

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

PHO694380

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 3 1979

DATE ENTERED

FEB 14 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Hitchcock-Roberts House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North Warren Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th - John Flynt, Jr.

STATE

Georgia

VICINITY OF

CODE

13

COUNTY

Jasper

CODE

159

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	MUSEUM
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	COMMERCIAL
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION		EDUCATIONAL
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	ACCESSIBLE	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: RESTRICTED	ENTERTAINMENT
		YES: UNRESTRICTED	RELIGIOUS
		NO	GOVERNMENT
			SCIENTIFIC
			INDUSTRIAL
			TRANSPORTATION
			MILITARY
			X OTHER: vacant

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

W. D. Roberts

STREET & NUMBER

North Warren Street

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jasper County Courthouse, Deed Book B-11, p. 427

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historical/Architectural Survey of Jasper County

DATE

August, 1975

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta,

STATE Georgia

(6)

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hitchcock-Roberts House, a brick building in Monticello with some elements of the Georgian style, was built in 1816 by William Hitchcock, an early settler.

The thirteen inch thick American bond brick walls and chimney are all that remain of the house exterior as constructed by William Hitchcock. Added to the small rectangular structure later in the nineteenth century was a shed room and a front porch. This porch was subsequently removed in 1969 by the present owner who placed in its stead a concrete stoop. A plain pediment with fluted pilasters was thought to be originally shingled. But it has long since been replaced by a tin roof. A modified pitched roof was employed to accommodate the pitch of the original roof when the shed room was added. All of the windows are six-over-six, encased in a plain wooden molding. The left front window is a third smaller than its mate to the right of the entrance, which unbalances the otherwise symmetrical facade. There is no known explanation for this; both windows appear to be original. The shed windows as well as the other two in the brick house are of the same dimensions as the larger front window. Weatherboard, painted yellow, covers the exterior walls of the shed rooms and a small stoop serves as the rear porch. The shed rooms rest on a brick foundation, while the earlier house stands on 3-4" oak logs. On either side of the stepped chimney can be found a single window; both are now covered over. A small attic opening, that may have once been a window, is on the wall opposite the chimney. The house is somewhat Georgian in style, but the many alterations have made it difficult to reconstruct the house as it was when first completed.

The original brick structure consisted of a single room and an attic. This room is now divided slightly to the right of the front entrance, making two rooms of unequal size. A stairway to the attic ran from east to west in what is now the smaller room, but it has been removed and the ceiling covered with boards. There is thus no interior access to the attic. When the interior brick was covered with stucco, a Federal mantel, chair rail, and matching window moldings were installed. This is believed to have occurred before 1900, but the exact date is not known. Between the ceiling boards, thin wooden strips have been added to resemble board and batten construction. The beaded ceiling beams have remained intact through these alterations. Over the fireplace the ceiling drops several inches to accommodate a heating box used for the attic. With the addition of the shed room, the east window of the house was boarded up and the original back door became the entrance to the new room. This door is short and made of board and batten. The shed room, now divided in the same manner as the front room, is also of board and batten construction, with stucco applied to the common brick wall. The pine floor is in evidence here, while the brick half of the house has been carpeted. There are four windows in the shed rooms, one set flanking the rear porch and one each on the north and south walls.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1816 BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Hitchcock

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hitchcock-Roberts House is an early nineteenth century example of brick construction. Built originally as a dwelling, it has since been used in whatever ways the owners deemed profitable. Surrounded by the business district of Monticello, it remains, despite its altered condition, a small but important link to the early years of Jasper County.

William Hitchcock, an early settler of Jasper County, bought the land on which the house now stands in 1816 for \$150. When he sold this property in 1818 for \$1200, the brick house was mentioned in the deed. There is no evidence that Hitchcock ever lived in this house. He dealt extensively in real estate from the early 1800's until his death in 1844, and was considered to possess more wealth than the occupant of the modest brick home would be able to amass. From its beginning, the house was rented out by Hitchcock and before the 1818 sale it was occupied by James Buchanon. Evidently it was the fate of the brick house to remain in the hands of land traders. Its location near the center of Monticello was desirable and as the town grew, the property was sold six times between 1818 and 1825, each transaction marking an increase in value. The land was sold to L. W. Cargile in 1825, but here all mention of it vanishes in the county deeds until 1872 when it is bought from Abraham Smith by J. L. Campbell. By now the building was in the center of commercial Monticello, but was still used as a dwelling. In 1913, D. B. Benton, a local businessman, purchased the property from Campbell. At some point during his ownership the Monticello Library occupied the building, as a 1944 deed refers to this land as the "library lot". In 1944, Jim Natt Walker bought the land from the Benton estate. After his death, his heirs sold the land to W. D. Roberts, a local attorney, who used the building as his office until 1974. The house is now furnished as an office, but is vacant.

During many years when the owner of the house is unknown, a free Black woman, Ann Spear, known as "Aunt Samanthy", lived in the house and made her livelihood by operating a bakery in her home. She sold these goods to the townspeople and students at the Monticello Female Institute at a stand near the house on North Warren Street. It is uncertain whether Ann Spear actually owned the land or was merely another tenant.

The Hitchcock-Roberts House is thought to be the oldest standing structure in Monticello, and is certainly the oldest brick building. Situated on valuable commercial land near the Madison-Eatonton crossroads, the house was often sold, probably more for the lot than the dwelling. The house at times appears to have been a liability, but thankfully, it was never destroyed for the sake of business growth. It was surrounded by commercial structures as the town began to grow, but has, despite the many alterations,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Powell, Harvey J. "More About Monticello", Monticello News, September 7, 1969.
Volk, Victoria. Personal interviews with Harvey Powell, local historian, Monticello, and W. D. Roberts, Monticello, December, 1976.
Volk, Victoria. Personal inspection, October, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Monticello

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A [1 7] [2 5 0] [1 8 0] [3 6 8, 8 1 0, 7 0]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] [] [] []

E [] [] [] []

G [] [] [] []

B [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D [] [] [] []

F [] [] [] []

H [] [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Victoria Volk, Contract Consultant; Elizabeth A. Lyon, Chief, Historic Preservation Section; Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation Section

April 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

270 Washington Street, S. W.

404/656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

Georgia 30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Elizabeth A. Lyon
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 1-14-79 (9)

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE 2/13/79

CHIEF REGISTRAR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

kept its early nineteenth century character fairly intact. Although in good condition and structurally sound due to the brick construction, it appears to be in danger due to its commercial location and the inevitable deterioration from remaining unoccupied. The present owner has no plans for the utilization of the building.

(10)

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CONTINUATION SHEET Geographical Data ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the intersection of East Green and North Warren Streets and proceeding 90 feet in a northerly direction along North Warren Street to the property line of W. Dan Roberts; thence northeasterly 105 feet along the line to the northeast corner of the nominated property; thence from this corner 35 feet in a northwesterly direction to a point; thence northeasterly 50 feet to the back of the property owned by W. Dan Roberts (adjoining property owned by the Bank of Monticello); thence running 35 feet in a southeasterly direction to a corner; and thence 50 feet in a southwesterly direction to the point of beginning.

The Hitchcock-Roberts House, which is located within these boundaries, is approximately 26 feet wide and 30 feet in length.

(11)