



The Hadley House at 400 W. Pine St., Mount Airy, takes on a holiday spirit in this long-exposure photograph. The historic home is owned by Mr. and Mrs. James F. Cavallo.

Tim Preston/The Mount Airy News

HADLEY

Mr. James Alfred Hadley, 71, of 1270 W. Lebanon St., Mount Airy, died Monday, June 15, 1998, in Northern Hospital of Surry County. He was born April 18, 1927, in Mount Airy, the only son of William Brower and Josephine Jackson Hadley. He was the grandson of James Alfred and Swannanoa Brower Hadley and William Edgar and Mamie Hawks Jackson. He graduated in 1945 from Woodberry Forest School in Woodberry Forest, Va. and received his B.A. in business administration in 1950 from UNC-Chapel Hill. He played on the varsity golf team at UNC and was an accomplished golfer. Mr. Hadley was a lifelong resident of Surry County and member of Central United Methodist Church, where he served as a Sunday School teacher and on the board of trustees. He was the retired president of Burke Insurance and Realty Co. and later Blue Ridge/Burke Insurance Co. He served on the local board of NationsBank in Mount Airy, was a member of the board of directors of Reeves Community Center, Mount Airy, and headed the Mount Airy Community Chest, later helping to establish the United Fund campaign in Mount Airy. He served many years on the Morehead Scholar Selection Committee, was past president

of the Mount Airy Rotary Club and Mount Airy Country Club and served on the Board of Visitors of UNC-Chapel Hill. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Navy. Mr. Hadley was an avid fisherman after retiring and traveled extensively. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elinor Wrenn Hadley of the home; one daughter, Dr. Sallie Jo Hadley of New York; and four sons and two daughters-in-law, William Wrenn and Cheryl Wilson Hadley of Charlotte, James A. Hadley Jr. of Winston-Salem, Alexander I. Hadley of St. Louis, Mo. and John B. and Donna Beaver Hadley of Charlotte. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, June 17, 1998, at 2 p.m. in Central United Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. Phillip Cole. After the service, the family will receive friends in the ladies parlor of the church. Memorials may be made to the Old Hickory Council of the Boy Scouts of America, 6600 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106; Central United Methodist Church, 1909 North Main St., Mount Airy, N.C. 27030; or the Salvation Army of Mount Airy, 651 South St., Mount Airy, N.C. 27030. Moody Funeral Service of Mount Airy is serving the Hadley family.

Architecture in Surry County Is Simple and Functional, Historian Says

By Paul Collins

JOURNAL SURRY COUNTY BUREAU

MOUNT AIRY

Laura Phillips, an architectural historian, didn't find too many curlicues on old buildings in rural Surry County.

For the most part, the architecture was plain and functional in rural areas, she said.

But in Surry's four towns, she found some big, fancy houses. But they were the exception.

In general, she sums up the architectural legacy of Surry County in two words: simple treasures — which happens to be the title of her new book, which was published by the Surry County Historical Society.

The 287-page hardbound book, which sells for \$30, is largely the result of an inventory of historically and architecturally significant properties in Surry County. Ms. Phillips, 39, who lives in the West End Historic District of Winston-Salem, did the inventory in 1981 and 1982, with additional research later. The inventory was paid for by a state grant and moneys from the historical society, Surry County, Mount Airy, Elkin, Dobson and Pilot Mountain.

Using U.S. Geological Survey maps with dots showing where buildings are, Ms. Phillips went down practically every pig path in the county to find the buildings. When she couldn't drive her car down a rutted or overgrown road, she sometimes walked.

"You had to contend with things like snakes, ticks and chiggers, but it's a beautiful county, and the people are friendly," she said.

Most folks were supportive of her work, but sometimes people got suspicious when they saw her looking around. "I had people ask me if this would affect my taxes or is it going to affect my tobacco allotments?"

Ms. Phillips said that one of her biggest finds was the Robert James Hill House on Chinquapin Creek near Pilot Mountain. She said that it's probably the oldest log cabin in the county.

The original part of the house appears to have been built in the late 1700s. It has a huge fireplace and flanking cupboards. It has wrought-iron hinges and a string latch system on the front door. The floorboards of the loft are pegged rather than nailed into the floor joists.

The house was expanded in the early and mid-1800s and in the early 1900s, probably to allow several generations of the family to live in the house at one time.

Behind the original part of the house is a two-room lean-to that appears to have been added during the early 1800s. Its rear wall is built of logs with half-dovetailed corner joints, but its side walls are built with thick planks.

Projecting from the side of the lean-to is a two-room frame addition probably built in the mid-1800s. And behind part of this addition is a lean-to built in the early 1900s.

"The Hill House is an excellent example of a dwelling which grew over time to satisfy the changing needs of the family," Ms. Phillips said. "It is likely that at various times several generations lived in the house simultaneously."

Log houses were often built the same way for generations in rural areas of Surry. Ms. Phillips called them no-nonsense houses that reflected a simple way of life.

