

Mail:
 City of Raleigh
 P.O. Box 590
 Raleigh, NC 27602

WAKE COUNTY, NC 75
 LAURA M RIDDICK
 REGISTER OF DEEDS
 PRESENTED & RECORDED ON
 01/07/2014 AT 09:32:30

BOOK:015551 PAGE:00116 - 00120

ORDINANCE NO. (2013) 252

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE MERRIMON-WYNNE HOUSE IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC LANDMARK

WHEREAS, the property located at 500 N Blount Street, Raleigh, NC, is owned by Heyens Holding Company NC, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission for the City of Raleigh and otherwise provided for the preservation of certain historic sites and buildings by the passage of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Development Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has made an analysis and recommendation that the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, on the 5th day of November, 2013, a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chamber of the Avery C. Upchurch Municipal Complex, Raleigh, before the City Council of the City of Raleigh and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes, preceding the adoption of this ordinance, have been complied with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

Section 1. The property designated as Merrimon-Wynne House, in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is declared a Raleigh Historic Landmark. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

The property located at 500 N Blount Street, Raleigh, NC, owned by Heyens Holding Company NC, LLC, that property described as Lot 1 in deed book 15320, page 331 recorded in Wake County Registry, comprising approximately .45 acres.

Section 2. Those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological and/or cultural significance or any combination thereof are as follows:

The 1875 two-story weatherboarded frame building and the approximately .45 acre upon which it sits. The main block of the Victorian Italianate style house is six bays long and five deep, with the main facade dominated by an off-center two-story gable projection. The roof consists of three cross gables. Just above the west, south, and northeast eaves runs a small scalloped cornice. The broad, overhanging eaves are built up from strips of ovalo, sciotta, and fillet moldings. The first and second story windows are full length, running from baseboard to ceiling. The main block segmental-arched sashes are trimmed with heavy molded cornices, chamfered hood molds, flat paneled spandrels, and projecting keystones with bosses. One of the most significant features of the exterior is the abundant ornamentation of the porches. The main porch, north of the west (front) projection, is three bays long and one bay deep. Three freestanding columns and two engaged columns rise from the strongly molded handrail of the pierced balustrade. The columns are chamfered rectangles enlivened by symmetrically placed bosses.

The Merrimon-Wynne House is significant as an excellent, intact local example of the Italianate residential style with very fine Eastlake detailing at the porch. It is one of the city's best examples of both the Italianate style and of Eastlake decoration. The Italianate style was popular in Raleigh in the 1870s and 1880s; Eastlake-style ornament was applied to a number of Victorian-era dwellings of various architectural styles in Raleigh in the same period.

A detailed architectural description and history is found in the 2013 Raleigh Historic Landmark designation application and report and is hereby referenced.

Section 3. No portion of the exterior features of any building, site, structure, or object (including windows, walls, fences, light fixtures, steps, pavement, paths, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be altered, restored, moved, remodeled, or reconstructed so that a change in design, material or outer appearance occurs unless and until a certificate of appropriateness is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Development Commission or its successors; provided however that the Raleigh Planning Director or designee may approve certificates of appropriateness for minor works as listed in the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission.

Section 4. No building, site, structure, or object (including walls, fences, light fixtures, steps, pavement, paths, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Development Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days has elapsed following final review by the Commission of a request for demolition (or any longer period of time required by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14 as it maybe amended hereafter); provided however, that demolition may be denied by the Raleigh Historic Development Commission in the event that the State Historic Preservation Officer determines that the building, site, or structure has statewide significance as provided by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14.

Section 5. The Raleigh Historic Development Commission shall have no jurisdiction over the interior features of the property.

