

# LANDMARK



# SURVEY

## IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 503 ~~West~~ Main Street  
Map and Parcel: 32-175  
Census Tract & Block: 1-308  
Present Owner: Timothy Reilly  
Address: 503 W. Main Street  
Present Use: Beauty School  
Original Owner: J. D. Paxton  
Original Use: Residence

## BASE DATA

Historic Name: Paxton Place (C.M.R.A.),  
Date/Period: cir. 1824  
Style: Federal  
Height to Cornice:  
Height in Stories: 2 1/2  
Present Zoning: B-3  
Land Area (sq.ft.): 52 x 210  
Assessed Value (land + imp.): 9460 + 2430 = 11,890

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This Federal detached house once stood on spacious grounds on the rural road that linked the University with the downtown area. It is a very good example of houses built in Charlottesville around 1825 and is similar in form to the Livers House at 1211 W. Main St. The two story structure is laid with a Flemish bond front terminating in the typical mouse-tooth brick cornice. The two interior chimneys on the western side of the house are connected by a curtain, characteristic of this period. The lunette window in the garret of the western wall is identical to that at 1211 W. Main. The triangular wooden door and window pediments are very similar to those at the Carter-Gilmer House. Its plan is unusual in that it was a side hall and three rooms deep accounting for the deep, shallow pitched roof form which allowed spacious garret rooms. Except for window and door architraves, the interior has been removed. A handsome late 19th century pressed tin ceiling is in the entrance hall.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Alexander reported a "handsome brick residence owned and occupied by John C. Wood, with the beautiful flower garden around it, was, we learned, built by a Presbyterian clergyman, when the University was being erected, by the name of Paxton". Paxton bought 33 acres in 1824 for \$3,035 from John Kelly, and probably built the house shortly thereafter. In 1854, J. D. Paxton sold the house and 1-1/2 acres of land to Melinda Digges (ACDB 52-385). In 1868 Mrs. John C. Wood purchased it from Mrs. Digges, and the deed referred to the property as the "Paxton Place", (ACDB 63-529). The house has had many owners and has served as the Shisler Funeral Home and the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge. In 1960 the present owner Thomas Watson purchased the property.

## SIGNIFICANCE

This is a fine example of the Federal style popular in the early 19th century. There are many similarities between this house and the one at 1211 West Main.

## CONDITIONS

Good

UTM: 17/720450/4212020

## SOURCES

Alexander, Recollections, p. 108  
City/County Records  
Mr. Thomas Watson

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 8 of 9

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area  
State Virginia

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. Enderly Servants' Quarters *Substantive Review*

Keeper BT

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*Reserve*  
72. C & A Ry Co.-Va. Public Service Co. *Substantive Review*

Keeper Regt Dubois 1/10/84

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*Reserve*  
73. Sparks-Garrett House *Substantive Review*

Keeper BT *CD* BT *BT* 1-10

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*✓* 74. Pitts-Inge *Substantive Review*

Keeper Linda McClelland

Attest 10-20-82

75. Wheeler House *Substantive Review*

Keeper Ret

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

76. Wheeler-Dyer House *Substantive Review*

Keeper Ret

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*77. Paxton Place* *Substantive Review*

Keeper Linda McClelland

Attest 10-21-82

*✓* 78. Hotel Gleason/Albemarle Hotel, Imperial Cafe *Substantive Review*

Keeper accept Patrick Andrews 8/10/83

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*Reserve*  
79. Holsinger-Thomas Building *Substantive Review*

Keeper Ret *CD* Ret 1-1000

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

80. Delevan Baptist Church

Keeper Linda McClelland

Attest 10-24-82

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Paxton Place (Charlottesville MRA) VIRGINIA

Working No. 9/7/82-2435

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.6.83

Date Due: 10/7/82 - 10/27/82

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10/21/82

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Good Ex. w good description  
and sufficient context*

Recom./Criteria Accept C

Reviewer L. McClelland

Discipline Arch Hist

Date 10/21/82

☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below  
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

### 1. Name

### 2. Location

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

### 4. Owner of Property

### 5. Location of Legal Description

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

### 7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

## **8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## **9. Major Bibliographical References**

## **10. Geographical Data**

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

## **11. Form Prepared By**

## **12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## **13. Other**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



*Architectural And Historic  
Survey*

*Graphics*



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000882