Here's how Hardin E. Taliaferro, who grew up around the Fisher River in northwest Surry, described the people of the county in the 1820s. "They had no use for grammar or grammarians. . . . With most of the people, a rifle, shot-pouch, butcher-knife, and an article they dubbed 'knock-'em stiff' were of vastly more importance than 'larnin'."

"But notwithstanding their long, cold winters and poor lands, the inhabitants, by hard labor and by the most rigid economy, live well. Extravagance, however, is necessarily excluded. . . . Money is very scarce, and corrupting fashions seldom reach them."

According to an article in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* in 1862, the population of Surry in 1850 was perhaps the poorest educated of any county in the United States, with one-third of the men and more than one-half of the women unable to read and write. Few inhabitants owned slaves or had



JOURNAL PHOTO BY PAUL COLLINS

The J.A. Hadley House, which has 14 rooms, was built in the 1890s.

ever traveled outside the county, the article said.

Many log houses — and houses of other types of construction — were built with separate kitchens.

Logs were also used to build churches, tobacco factories, stores and a house near Rockford, which provided temporary quarters for students attending the Richmond Hill Law School across the river in Yadkin County.

Log houses were becoming much less popular in rural areas of Surry in the late 1800s as mill-sawn lumber became easier to get.

Although log construction played a sizable role in Surry County's building history until the late 1800s, it was not the only method of building.

From the late 1700s through the 1840s, some heavy-timber, frame houses with Georgian- and Federal-style characteristics were built in rural areas. They had paneled doors, chair molding and cornices, decorative paneling and mantels. Some of the houses had painting that imitated fancy wood grains and marble.

In the mid-1800s, it became popular to build houses that were more horizontal than vertical. Houses also began to have a symmetry in design: for example, a central hallway

flanked by equal-size rooms, and first-floor windows aligned with second-floor windows. Houses also had a lower-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves. A few houses had stairways with graceful turns.

From the late 1800s to the 1920s, when construction was mostly wood, architecture in rural areas of Surry basically followed two paths. Simple farmhouses changed little in plan or appearance over a long period of time, but other houses were built in the latest styles, including fancy porches and decorative gables.

Only three brick houses built before 1900 still stand in rural Surry, and brick

houses were still rare in the 1920s.

Architecture in the county's four towns was generally more sophisticated than in rural areas — primarily because more people lived in town and there was more opportunity for swapping ideas, Ms. Phillips said.

The arrival of the railroad in Surry in the late 1880s and early 1890s led to a building boom in Mount Airy and Elkin as fledgling industries suddenly had an easy way of transporting products to other markets. And people became more style-conscious when it came to architecture.

Another factor affecting Mount Airy's architectural history was the opening of the granite quarry east of town in 1888. Trinity Episcopal Church on North Main Street, a small Gothic Revival church built in 1896, was the first building in town to be made of granite.

Her book says that between 1890 and 1915 there was a phenomenal growth of commercial buildings in Mount Airy along Main Street between Nation and Pine streets. Most of the new buildings were of brick or granite and had such features as arched windows, projecting brick cornices and pressed-metal details.

Granite also was used in house construction, often in conjunction with brick.

One of the finest examples of this construction, she said, is the J.A. Hadley House, a Queen Anne style house at 400 W. Pine St. in Mount Airy.

The foundation, first story and window sills of the Hadley House are of granite. Its second story and tower are brick.

Its gables are sheathed in decorative wood shingles.

It has colorful stained glass windows, a wide wrap-around porch, and a cupola-like tower.

The interior of the house has a hall arch with marble columns, paneled wainscot, fancy mantels, plaster medallions on the ceiling, and chandeliers of copper and brass.

John W. Broome, one of the owners of the house, said that there is also a hidden staircase that was used by the servants.

He said that it takes his housekeeper 12 hours to clean the 14-room house.

Ms. Phillips said that the house was built in the 1890s. Hadley was a tobacco industrialist and a mayor of Mount Airy.

Ms. Phillips said that Mount Airy is "one of the best preserved towns of its size in the state. It's got really good architecture."

She said that the most striking example in Mount Airy of early modern architecture is the Guy Bondurant House at 203 W. Lebanon St. Built about 1939, the house has a flat roof, stuccoed walls and windows that wrap around the corners of the house. It has horizontal bands that wrap around the front of the house.

The back of the house resembles a ship's deck.

Ms. Phillips said that Elkin "has a good collection of late 19th and early 20th century homes and commercial buildings."

Simple Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County includes information on about 640 properties in Surry County, including homes, one-room schools, churches and businesses.

It can be bought through the Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce, the Surry County Register of Deeds office or the Surry County Historical Society.

A thousand copies of the book were printed.



The Elusive Ancestor

I went searching for an ancestor, I cannot find him still.

He moved around from place to place and did not leave a will.

He married where a courthouse burned, he mended all his fences.

He avoided any man who came to take the U.S. Census.

He always kept his luggage packed, this man who had no fame,

And every 20 years or so, this rascal changed his name.

His parents came from Europe. They should be on some list

of passengers to the U.S.A., but somehow they got missed.

And no one else in this world is searching for this man.

So, I play geneasolitaire to find him if I can.

