

VLR-7/6/71 NRHP-11/23/71

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Roanoke	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Williams-Brown House-Store

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Williams-Brown House-Store

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
523 East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Roanoke	CODE 161
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) office	_____
<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:
William and Elizabeth B. Watts

STREET AND NUMBER:
2314 Patterson Avenue, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Roanoke

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Roanoke County Court House, Clerk's Office, Deed and Land Books

STREET AND NUMBER:
Corner of College and Main Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE: Virginia	CODE 51
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1940 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C.	CODE 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The L-shaped brick house-store is 2½ stories high with a medium gable roof and Federal-Greek Revival proportions. Most of the original building is Flemish bond. The most significant architectural feature is the double porch which is an integral part of the building's structure. Chamfered edges ending in lambs' tongues decorate the posts of the porch. The first floor sawn-work balustrade is a later addition, but the simple, square post balustrade on the upper level is original. The brick arches at either end provide access to the porch. The ceiling boards have Federal beaded edges. A fine Greek Revival doorway and thin-mullioned windows accent the facade of the second floor living quarters. The openings on the first floor have been altered, but it is evident from the brickwork that their original form was similar to those on the second floor. The windows and doors have been influenced by the Greek Revival style while Federal influence can be seen in the flatness of the decoration. The chimneys on each side of the building are flush to the walls. A brick stairhall was added at the back soon after the house was built. All original windows have plaster sheathed lintels.

The original first floor plan consisted of one large rectangular room with fireplaces at each end and a separate room in the ell. In 1930 the stairway to the second floor was removed from the brick stairhall addition and rebuilt in the ell on the east side of the building. The second floor has a central hall and stairwell which divide two main rooms. There is a separate room in the ell. The plan of the third floor is similar to that of the second except there is a crawl-space over the two-story ell. There is a full basement.

There are some original doors and mantels remaining. The original stairway to the third floor has a hand-hewn bannister and original ballusters. Third floor rooms retain the original chair-rail mouldings. The original interior lath and plaster construction can be seen in the stairwell to the third floor.

Five insignificant frame additions have been added at the back over the years.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1837

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historically the Williams-Brown House-Store has always been an important landmark in Salem. Built around 1837, the store prospered because of its ideal location on Main Street, once part of the "Great Road" West to Tennessee and Kentucky. In 1876 it became solely a dwelling unit when a store addition was added on the western side. At the death of the builder, William C. Williams, who was also one of the builders of Salem's first court house, the house-store was passed on to J. R. C. Brown, his son-in-law, in whose family it remained until 1963. The Brown family has continually been one of the most prominent in Salem.

A prominent local landmark, the Williams-Brown House-Store is one of the best examples of early-nineteenth century architecture remaining in the historic town of Salem. The house-store is also a rare survival of a commercial building form that was once prevalent in the towns along the Valley Pike. Of the few remaining examples of these double-porch-fronted buildings, the Williams-Brown House-Store is one of the most sophisticated architecturally. Its porches are incorporated into the main structure of the building rather than attached as appendages. The brick arches at the front corners of the side walls were used to make entrances to the commercial portion of the building in line with the normal pedestrian flow. Architectural sophistication of the building is evident not only in the carefully consistent over-all design but in the quality of the detail.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jack, George, History of Roanoke County, Stone, Roanoke, Va., 1912, pp. 40-65.
 McCauley, William, History of Roanoke County, Salem, Roanoke City, Virginia, and Representative Citizens, Biographical Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill., 1902, pp. 99-148 and 298-300.
 Works Projects Administration, Roanoke, Story of County and City, 1942.

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		37°	17'	38"
NE	0	0		80°	03'	07"
SE	0	0				
SW	0	0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2/3 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: **Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission** DATE: **May 27, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia** CODE: **51**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 James W. Moody, Jr.

James W. Moody, Jr., Director
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date 6/30/71 // 7/6/71

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Roanoke	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Williams-Brown House-Store			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Williams-Brown House-Store			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 523 East Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Salem			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Roanoke	CODE 161
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½', quadrangle Salem, Virginia			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1963			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Roanoke	
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STREET AND NUMBER: 523 East Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Salem			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 51	COUNTY: Roanoke	CODE 161
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Wendy French			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Hollins College Hollins, Virginia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View from the south.			

U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (Scale:1:24000)
Salem, Va. 1963

Williams-Brown House-Store

Latitude
37° 17' 38"

Longitude
80° 03' 07"

