## National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form

**Form 10-300**

### Name

**Eagle Nest**

### Location

**End of S.R. 1141, 0.6 mi. from junction of S.R. 1141 and Hwy 41**

**City or Town:** Tuckahoe Township

**State:** North Carolina

**Code:** 37

**County:** Jones

**Code:** 103

### 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:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Current Use (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Government
- Park
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)

### Owner of Property

**Owner's Name:** Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Franck

**Street and Number:** Route 2

**City or Town:** Trenton

**State:** North Carolina

**Code:** 37

### Location of Legal Description

**Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.:**

Jones County Courthouse

**Street and Number:**

**City or Town:** Trenton

**State:** North Carolina

**Code:** 37

### Representation in Existing Surveys

**Title of Survey:**

**Date of Survey:**

**Federal**

**State**

**County**

**Local**

**Depository for Survey Records:**

**Street and Number:**

**City or Town:**

**State:**

**Code:**
Eagle Nest is an impressive Federal structure which, although having undergone a certain amount of modification, still retains most of its original character. The main block is a two-story frame structure covered with beaded weatherboard and supported on a brick foundation. The house is four bays wide and three deep. It has a gable roof pierced by two exposed face exterior end chimneys laid in Flemish bond. These rise between the two rear bays to the second level; in the attic the chimney runs diagonally to pierce the roof at its ridge. The well-executed molded box cornice features a dentil course. At the rear (north) of the house have been appended two one-story frame additions; one is a shed-roof porch which covers three of the four rear bays; the second gable-roof addition projects back perpendicularly from the east bay. Both of these additions are of considerable age, perhaps dating from the mid-nineteenth century.

Fenestration is somewhat irregular, exhibiting marked diminution on the front (south) and rear facades with nine-over-nine and six-over-six sash, while the side elevations reveal both six-over-six and nine-over-nine sash occurring at the same level. The windows have wide, simple molded architraves, with heavy flat board sills and two-panel louvered blinds.

The front facade has been the most reworked. It appears that the house originally may have had a full-length two-tier porch, with the sides enclosed. The east bay has been completely enclosed as a room. The original porch supports and rails have been replaced with modern wrought iron work. The front entrance architrave is the same as used on the windows, and the door consists of six panels, the upper ones flat, and the lower two flush. (The top two panels have been replaced with glass.) The use of flush panels below flat ones is a feature rarely found in North Carolina outside New Bern. A five-light, rectangular transom surmounts the door.

The interior of Eagle Nest follows an off-center hall plan, one room deep. The finish throughout is well-preserved and of traditional Federal character. The first floor exhibits molded architraves and doors consisting of six flat and flush panels in the same configuration as the front entrance door. The molded chair rail is slightly wider in the west room than in the hall or east room, while the baseboard is the same throughout. The east room has a molded cornice, a feature which the hall and west room lack. The mantel in the west room is a handsome three-part Adamesque one with sunbursts, cable molding, pierced dentils, gougework, and paneled pilasters. The two-part mantel in the east room is less elaborate, lacking the sunbursts and paneling on the pilasters.

The open-string stair at the rear of the hall is accented with molding strips and ascends in two runs with a transverse landing. The rounded handrail is carried on square balusters, punctuated by square, capped posts, and terminates in a square capped newel. Wide, flat board sheathing occurs in the stairwell along the landing and second run.

Doors are the same on the second floor as on the first, and the architraves are simply molded. A molded chair rail and baseboard are consistent throughout the second floor, and both rooms have identical mantels.
7. Consist of a square opening with a wide simply molded architrave and heavy molded cornice shelf.

In the perpendicular extension at the rear of the house is a simple flat board Greek Revival mantel, and molded architraves. A number of outbuildings surround the house, but most are of recent construction. There is, however, a box-like structure which may have been the old smokehouse and is of some age.
Eagle Nest is a handsome early Federal plantation house of importance to the architectural history of Jones County, showing the strong cultural influence of New Bern in the area. Among its notable features are the two-tier porch with enclosed ends, the curious chimney treatment with exposed faces typical of New Bern buildings, the doors with flat panels above flush ones, and the well-executed interior woodwork.

The house now called Eagle Nest was probably built soon after 1796 for John Giles. On October 10 of that year, Giles and Kinchia (Hincha) Kelligrew, planters of Lenoir County, were deeded over 1,200 acres in Jones County, called the Tuckahoe Meadows land, from Edenton citizens James Iredell (associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States) and his wife, Hannah Johnston Iredell, Samuel Frednell Tredwell (collector of customs for Edenton), and others. The ownership of this land had been in dispute between the heirs of Samuel Johnston, Sr., and John Herritage, and probably no house was built there before this transaction. On April 5, 1796, Giles and Kelligrew divided the property between them, with Giles receiving 700 acres above Big Tuckahoe Branch and Kelligrew the land below the branch. Local tradition says that it was for Giles that the house was built; this would be consistent with stylistic evidence. Giles, who died in 1807, left his home plantation to his son, William M. Giles. William Giles, like his father, was evidently a planter who did not distinguish himself politically; it is also possible, stylistically, that he was the builder of the house. On March 30, 1833, he sold the dwelling house and 500 acres (excepting 40 acres sold to Isaac Brown) to Jonas Jones, Sr., for $1,500. He in turn deeded the property "for natural love and affection" to his nephew John Jones on July 10, 1838. Jones left it to his wife and minor son, who sold the property to E. S. F. Giles, who in turn sold it in 1860 to Cyrus Brown. It has remained in the hands of members of the Brown family and is now owned and lived in by Mary Brown Koonce and her husband Edward Earl Franck, who purchased the house in 1950.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jones County Records, Jones County Courthouse, Trenton, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Jones County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 acres

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Survey and Planning Unit
ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives and History
STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street
CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh
STATE: North Carolina
DATE: 30 August 1974

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 [ ] Local [ ]

Name: Thornton W. Mitchell
Title: Acting Director, Division of Archives and History
DATE: 30 August 1974

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

Chief, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

DATE: ___________________________