

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received

date entered

## 1. Name

historic Summer Villa and the McKay-Salmon House

and/or common

## 2. Location

South side SR 1291, opposite jct w/ SR 1304, and  
street & number North side SR 1291, 0.15 mi W of jct w/ SR 1304 not for publication

city, town Lillington X vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Harnett code 085

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Neill McKay Ross Mrs. Catherine McRae

street &amp; number Attorney-at-Law Route 3

city, town Lillington vicinity of state North Carolina 27546

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street &amp; number Harnett County Courthouse

city, town Lillington state N. C.

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

---

## 7. Description

---

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

---

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The complex of buildings associated with Summer Villa, the antebellum plantation seat of Reverend Neill McKay, stands on a small portion of the total land once owned by Reverend McKay in rural Harnett County west of Lillington, the county seat. State road 1291 (the former U. S. 421) separates Summer Villa and its outbuildings from the smaller house--known as the McKay-Salmon Cottage--constructed in the later 19th century by McKay for his daughter Mary Louise Salmon. The flat terrain of the surrounding landscape is typical of the sandhills region of North Carolina, as are the mature pine trees which serve as a backdrop for the buildings and a reminder of the major source of McKay's sizeable income, naval stores.

Standing some 200 yards south of 1291 at the head of a drive ending in a circle is Summer Villa, the centerpiece and principal structure of the complex. A handsome example of an antebellum Greek Revival residence updated in the early 20th century Neo-Classical Revival style, Summer Villa still retains many elements of its first construction. The main block of the house is a two-story frame structure built on an L-shaped plan, with a five-bay facade. A one-story porch with hip roof spans the facade and wraps around the east elevation and features a central, two-story pedimented portico supported by monumental Doric columns on tall brick piers. Interior chimneys serving the east and west sections rise through the low hip roof, now made of composition shingles. An original or early one-story, shed-roofed wing spans the rear of the house across the east section. A two-story hip-roofed ell extends from the double-pile west section of the house and is jointed to the east section and shed by a one-story enclosed porch. This ell was originally one story in height and may have been a detached kitchen (it has a massive, single-shoulder exterior end chimney with a now-enclosed large opening) or an earlier structure connected to the main house by a breezeway. It apparently was raised to two stories early in the 20th century when other changes were made. A bathroom was also added on the second floor at the rear of the hall.

Summer Villa rests on a brick foundation, although brick piers originally supported the structure. The wraparound porch (except an enclosed portion) still stands on brick piers connected by latticed brickwork. The exterior of the house is sheathed in plain weatherboard of varying widths, depending on the period of construction of a particular section. Both exterior and interior trim on the L-shaped main section of the house is uniformly of simple Greek Revival style. Six over six windows are set in simple post and lintel surrounds with flat corner blocks, a form repeated at the main entrance, which consists of double-leaf, three-panel doors surrounded by trellis-style sidelights and transom. Other exterior trim includes classical corner boards, a paneled frieze, and a boxed cornice. This composition reappears on the second floor, where the doors open onto a screened balcony now serving as a sleeping porch.

The original porch apparently sheltered only the entrance bay and may have been the central section of the current porch configuration which frames that bay. Here, simple Tuscan columns rise to a paneled frieze topped by a flat roof with a turned balustrade. Tuscan columns also support the rest of the porch. The section of porch sheltering the east side of the facade and half of the east elevation is screened in, while the rear portion on the east elevation has been enclosed. Early in the 20th century, about the time that McKay's youngest daughter Fannie married Charles Ross, a number of changes were made to the house. The most immediately visible were the extension of the single-bay porch to its present configuration and the addition of the portico. This addition had the superficial effect of transforming a mid-19th century Greek Revival style house into one which exemplified the more imposing Neo-Classical Revival style so commonly used for substantial North Carolina houses in the early 20th century.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormFor NPS use only  
received  
date enteredContinuation sheet Summer Villa  
Description

Item number 7

Page 1

The rear portions of the house are much less uniform in character, probably as a result of differing construction phases. Of particular note are the widely varying window treatments--six over nine and nine over nine sash set in three-part surrounds in the shed-roofed section; nine over nine sash in three-part surrounds and small casements on the first floor of the ell; and four over four, six over six, and nine over nine sash in post and lintel surrounds on the second floor of the ell.

