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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 Hall, Rev. Plummer T., House

other names/site number Hall-Jackson House

2. Location

street & number 814 Oberlin Road N/A not for publication

city or town Raleigh N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Wake code 183 zip code 27605

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Jeffrey Crow SHPO 3/5/02  
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
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

Edson A. Beall 5/16/02

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	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Historic and Architectural Resources of Oberlin, Wake County, North Carolina 1865-1952

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD/weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

**Period of Significance**

c. 1880-1915

**Significant Dates**

c. 1900

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Hall, Rev. Plummer T., House  
Name of Property

Wake, NC  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of Property .19 acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

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

3 

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Zone Easting Northing

4 

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 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 Sherry Joines Wyatt, Historic Preservation Specialist

organization David E. Gall, AIA, Architect date November 7, 2001

street & number 938 West Fifth Street telephone 336-773-1213

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

**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 Marion Jackson

street & number 814 Oberlin Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27605

**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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**7. Narrative Description**

The Reverend Plummer T. Hall House is located at 814 Oberlin Road, in Raleigh, North Carolina. At the time the property was built this area, now in the northwestern part of Raleigh, was a freedmen's village known as Oberlin. The Hall House is situated facing west on a narrow lot measuring slightly less than two-tenths of an acre. The house sits close to Oberlin Road. The pedestrian approach from Oberlin Road is via a short, concrete walk accessed by concrete steps from the sidewalk. A low, concrete block retaining wall separates the yard from the sidewalk. Mature trees are to be found throughout the lot. The current owner recalls that the only outbuilding associated with the house was a privy, which was demolished at an unknown date. In a 1989 local designation report about the house, two metal, shed roof outbuildings were noted, but those, too, have been demolished.

The Plummer T. Hall house is a one-story, Queen Anne cottage constructed sometime between 1880 and 1893. The original section of the house consists of a single-pile, center hall plan. On the southwest corner of this section, a gable front room was added by Plummer T. Hall as an office or study. The date of this addition is not known, but based on the Queen Anne style of the addition it is thought to have been built around 1900. Attached to the rear of the original section of the house is a one-story, shed roof addition that was constructed in 1996. This addition replaced a grouping of historic side-gabled and shed roof rear additions. Of these early additions, the side gable portion farthest to the rear of the house was thought by the present owner to have been the original detached kitchen.

The original, or front, section of the house has a side gable roof with deep cornice returns. Over the entry is a central, front-facing gable. There are round attic vents in the gable ends. The gable front addition on the southwest corner has a quartfoil attic vent on both the front and rear. The front porch extends north from this addition to the end of the front facade, terminating in an original gazebo with a polygonal roof. The porch has turned posts and sawnwork brackets. The historic addition also has a three-sided bay window on the front facade.

Windows in the original part of the house are four-over-four and six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. An exception is the picture window flanked by four-over-four, double-hung windows on the north side of the front facade. Modern windows with false muntins are located in the rear addition. The front door is original to the house. The door reflects Italianate influences with glazed, arched panels above three recessed and molded panels.

Interior walls were once plaster, but have been replaced with gypsum wallboard. New wood floors were installed in the 1960s and refinished in 1996. Rooms in the 1996 addition are carpeted. In the front living room, there was a fireplace on the east wall which has been enclosed. Door and window trim is simple, without ornate moldings. Materials in the rear addition date from 1996.

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Hall, Reverend Plummer T., House, Wake County, North Carolina

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**Statement of Significance**

**Summary Paragraph**

Located in the freedmen's village of Oberlin, now part of the city of Raleigh, the Reverend Plummer T. Hall House is locally significant as the only remaining historic building associated with the earliest phases of development of the Oberlin Baptist Church. The historic church building burned in 1955. Like churches in most African American communities, the church was an important part of Oberlin's social fabric, providing spiritual, social, cultural, educational, and civic opportunities for freedmen. Baptist churches, along with Methodist Episcopal denominations, were the dominant churches among southern African Americans throughout the early twentieth century. More than merely the home of the pastor of the Oberlin Baptist Church, the Hall House represents Reverend Hall's ministerial duties with its office addition. Believed to have been added around 1900, this addition utilizes Queen Anne stylistic motifs in keeping with the original tri-gable Queen Anne cottage and emphasizes the house's stylishness by adding to its irregular form. The exterior entrance to the office denotes it as a place of business for Reverend Hall.

