

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF HARTWELL, HART COUNTY, GEORGIA

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY #4

I. IDENTIFICATION

HISTORIC NAME: Charles I. Kidd House
CURRENT NAME: Bailey Residence
STREET ADDRESS: 304 West Howell Street
CITY: Hartwell
PRESENT OWNER: Jeb & Mary Bailey
MAILING ADDRESS: 304 West Howell Street
CITY: Hartwell
STATE: Georgia
ZIP CODE: 30643
CURRENT USE: residence
ACREAGE: city lot (approximately 1 acre)
U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Hartwell, Georgia
U.T.M. REFERENCE: Z17 E321910 N 3802850
V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: H-10-8-2

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION:

This two-story, frame, Victorian-eclectic residence contains Queen Anne-style influences. A prominent two-story gable-roofed bay extends on the principal facade. The bay contains paired 2/2 windows on the first floor, a single 2/2 window on the second floor, and a small pair of attic windows located in the richly decorated gable. A frieze of panels defines the gable which is sheathed in fish-scale shingles and is capped with an open work bargeboard. A second-story porch extends from this bay, across the facade, and terminates in a semicircular conical-roofed turret. The first-story porch extends beyond the house proper one bay at each end. This porch is supported on turned posts with turned balusters beneath the rail. Shallow arches are formed by the turned brackets. The second-story porch contains smaller, yet elaborate, cut work brackets. The entrance is defined by a pediment projecting from the porch; an open-work frieze includes a masonic emblem cut with a jigsaw. An arched doorway leads into the central stair hall. A transomed door opens onto the second story porch.

The interior plan is asymmetrical around the central hall. Projecting bays are located on the east and west elevations. Two internal chimneys are also asymmetrically positioned. The millwork of the interior includes tongue-and-groove wall and ceiling surfaces, glazed transoms above the doorways, period mantels, and a variety of turned millwork embellishments. Interior alterations include the creation of a bathroom from the rear porch in the 1930s. Two rooms were created at this time by enclosing the rear porch. In 1972, one of these rooms was altered again to update the bathroom fixtures.

The Kidd House is situated on one half of a city block and fronts toward Howell Street. Historic outbuildings include a brick greenhouse, a frame garage, and a frame chicken house. A small rental apartment sheathed in aluminum siding is located rear of the house and is contemporary. The property contains the site of a former frame school structure. The property boundary on Howell is defined by a contemporary brick and wrought-iron fence. Several large pecan trees dominate the landscape features.

The property is in good condition.

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 65

III. HISTORY

ORIGINAL OWNER: Charles I. Kidd
 ORIGINAL USE: residence
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: unknown
 HISTORIC ACREAGE: same as present
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1896-1897
 DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: 1930s, 1972

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT):

The Charles I. Kidd House was built in 1896 on Lot 113 and a portion of Lot 114 of the original city plan. A frame school house originally stood on the site and was used by the early Methodists as a meeting place prior to the construction of the First Methodist Church in 1859. When the Kidd House was constructed, the building was moved to the rear of the property where it remained until 1956 when it was demolished.

Charles I. Kidd was the owner and manager of a livery business in downtown Hartwell. According to The Hartwell Sun, "Kidd was born and reared in Maryville, Tennessee. He came to Hartwell in 1881 and went into the livery business with his brother, Captain J. M. Kidd [who resided in Danielsville, Georgia.] C. I. Kidd worked with his brother for two years before opening a livery and sale stable of his own." In 1897, Kidd's frame livery stable burned and he constructed a brick building on the same site. This structure remains on the northeastern corner of the square. Other businesses were ventured by the Kidd family. Kidd owned a grocery store in Hartwell; according to a newspaper account of 1897, the grocery business was operated by Gene Matheson and included a full line of staple groceries and hardware. Kidd's son, C. A. Kidd, opened a livery stable in nearby Lavonia in 1915. C. I. Kidd prospered from his business ventures. He was termed "phenominally successful" and his worth was estimated between \$25,000 and \$40,000 according to an 1897 account. This success apparently provided the resources to construct his home, one of the finest of its time in Hartwell. An article in The Hartwell Sun of April 14, 1897, states that Kidd had just completed one of the handsomest and most convenient mansions in

Hartwell. The inside finish was said to be the finest in this section of the state.

