

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Bergen	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

H13 2n18
 N 4520420
 E 575190

1. NAME

COMMON:
William Carlos Williams House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
9 Ridge Road at the Terrace

CITY OR TOWN:
Rutherford

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Bergen CODE: 003

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Medical Office <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Florence Williams

STREET AND NUMBER:
9 Ridge Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Rutherford

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 003

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Bergen County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Hackensack

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory #2712.3

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

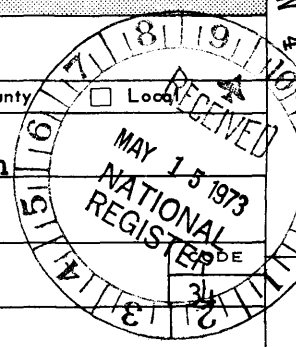
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Dept. of Environmental Protection: Historic Sites Section

STREET AND NUMBER:
Post Office Box 1120

CITY OR TOWN:
Trneton

STATE: New Jersey

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey
 COUNTY: Bergen
 ENTRY NUMBER: 112
 DATE: JUN 4 1973
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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 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 William Carlos Williams House is an irregularly shaped, two-story wooden structure with gable roof. The siding is clapboard with sections of shingle and a band of vertical boards. On the front, or northwest elevation, the main section has two bays. The more northeastern of these bays projects slightly under a gable roof. On the first floor this projection forms a bay window. A lunette is set in the gable end of this section, and a rectangular window is set on the same level in the southwestern bay, which has double windows on the first and second floors. Northwest of the main section is a multiform wing consisting of four overlapping sections, of which two have gable roofs and two have hipped roofs. The entrance to the house is through a porch recessed in the wing at the point at which it joins the main section. South of the house is a double garage.

The entrance leads into a hall with a stairway at the northeastern side. On the wall of the stair well is a mural of New York City by Ivan Earl, and on the southeastern wall of the hall hangs a painting by Ben Shaw representing his impression of Dr. Williams' poem Patterson. South of the hall is the L-shaped living room, which has a brick fireplace with a wooden mantel shelf, flanked by bookshelves. This room contains several pictures, including a notable example of the work of Charles Demuth entitled "Coatesville, Pennsylvania: End of the Parade." The dining room, at the south corner of the house, projects slightly to the southeast.

On the second floor there are four bedrooms grouped around a center hall. The one in the southeast corner served as Dr. Williams' study, where he wrote some of his later poetry, especially after his retirement from medical practice in 1951. The furniture in this room as in the whole of the residence area of the house, is generally unchanged since the poet's death.

The remainder of the house served as Dr. Williams' medical offices, and is now used for the same purpose by his son. This part of the house has been considerably altered.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. Significance

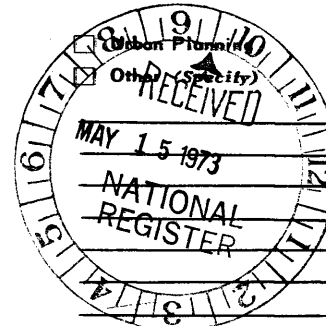
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1913-1963

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Carlos Williams, physician, novelist, and poet, has been ranked with such literary figures as: Frost, Stevens, Pound, and even T.S. Eliot. He was most noted for his verse, which evolved during his career, but was distinguished throughout by the immediacy of its descriptive brilliance. Thomas Whitaker in his book William Carlos Williams writes: "The writing of William Carlos Williams is one of the major achievements in 20th-century American literature."

The house at Nine Ridge Road was Williams' home from 1913 to 1963 when he died. Although the medical offices have been altered, the residential part of the house has been little changed. It is the home of Williams' widow at present, and is filled with furniture and objects associated with the poet.

William Carlos Williams was born in Rutherford, New Jersey, on September 17, 1883. He attended public schools there until 1896, when he spent a year in Europe attending preparatory school in Geneva. After finishing high school in New York City, he entered the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, graduating in 1906.

He interned in New York, did pediatrics graduate work in Germany, and in 1910 began practicing in his home town, Rutherford. He remained there until his death in 1963, writing and practicing medicine, although he made several trips to Europe where he met literary lights of the day and was inspired by them. In his Autobiography he says, "Because Flossie, my wife, and I have never moved, Nine Ridge Road has become a landmark for many friends who, though they have seldom or never visited us, have at least known where we lived."

Williams most famous work, Pictures from Breughel, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1963.

His other works include: Poems(1909), The Temper(1913), The Great American Novel(1923), "Kora in Hell"(1920), "Sour Grapes"(1921), In the American Grain(1925), Autobiography(1951), and Paterson (unfinished, 1946-1963).

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hart, James D. The Oxford Companion to American Literature. New York: Oxford University Press, 1965.
 Kunitz and Haycraft, editors. Twentieth Century American Literature. New York: H.W. Wilson Company, 1942.
 Whitaker, Thomas R. William Carlos Williams. New York: Random House, 1951.
 Williams, William C. The Autobiography of William Carlos Williams. New York: Random House, 1951.

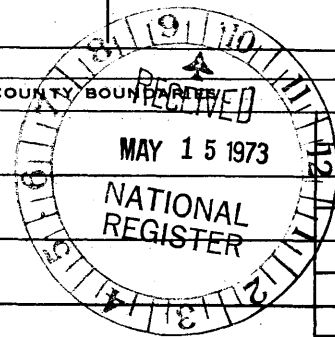
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 49 ' 36 "	74 ° 06 ' 20 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Edmund Preston, Historian and Christopher Redburn, Assistant

ORGANIZATION: History Division, Office of Archeology & Hist. Preservation DATE: 7-12-72

STREET AND NUMBER: National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: II

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: Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Environmental Protection

Date: January 29, 1973

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST:
William S. Galt
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5 24 73