Section 6. All owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence shall be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

Section 7. This ordinance shall be indexed after the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

Section 8. City administration and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have erected an appropriate sign on the site hereinabove described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic landmark by action of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh provided, should the owners of the hereinabove described property not consent to the erection of said sign on the described premises, City administration and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

Section 9. In the event any building, site, structure, or object designated by this ordinance is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 10. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Adopted: December 3, 2013

Effective: December 3, 2013

Distribution: Department of City Planning
Inspections Department
Raleigh Historic Development Commission
Wake County Tax Assessor
Property Owner and Occupant (if not the owner)
Registrar of Deeds



City Of Raleigh
NORTH CAROLINA

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF WAKE)

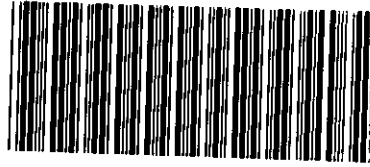
CERTIFICATION

I, Ralph L. Puccini, Assistant Deputy Clerk of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina,
do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of City of Raleigh
Ordinance No. (2013) 252 adopted December 3, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and have caused the Seal of
the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 3rd day of January, 2014.



Ralph L. Puccini
Assistant Deputy Clerk



BOOK:015551 PAGE:00116 - 00120



Please retain yellow trailer page

It is part of the recorded document and must be submitted with the original for re-recording.

Laura M. Riddick

Register of Deeds

Wake County Justice Center
300 South Salisbury Street, Suite 1700
Raleigh, NC 27601

New Time Stamp

\$25 Non-Standard Fee

Additional Document Fee

Additional Reference Fee

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_____ # of Time Stamps Needed

5 # of Pages
TE

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One Exchange Plaza
3rd floor
Raleigh, NC 27602
919-516-2626

www.raleighnc.gov/planning

Fee	<u>NA</u>
Amt Paid	_____
Check #	_____
Rec'd Date:	<u>7.25.13</u>
Rec'd By:	<u>TGT</u>
Completion Date:	_____

(Processing Fee: \$266.00 - valid until June 30, 2011 - Checks payable to the City of Raleigh.)

RALEIGH HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION APPLICATION

This application initiates consideration of a property for designation as a Raleigh Historic Landmark by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission (RHDC) and the Raleigh City Council. It enables evaluation of the resource to determine if it qualifies for designation. The evaluation is made by the Research Committee of the RHDC, which makes its recommendation to the full commission which in turn makes its recommendation to the City Council. Procedures for administration by the RHDC are outlined in the Raleigh City Code, Section 10-1053.

Please type if possible. Use 8-1/2" x 11" paper for supporting documentation and if additional space is needed. All materials submitted become the property of the RHDC and cannot be returned. Return completed application to the RHDC office at One Exchange Plaza, Suite 300, Raleigh or mail to:

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission
PO Box 829 Century Station
Raleigh, NC 27602

1. Name of Property (if historic name is unknown, give current name or street address):

Historic Name: Merrimon-Wynne House
Current Name: Merrimon-Wynne House

2. Location:

Street 500 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC 27604
Address: _____
NC PIN No.: 1704810330000
(Can be obtained from <http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/>)

3. Legal Owner of Property (If more than one, list primary contact):

Name: Heyens Holding Company, LLC (Jodi Heyens)
Address: 300 W. Hargett Street, Unit 426
City: Raleigh State: NC Zip: 27601-3017
Telephone No: (919) (906)-(1026) Fax No. () ()-()
E-Mail: jodi@merrimonwynne.com

4. Applicant/Contact Person (If other than owner):

Name: Cynthia de Miranda, MdM Historical Consultants for Raleigh Hist. Dev. Comm.
Address: PO Box 1399
City: Durham State: NC Zip: 27702
Telephone No: (919) (906)-(3136) Fax No. () ()-()
E-Mail: cynthia@mdmhc.com

5. General Data/Site Information:

Date of Construction and major additions/alterations:
1875, ca. 1910, 2008, 2013

Number, type, and date of construction of outbuildings: none

Approximate lot size or acreage: .45 acres

Architect, builder, carpenter, and/or mason:

Original Use: dwelling

Present Use: event venue

6. Classification:

A. Category (check all that apply):

Building(s) Structure Object Site

B. Ownership

Private Public Local State Federal

C. Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	1	0
Structures	0	0
Objects	0	0

D. Previous field documentation (when and by whom): Mary Alice Hinson, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1975. David Black, N. Blount Street HD, unsubmitted NRHP Nomination, 1977.

E. National Register of Historic Places Status:

Check One:

Entered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 1975	Nominated <input type="checkbox"/>
Determined Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> Date:	Determined Not Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
Nomination Not Requested <input type="checkbox"/>	Removed <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
Significant changes in integrity since listing should be noted in section 10.B. below.	

