

USDI/NPS Registration Form

Name of Property/District

County, State

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Kelly, Alexander House

other names/site number Kelly, John B. House

2. Location

street & number NW side of SR 1640 0.3 mi. SE of jct. with SR 1666 (3313 Kelly Plantation Road)

N/A not for publication

city or town Carthage vic.

vicinity X

state North Carolina code NC county Moore code 125 zip code 28327

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination        request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property   X   meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide   X   locally. (        See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Jeffrey J. Crow* SAPO

3/5/02

Signature of certifying official

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria. (        See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====  
5. Classification  
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  2  </u> buildings
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  </u> sites
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  </u> structures
<u>  2  </u>	<u>  </u> objects
	<u>  2  </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   -0-  

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   Domestic: single dwelling  

Domestic: secondary structure

\_\_\_\_\_  
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic: single dwelling
Domestic: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Federal, Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation sandstone
roof asphalt
walls weatherboard
other wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.



USDI/NPS Registration Form

Name of Property/District

County, State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title M. Ruth Little
organization Longleaf Historic Resources date December 2001
street & number 2709 Bedford Avenue telephone 919-836-9731
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27607

12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ms. Martha Prevost et al
street & number 54 Chatsworth Drive telephone
city or town Toronto M4R 2R1 state Canada zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 1  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C**

**Section 7: Description**

The Alexander Kelly House, an imposing Federal and Greek Revival-style two-story frame house completed in 1842, sits on a knoll above McLendon's Creek three miles northwest of Carthage, the county seat of Moore County. The house is one of the foremost historic landmarks in the county, as it is not only the largest surviving antebellum house in the county but also in a pristine state of preservation. The house, located approximately 100 feet from Kelly Plantation Road, faces west, and is accessed by a semi-circular driveway that leads to the front porch. The outer edge of the drive is lined with brownstone rubble and a copse of small trees. Once the seat of a 3,000 acre plantation, the land adjoining the house has been subdivided. Recently constructed houses flank the Kelly House. The house occupies a 9.31-acre homestead tract that has 330 feet of road frontage and extends in a long rectangle to the rear. A generous lawn surrounds the house, and an ancient oak tree shades the house on the north side. Two small noncontributing outbuildings stand to the rear: a concrete block well-house (ca. 1960) and a deteriorated frame pack house (ca. 1940). A contributing stone well is located near the oak tree.

The graciously-proportioned house rests on tapered, hewn brownstone piers (now infilled with concrete) and is capped by a deep hip roof. All exterior fabric is original. Two tall interior rectangular brick chimneys project from the rear slope of the roof. Original molded weatherboard covers the walls, and boxed eaves with simple cornice and eave moldings encircle the roof. The central bay of the five-bay facade contains a handsome entrance consisting of a wide nine-panel door with a fanlight and sidelights of decorative Chippendale design. A three-bay pedimented porch shelters the entrance. Severe, unadorned columns support a flush-sheathed pediment with a simple molding. A trio of heavy round, horizontal rails originally enclosed the porch, but these have been removed. All first-story windows contain nine-over-nine sashes; all second-story windows contain nine-over-six sashes. The simply-molded window surrounds have heavy rounded sills. The rear entrance is identical to the front entrance, with identical pedimented porch, but retains more original fabric—wall colonettes and some of the original rounded rails. Beneath both porches, the walls have flush sheathing. The rear porch has been enclosed with screen. Brownstone steps ascend to both porches.

The interior is as completely intact as the exterior. A wide center hall is flanked by large front rooms and smaller rear rooms (see plan on page 7.3). A wide, simply executed stair rises from the rear of the hall to the second floor, of identical plan to the first floor. Floors retain wide heart pine flooring. All wall surfaces are finished with horizontal flush sheathing, and all ceilings have flush sheathing as well. Throughout the first floor are high molded baseboards, paneled wainscots with flat-topped, molded chairrails, and crown moldings outlining the twelve-foot ceilings. The second floor contains the same baseboard, wainscot, and crown molding treatment of a scale appropriate to the lower, nine-foot ceilings. The open-string stair has a side sheathed with flush diagonal sheathing, and an original four-panel door leads to a closet beneath the stair. The railing consists of a square, plain newel, round handrail and slender balusters. A thick, square wooden support post extends from floor to the ceiling to stabilize the stair. An unfinished attic, used for storage, is accessible through a trapdoor reached by an original ladder stair that rises from the rear of the upstairs hall. The stair has wide heavy

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 2  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C**

treads mortised into thick side boards.

