UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The Faculty Avenue Houses are linked by their history as the original group of faculty houses erected in 1891 as part of the initial development of Trinity College, the institution that later became Duke University. The stylish but relatively modest frame dwellings were built in a row as housing for the faculty, ranged along the edge of the new campus. As the campus expanded and filled up, the houses were moved in 1916-1918 into the developing suburban neighborhood that provided housing for the growing school, Trinity Park. They stand now amid this early twentieth century neighborhood. They represent the chief vestiges of the early residential amenities of an institution that played a crucial role in the city of Durham and the state of North Carolina.

Trinity Park itself, a 30-square block neighborhood, is composed largely of an area of Brodie L. Duke's farm or "Brodie's Bottom." In 1901 the portion between Lamond and Urban avenues was laid out and lots sold at auction. Further development occurred within a few decades. The presence of both Watts Hospital and Trinity College (later Duke University) stimulated growth. The four Trinity College faculty houses moved into the neighborhood in 1916-1918 are among the oldest houses there. The neighborhood had developed by 1937, and it contains the standard early twentieth century variety of styles--Shingles, Bungalow, Colonial Revival, Spanish, etc. After a period of decline the area began to regain stability in the 1970s, with the support of a strong neighborhood association.

The four Faculty Avenue houses are all one and one-half story frame dwellings, combining the varied materials and irregular roofline of the Queen Anne style with bold hints of the Shingle style and elaboration of the Eastlake mode. Characteristic of the region are the extensive rear service rooms and the functional front porches—some of the porches were added shortly after original construction. The houses exhibitobvious pattern book influence, with a more sophisticated approach to current fashion than is typical of the simple frame urban housing of most of the town. They have more in common with the grander (and largely lost) late nineteenth century housing of Durham than with the more modest dwellings they resemble in scale.



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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Faculty Avenue Houses are both architectural and historical landmarks. Erected in 1891, the late Victorian Shingle Style cottages with their varieties of towers, windows, roofs and porches, were built to house the faculty of Trinity College, forerunner of Duke University, newly removed from Randolph County, North Carolina to Durham, North Carolina. Built by a Durham contractor, T. S. Christian, they are some of Durhams best remaining Queen Anne/Victorian cottages. Moved from their campus sites (1916-1918) within the adjacent Trinity Park neighborhood (Pegram House moved a second time, 1977 within the same neighborhood), they are among the first houses in this neighborhood and serve as landmarks and anchors in a compatible setting, related to and near their original one. They are architecturally and historically a unique group of houses, both individually and collectively.

Few residential architectural reminders remain today of Durham, North Carolina's prosperous 1890s era. The many Queen Anne and Victorian mansions that new tobacco money built have largely disappeared, replaced by a bus station, a skyscraper and, as always, highways.

Philanthropic tobacco barons, in a far-sighted gesture, brought to Durham from Randolph County, the small, Methodist, Trinity College, forerunner of today's internationally respected Duke University. On the 62 acres donated by industrialist Julian Carr rose the original Trinity College buildings—two classroom buildings ("Old Main" and Corwell Science Hall); Epworth Inn and five houses built for faculty members. "Old Main" burned in 1911 and Epworth Inn, after modifications, remains a dormitory.

The row of well executed Victorian Shingle Style cottages echoed, on a less lavish but still detailed scale, the popular building style the newly rich tobacco barons adopted for their mansions.

Composing a small community, many of the Faculty Row occupants had been class-mates and graduates of Trinity College before assuming teaching duties there and their long familiarity and close living situation, along with commonly held and dissimilar interests, must have sparked a lively interchange of ideas.

Four of the five faculty cottages survive today as reminders of Duke University beginnings. Erected in 1891 in the SW corner of the Trinity College grounds (now Duke University's East Campus) along "Faculty Avenue", four were moved during the 1916-1918 period of campus expansion becoming the first houses in what is now the Trinity Park Neighborhood, one of Durham's oldest and best preserved communities.

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Named after the most prominent resident faculty members the four houses are: the Crowell House, 504 Watts St.; neighbors now, as they were on Faculty Ave., The Bassett House, 1017 W. Trinity Ave., and the Cranford-Wannamaker House, 1019 W. Trinity Ave.; and the peripatetic Pegram House which seems determined to remain in the neighborhood, originally moved to 308 Buchanan Ave. in 1916 and, threatened with demolition, moved a short distance again in 1977, to 1019 Minerva Avenue.

Significant architecturally and by association with the lives of faculty members instrumental in shaping Duke University, much of the original fabric of these pattern book cottages remains. After its ongoing renovation, the Pegram House will join the other three well preserved, single family homes—comfortably aging Victorian dowagers who anchor the neighborhood with their seniority and lighten it with their whimsies and eccentricities.

Trinity Park residents today, as it always has, include many students, faculty members and administrators from Duke University. They take pride in the Faculty Row houses which have set the architectural and social tone for this vigorous, well-preserved historic community.

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CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:

- A. The Faculty Avenue Houses are associated with the beginnings of well respected and influential Duke University. They housed several generations of faculty after Trinity College's 1892 move from Randolph County, N.C. to Durham, N.C. They were among the first building efforts on the college's new site and are the only remaining intact structures associated with Trinity's beginnings.
- B. Associated with several generations of significant Trinity College faculty members and administrators, most notably W. H. Pegram, chemistry professor; J. S. Bassett, noted historian; W. H. Wannamaker, influential adminstrator; and J. S. Crowell, first president of Trinity College, Durham.
- C. As a group, and individually, they embody the characteristics and retain much of their fabric of late Victoran Shingle Style cottages. Strikingly sophisticated examples of their style in their original prospering small town setting they serve as unique examples of residential construction in late nineteenth century Durham.

EXCLUSIONS:

B. Although all four houses were moved into neighboring Trinity Park, they retain much of their original fabric and remain in a context of a university oriented quiet, residential neighborhood. Among the first homes in Trinity Park, they are landmark anchors in their community. All of the Faculty Houses were moved to their new settings more than 50 years ago and have achieved significance within their new setting.