The interior of the house clearly retains its simple Greek Revival character. The main entrance opens into a broad central hall where an open string stair, said to have been enclosed originally, rises in one flight along the east wall. One room on the east and two on the west flank the hall on both floors. Trim is uniform throughout the house--doors of two flat panels are set in two part surrounds, one-piece flat baseboards encircle each room, and mantels are sturdy post and lintel construction with shelves. All of this trim, as well as the plaster walls and pine flooring, remains intact and in good condition. The only room substantially altered is the east room on the first floor, which has been fully paneled. This room is used as a family living room, while the west front room is a formal parlor maintained in a Victorian style. Behind this room is the formal dining room. The second floor rooms are arranged identically to those on the first, with each serving as a bedroom.

Four-panel doors flank a fifteen-light glazed door with transom at the rear of the first floor hall. This door leads to the rear portions of the house, which include a back hall, bathroom, storage room, an enclosed porch used as a sunroom, a kitchen and informal dining room in the rear ell, and a large pantry. Flush sheathing on the west walls of the enclosed porch substantiate that these were likely exterior walls covered by a porch. Other notable features include the already mentioned chimney and fireplace and the massive wooden lock with Z brackets on the inside of the two-panel door of the pantry. The added second story of the rear ell consists of one large room, furnished dormitory-style with numerous beds; access to this room is by stairs leading down from the rear bedroom of the house's main section.

The remaining outbuildings associated with Summer Villa are clustered to the rear of the house and date from approximately the mid 19th century to the mid 20th century. All of the outbuildings, with the exception of the small cinder block structure, contribute to the overall character of the property. The following is a list of the outbuildings, keyed to the site plan:

## 1. "Playhouse" - date uncertain

A small, one-story frame structure in a temple form with a standing seam tin gable roof extending over the porch. Entrance to the two-room building is through a door on the facade. A second door and a nine over nine window occur on the west elevation, which, along with the facade, has flat sheathing. East elevation and rear are clad in plain weatherboards. Date of construction uncertain, at least early 20th century. May have been built from discarded materials during work on main house.

## 2. Carriage house - ca. 1850

One-story frame, gable-roofed structure said to have been the original carriage house and therefore the oldest surviving outbuilding. Standing seam metal roof. Apparently adapted for use as a garage, now used to store farm implements and tractors.

## 3. Corn crib - early 20th century

One-story frame structure with pyramidal roof of pressed metal shingles; recessed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet	Description	Item number	Page
	Summer Villa	7	2

entrance with double doors; rests on piers of brick, stone or wood; shed room attached to south elevation with deep roof overhang.

4. Storage building - early 20th century

One-story rectangular frame building with gable roof, entrance in gable end; used for agricultural storage.

5. Outbuilding - early 20th century

One-story frame structure with pyramidal roof, 2 entrances on north elevation; used for agricultural storage.

6. Outbuilding - mid 20th century

Small, one-story, cinder block building with gable roof, two over two windows, and a half glazed door; used for miscellaneous storage.

Standing to the northwest of Summer Villa across state road 1291 and about 100 yards from the highway is the McKay-Salmon House, built in the last quarter of the 19th century by Reverend McKay for his daughter Mary Louise McKay Salmon. The one-story decorated frame cottage (now covered with asbestos shingle siding) displays a simple rectangular form with a rear ell extending from the center of the main block. Symmetrically placed interior chimneys rise through the ridge of the side-gable roof. The most notable feature of the cottage is the profusion of turned and sawn wood ornament which embellishes this otherwise simple structure. From the molded sill and corner boards to the elaborate entrance treatment, the cottage displays a wide variety of the decorative wooden elements available in the late 19th century. Of particular note are the massive brackets supporting the porch roof, the wooden cutouts framing the transom and sidelights, and finials at the peak of each gable end. The interior of the central-hall, double-pile cottage is greatly altered.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1849, ca. 1885

Builder/Architect

Unknown

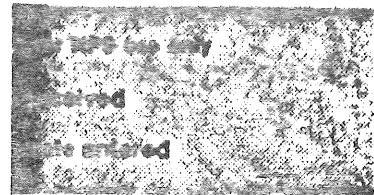
.1

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The complex of buildings associated with Summer Villa, the mid-19th century home of the Reverend Neill McKay (1816-1893) in western Harnett County, represents a rural tradition centered around a plantation economy, as well as the retention of property in one family through several generations. Reverend McKay, a prominent Presbyterian minister, church historian, and University of North Carolina trustee, was also a major land- and slaveowner, with the bulk of his income derived from the production of naval stores and lumber. The principal structures of the complex, Summer Villa itself and the McKay-Salmon House, also reflect two differing traditions in American architecture--first, the pervasive use of classical motifs in the Greek Revival and later Neo-Classical Revival styles, and, second, the more elaborately decorated styles, such as the Italianate and Queen Anne. McKay's plantation seat, begun in 1849, was built in the extremely popular Greek Revival style used for numerous residences, now both extant and destroyed, in rural 19th century North Carolina. It was remodeled early in this century in the Neo-Classical Revival style, again employing motifs derived from classical antecedents and again a frequently seen style for that period. The McKay-Salmon House, built late in the 19th century by McKay for a daughter by his first wife, is a charming small structure in the decorated cottage style. Although its appearance has been altered by the application of asbestos siding, the house clearly reflects this different approach to building ornamentation. The acreage being nominated with Summer Villa is owned by Reverend McKay's grandson and is likely to yield information, through its archaeological record, about plantation life in central North Carolina in the mid and late 19th century.

