1. NAME

COMMON:
The Blount House
AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Grove

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
130 Bridgers Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Tarboro
STATE:
North Carolina

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td></td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Museum
- Other (Specify)
- Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Town of Tarboro

STREET AND NUMBER:
500 Main Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Tarboro
STATE:
North Carolina

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Edgecombe County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
301 St. Andrews Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Tarboro
STATE:
North Carolina

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:
The Blount House is an interesting two-story Federal frame house on a raised basement. The south (front) and north facades are five bays wide having large windows with nine-over-nine sash and central doorways with simple four light transoms. The house has a gable roof which rests on a modillion cornice. In each gable is a fanlight centered between a pair of brick double-shouldered chimneys laid in Flemish bond. The only significant exterior alteration is the addition of a shed porch which surrounds the building.

The house has a transverse hall running north-south. It is off-center making the two rooms on the east larger than the two on the west. The hallway is divided by a flat transverse archway featuring archway featuring a primitive stylized pediment. In the rear hall is the stair which ascends in three flights connected by square landings.
On July 3, 1795, Blake Baker sold to Thomas Blount a tract of land which bordered the north side of the Tarboro Town Common and contained approximately 296 acres, "more or less." This acreage included all of what is now the city of Tarboro east of Albemarle Street and north of the Common. Blount built his house, The Grove, atop a small hill on this property probably about 1808. Blount was quite active in North Carolina politics, being a member of the Hillsborough Convention of 1783 and one of the first Republican congressmen from Edgecombe County. When he died in 1812, the house and land were transferred to his nephew, John G. Blount, Jr. After John's death in 1823, the property passed to Sarah L. Blount of Raleigh. On August 13, 1831, Sarah sold The Grove to Louis D. Wilson, who made his home here until his death in 1847. Wilson represented Edgecombe County at the Free Trade Convention in Philadelphia in 1827 and led a group of Edgecombe volunteers in the Mexican War in 1846. After Wilson's death, The Grove was sold at public auction to Joseph J. Pender for $6,555.

Pender sold the portion of the property east of Main Street and north of the Common, including the house, to John L. Bridgers in 1849. Bridgers represented Edgecombe and Wilson counties in the Confederate Congress and served as a general in the Confederate army. Following the war he was active in Democratic politics and was presiding justice of the Inferior Court.

John L. and Mary E. Bridgers sold The Grove to George Howard, Jr., on September 9, 1879. During the 1890s a school was conducted in the house by the widow of Confederate General W. D. Pender. In 1939 E. Habry Hart sold the house to the City of Tarboro and it is now used for administrative offices for the city school system.

The house is of historical interest as the home of several prominent state and national political and military figures. The Blount family, in particular, was one of North Carolina's most important and influential early families. Architecturally, The Grove is a fine example of ambitious vernacular design in the Federal style.
### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>35° 44' 10&quot;</td>
<td>77° 12' 14&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>35° 44' 10&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>35° 44' 10&quot;</td>
<td>77° 12' 14&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>35° 44' 10&quot;</td>
<td>77° 12' 14&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property:

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

- **STATE**: North Carolina
- **CODE**: NC
- **COUNTY**: County
- **CODE**: County

### 11. FORM PREPARED BY

**NAME AND TITLE:**


**ORGANIZATION:**

- State Department of Archives and History

**DATE:**

- October 9, 1970

**ADDRESS:**

- 109 East Jones Street

**CITY OR TOWN:**

- Raleigh

**STATE:**

- North Carolina

### 12. STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 [ X ]
- Local [ ]

**NAME:**

- Dr. H. G. Jones

**TITLE:**

- Director, State Department of Archives and History

**DATE:**

- October 9, 1970