All rooms retain original mantels except the south rear first floor room and the upstairs rear rooms. The mantels in the south rear first floor room and the upstairs south rear room have been removed; the mantel in the upstairs north rear room is a replacement. The parlor, located on the south side, has a Federal-style tripartite mantel with plain pilasters, a plain frieze and ovolo molding that support a thick shelf. In the center of the frieze, inside a decorative frame, is a small primitive painting of the house, depicted as white with black trim and a red door. It is signed "Charles S. Scott April 28, 1843." The end blocks contain inset mirrors that may be original. The corresponding front room on the other side of the hall, apparently always used as the "master" bedroom, has a similar mantel without painting or mirrors. A smaller scale mantel of similar design surrounds the fireplace of the room to the rear, which was used as the dining room until recent years. The small room behind the parlor, probably used as a bedroom historically, has functioned as the kitchen in recent years since the detached kitchen was destroyed. In front of the fireplace, whose mantel is gone, stands an ancient electric range. All other original trim in this room is still in place. Upstairs, the front rooms contain simple original mantels. The mantel in the south rear room has been removed. The north rear room contains a replacement mantel of vernacular Gothic Revival style, with a simple pointed arch frieze and flanking pilasters. This dates from the second half of the nineteenth century. No doubt all four upstairs rooms functioned as bedrooms. All interior doors are original six flat-paneled Federal-style doors set on rising butt hinges. The front and rear doors retain original cast-iron box locks. The parlor door retains its original brass box lock with knob. Several cast-iron box locks survive on upstairs doors.