### Criteria Assessment

- A. Associated with the naval stores and lumber industry and the plantation economy of the sandhills region of North Carolina in the mid-19th century;
- B. Associated with the life of the Reverend Neill McKay, prominent Presbyterian minister, church historian, University of North Carolina trustee, and substantial landowner;
- C. The principal structures are representative of the classical tradition and the decorated tradition in American architecture;
- D. Is likely to yield information important in our history.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 1

"Summer Villa" and the McKay-Salmon Cottage are located on adjacent tracts in Summerville, west of Lillington in Harnett County. The former is a large, Greek Revival-style plantation house begun in 1849 by Neill McKay (1816-1893), a prominent Presbyterian minister, church historian, and trustee of the University of North Carolina. McKay served his longest tenure as pastor at nearby Summerville (then Tirzah Presbyterian Church). The McKay-Salmon Cottage is a small, decorated house apparently built by McKay and given to his daughter Mary Louise Salmon in the late nineteenth century. Some out-buildings are located on the property but these do not include the thirty slavehouses once owned by McKay. The minister was in 1860 Harnett County's largest slaveholder.

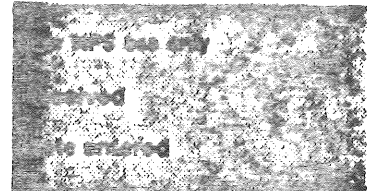
The area now encompassed by Harnett County was in large part settled by Highland Scots, many of them Presbyterians, in the mid-eighteenth century. Harnett was formed from Cumberland County in 1855. The law creating the county directed that court sessions be held in the Summerville community (also known for a time as Toomer) until a permanent county seat could be chosen. The first such session met on March 11, 1855 at Cumberland Academy in Summerville.<sup>1</sup> The name for the community was apparently the contribution of Simeon Colton, teacher at the academy, whose ancestral home in Massachusetts was known as Summerville.<sup>2</sup> Chosen as county solicitor at the 1855 meeting was Neill McKay, nephew of the Reverend Neill McKay. The younger McKay also represented Harnett in the state legislature in 1864 and 1865.<sup>3</sup>

Objections to the choice of Summerville as county seat were heard almost immediately. Landowners refused to sell. Thus in 1859 an election was held by direction from the legislature to choose a permanent seat. The first court session was held at the new site, the town of Lillington, a few miles east of Summerville, in October 1859. However, since there were as yet no adequate facilities in Lillington, court sessions were again held in Summerville from 1860 to 1867. The courthouse completed at Lillington in 1867 burned in 1892 thereby destroying the greater part of Harnett's early records.<sup>4</sup>

Thus Lillington became the center of political activity and Summerville faded into relative obscurity. Yet, in the 1840s, it had seemed that Summerville would become a population and education center of some size and importance. At one time there were as many as three academies operating in the community. Simeon Colton, headmaster of one of the schools, wrote in 1844 to the Reverend Neill McKay's brother Doctor John McKay, "Mr. [Neill] McKay has agreed to take charge of the college to be built at Tirza Church." Colton added, "You will soon have a city, a college, and no one knows how many other fine things about Tirza Church." A number of homes were built in the immediate vicinity. As late as 1890 some fourteen or fifteen large antebellum residences remained in Summerville. Yet by 1940 all but two of these had disappeared. Among the ones remaining was "Summer Villa," begun by the Reverend Neill McKay in August 1849.<sup>5</sup> Several additions, including the front porches and rear rooms, have been made since that time.

Neill McKay (11 February 1816 - 28 February 1893) was a fourth-generation Highland Scot. He was raised at "Flint Hill" on the upper Cape Fear River, one of eight children born to Neill and Flora McKay. The elder Neill McKay died in 1830 at age sixty-four. His estate, 1,200 acres and twelve adult slaves, was divided between his two oldest sons, Murdoch and Malcolm. Flora (McNeill) McKay died in 1868 at age eighty-two.<sup>6</sup> Both she and her husband are buried in Summerville Presbyterian Church's cemetery.

