

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF HARTWELL, HART COUNTY, GEORGIA

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY #2

I. IDENTIFICATION

HISTORIC NAME: Teasley-Holland House
 CURRENT NAME: Holland Residence
 STREET ADDRESS: 416 W. Howell Street
 CITY: Hartwell
 PRESENT OWNER: W. E. Holland
 MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. Box 33
 CITY: Hartwell
 STATE: Georgia
 ZIP CODE: 30643
 CURRENT USE: vacant
 ACREAGE: less than one acre
 U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Hartwell, Georgia
 U.T.M. REFERENCE: Z17 E321750 N3802900
 V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: H-14-3-2

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION:

The Teasley-Holland House is a one-story, wood-framed, Victorian cottage with Italianate detailing. In plan, the house was originally "L" shaped but now, with additions to the rear, approximates a sideways "T." The roofline is gabled. Exterior materials include wood weatherboard, corner boards, and cornices; the cornices feature paired brackets. Windows are 6/6 throughout; on the front gabled facade, a bay window with three 6/6 sash projects forward. A half-porch runs across the rest of the front facade; this porch features square posts and patterned sawn balustrades. The main entry door is bordered by side and transom lights.

The interior of the house is organized around a central hall. Two main rooms are located more or less symmetrically on either side of the hall. Fireplaces and chimneys are located along the west side and rear walls. An original rear porch has been enclosed, and two additional rooms added to the rear. The floors and ceilings are sheathed with wide pine planks. One fireplace mantel is Greek Revival in design.

The property sits on a relatively large city lot, bordered by streets on three sides. Landscaping consists of several large trees including an aging cedar and the remnants of former boxwood gardens. The rear yard is open.

The property is in fair condition.

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 63

III. HISTORY

ORIGINAL OWNER: Asbury Teasley
 ORIGINAL USE: residence
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: unknown
 HISTORIC ACREAGE: same as current
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1880
 DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: not known

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT):

This house was built for Isaham Asbury Teasley (known as Asbury Teasley) circa 1880. Teasley, who was born in nearby Elbert County, Georgia, in 1832, had been a former resident of Hart County. He married in 1854; two children by that marriage died in childhood. In 1896 he lost his first wife and remarried. He had one son by his second wife, I. A. Teasley, Sr., who now lives in Toccoa, Georgia. This son recalls that his father was a large landowner in Hart County and farmed the land with assistance of slaves, prior to the Civil War, and tenants, following the war. The Teasley family apparently moved to Hartwell to be closer to town conveniences after the Civil War. An article in the Hartwell Sun from 1897 described Teasley as "not engaged in active business at present but one of the most prominent citizens of Hartwell . . . who followed farming and trading all of his life, at which he accumulated a comfortable fortune." At that time he was noted as being a resident of Hartwell for a number of years and as owning a beautiful home on Howell Street.

Teasley died in 1903, leaving the house to his second wife and young son. His wife and son remained in the house until after World War I when they moved to south Georgia. The house was purchased by William Yancey Holland, owner of the W. Y. Holland Company, described in the local newspaper as "dealers in pianoes, organs, musical instruments, furniture, and funeral cases." Holland's father owned and operated "New Holland's Store" in South Carolina, where Holland had learned the trade. He and his new wife, Mary Bradley of Anderson County, South Carolina, moved to Hartwell in 1873 and assumed control of an existing mercantile business on the square. Holland also worked as a traveling salesman for a number of companies before being injured by a train in 1888. He died in 1925 at his home on Howell Street. His wife, son, and daughter continued to reside in the house after his death. Following the wife's death, the son and daughter lived in the house. The daughter has recently moved to a nursing home, and the house is currently vacant.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA: B, C
 AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Social History
 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL):

The Teasley-Holland House is significant architecturally as an unusual Victorian house in Hartwell, one of a very few with Italianate-style influences. These features include the paired cornice brackets, the recessed porch and entry, and the projecting bay window. The Italianate style was never widely popular in Georgia, and many small towns have no representations of this style. Although modest in scale and execution, the design of this house does reflect this stylistic movement. Additionally, the house is significant for its transitional architectural features, including an interior fireplace mantel and the trabeated front doorway. These features suggest either the perseverance of older Greek Revival traditions in the community during the Reconstruction period or the possibility that this house may have been built using as a core an existing antebellum structure.

