National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

code

013

For NPS u	se only		
received	MAR	6	1984

date entered

OMB No. 1024~0018

Exp. 10-31-84

N/A not for publication

code

313

Facility

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

Berry House historic Thomas A

and or common Same

2 ocation.

street & number 506 Hawthorne Street

Dalton city, town

N/A_ vicinity of

state Georgia

С

3. Classification

ategory	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	public	_X_ occupied	agriculture	museum
L building(s)	_X_ private	unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	work in progress	educational	private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	N/A in process	X yes: restricted	government	scientific
-	being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
	-	no	military	X_ other: Health

county

Whitfield

Owner of Property 4.

name Jimmy D. and Donna I. Smith

street & number 1395 Glencrest Drive

city, town Magietta

N/A vicinity of

state Geor ia 30062

Georgia

Location of Legal Description 5.

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

Whitfield County Courthouse street & number

city, town Dalton

6.

date

Re	presen	tation	in	Exist	ing	Surve	ys

Historic Structures Field Survey: title

Whitfield County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible?

____ county _ local

_yes_X_no

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

Atlanta city, town

1975

state

federal <u>X</u> state

7. Description

Condition	
excellent	de
X good	rui
fair	un

Check one _X_ original site ____ moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Thomas A. Berry House is a large, two-story, wood-framed Victorian Eclecticstyle house. It has a large, wraparound, one-story porch and several types of wooden ornamentation and brackets. The exterior is painted. The front door contains a large, oval-shaped, beveled-window surrounded by ornate trim.

The plan was originally a four-room, central-hall plan, but now with changes and additions, the rooms are asymmetrically arranged. One enters directly into the living room or parlor with the staircase and hall straight ahead. A wall separating the living room and hall has been removed. The dining room and kitchen are behind the living room. To the right of the living room and dining room are three bedrooms which are part of the one-story portion of the house. The second story, directly above the living room, dining room and hall portion of the house, now contains three bedrooms and a bath. The interior walls and ceilings are plastered, the floors are wood, and there is wood molding and trim. The wooden stairway has a cherry newel post and banister with wainscoting on the interior wall. There is a bay window in the living room and a rectangular clear-glass window surrounded by stained glass in the dining room. There are seven coal-burning fireplaces with intact mantels. Many of the fireplaces retain their decorative tile surrounds.

The house retains its handhewn beams, stud framing, and cut nails. Its early electric wires were replaced, but original gas pipes remain. One cast-iron clawfoot bathtub dating from 1895 has been retained.

The house is located on an L-shaped lot with sloping terrain and many large trees and shrubs atop Fort Hill overlooking the city of Dalton. The only outbuilding is a storage building, date unknown.

Changes to the house include the addition of a bedroom, bath and closet in 1895 to accomodate Mrs. Berry's mother. Another bath was added at a later date. In 1981, a fire escape, a handicapped-access walkway, carport, and some interior wall paneling and acoustical ceiling tiles were added.

Historic photographs exist that show the house once had a picket fence near the street, and that rocks have been used to replace brickwork between the brick piers.

8. Significance

1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X_1800–1899	X architecture	community planning la conservation la economics lit education m engineering m exploration/settlement pl	terature hilitary husic hilosophy olitics/government	science sculpture
Specific dates	1882	Builder/Architect Unknown		<u> </u>

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thomas A. Berry House is significant in <u>architecture</u> as a good, intact example of a home built in the Victorian Eclectic style that retains its original setting, appearance, similar landscaping, and most significant exterior and interior features. It is one of a handful of Victorian-era homes that remain in an area that was an affluent section of Dalton during that period. Significant features of the architectural style include the wraparound porch, decorative brackets, both on the eaves and the porch, the use of a bay window and stained glass, and a variety of mantels. The house is significant in <u>local history</u> as the home built for and given to Thomas A. Berry (1852-1922) and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Bass (1861-1945), as a wedding gift by her father in 1882. Thomas A. Berry and his brother were owners of the T. A. and S. E. Berry Hardware Firm in Dalton, known as one of the largest such companies in north Georgia. The house remained in the family until 1946.

These areas of significance meet National Register criteria B and C.

Historical Narrative

The Reverend David P. Bass (1829-1895) had this house built for his daughter, Mary Elizabeth, on the occasion of her marriage to Thomas A. Berry in 1882. David P. Bass, a native of north Georgia, was a Methodist minister and a businessman in the firm of Cleghorn, Bass and Company in Summerville, Georgia, until he moved to Dalton. There he became a prominent landowner and was the second president of the Crown Cotton Mill, an important local textile industry.

Thomas A. Berry and his brother, Samuel E. Berry, both Dalton natives, were involved in real estate as well as their hardware company. The company handled hardware and groceries. Later it became the Berry-Bryant Hardware Company. Thomas A. Berry's last business was the Berry Grocery Company, one of the leading retail grocery stores in the region. He sold this latter business only shortly before his death. His brother, Samuel E. Berry, served two terms in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1896-97 and 1913.

The Berrys had two children to survive, one of which, Willena, born in 1891, was married in this house in April, 1912. The ceremony took place in the parlor which was decorated with ferns, palms and an altar of greenery. The reception was held in the dining room.

After Mrs. Berry's death in 1945, the house was sold out of the family in 1946. It went through a succession of owners and usages until it came into the hands of the present owners in 1981.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Smith, Donn I. "Historic Property Information Form" (1982) and additional information based on interviews, historic photographs, newspaper clippings, deeds, and Conway Gregory's <u>Sumach on the Hill</u> (1977).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property <u>1.</u> Quadrangle name <u>Dalton Nort</u> UTM References			Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
A 116 6 816 41010 318 Zone Easting North	41981710 hing	B Zone	Easting Northing
C] [] [D F H	
the house and all that	is all that the owners o	wn at this loc	
List all states and counties for state N/A	properties over	county	ounty boundaries code
state	code	county	code
11. Form Prepa	геа ву		
11. Form Prepa name/title Kenneth H. Thomas		ian	
Historic Preser organization Georgia Dept. o	f Natural Res	ources d	ate January 20, 1984
street & number 270 Washingt	on Street, S.	W. te	elephone (404) 656-2840
city or town Atlanta			tate Georgia 30334
The evaluated significance of this pro- national As the designated State Historic Pre 665), I hereby nominate this property	roperty within the state servation Officer of y for inclusion in t	state is: _X_ local for the National Hist he National Register	Officer Certification
according to the criteria and proced State Historic Preservation Officer s	Ó	ne National Park Se	
	Eliza	beth A. Lyon	Le la
title State Historic Preserv			
	ation Officer		date 2/21/84
For NPS use only			
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this prope	rty is included in t	he National Register	
-	rty is included in t		date 4/5/84

Chief of Registration







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