

ORDINANCE NO. 1979-217

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY OF STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA LOCATED AT 705 BARBOUR DRIVE IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC PROPERTY

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

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a Historic Property; and

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

WHEREAS, on the 4th day of September, 1979, a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, Raleigh, North Carolina, by the Historic Properties Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic property; and

WHEREAS, said hearing was advertised and the property owners of the property hereinafter described were notified by mail of the date and purpose of said public hearing at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for the hearing; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 3B, Article 19, Chapter 160A 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 THAT:

Section 1. The property of State of North Carolina located at 705 Barbour Drive, in the planning jurisdiction in the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is hereby declared a historic property. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

Spring Hill/Theophilus Hunter House, being approximately 42' x 60', (Building only) (Dorothea Dix Hospital).

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

SPRING HILL/THEOPHILUS HUNTER HOUSE, c. 1915  
705 Barbour Drive

Built c. 1815 by Theophilus Hunter, son of Colonel Theophilus Hunter and Jane Lane Hunter, this frame, two-story Georgian-style house is a rare survivor from the early years of Raleigh's history. Once the center of an extensive plantation, Spring Hill housed several generations of Hunters who were active in local and State affairs. Major renovations about 1900 involved the removal of two fireplaces in the living room and one in the dining room with the addition of a new fireplace in the living room where an original outside entrance had been located.

Section 3. No building or structure that is designated in this ordinance located on the hereinbefore described site 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 Properties Commission or its successors.

Section 4. No building or structure which is designated in this ordinance on the hereinbefore described site may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission or, after the Commission has received a completed request for demolition, one-hundred and eighty (180) days have elapsed.

Section 5. That all owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be indexed under the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

Section 7. City administration and the Historic Properties 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 property by action of the Historic Properties 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 Historic Properties Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

Section 8. In the event any building or structure is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 9. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Adopted: 9/4/79

Effective: 9/4/79

CCLK/34tp

Distribution: City Manager  
City Attorney  
Planning Department (2)  
Inspections Division (3)  
Historic Properties Commission  
Wake County Tax Supervisor  
Wake County Tax Collector  
Property Owner and/or Occupant  
Register of Deeds

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF WAKE )

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CERTIFICATION

I, Gail G. Smith, City Clerk and Treasurer of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of Ordinance No. (1979) 217 adopted by the City Council at their meeting held on September 4, 1979.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Seal of the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 30 day of November, 1979.



*Gail G. Smith*  
Gail G. Smith  
City Clerk and Treasurer

Filed for registration at 3:15 P.M. o'clock 3 day of November 1979,  
and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wake County,  
in Book 2791, Page 106 December 3, 1979.

R. B. MCKENZIE, JR.

*James S. Johnson*  
Register of Deeds

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 Spring Hill

and/or common Theophilus Hunter House

## 2. Location

street & number 705 Barbour Drive \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Raleigh \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Wake code 183

## 3. Classification

|                                               |                                            |                                                     |                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Category</b>                               | <b>Ownership</b>                           | <b>Status</b>                                       | <b>Present Use</b>                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)          | <input type="checkbox"/> private           | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input type="checkbox"/> park                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both              | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input checked="" 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             |
|                                               | <u>N/A</u>                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military    |
|                                               |                                            |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> religious              |
|                                               |                                            |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific             |
|                                               |                                            |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation         |
|                                               |                                            |                                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:      |

## 4. Owner of Property

name State of North Carolina

street & number 305 Barbour Drive

city, town Raleigh \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state North Carolina

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wake County Courthouse

street & number Fayetteville Street

city, town Raleigh \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state N. C.

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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|                                          |                                       |                                             |                                                   |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Condition                                |                                       | Check one                                   | Check one                                         |
| <input 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 date _____         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |                                             |                                                   |

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

Spring Hill stands on three acres of the highest knoll at the rear of the Dorothea Dix Hospital property on one of the highest land elevations in Raleigh. It has an impressive view of the hospital campus and the heart of Raleigh in the distance. Located at the corner of Umstead Drive and Barbour Drive on a level area, it is set off by a number of trees. In the south corner, located near the back fence boundary, is Colonel Theophilus Hunter's grave.