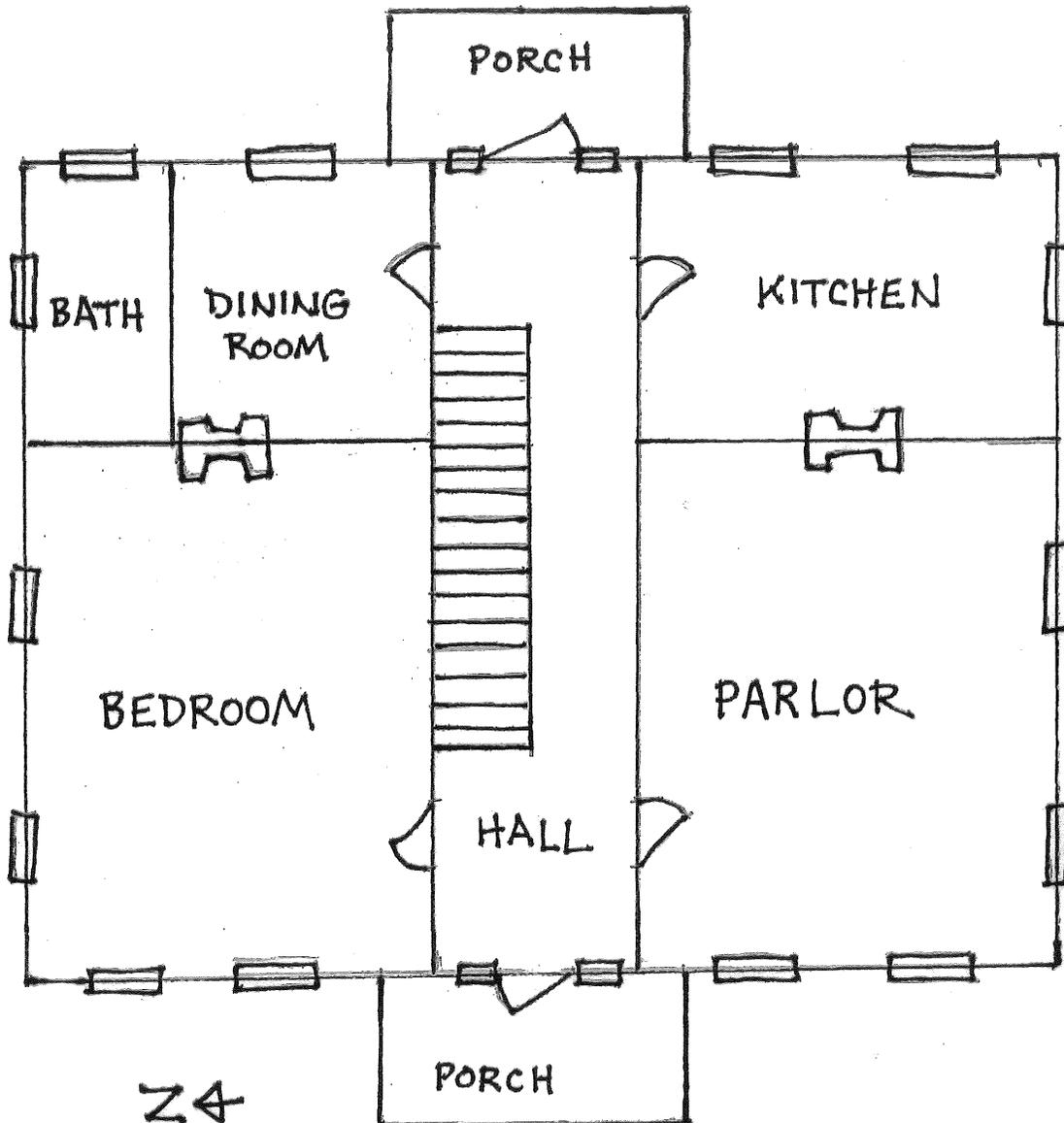
The only alterations to the interior are the addition of a bathroom in a portion of the north rear room on the first floor and a second bathroom at the rear of the upstairs hall. A large cupboard, of late nineteenth or early twentieth century date, stands in the front south corner of the upstairs hall.

Behind the house, the two noncontributing outbuildings are small and inconspicuous. A detached kitchen, with a second room connected to the kitchen room by a breezeway, stood directly behind the back porch. The deteriorated building was cleared away in the 1970s. Now a gabled, concrete block well-house (1950s) with wooden porch stands in this general location. The original well (contributing structure) of brown fieldstones, is located in the north rear yard. Nearby stands a small two-story frame packhouse (1940s) that is quite deteriorated.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C



Kelly House plan first floor (not to scale)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 4**  
**Kelly, Alexander House**  
**Moore County, N C**

**Section 8: Statement of Significance**

**Summary**

The Alexander Kelly House, one of Moore County's most prominent rural landmarks, stands three miles northwest of Carthage. Perhaps the grandest plantation house ever built in Moore County, the transitional Federal-Greek Revival style house, completed in 1842, is a two-story, hip-roofed, double-pile frame dwelling with ornate Federal entrances, molded weatherboard, and finely finished interiors with wainscots, tripartite mantels, and crown molding. Matching Greek Revival-style pedimented entrance porches shelter the ornate Federal entrances in the front and rear elevations. In 1843, the year after the house was completed, an itinerant artist painted a primitive image of the house in a decorative panel in the parlor mantel. Along with all of the other original fabric in the house, the painting is still in place.

Built for lawyer John B. Kelly, it was occupied by his nephew Alexander Kelly from the late 1840s to his death in 1872. Alexander Kelly (1810-1872), a planter, industrialist, politician, and sheriff, was one of Moore County's wealthiest and most prominent citizens. The house was the seat of a 3,000 acre plantation worked by thirty slaves during the 1850s. In 1846 Kelly and Thomas Tyson founded Tyson & Kelly Carriage Works in Carthage, the most prosperous factory in the county until the early twentieth century. The Kelly House has remained in the hands of Alexander's descendants to this day. The fourth generation of descendants now own and cherish the house.

