

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Dr. William Rainey Holt House

and/or common The Homestead

2. Location

street & number 408 South Main Street not for publication

city, town Lexington vicinity of Fifth

state North Carolina code 037 county Davidson code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Richard M. Barentine

street & number 408 South Main Street

city, town Lexington vicinity of state North Carolina 27292

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Davidson County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Lexington state North Carolina

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes  no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

---

## 7. Description

---

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

One of two surviving antebellum houses in Lexington, the Dr. W. R. Holt House epitomizes the classic Greek Revival house form popular throughout mid-nineteenth century North Carolina and is distinguished by unusually sophisticated Greek Revival detailing. Located on Lexington's Main Street facing southeast and dignified by a generous front lawn, the Homestead as it appears today reflects three period remodelings: first the c. 1892 introduction of the Victorian bay windows; second, the impressive c. 1900 Colonial Revival porch; and third, the unobtrusive 1949 one-story rear addition. A common trend in ownership, each remodelling reflects an attempt to either update the house's character or provide more functional space.

Basically the Homestead is a three-bay two-story hip-roof frame dwelling with a double-pile center-hall plan and weatherboard sheathing. It was characterized originally by such dominant and elaborate Greek Revival features as a diminutive central porch with entrance, first floor Palladian windows, complementary second floor windows with sidelights, bold corner pilasters and a modillion block cornice. Today the original porch area is defined by handsome fluted Ionic engaged columns. The central entrance itself is framed by sidelights, transom, and ornate decorative corner panels. Simple symmetrically molded surrounds with plain corner blocks unify the whole. Both the sidelights and transom contain beautiful leaded stained-glass windows. Flush boards sheath the wall area protected by the original porch.

Repeating the entrance's Ionic motif, the facade's first floor Palladian windows are highlighted by a taller arched central bay with keystone and louvred tympanum. In addition the two-over-two double sash sidelights are flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters resting on paneled pedestals and are capped by an Ionic entablature with modillion cornice. Following an unusual arrangement, the floor length opening of the central bay contains a nine light sash surmounting elongated single pane casement windows. On the second floor and corresponding to each first floor Palladian window is located a simplified three-part window featuring unfluted Doric pilasters and an uninterrupted entablature with modillion cornice. Originally the central second floor window was like those along the side and rear elevations, a six-over-six sash window with plain sill and three-part surround. Six-over-nine sash are found at the first floor level.

Outlining each elevation are Doric corner pilasters and an Ionic entablature. Each pilaster is further distinguished by the same raised-panel pattern decorating the Palladian window pedestals, a semi-circular terminus accents both the panel's top and bottom and a bull's-eye also bisects each panel. Highlighted by a cornice with carved modillions, the Ionic entablature skirts the hip-roof which was originally sheathed with wooden shingles but currently have been replaced by asbestos ones. Today two tall interior chimneys with corbelled caps pierce the roofline, one an interior end and the opposite a side slope.

On the exterior, both the c. 1892 and c. 1900 remodelings introduced distinctive period features. As illustrated in a documentary photograph, the late nineteenth century appearance of the house was enriched by a polychromatic paint scheme, and although the central porch followed its original diminutive form, the front columns were replaced by square-in-posts with sawwork brackets. Flanking this protected entrance were open porch areas featuring a handsome turned balustrade. A popular one-story polygonal bay was introduced on each side elevation. At this time family tradition also suggests that the present position of southwest interior end chimney was adopted as opposed to its former exterior end configuration. Shortly after the turn into the twentieth century, the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet      Description      Item number      7      Page      1

Homestead acquired its current appearance with the introduction of the more formal and impressive Colonial Revival portico following a simplified Doric order. The central entrance is marked by a double-tier two-story pedimented portico in which the first floor area is accented by a bow front. Completing this Colonial Revival porch is the similar in detail one-story wraparound section with its handsome turned balustrade.

Following a double-pile center-hall plan, the interior features the same bold sophistication in its woodwork as the exterior in conjunction with standard plaster walls and pine flooring. Handsome eight-panel doors, many with their original hardware are found throughout the house. The central hall is distinguished by a half-turn stair with landings containing such notable details as graceful stair brackets, which are illustrated in Owen Biddle's pattern book, The Young Carpenter's Assistant (1805), a rounded handrail, which ramps at each landing and terminates in a graceful spiral complete with amity button. Slender rectangular-in-section balusters support this handrail. The southeast parlor contains the interior's most elaborate Greek Revival woodwork and its only plaster ceiling medallion featuring ornate pineapple and fruit motifs. The Palladian window is highlighted at each juncture by a Greek key motif which is underscored by an anthemion. The symmetrical surround framing the large sliding doors, which separate the parlor and dining room, repeats this anthemion motif in its oversized central panel and corner blocks. It is uncertain whether or not the parlor mantel is an original one. The northeast room, however, does contain an original Greek Revival one, but its simplicity reflects its former second floor placement also in the northeast room.

