

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR**

Fayetteville

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR \_\_\_\_\_ THEMATIC NOMINATION

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John E. Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Cashwell House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

445 Moore Street

\_\_\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

7th

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

051

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED
- N/A

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

W. Moses and Ada Melvin

STREET & NUMBER

Route 5 Box 217

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2039

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE

North Carolina 28302

**6 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Linda Jasperse, Principal Investigator, City of Fayetteville

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

March 31, 1982

STREET & NUMBER

Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street

TELEPHONE

1-919-733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The only surviving example of a Greek Revival coastal cottage in Fayetteville, the John E. Patterson House c. 1840 reflects the influence of a traditional eastern North Carolina house type. The influence was felt strongly in Fayetteville because of its geographical proximity to the Coastal Plain and its accessibility to such regions via the Cape Fear River. Exemplifying the traditional coastal cottage house form once common during the first half of the nineteenth century, the Patterson House reflects the kind of houses being built and occupied by free persons of color during a period of trade and industrial expansion in the city. Its rear detached kitchen/dining room also stands as a reminder of the once common practice of separating cooking functions from the living areas of the house.

Dominated by a full-facade engaged front porch characteristic of a coastal cottage, the one-and-one-half-story gable-roof frame dwelling rests on a typical brick pier foundation. The symmetrical five-bay front facade features Greek Revival details in its oversized 6/6 sash windows. The central entrance and windows have two step surrounds common to structures of the Greek Revival period. The front is shielded by the engaged porch which is supported by slender square-in-section columns with recessed panels and squared capitals and a simple balustrade.

Prominently placed at the sides of the house are stepped double-shoulder exterior end chimneys, additional evidence of the symmetry encouraged during the Greek Revival period. At the rear is a detached kitchen/dining room which once was connected to the main house by means of a "T" shaped porch. The outbuilding though reduced in size echoes the same general construction of the main house with its weatherboarded frame construction, 6/6 sash windows, and standing-seam covered tin roof.

The first floor interior of the John E. Patterson House follows a double-pile central hall plan. The two upper half-story rooms are served by an open string straight stair which ascends from the rear of the central hall and has a chamfered rectangular newel post and molded handrail. Interior finish is generally plain; for example, the right front room has five-inch baseboards and a beaded chair rail. A fireplace is located in each principal room on the first floor and in each room on the second floor. Fireplace mantels are distinguished by simple Greek Revival design with wide plain or paneled friezes and post-and-lintel construction.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John E. Patterson House c. 1840 is a rare survival of a Greek Revival coastal cottage in Fayetteville. Once prevalent in eastern North Carolina, the influence of the traditional house form was felt strongly in the inland port city because of its proximity to the Coastal Plain and accessibility to such regions via the Cape Fear River. John E. Patterson, the earliest known owner of the house, was a free colored person who in prosperous antebellum Fayetteville practiced the skilled building trade of brickmasonry and what appears to be a form of real estate speculation/development in neighborhoods northwest of the downtown core. The one-and-one-half-story gable roof frame house with a characteristic engaged front porch, Greek Revival finish, and detached kitchen is an example of the kind being built and/or occupied by free persons of color during an era of growth and prosperity in Fayetteville's history.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The John E. Patterson House is associated with the history of Fayetteville's non-white populations and the development of the neighborhoods where they lived.
- B. The John E. Patterson House c. 1840 is rare local survival of a traditional Greek Revival coastal cottage in Fayetteville, as is evidenced in its one-and-one-half-story gable roof frame construction, engaged front porch, Greek Revival features such as 6/6 sash windows, entrance with sidelights and transom, and interior woodwork such as mantels exhibiting post-and-lintel construction, and detached rear kitchen.

The earliest known owner of the rare Greek Revival coastal cottage located at the southwest corner of Moore and Hillsborough streets was John E. Patterson, who acquired the parcel in 1840 from the estate of Henry Ayer.<sup>1</sup> It is uncertain whether the house was standing on the lot at the time of Patterson's purchase or whether he built it there, but mention of a "vacant and unimproved lot on Moore Street" in Ayer's estate records, Patterson's low purchase price of forty-five dollars, his comparatively high resale price of 325 dollars just four months later, his apparent practice of real estate speculation and development, and the house's ca. 1840 architectural features strongly suggest that John E. Patterson was responsible for its construction.<sup>2</sup>

John E. Patterson was a free person of color who between 1830 and 1860 was involved in land transfers in neighborhoods northwest of the downtown core. These neighborhoods contained scattered non-whites prior to the Civil War.<sup>3</sup> Evidence shows that Patterson owned a fairly substantial amount of real estate totalling \$1,600 in 1850 and that he was involved in the skilled building trades as a brick mason.<sup>4</sup> It was a common practice in antebellum North Carolina for free Negroes, for example, to find employment as masons, plasterers, and carpenters in growing urban areas.<sup>5</sup> Though his exact racial ancestry is unknown, John Patterson prospered as a skilled tradesman and as what appears to be a real estate speculator or developer in prosperous antebellum Fayetteville.