When built (1816-1820), the house was surrounded by a plantation of 2,500 acres. Slave houses were located at some distance to the west of the house. A small garden storage house in the rear yard is all that remains of the outbuildings.

The two-story rectangular frame house with one-story rear wing is of late Georgian style. It stands on a high foundation of heavy stones and mortar with brick piers; most of the foundation is original, but several portions of the rear wing foundation have been replaced with brick and cement block. The rear wing originally adjoined the smaller late 18th century home of Colonel Hunter, no longer in existence.

The Georgian elements of the exterior include the molded siding still intact and the three-part molded window frames with robustly molded sills. The exterior is painted one of the original colors. The house originally had a two-story porch across two thirds of the front facade with doric columns. There were three exterior chimneys, two on the south end and one on the north end. The house had a plain gable roof. There was an entrance on the south side between the chimneys, a small porch at the rear leading to the entrance hall and another narrow porch and entrance along the south side of the rear wing. The front entrance has the original heavy double door frame. The door sill and the double doors with five lights above are not original.

Over the years, extensive changes have been made. The first renovation took place after the State acquired the property in 1908 and was in the classic interpretation of the Colonial Revival popular in the early 1900s. The house is a hybrid of two not dissimilar styles: the traditional late Georgian vernacular form of the early 19th century, and the conservative Colonial Revival of the early 20th century. Much of the original character of the house is intact: its basic form of two stories high and one room deep beneath a gable roof; the plan with a central passage and two flanking rooms that dominated substantial construction in the period; and the construction and craftsmanship of its stone foundation, heavy mortise and tenon frame; handsomely molded window frames and sills and door frames and molded siding; and fine pine flooring.

The principal alterations came in 1908, when Raleigh was abandoning the variety and ornateness of the Queen Anne and other eclectic modes for the simplicity and familiar classicism of the Colonial Revival style. For many North Carolinians, the Colonial Revival represented a highly symbolic value statement not unrelated to political and racial events of the early twentieth century and a clear return to older values. The News and Observer of June 6, 1907, proclaimed that the city had "'Found Herself' Architecturally," and was "Replacing Mistakes" of past decades' "atrocities" of "over-pretension" with buildings of more appropriate taste and simplicity, many of them of "Colonial design." There was increasing interest in the city's older buildings, including the modest early 19th century Andrew Johnson Birthplace and the massive Capitol. Within a few years the Colonial Revival, along with the bungalow, would dominate residential construction, and both would be executed in conservative fashion.

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The renovation of the Theophilus Hunter, Jr., House came in the midst of this change in taste. The changes, chiefly functional in nature, were no doubt seen as in the same basic style as the original house. The alterations included removal of the chimneys; addition of dormers and extension of the roof, replacement of some windows in essentially original form, and insertion of several mantels in the simply decorated Colonial Revival style. The resulting house was a hybrid of two eras of conservative architecture, the latter drawing on the former.

The upper porch was removed. The door to this porch was replaced with a double window alcove projection. A new roof was put on the lower porch and the original porch foundation of stone replaced with brick and the lower portion of the porch columns enclosed in brick.

The roof was replaced with slate and extended on the gable ends. Three dormer windows in front were installed in the roof, two single and one double dormer in the center. At the same time the two exterior chimneys and corresponding four interior fireplaces were removed. On the south end, the fireplaces were replaced with windows made like the original windows and the outside entrance between the fireplaces replaced with a fireplace and interior chimney coming up through the roof.

During the late 1920s or early 1930s the small back porch behind the center hall was enlarged and extended to the kitchen wing and enclosed, the outside cellar stairs under this porch covered and a bathroom and closet built over this new room. During this same period, the corner fireplace in the dining room was removed as well as the fireplace in the largest bedroom upstairs.

In 1960, the house was further renovated. A cement floor replaced the wooden front porch floor and heavy doric columns replaced the old columns. At this time, the double front doors were replaced. In the rear, a large screened porch was constructed between the enclosed back porch and the south side of the kitchen wing.

