

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property

historic name Piland, J. E., House

other names/site number Diamond Grove

2. Location

street & number 148 Mt. Carmel Road (southwest corner of SR 1333 and SR 1341) not for publication N/A

city or town Margarettsville vicinity X

state North Carolina code NC county Northampton code 131 zip code 27853

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.)

Stephen Crow SHPO 7/13/04
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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
____ 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): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Piland, J. E., House
Name of Property

Northampton County, NC
County and State

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
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
 roof metal
 walls weatherboard

other brick

Narrative Description

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

Piland, J. E., House
Name of Property

Northampton County, NC
County and State

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.

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.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1910

Significant Dates

1910

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Piland, James Eldridge, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

Piland, J. E., House
Name of Property

Northampton County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 2 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 18 290900 4043500
2

Zone Easting Northing
3
4
See continuation sheet.

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 Beth Keane, Preservation Consultant
organization Retrospective date January, 2004
street & number 2001 Metts Avenue telephone 910-815-1096
city or town Wilmington state NC zip code 28403

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 Andrew C. and Mary Piland
street & number Rt. 2, Box 141 telephone 252-585-0714
city or town Conway state NC zip code 27820

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

Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The 1910 J. E. Piland House is a transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival-style frame residence located approximately one mile south of Margarettsville in a largely rural section of Northampton County. The nominated property encompasses approximately two acres and includes one contributing and two non-contributing outbuildings in addition to the Piland House. Located in northeastern North Carolina, Northampton County is bounded on the east by Bertie and Hertford counties and the Meherrin River, on the south by Halifax County, on the west by Warren County and the Roanoke River, and on the north by the state of Virginia. Elevations in Northampton County range from a low of about ten feet above sea level where the Meherrin and Roanoke Rivers leave the county to a high of 350 feet in the vicinity of Vulture in the western end of the county. The surface area is generally quite flat in the eastern portion, becoming rolling and hilly in the west (*Northampton County, An Economic Study*, p. 1).

The J. E. Piland House is situated on a 160-acre tract of land located near the Virginia border on the southwest corner of the intersection of SR 1341 and SR 1333, approximately one mile south of Margarettsville, one of the earliest settlements in Northampton County. Set well back from the road, the house faces southeast. For ease of description, the building's elevations are referred to as south (front), north (rear), and east and west (sides). A gravel driveway runs from SR 1333 to the east side of the house. The approximately two-acre parcel included in this nomination is surrounded on three sides by open agricultural fields. Two large magnolia trees shade the front of the house. Additional trees planted on the grounds include mature water oaks, red oaks, catalpas, walnuts, elms, and weeping willows. A mature stand of bamboo is located behind the house adjacent to the two outbuildings.

Outbuildings associated with the 1910 J. E. Piland House include a c. 1910 frame garage with shed additions and a c. 1940 concrete block and brick chicken coop. A frame house in deteriorated condition, dating possibly to the eighteenth century, sits behind the garage and is blocked from view by a grove of trees.

Inventory List

1. J. E. Piland House 1910 Contributing Building

The J. E. Piland House is an intact example of the popular transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival-style house built throughout the country during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Facing southeast, the L-shaped, two-story frame house with a one-story rear wing sits on a brick foundation. Weatherboard siding, corner boards, and molded window surrounds, along with a molded cornice, and flat frieze and architrave distinguish the exterior of the house. The main block features a high, hipped, metal shingle roof with overhanging eaves.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC

With two exceptions, windows throughout the house are one-over-one double-hung sash, taller at the first story than at the second. Modest molded crowns top most of the first-story windows, while the house's unbroken architrave serves as the lintel of the second-story window surrounds.

Typical of Colonial Revival houses built around the turn of the twentieth century, the composition of the main block exhibits characteristically Queen Anne asymmetry in the placement of the two-story front wing. Two front doors provide access to the interior of the house from the wide porch wrapping around this wing (see exhibit A). The primary half-glazed door, opening into a large front room, is surmounted by a single light transom. A distinctive shouldered architrave with a central parapet caps the door and the window located west of the door, both of which are symmetrically positioned on the main facade. Two windows with similar shouldered surrounds are located at the second level, directly over the first-level window and door, and a hipped-roof dormer with three small, square windows is centered at the attic level. The second front door, also half-glazed, opens into the hall from the back of the wraparound porch's east side and is flanked by two-pane sidelights and surmounted by a three-part transom.

