

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bartlett Yancey House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South side of U.S. 158, 0.3 mi. west of intersection with S.R. 1500

CITY OR TOWN:
Yanceyville vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

COUNTY:
The Hon. L. H. Fountain
Caswell

CODE:
033

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check one or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Allen Gwyn

STREET AND NUMBER:
635 Parkway Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN:
Reidsville

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Yanceyville

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

6. REFERENCE TO EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal
 State
 County
 Local

OFFICE BY WHICH SURVEY RECORDS:

SECTION AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Yanceyville

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North Carolina

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bartlett Yancey House, the result of three stages of nineteenth century construction, is composed of a Federal cottage built early in the century, a two-story L-shaped Greek Revival block added to the front of the original house in 1856, and a Victorian overlay of front and side porches added late in the century. The house, which occupies a spacious setting west of Yanceyville, is surrounded by the original smokehouse, a Federal period law office, and several log tobacco barns. East of the house is the Yancey family graveyard, enclosed by an ornate cast-iron fence.

The original one-story house, three bays wide and two deep, is covered by a steep gable roof of standing-seam tin which extends in the rear to cover two original shed rooms. The north (front) facade and the east side are obscured by the Greek Revival addition. The rear center bay is open as a recessed porch, with walls covered with wide flush horizontal sheathing. Some of the original exterior fabric remains: beaded siding, nine-over-nine sash windows, four-pane gable casement windows, molded architraves, boxed molded cornices with pattern boards, and beaded raking cornices. The west chimney, the only original chimney intact, has double stepped shoulders with a freestanding stack and molded cap; the brick is laid in random Flemish bond, with glazed headers forming vertical bands. The east side had two chimneys: the smaller rear chimney, laid in one-to-five common bond, now stands in ruins; the larger front chimney is an 1856 replacement. A frame basement bulkhead projects from the west side.

The interior hall-and-parlor plan of the Federal cottage has several interesting variations. The enclosed stair in the inside rear corner of the larger west room is accessible from the east room as well. The two rear shed rooms open off the recessed porch, which is reached through a door from the west room. The east shed room can also be reached by a door from the east room. The west room finish is virtually unaltered, consisting of a wainscot of raised vertical panels beneath a molded chair rail, plastered walls and ceiling, and a Federal mantel with fluted Doric pilasters. The east room wainscot has been altered, and the mantel is a simpler Federal design than the west mantel. The flat-paneled doors throughout the house are hung on HL hinges. The west shed room retains its original flush-sheathed wainscot with simple chair rail. The original finish of the east shed room and the two rooms in the attic has been altered.

The Greek Revival L-shaped addition is three bays wide and one bay deep, with a two-story wing extending from the rear east side which is built into the Federal cottage. The exterior fabric of the addition consists of plain siding, large two-over-two sash windows with wide molded architraves, louvered shutters, and overhanging eaves with a simple cornice and eave molding. The central entrance in the main (north) facade is a double door, flanked by symmetrically molded Doric pilasters and framed by sidelights and a transom set within a symmetrically molded architrave. Flanking this block are single stepped-shoulder exterior end chimneys of brick laid in common bond, identical to the rear east chimney. A hip roof of standing-seam tin covers the block. A one-story shed porch with turned posts and balusters and spindlework trim extends across the facade and partially around the east side. A three-bay one-story shed porch with

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Doric columns, perhaps a remnant of the porch original to this block, adjoins the Victorian porch on this side. At the juncture of the Federal house and the Greek Revival block on the west side is a smaller porch identical to the facade porch.

The front block follows a center-hall plan one room deep and the original trim is intact. Throughout this block are plastered walls and ceilings, wide symmetrically molded architraves and paneled corner blocks, high molded baseboards, flat-paneled doors and heavy mantels with swelling pilasters and friezes, flanked by arched wall niches. The east first-floor room and the hall have a wainscot with a simple chair rail, and the second floor rooms have dados plastered beneath simple chair rails. The open-string stair, which rises against the east wall of the wide hall, has a paneled spandrel and wave brackets in deep relief. The distinctive railing consists of a heavy newel post in the form of an "S" curve, slender plain balusters, and a shaped hand-rail. The large mantel in the west first-floor room, the most handsomely finished, has Ionic colonnettes supporting the frieze and shelf. The flanking round-arched niches are outlined by symmetrically molded architraves with fluted keystones.