The Alexander Kelly House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as one of the most stylish antebellum houses in Moore County. Because it has been occupied by the Kelly family since its construction, it is virtually unchanged and retains a remarkable degree of integrity.

**Historical Background**

The Alexander Kelly House has been the seat of the Kelly family since its construction in 1842. According to strong family tradition, Alexander Kelly, said to have been an amateur architect, designed the house for his uncle, John Bethune Kelly, and built it with slave labor from 1835 to 1842. Local brownstone and brick from the plantation were used in the dwelling. Due to destruction of Moore County deeds in the courthouse fire of 1889, no deeds exist to document the early ownership of the house. John and his brothers Peter and Daniel were born in the Isle of Skye, Scotland in the 1780s and immigrated to Moore County, North Carolina in 1803 with other kin and friends. The Kellys were part of the large Highland Scot influx that populated the North Carolina Sandhills region in the second half of the eighteenth century and early nineteenth century.<sup>1</sup> The three brothers settled along Richland and McLendons creeks northwest of Carthage in northern Moore County, among the hierarchy of planters and merchants who dominated Moore County until the late

---

<sup>1</sup> Kenneth and Helen Kelly, "Kelly Family History," typescript, 1999. N. C. State Genealogical Library, Raleigh, 10-11.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 5  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C**

nineteenth century. A Kelly family anecdote states that John B. had the first bathtub in North Carolina in this house. John would have occupied the house for only five years before his death in 1847.<sup>2</sup>

Alexander Kelly bought the house from his uncle, and spent the rest of his life there, where he became one of the wealthiest and most influential citizens in the county. Alexander "Sandy" Kelly (1810-1872) was born in Moore County, the son of Peter Kelly, who immigrated to Moore County as a young man. Alexander Kelly married Sarah McLeod about 1840, and by 1854 the couple had eight children. Moore County historian Rassie Wicker stated that Alexander was living in the house on McLendon Creek in 1850. The census of that year shows Kelly, age 39, and his wife Sarah, age 30, with six children ranging in age from newborn Murdoch McLeod Kelly to nine-year-old Catherine. Alexander's sister Isabella and her two children also lived with them. Kelly's real estate was valued at \$10,500, making him the richest landowner in Moore County. Alexander owned thirty slaves, thus was one of the two or three largest slaveowners in the county.<sup>3</sup> The planter class in Moore County, with more than twenty slaves, consisted of Alexander Kelly, R. C. Colter, James Tyson, and George Williams. Several stories corroborate Alexander's reputation as a kind master. His wagon driver John Waggoner fell in love with a slave named Mary owned by another family. Alexander purchased Mary so that she and John could live together. A bill of sale showing that Alexander purchased Mary for \$200 in 1842 still exists in the Kelly family papers. It is said that Mary became a nurse for the Kelly children.<sup>4</sup> John and Mary remained on the Kelly plantation after they were freed, and Mary tended a new generation of Kelly children.<sup>5</sup>

In 1856 Kelly and another wealthy Moore County planter, Thomas B. Tyson, established the Tyson and Kelly Carriage Works in Carthage. Construction of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road from Fayetteville through Carthage to Salem, North Carolina in the early 1850s had stimulated local industry and enabled the carriage works to prosper. By 1860 Tyson and Kelly employed eight workmen. When North Carolina entered the Civil War, the carriage works made equipment for a Confederate company from Moore County. In 1870, Tyson, worth \$20,000 in real estate and personal property, and Alexander Kelly, worth \$13,000, were two of the three wealthiest men in the county. Their factory, by then known as Tyson, Kelly & Jones Carriage Works, had become Moore County's greatest industry, with 225 workers. Over 600 buggies were produced annually for sale all over the South.<sup>6</sup>

Alexander was prominent in politics, church, and educational affairs. From 1840 to 1854, Kelly served as sheriff of Moore County. From 1846-1850 he served as a state senator, and from 1860-1864 and 1870-1872

---

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Wicker, *Miscellaneous Ancient Records of Moore County, North Carolina*, 138, 297; Letter from Mary Prevost to Ruth Little, Oct. 3, 2001. Copy in file.

