

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF HARTWELL, HART COUNTY, GEORGIA

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY #22

I. IDENTIFICATION

HISTORIC NAME: Ralph Teasley House
 CURRENT NAME: Pinson Residence
 STREET ADDRESS: 421 West Howell Street
 CITY: Hartwell
 PRESENT OWNER: Mildred Pinson
 MAILING ADDRESS: 421 West Howell Street
 CITY: Hartwell
 STATE: Georgia
 ZIP CODE: 30643
 CURRENT USE: residence
 ACREAGE: city lot (less than one acre)
 U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Hartwell, Georgia
 U.T.M. REFERENCE: Z17 E321710 N3802850
 V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: H-15-1-11

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION:

This house is a one-story, Craftsman-inspired residence faced with yellow brick laid in common bond. The low gable roof over the main body of the house and hipped roof covering a rear ell contain exposed rafter ends, half timbering in the gable ends, and bracketed eaves. Two gable dormers on the principal facade contain fixed 9-pane windows and bracketed eaves. Centered on this facade is a small front stoop covered with a gable-roofed portico supported by four square posts. Flanking the entrance are 9/1 and 12/1 windows set in trio. A projecting brick bay characterizes the west elevation. From the east elevation extends a screened porch which provides a secondary entrance.

The interior of the house is organized around a central hall, the front portion of which is merged into the living room. The interior retains the original Craftsman features including a vaulted living room ceiling, beveled glass French doors, yellow brick mantels, and original bathroom fixtures. Interior surfaces include wood floors and plaster walls and ceilings. Alterations include the creation of a bathroom in the former butler's pantry and the addition of wrought iron supports in the screened porch.

The house is situated on a corner lot fronting toward Athens and Howell Streets. The Hartwell Railroad forms the southern boundary of the lot. A non-historic frame garage is situated to the rear of the house. Included among the landscaping are several mature pecan trees, foundation plantings, and an original entrance walk.

The property is in good condition.

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER: 83

III. HISTORY

ORIGINAL OWNER: Ralph Teasley
 ORIGINAL USE: residence
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Temple Family
 HISTORIC ACREAGE: same as present
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1922
 DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: 1950 conversion of butler's pantry to bath

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT):

This structure was built in 1922 on property purchased by T. W. Teasley in 1892. Ralph Teasley (1886-1948), a son of T. W. Teasley, was given this lot (one half the original purchase) by his mother, who had survived her husband. Ralph had married Frances Greene, a school teacher from Eatonton, who had come to Hartwell to teach. The couple married on July 14, 1920 and resided two years in the Teasley family home before constructing their residence on this corner lot. According to Ralph Teasley's wife and sister, the house was designed and built by the Temple family. Mr. Teasley was a merchant in downtown Hartwell and operated a business with his cousin. His merchandise included groceries and school books.

Mr. Teasley died in 1948 and his widow sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hayes. Mr. Hayes died a short time after the purchase and his widow converted the house to two apartments. The butler's pantry was developed into the second bath room at this time. Following the death of Mrs. Hayes, the house was willed to a nephew, Isham Whitaker. Whitaker, a deputy sheriff for Hart County, resided in the house until his death. His widow sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pinson in 1974. Mr. Pinson is deceased. His wife continues to reside here.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL):

Architecturally, the Teasley House is a good intact example of a Craftsman-style residence. The modest yet characteristic appearance of the exterior contrasts with the richly detailed interior features. The house design and construction are credited to the Temple family of builders who designed and constructed many buildings in Hartwell in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The house is significant in local social history through its direct association with Ralph Teasley, the original owner. Teasley was a merchant in Hartwell who provided groceries and school books to the community; his interest in merchandising the latter may have resulted from the fact that his wife was a local school teacher. The relatives of Ralph Teasley were early inhabitants of Hartwell and played a major role in shaping the development of the community.

CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:

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

V. SOURCES

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Mrs. Elizabeth Myers (sister of Ralph Teasley) and Mrs. Frances Greene (wife of Ralph Teasley).

FORM PREPARED BY:

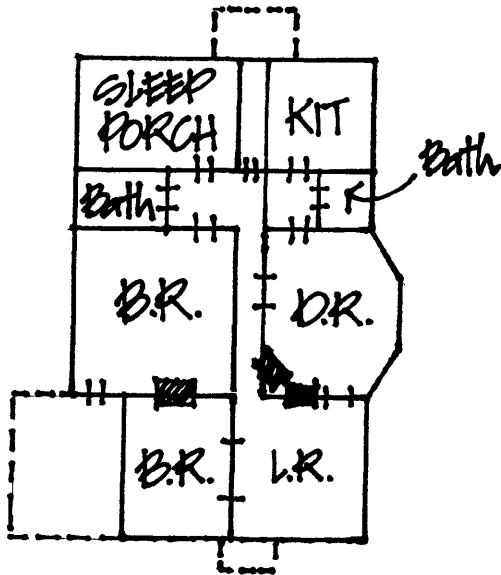
Dale Jaeger
 Georgia Mountains Area Planning and Development Commission
 Gainesville, Georgia

Donald Rooney
 Historic Preservation Consultant
 Atlanta, Georgia

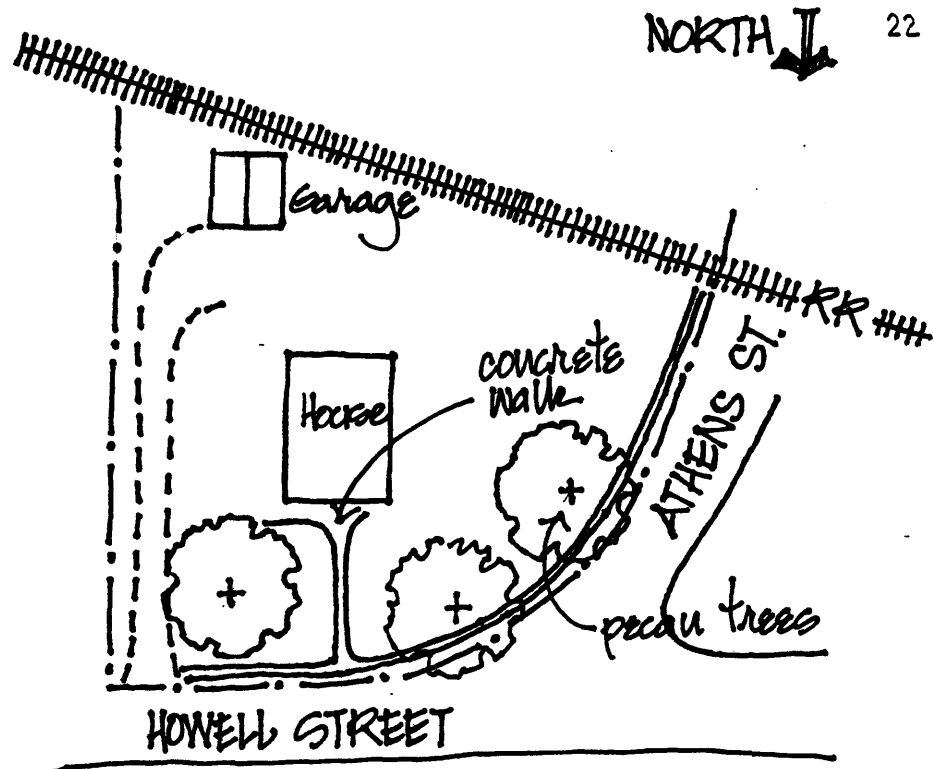
Richard Cloues
 Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources
 Atlanta, Georgia

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.



FLOOR PLAN



SITE PLAN