7. Reason for Request: To ensure preservation of architectural fabric; to reduce property tax burden.
8. Is the property income producing? Yes X No
9. Are any interior spaces being included for designation? Yes No X
10. Supporting Documentation (Attach to application on separate sheets. Please type or print):
- A. Photographs/Slides:
 At least *two sets of current exterior archival-grade photographic prints* (minimum print size 5"x7") of all facades of the building and at least one photo of all other contributing and non-contributing resources. If interior spaces of the property are being considered for designation, please include two sets of photos for these features. Prints may be created by using archival-grade black and white film photography and processing or digital photography. The minimum standard for a digital print is 5x7 at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (ppi). This translates into a pixel dimension of 1950 x 1350. Digital images must be printed with an acceptable ink and paper combination as determined by the National Park Service Go to: <http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolicy/index.htm>. All photographs must be labeled with the name of the structure, address and date the photograph was taken with pencil or archival-approved photo pen. In addition to prints, all digital images should be submitted on a CD-R in TIF format. Any additional exterior or interior views and views of other structures on the property (color, black and white, or slides) will be helpful.
- B. Boundary Map:
 Please include a map showing the location of the property. A sketch map is acceptable, but please note street names and number. Any other structures on the property should also be shown. Please include a "North" arrow. Map should be no larger than 11" x 17". A tax map with boundaries marked is preferred, which can be found at: <http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/>.
- C. Architectural Significance:
 Describe the property, including exterior architectural features, additions, remodelings, and alterations. Also describe significant outbuildings and landscape features. If the owner is including interior features in the nomination for the purpose of design review protection; describe them in detail and note their locations. Include a statement regarding the architectural significance of the property.
- D. Historic Significance:
 Note any significant events, people, and/or families associated with the property. Include all major owners. Note if the property has ever been recorded during a historic building survey by the City of Raleigh or by the NC State Historic Preservation Office. If so, who and when? (See application item 6.D.) Please include a bibliography of sources. Information regarding prior designations can be found by contacting the Survey and Planning Branch of the NC State Historic Preservation Office (NCSHPO) at 919-807-6570, 919-807-6573 or at: <http://www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us/spbranch.htm>.
- E. Special Significance Summary:
 Include a one to two paragraph summary of those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural importance.

