

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Orange	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Nash Law Office

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
143 West Margaret Lane

CITY OR TOWN:
Hillsborough

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Orange CODE: 135

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Hillsborough Historical Society, Mrs. R. M. Isley, President

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Hillsborough STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Orange County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
East Margaret Lane

CITY OR TOWN: Hillsborough STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: North Carolina

COUNTY: Orange

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Frederick Nash Law Office is a small one-story frame building with a gable roof and a low brick foundation. The original beaded weatherboards have been replaced by modern lapped siding. The front (north) and rear facades are identical, featuring a central entrance flanked by windows with nine-over-nine sash. There is an exterior common bond chimney on the west gable, while the east side contains a single window with nine-over-nine sash. A small one-story wing containing two rooms was added to the west gable about 1863 for use as a music studio.

The interior of the original portion of the Nash Law Office consists of one large room with plaster walls above a raised-paneled wainscot. The mantel is of typical Federal style with a molded cornice shelf that breaks out over slender reeded pilasters. Located to the left of the mantel is a built-in raised-paneled cabinet that is early but does not appear to be original. To the right of the fireplace is a doorway leading into the later wing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<u>Law</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Duncan Cameron, a young Virginia lawyer, later to become one of the wealthiest and most influential men in North Carolina, is thought to have built the Nash Law Office between 1801 and 1807. In 1801 he purchased from James Webb lots 10 and 13, which included several substantial buildings, and in 1807 he sold the property to another young lawyer, Frederick Nash. This transaction involved lots 10, 11, 13, 14, and 16, which included a total of five acres with a dwelling house, law office, kitchen, wash house, barn, and several other outbuildings.

Frederick Nash, born in New Bern in 1781, was the son of Abner Nash, governor of North Carolina from 1780 to 1781, and nephew of Francis Nash, revolutionary patriot. After graduating from Princeton College in 1799, Frederick Nash represented both New Bern and Hillsborough in the North Carolina General Assembly. He distinguished himself as a jurist, served as judge of the superior court (1818-1826, 1836-1844), as justice of the supreme court (1844-1852), and concluded his judicial career as chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, a position he held from 1852 until his death in 1858. Throughout Nash's career as a jurist, his office, which he used for over fifty years, served as a law school in which various notable young men, such as Whig congressman Abner Rencher, read law under Judge Nash.

Following Chief Justice Nash's death, his daughters, Sally and Maria Nash, along with their cousin, Sara Kollock, opened a "school for young ladies" known as the Nash and Kollock School, patterned after the Burwell School, also in Hillsborough, which had closed in 1857. Beginning in 1859 music lessons for the school were held in the former law office. Two rooms were added to the west facade about 1863 to provide additional practice rooms and a residence for Sara Kollock. The building was used as a music studio until Sarah Kollock's death in 1907.

On February 25, 1932, Hattie V. Brown bought the half of lot 10 which included the Nash Law Office. The property then passed through several hands until it was purchased by the Hillsborough Historical Society in 1970.

The Nash Law Office is the oldest of its kind in Hillsborough, a town that was once a center of state political and social activity. The small office is a valuable link not only with Hillsborough's eventful past, but also with the distinguished career of Judge Nash, one of the town's most illustrious citizens.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Engstrom, Mary Claire, "The Nash Law Office." An unpublished report, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Orange County Records, Orange County Courthouse, Hillsborough, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

Orange County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Private Collections).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	36°	04'	28"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	79°	06'	08"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: May 12, 1971

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 H. G. Jones

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date May 12, 1971

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