The law office in the west rear yard, stylistically contemporary with the Federal cottage, is a one-story single-room frame building with a rise gable roof with eave treatment identical to the Federal house. Simple molded architraves surround the four-over-four sash windows and door openings. The interior is flush-sheathed, with simple molded chair rail and architraves and an enclosed stair in the southeast corner ascending to the left.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian! 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1810, 1856

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Federal cottage in which Bartlett Yancey lived throughout his short, brilliant political career, the interesting mid-nineteenth century addition to the cottage, and his law office form a monument to this prominent Caswell County native, who is buried in the family cemetery on the site. The interior plan of the original house and the vernacular woodwork of the addition--possibly by the noted local cabinetmaker Tom Day--are of strong local architectural significance.

Bartlett Yancey, one of Caswell County's most noted citizens, built his dwelling between 1808--when he settled at "Caswell Court House" to practice law and married Ann Graves--and 1814, the date of death of a son whose grave is the earliest interment in the family cemetery near the house. Yancey, who studied law under Archibald D. Murphey in Orange County, was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1807. He lived in this house until his untimely death in 1828, after rejecting several political appointments which would have called him from his native county: a Superior Court judgeship offered him in 1818, and an appointment as minister to Peru in 1826.

Bartlett Yancey is remembered chiefly for his outstanding service in the North Carolina Senate which began in 1817 following four years' service in the United States House of Representatives. Serving as speaker of the Senate from his first term to his death (a total of ten terms), he exerted his influence for the establishment of a state supreme court, the promotion of internal improvements, the creation of the first state fund for public education, and the reform of the state constitution. Bartlett, a liberal statesman, and his older brother James, who was prominent in local affairs, were so revered by their fellow Caswell County citizens that the name of the county seat was changed to Yanceyville in 1833 in honor of them.

The house, located between Country Line Creek and U.S. 158, the main road from Yanceyville to Greensboro, remained in the possession of Bartlett's widow, Ann, until her death on April 8, 1855; she willed it to her daughter Ann Elizabeth Yancey. Ann Elizabeth married Thomas J. Womack several months later, and the house became their residence. It appears that the Womacks expanded the house, for the rear east chimney, which was rebuilt when the front block was built, bears the date "1856".

Yancey's original dwelling, though small, is solidly built and one of

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the few remaining examples in the county of a Federal cottage with interior finish equal to that of large Federal plantation houses. The unique floor plan, consisting of a hall-and-parlor with an enclosed stair which can be entered from either room and a rear recessed central porch opening into shed rooms, is of particular interest. The 1856 Greek Revival addition is noteworthy for the individuality and awkward vitality of its woodwork, which is strikingly similar to the known work of Tom Day, one of North Carolina's most famous cabinetmakers. The voluptuous curve of the stair newel is echoed and balanced by the wave brackets of the open string. The Ionic pilasters of the parlor mantel are undercut to carry successfully the illusion of three-dimensionality. The attribution of this architectural trim to Tom Day is strengthened by the fact that Day had business associations with Ann Yancey, Bartlett's wife. The 1855 inventory of Mrs. Yancey's estate lists notes on Thomas Day to the sum of \$190, falling due between 1853 and 1855, and it is possible that Day executed this trim to pay off the note.

2. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research and architectural description by Ruth Little Stokes, survey specialist.
 Ashe, Weeks, Van Noppen. Biographical History of North Carolina, Vol. VII, Greensboro, North Carolina: 1908.
 Caswell County Estates Records. Estate Records of Bartlett Yancey, 1826. Inventory of Goods and Chattels, Ann Yancey, 1855.
 Caswell County Wills. Will of Ann Yancey, mother of Bartlett Yancey, died 1816. Original preserved in North Carolina State Archives. Will of Ann Yancey, wife of Bartlett Yancey, died 1855. Microfilmed in North Carolina State Archives, Book R, 329-332.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-----------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | 0 ' " | 0 ' " | | 36° | 24' | 56" |
| NE | 0 ' " | 0 ' " | | 79° | 21' | 51" |
| SE | 0 ' " | 0 ' " | | | | |
| SW | 0 ' " | 0 ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9.9 acres

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

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

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Survey and Planning Unit
 ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives and History
 DATE: 13 September 1973
 STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
 STATE: North Carolina
 CODE: 3

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: A. G. Jones
 Title: Director, Division of Archives and History
 Date: 13 September 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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Caswell County Marriage Bonds, M.B. 101, No. 354.
Caswell County Records, Caswell County Courthouse, Yanceyville, North Carolina,
Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Caswell County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North
Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).