Reflecting the first floor plan, the second floor one has been minimally modified through the adaptation of the northwest room to storage and bathroom areas. The hall contains a large built in wardrobe and the primary window as a result of the c. 1900 remodelling contains jib doors which open onto the second floor portico. The windows in each room are enhanced by apron panels. Two elements of interest in the southeast room are the impressive Greek Revival mantel and the iron door bars meant to keep out intruders or as the Holt family tradition relates "to keep Yankees away from daughters" while the house served as a Union Army headquarters. Utilizing the same Greek key and anthemion motifs found in the parlor, the mantel is further distinguished by a shallow shelf pediment accented at each end by acroteria.

The only original outbuilding still associated with the property is the former servants quarters called by the Holt family "Lizzie's house". A small frame one-story gable-roof structure sheathed with beaded weatherboard, the quarters contains such notable features as a tapered rake board, beautifully moulded boxed cornice with pattern board and nine-over-six sash windows with louvred shutters and pintle hinges. Each window has a two part coved surround and a moulded sill. A paired entrance with board-and-batten doors comprises the facade fenestration and opens into the two-room plan. Protecting the facade is an attached shed-roof porch supported by turned posts.

# 8. Significance

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 checked="" 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 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 1834

Builder/Architect Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

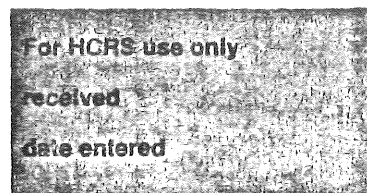
Locally known as the Homestead, the Dr. William Rainey Holt House, built in 1834, possesses an outstanding and sophisticated combination of Greek Revival details rarely seen in Lexington, the seat of Davidson County. One of North Carolina's most talented and versatile men, William Rainey Holt attended the University of North Carolina where he started a life long friendship with John Motley Morehead and later obtained an M.D. from Philadelphia's prestigious Jefferson Medical College. In addition to his Lexington medical practice Dr. Holt owned a large and unusually profitable farm in Davidson County, called Linwood, which became one of the state's model scientific farms. Dr. Holt was one of the founders of the North Carolina Agricultural Society and served as its president for eight years, doing much to promote the spread of scientific agriculture. The Homestead has remained in the ownership of Holt's descendants and is in excellent repair.

**CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:**

- A. Associated with the advent of scientific farming techniques through the development of the North Carolina Agricultural Society which played a significant role in the antebellum agricultural development of North Carolina.
- B. Associated with Dr. William Rainey Holt, one of the founders of the North Carolina Agricultural Society who served as its president for eight years. A prominent Lexington physician, Holt owned and operated Linwood, one of the state's early model scientific farms.
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a highly sophisticated Greek Revival dwelling. Highlighted by Palladian windows flanking an elaborate central entrance, the two-story double-pile house evolves around a typical center-hall plan.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Item number 8

Page 1

The Homestead is the name of the house built in 1834 for Doctor William R. Holt in the Davidson County town of Lexington. Holt was one of antebellum North Carolina's most versatile and talented men, with interest in medicine, agriculture, education, religion, transportation, and manufacturing.

William Rainey Holt was born in Alamance County, October 30, 1798, the eldest son of Michael Holt III and Rachel Rainey Holt. His father was a prominent Alamance County planter and served several terms in the state legislature.<sup>1</sup> William Rainey Holt had a thorough preparatory schooling. He attended the University of North Carolina, graduating in 1817, before his nineteenth birthday. His classmates included W. S. Ashe and future governor John Motely Morehead. Holt then attended the prestigious Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia from where he received his M.D. degree. He returned to North Carolina and set up a medical practice in Lexington during the early 1820s.<sup>2</sup>

North Carolina was doctor poor during this period. There were only 273 doctors in 1823, and many of these were inadequately educated and were physicians in name only.<sup>3</sup> Relatively few doctors had the kind of education possessed by Dr. Holt. Yet these few highly trained men exerted an enormous impact on the state. Dr. Wiley Forbus writes that "the majority of the medical school graduates were ambitious people of high character. . . . They occupied an enviable social and economic position, [and] contributed significantly to the cultural development of both their communities and state."<sup>4</sup> Few physicians exemplified this better than Dr. Holt.