The house is significant historically for its associations with Asbury Teasley and William Yancey Holland. Teasley has been called one of Hartwell's and Hart County's most prominent citizens, a large land owner and operator of both farming and trading establishments. His moving into town after the Civil War is typical of the action taken by many planters who formerly had lived in the country. Holland is described as one of Hartwell's first merchants, who owned a local business and traveled throughout the southeast representing regional and national companies.

CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:

Contributing building(s): 1

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Historic Structures Field Survey: Hart County, Georgia

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Interviews with W. E. Holland, Abbeville, South Carolina, and I. A. Teasley, Toccoa, Georgia; files of Mrs. Curran W. Cashion, Hartwell, Georgia; Hartwell Sun, various issues.

FORM PREPARED BY:

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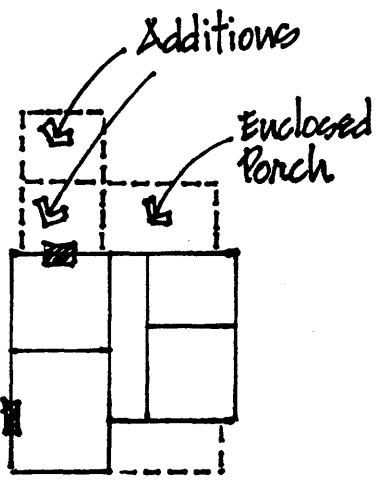
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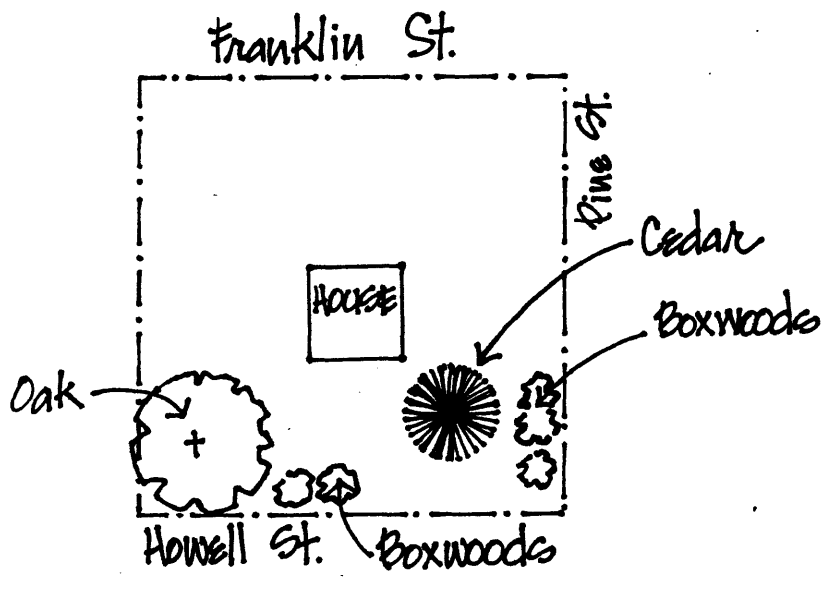
VI. SITE PLAN/SKETCH MAP/FLOOR PLAN

Attached sketches are intended only to help illustrate the nominated property. No scale is provided or implied, unless otherwise noted. Boundary markings are simply general indications of the extent of the nominated property; the actual boundary description, unless otherwise noted, is the current legal description of the property which coincides with the current tax map number cited in Section I of this form. Also, note that the orientation of the various sketches differs from sketch to sketch; each is provided with a north arrow for clarity.

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FLOOR PLAN



SITE PLAN

NORTH