

PAGE 9, 1948

Wood Hall, Historic Raleigh Home, Being Restored



HAYWOOD HALL, at 211 New Bern Avenue was built in 1792 by John Haywood, and is notable for its double-deck entrance porch of classic design. The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Stearns, plan to restore it through furnishings and reconditioning to the type place it was when Mrs. Stearns' great-grandfather, John Haywood, was master.

County Bears Name Of State Treas.

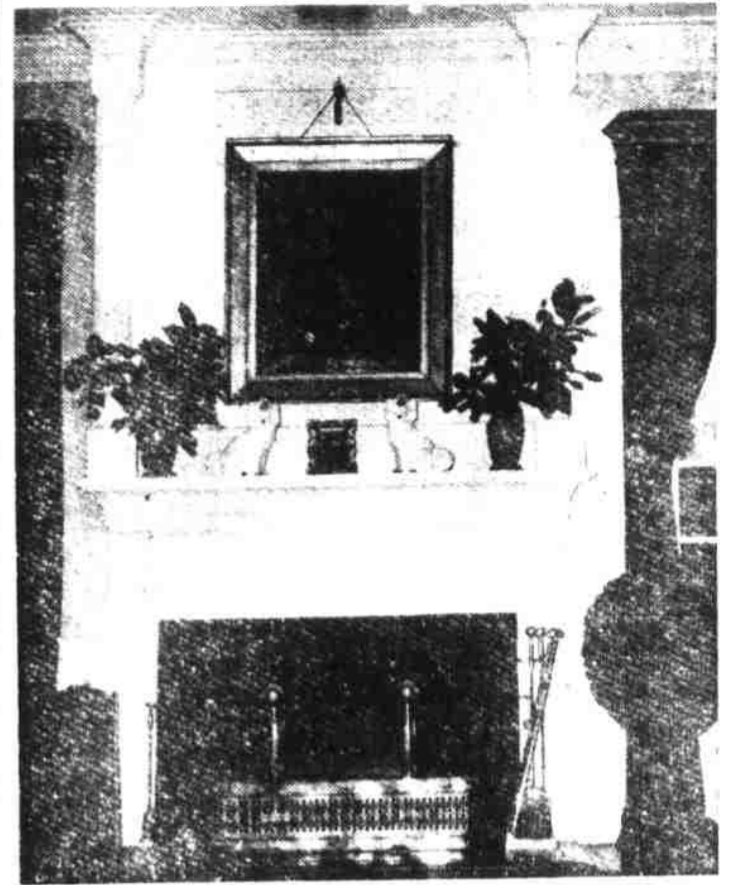
John Haywood Was State Treasurer 40 Years and First Mayor Of Raleigh

John Haywood, for whom Haywood county was named, served for 40 years as treasurer for the state of North Carolina until his death in 1827.

He held a number of other public offices, being the first mayor of Raleigh. In 1792 he built Haywood Hall at 211 New Bern Avenue in the capital city, the restoration of which is now being carried out by his great-granddaughter.

Born in Edgecombe county Feb. 23, 1755, Haywood took a leading part in the early growth of his state, and was one of the most popular men of his day. He was clerk for provisional congresses and general assemblies during the Revolutionary War, and in 1787 was unanimously elected state treasurer.

He was a member of the first board of trustees for the University of North Carolina, serving on the committee which selected its site.



CHINESE vases in the living room mantel of Haywood Hall hold sprays of magnolia from a tree imported from Brazil which grows in the side yard at Haywood Hall. The portrait is Dr. F. L. Haywood, son of John Haywood and grandfather of Mr. Stearns.

stant der ing tion

s. Stearns Home in with Days of Wood

The following is on this page for reproduction (courtesy of The Observer). It is a will be of interest since Haywood home of John from this county

road by the Miss pink marble links passers-by of Southern living reminder, for the goddess and the central ghosts are human voices.

played at Haywood has returned thus white house she and she plans the quaint charm when her great-grandfather lived here. Along furnishing lines, Mrs. Stearns was very fortunate, for in her Schenectady, N. Y., home she had many pieces which had come from the home of Mr. Stearns' great-grandfather from Massachusetts. Also, she has been able to obtain a few of the Haywood pieces such as whatnots, a hatrack and a bookcase.

The visitor is impressed with the grace with which the New England furniture fits its setting below the Mason-Dixon line. It seems always to have been in the rooms of Haywood Hall, and the rooms lack the stiff, museum-like atmosphere which is so often the case when restorations are attempted.