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Trinity College, forerunner of Duke University, had its roots in Randolph County, North Carolina where, in 1838, a group of Methodists and Quakers established Union Institute, which met in a one room log building. In 1851 it became Normal College and in 1858 it came under the control of the Methodist denomination, was chartered and named Trinity College. 1

Requiring more financing and room for expansion, in 1889 under the leadership of its President John Franklin Crowell, a search was begun for another site. After studying offers from several North Carolina cities including Raleigh, Trinity College decided in favor of Durham following the generous offer of 6 1/2 acres of land by tobacco magnate Julian S. Carr, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Randolph County Trinity College and a cash gift by the Duke family, who were instrumental in the enormous growth of Durham's tobacco industry. The Duke's maintained their financial support of Trinity College and later created the Duke University Endowment Fund.

A tiny village built around a railroad crossing, Durham was settled in the 1850s with its major growth period beginning after the Civil War. Soldiers scattering to their homes after the war, took with them a taste for the fine tobacco grown in the Durham area and their subsequent demand for the product was the basis of the Duke family's fortune.

The clan's patriarch, Washington Duke, returned home from the Civil War, impoverished. But, he did have his 300 acre farm, (now a state and national historic landmark) and a small amount of tobacco which he peddled by wagon around the state. From these beginnings came the W. Duke, Sons, and Co. tobacco factory, later the American Tobacco Company.

With "no aristocracy, but the aristocracy of labor", this rough industrial city grew dramatically after 1880. W. Duke and Sons started making cigarettes in 1881 and in 1884 became the first manufacturer to mechanize. During this period the growth of the tobacco industry spawned other major industries such as cotton mills, in which the Duke and Carr families were prominent. The civic minded Washington Duke and Julian Carr spearheaded the effort in 1891 to attract Trinity College to Durham: Duke offered a gift of \$85,000 and Carr, 62 acres of land. Washington Duke donated \$100,000 to Trinity in 1898 and over the years Trinity was often sustained by such gifts from W. Duke and his son, Benjamin. Later James B. Duke would establish a \$40 million endowment which led to the college becoming Duke University in 1924.

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Benjamin N. Duke (1855-1929) was a retiring figure who sought to remain out of the limelight, yet he was keenly involved in the family's business affairs and became the family's chief agent for philanthropy. He is listed among the members of the Building Committee responsible for the construction of the Durham Trinity College campus and the Faculty Houses, which were among the first structures erected.

Brodie L. Duke (1846-1919) was actively involved in the development of Durham. He had interests in tobacco, textiles, railways, real estate and mercantile establishments. Many of the streets in the Trinity Park neighborhood were laid out on land owned by Brodie Duke and subdivided in 1901.

James Buchanan Duke (1856-1925) was the major driving force in the growth of the American Tobacco Company from W. Duke and Sons. He also established the Duke Power Company. Because of his generous sustaining endowment, Trinity College expanded dramatically and became Duke University. Three Trinity College buildings, Craven Memorial Hall, Alspaugh and the school library were removed during the expansion and Benjamin Duke gave them to Kittrell College in Kittrell, North Carolina.

The acreage for the new Trinity College was the site of the old Durham Fairgrounds and was known as Blackwell Park, located west of Durham. The former race track on the Fairgrounds was visible until the early 1920s on this land which is known as East Campus (formerly the Women's Campus) of Duke University. Grounds surrounding the college known as Trinity College Park, were incorporated as a separate municipality under North Carolina law. Trinity Park High School was established on the NW corner of the Park in 1897 and Trinity Avenue appears on Brodie Duke's 1901 map. It was the road to Trinity Park and the surrounding neighborhood was also referred to as "Trinity Park." (Trinity Park remains a well preserved and vital neighborhood in Durham. A renewed interest in the old neighborhood led to the incorporation of the Trinity Park Association in 1974.)

The three original Trinity College buildings were: College Inn, now Epworth Dormitory, 1892; Main College Building or "Old Main," 1892, destroyed by fire Jan. 4, 1911; and The Technological Building, later Crowell Science Hall, also 1892. Joining these as described in Nora Chaffin's history of Trinity College, were:

". . . new residences of 'the cottage type.' The new houses, of frame structure with seven or eight rooms each and a bathroom were erected from plans purchased from an architectural company in New York. Built for the faculty they were known as 'Faculty Row,' fronting on the main driveway at the entrance of the campus with their backyards on the old Guess Road (since renamed Buchanan Blvd.). Their modern conveniences, electricity, toilets

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and bathroom with hot and cold water were unattainable luxuries at Old Trinity."3

The first Annual Catalogue Announcements, 1891-1892 reports: "The residences of the Faculty and Officers of the College are situated on Faculty Avenue in College Park. They are furnished with bathrooms, cold and hot water and are connected with the City water-works. All the buildings in the College Park are lighted with electricity furnished by a 720 light dynamo installed by the Edison General Electric Company of N.Y." The faculty houses were known as among the first in the State to boast indoor plumbing. 5

Read into the Building Committee's Minutes of November 23, 1890 were these authorizations and instructions from the Board of Trustees:

- 1. "To invest such portion of the endowment fund as may be necessary thereto for erect (sic) residences for the members of the faculty of the College on the College ground to be paid for out of the funds donated by Mr. W. Duke and that this committee are hereby authorized to contract for the erection of such residences in time for occupancy at the opening of the collegiate year beginning 9/1/1891.
- 2. Resolved that the rental income from this investment be debited to the salary of the occupant on a basis of 10% of the investment.
- 3. Resolved that these residences be left perpetually insured as to guard against any possible loss or destruction. . ."7