In 1980, to bring the house into conformity with a State law for public use, a cement ramp, or handicapped ramp, with brick pillars connected by double metal rails was built to the back porch door.

The interior of the main house follows a center hall plan one room deep. The rooms are spacious with high ceilings. All the walls in the two-story section are plaster on wooden lathes.

Windows have wooden pegged frames and are constructed with three molded parts, a beaded board, the applied molded backboard and the sash windows have nine lights. All interior door frames are of similar character. The interior six-paneled natural finish doors are reproductions. The baseboards are six-inch boards topped with one-half-inch round molding.

The first-floor original pine floors were covered with hard wood floors in 1919-20 and were replaced again in 1960 except for the kitchen wing. New pine floors were laid there about 1930.

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The fireplace in the living room is framed in brick. The Colonial Revival mantel of early 1900s, backboard and frame, is supported by Ionic columns on a wooden base. The backboard of the mantel is crowned with turned decorative molding and two carved garlands at either end. The board beneath the mantel has a carved decorative medallion. The high mantel and narrow shelf are said to be from one of the original fireplaces.

The stairs to the second floor turn after four steps to ascend from rear to front. The original cellar inside stairs descended from the pantry. The present cellar stairs were probably installed in 1908. At that time the original cellar stairs were covered over, and the resulting room became a closed pantry and in the 1930s was converted to a bathroom. The rear wing had a kitchen off the pantry and a bedroom behind that.

In the 1960 renovation, the partition between the kitchen and bedroom was removed, replaced by counters, making one room, a kitchen/dining room. A closet was constructed in the open pantry between the kitchen and dining room. A closet which had been constructed in the 1930s along the dining room wall between the hall door and the front wall has since been removed.

At the same time the enclosed back porch was paneled and used as a utility room. It had been a kitchen since the 1930s. This now is used as a storage area.

The second floor has one large bedroom on the north, the depth of the house, now used as a Volunteer Guild Office. The original fireplace was located between the two north windows, noted by the piecing of the floorboards and seams in the plaster.

Probably in the early 1900 renovation when the double window alcove was made in the wide central wall, a closet was added on the south side of the alcove, and at the same time, a partition was made along the long inner wall of the large bedroom forming a front hall closet and a rear bedroom closet.

Two smaller bedrooms (now Volunteer Services Offices) are across the hall opposite the large bedroom. Patching in the floorboards of these rooms denote former locations of fireplaces which were replaced by windows. All other upstairs windows, with the exception of the bathroom, are original. The original wide pine flooring may be seen in the bedrooms, and T-headed nails are also visible in some of the boards.

Underneath the second-story floors the beams are 16" x 16" with holes at intervals. It is said pegs were inserted in these to prevent the beams from sagging.

The attic can be entered through a small access door in the ceiling of the upstairs center hall. A narrow section is floored from the opening to the rear. There is some insulation between the 14" handhewn ceiling joists. The wooden truss roof construction can be observed. The main members of the roof truss are 4" x 10" and may have been added when the slate roof was put on, on the south end. The brick interior chimney from the parlor below extends through the attic. The front dormers and vents on gable ends can be seen.

The cellar is excavated under the center hall, dining room, pantry, and former back porch. There is a crawl space of dirt under the parlor and kitchen wing. A cement floor was poured over the dirt floor in later years and over former exterior and interior cellar stairs.

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The original foundation stones can be clearly seen as can the original pine flooring under the present parlor floor.

The large beams, siding and boards for the house were cut by Hunter slaves at the sawmill on the plantation, which was located near Lake Raleigh.

In the large center beam under the hall/dining room wall, one can see wooden pegs and Roman numerals carved into the beam at intervals, marking the location of studs. T-headed nails can be seen in beams under the kitchen wing. Some beams have been replaced with steel over the years. Whitewash marks are still seen on older beams as well as handwrought hooks hanging from some beams.

The foundation base for the former dining room corner fireplace is present. Marks in the beams above this denote the location of the foundation sand cradle. A bake oven was located near this fireplace but was removed in the 1930s to repair beams and sills there. Steam and water pipes for heating enter the cellar through the ground under the foundation and then are run along the ceiling.



