

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

3/13/90
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Entered in the
National Register

entered in the National Register

Julius Byers 4/19/90

() determined eligible for the National Register _____

() determined not eligible for the National Register _____

() removed from the National Register _____

() other, explain: _____

() see continuation sheet _____

for _____
Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC:single dwelling

Current Functions:

COMMERCE:business

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian:Queen Anne

Materials:

foundation brick
walls wood
roof asphalt
other

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The W. A. Harp House is a two-story, wood-framed, Queen Anne style house constructed from 1876 to 1880. The property is located near downtown Thomaston, Upson County, Georgia, approximately 60 miles south of Atlanta. Thomaston's economy is primarily industrial based and includes cloth manufacturing, paper, tire cording, and other consumer products.

At the time the Harp house was under construction, Thomaston was beginning to grow economically. The house was then located in an undeveloped area at the edge of town. After the turn-of-the-century, Thomaston experienced rapid growth when several mill industries were established and early 20th century development grew around and beyond the Harp house property. Currently, the Barnesville Street area surrounding the Harp house is no longer residential in nature and includes a variety of late 20th century commercial intrusions.

The Harp house has an asymmetrical shape with a large hipped roof. The front facade has two, two-story bays with conical roofs, and a two-level porch with turned posts, delicate spindle friezes and balustrades that wrap around one of the front bays. The exterior walls are covered with weatherboarding, and decorative paired brackets encircle the house along the cornice. 2/2 pane, wooden double-hung windows and several stained glass windows with a diamond pattern remain intact (photograph 2). On the rear of the house is an one-story building that originally served as dining room/kitchen and was later connected by a covered walkway to the house (photograph 3). Around 1937, several small rooms were added to the rear of the house. On the interior is an entrance hallway with stairs and semi-circular arched partition (photograph 7). Large rooms are asymmetrically placed off the hallway. The majority of original interior details,

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Section 7

including wood moldings, wainscotings, floors, plaster walls, and elaborate mantels, remain intact.

The Harp house features a steeply-pitched roof with a gable-on-hip configuration. The building features a two-level wrapped front porch and a polygonal bay on the right corner of the front facade. Decorative exterior features include a small triangular section on the top front gable with incised ornamentation, several stained glass windows, turned porch balusters, paired cornice brackets, and spindlework. The double front door is elaborately carved pine with a diamond patterned, multi-colored, stained glass window (photographs 1,2,6).

Interior features include heart-pine floors, plaster walls, and "bull's eye" patterned corners on the door and window frames (photographs 9,10,11). The foyer includes a carved wood archway and arched doors. Further examples of Victorian craftsmanship can be seen in the eight fireplace mantels. Some have plain wooden mantels with simple ornamentation. Others feature elaborate wooden pilasters, spindlework, mirrors, and decorative cast-iron fireboxes (photographs 8,9,11).

The Harp house is constructed of heart-pine timber. Most all of the original door and window hardware have been retained. Originally the house was built with eleven rooms with an identical first and second floor plan. The house was converted to seven apartment units during the late 1930s. Portions of the back porch were enclosed and rooms were added (photographs 3,4,5). The house remained apartment units until 1984 when it was restored for use as an antique shop.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

architecture

Period of Significance:

1876-1880

Significant Dates:

1880

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

W. A. Harp

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Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The W. A. Harp House is significant as a large, late-19th century house built in the small city of Thomaston by a prominent local citizen.

ARCHITECTURE

In the area of architecture, the house is significant as a fine example of a two-story, wood-framed, Queen Anne style house constructed from 1876 to 1880. Almost all of the house's original features are intact. The front facade's large bays with conical roofs and a two-story, wrap-around porch with delicate details are the house's distinctive features. The original interior room arrangement and details are intact, with the addition of smaller rooms onto the rear. The irregular floor plan, a trademark of the style, was accomplished by the balloon framing techniques of the late 19th century. This type of construction allowed for the random changes in the horizontal continuity of the wall plan. Consequently, the plan used for the Harp house--a polygonal bay, angular bay windows, and wrapped and inset porches--were common design elements. Interior features such as stained glass, carved wood doors and window frames, and decorative mantelpieces also illustrate the craftsmanship of the Victorian era. The house was built by W. A. Harp (1853-1920), a prominent local merchant who constructed several downtown commercial buildings as well. The Harp house is one of the few remaining examples of Queen Anne style architecture in Thomaston.

National Register Criteria

The W. A. Harp house meets Criteria C as an excellent example of a Queen Anne style house with asymmetrical massing, a wrapped front porch, delicate spindlework or "gingerbread", and a polygonal front bay. This structure embodies the characteristics of American craftsmanship from its exterior design to its interior detailing including original mantels with some over mirrors, pilasters, and cast-iron fireboxes. Additional interior features include patterned window and door moldings, and wainscoting. The W. A. Harp House is a distinctive example of the Queen Anne style in that only a small percentage of this style utilized the two-level, wrapped front porch. The placement of the porch centered between the two twin sections illustrates another unusual feature of this architectural style commonly found in Georgia during the late 19th century.

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Period of significance (justification, if applicable)

1876 - 1880 construction of the house

9. Major Bibliographic References

Harp, Harrison M. and Elaine R. "Historic Property Information Form - W. A. Harp House." 1986. On file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Montgomery, Erick. "The Historic Resources of the City of Thomaston, Georgia." 1988. On file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): () N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.25 acres

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 750560 Northing 7641960

Verbal Boundary Description

The W. A. Harp House is located at 206 Barnesville Street within the city limits of Thomaston. The National Register property boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the property site map.