The younger Neill McKay began his education in Fayetteville at Donaldson Academy, one of several institutions administered by Simeon Colton. From there he went first to

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 2

Princeton University and then to the University of North Carolina; however, he did not graduate from either institution. One account has it that he was dismissed from one or both schools for fighting. The fights are said to have resulted from his outspoken defense of states' rights. In 1841 McKay completed his studies at Columbia (S.C.) Theological Seminary. In that same year he was licensed and ordained by the Fayetteville Presbytery, which he would serve for over fifty years. McKay ministered to large parts of Chatham, Moore, and Cumberland counties as well as Harnett County. Although his longest tenure was at Tirzah he was also pastor at Buffalo, Flat Branch, Salem, and other churches in the area.<sup>7</sup>

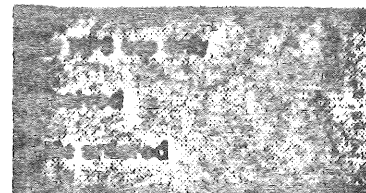
McKay was married three times. Sarah Adaline Jones (1822-1861), daughter of a South Carolina minister, was McKay's first wife and the mother of his daughters Cornelia and Mary Louise. Annie B. Shepard Pettigrew (1830-1864), daughter of Ebenezer Pettigrew of Tyrrell County, was his second. His third wife was the former Margaret Murchison (1839-1924) of nearby Manchester. They were married on December 10, 1873. McKay's final child, a daughter named Fannie, was born in 1880 when he was sixty-four. The first and third wives are buried at Summerville. The former Miss Pettigrew is interred at Bonavra plantation in Tyrrell County.<sup>8</sup>

Aside from his church work McKay was, in partnership with his brother Dr. John McKay, a farmer and slaveholder. His estate was quite large, extending to what is today part of Raven Rock State Park. In 1851 McKay bought over 10,000 acres in a single transaction.<sup>9</sup> By 1860 he and his brother had a plantation of over 16,000 acres valued at \$66,000. The two of them owned 196 slaves, with a value of \$176,000, and thirty slavehouses. The total number of bondsmen amounted to twice as many as owned by anyone else in Harnett County. Yet, of the total acreage in 1860, only 1,200 acres were kept in cultivation, mostly in corn, wheat, and sweet potatoes. The greater part of McKay's land was wooded and a sizable number of his slaves were involved in the production of naval stores and lumber. Thirty-five hands were employed in the manufacture of turpentine; another half-dozen operated a steam-powered lumber mill. Six more worked as coopers (barrel-makers).<sup>10</sup> The trade in naval stores seems to have been a profitable venture for the McKays.

After the war Neill McKay's lumber and turpentine trade apparently ceased altogether. The size of McKay's plantings also dropped considerably. In 1870 he and his brother kept 400 acres in cultivation; in 1880 Neill McKay alone tilled fifty acres. Of course McKay lost his bondsmen but he did keep at least one black hired hand and several domestic servants.<sup>11</sup> It is likely that other former slaves were tenants on the property. Little is known about McKay's attitude toward slavery. It was not uncommon for men in his position to own slaves. One aged ex-slave in later years recalled being beaten with a bull-whip while working in the swamps and being denied the privilege of worshipping in the manner he wished.<sup>12</sup> Yet, according to a tribute paid to McKay after his death, he "felt a profound interest in the moral and religious condition of that people, and he not only embraced every opportunity of preaching to them, but gave liberally of his means to provide chapels and houses of worship with special reference to their accommodation."<sup>13</sup>

The University of North Carolina awarded Neill McKay a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1869. In 1868 and from 1874 to 1893 he served as a trustee of the university. Conspicuous acts of service to the school include his work to reopen the university in 1875 and his advocacy of state aid in 1881.<sup>14</sup> By one account his name was prominently mentioned for the presidency of the university, said to be "a proposition which he positively declined to entertain."<sup>15</sup>



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 3

As he grew older McKay became increasingly feeble and, in 1891 at age seventy-five, he wrote a farewell letter to the presbytery. He died on February 28, 1893. Estimations of his character were generally kind though not unstinting in their praise. The North Carolina Presbyterian, to which McKay had often contributed, observed that he was

. . . a man of very decided convictions [who] never feared to express them. If at times he was severe in his expression he was not unkind; he bore no malice and gave full allowance to difference of opinion. He was a man of very strong common sense and his judgment was at all times worthy of respect.<sup>16</sup>

McKay left his property to his wife Margaret who died in 1924. She in turn left the estate to her daughter Fannie and to several grandchildren. In her will she expressed the opinion that the estate if "properly worked and managed . . . will furnish a good support" for her and that the remainder will give my grandchildren a little start in life." Fannie Reid McKay married Charles Ross, a merchant and lawyer, in 1907. Mrs. Ross died in 1977. Today her son Neill McKay Ross, born in 1909 and like his father a lawyer, is the owner of "Summer Villa" and Clerk of Session at Summerville Presbyterian Church. The small house located on the north side of the road from "Summer Villa," known as the McKay-Salmon Cottage, was apparently built in the late nineteenth century by Neill McKay for Mary Louise Salmon, a daughter by his first marriage. That house has been owned by Kathryn MacRae since 1948.<sup>18</sup> Both structures are well-preserved and in good state of repair.