Dr. Holt appeared to specialize in medicine for several years, and was able to turn his practice into one of the state's finest. A voracious reader he kept up with the latest medical advances and regularly attended seminars in Philadelphia to upgrade his knowledge and techniques. He gradually compiled a large and excellent medical library.<sup>5</sup> On May 14, 1822 he married Mary Gizeal Allen. They lived in Lexington and had five children before her death in 1832.<sup>6</sup> Following the death of his first wife he married his cousin Louisa Allen Hogan, daughter of Colonel William Hogan and Elizabeth Allen Hogan. In 1834, the year of his remarriage, he demolished his first residence and built The Homestead. Family tradition maintains that the house was built by a prominent Charleston architect. Unfortunately, the name appears to have been lost. Dr. Holt and his second wife had nine children.<sup>7</sup>

By the time of his remarriage Dr. Holt had become intensely interested in scientific agriculture. He purchased large amounts of land in the Jersey section of Davidson County and named his plantation Linwood. Although he never lived at Linwood its operation came to take up a large amount of Dr. Holt's time. His large library included many volumes in scientific agriculture, and he used these principles to establish Linwood as one of the state's outstanding farms.<sup>8</sup> W. S. Pearson writes in the Biographical History of North Carolina:

He [Dr. Holt] added acres on acres to Linwood, fertilizing his fields, using the most improved methods, thorough ditching, deep plowing, turning under fields of clover and of peas until neighboring farmers thought him somewhat demented, not comprehending the philosophy of his scientific

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 2

method. In his work, Dr. Holt had not only the advantage of the newest publications which he closely studied, but of personal friendship and inter-course with Mr. Edmund Ruffin and Professor Edmunds [sic], among the most thoughtful of scientific agriculturists. He studied the latest improved implements and introduced them into his community. . . . Dr. Holt's splendid success attested his skill and his fine management. He set the pace in the State not merely of superior cultivation, but in the development of improved herds of cattle and sheep.<sup>9</sup>

Linwood was an agricultural showpiece. Experts from Baltimore and Richmond visited the farm and were impressed with it, as was the historian George Bancroft.<sup>10</sup> Dr. Holt purchased, outside the state, a purebred Short Horn bull that is believed to have been the "first registered animal of all breeds of cattle in North Carolina."<sup>11</sup> His cattle were frequent winners at the state fair. C. O. Cathey writes that he "was perhaps, outstanding in the amount of contribution made towards livestock improvement in the state. . . . Dr. Holt was unremitting in his efforts to improve livestock in the state and won for himself first rank as a public benefactor."<sup>12</sup> Dr. Holt was a charter member of the North Carolina Agricultural Society, which was organized in 1852, and served as the organization's president from 1860 until 1868.<sup>13</sup>

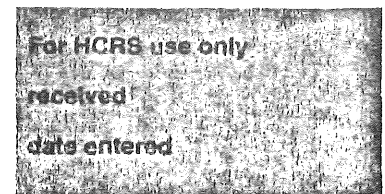
The 1860 census graphically illustrates the success of Dr. Holt's agricultural experiments. He owned 1,600 improved acres, and 901 unimproved. His real estate was valued at \$87,000 and his personal estate at \$90,000. His livestock was valued at \$13,200 and his farming implements at \$2,000. His livestock alone was worth more than all but a few of Davidson County's other farms. He owned 220 swine, 160 sheep, 10 horses, 25 mules, 50 milk cows, 6 oxen and 60 "other cattle." His farm grew 4,000 bushels of wheat, 3,000 bushels of corn, 3,000 bushels of oats, and lesser amount of peas, beans, and Irish potatoes. He was the county's largest cotton farmer with a production of sixty-three 400 pound bales. He grew 100 tons of hay. His farm had orchard products, honey producing bees. He even produced 10 gallons of wine. Holt owned 99 slaves, which he housed in 15 slave houses.<sup>14</sup>

Dr. Holt's interests extended beyond medicine and agriculture. His children were well educated in the best private schools of the day. His daughters attended St. Mary's in Raleigh, while his sons attended the University of North Carolina.<sup>15</sup> He was a trustee of the Lexington Academy in the 1820s, and served on the Davidson County Board of Superintendents of Common Schools in the 1840s.<sup>16</sup> In religious affairs he was an Episcopalian and was active in St. Peter's Church, Lexington's first Episcopal church.<sup>17</sup> He actively promoted railroad expansion into the county. Two stations on the North Carolina Railroad between Lexington and the Yadkin River were named Linwood and Holtsburg in his honor.<sup>18</sup> Holt was active in civic affairs, serving on a variety of committees. He helped establish Lexington as the county seat, was one of a group appointed to make Lexington's first tax assessment in 1824, and attended the building of the town's poorhouse. He served one term, 1838, as a state senator from Davidson County.<sup>19</sup>

