

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name The Carolina Inn

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 211 Pittsboro Street not for publication

city or town Chapel Hill vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Orange code 135 zip code 27599

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Stephen J. Cron SHPO 7/10/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The Carolina Inn
Name of Property

Orange/NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Hotel

SOCIAL/ Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Hotel

SOCIAL/ Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century

Revivals/ Colonial Revival,

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof OTHER: built-up

other STONE/ Sandstone

WOOD/ Weatherboard

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

The Carolina Inn
Name of Property

Orange/NC
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1923-1949

Significant Dates

1923-1924

1939-1940

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Nash, Arthur C. (1922-1924)

Carr, George W. (1939-1940)

Davis, Archie R. (1969-1970)

Glave, James (1995)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

University Archives, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The Carolina Inn
Name of Property

Orange/ NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.53 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	7	6	7	5	5	2	0	3	9	7	5	5	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

3

Zone			Easting					Northing						

2

Zone			Easting					Northing						

4

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth Joel Zogry/ Consultant

organization _____ date February 1, 1999

street & number 2501 Greenway Avenue telephone (919) 783-8335

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27608

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill c/o Carolyn Elfland

street & number 305 South Building, Box 1000, ^{UNC-CH} telephone (919) 962-7244

city or town Chapel Hill state NC zip code 27599

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Carolina Inn
Orange County, NC

7. Narrative Description

The Carolina Inn stands on the southwest corner of Cameron and South Columbia Streets opposite the west gate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It is bounded on the north, south, and east by the university, and on the west by the West Chapel Hill Historic District (NR, 1998), a neighborhood containing predominantly twentieth century residences. It is separated from the West Chapel Hill Historic District by Pittsboro Street. The three-story brick building is an excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture, featuring elements of Georgian and Neoclassical-Revival design. The Carolina Inn as it stands today is the result of four major construction periods: the original structure completed in 1924, and wings added in 1939-1940, 1969-1970, and 1995. The Carolina Inn is surrounded on the north, south, and east sides by a grass lawn with decorative plantings and walkways. There is a small circular driveway on the South Columbia Street (east) side leading through the 1924 Carriage Porch, and a larger circular drive, parking lot, and paved service area on the Pittsboro Street (west) side.

The entire composition is unified by a consistent exterior treatment, for five major sections (1923-1924, 1939-1940, 1969-1970, and 1995) are constructed of red brick laid in Flemish bond, accented with stone wall caps, lintels, and keystones. All facades (with one exception to be described) are two full stories in brick with, with a third story incorporating a gambrel roof and punctuated with wooden dormer windows. The terminal ends of all the sections are three full stories in brick capped in stone, with the top story in the shape of a gable with two incorporated chimney stacks just above one centrally placed semicircular window.

The original section, constructed in 1923-1924, is roughly square in plan with a short three story wing flanked by one-story portions on the west side. The original section is now the northeastern portion of the expanded building (#1 on the sketch map). The north elevation, or original 1924 front facade, is nine bays across and features a two-story piazza supported by six tall paneled wooden posts and crowned with a Neoclassical-Revival balustrade. A centrally-placed cupola sits atop this original block. The east facade is also nine bays across and is ornamented with a one-story wooden "carriage

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porch" (as the original architect termed it) with crowning balustrade. The original eight-over-twelve wooden window sash survive on the first floor of the 1923-1924 section and the second and third floor sash were replaced in 1995 with sympathetic replicas. The south and west facades of the original 1923-1924 sections have been largely obscured by subsequent renovations which have been sympathetic to the Colonial Revival design.

The first major addition, constructed in 1939-1940 (#2 on sketch map), consists of an "L" shaped wing added onto the back (southern) side of the 1924 structure. This created a three-sided courtyard facing South Columbia Street, which is entered on the east facade through a semi-circular Neoclassical-Revival portico supported by columns with Ionic capitals. The primary east and north facades of the 1939-1940 section are both nine bays across, and retain the original eight-over-twelve window sash on the first floor (the second and third floor sash were replaced in 1995 with sympathetic originals). As on the 1923-1924 section, the back (or south and west) facades of the 1939-1940 section have been largely obscured by subsequent additions.