A spacious one-story porch supported by slightly tapered box posts resting on brick piers dominates the principal elevation. The hipped-roof porch wraps partially around both the east and west elevations of the house. Front steps ascend to each of the end bays of the porch, which features a picket balustrade, wood floor, tongue-and-groove wood ceiling, a flat architrave and frieze, a deeply overhanging eave, and a standing-seam metal roof. An original porch roof balustrade was removed recently when it was discovered that it was contributing to deterioration of the roof.

An exterior-end brick chimney with sloping shoulders rises along the west elevation of the house. Two windows flank the chimney at both levels. An additional window is located at the level of the staircase landing, between the two stories. A one-story bathroom addition with a shed roof is attached north of the chimney, just beyond the end of the porch. An interior-end chimney is located at the north end of the west elevation and is flanked at both stories by windows. A hipped-roof dormer, identical to the one on the front, is centered at the attic level.

On the opposite side of the main block, the south end of the east elevation has a window at each level, the lower one protected by the porch. A one-story square bay with a shed roof projects slightly just beyond the end of the porch. A tripartite window consisting of a high, horizontal, fixed single pane flanked on either side by a double-hung sash is located north of the square bay. Two windows appear at the second level, aligned with the windows below.

A third interior-end chimney rises through the rear (north) slope of the roof near the east end. Two windows are set close together near the center of the upper rear facade.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3

Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC

A gabled, one-story rear wing with a central chimney extends off the north elevation of the main block. Square posts support an engaged porch on the east side of the wing. The north end of the porch is enclosed, forming a small square pantry. Four doors provide access from the porch to the interior of the house: one opens into the parlor in the main block of the house, one opens into the rear wing dining room, one opens into the rear wing kitchen, and one opens into the pantry (see exhibit A). A single window is centered at the north gable end of the wing, while two sets of paired windows, the front dining room pair larger than the rear kitchen pair, are found on the west elevation of the wing. On the east side, the pantry window is four-over-four sash. At the rear wing's north gable end an angled hatch covered with double doors provides access to a small basement room.

Ten-foot ceilings, eight-inch baseboards, pine floors, plaster walls, six-panel doors, original light fixtures, and Colonial Revival-style mantels are found throughout the nine-room house. All of the doors, mantelpieces, and trim in the main block are stained rather than painted.

The plan of the main block of the house features a transverse hall that separates the entire front room wrapped by the porch from two rooms to the rear (see exhibit A). A simple but handsome mantel that acts as a focal point for the front room is composed of columns supporting a plain boxed architrave and shelf. The original owner utilized the front room as a bedroom for many years. Near the west end of the transverse passage, an open string single-landing staircase with picket balusters and square newel posts with recessed panels ascends to the second floor. A tall window is positioned at the landing, flooding the staircase with light. A small closet is located under the stairs. The only bathroom in the house is located at the west end of the passage. The original bathroom was on the second level, but low water pressure resulted in moving the facility to the first level in a room added to the west elevation several years after the house was built. The bathroom retains its original fixtures, including a claw foot bathtub.

Pocket doors, each with six horizontal panels, separate the parlor from the central hall. Brightly illuminated by the tripartite window, the spacious parlor provided an area for the Piland family's shared activities. A fireplace with a mantel composed of columns supporting a plain boxed architrave and shelf with a mirrored overmantel is positioned at one end of the room. A single door connects the parlor to the adjoining bedroom, which can also be accessed from the hall. A fireplace with a mantel similar to the front room mantel originally heated the bedroom. A panel encloses the firebox and a free-standing oil stove sits in front of it.

The rear one-story wing, accessed from the bedroom, incorporates the dining room and the kitchen. The dining room also features a fireplace with closed firebox at one end. The kitchen retains its original cabinets and fixtures, including a shallow wall-hung porcelain sink without a base cabinet. A small square pantry is connected to the kitchen. Each of these rooms can be accessed from the back porch.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4

Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC

Three large bedrooms open off a transverse hall on the second floor. The original upstairs bathroom, located behind the west-side, front bedroom, was adapted for use as a fourth small bedroom or nursery. Each of the rooms, with the exception of the nursery, features a fireplace with a mantel composed of columns supporting a plain shelf.