Summer Villa and the McKay-Salmon Cottage are among the last vestiges of 19th century life in rural western Harnett County. They are significant both historically and architecturally, representing the naval stores-based plantation economy of antebellum North Carolina in the pine-forested Sandhills region, as well as the opposing classical and highly decorative traditions in American architecture. Summer Villa itself reflects the continuing popularity of classical motifs through its phase one Greek Revival styling and its early 20th century updating in the Neo-Classical Revival style. Although the designer of the house (in either phase) is not known, it seems clear that he was familiar with the classical idiom as seen in pattern books and was able to translate the motifs for this vernacular rendition. The cottage exhibits the type of sawn and turned wooden ornament that had become readily available by the last quarter of the century. Summer Villa's surviving outbuildings demonstrate construction techniques typical of structures associated with agriculture from the mid 19th to the early 20th century. The properties are also associated with the productive life of the Reverend Neill McKay, prominent 19th century Presbyterian minister, church historian, University of North Carolina trustee, and major landowner.

Finally, Summer Villa is likely to possess archeological significance as the seat of a large 19th century plantation whose owner, in 1860, owned in partnership with his brother, some 196 slaves, the most held by anyone in the county. The size of the plantation (approximately 16,000 acres) and number of slaves would have necessitated a much larger complex of outbuildings and slave quarters than survives today. Foundations of these buildings, trash pits, wells, and other remains could provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. The archeological record of this complex may also reveal information about the workings of an antebellum plantation in central North Carolina. Therefore, archeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the property. At this



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

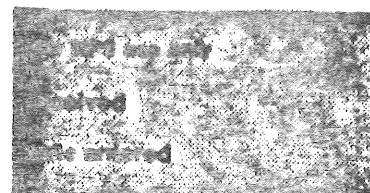
Continuation sheet    HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE    Item number    8    Page 4

---

time, no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is probably that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 5

NOTES

<sup>1</sup>David L. Corbitt, The Formation of the North Carolina Counties, 1663-1943 (Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1950), 115-116; William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968), 481.

<sup>2</sup>Interview with Neill McKay Ross (by telephone), 28 June 1984.

<sup>3</sup>Harnett County Miscellaneous Records, North Carolina State Archives; John L. Cheney, Jr. (ed.), North Carolina Government, 1585-1917: A Narrative and Statistical History (Raleigh: Secretary of State, 1981), 330, 333.

<sup>4</sup>Malcolm Fowler, They Passed This Way: A Personal Narrative of Harnett County History ([Lillington]: Harnett County Bicentennial, Inc., 1955), 60-61; Bill Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina (Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Company, 1961), III, 1348.

<sup>5</sup>Arthur T. Wyatt Collection, North Carolina State Archives. The initial construction date of "Summer Villa" can be cited with some specificity. On August 25, 1849, John McKay wrote his son, "Neill McKay has commenced building his house at Tirza."

<sup>6</sup>Cumberland County Deed Book 40, p. 414. Flora McKay was described as "a woman of deep piety, strong common sense, great generosity, coupled with very uncommon energy and executive ability . . . [who] looked well to the ways of her house." North Carolina Presbyterian (Fayetteville), 30 March 1893.

<sup>7</sup>Daniel L. Grant (comp.), Alumni History of the University of North Carolina, 2nd edition (Chapel Hill: General Alumni Association, 1924), 394; E. C. Scott (comp.), Ministerial Directory of the Presbyterian Church, United States, 1861-1941 (Austin, Texas: General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, 1942), 471. The account of McKay's fighting is taken from an unpublished sketch of the minister written in the 1940s by Harnett County historian Arthur T. Wyatt. Wyatt Collection, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>8</sup>Family information is taken from census records and tombstones at Summerville Presbyterian Church.

<sup>9</sup>Cumberland County Deed Book 52, p. 234.