In the Building Committee's minutes of January 8, 1891, J. S. Carr, R. B. Lyon and J. F. Crowell were appointed the committee to formulate plans for five residences, two costing \$1,800-\$2,000 and three costing about \$500. Materials were to be frame with double first floors having non-conducting building paper between them. The contract for their construction was dated February 10, 1891 with T. S. Christian listed as builder and payment to be made by B. N. Duke, Treasurer of the Building Committee. (copy attached) According to Nora Chaffin no actual architectural plans have been located and the name of the architectural firm in New York where plans for the late Victorian Shingle Style frame cottages were purchased is also unknown. A 1902 map of Trinity College campus records five newly constructed houses on Faculty Avenue and one older residence on the grounds was remodeled. (map attached)

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During the spring and summer of 1892 the removal of Trinity College to Durham continued. The college clock and big bell were placed in the Main Building's tower and several thousand books were transported. Contemporary newspaper accounts report, "The members of the faculty who had decided to follow the College to Durham moved their families and household furnishings to their new homes on Faculty Row. The 'only chattels' that could not make the trip in the freight car hired for the purpose of transporting household goods, were Professor (W.H.) Pegram's cow and the horses belonging to the Crowell family. These 'footed the journey to their new home'". 9

The new facilities for both students and faculty were commented on in the student "Trinity Archive" of September, 1892:

"After three years of laborious effort the College opens its first session at Durham in its new buildings. In many respects they are as yet incomplete in minor details of finish and arrangement but in general, the buildings are in shape to enter upon the year's work with incomparably greater advantage to all concerned than ever before. There are now more and better buildings. The furnishings are new and substantial, giving the interior a fresh and comfortable appearance. The grounds themselves with the neat cottages for the Professors are home-like and well drained. conveniences of modern life are here. To these the body of students have entered earlier this year than usual and therefore added to the difficulty of getting things in as good working order at the start as desired. But these inconveniences are being gradually overcome, in spite of the fact that contractors whose work should have been completed months ago, are still here and in the way of the work of the College proper. 110

Within a few years, the college began to grow, and by the late 1910s there was pressure to move the houses. Each was moved separately into the adjoining, developing Trinity Park neighborhood. In 1924 Trinity College became Duke University under the aegis of the Duke family.

(See the following discussions of each Faculty House for the historical significance of the faculty members primarily associated with the individual houses.)

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FOOTNOTES

¹Joel A. Kostyu and Frank A. Kostyu, <u>A Pictorial History: Durham</u> (Norfolk, Virginia: Donning Co., 1978), p. 92.

²"Trinity Park News", Fall, 1974, Vol. 1, No. 1.

³Nora C. Chaffin, <u>Trinity College 1839-1892</u>: <u>The Beginnings of Duke University.</u> Duke University Press, 1950, p. 509.

Note: Ms. Chaffin incorrectly mentions "six new residences. . ." were built. Five were actually built and one existing house on the grounds remodeled.

⁴Trinity College Annual Catalogue: Announcements, 1891-92, p. 35, Duke University Archives, Perkins Library, Durham, N.C.

⁵"Durham Morning Herald", May 10, 1976.

⁶Earl W. Porter, in his book <u>Trinity and Duke 1892-1924</u>, Duke University Press, 1964, p. 152 notes: "From the arrival of the College in Durham, free faculty housing was available as a bonus to senior professors and was uncharged in the books."

⁷Crowell Official Papers 1888-1894, Section 7, Duke University Archives, Perkins Library.

8 Ibid., Crowell Papers.

⁹Nora C. Chaffin, Ibid., p. 514; "Raleigh Christian Advocate," March 23, 30, 1892; Crowell Personal Recollections of Trinity College, p. 168, Duke Archives.

10"Trinity Archive", Vol. VI, Sept., 1892, pp. 23-24.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Duke University Archives. Perkins Library. Durham, North Carolina. Various collections including the Crowell and Pegram Papers.

Nora C. Chaffin. Trinity College 1839-1892: The Beginnings of Duke University Duke University Press, 1950.

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bassett House, 1017 West Trinity Ave., shares in common with the other three Faculty Houses German siding on the first story and shingles on the second; here, overlapping square shingles form an almost crenellated effect. The house is distinguished by its unusual gambrel roof with projecting cross gables by a notable U shaped hip roofed wrap around porch with turned railing spindles and posts and decorative brackets under the porch roof. The main or north elevation of this two and one-half story, three bay cottage is highlighted by a sunburst fan light with keystone in the typanum, a surprising classical touch in this asymmetrical Victorian house. All original windows are two-over-two large panes with plain window surrounds protected by a small projecting dripboard. A two story addition at the rear has aluminum windows and plain weatherboard.

The cornice beneath the diamond shaped asphalt shingled roof is heavily molded and painted off white in contrast to the soft dark beige of the clapboard and shingles. This house was the Durham Junior Woman's Club Designer house Sept. 20 through October 9, 1976 and the exterior was painted at that time. A handsome exterior end chimney with decorative cap and an interior chimney, also with decorative cap, top the house.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

With the exception of the Pegram House, with its long time resident Professor Pegram, in its use the Bassett House is a typical Faculty Ave. dwelling which saw occupation by several generations of faculty members. A photograph in the Duke Archives collection has this notation on the rear:

Faculty House, Trinity Park occupied by: Professor J. L. Armstrong
Merritt
Bassett
Glasson
Parker
Webb

The original occupant of this house located 1017 W. Trinity Ave. was Professor John Spencer Bassett. His son Richard B. Bassett supervised the construction of this and the other faculty houses. (It is interesting to note that John Spencer Bassett's grandfather and father, Richard Bassett and Richard Baxter Bassett, located in Williamsburg were contractors and architects. Just prior to the Civil War, Richard Baxter Bassett moved to Eastern North Carolina where he was prominent in the construction enterprises of the region. (31) Richard B. Bassett's son, Richard H. Bassett of Milton, Mass. "recalls the original building as an unassuming dwelling and said that university benefactor Washington Duke 'who was fond of my father had the U-shaped front porch added to embellish the forlorn little cottage. "32 It is thought that the

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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porches were added soon after the cottage was built. The Pegram House porch was probably added at the same time and a comparison of the Pegram House pre and po porch photographs suggest by the relative growth of the foundation plantings that i may have been added within three or four years.