The knot-free pine used in building the house was harvested from the original 400-acre farm and according to family tradition, the house was constructed by the original owner. The current owner, grandson of J. E. Piland, recently rebuilt the front porch with a new metal roof. The house originally utilized a carbide lighting system, followed by a Delco system. Modern electric lighting was added in 1943. The house has not been updated with heating or air conditioning systems.

2. Chicken Coop c. 1940 Non-contributing Outbuilding

A one-story brick and concrete-block chicken coop is located approximately thirty-seven feet behind the main house. The seventeen- by twenty-two-foot building has a shed roof with exposed rafters. A screened-in enclosure has been added to the front of the building. A six-over-six sash window is located in each end of the building. The building originally served as a sweet potato curing shed.

3. Garage c. 1910 Contributing Outbuilding

A south-facing frame, gable-front garage constructed of cypress sits approximately forty feet behind the main house and approximately forty feet east of the chicken coop. Double-leaf doors constructed of vertical boards protect the entrance. Shed additions supported by poles are attached to the east and west elevations of the garage. Weatherboard siding covers the garage, while the shed additions and roof are clad with metal. An exterior chimney is placed on the north gable end of the garage.

4. House c. 1800 Non-contributing Building

A frame house in very deteriorated condition sits approximately five feet behind (north of) the garage. The post and beam house, overgrown with weeds and brush, is missing its back wall and most of the interior framing and woodwork. It appears the house was originally a hall-parlor structure with rear shed rooms. The side-gable roof incorporates three gabled dormers with diagonally placed flush weatherboard sheathing. Two small windows were located at each gable end at the second level, on either side of an exterior chimney (no longer extant). Evidence in the form of exposed lathing and crumbled plaster reveal the interior walls and ceiling were once covered with plaster.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1910 J. E. Piland House was built by the original owner, James Elridge Piland (known as J. E.), a prominent farmer, builder, and merchant in Northampton County. The impressive two-story frame dwelling typifies the emergence of the Colonial Revival style in its incorporation of Queen Anne elements to create a pleasing blend of popular early twentieth-century architectural styles. The L-shaped form, wide wraparound porch, and high hipped roof with a dominant front dormer presents an elegant and substantial image suitable to a successful farmer and merchant in rural Northampton County. The house sits on the site of the former Diamond Grove plantation and the first post office in Northampton County. The J. E. Piland House is nominated under Criterion C for its local significance as a largely intact early-twentieth-century house exemplifying a nationally popular style of the period that was rarely seen in rural Northampton County. The period of significance is limited to the year 1910, when the house was built.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

One of the earliest settlements in Northampton County was Margarettsville, near the Virginia border. Settlers from Greensville and Southampton counties in Virginia who followed the Meherrin River in the 1600s and early 1700s discovered fertile lands south of the Virginia border for farming. The community was officially named "Margaret" when an official of the Seaboard railroad arrived to inspect the railroad after the line from Portsmouth, Virginia, to Margarettsville was completed in 1836. Upon learning that the community had no name, he named it Margaret for an attractive young native girl, Margaret Jordan. Residents later added "tsville" making it the longest name of any postal town in the state. During the early years of the twentieth century, the Margarettsville community included several stores, a lumber company, a baby-crib factory, and two churches (*Footprints in Northampton*, p. 196).

About one mile south of Margarettsville is a crossroads that took its name from the large Diamond Grove plantation that once occupied the area. A post office was established at the plantation crossroads on January 25, 1827. (In 1937, the post office was moved to nearby Margarettsville and renamed for that town.) An old plank road ran from Petersburg, Virginia, to Fayetteville, North Carolina, passing the Diamond Grove plantation which became a stage coach stop and trade center for travelers. The plantation was named Diamond Grove because its buildings stood among a grove of oak and elm trees planted in the shape of a diamond. Owned by Dr. William J. Johnson prior to the Civil War, Diamond Grove earned a reputation during those years as a horse racing and social center. The plantation was notorious for its extended parties, wrestling matches between slaves of neighboring plantations, and bloody cockfights (*Footprints in Northampton*, p. 196).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6

Piland, J. E. House
Northampton County, NC

In his 1882 will, Dr. Johnson left the plantation to his only living son, Prince A. Johnson, on the provision that "he shall not drink intoxicating liquor." Otherwise the property was to go to a grandson. The land passed out of the Johnson family around the turn of the twentieth century (*Roanoke-Chowan News* article).

