

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

Address: 437 W. North
"The Haworth House"
Western Addition
Plat H/103 N86 2/3' W50' of
Lots 2 and 3 Block 4.

Date of original construction: Estimate - Assessor's Office - 1863.

Name of original owner: ?

Historical information:

1. The following is an incomplete chain of titles to the land on which the house stands. Reference is the office of Recorder of Deeds of Macon County.

- 1838 - Deed, May 12, 1838.
William T. Crissey to David Davis.
- 1839 - Deed, March 12, 1839.
David Davis to W. T. Crissey.
- 1839 - Deed, March 27, 1839.
W. T. Davis to Kirby Benedict.
- 1840 - Deed, April 23, 1840.
Kirby Benedict to W. T. Crissey.
- 1853 - Wm. T. Crissey Estate.
- 1864 - Deed, April 30, 1853.
Estate to Wm. Hammer.
- 1865 - Deed, June 20, 1865.
Wm. Hammer to Valentine T. Priest.
- 1873 - Deed, February 13, 1873.
Valentine T. Priest to Henry Converse.
- 1880 - Deed, January 8, 1880.
Henry Converse to L. L. Haworth.
- 1881 - Deed, March 28, 1881.
L. L. Haworth to Mahlon Haworth.
- 1886 - Deed, April 9, 1886.
Mahlon Haworth to Annie H. Brueck.
- 1909 - Several changes of title amongst Haworth family members:
Annie H. Brueck, Haworth Brueck, Peter Brueck and then to
Mary F. Peake, as the exact description of the land changed.

Present owner's name: Joseph E. Doane.

(See reverse side)

Historical information Cont'd.:

- 1925 - Deed, April 14, 1925.
Mary Peake to J. J. Richeson,
Superintendent of Decatur Schools.
- 1927 - Deed, February 9, 1927.
J. J. Richeson to Harold P. Dunlap.
- 1939 - Deed, June 2, 1939.
Harold P. Dunlap to Dr. C. E. Woodward.
- 1963 - Estate of Dr. C. E. Woodward to Joseph E. Doane.

2. Decatur City Directories in the Local History Room of the Decatur Public Library, list the following early occupants of 437 W. North. NOTE: 1871-1872 is the date of the first Directory on file. Others after that date, are in some cases, missing.

No owner's name 1871-1872 was located in a City Directory; ie, the names of Crissey, Davis, Benedict, Hammer, Priest, Converse and Haworth were checked, but of those names found in a Directory none lived at 437 W. North during those years.

- 1893 - City Directory - Brueck, Peter H., Real Estate, 249 N. Main, res. 437 W. North.
- 1895 - Same.
- * 1899 - Haworth, Lysander L., patternmaker, Haworth and Sons, Mfg., res. 437 W. North.
- 1903 - Brueck, Peter H.
Haworth, L. L., Sup't., Haworth & Sons.
- 1904 - Brueck, Peter H.
Haworth, L. L.
- 1910-1919 - Same.
- 1920 - Haworth, Mrs. Julia.
- 1921 - Same.
- 1922 - Vacant.
- 1923 - Richeson, J. J., Sup't of Schools.

*L. L. Haworth in 1877 and in 1880-81 was listed as living at 24 W. William. In 1884-1891 Mr. Haworth was listed as living at 364 W. William, which has been called the "Catto house", currently (1973) the Day Care Center. See report on that residence for additional information on L. L. Haworth.

3. June 18, 1918 - clipping - Herald and Review files.

"L. L. Haworth, 437 W. North, was 87 years old Tuesday. In the days of license and no license fights to solve the liquor problem on a local basis Mr. Haworth was elected mayor (1879) as a 'temperance' mayor."