A subsequent occupant of the Bassett House, John M. Webb recalls his childhood there as a son in the family of Albert M. Webb, head of the Romance Languages Department at Trinity. He said it was his understanding that the house stood east of a building called the "Woodland Stage" on what is now East Campus of Duke University. He said the house was moved from that location to its present spot on Trinity Ave. at the time Watts St. was paved, he believes during World War I. (N.B.: Durham Street Engineering Department reports this occurred early, 1918.) He said his father supervised the work with the aid of a young contractor whose name he does not remember.

The house, according to Webb, was the first house on the west end of Trinity Ave. and it was given to his father by the college. Webb said the sleeping porch and stawere added in the 1920's and the garage built for the family's Model A Ford. The downstairs bath, he added was added in the 1950's. "The flagstone walk in the backyard," he said, "was my handiwork. . . it may be my most enduring monument."33

John Spencer Basset was born September 10, 1867 at Tarboro, North Carolina the secon child of Richard Baxter Bassett and Mary Jane (Wilson) Bassett. After the Civil War the family moved to Goldsboro where John Spencer received his early schooling. He entered Trinity College in 1886 and graduated, 1888. After teaching two years in the Durham Graded School he returned to Trinity as an instructor and in February 1890 he organized the 9019, Trinity's first scholarship society. This organization later established the influential "South Atlantic Quarterly." He left Trinity to earn his Doctorate at Johns Hopkins University in 1894.

He returned to the new Trinity College, Durham as a history professor. "The historical section of the college library was small, but Bassett persuaded the members of a local history club and others to contribute rare books, pamphlets, and manuscripts. . . the beginning of an excellent collection of Southern Americana." He also established the first publication of the College strictly devoted to scholarship, "The Historical Papers of the Trinity College Historical Society." His own published works on history are prolific.

A conscientious scholar, Bassett generally shunned controversy; however, in 1903, he became embroiled in what is termed the "Bassett Affair," which was to become a landmark case for academic freedom.

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Democratic politicians in North Carolina, stunned by the election of a Republican governor in 1896, launched virulent, racist campaigns, gaining control of the legislature in 1898 and the election of a Democratic governor in 1900. This election led to black disenfranchisement.

In deference to the Republican Duke Family, Trinity College's primary financial backers, the College tried to stay aloof from partisan politics. "On the matter of the Negro, however, the Trinity College community was outspoken for the time and place." President John Kilgo invited Booker T. Washington, in 1896, to speak on campus, his first speaking visit to a white southern college, where he was enthusiastically received. In the late 1890's John S. Bassett published pioneering studies on slavery and anti-slavery leaders in North Carolina. After the Democrats' political comeback in 1898, Bassett confessed "to one of his former graduate teachers at Johns Hopkins that he did "not have the honor to agree with my fellow Anglo-Saxons on the negro question."

Bassett's social and political beliefs and President Kilgo's often professed, unshakeable beliefs that academicians should enjoy the rights of free inquiry and speech, set the stage for the classic academic freedom confrontation.

In 1903 Bassett published an article in the "South Atlantic Quarterly" called "Stirring Up the Fires of Racial Antipathy." Its main theme was that politicians were exploiting the race issue for partisan ends and that serious future racial conflict was inevitable unless whites stopped insisting on the inferiority of blacks. A passing, but sweeping statement in the carefully reasoned article became the grist for the headline writers. Referring to Booker T. Washington, Bassett wrote: "Now Washington is a great and good man, a Christian statesman, and take him all in all the greatest man, save General Lee, born in the South in a hundred years. . "37

Democrat Josephus Daniels, editor of the "Raleigh News and Observer" was quick to seize on this article and he reprinted it in full.

A two-column editorial blasted Bassett for the contempt he had displayed toward "the attitude of nine-tenths of the Southern people' and insisted that the Democratic white supremacy campaigns of 1898 and 1900, like those of the Reconstruction era, had been necessary to restore peace, order, and 'good government' after an alleged orgy of Republican and Negro misrule. The professor had best repudiate his freakish ideas, the powerful editor suggested, or the reaction of the Southern people would be impossible to anticipate. "38

For the next six weeks, the North Carolina Democratic press repudiated Bassett "as a 'slobbering' lover of blacks, and in many cases (spoke) against Kilgo and the institu-

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tion that harbored such a traitor to the South, 1139

Bassett, fearing that his presence would harm Trinity College's recruitment of students, offered to submit his resignation. President Kilgo, the faculty and students whole-heartedly defended Bassett, but the final decision lay with the Trustees at their Dec. 1, 1903 meeting.

A trustee, the usually reticent Benjamin Duke had received several letters from his friend Walter Hines Page, founder of Doubleday, Page and Company, and later ambassador to Great Britain under Woodrow Wilson, arguing the importance of allowing a Trinity College professor "to hold and express any rational opinion he may have about any subject whatever . . "40

Duke received letters from former Trinity College President John F. Crowell, as well on the subject. The letters were probably influential, but Duke's support of Bassett may also have been influenced by his refusal to allow the Democratic editor Daniels and his cronies to triumph.

The vote was 18 to 7 in favor of Bassett with most of his defenders businessmen on the Board, Ben Duke and his friends.

To stress their support, (of Bassett), the trustees issued a statement that has become one of the classic documents in the history of the United States academic freedom. In part, it declared "Any form of coercion of thought and private judgment is contrary to one of the constitutional aims of Trinity College."