The second major addition to the Carolina Inn consists of two separate wings built between 1969 and 1970 (marked as #3a and #3b on sketch map). The larger wing (#3a) was built on the western side of the 1923-1924 section. It is square in plan, and unlike the rest of the building has brick walls only one story high, topped by a gable roof that is void of dormer windows. It is three bays across on the north facade, six bays across on the west facade, and features a one-story glassed-enclosed porch along the entire south facade. The smaller wing (#3b), built at the "elbow" of the 1939-1940 section, is three stories high and follows the overall configuration of the earlier sections. The two 1969 and 1970 additions face each other to form a three-sided courtyard with the back (western) facade of the 1939-1940 section at the center. In 1970 the original main entrance of the Inn was moved from Cameron Avenue to this courtyard facing Pittsboro Street. A two-story portico crowned by a Neoclassical-Revival balustrade and supported by square posts was placed on this facade, closely imitating the portico and balustrade on the original 1923-1924 section, and linking the two new wings with the new front entrance.

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In 1995 another large wing (#4 on the sketch map) was added to the south side of the 1939-1940 section. This is a rectangular structure, which forms a courtyard on the south side of the building by facing the back (east side) of the smaller 1969-1970 wing (#3b), and being connected to it by a portion of the 1939-1940 section. This wing is twelve bays across on the eastern side, and five bays across on the southern side. An enclosed glass porch with Neoclassical balustrade, imitating that of the 1969-1970 section, was constructed on the south side of the 1939-1940 section to visually connect the 1969-1970 smaller wing to the 1995 wing.

Interior

As might be assumed from the number of large additions to the building, the interior of the Carolina Inn is complex. Originally the main entrance to the Carolina Inn was through three sets of French doors under the piazza on Cameron Avenue into the lobby, which featured wall paneling and a fireplace in a restrained neoclassical design. Although the lobby was moved to the Pittsboro Street entrance in 1970, much of the original woodwork survives in the space, which is now part of the restaurant. Original 1924 neoclassical mantel surrounds also survive in two adjoining rooms, now known as the North and South Parlors. Between these two rooms the hallway leading from the carriage porch retains its 1924 wooden cornice, chairrail and molding, and features reproduction panels of the famous Zuber "Scenes of North America" wallpaper installed in 1946. The 1924 ballroom, now known as the Old Well Room, retains its dimensions and much of its original detailing, including stylized columns, cornice, and railing which are modernized and streamlined versions of classical elements. Beyond the 1924 ballroom is what is now known as the Alumni Room. Added in 1939-1940, this room features arched fanlights over its two doors, a fully paneled fireplace surround in the Georgian Revival style, and built-in book niches. All of these are original architectural elements.

The main entrance to the Carolina Inn today is through the courtyard and drive facing Pittsboro Street on the western side of the building, created by the additions of

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1969-1970. The front door leads into what is now the lobby, originally built in 1939-1940 as the cafeteria. Despite the change in function, this space retains its original large paneled central support posts, and most of the original wood and plaster work in the Colonial Revival style. The front desk is off to the right (south) side of the lobby, and beyond that are the 1969-1970 and 1995 guest room wings, each with an elevator bank and stairwells. To the left (north) of the lobby is an elevator bank which serves the guest rooms in the 1924 and 1939-1940 sections. Beyond the elevator bank as the larger 1969-1970 wing, which today houses two large ballrooms that can be subdivided, and enclosed glass walkway, public rest rooms, and the kitchen facilities.

All guest rooms and suites of the Carolina Inn are located on the second and third floors of the 1924 and 1939-1940 sections, and on all three floors of the smaller 1969-1970 wing and the 1995 wing. Built originally with fifty-two guest rooms (each with a private bath), the Carolina Inn now has one-hundred-eighty-four guest rooms and suites. For safety and convenience, the bathrooms, stairwells and elevators of the 1924 and 1939-1940 sections were all replaced in the renovations of 1969-1970 and 1995.