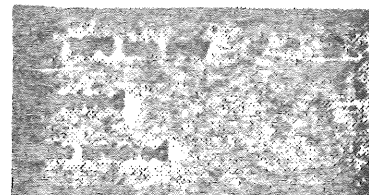
<sup>10</sup>United States Bureau of the Census, Eight Census, 1860, North Carolina, Harnett County, Agricultural, Slave, and Manufacturing Schedules.

<sup>11</sup>Seventh and Eighth Census, 1870 and 1880, Population and Agricultural Schedules.

<sup>12</sup>John A. Oates, The Story of Fayetteville and the Upper Cape Fear, 2nd edition (Fayetteville: Fayetteville Woman's Club, 1972; originally published by the author, 1950), 624.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 6

- <sup>13</sup> North Carolina Presbyterian, 30 March 1893.
- <sup>14</sup> Kemp Plummer Battle, History of the University of North Carolina (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1907-1912), I, 825, and II, 20, 36, 85, 225, and 787.
- <sup>15</sup> North Carolina Presbyterian, 30 March 1893.
- <sup>16</sup> North Carolina Presbyterian, 9 March 1893. Arthur T. Wyatt had a different opinion of McKay, believing him to be "a very pugnacious, hardboiled man who never should have been in the ministry." Wyatt Collection, North Carolina State Archives.
- <sup>17</sup> Harnett County Will Book 1, p. 24, and Will Book 3, p. 153.
- <sup>18</sup> Thirteenth Census, 1910, Population Schedule; Ross interview (by telephone), 28 June 1984.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 45 acres

Quadrangle name Lillington

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	1	7
---	---	---

6	9	3	7	7	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	1	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

B 

1	1	7
---	---	---

6	9	4	1	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

1	1	7
---	---	---

6	9	3	9	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	1	9	5	6	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D 

1	1	7
---	---	---

6	9	3	6	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	1	9	6	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

E 

1	1	7
---	---	---

6	9	3	8	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	1	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

F 

--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheets

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

Allison Harris Black, Survey Specialist, Survey and Planning Branch-Description  
name/title Michael Hill, Researcher, Research Branch-Significance

organization N. C. Division of Archives & History

date December 1, 1984

street & number 109 East 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 S. Price, Jr.*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 10, 1985

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

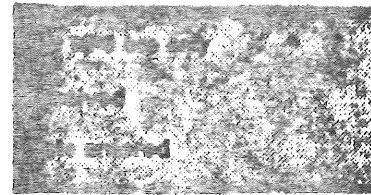
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet BIBLIOGRAPHY

Item number 9

Page 1

- Battle, Kemp Plummer. History of the University of North Carolina. 2 volumes. Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton, 1907-1912.
- Cheney, John L., Jr. ed. North Carolina Government, 1585-1979: A Narrative and Statistical History. Raleigh: Secretary of State, 1981.
- Corbitt, David L. The Formation of the North Carolina Counties, 1663-1943. Raleigh: Department of Archives and History, 1950.
- Cumberland County Deeds, Estates Records, and Miscellaneous Records. North Carolina State Archives.
- Fayetteville Gazette, 1 March 1893.
- Fowler, Malcolm. They Passed This Way: A Personal Narrative of Harnett County History. [Lillington]: Harnett County Centennial, Inc., 1955.
- Grant, Daniel L., comp. Alumni History of the University of North Carolina. 2nd edition. Chapel Hill: General Alumni Association, 1924.
- Harnett County Deeds, Tax Records, and Wills. North Carolina State Archives.
- North Carolina Presbyterian (Fayetteville), 9 and 30 March 1983.
- Oates, John A. The Story of Fayetteville and the Upper Cape Fear. 2nd edition. Fayetteville: Fayetteville Woman's Club, 1972 (originally published by the author, 1950).
- Powell, William S. The North Carolina Gazetteer. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968.
- Ross, Neill McKay. Interviews (by telephone), 28 June and 2 July 1984.
- Scott, E. C., comp. Ministerial Directory of the Presbyterian Church, United States, 1861-1941. Austin, Texas: General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, 1942.
- Sharpe, Bill. A New Geography of North Carolina. 4 volumes. Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Co., 1956-1965.
- United States Census Bureau. Sixth through Thirteenth Censuses, North Carolina, Cumberland County and Harnett County, 1840-1910: Population, Slave, Agricultural, and Manufacturing Schedules.
- Wyatt (Arthur T.) Collection. North Carolina State Archives.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Geographical Data