The national press praised Trinity College's stand and in 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt on a speaking visit to the Campus, hailed the institution for its stand on academic freedor

Mrs. William Preston Few, wife of President Few, recalled her student days at the Mary Duke Building (the first building constructed for the growing number of women students) when looking out the window, she saw Josephus Daniels hung and burned in effigy as a result of his printing Bassett's statement in his newspaper, The "Raleigh News and Observer."41

J. S. Bassett left Trinity in 1906 and continued his distinguished academic career at Smith College. He died January 27, 1928 in Washington, D.C.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

line of said alley south 87 degrees 48' east 75 feet to a stake in said northside of said alley, the southwest corner of Lot No. 10; thence with the line of said Lot No. 10 north 2 degrees 12' east 150 feet to a stake in the inside line of the sidewalk on the south side of said Trinity Avenue, the northwest corner of said Lot No. 10; thence with the inside line of the sidewalk on the south side of said Trinity Avenue north 87 degrees 48' west 75 feet to the point and place of beginning and being Lot No. 9 and one-half of the Lot No. 8 in Block 11 on the map of B. L. Duke's Durham Property on file in the office of the Register of Deeds of Durham County in Plat Book 5B, Page 102.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Deed Book 314, p. 540

Beginning at a stake in the inside line of the sidewalk on the south side of Trinity Avenue 25 feet in an eastern direction from the northwest corner of Lot No. 8 and being the northeast corner of S. M. Bradhser and running thence south 2 degrees 12' west 150 feet to a stake in the north side of a 15 foot alley; thence with the northern

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two story, 5 bay shingle style frame cottage with brick foundation at 1019 Trinity Avas originally topped with an onion shaped dome which was later removed and tower reshaped with flat roof and crenellation. (This was perhaps done in 1900. The tax records list its construction as 1891 and "remodeled 1900.")

Of the Faculty Houses, it exhibits the most elaborate shingle work marking the second story and shares, in common, horizontal German siding on the first floor. The shingle work with its varying sizes and shapes of indentations creates a wave like effect on the wall surface the cross gable pediment ends are decorated with gracefully curving sticks applied to flush sheathing. This same trim occurs on the Crowell House and is reminiscent of the plainer diagonally applied sticks of the Pegram House. The chimney piercing the asphalt roof has been partially rebuilt and has lost its decorative corbelled cap.

The small engaged front porch supported by square columns shelters the front door which is flanked by a leaded glass side light. Set back from the main facade at the left is a side entry with raised panel door. All windows are nine-over-one sash.

At the rear is a sun room addition with shed roof and aluminum jalousied windows. There is a one and one-half story frame outbuilding with German siding, a two bay dormer and returns on the gable ends. The square lot is landscaped and there is a small gold fish pond in the backyard.

Mrs. S. M. Bradsher owns and occupies this house; she also owns and rents to a tenant, the Bassett House next door.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Professor William I. Cranford was probably the first of a series of educators who lived in this house now located at 1019 W. Trinity Ave., and William H. Wannamaker, the most notable.

Professor Cranford, a graduate of Trinity College is listed in the Trinity Catalogue of 1890-1891 as Instructor in Greek; 1893-95 Associate Professor of Philosophy and Logic. In 1910 he was named Dean of the College succeeding Dr. Few. As were most all the faculty members, Cranford was active in the Methodist denomination and wrote frequently for "Advocates."

An original photograph of this cottage in the Duke Archives Collection (see attached copy) has this notation on the face of its mounting cardboard: "House we lived in on College Campus, 1895, July 17"; and on the rear, "The house in which W. I. Cranford lived."

William Hane Wannamaker, educator and university administrator was born Sept. 28, 1873 in Bamberg, South Carolina, the son of Francis Marion and Eleanor Margaret Wannamaker. Wannamak was educated by private tutors and in the private school of St. Matthews, South Carolina. In 1891 Wannamaker entered Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Among his instructors there were John C. Kilgo, named Trinity College President in 1894 and William Preston Few, who joined the faculty in 1896 and was named President in 1910. Wannamaker was a high school principal for five years after his graduation until, in 1900, W.P. Few invited him to enroll at Trinity College as a graduate student and instructor in English and German.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

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"After receiving an A. M. degree the next spring Wannamaker entered the graduate school of Harvard University, where he studied German and earned a second master's degree in 1902. He was thereupon invited to return to Trinity College as a member of the faculty, but he first spent additional time studying at Harvard and at the German universities of Berlin, Tuebingen, Leipzig, and Bonn. He joined the staff at Trinity as professor of Germanic language and literature in the fall of 1905."42

Wannamaker soon made a reputation as an effective and dedicated teacher and during his 46 year association with the University it was said that "he did not teach merely German, he taught life. The Trustees left this tribute to him: "The South has known few scholars who have contributed more to civilization."43 He became increasingly involved i the administration of the college. When Few was named President of Trinity in 1910, Wann maker joined the school's Administrative Committee, and he became Dean of the College in the summer of 1917.

"This duty was delayed briefly by military training in 1918 at Plattsburgh, N.Y., where he earned the rank of second lieutenant and was named adjutant of the Trinity College detachment of the Student Army Training Corps. As Dean, Wannamaker was responsible for such areas as curriculum and student life. As a disciplinarian he was stern but fair, and he took a personal interest in the welfare of each student. He also continued as an active member of the German Department for several years."44

Trinity College became Duke University in 1924 and Wannamaker, in 1926 was named Vice President in the Division of Education and Dean of the University, responsible for the academic activities of the institution, including faculty recruitment and development

He continued also as Dean of Trinity College, now the undergraduate men's unit, ur til 1942. The so called "triumvirate" of President W. P. Few, Vice President Robert L. Flowers, and Wannamaker directed the educational destinies of Duke University during its founding years. Under their leadership Duke University became a respected leader of higher education in the state and the nation.

Wannamaker also served as an editor of the "South Atlantic Quaterly" (1919-1955), established by Professor Bassett and the 9019 Society. He headed Duke's faculty committee on athletics for many years and was largely responsible for the "growth and success of the school's intercollegiate sports program."

"He brought famed football coach Wallace Wade to Duke and supported the construction of the new athletic facilities, but he was equally concerned about the proper relationship between academic and athletic affairs. He represented the university in the Southern Conference and served several terms as president of that rule-making athletic body.