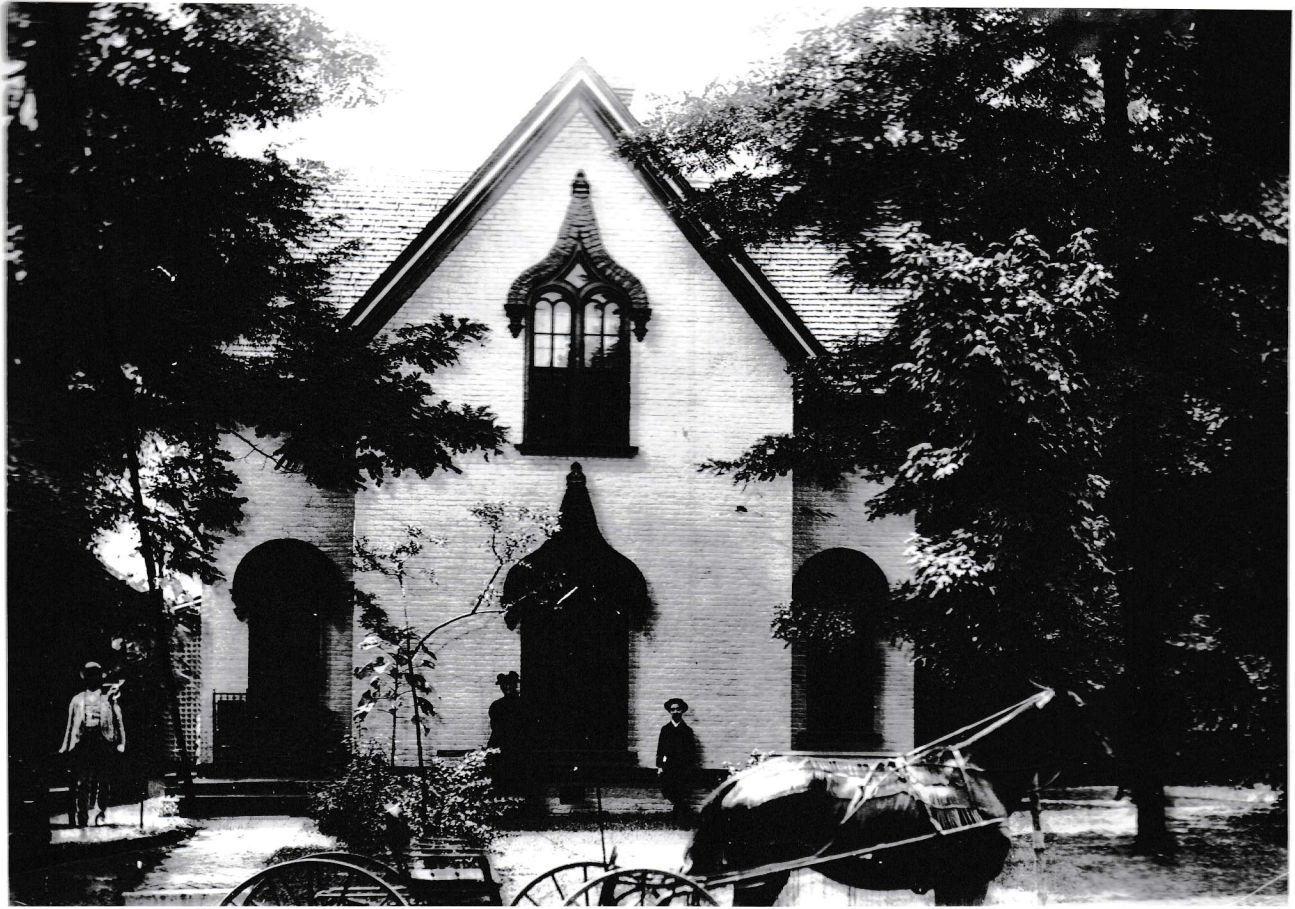
4. The record in the Macon County Assessor's office (in 1973) lists the following:

Estimated date of construction - 1863.
Remodelled in 1919.
1-1/2 story, 1 family house.
Brick. Original 1/2 basement.
Steam heat (previously city heat), but since remodelling,
hot water heat.
1-1/2 baths.
Concrete floored garage.

5. A June 25, 1969 Quest column in the local newspaper files included what is given in the duplicated 2/24/63 column that is a part of this report, plus the following paragraph:

"Doane said that originally the house was very small but it has had several additions through the years. He says the kitchen was once a back porch and the garage was built approximately twenty years ago. Blueprints, if there ever were any, have been lost."