# 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture            | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature                     | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699            | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                          | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce               | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy                     | <input type="checkbox"/> theater            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900–                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications         | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation     |
|                                               |                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)    |

**Specific dates** ca. 1820, 1908      **Builder/Architect** None

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

Spring Hill, a traditional two-story frame house sited atop a hill overlooking Raleigh, was built as the plantation house seat of Theophilus Hunter, Jr., about 1820. Hunter, a member of an old and established Wake County family, was a prominent Raleigh business and civic leader, and the house was the scene of a lively social and family life. Part of his plantation was sold as the site of the first State Hospital for the Insane in 1850, but the house and surrounding land remained in residential use through the nineteenth century. In 1907 the house was bought by the State and remodeled in conservative Colonial Revival fashion for use of Dorothea Dix Hospital staff, and it has served the hospital through the present century. It remains one of a tiny number of early 19th century houses in the present city of Raleigh, and the chief reminder of the role of the Hunter family in Raleigh's early life.

**Criteria Assessment:**

- A. Associated with early political and agricultural life in Wake County and Raleigh as one of the few surviving early 19th century farm seats that once stood near the small capital city.  
  
Associated since 1907 with the social services administered to the insane at the Dorothea Dix Hospital, the state's oldest and principal institution for the insane.
- B. Associated with the locally prominent Theophilus Hunter, Jr., a business, political, and civic leader, and a member of one of the principal early families of Wake County.
- C. Embodies an interesting blend of early 19th and early 20th century architectural elements: the basic frame, form, and much of the finish of the house compose one of a small number of traditional early houses in Wake County, with its two-story form and late Georgian detail; the principal alterations, executed in a Colonial Revival mode, date from ca. 1907 when the house came into hospital use and demonstrate the use of the Colonial Revival style, here combined with early work of not dissimilar character.
- D. The site may contain archaeological remains of the early and mid-19th century farming life, and possibly vestiges of various periods of social services activity.

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Spring Hill is located on the Dorothea Dix Hospital Grounds, property originally owned by Theophilus Hunter, an early leader in Wake County and Raleigh. Colonel Hunter accumulated much land in Wake County as well as in Cumberland County. He was the owner of Hunter's Lodge, a tavern located near the present intersection of U. S. 70-E and 401-S, where, in 1771, the army of Governor William Tryon made a rendezvous with Wake County troops under Colonel John Hinton, on their way to quell an insurrection of the Regulators at Alamance Creek. A description of this military assembly is found in a letter written to Governor Tryon in New Bern by Richard Caswell, head of the Militia.<sup>1</sup>

This tavern was destroyed by fire in the 1770s and Colonel Hunter built a home on the highest knoll of his property and named it Spring Hill because of a spring at the foot of the hill. This spring has been filled in in recent years and was located just to the west of the present landfill area.

Theophilus Hunter was one of the prominent early leaders in Wake County and the City of Raleigh, and when Wake County was formed in 1770, he was one of seven commissioners appointed to determine the county boundaries and locate the county seat, courthouse and jail.<sup>2</sup> He served as the presiding judge in the first County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions June 4, 1771,<sup>3</sup> as a Lt. Colonel in Wake County Militia, as Wake County Representative to the N. C. House of Commons, 1783 session,<sup>4</sup> and as Raleigh City Commissioner in 1795.<sup>5</sup> He was the first county surveyor<sup>6</sup> and the first county tax assessor.

A large landowner in Wake County, owning not only over 2,900 acres in the county but several lots in the City of Raleigh, he maintained a city office on Lot 82 on Fayetteville Street. Colonel Hunter and James Bloodworth each donated one-half a lot for the courthouse and jail, and the Wake County Courthouse is still located on this spot.<sup>7</sup>

Colonel Hunter died in 1798 and was buried in a clump of cedars near the present house. His grave is the oldest marked grave in Raleigh, having been designated by a marker provided by the U. S. War Department in recognition of his Military record. The marker was unveiled at a memorial<sup>8</sup> conducted by the Caswell Nash Chapter of the D.A.R., May 5, 1940.