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Active as well in civic affairs, Wannamaker served on the Durham County (1916-1918) and City (1923-1947) Boards of Education, being the long-time chairman (1925-1947) of the latter. He was a trustee of Durham's Watts Hospital and an active Rotarian. During World War II he was a member of both the university and state Councils of Defense.

Wannamaker was small in stature and unassuming by nature, but his industriousness and diligence made him a most successful administrator. He was awarded honorary degrees by Wofford College (Litt. D., 1917) and Duke University (LL.D., 1953). Upon his retirement in 1948 Wannamaker was named Vice Chancellor of Duke University, an advisory post of lifetime tenure. A dormitory and a roadway at Duke are named in his honor. 146

Wannamaker died August 2, 1958 and is buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Durham.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Lot No. 7 and one half of Lot No. 8 in Block 11 on the map of the B.L. Duke North Durham propert See plat book 1, page 90 in the office of the Register of Deeds of said County. Beginning at a stake in the inside line of the sidewalk on the south side of Trinity Avenue, the northeast corner of lot No. 6; and running thence with the line of said Lot No. 6 South 2 degrees 12 min.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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West 150 feet to a stake in the north side of a 15 foot alley, the southeast corner of so Lot No. 6; thence with the northern line of said alley south 87 degrees 29 minutes East 75 feet to a stake in said north side of said alley; thence North 2 degrees 12 minutes East 150 feet to a stake in the inside line of the sidewalk on the southside of Trinity Avenue; thence with said inside line of the sidewalk on the south side of Trinity Avenue North 87 degrees 29 minutes West 75 feet to the beginning. See Deed Book 50 at page 396.

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Painted sunny yellow and dominated by a two story octagonal tower topped by a conical roof with deep brackets under the eaves, and with a wooden finial cresting the tower, the Crowell House, 504 Watts Street, is a landmark in the Trinity Park neighborhood. Resting on a brick foundation, this 2 story, 6 bay Shingle Style frame cottage has a steeply sloping, massive, overhanging roof with kicked up front eave, broken by a hip roofed dormer with wooden louvered ventilator and the tower. A small gabled pediment is centered in the engaged front porch. This gable is decorated with the same graceful, curving applied stick trim notable on the Cranford-Wannamaker House. More stick style trim is evident on the right or south elevation where two paired windows are divided by flush sheathing overlaid with horizontally applied planks. With German siding on the first story, the second story is defined by scalloped shingles. The interior chimney rising above the asphalt shingle roof is decorated by a corbelled chimney cap.

Particularly lovely are its Queen Anne style windows with a single pane below and multi clear panes surrounding a single light above. Set back at the right of the main elevation is a screened and latticed side entry. A modern carport painted yellow is at the rear of the house. The small lot is landscaped and has large trees in the front yard.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Associated with this house at 504 Watts Street is John Franklin Crowell born Nov. 1, 1857. An educator, economist and journalist, Crowell was President of Trinity College from 1887 to 1894 and directed its move in 1892 from Randolph County, to Durham. He was born in York, Pennsylvania, attended Dartmouth College for a year, then transferred to Yale where he graduated with a B. A. degree in 1883.

"After serving as principal of Schuykill Seminary at Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1883-1884, he returned to Yale for a year in the Divinity School and another year in the Graduate School as Larned Scholar in philosophy. He returned to Schuykill Seminary for the year 1886-87, but meanwhile it had been moved from Reading to Fredericksburg. This move from an urban environment to a rural one Crowell considered detrimental to the school. The reverse of this action, he was later to achieve for Trinity College."47

Crowell's first wife Laura Kistler Getz died in 1887 one year after their marriage. "In 1891 he married Carolina Haas Pascoe, but no children were born of either marriage. An inheritance from his first wife largely financed the construction in her memory of the Crowell Science Hall on the Trinity campus in Durham."48

There was some initial opposition to Crowell's Presidential appointment at Trinity because he was from the North and of the Evangelical, rather than Methodist faith. "When Crowereached Trinity College and saw how meager its resources were he was tempted to resign at once.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

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Instead, he immediately announced changes in the curriculum."49 Indeed, he changed the curriculum so quickly and so often that a student who was a freshman when Crowell arrive was still a freshman four years later.50

"Gradually he upgraded the faculty and improved the educational facilities of the college. He taught each year as well as administered the college and supervised the construction of its new campus and the move to Durham. A man of vision and tremendous energy, he also traveled widely over the state speaking and preaching to different groups. In this way and through publication he sought to expand the reputation and influence of the college, as well as acquire students and financial support for it. He supervised the setting up of academies and gave advice to those already in operation. He dreamed of Trinity becoming a university with the other Methodist colleges in the state affiliated with it. Preparatory schools would serve as feeders for the whole university system."51

Crowell introduced many innovations at Trinity College, among them the introduction of intercollegiate football. The college adopted Yale blue as its color in hono of Yaleman Crowell. He also persuaded the Trinity College literary societies to combine their book collections and personally catalogued the fledgling library.

Crowell left Trinity for his doctoral studies and then joined the Smith College faculty in 1897. In 1917 he was awarded the LL. D. degree by Trinity College.

"The second career of Crowell as an economist and statistician in Washington and New York was a distinguished one. Furthermore, from 1906-1915 he was associate editor of the "Wall Street Journal." He retired in 1925 after serving six years as director of the World Market Institute of New York. Much of his time was devoted to lecturing and writing, and his published works include studies on college training, taxation, industry, and commerce."52

Crowell died August 6, 1931 and is buried near York, Pennsylvania.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY UTM REFERENCES A 1 7 6 8 8 2 5 0 B 9 8 6 4 4 0 B ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING C VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a stake in the property line on the east side of Watts Street, said stake being North 2 degrees 12 minutes East 59 feet from the property line on the north side of Trinity Avenue and running thence along and with the property line on the east side of said Watts Street North 2 degrees 12 minutes East 64 feet to a stake; thence South 86 degrees 52 minutes East 130 feet to a stake; thence South 2 degrees 12 minutes West 63 feet to a stake; thence North

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87 degrees 20 minutes West 130 feet to a stake, the place and point of Beginning, and bei a portion of Lots 17, 18 and 19 Block #10, as shown on plat of B. L. Duke North Durham Property, said plat being of record in the office of the Register of Deeds of Durham County in Plat Book 5 at page 102 and being that same property conveyed to J.W. Bright and wife, Lona Roberts Brights, by deed of record in the office of the Register of Deeds of Durham County, Deed Book 63 at page 99.