<sup>4</sup> Wellman, *The County of Moore 1847-1947*, 35; 1842 Bill of Sale Willcox, Murchison & Tyson to Kelly, copy in nomination file. Family tradition relates that Mary was bought for \$1,000 from Rev. Hogshead, Methodist minister in Carthage. Wellman relates family tradition, which differs from the bill of sale in names of owners and sale price.

<sup>5</sup> Wellman, 67.

<sup>6</sup> Wellman, 32, 41, 73; *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory*, 1872.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 6  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C**

as a state representative. The ancestral church of the Kelly family was Union Presbyterian Church, located east of Carthage. Alexander's ancestors and his own family are buried there. Alexander was an elder in the Carthage Presbyterian Church in nearby Carthage. The Civil War was a tumultuous time for the Kelly family. Family stories relate that a deserter fired on Alexander while he was sitting on his porch. Another family story relates that Alexander traveled to Richmond during the Civil War to retrieve the bodies of his son Duncan, who died of heatstroke in a battle, and a nephew killed at Fredericksburg, from battleground cemeteries. When he returned home, he propped up their coffins on the picket fence that enclosed the back yard before taking them to Union Churchyard for reburial.

In 1870 Alexander was living at the homeplace with his four youngest children, ages fifteen to twenty-three. His wife had apparently died. His sister Christian, age 46, kept house. A nineteen-year-old farm laborer also lived in the household. In three adjacent dwellings (perhaps slave houses) lived families of mulattos and blacks with the Kelly surname who may have been ex-slaves. Forty-two year-old John W. Kelly had a wife and child. Debby Kelly, a housekeeper, had six children. Sarah Kelly, a housekeeper, had one daughter.<sup>7</sup> In 1871 Alexander put his affairs in order. He did not campaign for reelection to the State House of Representatives, and sold his interest in the carriage works to his partners Tyson and Jones. When he died in 1872, he was "honored and mourned and missed."<sup>8</sup>

Alexander's children lived in the house for the next sixty years. Alexander's daughter Mary Ann Kelly (1842-1917) moved into the homeplace after her father's death. Known as Aunt Mamie, she was married to Judge James D. McIver. In 1880 Mary and James lived there with their four children, along with Mary Ann's bachelor uncle Peter and spinster aunt Margaret.<sup>9</sup> They remained there until 1886, when they sold the house and ninety acres to her brother, Murdoch McLeod Kelly (1850-1935), who was married to Belle Palmer.<sup>10</sup> Murdoch and Belle raised their eight children, four boys and four girls, in the house. In 1920 Murdoch and Belle were living at the homestead with five children ages fourteen to thirty-two, along with Murdoch's brother Peter.<sup>11</sup> They both died in 1935, leaving the house to their two children, Duncan Archibald (Arch) and Margaret Elizabeth (Peg), who never married.

Alexander's grandchildren lived in the house through the rest of the twentieth century. Arch Kelly, a doughboy in World War I, died in 1936 of a brain tumor, and his share of the homestead passed to his seven surviving siblings. Their interest was transferred to their children as they died. Sarah (Sadie) Kelly lived in the house from her birth in 1892 to her death in the 1970s. Their younger bachelor brother Orren lived here until his death in 1945. Following his death, their brother John moved in with his wife Kate and their six children in

---

<sup>7</sup> 1870 Census, Moore County, N.C.

<sup>8</sup> Wellman, 80-83.

<sup>9</sup> 1870 Census, Moore County, N.C.

<sup>10</sup> Moore County Deed Book   ?  , 80. Copy of deed in Kelly family papers, copy in nomination file.