Integrity Statement

The Carolina Inn retains its historic exterior character and has continued in its original primary use as a hotel since its construction. To remain a viable commercial concern it has been enlarged and renovated several times, including the complete replacement of kitchen and guest bathroom facilities. However, all additions and renovations have been extremely sympathetic to the original architectural intent, and the principal exterior facades and several of the interior public spaces remain recognizable to long-time patrons. The Carolina Inn retains overall integrity as a substantial and distinctive 1920s Colonial Revival hotel still functioning in its primary original use.

The original (1923-1924) section of the inn, with its tall portico on the north elevation and a carriage porch on the east side, occupies the prominent northeast corner of the block; and it is the original section that still defines the principal public presence of

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the inn. The main facades of this section face north down South Columbia Street, the principal street axis into the University of North Carolina. The present guest and automobile parking entrance has been shifted to the west side, a change that preserves the lawn, trees, and sense of ordered approach to the main portico and carriage porch. This orientation, together with the maintenance of the architectural character of the 1920s inn, and the placement of additions toward the lesser streets assure that the Carolina Inn continues to assert visually its historic orientation to both town and university as a meeting place and landmark for the two principal communities of Chapel Hill.

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The Carolina Inn
Orange County, NC**8. Statement of Significance****Summary**

The Carolina Inn is significant as a substantial, well-detailed Colonial Revival hotel which incorporates commercial space with domestic scale and architectural ornament. It is one of the first of a group of surviving buildings of this type both on the campus of the University of North Carolina and in Chapel Hill, constructed at a time when this style was not only popular among wealthy southerners but was considered appropriate for institutions of higher learning. The 1923-24 original portion of the Carolina Inn was designed by Arthur C. Nash of the T.C. Atwood Company in Durham, North Carolina, and was one of his first major commissions. The building was expanded to meet the growing needs of the university and the town in 1939-1940 (George W. Carr, architect), 1969-1970 (Archie R. Davis, architect), and 1995 (James Glave, architect). The structure is also significant for its historical associations with important events and personalities in North Carolina since the 1920s, along with the role it has played in the history of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, including the financial support it has provided for the special collections at the university library (specifically the respected North Carolina Collection). Since the 1920s the Carolina Inn has occupied a prominent location both physically and conceptually within the university, the town of Chapel Hill, and the state of North Carolina.

The original (1923-1924) section of the inn, with its tall portico on the north elevation and a carriage porch on the east side, occupies the prominent northeast corner of the block; and it is the original section that still defines the principal public presence of the inn. The main facades of this section face north down South Columbia Street toward Franklin Street, Chapel Hill's main street, and east across South Columbia Street, the principal street axis into the University of North Carolina. The present guest and automobile parking entrance has been shifted to the west side, a change that preserves the lawn, trees, and sense of ordered approach to the main portico and carriage porch. This orientation, together with the maintenance of the architectural character of the 1920s inn, and the placement of additions toward the lesser streets, assure that the Carolina Inn continues to assert visually its historic orientation to both town and university, a meeting place and landmark for the two principal communities of Chapel Hill.

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Orange County, NC

Architectural Context

The Carolina Inn is a sophisticated example of the Colonial Revival architectural style which was popular throughout the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A regional version of the style, which the Carolina Inn typifies, incorporates elements of antebellum Southern plantation houses with Georgian and Neoclassical elements found in the Northeast and England. Arthur C. Nash, the original architect of the Carolina Inn, called this the "Southern Colonial Style" (*The Chapel Hill Weekly*, 11/20/24). Architectural historian Catherine Bishir has shown that the Southern Colonial style was used by prominent white Southerners beginning in the 1890s in an effort to establish and maintain tangible links with the social hierarchy and traditions of the antebellum South (Bishir, 1993, passim).

