

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| STATE: North Carolina | |
| COUNTY: Craven | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Harvey Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
219 Tryon Palace Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
New Bern (First Congressional District, The Hon. Walter B. Jones)

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE North Carolina | CODE 37 | COUNTY: Craven | CODE 049 |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Gertrude Henderson

STREET AND NUMBER:
216 Pollock Street

CITY OR TOWN:
New Bern

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Craven County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
New Bern

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1937 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
East Capitol and Independence Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D. C.

CODE:
11

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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built of brick laid in Flemish bond, the Harvey Mansion rises to a height of three stories over a full basement delineated by a molded water table on the front (north) and rear facades. The ground slopes greatly to the south, which causes the basement to be exposed as a full story across the rear facade. Of the four original interior end chimney shafts, only two remain, the other pair having been destroyed by hurricanes. Both facades terminate in brick modillion cornices above which is a fractable gable roof.

Many changes made on the house have greatly altered its plan and fenestration. Seemingly the original house was five bays long with a pair of entrances on the front. These entrances later were changed to windows and the central bay opened for a door. In the early 1940s the central entrance was eliminated, and pairs of small windows replaced the former six-over-six sash in the central bay at all three levels. An entrance was cut in each side and covered by a small porch whose elaborate cornice was taken from the second-floor ballroom, which was shortened considerably during the renovation. Of the two window openings above each porch, only those on the east are original.

On the rear facade, slightly off center, an open arch rose from the ground level through the first story of the building. This arch is said to have extended at one time through the building to the front and to have served as a carriage entrance. Although the arch may have been open on the front, in view of the nature of the terrain, it is unlikely that it was a carriage drive, because the ground level drops abruptly at the rear. Since the building is so near the river, and the owner is known to have been a merchant, it is possible that the arched opening may have housed a crane on an overhead track that could have functioned as a loading device for cargo. In 1933 Judge R. A. Nunn described the Harvey Mansion as having for "many years" a central entrance set back into the hallway; thus at least the front portion of the arch would seem to have been filled in for a long while. Photographs made in 1942 show a recessed central entrance in the front, but at that time the arch still appeared to be open on the rear facade. Therefore the rear part of this arch must have been filled in during the early 1940s when the building was converted into apartments. The outline of the arch still can be seen on the rear, although a three-tier screened-in porch across the rear and white paint obscure changes that otherwise would be easy to detect.

The unusual nature of the present floor plan is partially a result of the original one and partially a result of alterations made before and during the renovation of the 1940s. In the basement survives some of the most convincing physical evidence that the two-story archway was open at least until the 1940s. Relatively new flooring of the first floor is visible from below and contrasts markedly with that seen in the basement areas on either side. On the east side are two fireplace openings; one of which is extremely large and judging from the iron fixtures was apparently used for cooking. During Harvey's ownership, the remainder of the basement area was more than likely used for store rooms and a warehouse for his business.

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7. A

The two-story archway apparently separated the east and west sides of the first floor of the house. The west side was probably used as the office for Harvey's business, since there appears to have been no interior access from that area into the living quarters. On the east side, however, two rooms, domestically appointed, are separated by a stair ascending to what must have been the main living area on the second floor. When the upper portion of the archway was filled in the two first-floor areas were connected. Kitchens and bathrooms were installed in the central area, thus adding to the confusion of the plan. At some time, probably in the late nineteenth century, a stair was constructed at the west side.