James Eldridge Piland purchased 150 acres of the former Diamond Grove property from J. G. and Nettie Bottoms on January 3, 1910, for \$3,000.00 (Deed Book 11, p. 459). He purchased another 200 acres of the former plantation from D. B. and Sarah Rogers on December 30, 1910, again paying \$3,000.00 (Deed Book 153, p. 262). He combined these two properties with several smaller parcels he had obtained in 1906 and 1907 to form a 480-acre farm.

James Eldridge Piland (b. July 4, 1879) was the youngest child of Jesse and Elizabeth Taylor Piland. Known as J. E., he received some of his early education at Buies Creek Academy, now Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina. Piland opened and operated a general store known as J. E. Piland & Company in Margarettsville. He married Bessie Ella Taylor (b. September 1, 1881), daughter of Kinchen and Elizabeth Powell Taylor, on November 22, 1903. After purchasing the Diamond Grove property, the Pilands lived in the former eighteenth-century Johnson House while constructing a new house. J. E. Piland constructed his new house out of knot-free pine lumber, hand-selected and cut on the premises (Griffin, p. 80).

J. E. Piland was a successful farmer, merchant, and land owner. Among his many endeavors, he built and rented forty houses in Roanoke Rapids for the cotton mill. He gained a reputation as a renowned hunter and fisherman and sold rockfish and striped bass caught from the Roanoke River. Piland's wife, Bessie Ella Taylor Piland, was an active homemaker and mother. The Pilands had six children: James Rodney (b. August 10, 1904), Reginald Gritt (b. August 16, 1906), Andrew Cleo (b. January 11, 1913), Mary Lou (b. October 28, 1915), John Eldridge (b. April 24, 1918), and Calvin Roscoe (b. January 31, 1921). Bessie suffered a number of serious illnesses during her life including malaria and tuberculosis and in later life, a stroke. She died at the age of 77 on July 31, 1959, at the farm which she and J. E. had named Diamond Grove. J. E. Piland continued to reside on his farm until poor health forced him to move to a rest home in Rich Square. He died at the age of 87 on August 21, 1966 (Griffin, p. 23).

The Pilands' third son, Andrew Cleo, married Esther Griffin, (b. January 1, 1920) on December 24, 1937. Cleo and Esther made their home near Diamond Grove and had two children: Andrew Cleo (A. C.) Jr. (b. November 13, 1938) and Charles Wayne (b. October 27, 1943). Andrew Cleo Piland Sr. died on November 19, 1986 (Griffin, p. 25).

A. C. Piland Jr. married Mary Coggins (b. July 18, 1938) on April 26, 1959. He graduated from Conway High School and worked as plant manager for the Georgia-Pacific Corporation in Conway. Mary Piland is a homemaker and cosmetologist. They have four

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Piland, J. E. House
Northampton County, NC

children including Johnny Andrew (b. February 17, 1961), James Edwin (b. February 22, 1966), Charles Lee (b. June 17, 1969), and Russel Eldridge (b. September 2, 1970) (Griffin, p. 25).

J. E. Piland's will specified that most of the Diamond Grove property be divided between his six children. He further stipulated in his will: "the balance of Diamond Grove farm known as my homeplace, consisting of fifty acres, more or less, I bequeath to my son, Reginald G. Piland, for the term of his natural life. At the death of my son, Reginald, this property shall then go to my five children and their heirs, share and share alike" (Will Book 14, p. 106). Between 1982 and 1987, A. C. Piland Jr. bought back much of the original Diamond Grove property from the various heirs, eventually acquiring 160 acres along with the 1910 house built by his grandfather (Northampton County deeds).