Not surprisingly the Homestead was the social center of Davidson County. Dr. Holt was a close friend of Governor Morehead in spite of the fact that the former was a

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Item number 8

Page 3

Democrat and ardent secessionist, while the Governor was a pro-Union Whig. Nonetheless Morehead was a frequent guest at the Holt household.<sup>20</sup> W. S. Pearson writes:

The home life of Dr. Holt was especially notable. There he lived in a delightful atmosphere. His residence . . . was often visited by many of the first men and most charming women of the Old South. One recalls with kind recollections its gracious master, patriarchal in appearance, moving with dignifty, solicitous above all for the comfort and pleasure of his guests. . . . Truly . . . [Mrs. Holt] was a fine type of the matron one loves to picture as inseparably connected with the civilization of the southern states in those years which have become known as the golden period of southern life. . . . Beautiful pictures of the lovely old place come back at memory's bidding: its fine elms and maples; its sloping lawn bordered with box; the large vegetable garden, the hothouses and the well kept flower beds; the variety of fruit bearing trees, including the orange and the lemon which required such zealous care and of which Mrs. Holt was justly proud.<sup>21</sup>

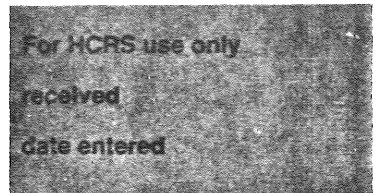
By the late 1850s Dr. Holt had become so immersed in his plantation interests that he had almost retired from the medical profession. However, he came out of retirement during a severe typhoid epidemic in 1857 and 1858. He was credited with yeoman work "in a mighty effort to eradicate the disease by hygienic regulations, clean wells, clean sheets, clean beds, removal of trash and filth, etc."<sup>22</sup> These efforts were only partially successful, however, and many people lost their lives during the epidemic, including a son of Dr. Holt's who died at the University. Dr. Holt remained a practicing physician during the Civil War, as he was one of only two physicians in the town.<sup>23</sup> Late in the war news reached Lexington that Union General Kilpatrick was approaching the town. Dr. Holt left for Linwood in an attempt to secure the plantation. His wife invited General Kilpatrick to use the Homestead as his headquarters, presumably so that the house would be spared looting. He used the house as a regimental headquarters for two months and "treated the family with every consideration." It is not known whether General Kilpatrick knew that the builder of the house was an ardent secessionist, nor is it known if he knew that the Holt family had lost three sons in the Confederate Army. It is known that the three Holt daughters living in the house at the time locked themselves in an upstairs room and refused to have contact with the soldiers.<sup>24</sup>

Dr. Holt died shortly after the conclusion of the war "broken in spirit and in health."<sup>25</sup> After his death by rheumatism on October 3, 1868 his family sold the vast Linwood estate. However, they kept the Homestead, and his widow lived there for many years. Most of Dr. Holt's fourteen children did not survive him. In addition to the three sons who died during the war, and the son who died of typhoid in 1858 several other children died of illness at a relatively young age. In 1869 Fannie Amelia Holt, second daughter of Dr. Holt and his second wife Louisa, married Charles A. Hunt, a Civil War veteran. The Hunts bought out the interest in the Homestead of Mrs. Hunt's two sisters and became the sole owners of the property.<sup>26</sup>

Charles A. Hunt went into business in Lexington as the proprietor of C. A. Hunt and Company, a profitable mercantile business. His partner in the business was Edwin Michael

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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



Continuation sheet    HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE    Item number    8

Page    4

Holt, the younger brother of Dr. Holt. Edwin Michael Holt was the founder of a prosperous Alamance County cotton mill business, and was the father of Thomas Holt, who became governor of the state in 1891. Holt was lieutenant governor when Governor Fowle died and served out the last two years of the term. In 1871 Amelia Lindsay Holt, Dr. Holt youngest daughter, married William Edwin Holt, a son of Edwin Michael Holt and her cousin.<sup>27</sup> This further united the two families. In 1885 Charles Hunt sold his mercantile business and he and William Edwin Holt built a cotton mill in Lexington.<sup>28</sup> The Wannonah Cotton Mills Company became "the greatest addition to the industrial life of the town" in the period after the war.<sup>29</sup> Hunt apparently kept his interest in Wannonah only a short time. In 1900 he joined with his son-in-law, George Mountcastle, in building Nokomis Mill. The mill remained prosperous throughout the life of Hunt, but is no longer in operation. Mrs. Hunt became well known in the community. For many years she was the organist of the Grace Episcopal Church. The present organ is a memorial to her. In 1899 Mrs. Hunt organized the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.<sup>30</sup>