Patterson owned the house and lot only from April to August of 1840, at which time it was transferred to Thomas Hadley.<sup>6</sup> Hadley, a black cooper, held the title throughout the end of the antebellum period.<sup>7</sup> In 1860, he sold it to William Overby, a white saddler and harness-maker who operated a shop on Person Street.<sup>8</sup> It is not known whether Overby himself or tenants lived in the house, but the businessman did have strong ties in the area and resided in a house on nearby Hillsborough Street at the time of his death in 1884.<sup>9</sup> Overby owned the John E. Patterson House for only three short years, and in 1863 sold it to John Vaughn.<sup>10</sup>

This touched off a rapid succession of transfers in the Civil War years involving owners about which little is known. The property changed hands twice before John McKay, a printer, obtained the deed in 1867.<sup>11</sup> Most of the

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	6, 92   9, 70	3, 8   8, 1   7, 1, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of Lot 1, Block BB, Map 78-2-2, Cross Creek Township, as outlined in red on map. See map section.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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received  
date entered

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

John E. Patterson House  
Continuation sheet

Significance/  
Historical  
Background

Item number

8

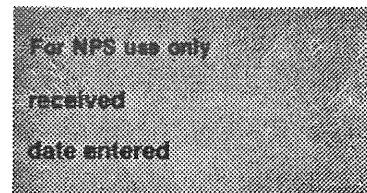
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remaining nineteenth and early twentieth century history of the John E. Patterson House seems to be one of rental property, for owners such as J.C. Thompson, grocer, from 1886 to 1904, and members of the Pemberton family, from 1904 to 1933, were white and known to have permanent residences elsewhere. The Moore/Hillsborough area exhibited a higher concentration of blacks in the postbellum, late nineteenth century, and early twentieth century periods than it had in the antebellum years, which parallels the rise of urban black neighborhoods after the Civil War.

William G. Cashwell purchased the property in 1933 and operated Cashwell's Cash Grocery next door.<sup>13</sup> It appears as though he leased the house to families of his employees, such as that of one of his clerks, John McQueen, in the late 1930s and early 1940s.<sup>14</sup> Later, it was reserved for family members and various tenants until the current owner, Moses Melvin, purchased it in 1974.<sup>15</sup> Still, the house, associated with a stable, predominantly black professional/residential area, continues to be used for rental purposes.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

John E. Patterson      Significance/  
House                      Historical  
Continuation sheet      Background

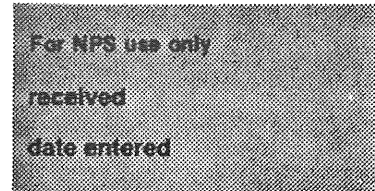
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Reference Notes:

- <sup>1</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 43, Page 166.
- <sup>2</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 43, Page 315; Book 43, Page 166; Book 43, Page 284; Cumberland County Grantor/Grantee Indexes prior to 1860.
- <sup>3</sup>United States Census of 1840, Cumberland County, North Carolina, page 298. Microfilm copy in Cumberland County Core Collection, Anderson Street Library, Fayetteville, North Carolina, hereinafter cited as Census with appropriate references to schedule and year; Cumberland County Grantor/Grantee Indexes prior to 1860.
- <sup>4</sup>Census of 1850, page 116.
- <sup>5</sup>John Hope Franklin, The Free Negro in North Carolina, 1790 to 1860 (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1943: reprint ed., New York: Russell and Russell, 1969), p. 141-142.
- <sup>6</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Page 43, Page 284.
- <sup>7</sup>Census of 1850, page 018.
- <sup>8</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 55, Page 136; Rev. L. Branson, North Carolina Business Directory, 1867-8 (Raleigh: Branson and Jones, Publishers, 1868), p. 36; Census of 1880, page 609; Cumberland County Wills, Book E, Page 340.
- <sup>9</sup>Cumberland County Wills, Book E, Page 340.
- <sup>10</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 56, Page 288.
- <sup>11</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 59, Page 10; Book 57, Page 184,; Book 59, Page 394; Census of 1880, page 607.
- <sup>12</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 121, Page 180; Book 126, Page 83; Book 270, Page 370; Book 339, Page 403; Book 374, Page 229; Cumberland County Wills, Book H, Page 35; Book J, Pages 355, 356, and 357; Levi Branson, A.M., North Carolina Business Directory, 1896 (Raleigh: By the Author, 1896), p. 217; City Directory for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1924, p. 246.
- <sup>13</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 374, Page 229; City Directory for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1959, Directory 2, p. 88.
- <sup>14</sup>City Directory for Fayetteville, North Carolina: 1939, p. 186.
- <sup>15</sup>Cumberland County Deeds, Book 2424, Page 143.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

John E. Patterson      Bibliographical  
House                      References

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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Franklin, John Hope. The Free Negro In North Carolina, 1790 to 1860. Chapel  
Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1943; reprint ed., New York:  
Russell and Russell, 1969.

United States Census Records. Cumberland County, North Carolina, 1840.