The significance of the Reverend Plummer T. Hall House relates to the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic and Architectural Resources of Oberlin, Wake County, North Carolina, 1865 - 1952" under the following contexts: "The Cultural and Social Life of Oberlin" (pages E 10 - 22) and "The Jim Crow Years: Modest Prosperity and Sense of Community, 1880 - 1950" (pages E 22 - 28) and under the following property type: "Residential Buildings" (pages F 31 - 36). The Hall House satisfies the registration requirements for its type as set forth in the MPDF (pages F 35 - 36) in that it possesses the required level of integrity of location, setting, materials and feeling to be an important representation of the historical development of Oberlin. The period of significance of the property extends from c.1880, the construction date of the house according to *Raleigh City Directory* listings and family tradition and the beginning of Reverend Hall's association with the Oberlin Baptist Church, to 1915, the year of Reverend Hall's death. The Hall House is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Social History and African American Ethnic Heritage.

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Hall, Reverend Plummer T., House, Wake County, North Carolina

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**Historical Background**

According to family tradition, Reverend Plummer T. Hall built this house as a wedding present for his bride, Della Mallory. The couple was married on October 3, 1877.<sup>1</sup> Deed records indicate that the land was a gift from Della's father. However, Edward Mallory purchased the property on which the house is located in January of 1872 from John and Lavinna Pool, an African American couple. The Pools had acquired the property in December 1870 from George and Margaret Mordecai, members of one of Raleigh's most prominent white families. The Pools purchased three acres of land for \$300, but sold only a one-quarter acre lot to Mallory.<sup>2</sup> Edward Mallory owned the lot until his death. His heirs, John and Walter Mallory, transferred title of the lot to Della Hall in 1907 for thirty dollars.<sup>3</sup>

Based on evidence from the *Raleigh City Directory* and other sources the construction date of the house was most likely between about 1880 and 1893. Family tradition states that all of the Hall children were born in the house. However, it seems unlikely that the Hall's first son, Henry (born in 1878) was born there since Plummer Hall is recorded as residing on Blount Street in the 1880 City Directory. It is unclear when the Hall family moved to Oberlin, but they were certainly there by 1901 when they first appear as Oberlin residents in the *Raleigh City Directory*. According to the Oberlin Baptist Church's centennial publication, Reverend Hall's involvement with Oberlin Baptist Church began around 1880, so it seems reasonable to assume that the family moved to Oberlin around that time. The Halls had at least one other son, Frank, in 1893, and based on the oral history of his daughter, Suzy Jackson, it is relatively certain that he was born in the Hall House.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Wake County Marriage Index.

<sup>2</sup>Wake County Deed Book 290, page 583; book 67, page 563; and book 31, page 286.

<sup>3</sup>Wake County Deed Book 290, page 583.

<sup>4</sup>*Raleigh City Directory*, 1880-1881, 1886, and 1901 (please note that the set of Raleigh City Directories is incomplete for the 1880s); 1880 U.S. Census; Centennial Committee of the Oberlin Baptist Church; Unpublished Notes, Architectural Survey File for the Hall-Jackson House, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office and Suzy Jackson, oral history interview with Sherry Joines Wyatt and Sarah A. Woodard, 22 May 2001.

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Hall, Reverend Plummer T., House, Wake County, North Carolina

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Plummer T. Hall was born a slave to Joseph and Josephine Hester of Raleigh in October 1849.<sup>5</sup> Reverend Hall never became a wealthy man, but he does appear to have been educated and was as a prominent member of the Oberlin community. The 1900 tax rolls indicate that his property was valued at \$195. Assuring us that Reverend Hall was literate, twenty dollars of this figure is attributed to his library.<sup>6</sup> Family oral history indicates that Reverend Hall died in 1915 from gangrene caused by a broken leg sustained in a fall from the roof of the house.<sup>7</sup>

It is not known when Plummer T. Hall became a minister, nor how he was able to learn to read, but church historians believe that he helped to organize a community church and was the first pastor of the Oberlin Baptist Church (then known as the First Baptist Church of Oberlin) when it was formally established in 1880 in a structure in the 1200 block of Oberlin Road. In 1912, the First Baptist Church of Oberlin joined with Mt. Moriah Church to create the Oberlin Baptist Church. After Reverend Hall's death, Reverend Fullwilder led the congregation in an effort to construct a frame church at 806 Oberlin Road. Neither the building in the 1200 block, nor the frame structure survive. The latter was destroyed by fire in 1955.<sup>8</sup>

Churches were among the earliest and most important institutions established by newly freed African Americans and remained important centers for education, social and cultural opportunity and civic involvement throughout the early twentieth century in many African American communities. Baptist churches were the dominant denomination (followed by the various Methodist Episcopal churches) by the 1920s.<sup>9</sup> At Oberlin Baptist, Sunday School was a prominent event up until the mid-

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<sup>5</sup>Jennifer Hallman, "Why is Oberlin Valuable?, c. 2001," unpublished student report and Jennifer Hallman, Survey of Oberlin Community Cemetery, c. 2001.