Aside from, and perhaps because of, its social overtones, the Southern Colonial style was considered appropriate for collegiate architecture. In 1919 the University of North Carolina retained the firm of Aberthaw & Company of Atlanta, Georgia, as consultants to create a master architectural plan for the campus (Bishir, et al, 1990, p. 327). Among other suggestions, the firm recommended that all new structures be built in a colonial style with red brick and white trim. To carry out these suggestions, the university retained the famous New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead, and White. In 1921 the T.C. Atwood Company of Durham, North Carolina, was hired to build the new structures designed by McKim, Mead and White. The T.C. Atwood Company designed and built many prominent private homes and public projects in North Carolina during the 1920s and 1930s, including the renovation of the State Capitol and the construction of Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh (Atwood & Weeks, passim).

The on-site architect for the T.C. Atwood Company was recently-hired Arthur C. Nash, who was trained at Harvard and the Ecole des Beaux Arts. In 1922 Nash was asked to draw up plans for what would become the Carolina Inn by John Sprunt Hill, a wealthy alumnus (Long, p. 93). Although not initially part of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus, the Carolina Inn was designed by Nash to harmonize with the other new buildings being constructed there during the 1920s (such as Spencer Dormitory and Saunders Hall). It was the first non-university

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commercial building in Chapel Hill to be designed in this style, though it appears to blend-in so well today because in the 1940s the town “mandated conformity to the scale and details of the ‘colonial’ campus” for new business constructed along the main streets (Bishir, et al, 1990, p. 299).

Of all the buildings Nash worked on in Chapel Hill, the Carolina Inn appears to be the only one of entirely his own design. As mentioned, Nash himself called the design “Southern Colonial Style,” which is actually a mixture of stylistic and regional elements. The Flemish bond brickwork, window sash, and grand two-story piazza (patterned after Mount Vernon) are all Georgian elements found in the colonial South, but much of the woodwork both inside (e.g. the fireplace surrounds) and out (e.g. the carriage porch) feature Neoclassical motifs found mostly in the Northeast after

1790. In contrast to these historical elements, Nash’s exposure to modern European taste at the turn-of-the- century (which would lead to the so-called “Art Deco” style in the 1920s), is evident in the severely rectilinear and stylized columns, railings, and details in the original ballroom of the Carolina Inn.

Historical Background / Social History Context

The Carolina Inn is historically significant to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the town of Chapel Hill, and the state of North Carolina. The original portion of the inn was built by John Sprunt Hill (1869-1961), who was born in Faison, North Carolina, and who graduated from the university in 1889. He became a successful businessman, and founded Central Carolina Bank in Durham (Powell, 137). Hill was part of a generation of prominent alumni who actively supported the university, including John Motley Morehead and William Rand Kenan. Displeased with the lack of adequate accommodations for returning alumni and university guests on or near the campus, Hill proposed in 1921 a plan to build an inn for such a purpose, funded by a small number of sponsors. When he was unable to interest any other investors, he decided to proceed with the project on his own (*The Alumni Review*, 2/36). After acquiring a piece of land immediately adjacent to the west side of the campus on Cameron Avenue in 1922, Hill engaged T.C. Atwood and Company and their principal architect, Arthur C. Nash, to design and build the structure for him

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(*The Alumni Review*, 12/24). Although no records survive as to why he made this choice, it seems logical as this firm had recently been engaged to oversee the major additions the university campus designed by McKim, Mead, and White. Work began on the inn in 1923, and it opened for business in December of 1924. Despite its Colonial Revival design and decor, the Carolina Inn boasted a host of modern amenities, including an elevator, private bathrooms for all of the fifty-two guest rooms, and an ice maker in the kitchen (*The Chapel Hill Weekly*, 11/20/24).

