United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name Horne, Billy, Farm
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number SR 1246, 0.5 mi. W. of jct. w/SR 1240 N/A not for publication
   city, town Polkton
   state North Carolina code N. C. county Anson code 007 zip code 28135

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   [x] private
   [ ] public-local
   [ ] public-State
   [ ] public-Federal
   Category of Property
   [ ] building(s)
   [X] site
   [ ] structure
   [ ] object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing 4
   Noncontributing 3 buildings
   2 sites
   1 structures
   4 objects
   Total 6
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination [x] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 50.
   In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official
   [ ] State Historic Preservation Officer
   State or Federal agency and bureau
   [ ] Signature of certifying official
   [ ] State Historic Preservation Officer
   Date 5/4/89
   Signature of commenting or other official
   Date
   State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification
   I hereby certify that this property is:
   [ ] entered in the National Register.
   [ ] See continuation sheet.
   [ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.
   [ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
   [ ] removed from the National Register.
   [ ] other, (explain:)
   Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
- Domestic: Single Dwelling
- Agriculture: Outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
- Domestic: Single Dwelling
- Agriculture: Outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)
- Vernacular - Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)
- foundation: Sandstone
- walls: Weatherboard
- roof: Steel
- other: Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Billy Horne Farm is a secluded, wooded rural property located in the gently rolling hills of southern Anson County, North Carolina. SR 1246 bisects and deadends on the property. The farmstead consists of a ca. 1830 two story weatherboard frame house in the federal and vernacular Greek Revival style, a 19th century frame overseer/tenant house, a 19th century corncrib/grainary, a 19th century carriage house, an early 20th century barn, an early 20th century corncrib/grainary, and an early 20th century chicken house/storage house. These buildings are all set on the eastern boundary of an 241 acre farm overlooking a small pond on a wooded hillside. The main house is an essentially unaltered original structure which has only recently been subject to partial exterior restoration. The main house is an excellent and untouched example of the home of a wealthy country farm/non-river plantation owner. The home and surrounding structures located on a pristine farm and an isolated road convey the sense of nineteenth century character and lifestyle.

The main body of the Billy Horne House is a rectangular, two story structure in the vernacular Greek Revival style with Federal details. It sits on sandstone piers and has three chimneys, 2 on the eastern face and one on the western face. The west chimney is all original while the east chimneys were rebuilt around 40 years ago on the original bases. A shed room spans the length of the house and appears to be original to, or have been added on when the house was reportedly relocated from its original site ca. 1840. A one story porch spans the front of the house and appears to be a late nineteenth or early 20th century replacement of an older porch of an unknown period. Octagonal holes cut into the face of the house indicate that the hand rails were octagonal (a repeat of the upstairs interior stair rail). The entire house is roofed with galvanized steel and is trimmed by a boxed and molded cornice in the Greek Revival manner.

An unusual and particularly striking feature of the house are the 22 original 9 over 9 windows which is a detail of the house which is federal in form. The house also has 3

See continuation sheet
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original 9 over 6 windows on the second floor over the shed room. A two over two window was added beside the east rear chimney to match an original 4/4 sash on the other chimney side. This represents the only known late 20th century modification to the house. All of these windows have been recently, painstakingly restored and contain many of the original wavy panes.

The double pile house has a center hall two-room deep floor plan on the first floor. In the shed are two rooms which are separated by a small screened porch. The middle rooms are of different length, with the larger room containing extra space because the central hall opens onto the left side of the room. The two forward rooms contain fireplaces as does the larger middle, east side room. Each fireplace has a simple, but well proportioned Greek Revival mantel. Although each mantel is painted in black, the mantels have an undercoat of red mulberry paint.

The flush tongue and grooved wall boards are of random width. The walls are trimmed with a wide, black, plain baseboard. The black appears to be the original paint color for some of the baseboards, while other sections appear to have the red mulberry undercoat.

The focus of the two front rooms are the maple grain painted wainscoat panels under the four windows in each room. All four-panel interior doors (9) are original and also maple grain painted. The locks are all mortised and store bought indicative of the home of a wealthy man of the period. In addition, the front door and a small closet door, under the stairs passing over the east front room, are red mahogany grain painted. Although, the paint on the front exterior door has been completely weathered away, the interior is intact and the small closet door is in mint condition. The grain painted doors are particularly striking, and are an extremely well preserved, rare detail of the home.