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AND/OR COMMON	Pegram House			
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT __GOOD X_DETERIORATED

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*MOVED DATE 1916, 1977

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pegram House at 1019 Minerva Ave. is located on a narrow, deep lot surrounded by large pine trees. Currently undergoing extensive renovation, and perched now on temporary block piers, the two story, two bay sophisticated pattern book cottage presents two prominent cross gables whose juncture form a deep valley in the L shaped steeply sloping gable roof. Their projection forms a small roof over the recessed right bay front door. Flush horizontal boards overlaid with color contrasting diagonal stick style trim accent this roof. The prominent attached wrap around porch with heavily turned posts and balusters is presently disassembled and stored, but will be reconstructed. Original horizontal German siding covers the first floor, with fish scale shingles defining the second story. The siding is painted light tan with all trim a contrasting dark brown. The eaves are heavy, rounded and painted the contrasting dark brown. Two interior chimneys with corbelled caps which once pierced the roof have been removed and will be reconstructed. Asphalt shingles cover the roof now, but they will be replaced with shakes, the original covering.

At the rear, and running parallel to the narrow lot is a one story rectangular contemporary addition once housing the kitchen and dining room and attached to the main house by a latticed breezeway. Currently there is no access to it from the main house and a door will be fabricate from an existing window which now abuts the rear of the main house.

me north, or main elevation, is formed by a pedimented projecting gable. It is lighted by ired sixteen-over-two double hung sash windows with plain contrasting surround. Original wooden shutters frame these and most of the other windows. Beneath these windows is a two panelled apron with vertically mounted flush sheathing with wide plain contrasting trim. Identical paired windows without apron are on the second floor and are bisected by the cornice of the pediment.

The first floor, west elevation of the main house has three (two of them paired) sixteen-over-t windows with typical plain contrasting trim, with no apron on the third. Two sixteen-over-two windows light the second story. A contrasting molded wooden string course divides them from a louvered wooden attic ventilator.

Much of the rear or south elevation of the main house is obscured by the abutting ell. There is one original door that once gave access to the covered breezeway which has since fallen away A shed roof comes off the gable end, a remnant of the enclosed breezeway. In the gable end are two twelve pane awning type windows in the second floor.

The east elevation combines shed and gable roofs. Original shutters remain on the two sixteenover-two aproned first floor windows and on each of the second floor sixteen-over-two windows. The louvered attic ventilator is separated from the second story windows by a molded contrasting wooden string course.

The one story addition has a shallow pitch gable roof with contrasting heavy rounded eaves and plain cornices ending in returns. The weatherboard is plain in contrast to the German siding on the main"street side"house.

eastern elevation of the one story portion is evenly divided by two-over-two raised flat panel wooden doors. A six-over-six sash window, plain contrasting surround, with molded munting is placed to the right (or north) of the northern door.

The southern elevation is lighted by a center six-over-six sash window with plain contrasting surround.

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The west elevation is broken by a modern flat two panel door at the southern end and two six-over-six sash windows.

The interior of the main house follows a modified side hall plan with the entry hall providing access to two small rooms, a larger kitchen, and the narrow enclosed stairwell with molded riser trim to the left. Off the narrow second story landing are two rooms and a bathroom with, perhaps, the original fixtures. The original interior plaster walls were damaged beyond repair during the last move and will be replaced with sheetrock The walls and ceilings are currently covered with wallpaper over the plaster. The floors throughout are six inch pine tongue and groove planks.

The Pegram House, despite its moves, retains much of its original fabric. Occurring consistently throughout the house are wide, deeply molded door and window frames and baseboards. Before its latest move in 1977, the house was divided into four apartments, but alterations were minimal. A sheetrock wall divides the rear one story portion equall and two modern exterior doors have been added. All of the other doors and windows are original, as is the notable interior hardware. Porcelain door knobs are set into embossed cast iron plates. The latch plates are decorated with a bird in flight picking a berry from a flowering branch on the top half and a design of butterflies on the lower portion. Equally lavish are the floral decorated finialled hinges. Possibly original wall sconces for electric lights grace a second story bedroom. All original doors are two-over-two raised fluted panels with chamfered rails and stiles with fluting across the top horizont panel and flush vertical side panels.

Five original wooden mantelpieces remain, each different, but framing identical coal fire boxes outlined by horse shoe shaped molded iron frames. The mantel in the front parlor rests on deep horizontally grooved bases supporting paired fluted curving braces divided by a recessed shelf outlined with thick spindles forming a fiddle rail. The kitchen mant has a similar fiddle rail supported by rounded engaged columns which in turn support a beaded mantel shelf. The bases and tops of the simple columns are deeply molded and carved. In the remaining first floor room the mantel is simpler with chamfered and flute pilasters supporting roundel corner blocks. The central panel with horizontal fluting supports a replacement mantel shelf. In the second floor bathroom, a deep ovolo mantel shelf is supported by simple chamfered pilasters.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Among the faculty members and their families who moved with Trinity College to Durham was that of Professor W. H. Pegram, who was during a fifty-five year association with the college a student, professor and professor emeritus. He was a prime mover in the development of the Chemistry and Physics Departments. Pegram Dormitory on Duke's East Campus is named in his honor.