I'm told he's buried in a plot, with tombstone he was blessed;

but the weather took engraving, and some vandals took the rest.

He died before the county clerks decided to keep records.

No family Bible has emerged, in spite of all my efforts.

To top it off, this ancestor who caused me many groans,

Just to give me one more pain, betrothed a girl named JONES!

forwarded by [Tom Nash](http://members.tripod.com/~bartonash/index.html)
<http://members.tripod.com/~bartonash/index.html>

General Hadley Information

The name Hadley is found in several of England's counties including Suffolk, Middlesex, Hertford, Stafford, and Somerset. It is a place name and most authorities on British surnames agree that "Hadley" is compounded of two old Anglo-Saxon words which mean "a wild heath where cattle graze." Since people also gave their family name to places of residence, we also see names such as Monken-Hadley in Middlesex, and Williton-Hadley and Withycombe-Hadley in Somerset. The latter is derived from Alexander Hadley and his descendants, who held these and other manors in Somerset.

Some of the early forms of Hadley include de Haddeleigh, and de Haddesley. Later, Cadogan de Hadley simplified the spelling. This was retained by his descendants who held Bulkley in Cheshire. Another form that has been found is Hadleigh and as early as the fourteenth century as Hadley or Hadly. These forms were continued in Ireland where the name has never been common. When the Quaker Hadley's went from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1712, both of the forms Hadley and Hadly were used by members of the same family.

There is much information on the Somerset Hadleys which can trace their ancestry to King Edward I. However, no record has been found which specifies which particular member of this family went from England to Ireland and became the ancestor of the Hadleys who were in Kings County, Ireland, at a later date.

For many years preceding the Cromwellian invasion of Ireland, there had been much travel and intercourse between Somerset and Ireland. Representatives of many Somerset families, related to the Hadley's by blood or marriage, bought lands in Ireland and became permanent

residents there. Others went to Ireland as governmental and military officers. Tradition says that the ancestor of the Quaker Hadley's went to Ireland from Somersetshire, he was an officer in the English army and he married Catherine Talbot in Ireland. ??

The Hadley coat of arms has been in use at least four hundred years. This graphic was originally scanned from a sticker my grandfather, Lyle H. Hadley, used to put inside the front cover of his books to identify them. I don't know who drew the original line graphic for the book plates.

My grandfather and grandmother operated the Hadley drug store in Madison, Kansas until they retired and moved to Florida around 1960. (The original soda fountain from the store was moved to the New Bell restaurant in Towanda, Kansas, but was left behind when the restaurant moved down the street recently.)

I colored the graphic pretty much like an oil painting my Aunt Kathleen did, which used to hang in my grandfather's house. Here is an excerpt from an October 1973 letter he sent me, concerning documentation:

"Kathleen deviated a bit from custom when she painted this coat of arms. It really doesn't matter since there are no laws or regulations concerning such matters in America. Only the shield is what counts. The rest is window dressing. Ordinarily only the two colors on the shield would be used in the mantle and the motto.

Sir Richard Carney, Ulster King of Arms 1683-1692, described the Hadley arms thus: *Gu (red), three round buckles ar (silver), two and one.* At that date they had been in use in Ireland well over a century.

About that motto - I am still confused. Years ago a catholic priest, Father Portelance, who was born in France, told me that it meant "strike."... The falcon is supposed to indicate

Anglo-Saxon defiance to the French conquerors. If so, a French motto seems incongruous."

(My own checking here at the University of Kansas bears out the likelihood that the intended meaning of Ferez is "Strike." Or, as we might say today, "Kick Ass.")

If you're a Hadley and need a copy of the Coat of Arms for your letterhead or web site, feel free to grab the one above. I also have this graphic in black and white, the original line drawing scan, as a much larger .gif and as an Adobe Illustrator file.

[Click here to download a copy of the line drawing, a 46k .gif file.](#)

[Click here to download a copy of the line drawing, a 166k .ai file.](#)

My grandfather spent much of his adult lifetime tracing down his lineage. The biggest single collection of genealogical information, the library for family research in Salt Lake City operated by the Mormons, acquired over eighty pounds of paper documentation for their database from my grandfather. The documents he provided, old birth certificates, death notices, court records, etc. were microfilmed and are available in the library.

He was able to trace our family back to [Simon Hadley](#), who came here to the colonies in 1712 from Ireland, settling in Philadelphia (the year after the death of his father, Simon, and two years after the death of his mother, Catherine [Talbot]). As for Simon's previous life in Ireland, not much is known. He apparently came there from England not too long before. Check out John Hadley's documentation on my email page.

Hadleys were early descendents of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, where Simon's house built in the early 1700s is still in use, and of Indiana, where one of my great-great (etc.) uncles, [Paul Hadley](#), designed the state flag.



Because this page has attracted the attention of a few people who have written me, and sent me interesting information, I'd like to make those notes available, too. Maybe I will someday find the time to assemble a serious Hadley Genealogy page, but for now, this information will just be posted for your information.

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[Jim Hadley's collection of English and Irish
Hadley Coats of Arms](#)

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December 28, 1988