Both rooms on the east side of the house have Adamesque mantels, that in the southeast room being most elaborate and unusual. The square opening is flanked by terminus pilasters of which the upper halves are fluted and the lower halves tapered and outlined by heavy astragal bead moldings that give a paneled effect. Two types of vertical gouge work are used--one on the pilaster cap and a shallower version across the top of the opening. The center tablet contains an unadorned incised oval, and each of the end blocks is enriched with an intricate incised sunburst. Dentils concave in section appear directly below the shelf, which breaks above the pilasters and is adorned by bands of extremely delicate motifs, which are unidentifiable because of many layers of paint. Six-panel doors leading to closets flank the fireplace. In addition this room features a plaster cornice, paneled wainscot, and windows set in deep reveals protected by interior paneled shutters. A stair which rises in two flights with a landing between has a handrail round in section carried on a tapered newel, posts and balusters, square in section. Under the end of each riser is a wave-pattern bracket. The profile of the ramped handrail is repeated on the opposite wall by a paneled wainscot, the field of which is framed by a thin piece of applied molding.

Again on the floor above the plan has been altered by the circa 1940 renovation, when the ballroom located in the southeastern corner was shortened approximately fifteen feet and the stolen space converted into kitchens. Fortunately, however, all of the architectural elements were moved in when this alteration was made, so that except for the scale, the character of the room was preserved. The ballroom, by far the grandest early nineteenth century room in New Bern, is an elegant embodiment of the Adam style. Each door and window opening is flanked by reeded pilasters with pierced vertical gouge work in the caps which support a lavish entablature with a plain frieze flanked by endblocks featuring applied sunbursts. The cornice breaks over the pilasters and carries delicate bands of concave dentils, astragal bead and egg-and-dart moldings. The walls are plastered between a paneled wainscot and an elaborate cornice. The paneled wainscot, doors, window reveals, and box shutters all have delicate strips of molding framing the field of the panels. The carved cornice, somewhat different from but harmonizing with that of the overdoors, consists of undercut modillions, a course of sculptured dentils, a band of cable molding, and groups of vertical gouges. New Bern's

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7. B

most highly ornamented and sophisticated native mantel is located in the ballroom. Here as in the room below, the major upright supports are tapered and, in this case, are fluted engaged terminus columns with an applied sunburst in the caps. This sunburst motif, alternating with groups of vertical gouges, is repeated across the top of the fireplace opening. Each part of the frieze bears a different type of ornamentation: the end blocks are like those of the overdoor, an applied medallion draped with ribbon appears in the raised center tablet, and the flanking areas have an intricate inverted floral swag in the center of which is an oval medallion containing a classical female figure. The cornice shelf, adorned like those of the overdoors, breaks with rounded corners above the engaged columns and bows above the center tablet.

By comparison, the other rooms in the Harvey mansion are treated simply. They have molded chair rails and baseboards, plaster dados, and Adamesque mantels. In the rooms on the east side, closets which, although not original seem to be quite an early addition, flank the chimney breasts.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Richard Dobbs Spaight transferred the property where the Harvey House now stands to Richard Ellis in 1780, but Ellis evidently did not build on the waterfront part of the property between South Front Street and Trent River. The partition of his property at his death in 1792 lists his residence as north of Front Street, with no house on the waterfront lot. George Ellis acquired the waterfront lot and retained ownership until 1804, when he sold it to John Harvey.

It was apparently Harvey, a merchant and ship owner, who built the present structure. Despite its size and the numerous changes in entrances, and porches, the entire house seems to have been constructed at one time. Jonathan Price's survey of the town, published in 1810, shows the water part of Lot 12 as "Harvey," and the 1816 Tax List notes that the waterfront part of the lot is owned by John Harvey and is "where he dwells."

When Harvey died in 1828 the lot was described as including the dwelling house or Mansion of said John Harvey deceased, in which he most generally dwelt next before his decease, and all the offices, outhouses, warehouses, wharfs and improvements thereunto belonging. . . .

Harvey seems to have been a merchant of considerable wealth. His personal estate inventory, returned by his wife, Mary Harvey, in 1828 lists the schooner Tillman, a large amount of tools and naval supplies, slaves, stock in the Bank of New Bern, a long list of notes due the estate, and a considerable stock of goods--including 870 bushels of alum salt and 103 bags of coffee. Neither the real estate owned outside the city in Craven County nor the property in New Bern is listed in the above inventory. In a division of the real property in 1830 the "wharf, buildings and appurtenances" on South Front Street went to Mary Harvey, so that she retained possession of the mansion and its supportive buildings.