The second story floor plan consists of five symmetrically placed rooms, with a center hallway. Three small rooms are at the rear of the second floor, with two larger rooms at the front, separated by the center hall. Each of the large rooms contain a fireplace with simple Greek Revival mantels. One mantel has been removed and stripped to the heart pine and is currently in the home of Mrs. Margaret Delligier.

An unusual feature of the home is the enclosed stairway which opens to the side of the end of the downstairs center hallway. The enclosed steeply rising steps enter into
the large eastern second story room, not into the center hallway. The stairway is again a
detail of the house which is more Federal than Greek Revival in form. An original
octagonal banister rail is located at the top of the stairwell. This also is grain painted.

An additional feature is the small center rear porch which has doors to all three
flanking rooms. The rear steps are missing and the porch has been screened in. The
center door to the porch is different from the other doors in the house but appears to be
nineteenth century from the handmade nails that were used in its construction.

Other features of the Billy Horne farm include:

1. Overseer/Tenant House, 19th century (c)
   West of the farmhouse and barn is a low one story three room frame dwelling with
   broad gable roof with a large shed front porch. A large stone chimney is intact on the
   east wall opening into the large room. The house is weathered but in sound condition.

2. Corncrib/Grainery, 19th century (c)
   To the south of the main house, across from SR 1246 is a large frame corncrib. It
   has a sheet metal roof and is in sound structural condition. It appears to be original to
   the period of significance of the property due to its construction using hewn timbers.

3. Carriage House, 19th century (c)
   To the northeast of the house is a carriage house of frame and weatherboard
   construction, which by all accounts is the original carriage house for the farm. It has
   two shed construction storage rooms flanking the center passageway which were added
   in the early 20th century. It is in weathered but fairly sound structural condition.

4. Horne Family Cemetery, 1878 - early 20th century (c) [site]
   A narrow dirt lane leads to a small family cemetery at the western edge of
   the property containing marked graves of Billy Horne and two descendants and may
   contain additional unmarked graves as well. The cemetery is wooded and unfenced,
   and the three late 19th to early 20th century headstones are simple forms by a
   professional carver.

5. Barn, early twentieth century (nc)
To the west of the house is a large barn. It is weatherboarded frame construction with a metal roof. It consists of a center passage, two pens, a gabled loft and added frame shed on the south side. It is in weathered but structurally sound condition.

6. Corncrib/Grainary, early twentieth century (nc)
   West of the house, near the barn, is a corncrib of weatherboard and frame construction. It is sound structurally.

7. Chicken House/Storage Building, early twentieth century (nc)
   To the northwest of the house is a chicken house and storage building combination of weatherboard and frame construction.

8. Well, early twentieth century (nc) [STRUCTURE]
   Near the east side if the house is a well of masonry construction.

9. Landscape (c)
   The Billy Horne House is a peaceful, picturesque, and isolated example of a Piedmont farmstead. It has been continually used for agriculture which was its use during its period of significance. The main house and outbuildings are located on the east side of the property surrounded by small fields carved into pine forests. The main house is surrounded by five large oak trees which significantly contribute to the peaceful ambiance of the setting. As one proceeds northwest from the house past the barn, the view opens to a rolling meadow and pond with a distant field just beyond a small stand of pines. The farm consists of mostly small fields carved into uncultivated pine forests except for one large field toward the western boundary. In the center of this field is a perfectly formed water oak of possibly landmark dimensions. SR 1246 which divides the farm now dead ends at the west end of the property. However, prior to 1930 it served as a road to the town of Monroe in Union County. A dirt lane runs north along the large field into Brown Creek Swamp. To the south of the mainhouse through the pine forest is a small pond which is a haven for wildlife such as ducks, geese, and sometimes stork or heron.