Boundary Justification

The proposed boundary follows the current legal boundary and consists of the remaining city lot historically associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lisa Raflo, National Register Researcher
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street & number 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone 404-656-2840 **date** March 13, 1990

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

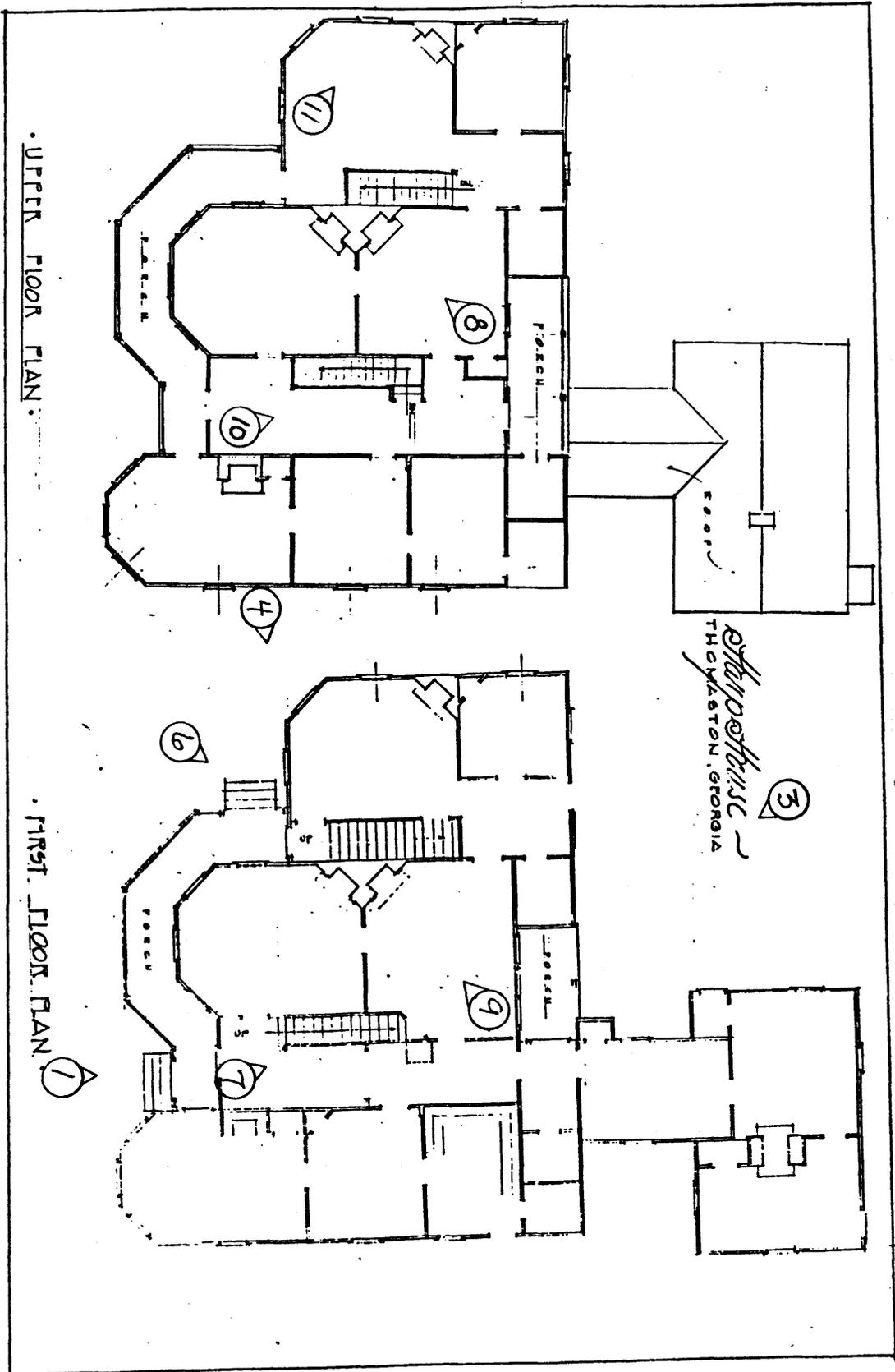
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Photographs _____ Page 1
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Robert Craig Plantation
Lawrenceville, Gwinnett County, Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative filed with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date photographed: October 1989

Description:

- 1 of 11: Front facade view of the Robert Craig house and surrounding landscape; photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 11: Front facade and northeast side facade view and the historic iron fence; photographer facing south.
- 3 of 11: Front facade and southwest side facade view of the Robert Craig house, also includes the historic iron fence; photographer facing east.
- 4 of 11: Rear facade view of the Robert Craig house, includes rear one-story, 1960s addition; photographer facing north.
- 5 of 11: Rear facade view of the Robert Craig house and garages; photographer facing west.
- 6 of 11: Brick end chimney and fieldstone foundation of the Robert Craig house, photographer facing northeast.
- 7 of 11: Interior view of living room, classically inspired mantel piece; photographer facing north.
- 8 of 11: First floor bedroom; photographer facing west.
- 9 of 11: Second floor bedroom; photographer facing south.
- 10 of 11: Second floor bedroom, 9/9 pane windows; photographer facing north.
- 11 of 11: Craig family cemetery; photographer facing south.



W.A. Harp House, Thomaston,
Upson County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP

Scale: none

Photographs: indicated by 

 2

 5

STREET

Parling Lot

OF

CENTRAL

BETHEL

vacant 14

COTTON STREET

NORTH

W. A. Harp House

BARNESVILLE

BEALL STREET

EAST

THOMPSON

STREET

WESLEY AVENUE

W. A. Harp House, Thomaston, Upson County, Georgia

SITE MAP

Scale: 1" ----- 100'

Boundary: 

MAGNETIC NORTH