He willed to his sons, Henry and Theophilus, his properties in Wake County extending from Walnut Creek west almost to present day Cary as well as other property in the county and city.<sup>9</sup> Henry inherited the house and surrounding property, and Theophilus the lands adjoining. Henry died intestate in 1810 leaving as heirs, his wife Ann and two young sons. Theophilus, Jr., and Henry Seawell were appointed by the court administrators of the estate and Theophilus, Jr., was also appointed

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guardian of the children. Ann subsequently married Simmons I. Baker in 1814 and in 1816 Ann and Mr. Baker petitioned the court for her dower right, one third of the property and the Mansion house. The request was denied.<sup>10</sup>

There is no record of property transfer for the original "Spring Hill" residence of Colonel Hunter. In the 1820s a number of Wake County deeds were destroyed by fire. An early painting of Spring Hill shows the original home attached by a room or rooms to the residence later built by Theophilus Hunter Jr.<sup>11</sup> It would seem that the earlier house and property were acquired from Henry's estate.

Theophilus, Jr., built the present larger house after May 1816, and before 1821 since the Raleigh Register and North Carolina Gazette noted the marriage of Hunter's daughter, Sara, to Robert McCauley on November 7, 1821, at Spring Hill.

Theophilus Hunter, Jr., known as "Orphy", a lawyer as well as a wealthy plantation owner, managed his property well. He loved to hunt and was a gracious host. Since he was the head of a large family consisting of one son and six daughters and a number of grandchildren, his home was the center of much activity. In addition, he was a respected business and civic leader in Raleigh, a Director of the State Bank, one of five commissioners appointed to oversee the building of the Governor's Mansion,<sup>12</sup> and a Councillor of State elected by the General Assembly of 1804.<sup>13</sup>

"Orphy" died in 1840, his wife having preceded him in death, and both are buried near his father's grave. He left a considerable estate of over 5,000 acres of land, most of it in Wake County, a number of Raleigh city lots and 57 slaves plus other interests.<sup>14</sup>

Spring Hill and the 2,500 acres surrounding the home were willed to his three then unmarried daughters with the stipulation that the house could not be sold as long as one of the daughters remained unmarried. Two of the daughters married. The three sisters divided the property,<sup>15</sup> and a later deed included the house in Emma Hunter's property.<sup>16</sup>

Maria Louisa Hunter Hall received the middle tract and in 1850 sold 50 acres for \$527 to the North Carolina State Commissioners for the establishment of the first State Hospital for the Insane.<sup>17</sup> This land was located southwest of Raleigh near the present Boylan Avenue, and the first building of the Hospital for the Insane in North Carolina was erected on this property.

After the death of Emma Hunter in 1863, the Spring Hill tract, including the house and 149 acres, was sold in 1864 to William High, the Sheriff of Wake County, for \$20,500.<sup>18</sup> He and his family of seven children lived there until 1872 when the family moved to California.

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In 1872 William Grimes, a wealthy planter and businessman, purchased Spring Hill (he had already acquired over 600 acres of the Hunter property nearby)<sup>19</sup> and the residence was used as a summer home by his family until 1907. At that time, the State purchased the property from his widow and remodeled it.<sup>20</sup>

Spring Hill has been occupied since 1907 by various members of the staff, doctors, nurses, and attendants of Dorothea Dix Hospital and has been remodeled several times, once after the State acquired the house and again in 1960 when it was changed back into a single residence for a staff member. The smaller house at the rear was moved at some time and was later destroyed. (See Architectural Description - Section 7)

Recent Preservation Activities

In 1976 the house was occupied by the Hospital Volunteer Services and the Dorothea Dix Volunteer Service Guild, an independent non-profit patient support organization. It is functioning as an adaptive, museum house for staff, patients, and volunteers. The community inservice education meetings, workshops, hospital and historical tours, guild meetings, patient cultural programs and social events are held there. In 1982 an historical exhibit of Dorothea Dix Hospital and memorabilia of the hospital were placed in the house. Two rooms are furnished in appropriate periods, the Theophilus Hunter Room (Parlor) and the Dorothea Dix Room, the dining room.