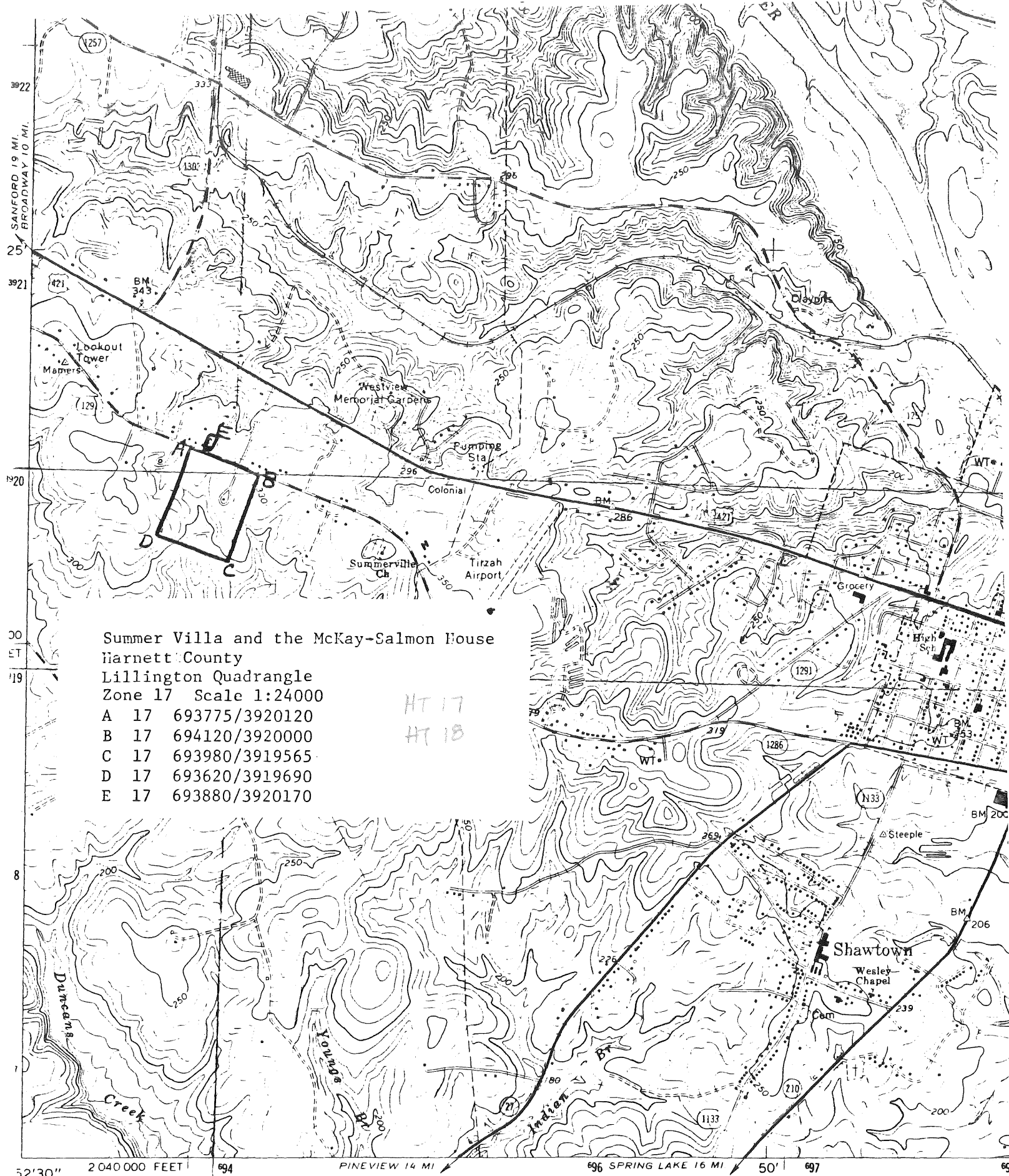
Item number 10

Page 1

The property being nominated consists of 2 parcels separated only by state road SR 1291, but in different ownership. The smaller contains approximately 2 acres immediately surrounding the McKay-Salmon House on the north side of SR 1291 and fronting on the highway. The larger consists of what could be called the "home tract" of Summer Villa, a parcel of some 42 acres on the south side of SR 1291 and also fronting on the highway. Each parcel is outlined in red on the appropriate attached plat map.

Although the 2 acres being nominated with the McKay-Salmon House are part of a larger parcel of former McKay land—some 110.5 acres acquired by the current owner in 2 tracts—this land is no longer directly associated with Summer Villa or the McKay family. This larger parcel extends north of U.S. 421 (which is about 1/2 mile north of and parallel to SR 1291) and contains structures erected in the mid to late 20th century. The house and a small portion of the surrounding acreage are being nominated because of the historical association with Reverend McKay and the architectural significance of the house.