A. Photographs: All photos taken July 14, 2013, by the author.



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view NE



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view E



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view N



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view NE



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view NW

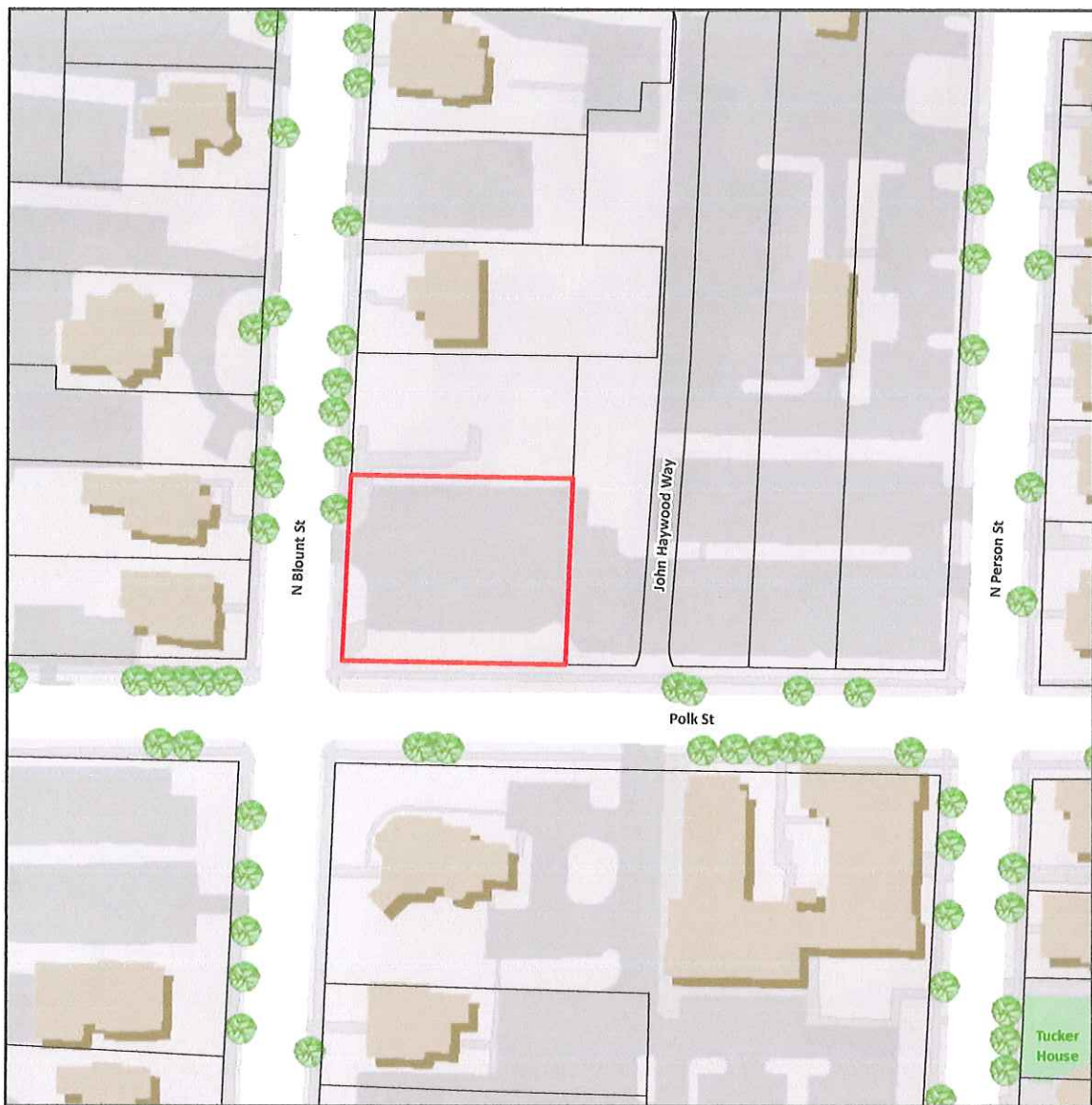


Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view W

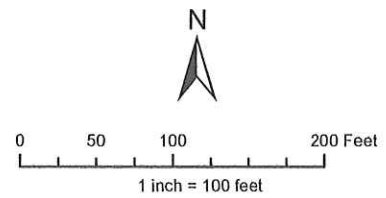


Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street, view S

B. Boundary Map



Merrimon-Wynne House, 500 N. Blount Street



Tax Map courtesy of City of Raleigh and Wake County iMaps System

C. Architectural Significance

The 1875 Merrimon-Wynne House at 500 N. Blount Street is an excellent, intact example of the Italianate style overlaid with Eastlake detailing. The house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975 as one of Raleigh's best Victorian-era dwellings and as the home of Augustus Summerfield Merrimon, a prominent political figure in post-Civil War Raleigh. The house was designated a Local Historic Landmark in 1976. Both designations were nullified by a 2008 move that relocated the house from 526 N. Wilmington Street, about a block away.

Property Description

The Merrimon-Wynne House stands in the midst of a historically residential corridor on N. Blount Street several blocks northeast the State Capitol. The area was semi-rural but within the city limits after the Civil War, when wealthy whites began building large dwellings in a number of architectural styles, including Second Empire, Italianate, and Queen Anne. The Merrimons' house originally stood on nearby N. Wilmington Street near the corner with Peace Street. It was moved to the northeast corner of N. Blount and Polk streets in 2008, joining a number of other houses moved from surrounding blocks to Blount Street parcels made vacant by demolition beginning in the 1970s. At its new location, the house stands in the heart of the Blount Street Historic District, a local historic district in Raleigh.

The Merrimon House National Register Nomination from 1975 describes the building. Excerpts are below.

The Merrimon House is a two-story weatherboarded frame structure in Victorian Italianate style. The main block is six bays long and five deep, with the main facade dominated by an off-center two-story gable projection. Attached to the rear is a one-story, irregularly stepped shed. The whole stands on regularly spaced thick rectangular piers of running bonded brick.