In late 1982 plans were proposed by the State to change the functions of the hospital campus. In 1983 a number of proposals for the hospital and campus will be considered by a special committee appointed by the governor. Concern over the future of the Theophilus Hunter House and grave and the historical record and memorabilia of the hospital prompted citizens of the city and county to request this application and the N. C. Department of Human Resources and hospital officials are in agreement.

Preservation of the Theophilus Hunter House, adequate maintenance, and accessibility to the public are the goals of the hospital and the citizens.

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- 1 Heck, Charles; "Documents of Early North Carolina and Establishment of Raleigh as Capitol", Plate VI, February 20, 1771.
- 2 Battle, Kemp P.; N. C. Booklet, "Raleigh and the Old Town of Bloomsbury", Raleigh, N. C., 1902, Volume II, 7.
- 3 W.P.A. Writer's Program; Raleigh, Capitol of North Carolina, New Bern, N. C., 1942, 133.
- 4 Ashe, Samuel and Others (eds.); Biographical History of North Carolina from Colonial Times to Present, (Greensboro, N. C., C. L. Van Nappen, 8 Volumes, 1905-1917), Volume IV, 218-220.
- 5 Heck, Charles; "Documents of Early North Carolina and Establishment of Raleigh as Capitol", Plate XIV, 1794.
- 6 Heck, Plate XV, 1808.
- 7 Chamberlain, Hope; History of Wake County, Raleigh, N. C., 1922, 75.
- 8 News and Observer, Raleigh, N. C. May 5, 1940.
- 9 Wake County Book of Wills, Book Four, 256.
- 10 Wake County Court Minutes, 1816-1819, May Term, 126.
- 11 Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson; North Carolina's Capitol, Raleigh, Raleigh, N. C., 1967, Raleigh Junior League and Raleigh Historic Sites Commission, 1967, 33.
- 12 Swain, David; Early Times in Raleigh, Raleigh, N.C., 1867, 13.
- 13 N. C. Manual; N. C. Historical Commission for the Use of the General Assembly, Edited by R.D.W. Connor, Raleigh, N. C., 1913, 428.
- 14 Wake County Book of Wills, Book 24, 427.
- 15 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 16, 308.
- 16 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 17, 72.
- 17 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 43, 376.
- 18 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 24, 411.
- 19 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 33, 310.
- 20 Wake County Book of Deeds, Book 219, 241.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3.0 acres

Quadrangle name Raleigh West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

|      |   |         |   |   |   |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1    | 7 | 7       | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8        | 0 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| 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** Beginning at the southwest corner of Umstead and Barbour Drives, follow service drive west 353 feet to fence. From that point continue southeast for 610 feet along the fence, then northeast for 60 feet, turn north for forty-two feet and from that point northeast along the service drive to Barbour Drive, continuing northwest 348 feet along Barbour Drive to the starting point.

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 Mrs. Marjorie L. O'Rorke, Chairman, Spring Hill House Committee

organization Dorothea Dix Volunteer Service Guild date March 1, 1983

street & number 705 Barbour Drive telephone (919) 733-5454

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina

## 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 S. Pile

title State Historic Preservation Officer date Nov. 8, 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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

received

date entered

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet    Bibliography    Item number    9    Page    1