After operating the Inn as a private enterprise for a decade, Hill donated the property to the University in 1935. In 1936 the university moved its alumni offices to the inn, and began that year to hire professional hotel managers to run the food service and lodging operations (*News & Observer*, 1/19/36). Hill's gift of the inn stipulated that after meeting expenses, the profit generated from the facility should go to support the university library, specifically a branch now known as the North Carolina Collection (*The Alumni Review*, 1/36). Hill had supported the university library for many years, and the North Carolina Collection was a special interest of his. Begun in 1844 as the North Carolina Historical Society, the collection was reorganized in 1917 under the management of a curator whose salary was funded from an endowment given by Hill (*The Charlotte Observer*, 5/20/34). The purpose of this collection is to acquire all materials published in North Carolina, as well as all materials about the state and its people published elsewhere. It is the largest collection of its type in existence, and profit from the operation of the Carolina Inn has contributed nearly half-a-million dollars to its upkeep since 1936.

Former University of North Carolina system President William Friday has called the Carolina Inn "the University's living room" (Friday interview, 7/15/98). From the day it opened, the inn has been a gathering place for students, faculty, returning alumni, and local townspeople. In fact, it was the one place in Chapel Hill during the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s where all these diverse groups could meet and socialize, and it was the first choice for weddings and special receptions. During World War II the inn became a center of activity, pressed into service by housing and feeding enlisted personnel, officers, and their families attached to the Navy Pre-Flight Training Facility located on campus. In a September 1946 article, the *Raleigh News & Observer* called the Inn an "ideal situation" which hosted "celebrated visitors" and was a "noted meeting place" for such state-wide organizations as the Carolinas

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Banker's Association, the Carolina Press Association, and the University of North Carolina General Alumni Association (*News & Observer*, 9/22/46). Since the 1940s the inn has been the site for numerous founding meetings for organizations with state and even regional significance. For example, the Atlantic Coast Conference Athletic Association, North Carolina Public Television, and the North Carolina Head Start Program were all founded at meetings at the Carolina Inn (Friday interview, 7/15/98).

The Carolina Inn has also been the home-away-from-home for numerous national and state figures and celebrities from the worlds of politics, the arts, and sports. Every North Carolina governor since the 1920s has been a guest, along with United States Presidents Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, and George Bush, and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. The original Mercury astronauts stayed there while studying at the university's Morehead Planetarium. Sports celebrities who have frequented the inn include Charlie "Choo-Choo" Justice, Dean Smith, and Michael Jordan. The list of prominent national journalists who have stayed at the inn is particularly long because of the renowned School of Journalism at the university, including, among others: David Brinkley, Charles Kuralt, Tom Wicker, Vermont Royster, and cartoonist Jeff McNelly. Celebrities from the fields of film, television, and music, have also been guests, including Charles Laughton, Bette Davis, Richard Chamberlain, Johnny Mathis, Kay Kyser, Andy Griffith, and James Taylor. Most recently, academy-award winning actor Robin Williams stayed in a suite at the Carolina Inn during the location shooting of the 1998 motion picture, *Patch Adams*.

Because of the continued expansion of the university, Chapel Hill, and what is today the Research Triangle Park, The Carolina Inn has undergone three major additions and several smaller-scale renovations since 1924, all of which have been extremely sympathetic to the original design. As previously described, the first was undertaken between 1939 and 1940 and designed by George Watts Carr, in consultation with Arthur Nash. This included construction of a "L" shaped addition creating a courtyard on the South Columbia Street side of the inn, which housed a large cafeteria, the Faculty Club Room, alumni offices, and over forty new guest rooms. A separate building containing small apartments for graduate students was also constructed at this time; it was demolished in 1995. The next major addition was designed by Archie Royal Davis in 1969, and was largely completed in time for graduation exercises in May of 1970. Two new wings were added to the Pittsboro

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Street side of the inn, one which housed a new cafeteria, new ballroom, and expanded kitchen, and the other which added forty-five new guest rooms. The main entrance was also shifted at this time from Cameron Avenue to Pittsboro Street, with a new lobby occupying the 1939-40 cafeteria space. In 1995 the inn underwent a \$16.5 million dollar overhaul, which included renovation and refurbishment of the existing space and the addition of a new wing of guest rooms on the South Columbia Street side (designed by James Glave), bringing the total number of rooms to one-hundred-eighty-four. The 1969-70 cafeteria was remodeled into the large John Sprunt Hill Ballroom, and cafeteria service at the inn ceased after seventy years. With all of the additions and renovations, necessary for an efficient and profitable hotel, the building continues to function for the purposes for which it was originally designed.