<sup>11</sup> 1920 Census, Moore County, N.C.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 7**  
**Kelly, Alexander House**  
**Moore County, N C**

1946 and remained until John and Kate's deaths. John died in 1979, and Kate remained in the house until her death in 1998. The house has been unoccupied since 1998.<sup>12</sup>

### **Architecture Context**

The Alexander Kelly House is believed to be the grandest house built by the antebellum planter class in the fertile northern lands of Moore County along the Deep River and its tributaries. Always sparsely populated, Moore County has lost many of its nineteenth-century dwellings. It is fortunate that this important landmark has survived. The majority of antebellum houses in Moore County were log houses. Only a handful of stylish plantation houses were built during this era, and only three survive: the Alston House ("House in the Horseshoe") ca. 1772; the William D. Harrington House, ca. 1830, and the Alexander Kelly House, 1842. The Alston House, now a State Historic Site open to the public, is a two-story frame side-gabled house with an ornate fanlit entrance. The interior Federal-style mantels and paneled wainscot are believed to have been added during an early 1800s remodelling. The Harrington House is a large two-story side-gabled double-pile house with gable end brownstone chimneys and an engaged double-tier front porch. The plain exterior belies the stylish Federal mantel, moldings, wainscot and built-in dining room cupboard on the interior. Both houses have vernacular design, reflecting the cultural isolation of Moore County prior to the Civil War.<sup>13</sup>

The Kelly House, with its monumental scale and its formal double-pile plan, represents an architectural sophistication that is unique in Moore County during this era. Family tradition states that Alexander Kelly was an "amateur architect," thus he may have modeled the house after some that he saw on his travels. In overall form, the house is Federal in style, with its small-paned sash instead of the large six-over-six sashes associated with the Greek Revival style, its graceful molded weatherboards, small-paneled doors and daintily-scaled baseboard, wainscot and mantels. The front and rear classical entrance porches are self-consciously Greek Revival in style. However, the plain cylindrical columns, lacking any articulation into base, shaft and capital, as well as the severe pediments, finished only by a shallow molding at the edges, indicate that the carpenters lacked both an understanding of the new style and a patternbook, such as Asher Benjamin's *Practical House Carpenter*, to execute it.

A likely scenario that explains the architectural appearance of the Kelly House is that the slave carpenters, perhaps supervised by Alexander Kelly, built the house based on his plan. The stylish finish pieces—windows, doors, wainscots, mantels, and entrance sidelights and fanlight—were ordered from a sash and blind factory and installed. The porches, with their incomplete realization of Greek Revival style, and the interior staircase, with its simple square newel post, were constructed in the prevailing vernacular manner. The house

---

<sup>12</sup> Mary Kelly (1890-1983) was one of Murdoch and Belle's eight children. She married Charles A. Prevost, Jr. Their son Murdoch Prevost (1921-1984) had three children, Murdoch, Mary, and Charles. Interviews with Mary Prevost and Charles Prevost, 2001. See Sept. 11, 2001 letter and Oct. 3, 2001 letter from Mary Prevost in nomination file.

<sup>13</sup> Little and Kullen, "Report on the Moore County, N.C. Historic Architecture Reconnaissance Survey," 1997.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 8  
Kelly, Alexander House  
Moore County, N C**

features a complex blend of high-style Federal and vernacular Greek Revival architectural elements. Altogether, the grand scale and startling juxtaposition of stylish and utilitarian detailing, make the Alexander Kelly House unique in Moore County and in the region.

Another notable feature is the survival of the primitive "house portrait" executed by an itinerant artist in the center block of the parlor mantel. The artist, Charles Scott, is not listed in the existing guide to artists and ornamental painters in North Carolina, and it is likely that he was a brief sojourner in the Sandhills area. Decorative painting was often executed in antebellum houses in North Carolina, but most of the decoration consisted of faux graining, abstract patterns on wainscots and stair treads, or scenic paintings. House portraits, actual representations of the dwelling in which the painting is located, are much rarer. In fact, this is the only known example of this type of decorative painting in the state.<sup>14</sup> The flanking end block mirrors are an interesting survival as well, and may have been installed along with the artwork itself.