During the latter part of the nineteenth century much was done to modernize the Homestead. The grounds were landscaped in 1882, while in 1892 light and water were added. A large colonial style porch was added to the house in 1900. A modern kitchen was built in 1912. From 1867 to 1892 the house hosted four weddings. The Hunts had six children. Four of these, Charles, Jr., Louise, Flora, and Camille lived to maturity. Mrs. Hunt died in 1920, while her husband died in 1925. Miss Camille Hunt continued to live in the house, keeping it in good repair and modernizing it when necessary. In 1949 Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow McKay bought out the other Hunt heirs and became sole owners of the homestead. Mrs. McKay, the former Frances Holt Mountcastle is the daughter of George and Louise Mountcastle, a grand-daughter of C. A. Hunt, and a great grand-daughter of Dr. Holt. She married Woodrow McKay in 1925. He served as Lexington's postmaster for many years, and was also active in that town's Chamber of Commerce.<sup>31</sup> The Homestead remains one of Davidson County's most significant historical homes.

The presence of such an ambitious and sophisticated house in this period in Davidson County is remarkable. With so little of Lexington's early fabric left, it is impossible to compare it with its context of the times, but it is clearly one of a small group of expensive and stylish early 19th century houses in the region. Holt, well-traveled, rich, and educated, knew the leading men--and builders of the region and state. Its hip roof, Ionic pilasters, and rich neoclassical detail suggest either the hand of a sophisticated builder or a client and/or artisan making unusually lavish use of architectural books such as those of Owen Biddle and Asher Benjamin and Minard Lafever.

There are a few features of the building--the hip roof, and especially the Ionic pilasters and columns--that suggest a connection with architect William Nichols, who had provided a design for a courthouse in Lexington in 1820s. Holt was on the committees to lay out the county seat town and build the courthouse and would have known Nichols; by 1834 when the Homestead is believed to have been built, he was gone from North Carolina to (Ala? Miss?), but it is possible that he had worked with Holt before leaving, or corresponded with him from the southwest, providing designs for interpretation by a local artisan. The connection is undocumented. The family recollection of a Charleston architect is noteworthy, but no strong



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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

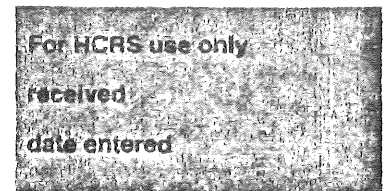
Item number 8

Page 5

candidates emerge from comparison with illustrations in Ravenel's Architects of Charleston. The combination of sophisticated elements with some rather unacademic renditions and unusual placements of decorative motifs (anthemions, bullseyes, etc.) gives the house its unique character and poses tantalizing questions about its authorship and its place in the cultural development of the community.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet      HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE      Item number 8

Page 6

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Samuel A. Ashe and others (eds.), Biographical History of North Carolina: From Colonial Times to the Present (Greensboro: Charles L. Van Noppen, 8 volumes, 1905-1917), VII, 172-173, hereinafter cited as Ashe, Biographical History; M. Jewell Sink and Mary Green Matthews, Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina (High Point: Hall Printing Company, 1972), 75-76, hereinafter cited as Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders. Michael Holt served in the State House of Commons in 1804 and the State Senate in 1820-1821.

<sup>2</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, VII, 172-174; Davidson County Deed Book 1, p. 425; Book 11, p. 190.

<sup>3</sup>Wiley D. Forbus, "The Science of Medicine and Its Relationship to Major Medical Administrative and Medical Service Facilities in North Carolina," in Dorothy Long (ed.), Medicine in North Carolina (Raleigh: The North Carolina Medical Society, 2 volumes, 1972), I, 53-55, hereinafter cited as Forbus, "The Science of Medicine." Forbus states that "it must be remembered that almost anyone, regardless of his education and experience, who offered his services to the sick was considered by the public to be a 'doctor.'" Thus Dr. Holt's medical degree set him apart from most the state's doctors.

<sup>4</sup>Forbus, "The Science of Medicine," 55.

<sup>5</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 173. W. S. Pearson, who wrote the sketch of Dr. Holt for Ashe wrote: "Indeed for high culture, Dr. Holt stood among the first of his contemporaries in North Carolina."

<sup>6</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 173. The five children were Elizabeth Allen, Elvira Jane, Louisa, Mary Gizeal, and John Allen.

<sup>7</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 174; Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 75. The nine children of Dr. Holt and his second wife were Louisa, Julia, Franklin, James, William Michael, Eugene Randolph, Claudia, Francis, and Amelia. Only the last three outlived their father.