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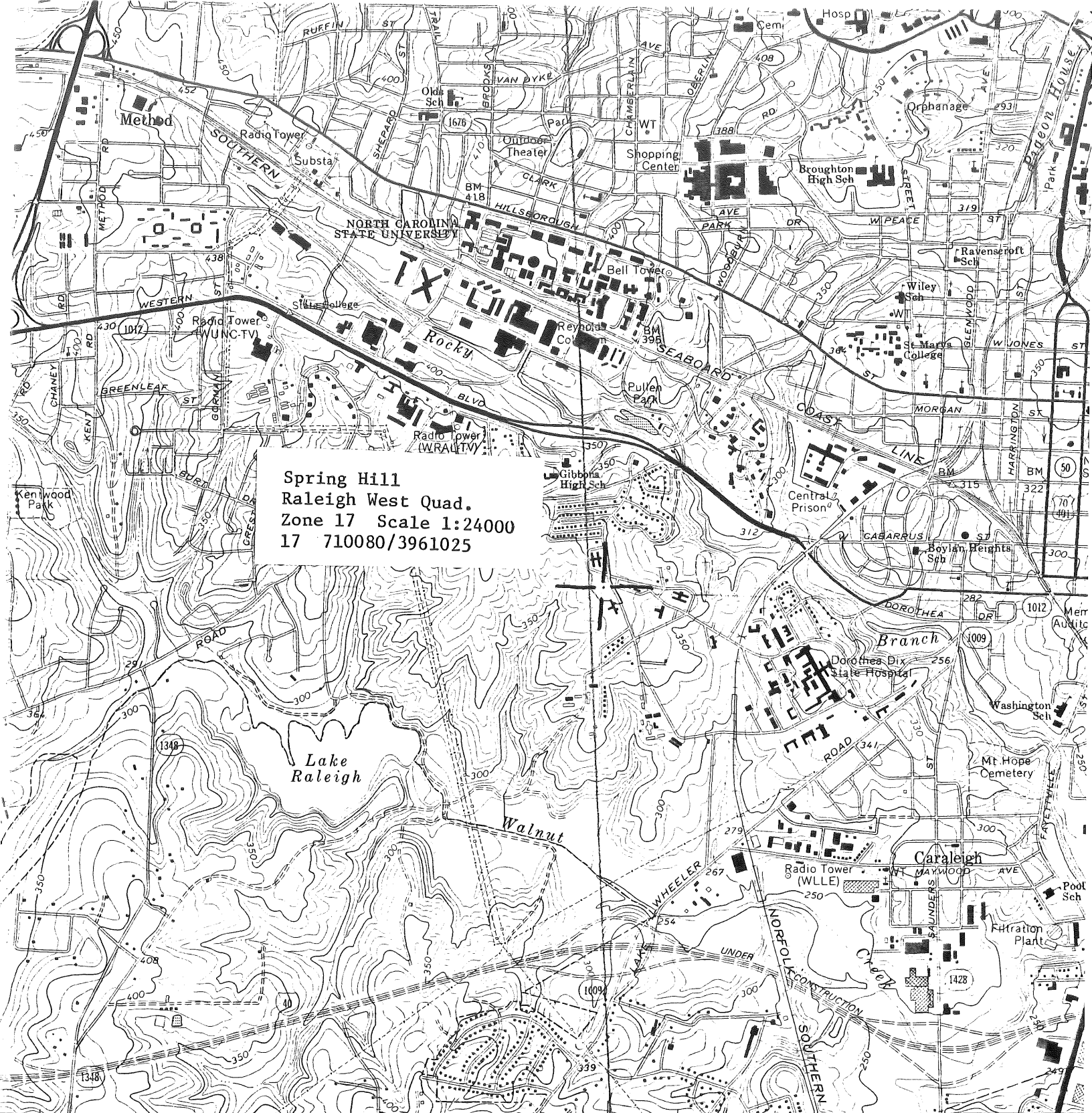
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Wake County Book of Wills, Book Four, Book 24.

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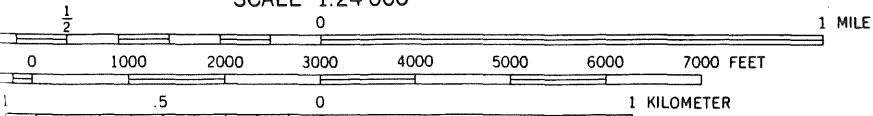
W.P.A. Writer's Program; Raleigh, Capitol of North Carolina, New Bern, N. C., 1942.