Colonel John D. Whitford attributes the interiors of the Harvey House to Robert Hay, during the period of time when Hay was associated with George Clark in house building. Hay, a carriage maker by trade noted not only for his vehicles but also for his chairs, could well have carved the mantels, cornices, door and window surrounds that Colonel Whitford attributes to him. Hay was in practice during the first quarter of the nineteenth century and could have executed the interiors, either when the house was built or soon thereafter.

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8.

The property remained in the Harvey family until the 1870s when it passed to other ownership. It subsequently saw a series of uses far removed from the residential and commercial purposes for which it was constructed, accompanied by changes in the interior arrangement of the structure itself. By 1885 it was listed as the Bateman House, presumably a boarding house. In 1898 it was the Elm City Boarding House, with a private dwelling in the west side and boarding in the east. In 1904 the Sanborn maps list the structure as a dormitory for the New Bern Military Academy, with a dwelling on the west and boarding on the east. In the early 1940s the structure was converted to apartments during the World War II housing shortage. It served various tenants until the Craven Technical Institute rented the building, using it until 1971, when it was vacated.

The Harvey Mansion was a major New Bern structure, both in size and in finish, and a tribute to Harvey's taste and affluence. Though the residences and businesses of New Bern merchants were often combined, there is no other surviving example where both were housed under one roof in the way they were here. Other houses may contain one room used as the office, but John Harvey seems to have built office, storerooms, and even warehouse areas into his residence. The significance of the house is enhanced because it still maintains its relation to the water. It was the proximity of the water and its role in the merchant trade of John Harvey that led to the construction of the house on this site in the first place. Thus, in addition to the importance of the Harvey Mansion as an unusually large and elegantly finished house, it is especially interesting because it illustrates so vividly the dependence of early nineteenth century New Bern upon sea trade.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Craven County Records, Craven County Courthouse, New Bern, North Carolina.
 (Subgroups: Court Records, Tax Lists, Estate Papers).

Craven County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh,
 North Carolina. (Subgroups: Court Records, Tax Lists, Estate Papers).

Moore, Elizabeth. "New Bern, N. C., Harvey House," (unpublished manuscript,
 1971).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|-----------|---------|---|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 35° | 06' | 14" |
| NE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 77° | 07' | 09" |
| SE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | | | |
| SW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 Acre

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

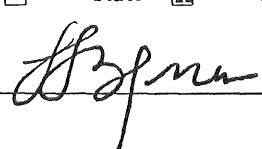
NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: 21 September 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u></u></p> <p>Title <u>Director, State Department of Archives and History</u></p> <p>Date <u>21 September 1971</u></p> | <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p> |
|---|---|

