

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
North Carolina	
COUNTY:	
Chowan	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME																								
COMMON: The Barker House																								
AND/OR HISTORIC:																								
2. LOCATION																								
STREET AND NUMBER: South Terminus of Broad Street																								
CITY OR TOWN: Edenton (First Congressional District, The Hon. Walter B. Jones)																								
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE																					
North Carolina	37	Chowan	041																					
3. CLASSIFICATION																								
<table border="1"> <tr><th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th><th colspan="2">OWNERSHIP</th><th>STATUS</th><th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Public</td><td>Public Acquisition:</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied</td><td>Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> In Process</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Object</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Both</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> No</td></tr> </table>		CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC																				
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted																				
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted																				
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No																				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____																								
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY																								
OWNER'S NAME: Historic Edenton, Inc.																								
STREET AND NUMBER: Broad Street																								
CITY OR TOWN: Edenton		STATE:	North Carolina	CODE: 37																				
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION																								
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Chowan County Courthouse																								
STREET AND NUMBER: 																								
CITY OR TOWN: Edenton		STATE	CODE																					
		North Carolina	37																					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS																								
TITLE OF SURVEY: 																								
DATE OF SURVEY: 		<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County																				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 		<input type="checkbox"/> Local																						
STREET AND NUMBER: 																								
CITY OR TOWN: 		STATE	CODE																					

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered			(Check One)
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Barker House is a two-story frame structure with a finished attic below a gable roof. Covered with beaded weatherboards and raised on a brick foundation, the house has at both ends a pair of single-shoulder exterior chimneys laid in one-to-three common bond. The front and rear facades are marked by three bays on either side of a slightly off-center entrance; this arrangement somewhat disguises the fact that the two sides of the house are unequal in size. The front (east) facade, overlooking the water, is dominated by a full-length, two-tier porch carried on superimposed fluted pillars under a shed roof. The eight-panel front door has a twelve-light transom and sidelights framed by a paneled architrave with corner blocks. The rear facade features a dentil cornice and a one-bay pedimented entrance porch. The house has windows containing nine-over-nine sash at the first level, nine-over-six at the second, and six-over-six at the attic. All windows have molded sills.

The house has undergone several changes, perhaps in as many as three eras.^S Constructed in 1782 as a story-and-a-half dwelling with two interior end chimneys, it had four rooms over a full cellar. Early in the nineteenth century, the house was raised to two stories with an attic. Finally in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the north side of the house was extended ten feet and the porch added to the front. At this time the interior chimneys were replaced by exterior ones and the interior partitions rearranged to form a center-hall plan, two rooms deep.

At the rear of the hall is an open-string stair which rises in two flights with a landing between. It features a square newel post which is chamfered and plain balusters square in section set diagonally to the rounded handrail. The two rooms on the south side of the house contain woodwork from the first two building periods. The mantel in the southwest room, being one of two which survive from the period of construction, follows vernacular Georgian lines, while that in the southeast room is from the second period and is Adamesque. Because the Barker House serves as the visitor center for Edenton, exhibits have been installed in these two rooms, requiring the removal of the dividing wall and causing the woodwork to be covered over. The woodwork on the north side of the house, added when the structure was enlarged, shows the influence of the Greek Revival period. The mantels have symmetrically molded pilaster strips terminating in elongated consoles which support the shelf. A paneled frieze above the opening is surmounted by a heavy molded band. The paneled door and window architraves have paneled corner blocks. Sliding doors occur between the two rooms.

Apparently the addition of Greek Revival woodwork was random, for the southeast room on the second floor is also finished in that mode. This mantel repeats the corner block motif of the first floor architraves, while the molded chair rail and architraves are from the earlier periods. The southwest room, like its counterpart on the floor below, contains Georgian woodwork.

The Barker House originally stood on Broad Street, about three blocks north of its present location. When it was moved, the house was reoriented and its front established on the water.