437 West North



Photo, Decatur Herald and Review
Date not given

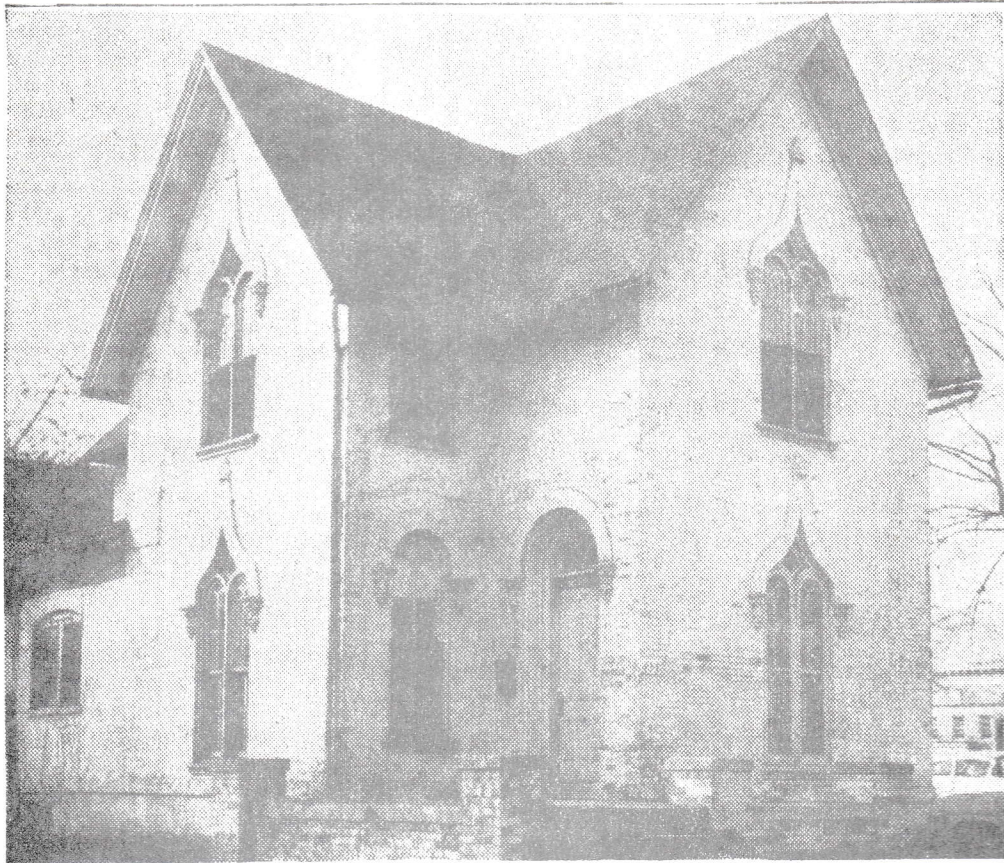
Photo, Margaret M. Meyer,
1975



437 West North



Photo - Decatur Herald and Review



House at 437 W. North St. to undergo renovation.

Flavor to Stay

Hundred-Year-Old House

Takes on New Life

Feb. 24, 1963
An early Decatur home is expected to take on a new life as it undergoes renovation.

The brick home at 437 W. North St., recently purchased by Joseph E. Doane, from the estate of the late Dr. C. E. Woodward, is believed to be 100 years old although its exact age is difficult to ascertain.

Last occupied by Oliver Miller in 1960, the home has been vacant since that time.

Situated just east of College Square, the residence has been known by many names in its long life.

It was once the home of L. L. Haworth, Decatur mayor in 1879. He and his sons ran an early farm implement manufacturing firm which developed and manufactured a check row planting device for planting corn.

Without altering the basic structure of the home, Doane plans to refurbish the interior and exterior over a two-year period.

He said he plans to retain the

flavor of the century-old home. Solid brick walls and partitions will remain, he indicated, as will the 12-foot ceilings.

On the second floor the home has three rooms and a bath. The first floor has two large living rooms, a large dining hall with fireplace, a kitchen and an entrance hallway.

In addition to the five styles already cited, Decatur has examples of many other styles. These other styles do not appear so frequently, are not in such pure form, or are less important styles, and for these reasons, we shall make only brief mention of some of them.

First we shall continue with some domestic styles.

This house at the corner of North and College Streets has many features of the Italian Villa. The arched windows are reminiscent of Roman arches of ancient Italy. The Italian Villa was an old style that appeared most during the post Civil War years. The masonry construction and directly cut wall openings are characteristic of the style. This home has a steep pitched roof and long narrow windows which demonstrate some Gothic influence.



From Preservation in Decatur, prepared by a team of students in the Environmental Planning Workshop, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning, U. of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, under the supervision of Professor S. J. Blair. 1974 - p. 19