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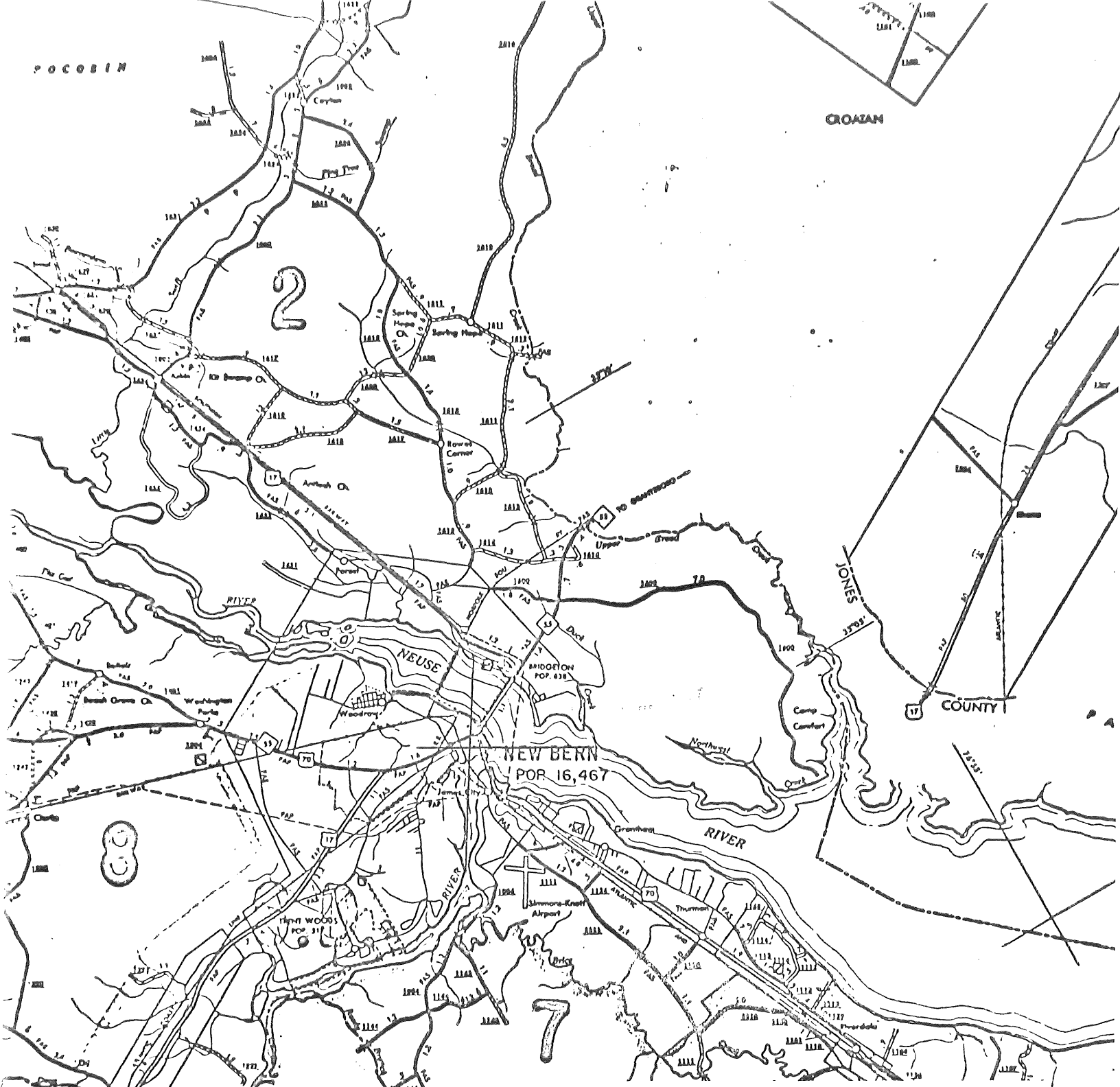
| | |
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9.

Price, Jonathan, Plan of the town of New Bern, 1810.

Whitford, Colonel J. C. "The Home of the Walking Stick. Early History of the Biblical Recorder and Baptist Church at New Bern," unpublished manuscript, circa 1890, copy in possession of Mrs. G. Tull Richardson, Bellair, New Bern, North Carolina.