S E
I N S T R U C T I O N S

G. SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian		<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century		<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)				
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science		
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian		
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military			
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE				
<p>The Barker House was built on a tract composed of five Edenton town lots which together formed a square. The five blocks, numbers 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 in the old town plan, were first brought under single ownership by James Craven in 1748. Craven sold these lots to a widow, Mrs. Penelope Hodgson, whom he later married. He then bought the lots back from her and again conveyed them to her by the terms of his will when he predeceased her. The executors of Craven's will, including Penelope, sold the property in 1756 to Thomas Barker. Barker, who soon was to marry Penelope, at this time paid 325 pounds for the property.</p>				
<p>Thomas Barker was a lawyer and planter who had settled in the Edenton District at an early date. In the legislative assembly at Edenton in 1736, he was appointed clerk of a committee to inspect the public accounts. Governor Dobbs, writing in 1759, recommended Barker for a position in His Majesty's Council should a vacancy occur. But in 1760, writing to the Board of Trade, Dobbs sourly described Barker as a person "who from a Hackney Clerk got a license to be an Attorney and has now by his management of himself made a Treasurer for Life and is now made by [Thomas] Child Receiver to Lord Granville. . . ." In 1764 the lower house of the Assembly confirmed Barker's election as agent "to solicit the affairs of this Province at the several Boards in England." Barker was in England when the war broke out and was unable to return to Edenton until 1778. Tradition has it that Mrs. Barker presided at the "Edenton Tea Party," October 25, 1774, when fifty-one ladies met to endorse the rebellious Assembly in its defiance of Governor Martin.</p>				
<p>It was probably after Barker's return, and more than likely after the war ended in 1781, that the present house was built on the above described tract. A map of Edenton dated 1769 does not show the house. An analysis of tax valuations and the varying prices paid for the property indicates a substantial improvement around 1782, and this probably represents the building of the house. It is likely that the house was completed before 1787, the date of Thomas Barker's death.</p>				
<p>When Mrs. Penelope Barker died in 1794, the house became the property of her nephews, Henry and William Eelbeck. The house was then held by a succession of three owners, one of whom (it is not certain which) enlarged the house considerably. About 1830 it came into the possession of Augustus Moore "whose law office was known as 'the judge shop' from the number of</p>				

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(Number of entries)

8.
his students who became judges, as Moore himself had done." Moore's family owned the house until 1952, when it was bought by Haywood Phthisic, who offered it to the town as a community house provided it was moved to another location. Several civic groups raised the money to move it to its present site overlooking Albemarle Sound, where, restored, it serves as a headquarters for Historic Edenton, Inc., and houses exhibits relating to Edenton.

The Barker House is of considerable historical importance because of its ownership by the Barker family, who played locally significant, if minor, roles during the Revolution. The building is notable as a representative Georgian dwelling expanded in the Federal and Greek Revival periods. As it stands on its new location on a spit of land extending into the Albemarle Sound, the Barker House creates one of the most picturesque vistas in North Carolina.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chowan County Records, Chowan County Courthouse, Edenton, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

Chowan County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

Guide Book of Colonial Edenton, Edenton Woman's Club, Edenton, North Carolina, 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "
NE	° ' "	° ' "
SE	° ' "	° ' "
SW	° ' "	° ' "

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY
OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Degrees Minutes Seconds 36 ° 03 ' 17 "	Degrees Minutes Seconds 76 ° 37 ' 37 "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Survey and Planning Unit Staff, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION

State Department of Archives and History

DATE

26 November 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

109 East Jones

CITY OR TOWN:

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local Name H. G. JonesTitle Director, State Department of Archives and HistoryDate 26 November 1971

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
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9.

Moore, Elizabeth Vann. "The Barker House." Unpublished manuscript, undated (ca. 1952). Copy in files of State Department of Archives and History.

Saunders, William L., ed. The Colonial Records of North Carolina. Raleigh: Josephus Daniels, 1890.