Horne and Barrett family tradition holds that there were once many slave homes on the property. One such home and outbuilding were torn down in the 1950s. A large two story frame house served as the kitchen and was demolished in the 1930s. Tradition holds that there was a long row of houses for use by the numerous slaves of "Uncle" Billy. The original barn was located in the field to the south of the house, next to the grainary and was demolished around 1940.
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally  ☐ statewide  □ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  □ A □ B □ C □ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  □ A □ B □ C □ D □ E □ F □ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  

 Architecture

 Agriculture


Period of Significance  

 ca. 1830-1878

 Significant Dates  

 ca. 1830

Cultural Affiliation  

 N/A

Significant Person  

 Horne, William (Billy) E.

 Architect/Builder  

 Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

The Billy Horne Farm is significant to the history of Anson County, North Carolina because it serves as an example of a well-preserved antebellum plantation house, agricultural operation, and the place of residence of an individual important in the development of Anson County. The main house is one of the foremost examples of an essentially unaltered, well finished, early- to mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival/Federal farmhouse in Anson County. Consequently, this house and outbuildings meet criterion C for listing in the National Register. It also fulfills Criterion B in that it was the home and farmstead of William E. Horne (Uncle Billy), a wealthy Anson County farmer who played a key role in the history of Anson County’s development. The farmscape offers a tangible reflection of nineteenth century agriculture in the central Piedmont. It was important in Anson County’s agricultural operation in the mid-nineteenth century, and thus fulfills criterion A for listing. The period in which the Billy Horne Farm gained its primary significance is from ca. 1830-1878 when it was the residence of Billy Horne, with the actual construction of the house being somewhere in the vicinity of 1830. Its unaltered simple but stately elegance in a secluded setting beautifully conveys the mid-nineteenth century farmlife of a notable figure in Anson County history.

The Billy Horne Farm is primarily associated with three themes of Anson County and North Carolina history. It is an excellent example of unaltered Greek Revival/Federal architecture, the farmstead of a historically notable figure, and an example of an important agriculture operation of the mid-nineteenth century.
The architectural history of Anson County, in North Carolina's South Central Piedmont, reflects its middle-class, agrarian economy. While the Billy Horne house is not ostentatious, it is a well preserved example of the family home of a wealthy Piedmont plantation owner of the early and mid-nineteenth century. In its almost unaltered state from its original construction and period of significance, it is probably one of the best preserved of the small group of surviving Anson County plantation homes, and is considered a significant local example of vernacular Greek Revival/Federal architecture. The high quality of the vernacular grain-painted doors, its mortised door locks, numerous windows clearly show that a wealthy, important man once occupied the premises.

It is fortunate the the ownership of the property has been by the descendents of the same family since 1904 (William Crowder, Lou Crowder Barrett, Margaret Barrett Dellinger, and Barry Dellinger) who have either lived in or have been devoted to the preservation of the house and outbuildings. Three outbuildings - a corn crib, overseer house and carriage house - are believed to have been built during Billy Horne's life, and have survived due to their attention. The result is the survival of a little altered farmstead which warmly conveys the existence of a wealthy Piedmont plantation owner of the mid-nineteenth century.

The plan of the house reflects the dominance of the center hall plan over the earlier traditional hall and parlor plan. The Greek Revival mantels and moldings are typical in the mid-nineteenth century. According to the staff of the North Carolina Historical Preservation Office, the house is unusual in that it is predominantly Greek Revival form except for the typically Federal details of 9/9 windows and an enclosed stairway. While grain painted doors were not unusual, even for simple homes in the area and period, the quality and preservation of these examples are outstanding. The grain painted window panels also survive and are relatively atypical. The size and symmetry of the house and its prominent location were meant to impress the contemporaries of Billy Horne.

According to the staff of the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, the recessed rear shed porch, with flanking rooms is an important characteristic of vernacular southeastern North Carolina houses of the late 18th and first half of the 19th centuries. Many of these recessed porches have been enclosed, but this example is still intact. The house is notable for the occurrence of milled boards, probably one of the
earliest examples in Anson County. This is probably due to the fact that the first steam saw mill in Anson County was owned by, James, Billy's brother.\(^{(1)}\)