The roof consists of three cross gables covered with alternating bands of rectangular and imbricated slate. Just above the west, south, and northeast eaves runs a small scalloped cornice. The broad, overhanging eaves are built up from strips of ovolo, sciotta, and fillet moldings. They are supported by large rectangular chamfered modillions, each with an upper row of ovolo and fillet moldings, and a small raised panel end block. Two interior end chimneys pierce the roof, one straddling the ridgeline in the northwest corner, the other punctuating the side slope of the southeast gable. Both chimneys are of running bonded brick with identical, elaborately corbelled caps. In the northeast corner of the rear shed is an exterior brick chimney with a two-course stepped cornice.

The first and second story windows are full length, running from baseboard to ceiling. Most are four-over-four segmental-arched

sashes, although two-over-two sash occurs on the shallow sides of the two ground floor bays. The main block segmental-arched sashes are trimmed with heavy molded cornices, chamfered hood molds, flat paneled spandrels, and projecting keystones with bosses. Their bases are splayed outward in a series of pierced, strongly molded cyma reversa curves. The single round arched window, in the center of the first floor on the south, is similarly trimmed, although the spandrels are filled with tripartite foliate ornamentation. The bay windows are more simply framed, having chamfered unfluted pilasters capped by bulbous bosses. These windows stand on heavily molded, flat paneled bases with projecting plinths decorated with applied Greek crosses. The attic level windows, one pair to each elevation, are small rounded arches set within like-shaped trim.

One of the most charming features of the exterior is the abundant ornamentation of the porches. The main porch, north of the west (front) projection, is three bays long and one bay deep. Three freestanding columns and two engaged columns rise from the strongly molded handrail of the pierced balustrade. The columns are chamfered rectangles enlivened by symmetrically placed bosses. Heavily scalloped brackets with large turned pendants span the space between the splayed capitals and the porch ceiling. Between each pair of brackets is a broad semi-circular scalloped drop with a richly carved center sunburst. The north porch, running along the north side, is one bay longer and composed of identical elements. The main entrance is a double door surmounted by a single-light rectangular transom and flanked by broad sidelights.

The interior features a center-hall plan. The asymmetrical floor plan is double-pile on the south side and three rooms deep on the north side. Interior finishes include flat-paneled doors set into heavily molded architraves, an open-string stair with turned and reeded balusters, a molded handrail, and a hexagonal newel with four-sided cap. Each side of the cap shows a lion's head.

In the move to N. Blount Street, the Merrimon-Wynne House has been placed to reproduce its original setting. The house again faces west across a historically residential street and is just a block from its original location. The house was built on a two-acre parcel and stood farther back from the street than today's dominant setback pattern places it. It stood on a hill, overlooking the land around it, but was eventually surrounded by other dwellings set closer to the street, matching the setbacks seen currently. Today, the Merrimon-Wynne House occupies a nearly half-acre, flat parcel. The house has a large back lawn that fronts a newly built alley; residential development is planned for the alley, but the majority of the back lawn will remain. The house has a continuous brick foundation with brick piers at the distinctive front and side porches, which were moved intact. A ca. 1910 rear

addition and associated chimney (the third mentioned in the above description) was removed from the house and not relocated, but an apparently original single-story rear section remains. The above description remains otherwise accurate with the exception of the roof material, which is now asphalt shingle, and the stair newel cap, which lacks the lion-head motif.

Architectural Context

Amid the momentous changes to life and society in North Carolina after the Civil War came a significant shift in architectural style. Across the state, the post-war years brought the successful reintroduction of modes only rarely seen before, as well as an increase in applied ornament. Copious variations of the latter were presented in popular planbooks, which in the early years after the war focused on three residential styles: the Second Empire, the Gothic Revival, and the Italianate. The influx of country residents into cities in post-war North Carolina included the wealthy, and they built new dwellings in town and in the latest fashions. The Italianate style, very popular across the country, appeared in Raleigh in this period as well.¹

