INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR
Historic Resources of Morganton

1 NAME
HISTORIC
John Alexander Lackey House

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
102 Camelot Drive
CITY. TOWN
Morganton
STATE
North Carolina

3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<th>STATUS</th>
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4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stephens
STREET & NUMBER
102 Camelot Drive
CITY. TOWN
Morganton
STATE
North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Burke County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
South Green Street
CITY. TOWN
Morganton
STATE
North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Suzanne Pickens Wylie
ORGANIZATION
Preservation Consultant
STREET & NUMBER
3301-T Park Road
CITY OR TOWN
Charlotte
STATE
North Carolina
TELEPHONE
(704) 527-1610
DATE
July 31, 1986
The John Alexander Lackey House was constructed ca. 1900 by Lackey to replace a frame house on the same site that burned ca. 1899. The two-story common-bond, brick farmhouse has been rehabilitated in recent years and alterations include a new porch, a small second story addition for bathrooms, and a small addition on the rear of the kitchen wing. In spite of these additions, the house retains its basic integrity as a turn-of-the-century farmhouse and is significant as an unusual example of a vernacular farmhouse plan executed in brick.

The boundaries of the Lackey House nomination include a large portion of the property presently associated with the house, but are drawn to exclude two modern barns southwest of the house. The house faces east and fronts on Bost Road. Pasture surrounds the house; riding stables are located behind the building as is a modern residence. A thick, high hedge effectively shields the Lackey House from this modern development.

The Lackey House is a T-shaped, gable-roofed, brick residence which exhibits restrained Colonial Revival influences. The slate roof, unusual during this period in Burke County has a heavy-boxed cornice and finials on the gable peaks. Original lightning rods also still survive. The roof is punctuated by interior corbelled chimneys. Fenestration is two-over-two sash surmounted by splayed and corbelled lintels. The hip-roofed wraparound porch retains the basic form of the original but has new support posts and a new denticulated cornice. It appears that Lackey constructed the house of brick with a slate roof to make it as fireproof as possible.

There is a one-story, gabled kitchen wing with a small modern extension on the rear, attached to the north wing of the main block. A modern, but visually compatible, garage is attached to this wing.

The interior retains much of its original detailing including molded door and window surrounds with corner blocks, beaded board wainscoting, six original mantels, and elaborate brass hardware. Perhaps the most notable of the interior features are the parlor mantel with a beveled mirror overmantel with fluted columns, a fleur-de-lis friezeboard, mantel shelf supported by fluted consoles, and a soapstone opening; and the quarter-turn-with-landing staircase with a turned newelpost and spindle balusters. Most of the floors have been carpeted but the hardwood is intact beneath.

Resources Count: 1 Building
The John Alexander Lackey House was constructed ca. 1900 and is located on the outskirts of the present Morganton city limits. Much of the property originally associated with the house is now a residential subdivision; however, sufficient acreage has been retained immediately around the house to preserve its character as a rural farmhouse. One modern residence is located directly behind the house but does not intrude visually on the setting. A large expanse of lawn remains in front of the house and pasture land to the south. The Lackey House is an unusual example in Burke County of a traditional T-shaped farmhouse executed in brick. The house also features Colonial Revival detailing in the exterior and interior ornamentation and has a slate roof, extremely rare for its rural setting and time. The house replaced a frame, weatherboarded house with a similar form and Victorian detailing that burned ca. 1899. Apparently Lackey decided to use more fireproof materials in the construction of this house and to construct his home after the most fashionable designs of the day. Although the house has been renovated in recent years, it retains its basic integrity and its architectural significance.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

C. The Lackey House is significant as an unusual Burke County example of a traditional farmhouse form executed in brick when most farmhouses in the Western Piedmont were frame. The house also has interesting Colonial Revival elements that are unusual in a rural residence in the first year of this century in Burke County.
The Lackey House, built ca. 1900 by John Alexander Lackey, is architecturally significant as an unusual example of a brick farmhouse. Although now located within the Morganton city limits, the area around the house was originally a rural agricultural context. The overwhelming majority of rural Burke County farmhouses were frame making the Lackey House an interesting and relatively sophisticated example of rural residential construction.

John Alexander Lackey was born in Cleveland County in 1853. He came to Burke County as a student at Rutherford College. Lackey and his brother stayed in Rutherford College after graduation and together bought Connelly's Store, where they had worked during school. Lackey married Sallie Peeler, a classmate, in 1875. Not long after their marriage, the store in Rutherford College burned and the Lackeys moved to Morganton.

In 1882 Lackey won a very heated battle for the office of sheriff of Burke County, a post he held until 1894. In 1889 he was appointed construction manager of the Southern and Western Airline Railroad Company in Gaston and Cleveland County. About 1893 Lackey purchased the property on which the present house stands and constructed a frame farmhouse for his rapidly growing family. During the 1890s Lackey worked as a fertilizer sales agent for the Old Dominion Guano Company and acted as president of the Farmers Union Warehouse Company, a local organization dealing in farm implements and advice. He served for a brief time as secretary for the Morganton Land and Improvement Company of which he was a stockholder. From 1906 until 1909 Lackey was manager of the Catawba Valley Canning Company in Morganton.

In order that his eight children might attend school, the Lackeys spent several winters living in town. During one of these periods away from the farm in Quaker Meadows, the frame house burned. Shortly after, about 1900, Lackey constructed the substantial brick farmhouse that exists today. He resided there until his death in 1921.

In addition to his business dealings, Lackey served as the secretary-treasurer of Rutherford College for about twenty-five years. He was also a Mason and was very active in the Methodist Church serving as superintendent of the Sunday School and treasurer of Oak Hill Methodist Church for many years.125

(See continuation sheet)

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See Cover Form, Section 9.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately 2.29 acres

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the John Alexander Lackey House National Register nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Burke County Tax Map #11-56 drawn on a scale of 100 feet to the inch. The boundary includes the house and a substantial portion of the lot on which it is located but excludes adjacent nonhistoric barns and modern residential construction.
The Lackey House is basically a T-shaped brick farmhouse. The house features a cross-gable roof with boxed cornice with returns. Finials decorate the peak of each gable end. The porch that wraps the front ell is a replacement but retains its basic form. The roof is slate, a relatively rare material in Burke County. Apparently Lackey was careful to use fire-proof materials as much as possible. Interior features follow vaguely Colonial Revival lines and include symmetrically molded door and window surrounds with corner blocks, matchboard wainscoting, and six original mantels including one with fluted columns and a beveled mirror overmantel.

(For footnotes, see Cover Form, Item 9.)