There has been no comprehensive inventory of historic architecture in Anson County. However, there are only six known examples of homes in Anson County of comparable or earlier period than the Billy Horne House.\(^{(2)}\) The Bogan-Hammond House (1783) of Wadesboro, the General Davidson House (1797) of Wadesboro, the Redfern House (ca1840) of Ansonville, the General Smith House (ca1840) of Ansonville, and two unresearched houses of ca. 1840 near Morven. Only the Bogan-Hammond House and General Davidson House are older than the Billy Horne House and neither is as unaltered as the Billy Horne House.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:
Billy Horne was one of the most colorful of the Horne family. Born in 1796, he began acquiring land in the White Store/Lanesboro Township area in 1816 through State grant (#2365) for 300 acres. Through numerous other acquisitions and inheritances, he became one of the largest landowners of the county.\(^{(3)}\)

According to Horne family history, he married Sallie Meador, his first cousin, in 1826.\(^{(4)}\) In a period of 14 years, 1827-1841, they had seven children. Shortly after his wife's death in 1846, he married his second wife, Sallie (Sarah) Carraway. From 1847-1868, he had 10 more children with Sarah. At some point in his first marriage, he settled in White Store Township and built a large two story home for his wife and family. As legend has it, the house was started on Gordon Mountain, about 2 miles away, and was moved by slaves to its present location \(^{(4,5)}\). A large barn and several outbuildings including a blacksmith shop were located to the south side of the house: The barn stood until the early 1900's. The house now stands on 241 acres, but before and after the War Between the States centered on thousands of acres.\(^{(1,6)}\)

As family legend has it, the house was saved from being burned during the War Between the States by a young slave girl.\(^{(7)}\) The young girl was left alone to care for an elderly white woman. The soldiers had already taken the hams and meats from the smokehouse and were about to set fire to the barn containing the cotton and to the house when the young slave girl kept tugging on the captain's coat, begging him to stop. He told her to go into the house and care for the old woman and he would leave the house and the cotton which they would then sell for food.
After the invasion of 1865, the Bank of Wadesborough went under, leaving the county short of funds. "Rich Billy's" horded gold was used to re-establish the credit of Anson County, when all of Anson County's wealth was in useless Confederate money.(6) He had kept his money in a closet until the soldiers came near when, as an old slave used to recount, Mr. Billy would take his money over into those woods and bury his gold.(9) Two stories have been told about thieves drilling holes into the floor of the closet in which he kept his gold and his pewter service. In one of the stories, the thieves are his extravagant sons.(1,10) These holes still exist. By numerous accounts, at the time of his death in 1882, Billy was the wealthiest landowner in Anson County.

Before his death, Billy had given land and money to his children by his first wife. At his death in 1878, he left the land containing his house to his second wife, Sallie(Sarah); she rescinded this giving it at that time to her son, Fred W.(11) Fred was a wanderer who would disappear and reappear at whim.(12) Before his mysterious death he sold this parcel to A.H., A.M. and B.L. Crowell. It was purchased in 1901 by W.W. Crowder.(13) Mrs. Lou Crowder Barrett purchased the 3 sections that make up the farm from her brother in 1939.(14) This parcel was then willed and purchased from her family in 1950 by Mrs. Margaret Barrett Dellinger and her husband, Harold Gray Dellinger. In 1975 this land was deeded over to their son, Dr. Harold Barrett (Barry) Dellinger.

**CONTEXT: AGRICULTURE**

According to the agricultural census of 1860, Billy Horne was one of the largest land owners and wealthiest men in Anson County.(6) He owned 33,547 acres of land valued at $16,450.00. Two thousand acres were listed as improved. He owned numerous farm animals including milk cows, oxen, cattle, sheep, and swine. The main crop was Indian corn, with a production of 2500 bushels. The farm also produced 600 bushels of oats, 250 bushels of wheat, 275 bushels of Irish and Sweet potatoes, 100 bushels of peas and beans, 5 bales of hay, and 89 bales of cotton. Comparison to other listings of the 1860 census shows that this crop distribution was very similar to that of other farms in Anson County.

The agricultural census of 1870 shows a large decrease in the size of the farm to 1255 acres (some due to gifts to his sons) with 1011 described as improved.(15) The cash value of the land had decreased to $1,500.00. The post-war reduction in size and value was similar to what happened to other farms in the county. Indian corn was again
the dominant cash crop, with a production of 100 bushels. Other crops included wheat (61 bushels), oats (50 bushels), sweet potatoes (15 bushels), and cotton (2 bales). A fair amount of livestock was also maintained, with 50 lbs of butter being listed as produced by the farm.