Characteristics of the Italianate style include an overall verticality expressed chiefly in tall windows, upright massing, and detailing that reinforces the long line. Molded window hoods and architraves highlight fenestration often elongated by segmental- or round-arched tops. Single-story Italianate dwellings are rare, and two- and three-story heights present the typical lofty Italianate stature. Roofs are generally low-pitched with broad, ornamented eaves. Italianate-style buildings sometimes feature a boxy cupola or slender squared tower.²

Wealthy Raleighites of this period built northwest of the State Capitol along N. Blount Street and on surrounding blocks, where some fine antebellum houses already stood. To the east, the new suburban—and more modest—neighborhood of Oakwood began to develop. The Italianate style occurred in both areas beginning in the 1870s, but with a difference. The Oakwood examples tend to be vernacular, middle-class dwellings with Italianate touches like bracketed eaves, segmental-arched windows, and modest window hoods. The finer houses of the Blount Street area are more fully realized examples of a number of architectural styles. A surviving Italianate example on N. Blount Street is the Andrews-Duncan House, more comparable to the Merrimon-Wynne House than are the simpler Italianates of Oakwood.³

¹ Catherine Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture*, portable edition, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005), 326-327; David Black, "North Blount Street Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination (unsubmitted), 1977, viewed July 22, 2013, at

² Virginia and Lee McAlester, *Field Guide to American Houses*, reprint (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000), 211.

³ Survey and Planning Unit, "Oakwood Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1974, viewed July 20, 2013, at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/WA0062.pdf>.

Alexander B. Andrews built his fine Italianate-style house at 407 N. Blount Street in 1874. It features two-and-a-half stories beneath a cross-gabled roof with deep, bracketed eaves. Segmental-arched windows occur singly, flanking paired sets of round-arched windows. Molded hoods highlight the fenestration, which includes an elaborate doorway with round-arched transom. The front porch, centered on three of the facade's five bays, features pairs and trios of chamfered posts with elaborately carved bases and caps. A heavy turned balustrade edges the porch. Two corbelled chimneys have fine brickwork, featuring recessed, round-arched panels that restate the style's verticality. Known today as the Andrews-Duncan House (NR and Local Landmark, 1972), it was designed by architect G.S.H. Appleget, recently relocated from New Jersey.⁴

Appleget also drew plans for the 1874 Italianate-style Estey Hall (NR and Local Landmark 1973) at Shaw University on S. Blount Street. Estey Hall, while not a single-family dwelling, shares some details with the Andrews-Duncan House, including the cross-gabled roof and segmental-arched windows accented by surrounds. Estey Hall stands a commanding four-and-a-half stories; corner quoins and a cupola reinforce the verticality of the brick building.⁵

The Merrimon-Wynne House compares very favorably to these two Italianate-style buildings. It is a high-style example that looks more formal than the Andrews-Duncan House, thanks to modillions rather than brackets at the deep eaves, the very heavily molded architraves at the lovely segmental-arched windows, and the bay windows at the north and west elevations. Irregular massing adds to the liveliness of the overall composition. Also notable are the identically detailed front and side porches, which include brackets, pendants, scallops, bosses, and sunbursts among the decoration. In addition to the fine Italianate feature of the house, this rich porch ornamentation at the Merrimon-Wynne House distinguishes it as among the city's best examples of Eastlake detailing.

Eastlake porches are seen along N. Blount Street and in Oakwood on both high-style and vernacular dwellings of several Victorian-era styles. The ca. 1882 Hawkins-Hartness House (NR, Local Landmark 1971) at 310 N. Blount Street has a finely detailed Eastlake porch. Its rich decoration is a foil for the stark angularity of the house, whereas the proliferation of ornament at the Merrimon-Wynne House is in keeping with the elaborately outlined windows, eave modillions, and scalloped cornice. The Strong-Stronach House at 411 N. Bloodworth Street in Oakwood, built before 1872 by Thomas Briggs, is a modestly detailed Italianate-style house with paneled chimneys, a bay window, and a bracketed cross-gabled roof. Its Eastlake porch is likewise plainer than that of the Merrimon-Wynne house, featuring widely spaced chamfered posts with decorative caps, carved panels at the balustrade, and a

⁴ Survey and Planning Unit, "Andrews-Duncan House," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1971, viewed July 21, 2013 at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/WA0003.pdf>.