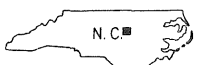
Spring Hill  
 Raleigh West Quad.  
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24000  
 17 710080/3961025

(LAKE WHEELER)  
 5255 II NW

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



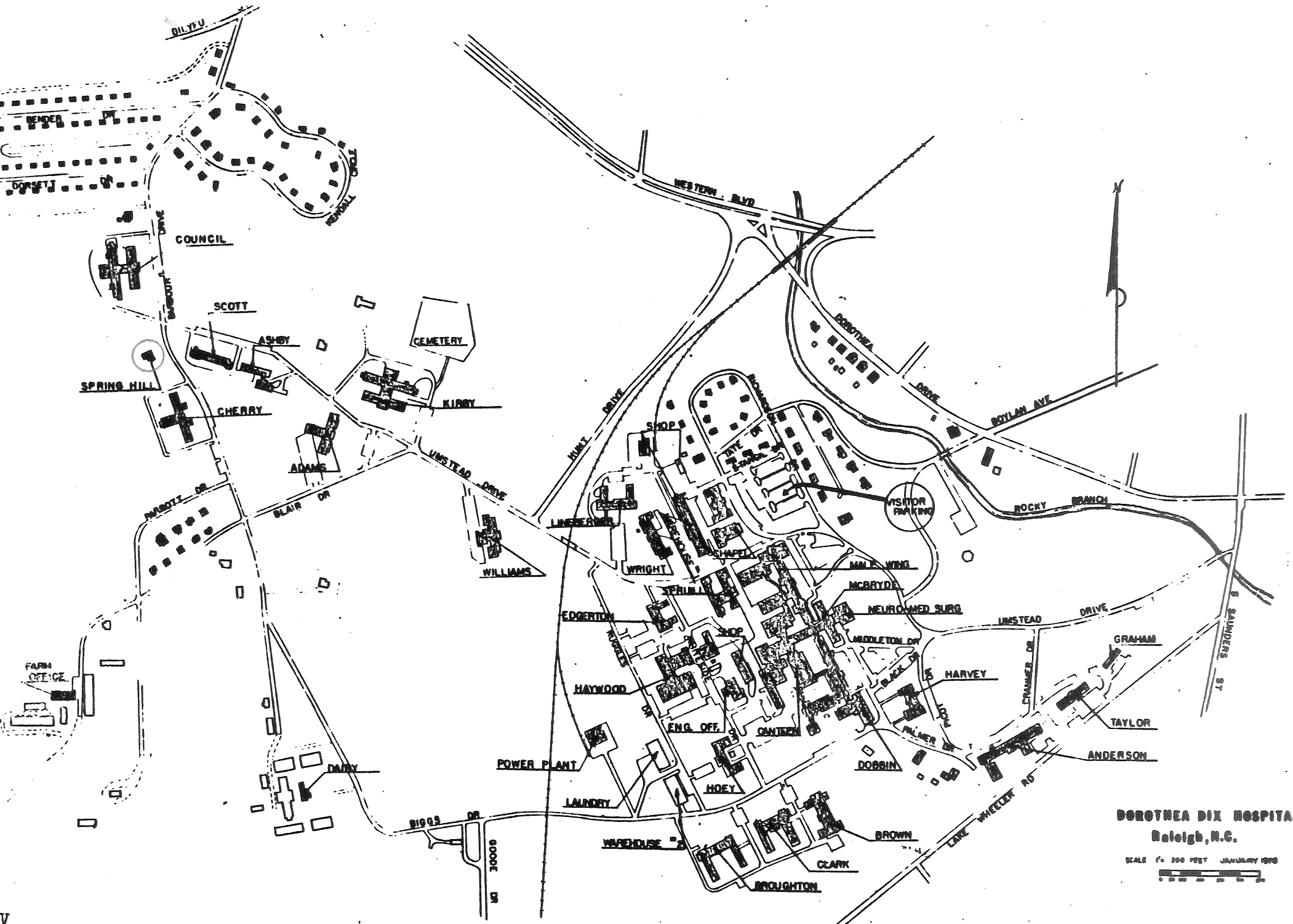
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway hard surface
- Interstate

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092. A DESCRIPTION OF TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of North Carolina agencies from aerial photographs taken 1980.





**DOROTHEA DIX HOSPITAL**  
Raleigh, N.C.

SCALE 1" = 200 FEET JANUARY 1970



SPRING HILL  
VOLUNTEER AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICE