

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Maxwell House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number N side of NC 24 .25 mile W of jct. with SR 2019 not for publication

city, town vicinity of Stedman

state North Carolina code 037 county Cumberland County code 051

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Raymond Maxwell Heirs

street & number Rt. 1 Box 201

city, town Stedman vicinity of state NC 28391

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

street & number P.O. Box 2039

city, town Fayetteville state NC 28302

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Cumberland County Historic Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Division of Archives and History Survey and Planning Branch

city, town Raleigh state NC 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Maxwell House stands in two sections, one which exhibits log construction and dates from ca. 1790-1815 and the other which is two stories in height and dates from ca. 1845. The sections were probably built and occupied by members of the Maxwell family which emigrated from Maxwelltown in Dumfries, Scotland to North Carolina just after this country's revolutionary war. The Maxwells were extensive landowners in Sampson and Cumberland counties, and the house, occupied by Mrs. Raymond H. Maxwell, is still associated with producing farmland. It faces Highway 24, formerly the Fayetteville-Clinton Stagecoach Road.

The earlier log section of the Maxwell House is one story in height and follows the traditional coastal cottage form typical of eastern North Carolina. The double pitch roof indicates a late eighteenth/early nineteenth century building date and engages a front porch with tapered replacement posts. The porch shields a three-bay facade which contains a single door in the central bay flanked by 6/6 windows. Weatherboard within the protection of the porch is flush sheathed and plain elsewhere. The exposed northwest side elevation contains single bay fenestration with a 6/6 window on the first floor and a batten shutter on the second. The back roofline is slightly altered today due to the addition of a rear ell, which was created by moving a former slave house against the structure ca. 1870 for use as a dining room/kitchen. A pantry was added to one end of its porch.

The single room interior of this section is dominated by a notable Georgian mantel which features a segmental arch opening, paneled frieze, robust gougework trim, and plain shelf. The chimney which serves it joins the two sections of the house and is enclosed in a small passage.

Built against the small, early section is a two-story transitional Federal/Greek Revival dwelling which dates to ca. 1845. The five-bay gable-roof house, shielded by a less-than-full-facade shed porch, is sheathed with weatherboard. The porch, supported by replacement tapered square-in-section columns, protects a portion of the symmetrically-fenestrated first floor facade which consists of a single door with three-light transom in the central bay and 9/6 windows in the other four bays. The gable roof, now covered by asphalt shingles, is flanked at either end by chimneys. The single exposed exterior end chimney although rebuilt and stuccoed follows the single shoulder form popular during the mid-nineteenth century. Rear shed rooms were added in the late nineteenth century.

Inside, the house followed a single-pile central-hall plan. Woodwork consists of wide pine floor boards, eight-inch plain baseboards, and simple chair rail in the principal rooms and central hall. Greek Revival four-panel doors serve the downstairs, while more common Greek Revival two vertical-panel ones are located upstairs. An assortment of Greek Revival mantels are located throughout this portion of the house, the largest of which is found in the lower northwest room and sharing the same chimney with that in the older log section. These Greek Revival mantels exhibit a variety of mid-nineteenth century features including either paneled or plain pilasters and paneled friezes. A straight enclosed string stair with square balusters and rounded handrail leads to the

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second floor from the central hall. Along the back wall of the house is a two room addition which contains a den and kitchen.

Associated with the Maxwell House are assorted outbuildings which date to different periods in its history. These include a rare flush sheathed dairy resting on tall legs, a shed, cinder block smokehouse, a tin roof stable, diminutive slave kitchen, and several assorted barns or sheds. The surrounding area is both wooded and cultivated.

The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is probable that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Unknown **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located in Cumberland County near the community of Stedman, the Maxwell House illustrates the evolution of housing needs in the county during the first half of the nineteenth century from a one-room log structure to a two-story gable-roof dwelling with center-hall plan. Although modest in scale and form, the earlier log coastal cottage is characterized on the interior by sophisticated Georgian woodwork. Abutting it on the east elevation, the addition of a full five-bay two-story dwelling marks a growing preference in the nineteenth century for this popular vernacular house form. Associated with Highland Scot settlement in Cumberland County, the house is located on property bought in 1806 from Daniel McNeil by Thomas Maxwell, Jr., who in turn sold the property in 1812 to his son Daniel. Either McNeil, Thomas Maxwell or Daniel Maxwell built the log dwelling with probably Daniel's son Alexander enlarging it ca. 1845. Still owned by descendants of the Maxwell family, the Maxwell House represents the type of residence associated with a large self-sufficient farm typical of much of antebellum Cumberland County.

Criteria Assessment

- A. Associated with the settlement of the Highland Scots and their descendants in Cumberland County since the late eighteenth century.
- C. Illustrates the evolution of building preferences and capabilities from a popular early nineteenth century one-room coastal cottage to a larger traditional two-story gable-roof dwelling. The early coastal cottage portion is possibly the earliest surviving log structure in Cumberland County today.

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The Maxwell House is located in eastern Cumberland County, near the community of Stedman. The house was built in two parts. The main two story section probably was constructed in the mid 1840s by Alexander Maxwell. This section was added onto an early log portion. Maxwell family tradition states that this first section was constructed by Daniel Maxwell's father Thomas Maxwell, Jr. However architectural evidence indicates the log section may have been built during the late eighteenth century, at a time when the property was owned by Daniel McNeil. Little is known about McNeil except that he was a large property owner who owned eight slaves in 1790 and seven slaves in 1800. He sold several tracts of land, presumably including the small log cabin to Thomas Maxwell, Jr. in 1806.¹

The Maxwells were of Highland Scot descent. They came to North Carolina from Maxwelltown in Dumfries, Scotland sometime prior to the Revolution. It is believed that William Maxwell, grandfather of Thomas Maxwell, Jr. was the first member of his family to settle in North Carolina. The Cape Fear region of North Carolina was inundated with Scottish Highlanders from the 1730s until shortly before the Revolution. This immigration increased after the defeat of the Highlanders at the Battle of Cullodeen in 1746. It reached a peak in the early 1770s and by the advent of hostilities in 1775 it was estimated that North Carolina had 20,000 Highlanders. Thomas Maxwell, Jr. lived most of his life in Sampson County, adjacent to Cumberland County. He is listed in the Sampson County census for 1790, 1800, and 1810. He owned one slave in 1790, four in 1800, and four in 1810. He married Susan Daniel and they had at least five children. In 1812 he sold the land and house purchased from McNeil to one of those children, Daniel Maxwell, for 250 pounds.²

Daniel Maxwell married Catherine Geddies in 1818 and they had several children. Maxwell became a successful farmer as evidenced by the 26 slaves he owned in 1830. He died in 1832 at the age of 44 and was buried in a family cemetery in Sampson County. His widow was awarded "the dwelling house" and 204 acres in the estate settlement, while the children divided the remainder of the property. Eventually Daniel's son Alexander Maxwell gained possession of the house.³

Alexander Maxwell was born in 1823. He married Susan McDonald in 1846, and it is believed that the house was greatly expanded about this time. His mother continued to live in the house as indicated by the 1850 and 1860 censuses. Alexander and Susan Maxwell had eight children (Sarah, Murdock, William, Mary Ann, Alex, Jr., Erasmus, and twins Daniel and Catherine). The 1850 census credits Maxwell with 500 acres valued at \$1,500. His large livestock holdings were valued at \$565 and included 300 sheep and 20 swine. He continued to expand and by 1860 he had increased his acreage to 1,180, only 100 of which were improved. His real estate was valued at \$9,600 and his personal estate at \$16,845. He owned 13 slaves. Maxwell grew little in cash crops but continued to own a large amount of livestock, including 10 milk cows, 24 other cattle, and 50 swine. His livestock was valued at \$1,250. He grew 1,000 bushels of corn and 9 tons of hay. Maxwell owned several lumber mills which produced over 200,000 board feet of lumber at a value of over \$3,000. Although listed as a farmer it is apparent that Maxwell, with less than ten⁴ percent of his land under direct cultivation, was heavily occupied in his lumber business.

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During the Civil War Maxwell was "a leader in the community and was active in the war cause . . . although he did not leave the home front."⁵ He was also instrumental in starting a small Methodist church in this period, which evolved into the Cokesbury Methodist Church. Alexander Maxwell died in 1868 at the age of 45. Susan Maxwell, widowed with eight children and left in the depressed postwar economy of the area, lost some property due to back taxes but did manage to keep the farm together. In 1870 she owned 910 acres, 110 improved, at a value of \$1,500. In 1880 she owned 460 acres, 100 improved, at a value of \$1,800. The Maxwell family continued to own relatively large amounts of livestock. The farm produced corn, oats, sweet potatoes, and in 1880 three bales of cotton. Catherine Maxwell, Alexander's mother continued to live at the house until at least 1870, when she was 82.⁶

Daniel Hugh Maxwell, the youngest child of Alexander Maxwell (along with his twin sister) became the owner of the Maxwell House by the end of the nineteenth century. His mother lived in the house until her death in February of 1909. Daniel Maxwell and his wife, the former Repsie Fisher, had at least five children: Ernest, Maggie, Mary, Paul, and Raymond. Maxwell was recognized as "one of the county's most substantial citizens and progressive farmers" at the time of his death in 1928.⁷

The house remained in Maxwell hands as Daniel's son Raymond became the eventual owner. He continued to farm around 500 to 600 acres. Although he grew grain, tobacco, and cotton he was best known as a cattleman. Maxwell was vice-president of the Cumberland County Stock Association and represented the county at meetings of the North Carolina Cattleman's Association. A graduate of the University of North Carolina he was also chairman of his district school board and a member of the Official Board of Cokesbury Methodist Church. He married Wilma Blake in 1934 and they had one daughter, Doris. Raymond Maxwell died in 1978. Mrs. Maxwell continues to live in the Maxwell House, which she owns along with 150 acres.⁸

The Maxwell House has been called "one of the best preserved . . . antebellum homes in Cumberland County."⁹ The house has been occupied by members of the Maxwell family for over 150 years. The Maxwells have been prominent and progressive farmers and civic leaders in the Stedman community for most of this period. The Maxwell House is historically significant because of its long association with this family. It is also significant as an example of a broad pattern of Cumberland County's historical heritage. The Cape Fear area was largely settled by Scottish Highlanders, most of whom became farmers of means. The Maxwell property, although probably not large enough to be considered a plantation, was a large, self-sufficient farm typical of much of antebellum Cumberland County. The scope of the farm declined after the Civil War--as happened in much of the state--but the house retained its agricultural orientation. The Maxwell House is a typical, large antebellum farmhouse.

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NOTES

¹Lucille Johnson, Hometown Heritage (Fayetteville: The Colonel Robert Rowan Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1978), 22, hereinafter cited as Johnson, Hometown Heritage; Cumberland County Deed Book 22, p. 213; First Census of the United States, 1790, Cumberland County, North Carolina; Second Census of the United States, 1800, Cumberland County, North Carolina.

²V. Mayo Bundy, Meet Our Ancestors (Greensboro: Media, Inc., 1970), 202, 233, hereinafter cited as Bundy, Meet Our Ancestors; Johnson, Hometown Heritage, 22; Cumberland County Deed Book 27, p. 59; First Census of the United States, 1790, Sampson County, North Carolina; Second Census of the United States, 1800, Sampson County, North Carolina; Third Census of the United States, 1810, Sampson County, North Carolina; Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, Third Edition, 1973), 79-81.

³Bundy, Meet Our Ancestors, 233; Fifth Census of the United States, 1830, Cumberland County, North Carolina; Cumberland County Estates Papers, Daniel Maxwell; Cumberland County Deed Book 40, p. 86.

⁴Bundy, Meet Our Ancestors, 233-234; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Industrial Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule.

⁵Johnson, Hometown Heritage, 23; According to family tradition the house and grounds were looted in 1865 by the Union army of General Sherman. However, no great damage was done. Mrs. Raymond Maxwell to Larry Tise, undated, copy in file, hereinafter cited as Maxwell to Tise.

⁶Johnson, Hometown Heritage, 23; Bundy, Meet Our Ancestors, 234; Cumberland County Estates Papers, Alexander Maxwell; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Maxwell to Tise.

⁷Fayetteville Observer, February 18, 1909; March 27, 1928; Maxwell to Tise; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Cumberland County, North Carolina; Cumberland County Deed Book 94, p. 577.

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⁸ Fayetteville Observer, August 17, 1978; Maxwell to Tise; Telephone interview with Mrs. Raymond Maxwell, October 7, 1982, notes in file; Cumberland County Deed Book 2226, p. 233.

⁹ Johnson, Hometown Heritage, 22.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 5.0 acres

Quadrangle name Stedman, N.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>17</u>	<u>701771410</u>	<u>3187176110</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
---	--	--	--

D			
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E			
---	--	--	--

F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Part of Lot 138, Block 72, Map 139 (House tract), Cedar Creek Township, as outlined in red on map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
-------	-----	------	--------	-----	------

state		code	county		code
-------	--	------	--------	--	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda Jasperse, Principal Investigator
Jim Sumner, Historian

organization Survey and Planning Branch; Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section
N.C. Division of Archives & History date Decemebr 29, 1983

street & number 109 E. Jones Street telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature William J. P... p.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date January 7, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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National Park Service

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Bundy, V. Mayo. Meet Our Ancestors. Greensboro: Media, Inc., 1977.

Cumberland County Records. Deed Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History. Estates Records. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

Fayetteville Observer. February 18, 1909; March 27, 1928; August 17, 1978.

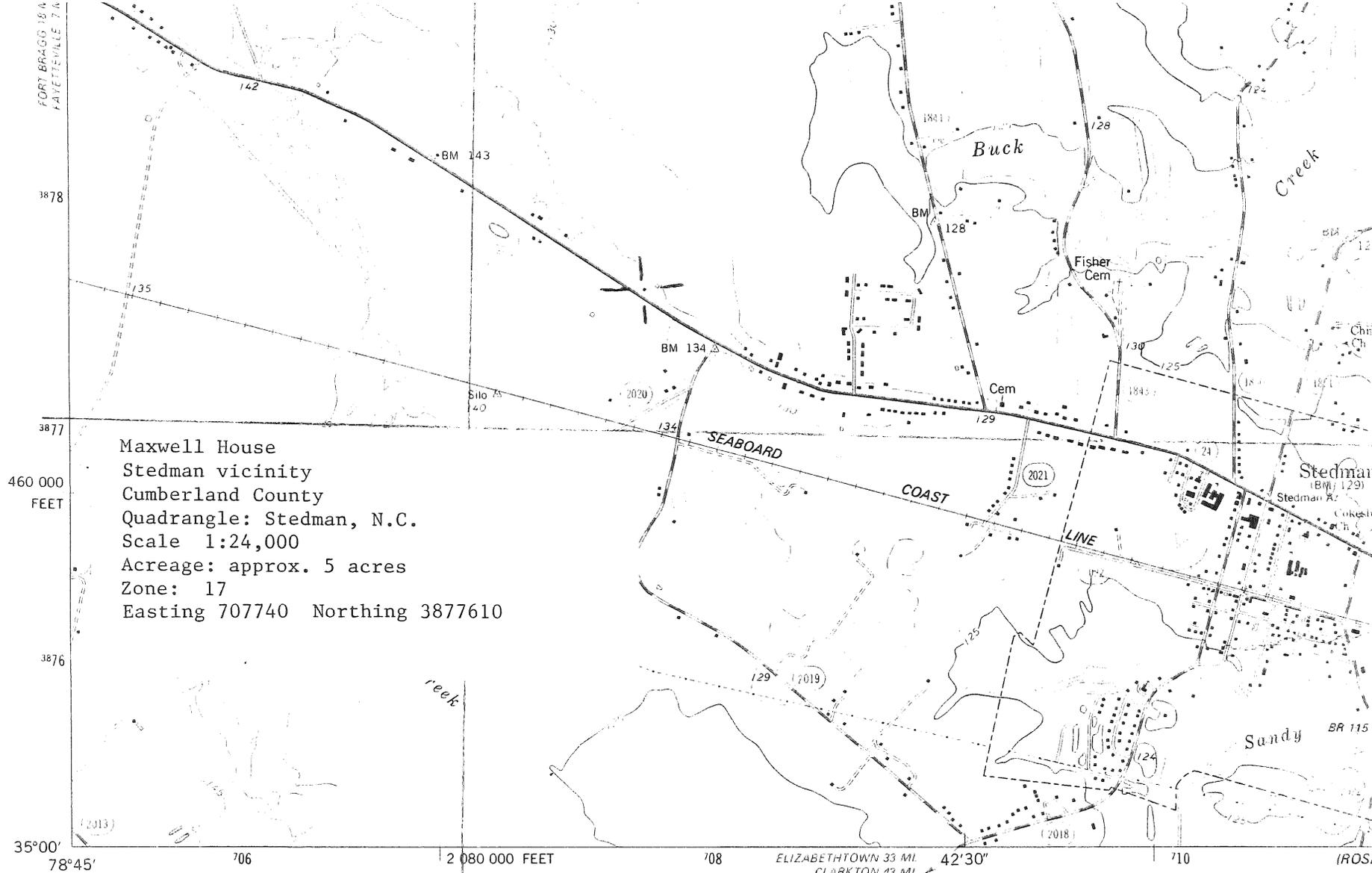
Johnson, Lucille. Hometown Heritage. Fayetteville: The Colonel Robert Rowan Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1978.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage and Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, Third Edition, 1973.

Maxwell, Mrs. Raymond to Larry Tise. Undated letter. Copy in file.

Maxwell, Mrs. Raymond. Telephone interview with. October 7, 1982. Notes in file.

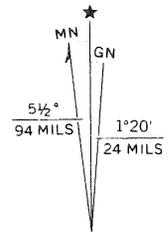
United States Census Office. First Census of the United States, 1790, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Sampson County, North Carolina; Second Census of the United States, 1800, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Sampson County, North Carolina; Third Census of the United States, 1810, Sampson County, North Carolina; Fifth Census of the United States, 1830, Cumberland County, North Carolina; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Industrial Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Cumberland County, North Carolina. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.



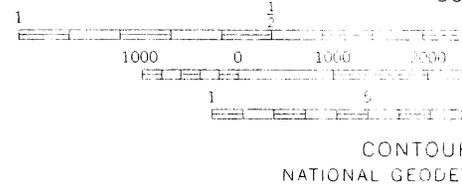
Maxwell House
 Stedman vicinity
 Cumberland County
 Quadrangle: Stedman, N.C.
 Scale 1:24,000
 Acreage: approx. 5 acres
 Zone: 17
 Easting 707740 Northing 3877610