Kidd lived in this structure until his death in 1929. His widow continued to live here until her death in 1938. An unmarried daughter then resided here until her death in 1968. A grand daughter, Mrs. Mary Hailey Bailey, and her husband Jep Bailey own and occupy the structure today.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA: B, C
 AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Commerce/Transportation
 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL):

The Kidd House is an architecturally significant example of the Queen Anne style. It is one of the finest examples of this style in the multiple resource area; interior plan and detailing reflect vernacular details of design and craftsmanship. The property also gains significance from the surviving group of historic outbuildings; such outbuildings were once common but are now relatively rare.

The Kidd House is historically important for its associations with C. I. Kidd. Kidd was a prominent Hartwell citizen and a leading businessman whose financial success contributed to the economic growth of downtown Hartwell. He played an instrumental role in the development of a major local livery business which served an important function in the day-to-day transportation of Hartwell's citizens. His influence in supporting transportation extended beyond Hartwell to the nearby community of Lavonia where his son, C. A. Kidd, operated a local livery business.

CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:

Contributing building(s): 1
 Contributing structure(s): 3
 Non-contributing building(s): 1

V. SOURCES

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

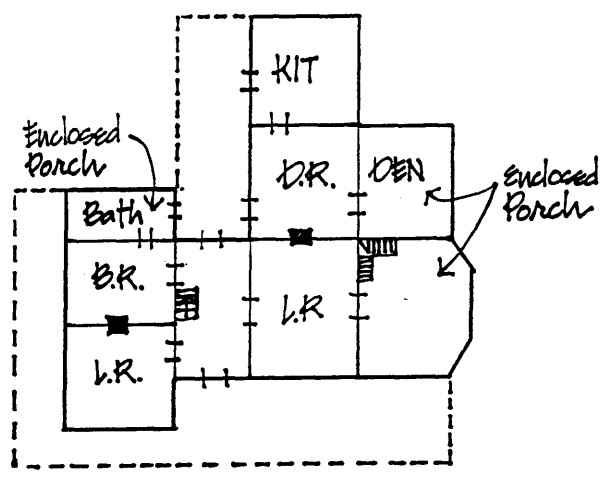
SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Interview with Mr. & Mrs. Jep Bailey; the The Hartwell Sun, "Trade and Illustrated edition;" Baker, John William, The History of Hart County.

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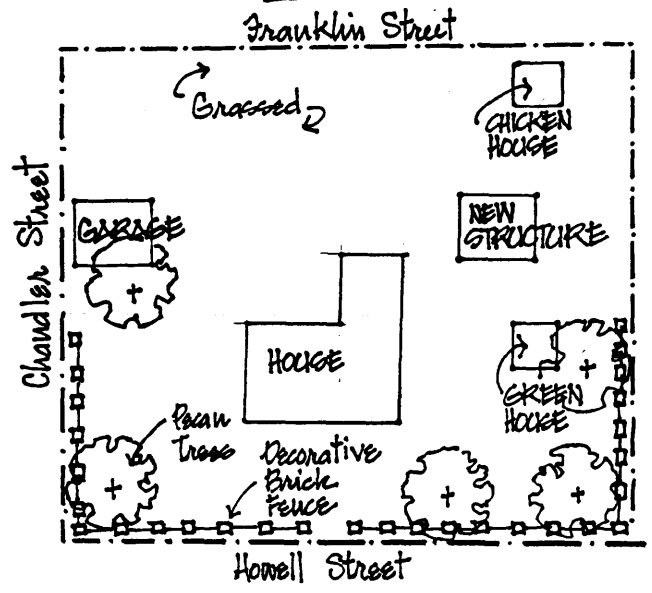
VI. SITE PLAN/SKETCH MAP/FLOOR PLAN

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.

NORTH ↑



FLOOR PLAN



SITE PLAN