The agricultural census of 1860 shows the farm to be 1165 acres with a value of the farm land and implements being increased to $6,050.00. Although the size of the farm was considerably reduced from the antebellum period, it was still one of the largest in Anson County. The main crop again was Indian corn (25 acres, 200 bushels produced). Also produced were oats (12 acres, 60 bushels produced), cotton (7 acres, 4 bales), sweet potatoes (0.5 acres, 60 bushels), apples (4 acres, 20 bushels), and forest products (8 acres cut, value $8.00). Statistics also show $40.00 paid to tenant laborers (including board) and 20 hired laborers (10 white and 10 black).

Although the size, value, and production of the farm were significantly reduced from values prior to the war, according to agricultural statistics, Billy's holdings continued to be one of the 2 or 3 largest in Anson County. The size and value of the farm were consistently at least five times that of a typical Anson County farmstead. The present farm is the remaining 241 acre portion of the 1165 acres owned by Billy Horne in 1860. However, it is notable that the current ratio of improved to unimproved acreage is similar to that from 1860 – 1880 and the principal crop production of corn and oats or wheat has also been maintained. Livestock, in the form of cattle, was also an important farm operation until about 1976. It appears that the appearance and the use of the remaining farmland has changed little since the time of Billy Horne's death in 1878. It serves as a strong image of the farmstead of a wealthy mid-nineteenth century landowner and gentleman.
FOOTNOTES:


2. Interview with Mr. L. Garibaldi, Anson County Historical Society, Sept. 4, 1966.


   Deed from Gray Ledbetter to William E. Horne, Oct. 28, 1835, (400 acres), Deed Book Z, p. 537, Registrar’s Office of Anson County, Wadesboro, N. C.

   Deed from Thomas Horne to William E. Horne, Nov 20, 1837, (79 acres), Deed Book 10, Registrar’s Office of Anson County, Wadesboro, N. C.

   Deed from Jane White to William E. Horne, Nov. 18, 1852 (1266 acres)

   Deed from Abraham Hill to William E. Horne, May 12, 1855.

   Deed from Moses Horne and Wife to William E. Horne, Feb. 21, 1857 (110 acres)

   Deed from Sheriff’s Auction of Jesse Thomas Property to William E. Horn, April 13, 1858.

   Deed from William Flours to William E. Horne, 1860 (33.5 acres).

4. *Horne Family History*, prepared by Ms. Virginia Horne


15. 1870 Agricultural Census of North Carolina, Anson County, Lanesboro Township, pp. 3-4, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N. C.

16. 1880 Agricultural Census of North Carolina, Anson County, Lanesboro Township, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N. C.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Billy Horne Farm

Section number 10 Page 2

<table>
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</table>
Agricultural Census of North Carolina, Anson County: 1860, 1870 and 1880. In the North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.

Anson County Registrar's Office, Wadesboro, North Carolina.


Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering

Survey #
Record #

Primary location of additional data:
☐ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:
Survey & Planning Branch, NC Div. of Archives & History

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 241.3

UTM References

A 1,7 5,6,8,2,5,0 3,8,6,5,9,6,0
Zone Easting Northing
B 1,7 5,6,7,5,2,0 3,8,6,6,3,8,0
Zone Easting Northing
C 1,7 5,6,7,7,4,0 3,8,6,6,5,2,0
Zone Easting Northing
D 1,7 5,6,7,5,3,0 3,8,6,6,8,0,0

Verbal Boundary Description

The property being nominated consists of the 241.3 acre Tract/Map No. B10-441, Lanesboro Township, Anson County, N. C. as illustrated by the heavy black line on the accompanying tax map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes the remaining tract historically associated with the Billy Horne home and farm tract. The property retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials workmanship, feeling, and association with its historical significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barry Dellinger, Owner
date November 7, 1988
organization
street & number 10168 Atchison Road
telephone 513 885-3838
city or town Spring Valley
state Ohio
zipcode 45370
MARSHVILLE, N. C.
N3452.5—W8015/7.5
1970
AMS 4953 IV NE—SERIES V842