<sup>6</sup>Wake County Tax List, 1900.

<sup>7</sup>Notes, Architectural Survey File and Hallman, Cemetery Survey.

<sup>8</sup>Centennial Committee of Oberlin Baptist Church, *Centennial Anniversary, Oberlin Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1880 - 1980: Reflecting a Triumph of Blessings* (Raleigh: Oberlin Baptist Church, c.1980).

<sup>9</sup>Walter H. Brooks, "Evolution of the Negro Baptist Church," in *The Journal of Negro History*, Vol. VII, Carter G. Woodson, ed., electronic version, Documenting the American South



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1930s. The Sunday Schools and ladies' circles of Oberlin Baptist and Wilson Temple United Methodist Church formed the base for most of the social activities in the Oberlin community.

The Reverend Plummer T. Hall House is only remaining structure in Oberlin with direct associations to the earliest period of development of the Oberlin Baptist Church (1880 - 1915). The Hall House is a single pile, tri-gable, Queen Anne cottage; a common house type among Oberlin dwellings during the late-nineteenth century. The house is made distinctive, however, by the elaborate gazebo porch terminus on the northern corner of the house. This elaboration helps to identify Hall as a prominent Oberlin citizen, but the features of the house go even further to illuminate his role in the community.

Sometime early in the house's history, Reverend Hall added a small room to the southern corner of the house. This room is accessed via the dining room of the house, but also from an exterior door at the southern end of the porch. This room was Reverend Hall's pastoral office. The exterior entrance marks it as his place of business at a time when the church would have been only a sanctuary, not providing space for the pastor. The early date of the office is indicated by the continued use of Queen Anne style details in keeping with the original house. The office features a quatrefoil attic vent, gable returns, and a small bay window. The manner in which the office projects from the main body of the house accentuates the irregularity of form that was a popular Queen Anne motif.

After Reverend Hall's death, his widow, Della, continued to reside in the house along with her son Frank and his family. Della operated a grocery at 623 Oberlin Road between about 1919 and about 1930. She appears to have died between 1930 and 1935. After her death, her son Frank and his wife Susie continued to reside in the house. Frank was employed by the Department of Agriculture for forty-five years, first as a janitor with the State Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds and later as a clerk with the department. Frank Hall passed away about 1959.<sup>10</sup> After his

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website, produced by University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/> and Joseph C. Hartzell, "Methodism and the Negro in the United States," in *The Journal of Negro History*, Vol. VIII, Carter G. Woodson, ed., electronic version, Documenting the American South website, produced by University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/> . .

<sup>10</sup>Suzy Jackson, oral history interview; *Raleigh City Directory*, 1935-1960; and Wake County Deed Index, electronic.

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death, Susie B. Hall resided in the house for many years.<sup>11</sup> The house is now occupied by her daughter Suzy Jackson.

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<sup>11</sup>*Raleigh City Directory*, 1960-1975.

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Brooks, Walter H. "Evolution of the Negro Baptist Church," in *The Journal of Negro History*, Vol. VII, Carter G. Woodson, ed. Electronic version, Documenting the American South website. Produced by University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/>.

Hall-Jackson House. Architectural Survey File, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

Hallman, Jennifer. Survey of Oberlin community cemetery, c.2001.

Jennifer Hallman, "Why is Oberlin Valuable?, c. 2001," unpublished student report

Hartzell, Joseph C. "Methodism and the Negro in the United States," in *The Journal of Negro History*, Vol. VIII, Carter G. Woodson, ed. Electronic version, Documenting the American South website. Produced by University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/>

Jackson, Suzy. Oral history interview with Sherry Joines Wyatt and Sarah A. Woodard, 22 May 2001.

*Raleigh City Directory*, 1880 - 1980.

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission. "Wake County Historic Property Designation Form for the Plummer T. Hall House, 1993." Raleigh Historic Districts Commission.

Soundex for North Carolina, 1900 and 1920.

Wake County Deeds.

Wake County Marriage Index.

Wake County Tax Lists, 1900.