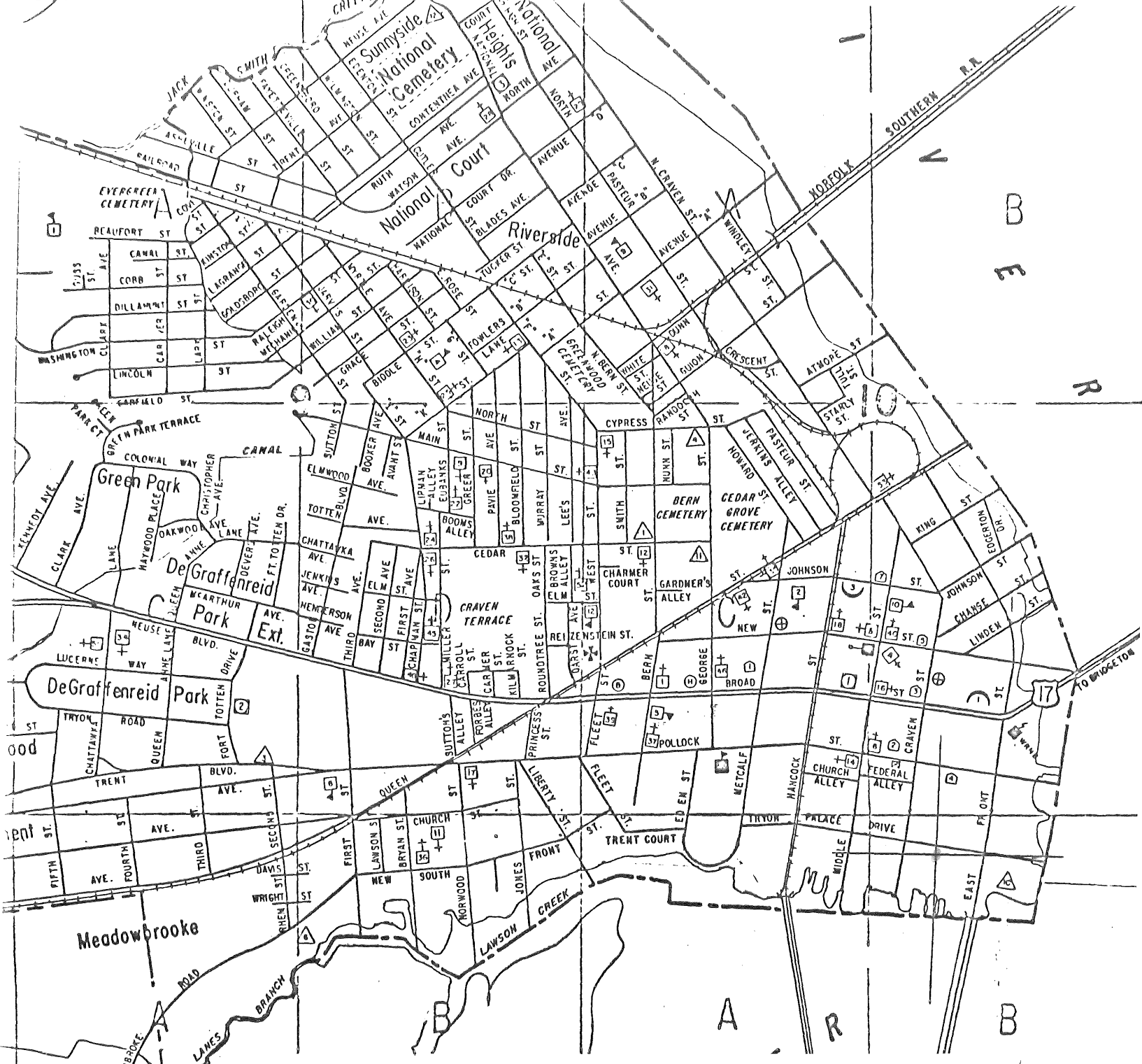


Harvey Mansion
 219 Tryon Palace Drive
 New Bern, North Carolina

Map of Craven County, New Bern Chamber of Commerce
 Scale: 3/8" : 1 mile
 no date

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Latitude | Longitude |
| degrees minutes seconds | degrees minutes seconds |
| 35° 06' 14" | 77° 07' 09" |

NATIONAL



Harvey Mansion
 219 Tryon Palace Drive
 New Bern, North Carolina

Map of New Bern and vicinity, New Bern Chamber of Commerce
 drawn by Gilfredo Gonzales
 Scale: 1"/1200 feet
 no date

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Latitude | Longitude |
| degrees minutes seconds | degrees minutes seconds |
| 35° 06' 14" | 77° 07' 09" |