⁵ Survey and Planning Unit, "Estey Hall," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1973, viewed July 20, 2013, at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/WA0014.pdf>.

plain porch fascia. The Gothic Revival Hoke-Broughton House at 426 N. Person Street in Oakwood, also built before 1872, has an Eastlake porch but also a later incompatible addition of stone sheathing. An Eastlake porch was added as a remodel to one of the three Second Empire speculative houses built by Andrew Heck in Oakwood between 1871 and 1875. Around 1883, the Stick Style Gray House at 530 N. Blount Street went up with chamfered porch posts and brackets on its Eastlake porch.⁶

The combination of the fine execution of both the Italianate-style house and the Eastlake porch detailing sets the Merrimon-House apart from all these examples. Alterations to the house have not detracted from its architectural integrity: early alterations were in the historic period and fit well within the architectural style and later additions to the building have been removed. The house is currently undergoing a extensive work that is being reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service as a certified historic rehabilitation.

Historic Significance

Augustus Merrimon, born in 1830 in Transylvania County, was a lawyer, judge, and Confederate Army officer before he moved to Raleigh in the 1860s. He established a law firm with Samuel Field Phillips and participated in state politics, becoming chairman of the executive committee of the state Conservative Party in 1868. In 1871, Merrimon and Phillips were directly involved in the impeachment trial of Republican Governor W. W. Holden; Merrimon was counsel for the impeachment's board of managers. He ran for political office and served in the U.S. Senate from 1873-1879, during which time he built his Raleigh house. Merrimon won appointment to the North Carolina Supreme Court in 1883 and from 1889 acted as the Chief Justice. He remained in that office until his 1892 death.⁷

Merrimon and his wife, Margaret Jane Baird Merrimon, purchased a two-acre parcel at the corner of Wilmington and Polk streets in 1874 from Merrimon's law partner Samuel Phillips. The 1872 bird's eye depiction of Raleigh published by C. Drie shows the parcel, which extended eastward to a mid-block alley or street and northward about three-quarters of the distance up to Peace Street. Fronting the mid-block roadway is a collection of one- and two-story buildings. Samuel Phillips had been appointed solicitor-general of the United States in 1872 and moved to Washington. The 1870 census, which showed Samuel Phillips and his family living in Raleigh's

⁶ Survey and Planning Unit, "Hawkins-Hartness House," National Register Nomination, 1971, viewed July 22, 2013 at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/WA0017.pdf>; "Oakwood" Nomination; Black, 7.3.

⁷ John Baxton Flowers and Mary Alice Hinson, "Merrimon House," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1975, viewed online July 3, 2013 at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/WA0031.pdf>; "Augustus Summerfield Merrimon," in the Biographies of Western North Carolina Leaders in the Western North Carolina Heritage Collaborative Database, viewed online July 3, 2013 at http://toto.lib.unca.edu/WNC_biography/merrimon_augustus_summerfield.htm; Maud L. Merrimon, *A Memoir* (N.p, n.d), 70; Robert Delmar Miller, "Samuel Field Phillips: The Odyssey of a Southern Dissenter," *North Carolina Historical Review* 58 (1981): 263-280.

East Ward census tract, listed the value of his real estate at \$2,000 and the value of his personal estate at \$3,000. In 1874, the Merrimons paid \$6,000 for the parcel and buildings.⁸

An item in the October 9, 1875, edition of the Raleigh *Daily Sentinel* notes that “work has begun on Senator Merrimon’s fine residence.” City directories from 1875 and 1881 list the family at “Wilmington nr Peace” and on “Wilmington between Polk and Peace.” The parcel was eventually assigned the address 526 N. Wilmington Street.⁹

In 1899, Margaret Merrimon and the executors of her husband’s will sold the house to Louisa “Lula” Brookshire Page, wife of Allison Francis Page of Cary. Page died around 1900 and Lula Page remarried J. Stanley Wynne. Lula Wynne remodeled the house between 1909 and 1914; those changes can be seen by comparing Sanborn maps.¹⁰

