

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Andrews-Duncan House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
407 North Blount Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Raleigh (Fourth Congressional District, Hon. Nick Galiafianakis)

STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37      COUNTY: Wake      CODE: 183

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) multiple dwelling

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Heirs of the Laura Duncan Estate

STREET AND NUMBER:  
(Mrs. John T. Duncan) 316 North Salem Street

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

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Wake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
310 Fayetteville

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh      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:

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COUNTY: Wake

ENTRY NUMBER

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Andrews-Duncan House is a large two-and-one-half-story Victorian dwelling with a gable roof and a false gable on the front and rear facades. The house is covered with lapped siding and rests on coursed stone basement walls. The interior chimneys feature blind arcading.

The main (east) facade is five bays wide with a low hip roof porch protecting the three central bays at the first level. The roof of the porch is supported by pairs of chamfered posts which have ornamental caps and rest on elaborate pedestals. Enclosing the porch is a heavy turned balustrade. Above each pair of posts is a pair of elaborate brackets ornamented with rosettes which support the heavy overhang of the porch roof. Between the brackets runs a faceted paneled frieze accented by pierced rosettes centered between each pair of brackets. Above is a molded cornice outlined by a course of shallow molded dentils. This treatment is repeated on the main roof. The central entrance contains a large double door with chamfered vertical panels filled with etched glass and has a large two-light lunette above. The door is framed by an elaborate ramped architrave and surmounted by a heavy wooden hoodmold. The central bay contains at the second level and in the gable a pair of round-headed windows surmounted by single hoodmolds. The remaining windows have segmental-arched heads and molded hoods.

The north and south sides are four bays long with similar segmental-arched windows. (In the gable on each side is repeated the double window that appears on the front.) The first story of the south side has been enclosed by a low hip roof rectangular addition which features a shallow molded dentil cornice and trabeated windows with transoms.

The rear facade features a two-bay two-story flat roof extension on the north side that appears to be original and continues the fenestration and cornice design of the main block. The three south bays on the rear are covered by a porch similar to that on the front. Some changes have been made under the porch, including converting a door to a window and a window to a door, but the original architraves remain.

The interior of the Andrews-Duncan House has a modified center-hall plan two rooms deep to the right and three rooms deep to the left with a servants' hall paralleling the main hall. The main hall has walls plastered above a heavy molded chair rail and features a stair, splayed at its base, which rises from the right side to a transverse landing and returns in a reverse flight to the second floor. It continues to the finished attic. The stair has a molded handrail, well-turned octagonal balusters, and treads adorned by curvilinear brackets. The balustrade ends in a heavy octagonal scroll newel with a raised panel on each face.

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7.

The northeast parlor, the most elaborately finished room in the house, has on the north wall a white marble mantel with an arched opening, spandrels, and a scroll cartouche adorned with shell designs in high relief. The windows have interior louvered blinds and are framed by heavy molded surrounds which extend to the baseboard, thus enclosing a horizontal raised panel. A gas chandelier hangs from an extremely ornate foliated medallion. The northwest room is entered through a large sliding double door. It contains a black marble mantel with an arched opening, raised-paneled spandrels, and a circular cartouche. The southeast parlor, although somewhat altered, retains a black marble mantel with incised foliate designs.

G. 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Alexander Boyd Andrews, a successful railroad executive, was living in Granville County in April, 1873, when he bought a Raleigh city lot from R. S. Pullen. On this lot, located at the southwest corner of North and Blount Streets, Andrews was soon to build a substantial Victorian house.

A. B. Andrews had begun his career with railroads in 1859 in South Carolina at the age of eighteen. During the Civil War he served in the First North Carolina Cavalry Regiment. He rose to the rank of captain and was among the troops surrendered by General Joseph E. Johnston at the Bennett Place. After the war he returned to the railroad business and was elected superintendent of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad in 1867. He became president of several smaller railroads as his career progressed, and is "credited with providing the leadership necessary to complete the Western Carolina Railroad from Azalea near Asheville to Murphy and Painted Rock despite financial hardship and engineering and political difficulties." In 1895 he became first vice-president of the Southern Railroad, a position he held until his death in 1915. He was held in such high regard that when he died, Raleigh stores closed during the funeral hour.

Laura Duncan Pearson, wife of a Raleigh dentist and widow of a Durham tobacco industrialist, bought the house from the Andrews estate on October 1919. The house has remained in the Duncan family, and the state of North Carolina currently holds an option with the heirs of Laura T. Duncan (Mrs. Pearson).

In the southwest corner of the yard of the Andrews-Duncan house stands an ancient white oak tree known as the "Henry Clay Oak." It is generally accepted that Henry Clay, the popular Whig candidate for the presidency, wrote his "Texas Question" letter while sitting under this oak. Clay was in Raleigh visiting his congressional colleague, Kenneth Rayner, whose house, since removed, stood near the great oak tree. In his letter, written April 17, 1844, and published in The National Intelligencer ten days later, Clay said that annexing Texas without Mexico's consent would be "compromising the character of the nation, involving us certainly in war with Mexico and probably with foreign powers, dangerous to the integrity of the Union, inexpedient to the financial condition of the country and not called for by any general expression of public opinion." His stand alienated both slave and anti-slave factions in Congress and led to the election of Clay's opponent, James K. Polk, as president of the United States. It was while defending this stand that Clay is credited with having said, "I would rather be right than President."