William Howell Pegram, born August 18, 1846 at Chalk Level in Harnett County, North Carolina, as a youth fought for fifteen months during the Civil War under Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson and acquired an erect military carriage which was to remain with him all his life. He is remembered as a "lean, erect, austere figure with a long white beard." I "The Alumni register reports neither the battlefield nor the prison camp warped his high purpose r made him sordid; he came forth from the conflict determined to make some contribution to the rehabilitation of his native State and steadfastly set his face toward the future, without compromise. He returned to his home and began immediately to prepare himself for college. "12 He entered Trinity College, January, 1869 and "within a few brief months he had firmly establised himself as a student and leader." 13

As an undergraduate he often assisted in the teaching of science and English literature. A graduate of the class of '73. A. M., Tutor of Natural Science. "The following year he became Professor of Natural Science and set about to develop, with limited resources, a department of science that was the forerunner of the present Departments of Chemistry, Biology, Physics,

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and Engineering."14 According to an un gned history of the Physics Department, c.1905,

"In 1873 a bright young man, just out of college and full of the fine enthusiasm of youth was appointed to teach the sciences. It did not take him long to doff his coat, roll up his sleeves and resolve to make something happen. This youth was William H. Pegram. The records do not show whether this fine enthusiasm was fundamentally excited by a love of pure science or by a love of the President's daughter. The fact is well established, however, that through it he won the unqualified approval of the President and also of the President's daughter, and thereby won for himself a career in science." 15

Pegram married Emma, the daughter of Rev. Braxton Craven, on June 10, 1875. Rev. Craven served as President of Trinity College, Randolph County and Pegram himself served as interim President for seven months after Craven's death in 1882. Prof. and Mrs. Pegram's five sons and daughters are graduates of Trinity College and daughter Annie had the distinction of becoming the first woman to enroll in Trinity College, Durham, in 1892. She was to become a member of the faculty of Greensboro College and the last Pegram to live in the Faculty Row house until her death in the 1960's.

Professor Pegram taught English for several years after 1879. It was not until 1900 that the "resources of the institution were such as to permit him to confine his teaching to Chemistry, the branch of science that held his especial interest." He also coached the debate team for many years and "generations of students received their training in the mechanics of public speaking under Prof. Pegram." In 1917 the L.L.D. degree was conferred on him and he was named Professor Emeritus of Chemistry in 1919 and was relieve of any regular teaching duties, "but was free to come and go about the campus at will giving advice and counsel whenever and whereever needed." 18

Called "one of the most beloved men who ever served the institution," he was a charter member of Trinity College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and was an active member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church South. He died at home, April 30, 1928. In his obituary in the "Alumni Register" a conversation between Washington Duke, wealthy founder of the American Tobacco Company and the modestly salaried Professor is reported. Washington Duke outlined his career's progress to Pegram who countered with: "'After my Civil War experience, I spent four years on my father's farm and then four years in Trinity College graduated 1873, was called the same year to the chair of Natural Science in said College and have been with it ever since. From this last statement you know my financial rating (Duke) saw the point and countered with 'Yes, but you have made something better than money; you have helped to make men. "20"

As the campus expanded, the Faculty Houses were moved across the street and scattered within Trinity Park. The Pegram House moved to a lot apparently owned by Pegram at 308 Buchanan Boulevard, (then Guess Mill Road). In a letter to his father dated March 18, 1916, George Pegram wrote:

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"Since hearing that you have to move your house I have been wondering how much it is going to cost and how much I may be able to help out on the expense. I should think the college ought to do the moving or at least bear a good part of the expense, since putting professors out of their houses is really cutting their salaries down. If I remember rightly you have two lots on Guess Street (sic) one of them unemcumbered and I suppose you will move the house on to that one, but I have only a very vague idea of what it might cost to move. We are perhaps in less stringent financial circumstances with our house than last year, which moves me to hope to be of at least a little assistance to you."21

The cost of the move is not recorded, but it is known that the move "was accomplished by placing the house on logs and pulling it with a team of horses."²² Elizabeth Lyon a long time Durham resident remembers watching the move from her upstairs bedroom window.²³

George Pegram wrote again to his father concerning the move on September 7, 1916:

"I wonder how your house moving progressed. Charles Edwards, I believe it was, told me that the dining room and kitchen had already gone, but that you did not expect to move the house proper until some weeks later. You have probably taken a pleasure in seeing that the new foundations are at least as good as the old ones, so as to obviate somewhat the cracking tendency the house always had."24

The house remained in the family until the death of the last of Pegram's unmarried children, Annie. On February 20, 1962 she transferred via trust the house to NCNB. ²⁵ Following a suit filed by Greensboro College against NCNB, executor for Annie Pegram, it was sold at public auction on November 22, 1966 for \$11,500 to Frances G. Crabtree. ²⁶ She, in turn, sold it to Herndon Building Company, April 3, 1969 for \$10 subject to a \$10,000 note to Home Savings & Loan. ²⁷ Threatened with demolition to make way for a parking lot for an apartment building Mr. Fred Herndon owned next door, he offered to move the house at his own expense and make it available to a citizen's group. The Durham Historic Preservation Society bought it and the 3,120 sq. ft. house was moved again September, 1977.

This move to 1019 Minerva Ave. took six days and was plagued with troubles. "After being jacked up onto the truck for the move, the back end fell off. Other problems included a broken drive shaft and axle in the truck and ensnarlment by a tree." The "Durham Morning Herald" of September 27, 1977 reports that "after much backing and twisting, by a fraction of an inch, the house turned onto Buchanan Boulevard to a round of applause by the spectators. Even at the intersection of Watts St. and Minerva, the move appeared to be going well. But then the axle broke dumping the house precariously to one side."

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The move was finally accomplished on September 28, 1977.

The house was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. George Ellis for \$20,000 in December, 1978 and recovation work has begun under the supervision of Donald Hughes and the North Carolina Builder's Institute.30

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ___ UTM REFERENCES A 117 6 8 8 3 3 3 d B 9 8 6 3 18 10 ZONE NORTHING VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Pegram House. Deed Book 353, p. 370

Being all of Lot 6 in Block E as shown on Map 2 of the J.B. Warren Estate as per plat and survey by E. L. Culbreth of April, 1927 which plat is of record in Plat Book 12 at page 5 Durham County Registry, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more particular description of same.