---

<sup>14</sup> Craig, *The Arts and Crafts in North Carolina, 1699-1840*; Telephone conversation with Laura Phillips, an expert in North Carolina decorative painting, Dec. 14, 2001.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 9-10 Page 9**  
**Name of Property/District**  
**County, State**

**Section 9: Bibliography**

*Branson's North Carolina Business Directory*, 1872.

Historical Calendar of Moore County, 1970s. Original at Moore County Public Library, Carthage.

Kelly Family Papers. Possession of Charles Prevost, Carthage, N.C.

Kelly, Kenneth and Helen. "Kelly Family History," typescript, 1999. N. C. State Genealogical Library.

Little, M. Ruth and Kullen, Michelle T. Report on the Moore County, N.C. Reconnaissance Survey of Historic Architecture," 1997. North Carolina Historic Preservation Office.

Phillips, Laura. Winston-Salem, N.C. Telephone conversation, Dec. 14, 2001.

U. S. Census, Population Schedule, Moore County. 1850, 1870, 1920.

Wellman, Manly Wade. *The County of Moore 1847-1947*. Southern Pines: Moore County Historical Association, 1962.

Wicker, Rassie. *Miscellaneous Ancient Records of Moore County, North Carolina*. Southern Pines: Moore County Historical Association, 1971.

**Section 10: Verbal Boundary Description:**

The 9.31-acre nominated tract constitutes Parcel 3485 of Moore County Tax Map 52.5.5. The parcel is outlined in black.

**Boundary Justification**

The ten nominated acres represent the remaining acres historically associated with the Alexander Kelly House, once the seat of a 3,000 acre plantation. All of the land adjoining the 9.31-acre homestead was subdivided into smaller tracts and sold in recent years. Tracts of approximately ten acres, each containing a single residence, flank the Kelly House tract.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section Photos Page 10**  
**Name of Property/District**  
**County, State**

**Photographs:**

The following information pertains to all photographs except where noted:

Photographer: M. Ruth Little

Date: September 2001

Location of negatives: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh

- A. Overall view from
- B. Overall rear view from northeast, with pump house at left.
- C. View of front entrance (1974 documentary by M. Ruth Little)
- D. First floor hall, looking toward front entrance.
- E. View of parlor
- F. "House portrait" in parlor mantel.
- G. View of kitchen.
- H. Second floor hall, looking toward rear.
- I. Well and barn in rear yard, view from

410  
(2.05A)  
95000155  
2841  
410  
212.5  
212.5

(11.19A)  
200 3467 2589  
172.8  
3483  
11.92A  
2328

(230)

(1240)

(340)

20.08 (420)

(9.31A)  
3485  
6187

KELLY HOUSE

(1200)

(9.69A)  
3987  
5826

(330)