<sup>8</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 174-178.

<sup>9</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 174-178.

<sup>10</sup>Ashe, Biographical History, 174-175.

<sup>11</sup>Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 120.

<sup>12</sup>Cornelius Oliver Cathey, Agricultural Developments in North Carolina, 1783-1860 (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press [Volume 38 of the James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science], 1956), 177, hereinafter cited as Cathey, Agricultural Developments in North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCERS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Item number 8

Page 7

<sup>13</sup> Cathey, Agricultural Developments in North Carolina, 177-178.

<sup>14</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Davidson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule.

<sup>15</sup> Camille Hunt, "The Homestead," Genealogical Sketch written in 1952 and printed in the Lexington Dispatch, November 27, 1975, hereinafter cited as Hunt, "The Homestead."

<sup>16</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 80, 405.

<sup>17</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 154.

<sup>18</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 82, 209; Ashe, Biographical History, 177-178.

<sup>19</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 40, 44, 401; Jacob Calvin Leonard, Centennial History of Davidson County, North Carolina (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1927), 33, 34, 37.

<sup>20</sup> Ashe, Biographical History, 177-179; Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 56. Dr. Holt attended Governor Morehead on the latter's deathbed in 1866. Governor Morehead died at Rockbridge Allum Springs in Virginia, supposedly speaking his last words to Dr. Holt.

<sup>21</sup> Ashe, Biographical History, 179-180.

<sup>22</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 85; Ashe, Biographical History, 176.

<sup>23</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead." The son who died during the epidemic was Franklin, age 19.

<sup>24</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead."

<sup>25</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead."

<sup>26</sup> Ashe, Biographical History, 179-180; Hunt, "The Homestead." Davidson County Deed Book 21, p. 144.

<sup>27</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead." Ashe, Biographical History, 181-185; Marjorie Young, Textile Leaders of the South (Columbia, S.C.: The R. L. Bryan Company, 1963), 101-104.

<sup>28</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead."

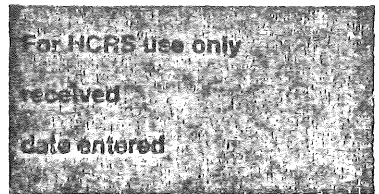
<sup>29</sup> Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 91.

<sup>30</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead"; Sink and Matthews, Pathfinders, 155, 290, 319; Winston-Salem Journal, February 23, 1925.

<sup>31</sup> Hunt, "The Homestead"; Sink and Matthes, Pathfinders, 341-342; Davidson County Deed Book 92, p. 257; Book 192, p. 269; Book 192, p. 438.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Item number 9

Page 1

- Ashe, Samuel, and others (ed.). Biographical History of North Carolina: From Colonial Times to the Present. Greensboro: Charles L. Van Noppen, 8 volumes, 1905-1917.
- Cathey, Cornelius Oliver. Agricultural Developments in North Carolina, 1783-1860. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press [Volume 38 of the James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science], 1956.
- Davidson County Deed Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: State Archives, Division of Archives and History.
- Forbus, Wiley D. "The Science of Medicine and Its Relationship to Major Medical Administrative and Medical Service Facilities in North Carolina," in Dorothy Long (ed.), Medicine in North Carolina. Raleigh: The North Carolina Medical Society, 2 volumes, 1972.
- Hunt, Camille. "The Homestead." Genealogical sketch written in 1952. Printed in Lexington Dispatch, November 27, 1975.
- Leonard, Jacob Calvin. Centennial History of Davidson County, North Carolina. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1927.
- Salisbury Evening Post. August 10, 1969.
- Sink, M. Jewell and Matthews, Mary Green. Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina. High Point: Hall Printing Company, 1972.
- United States Census Office. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. Davidson County, North Carolina. Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule. Microfilm copy. Raleigh: State Archives, Division of Archives and History.
- Winston-Salem Journal. February 23, 1925.
- Young, Marjorie. Textile Leaders of the South. Columbia, S.C.: The R. L. Bryan Company, 1963.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.117 acres

Quadrangle name West Lexington, N.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	7	5	6	7	0	8	0	3	9	6	4	1	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See plat map - property being nominated is outlined in red

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Drucilla G. Haley, Architectural Historian

Jim Sumner, Researcher

organization Survey and Planning Branch

Archaeology & Historic Preservation Sec. date April 9, 1981

North Carolina Division of Archives & History

street & number 109 East Jones Street telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