The J. E. Piland House has not had a full-time resident since Wayne Piland (A. C. Piland Jr.'s brother) lived in the house in 1967. After acquiring the old homeplace, A. C. Piland Jr. stabilized the house by cleaning up the yard, replacing broken window glass, removing roosting pigeons, and painting the exterior. The Pilands used the house for storage until 2000 when they began aggressive efforts to restore the property. In 2001, the Diamond Grove Plantation Advisory Committee was formed to devise a plan for restoration, recognition, and possible uses for the property. The Pilands have received several grants to assist them with their restoration efforts. The interiors have been furnished as it was in 1940 with many Piland family heirlooms. Northampton County has been an active participant in the planning and restoration efforts as it views the property as an important part of the Northampton County's heritage and an educational resource for the county's children.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

While the Queen Anne style continued to influence residential design in Northampton County until World War I, the Colonial Revival style started to gain popularity during the first decade of the twentieth century as a reassertion of classically derived domestic designs. During the early years of the twentieth century, a number of houses combined elements of both the picturesque Queen Anne and classicism. As a result, early Northampton County examples of the Colonial Revival style were rarely historically correct copies but instead were free interpretations with details inspired by colonial precedents (McAlester, p. 326).

The 1910 J. E. Piland House illustrates a vernacular hybrid of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, with the emphasis on the Colonial Revival. The L-shaped asymmetrical plan, high-hipped roof, and wraparound porch all owe their inspiration to the picturesque. The minimal classical ornamentation and the use of simple tapered porch supports, however, show the influence of the Colonial Revival. The interior of the house is also less elaborate than what would be found in a stylish late-nineteenth-century Queen Anne-style house. The principal

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 8

Piland, J. E. House
Northampton County, NC

rooms are simply finished with plaster walls and ceilings and simple molded door and window surrounds. The staircase, one of the most important interior elements of a house, exhibits paneled newel posts and simple picket balusters. The Colonial Revival mantels consist of flanking columns supporting a flat mantel shelf. The parlor mantel also includes a columned overmantel. The interior doors with six horizontal panels and the Colonial Revival-style mantels are similar to those made available through *Universal Design Book 1904*, a catalog distributed by Lawton Company, St. John, New Brunswick. Similar mantels and doors are common in numerous houses throughout northeastern North Carolina (Power, p. 133). The kitchen and dining rooms were placed in a one-story rear wing, a common practice in rural North Carolina throughout the early twentieth century.

The lumber for the J. E. Piland House was harvested from his land and cut on the family's property. According to family tradition, J. E. Piland built the house by himself, but it seems likely that he had the help of an experienced builder or carpenter. While the source of the design for the house has not been determined, its sophistication suggests that it may have been either the work of an architect or taken from a book of plans that has yet to be identified.

Although a comprehensive survey of Northampton County has not been conducted, sufficient survey work has been done to determine that the J. E. Piland House is among a fairly small group of fashionable houses built in the county's rural areas during the first several decades of the twentieth century. A reconnaissance level survey undertaken in 1996 discovered a house (NP-351) near Milwaukee that illustrates a vernacular hybrid of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. The L-shaped plan, the gable-on-hip roof and wraparound porch of the house owe their inspiration to the Queen Anne, but the minimal ornamentation, the symmetrical façade, and the use of simple wooden columns on the porch reveal the influence of the Colonial Revival. Another house (NP-362) near Woodland is a one-story blend of the two styles. The cottage has a hip roof, a steeply-pitched center gable, Queen Anne-style windows, and an asymmetrical façade, all hallmarks of the Queen Anne. However, the porch has minimal embellishment and is supported by classically inspired columns (Mattson, Alexander and Associates, n.p.). In a landscape dominated by simply styled vernacular architecture, the designs of these houses conveyed the business and agricultural successes of their owners.

Houses elsewhere in the region contribute to the architectural context of the Piland House. For example, the c. 1910 Charles McLawhorn House in the Renston community in nearby Pitt County epitomizes the transitional style. In this example, the two-story house with a high-hip roof retains symmetry with a central projecting pavilion supporting a hip-roof dormer. A wide wraparound porch with Doric columns distinguishes the primary facade. The interior has an assortment of manufactured elements including columned mantelpieces with mirrored overmantels and molded door surrounds (Power, p. 129).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 9