The tract of 42 acres to the south of SR 1291 contains Summer Villa and its outbuildings, the cleared land between the house and the highway, a pond, and a sufficient amount of pine-forested acres to relate the property to its original economic basis—naval stores and lumber. This parcel remains in the McKay family, being owned by a grandson of Reverend McKay.



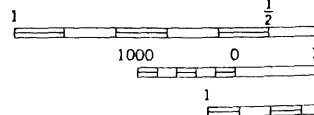
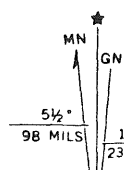
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, USCE, and North Carolina Geodetic Survey

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1974

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: North Carolina coordinate system (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks

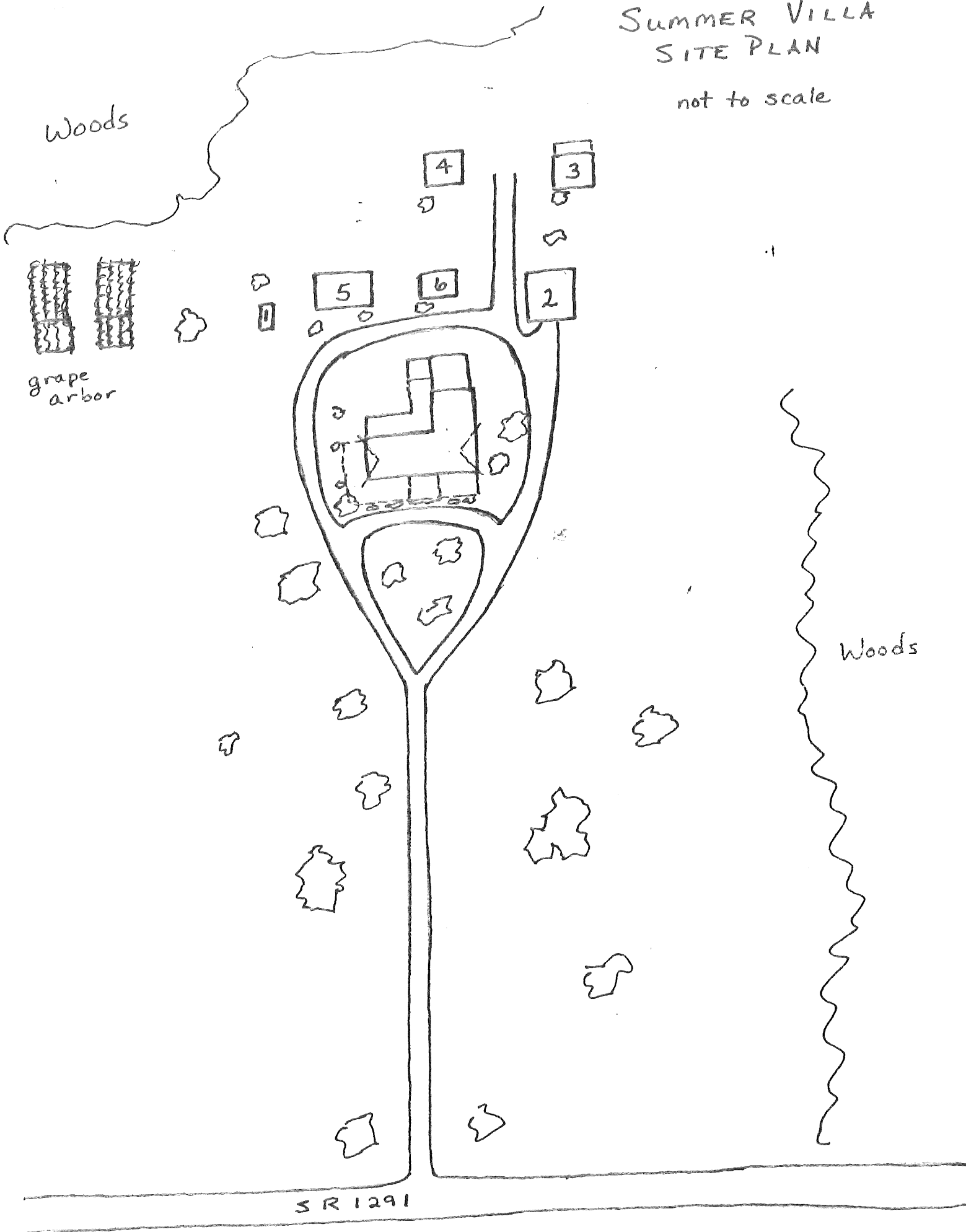


NAT



# SUMMER VILLA SITE PLAN

not to scale



SR 1291

