson," to Roy and Catherine Noble for "\$10.00 and other valuable considerations" (Henderson County Deed Book 203, p.147). In 1937, the Nobles still resided in the 5th Avenue house (Hendersonville City Directory 1937/38). On April 29, 1958, R. J. Swackjamer bought the house for \$22,500.00 and gave it to the Masons, Kedron Loge #387 (Henderson County Deed Book 367, p.305). The Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

House has served as a Masonic meeting hall since 1958.

CONTEXT

The Clarke-Hobbs-Davidson House is a rare example of a large brick house in Hendersonville at the time of the tourism boom during the early part of the 20th century. Its transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style was coming into vogue at the time. It exemplifies the Residential Buildings property type, and its relationship to Hendersonville is explained in "Residential Development in Early Hendersonville, N C, 1879-1929," Hendersonville Multiple Property Documentation Form.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Henderson County Record of Wills, 1928-1935, vol. 7, pp.229-231, North Carolina Archives, Raleigh, N C.

Hendersonville City Directory, 1937/38.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Western Office, N.C. Archives & History

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.36 acre

UTM References

A

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

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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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. 9568.07, parcel no. 2592. It measures 105' x 148.5'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ruth Little and Margaret Rothman, staff
organization North Carolina Historic Preservation Office date 1988
street & number 109 E. Jones St. telephone (919) 733 6545
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27611



BUNCOMBE

METHODIST CHURCH

DRON
IDGE
387

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

HENDERSON COUNTY
(PUBLIC LIBRARY)

DEAS STREET

WASHINGTON

(254)

7684

(480)

80.25

9668

95.75

(118)

090

118.2

151

9444

74

0499

370

119.5

119.5

184

7255

150

704

9229

108

9222

51.2

75

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

8191

160

9162

100

(166)

59

114.74

3312

3304

64.8

9.07

3367 3398

32	3	80
160	60	80
32	32	80
435	128	80
433	28	80
431		

128.3

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

190.7

2189

150

155

429	450
427	
425	
423	

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

150

150

(195)

(235)

172

40

(312)

341

972

116

119

119

119

119

119

119

119

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119

119

(164)

9609

13242

(218)

1804

218

254.5

(124)

177

79

60

60

60

60

60

60

60

60

60

60

130

75

(80)