The university turned over management of the Carolina Inn to Doubletree Hotels, Inc., in 1993, and the recent refurbishment and new management has assured the Inn's future well into the next century. After nearly seventy-five years, the Carolina Inn is an important landmark that fulfills John Sprunt Hill's vision "to provide for the special wants of the University alumni, friends of the University...and visitors," as well as providing vital financial support for the continuation and expansion of the respected North Carolina Collection (*The Alumni Review*, 1/36).

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9. Bibliography

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Orange County, NC

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The Carolina Inn
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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

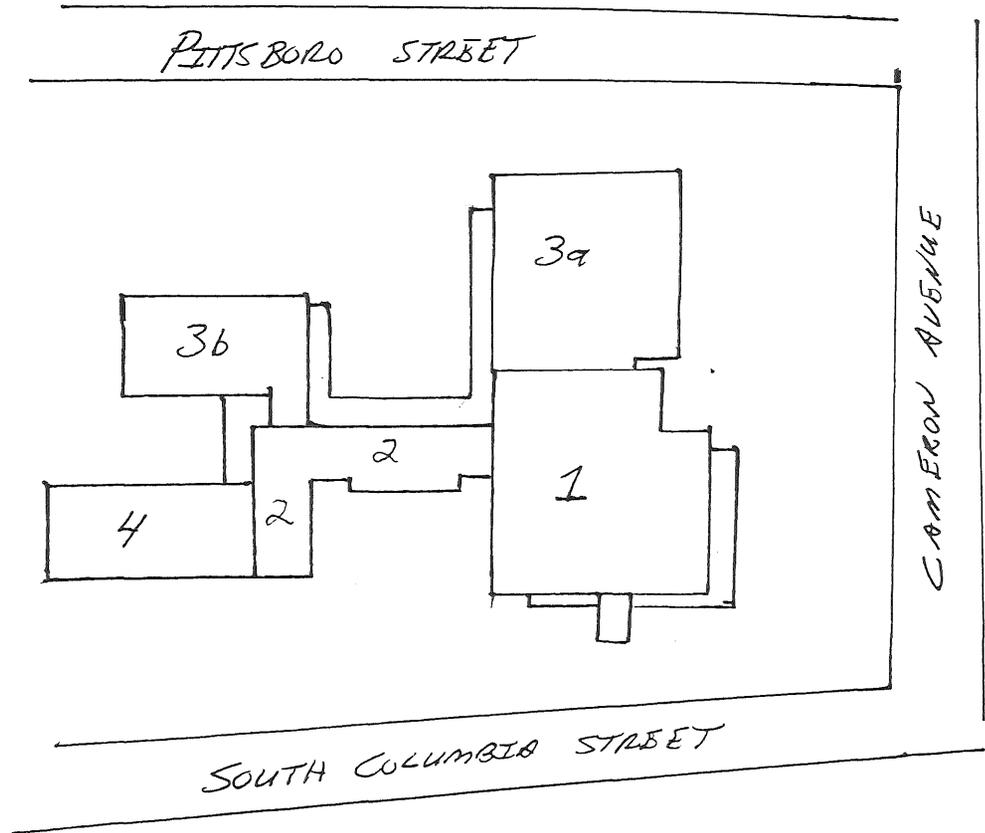
Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property, at Cameron Avenue between Pittsboro and South Columbia Streets, consists of Orange County tax parcels 7985 and 9888, as demarcated on the enclosed Orange County, NC tax map drawn to scale of 1" = 100'.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the original site of the 1924 Carolina Inn, with additional parcels added by 1969.

THE CAROLINA INN
SKETCH MAP SHOWING
PHASES OF CONSTRUCTION



- 1 = 1923-1924
- 2 = 1939-1940
- 3a = 1969-1970
- 3b = 1969-1970
- 4 = 1995