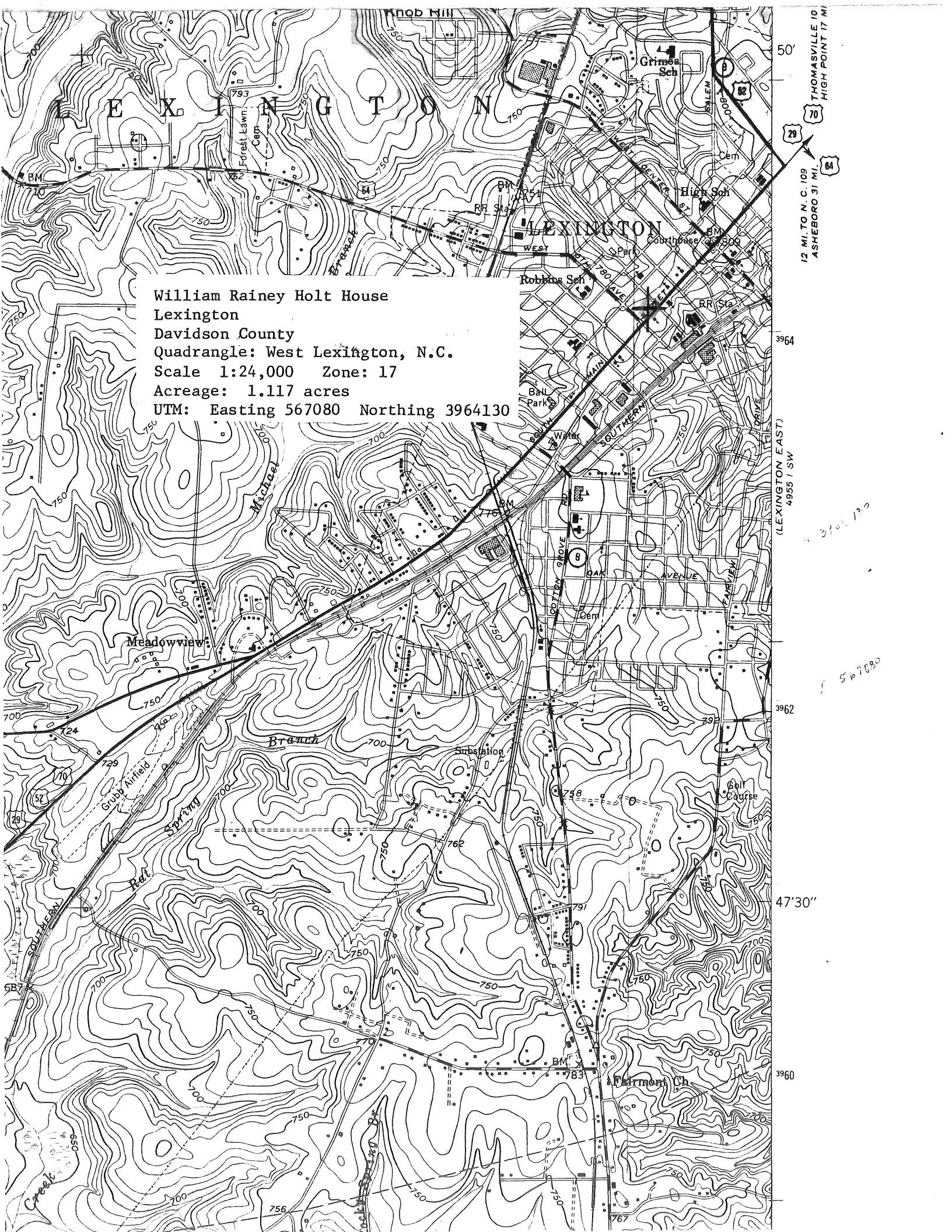
national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature William J. Pugh

title State Historic Preservation Officer date April 28, 1983

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	date
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	



William Rainey Holt House  
 Lexington  
 Davidson County  
 Quadrangle: West Lexington, N.C.  
 Scale 1:24,000 Zone: 17  
 Acreage: 1.117 acres  
 UTM: Easting 567080 Northing 3964130

50'  
 THOMASVILLE 10  
 HIGH POINT 17 M  
 70  
 29  
 64  
 12 MI. TO N. C. 109  
 ASHEBORO 31 MI.