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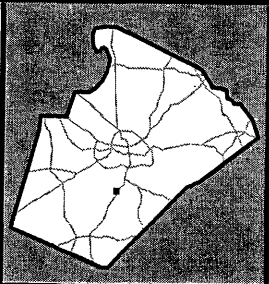
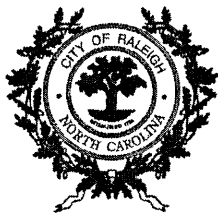
**Verbal Boundary Description**

Two-tenths acre tract delineated by heavy solid line on 1 inch = 200 feet scale map labeled as Exhibit A.

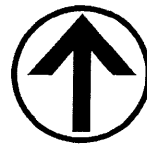
**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Reverend Plummer T. Hall House.

# Exhibit A Wake Co. Tax Map

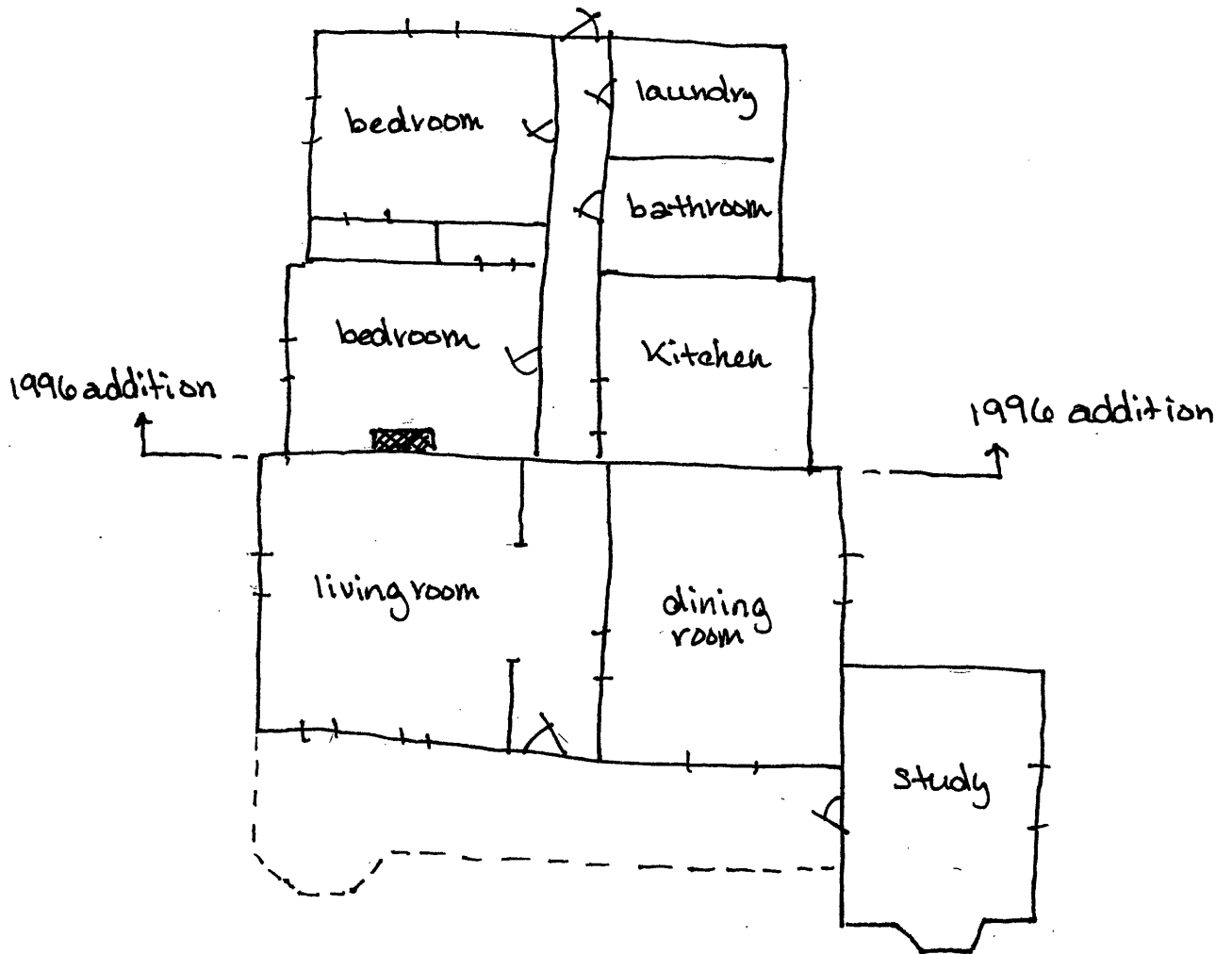


**—** = property boundary



Plummer T. Hall House





Rev. Plummer T. Hall House  
814 Oberlin Road  
Raleigh, Wake County, NC

not to scale