Piland, J. E. House
Northampton County, NC

The asymmetrical form and irregular interior plan of the c. 1910 Bulluck-Price House on U.S. 301 in Nash County expresses the Queen Anne style while the architectural restraint and classical porch reflect the rising popularity of the Colonial Revival. The two-story, L-shaped house with a high hip roof has a full-façade porch and one-over-one sash windows (Mattson, p. 251). The Henry-Coley House, another early twentieth-century transitional farmhouse found in the Dortches vicinity of Nash County, also demonstrates the prosperity of its owners (Mattson, p. 231). The high hipped roof and wraparound porch supported by tapered columns on brick piers is similar to the J. E. Piland House. The 1917 Jesse F. Crisp House in Oak City was built by a prosperous Martin County tobacco farmer. Again, this transitional Colonial Revival-style dwelling displays a boxy shape covered by a hip roof with hip roof dormers and boxed cornices. Tuscan columns support a wide-wrap around porch (Butchko, p. 166). Although the rural early twentieth-century farmhouses in northeastern North Carolina display many similarities and can be classified as transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival houses, each one is also distinctive in its design, layout, and architectural details.

The J. E. Piland House is one of Northampton County's most intact early-twentieth-century houses and is a striking example of the Queen Anne/Colonial Revival hybrid popular during that era. The J. E. Piland House retains nearly all of its original elements and finishes. The home, currently owned by the original owner's grandson, has been associated with the Piland family throughout its history.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 10

Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC

Section 9 – Bibliography

Butchko, Thomas R. Martin Architectural Heritage: The Historic Structures of a Rural North Carolina County. Williamston: Martin County Historical Society, 1998.

Griffin, John M. The Pilands of Diamond Grove; A Family History Spanning Eight Generations. Roanoke Rapids: Michael Press, 1988.

Johnson, Roy. "War and Sin End Famed Plantation," *The Roanoke-Chowan Times*. Undated clipping in the survey file for the J. E. Piland House, North Carolina Office of Archives and History, State Historic Preservation Office.

Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc. Tyrrell County and Northampton County Reconnaissance Level Surveys. Prepared for North Carolina Division of Archives and History and Conservation Fund, 1996.

Mattson, Richard L. The History and Architecture of Nash County, North Carolina. Nash County Planning Department, 1987.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984.

Northampton County Bicentennial Committee. Footprints in Northampton. 1976.

Northampton County Deed Books, Office of Register of Deeds, Northampton County Courthouse Annex, Jackson, NC.

Power, Scott. The Historic Architecture of Pitt County, North Carolina. Greenville: Pitt County Historical Society, Inc., 1991.

Virginia Electric and Power Company. *Northampton County, North Carolina: An Economic Study Area Development*, 1973.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 10 Page 11