350



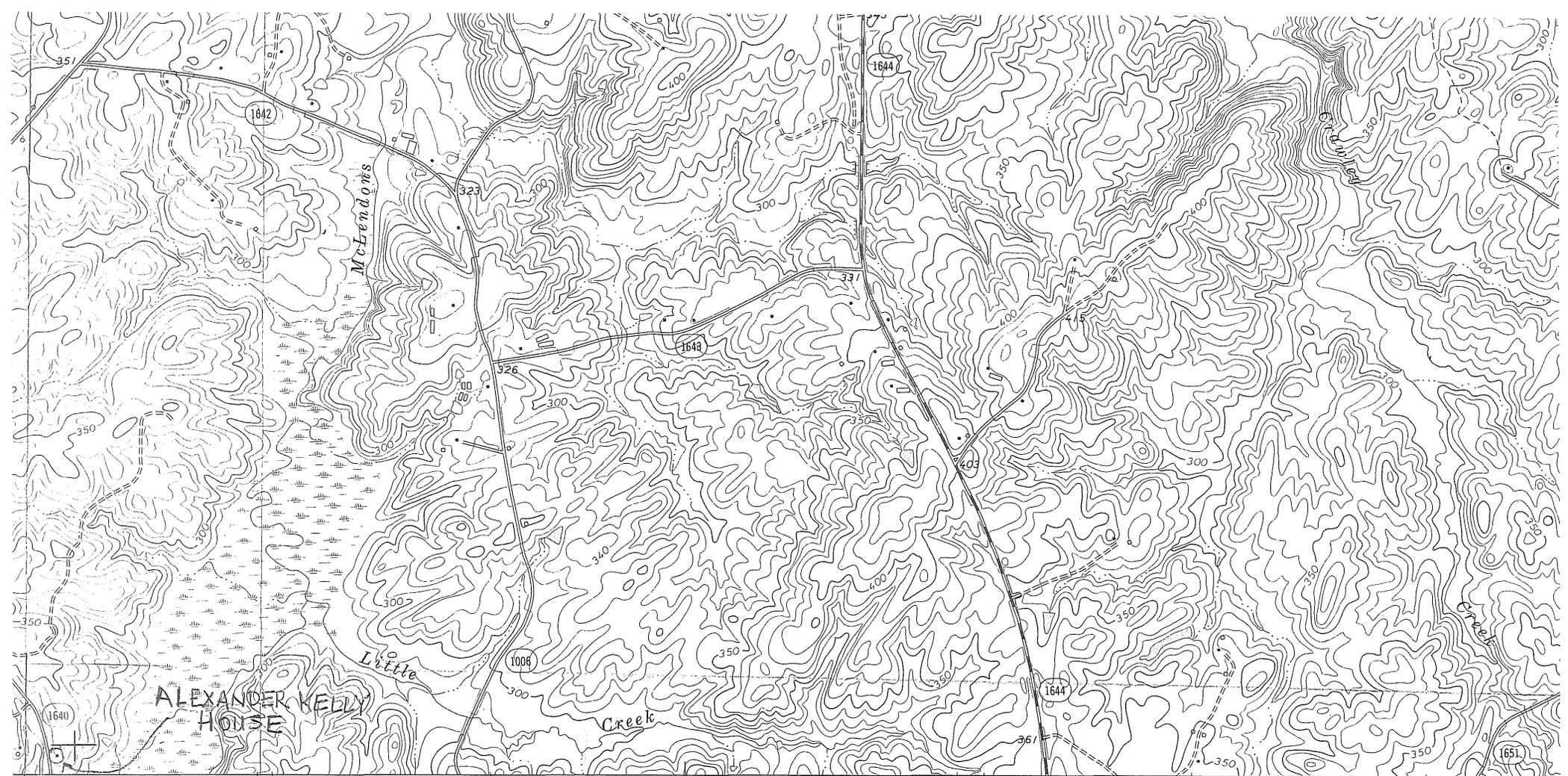
71

81

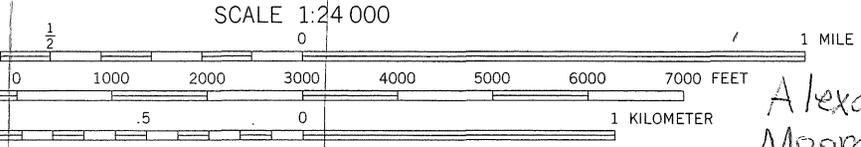
1320

892  
KELLY PLANN

Alexander Kelly House  
Moore County, N. C.  
Parcel 3485, Moore County Tax Map 52.5.5  
Scale: one inch = 200 feet  
Tax Map Date: December 2001



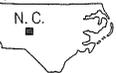
641 (CARTHAGE) 5154 IV SW 643 25' 644 645 646



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

Alexander Kelly House  
Moore County, N.C.  
9.31 acres Zone 17  
17/64/140/3915660

QUADRANGLE LOCATION



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1977  
646 647000m.E. 79°

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

PUTNAM, N. C.  
N3522.5—W7922.5/7.5

1974

AMS 5154 IV NW—SERIES V84

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A DESCRIPTION OF TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