(ST. PAULS 1:62 500)
 5253 IV

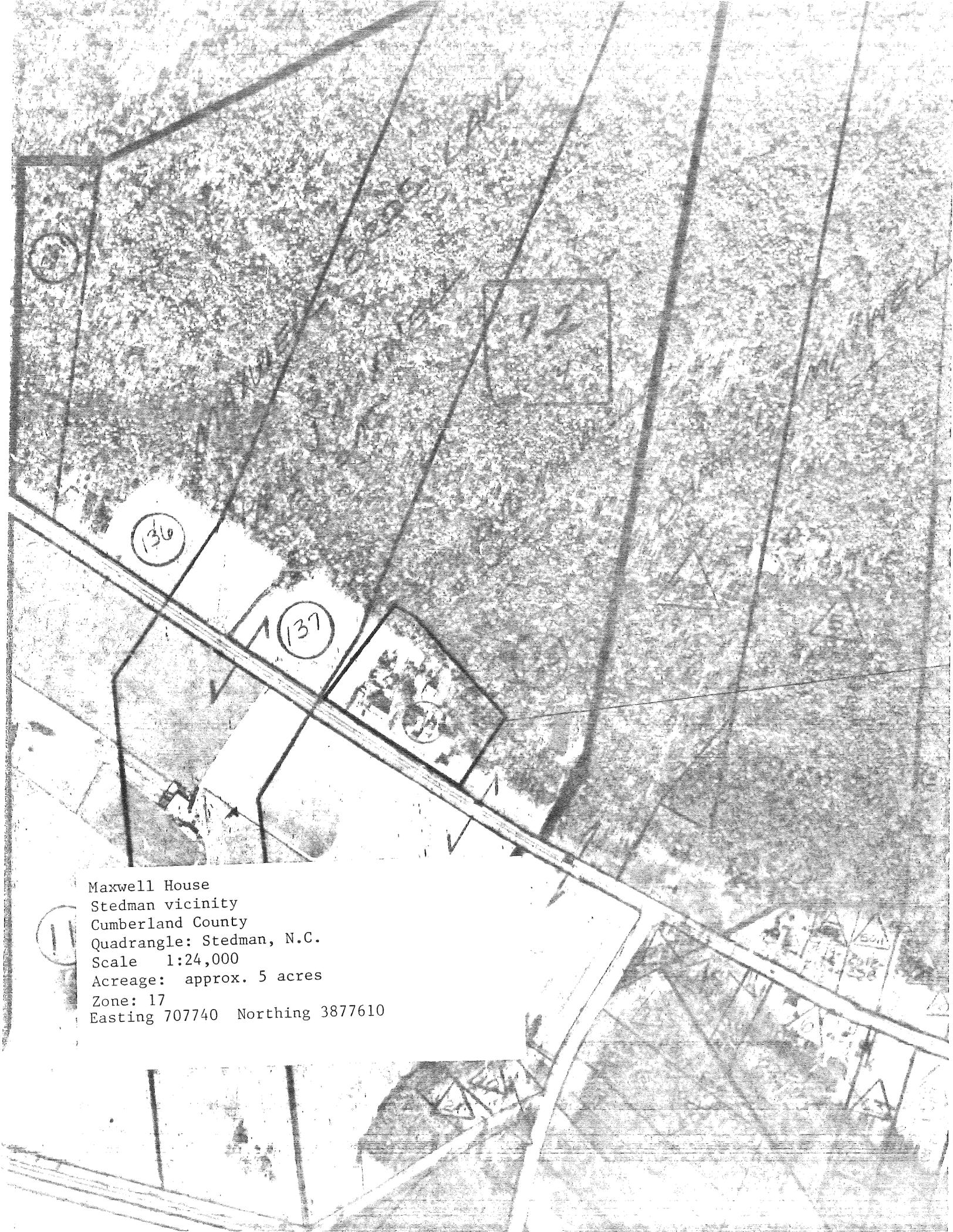
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and North Carolina Geodetic Survey
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1974
 Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: North Carolina coordinate system (Lambert conformal conic)
 1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
 Short dashed blue lines indicate elliptical bay outlines visible on aerial photographs
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC



1
Maxwell House
Stedman vicinity
Cumberland County
Quadrangle: Stedman, N.C.
Scale 1:24,000
Acreage: approx. 5 acres
Zone: 17
Easting 707740 Northing 3877610