Adding beauty and imparting something of the owners' tastes to the house, there is a pair of azure blue Chinese cloisonne vases on the living room mantel, along with antique Staffordshire dogs. In the dining room on the buffet there are two pineapple-shaped mahogany knife-boxes, brought from England.

In the living room there is a tall, floor-length mirror. The mirror is gold-framed and slender, graceful in a fashion reminiscent

of the French. It was purchased when Fabius Haywood was married, and reflected the gay gatherings in his home at the corner of Fayetteville and Morgan streets where the State Library is now. Later, it was taken to Governor Fowle's house, a large Colonial house on the site of the Sir Walter hotel. When he was elected governor, the mirror went to the mansion with the Fowles. When Governor Fowle died, it was shipped to Chicago, then to Atlanta to Mr. and Mrs. Stearns, and it went with them to Pittsfield, Mass., and to Schenectady. Finally, the much-travelled mirror has come back to its original home.

"We haven't had any overwhelming problems in connection with doing the house over," Mrs. Stearns said. "The plumbing is rather bad, however, and we have had to reinforce ceilings on the second floor."

There are no closets, but there are several large armoires—antique pieces—which are larger than many apartment closets. Because the original kitchen is 20 feet from the house, part of the back porch has been converted into a roomy, red and white kitchen, modern version. The remaining portion of the lattice-work porch will become an opt-door living room.

The house was two years in the building and this is understandable when one looks at the hand-

carved Chinese Chippendale woodwork and the hand-hewn timbers held together by wooden pegs or hand-wrought nails.

Most of the rooms have panelled wainscoting for about four feet from the floor, and the space back of this panelling is filled with clay. Mr. Stearns said this was probably done to decrease the fire hazard and give additional warmth, but it really presented a problem when it came to electrical wiring and plumbing, he added.

Gardening is Mrs. Stearns' hobby, and she plans to have a rose garden at Haywood Hall. She has begun planting grass and a few varieties of flowers, and there will be a garden of flowering shrubs to the left of the house, which will provide berries for the birds in the fall. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stearns are bird enthusiasts, and already there are numerous feeding stations on the grounds.

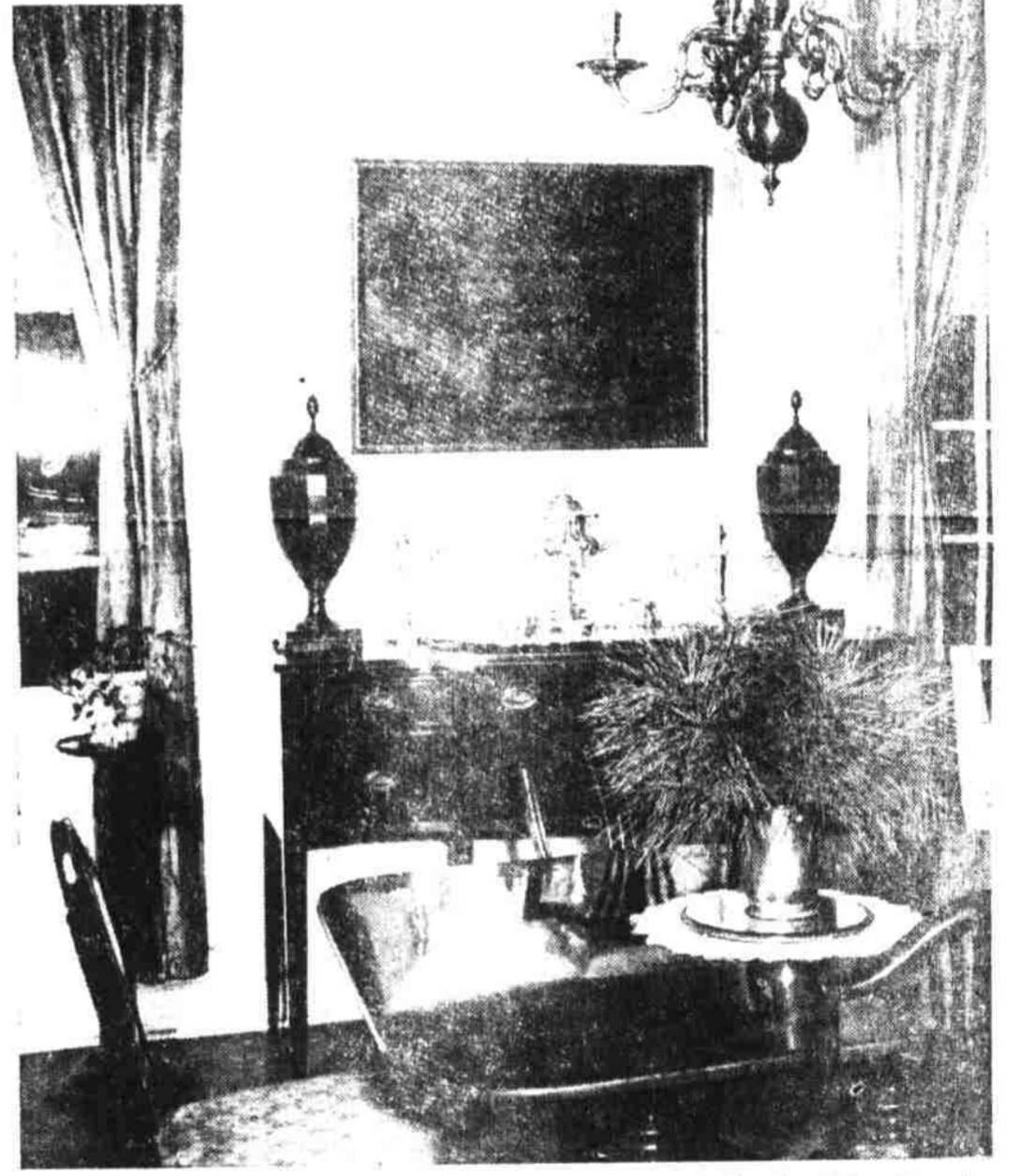
When Mrs. Stearns was little Mary Haywood Fowle, Centennial public school was where the Memorial auditorium is today. The business district ended with the old Yarborough hotel, which stood where Hudson-Belk is, and at the lower end of Fayetteville street were Colonial-type houses.