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The Andrews-Duncan House, built by one of the leaders in the nineteenth century railroad business which did much to unite distant sections of the state, is a fine example of a Victorian dwelling in the Italian mode. Together with the Heck-Andrews and Hawkins-Hartness houses beside and across the intersection from it, it stands as an impressive vestige from the days when Blount Street was the address of some of Raleigh's most prominent families. The large oak in the yard is a reminder of what may have been the turning point of Henry Clay's career.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jefferys, Grady, and Gilbert, John. Crossties Through Carolina: The Story of North Carolina's Early Day Railroads. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Helios Press, 1969.

Raleigh News and Observer, April 17, 1915.

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

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		39 48 20	78 36 58	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One Acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Survey and Planning Unit, John B. Wells, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: 14 July 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
109 East Jones Street

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 14 July 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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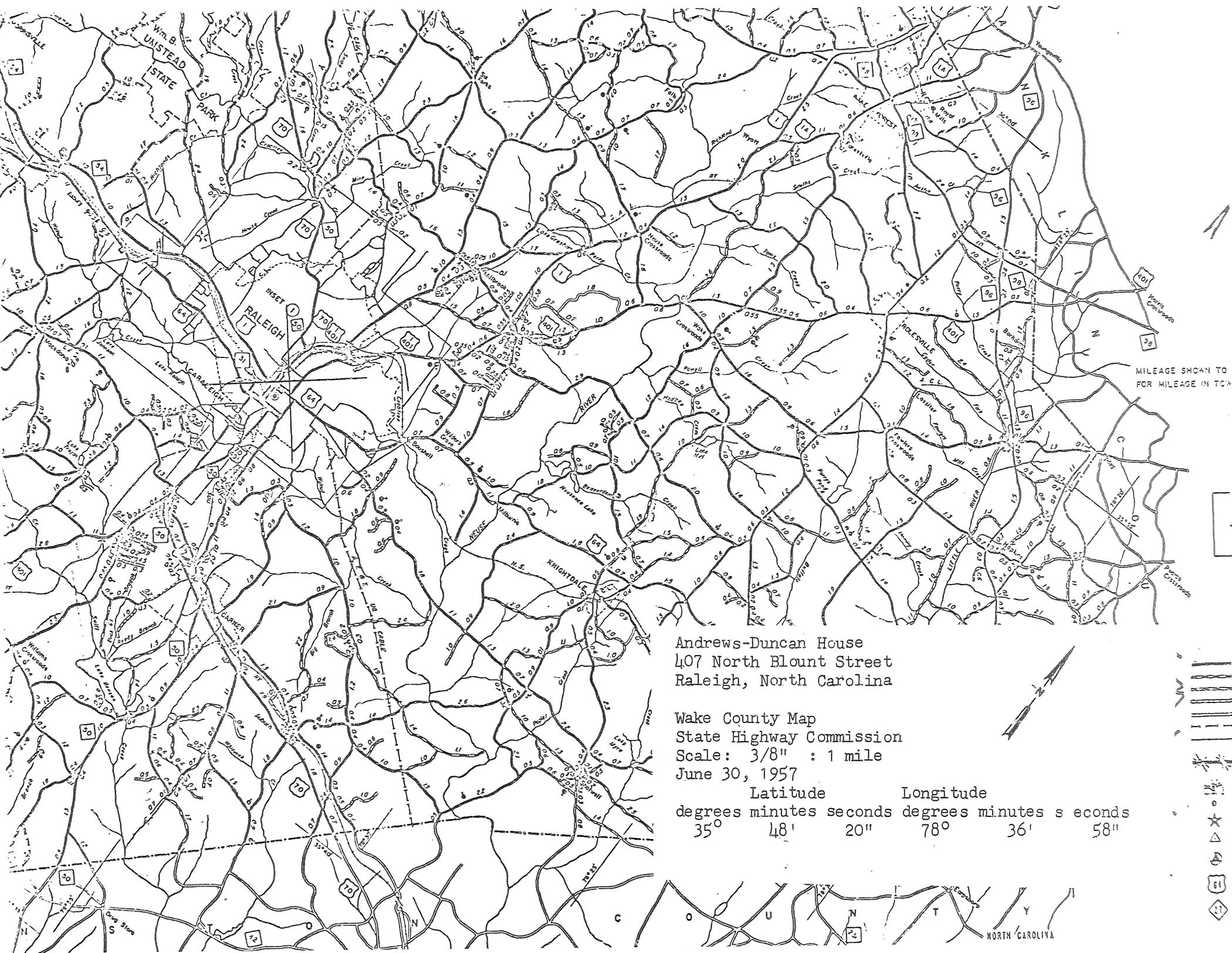
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9.

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

Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson. North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Junior League of Raleigh, Inc., and the Raleigh Historic Sites Commission, Inc., 1967.



MILEAGE SHOWN TO  
FOR MILEAGE IN TOP

Andrews-Duncan House  
407 North Blount Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Wake County Map  
State Highway Commission  
Scale: 3/8" : 1 mile  
June 30, 1957

Latitude			Longitude		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
35°	48'	20"	78°	36'	58"