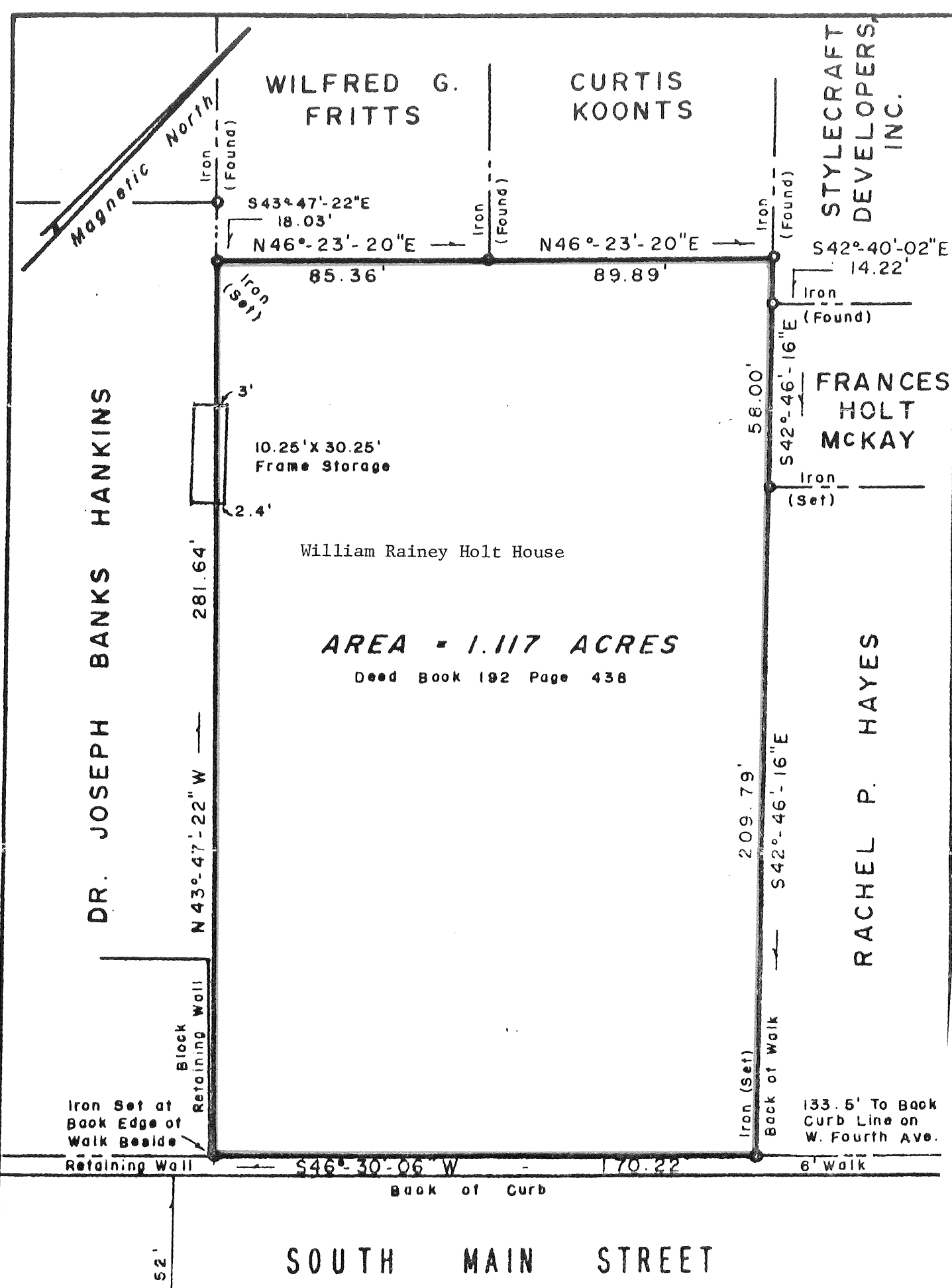
(LEXINGTON EAST)  
 4955 1 SW

3962

47'30"

3960

3105 120  
 567080



WILFRED G. FRITTS

CURTIS KOONTS

STYLECRAFT DEVELOPERS, INC.

DR. JOSEPH BANKS HANKINS

FRANCES HOLT MCKAY

RACHEL P. HAYES

William Rainey Holt House

10.25' x 30.25' Frame Storage

AREA = 1.117 ACRES

Deed Book 192 Page 438

Iron Set at Back Edge of Walk Beside Retaining Wall

133.5' To Back Curb Line on W. Fourth Ave.

SOUTH MAIN STREET

52'

Retaining Wall

Back of Curb

6' Walk

Magnetic North

Block Retaining Wall

Iron (Set) Back of Walk

N 43°-47'-22" W

281.64'

S 43°-47'-22"E

18.03'

N 46°-23'-20"E

85.36'

N 46°-23'-20"E

89.89'

S 42°-40'-02"E

14.22'

S 42°-46'-16"E

58.00'

209.79'

S 42°-46'-16"E

S 46°-30'-06" W

170.22'

Iron (Set)

Iron (Found)

Iron (Found)

Iron (Found)

Iron (Set)

Iron (Set)