When the building of the present Governor's Mansion was abandoned for lack of funds, Governor Fowle moved in anyway, and asked the General Assembly for an appropriation of \$5,000 to finish it. He received \$2,500.

The work continued with convict labor and bricks and mortar were made in the basement where there



ANTIQUE chest which belonged to Mr. Stearns' family stands in the hallway. Note the panelled wainscoting which prevails in rooms on the first and second floors, and is filled with clay in back for warmth and to reduce fire hazard.



RARE English mahogany knife boxes in pineapple shape adorn the buffet. The dining table is Boston Phyfe.



MRS. STEARNS ascend the stairway. Above them may be seen more of the hand-carved oak woodwork and the red-tinted apple (above) and pineapple (below) which symbolized which reigned at Haywood Hall. To the left may be seen stairs to the third floor which

was a fairly large pool of water. Little Mary and her playmates floated boxes in the pool and waded, too.

Since Mr. and Mrs. Stearns have returned to Haywood Hall, she says there has been wide interest among neighbors and townspeople in their attempts to restore and preserve the place; and she and Mr. Stearns feel that they have truly found the home for which they were looking.

CALF VISITS MOVIE. HARTFORD CITY, Ind. (UP)—Patrons of a local theater were startled to find that they were not the only ones viewing the movies. Prancing down the aisle was a calf which had jumped out of a passing truck.

TWIN CITY SERVICE STATION

Phone 69

Below the LeFaine Hotel

WHY TAKE A CHANCE

of having an accident with broken or defective glass—Let us replace your broken glass with new, highly polished glass. We have the latest glass polishing machine on the market and an experienced installation man. Have yours repaired now and avoid the rush.

CLEAN WITH STEAM USE HYPRESSURE JENNY

PORTABLE AND SELF-CONTAINED Hypressure Jenny provides the right answer to industrial, automotive, commercial and agricultural clean-up problems. Utilizing steam . . . atomized hot water . . . cleaning compound and pressure . . . Jenny produces a vapor spray that is 100 per cent effective as a cleaning agent. Dirt, grease and grime are dissolved and flushed instantly from any surface. Motors, chassis, parts, grease pits, lifts, machinery, buildings, floors, walls, dairy barns, poultry houses . . . almost anything . . . can be cleaned better and more quickly with Hypressure Jenny. Ask about Jenny. It may be a step toward greater savings and larger profits for your business.

"International Diesel Power"

NORTH CAROLINA EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Raleigh, N. C. Phone 8836 Wilmington, N. C. Phone 2-2417 Charlotte, N. C. Phone 4-4661 Asheville, N. C. Phone 789