The earliest image of the house that has been identified is the footprint that appears in Raleigh’s 1903 Sanborn map. That shows the front and north porches intact, an additional small porch on the east end of the south elevation, and a two-story bay at the west end of the north elevation, fully protected under the porch. The house lacks the bay windows seen today at the west and south elevation. The 1903 footprint does show a single-story section at the back of the house that matches the single-story at the rear today. Also seen in the 1903 map is a single-story, freestanding “annex,” perhaps once a kitchen, immediately behind the house. The footprint in the 1909 Sanborn is unchanged, but the 1914 map shows a rear addition with an irregular plan. The two-story bay at the north side remains, but it has been expanded to the full depth of the porch, thereby dividing the full-width porch into two separate spaces. The shallow, single-story bays that survive at the west and

⁸ Samuel F. Phillips and wife to Margaret J. Merrimon, August 5, 1874, Wake County Deed Book 38, page 531, viewed July 18, 2013, at <http://services.wakegov.com/booksweb/PDFView.aspx?DocID=108453490&RecordDate=08/05/1874>; C. Drie, *Raleigh 1872 Bird's Eye View*. Viewed July 14, 2013 at <http://www.historicmapworks.com/Atlas/US/11233/Raleigh+1872+Bird%27s+Eye+View/>; Ancestry.com, *1870 United States Federal Census* [database on-line], viewed July 18, 2013, at http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?rank=1&new=1&MSAV=1&msT=1&gss=angs-g&gsfn=samuel+field&gsln=phillips&msypn_ftp=Raleigh,+Wake,+North+Carolina,+USA&msypn=21503&msypn_PInfo=8-0|1652393|0|2|3245|36|0|3009|21503|0|&cpxt=0&catBucket=rstp&uidh=5c3&c; J. H. Chataigne, *Chataigne's Raleigh City Directory 1875-1876* (N.p., [1875]), 92, viewed online July 8, 2013, at <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirwake/id/14816>; and Charles Emerson & Co, *Raleigh Directory 1880-1881* (Raleigh: Edwards, Broughton, and Company, 1881) 118, viewed online July 8, 2013 at <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirwake/id/11686>.

⁹ *Daily Sentinel* quoted in an addendum to the 1975 National Register of Historic Places Nomination form for the Merrimon House. The addendum page is in the survey file for the property at the State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh.

¹⁰ Margaret J. Merrimon, Lee S. Overman, and B. H. Merrimon to Mrs. Lula B. Page, 23 February 1899, Wake County Deed Book 153, Page 217, viewed online July 8, 2013 at <http://services.wakegov.com/booksweb/PDFView.aspx?DocID=108079051&RecordDate=04/01/1899>.

south elevations had been added by 1914, and the back porch on the south elevation had been replaced by a narrow, single-story room extending to the new bay at the west end of the elevation.¹¹

The Wynnes deeded their house to nearby Peace Institute in April 1919. Peace, a girls' school that evolved into Peace College and, very recently, the coeducational William Peace University, used the dwelling as a dormitory and later as the residence of the school's president. It was known during this period as Lula B. Wynne Hall or simply Wynne Hall. In the 1970s, the State of North Carolina purchased the house and used it for offices. In 2008, a state-selected development company acquired the property as a part of the larger redevelopment of the N. Blount Street area. The company moved the house to Blount Street in 2008. Current owner Heynes Holding Company, LLC purchased the property in 2013 and is redeveloping the dwelling into an events venue.¹²

E. Special Significance Summary

The Merrimon-Wynne House is significant as an excellent, intact local example of the Italianate residential style with very fine Eastlake detailing at the porch. It is one of the city's best examples of both the Italianate style and of Eastlake decoration. The Italianate style was popular in Raleigh in the 1870s and 1880s; Eastlake-style ornament was applied to a number Victorian-era dwellings of various architectural styles in Raleigh in the same period.

¹¹ Raleigh Sanborn Maps viewed July 14, 2013, at <http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/sanborn.html>.

¹² Flowers and Hinson; LNR Blount Street LLC to Heynes Holding Company LLC, June 17, 2013, Wake County Deed Book 15320, Page 331, viewed July 3, 2013 online at <http://services.wakegov.com/Booksweb/GenExtSearch.aspx>.

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