**Piland, J. E., House
Northampton County, NC**

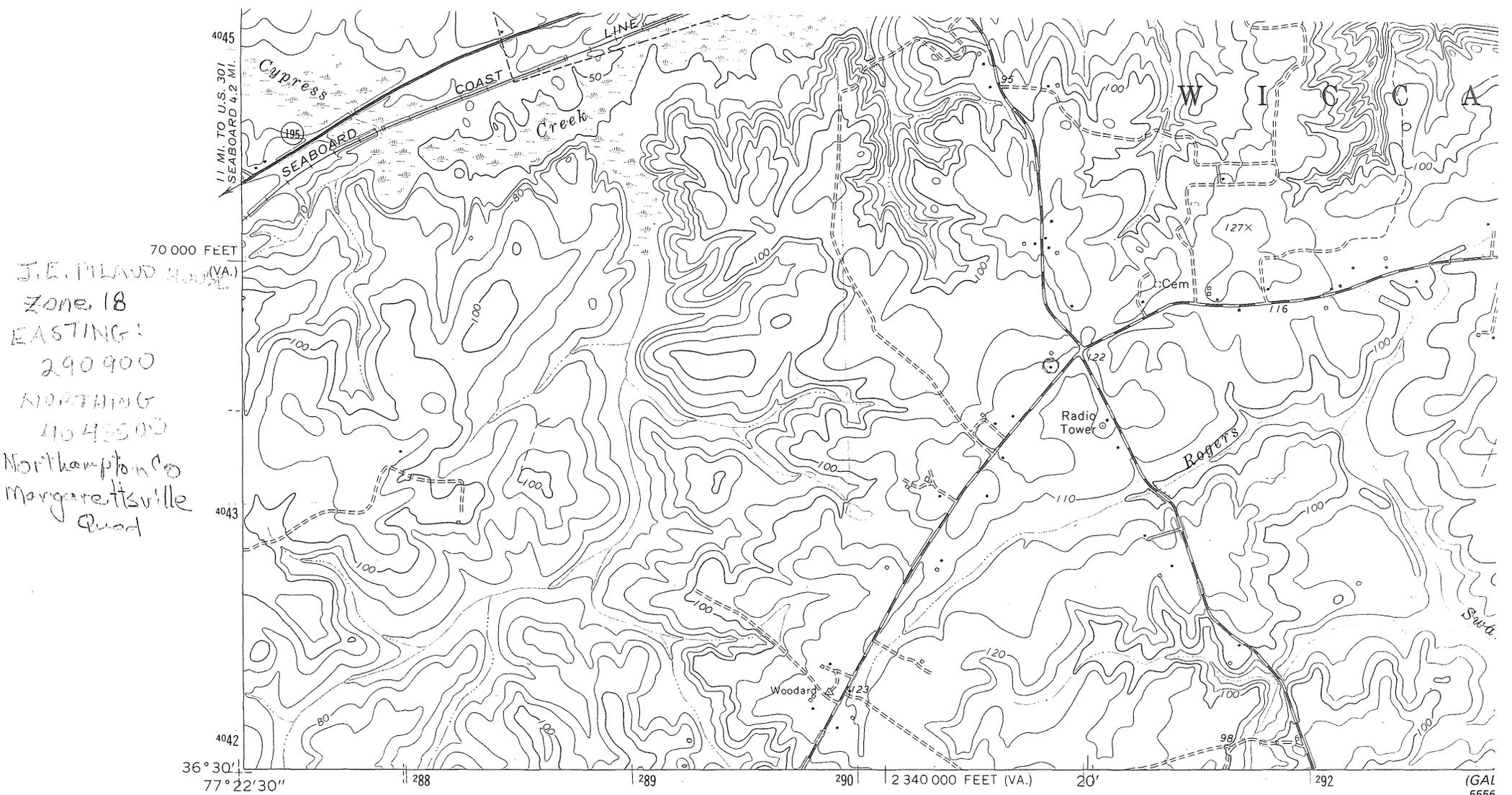
Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated parcel includes an approximate two-acre parcel just south of the southwest corner at the intersection of SR 1341 and SR 1333. The parcel is a portion of a larger 59.56-acre parcel (4081-81-5486) and is delineated on the accompanying Northampton County Tax Map.

Boundary Justification

The property boundary for the J. E. Piland House encompasses a tract of approximately two acres containing the 1910 J. E. Piland House and its associated outbuildings, along with the maintained yard surrounding the house. The boundaries establish an appropriate setting for the house while excluding the adjoining agricultural fields.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

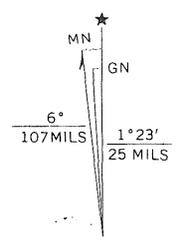
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Virginia coordinate system,
south zone, and North Carolina coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

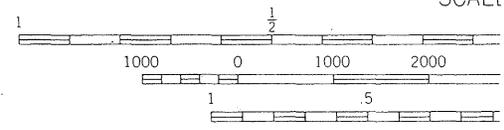
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 12 meters south and
28 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks



UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

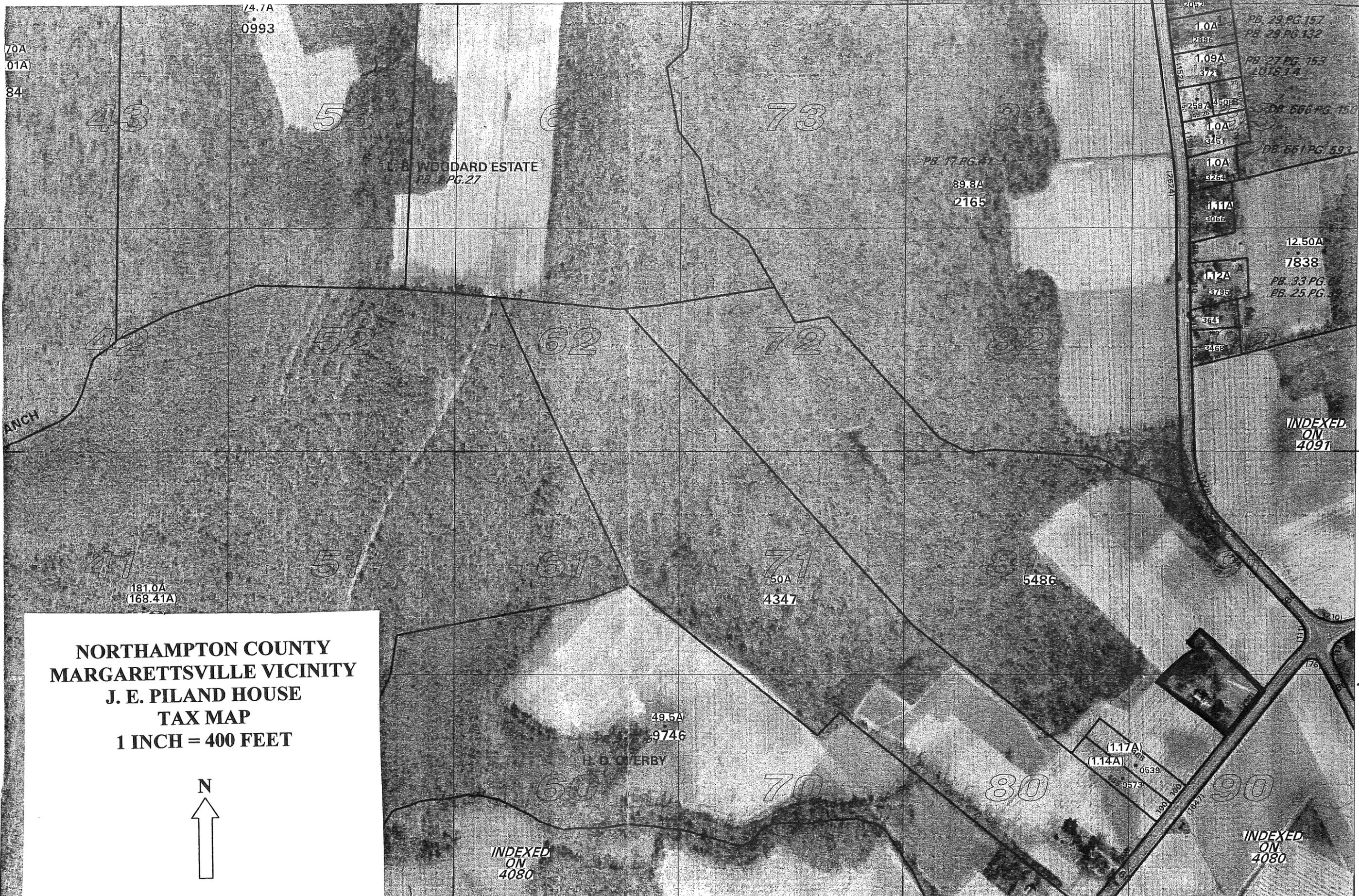
Map photoinspected 1978
No major culture or drainage changes observed



CONTOUR IN'
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT
NATIONAL GEODETIC

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NAT
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL
OR RESTON
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RES
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MA

(JACKSON)
5556 IV NW



70A
01A)
84

14.7A
0993

43

53

63

73

83

C.B. WOODARD ESTATE
PB. 1 PG. 27

PB. 17 PG. 41
89.8A
2165

2052
1.0A 2896 PB. 29 PG. 157
1.09A 3721 PB. 27 PG. 153
LOT 15 14
2587 4508
1.0A 3251 PB. 66 PG. 150
1.0A 3264 PB. 66 PG. 593
1.11A 3066
1.12A 3795
364
2468
12.50A
7838
PB. 33 PG. 6
PB. 25 PG. 33

INDEXED
ON
4097

42

52

62

72

82

ANCH

47

57

67

77

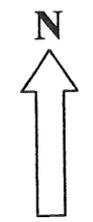
87

181.0A
(168.41A)

50A
4347

5486

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
MARGARETTSVILLE VICINITY
J. E. PILAND HOUSE
TAX MAP
1 INCH = 400 FEET**



49.5A
9746
H. D. CHERBY

INDEXED
ON
4080

60

70

80

90

(1.17A)
(1.14A) 0539
9573
1003 1003
178471

INDEXED
ON
4080



