NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(TYPE ALL ENTRIES - COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS)

1. NAME
   COMMON: Bananarn House
   AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Northwest side of S.R. 1520, 0.25 mi, northeast of junction with S.R. 1522
   CITY OR TOWN: Players vicinity
   STATE: North Carolina
   CODE: 37
   COUNTY: Pender
   CODE: 144

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (CHECK ONE)
   ☐ District ☐ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object
   ☐ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both
   OWNERSHIP
   ☐ Public Acquisition:
   ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered
   ☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress
   STATUS
   ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
   ☐ Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted
   ☐ No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   George L. Boney
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   501 S.E. Railroad Street
   CITY OR TOWN: Wallace
   STATE: North Carolina
   CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
   Pender County Courthouse
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   CITY OR TOWN: Burgaw
   STATE: North Carolina
   CODE: 37

6. 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: 

For NPS Use Only
Entry Date:
The Bannerman House is a large two-story frame dwelling in the Greek Revival style. Constructed in an equilateral "L" form, the house rests on a new brick foundation, is covered with weatherboards, and carries a hip roof pierced by three interior chimneys. Defining the facades are corner posts treated as flat-paneled pilasters, which carry a plain frieze and box cornice. Both elements of the "L" present identical front facades, each five bays wide and two deep. Fenestration exhibits diminution from nine-over-nine to nine-over-six sash, and the architraves consist of simple flat boards with corresponding sills.

The central bay of each of the main facades is treated with a pedimented portico, supported by colossal, flat-paneled pillars and corresponding pilasters, which match the cornerpost pilasters. Flush sheathing occurs on the facade under each portico, and the roofline treatment of each portico continues that of the main block. Centered on each facade are doorways at both levels, each having a double door with five flat panels per leaf, flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a long narrow transom. Framing these elements are symmetrically molded architraves with corner blocks. Balconies enclosed with a sheaf-of-wheat pattern balustrade occur at the second level.

The rear of each section of the "L" displays a single window at each level, and a door and an engaged hip roof, single-story porch occurs in the angle of the "L". This porch is supported by a flat-paneled pillar and corresponding pilasters similar to those used elsewhere on the house. As on the front facades, flush sheathing is used on the facade under the porch. A one-bay, square, one-story frame addition with gable roof has been added to the side facade of the northeast "L" section.

The interior of the Bannerman House follows a center-hall plan one room deep in each arm of the "L" with the room in the "elbow" shared by both plans. The two halls are identical; each features a beaded baseboard and simple two-part molded architraves around the door openings. The architraves around the doors opening into the side rooms are formed into eccentric crossettes. The open-string Federal-style stair ascends in an open well in two runs with a transverse landing. Both stair spandrels are flat-paneled; simple wave brackets adorn each step. The balustrade has slender balusters, rectangular in section, which carry a round handrail. Posts and a newel round in section and topped with circular caps punctuate the balustrade.

Both rooms on the south side of the first floor are identical, displaying two-part molded architraves and a flat-paneled wainscot with a narrow molded chair rail. The mantels are quite plain; pilasters flank the rectangular opening and carry a flat board frieze and shelf.

The northeast room is more elaborate, having symmetrically molded architraves with flat corner blocks and the same wainscot as is found in the other rooms. The mantel differs in that it presents a narrow three-part frieze and reeded cornice shelf which breaks above the end blocks.
To the right of the mantel is a built-in cupboard which has glazed doors above flat-paneled ones.

Door types are consistent throughout the house, consisting of flat panels in three different configurations. Main entrance doors consist of five flat panels, second-floor closet doors consist of two long flat panels, and all other doors consist of four flat panels.

The second-floor halls are similar to the first floor in that they use the same architrave molding but lack the crossettes. All three rooms on the second floor are identical, having beaded baseboards and the same architraves as are found on the first floor. The mantels differ from the two simpler mantels on the first floor only in that they lack the pilasters.

Adjacent to the house is a square frame structure one bay wide by one bay deep covered with a hip roof. It is reputed to be an early eighteenth century structure, but it has been so thoroughly reworked that only part of the framing of the original building survives. Although both this structure and the Bannerman House itself have been moved to their present location from nearby sites, the placement is so effective and natural that the casual viewer would have no reason to suspect that they had ever stood elsewhere.
The Bannerman House, built by planter John Player Bannerman probably about 1840, is a notable vernacular Greek Revival plantation house of ambitious scale and consistent, well-executed detail. Particularly remarkable is the L-shaped plan, with twin facades featuring full-height porticos. The house is believed to be the finest of the few remaining antebellum buildings in Pender County; its significance is enhanced by its essentially unaltered condition.

In January, 1835, John Player Bannerman of New Hanover County purchased several parcels of land in the Holly Shelter area of (then) New Hanover County (now in Pender County, formed in 1875); these tracts, bought from John Howard and Robert Sloan, included a total of 2,000 acres. Local tradition claims that about 1840 Bannerman built the large Greek Revival house that bears his name, and stylistic evidence would support a date in the late 1830s or early 1840s. Bannerman, a prominent planter in the area, continued to acquire land in the area and evidently established a substantial settlement there: a crossroads on the northern perimeter of the Holly Shelter Pocosin has been called Bannerman's Crossroads and was thus identified on the Colton Map of 1861; a school stood near the plantation on land donated to Pender County by Bannerman, which may have been the county's first public school; a post office was located at Bannerman's Crossroads; and Bannerman Bridge once spanned the Cape Fear River nearby.

John Player Bannerman made his will on October 10, 1887, leaving his home plantation and dwelling house to his only son, John Robert Bannerman. It is interesting to note that he bequeathed to his spinster daughter, Julia M. Bannerman, the use of her "room in my residence as long as she shall remain single." John Robert Bannerman was a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1901.

On January 27, 1925, John Robert Bannerman sold his share of the Bannerman plantation to the Cooper River Timber Company, a corporation existing under the laws of the state of Delaware. On June 20, 1949, the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company gave ownership of the Bannerman property to the International Paper Company, existing under the laws of the state of New York. On November 16, 1964, the International Paper Company deeded three acres of land including the Bannerman House to the
state of North Carolina. A fire tower had already been constructed near the house. On September 1, 1966, George L. Boney of Wallace, North Carolina purchased the house from the state of North Carolina and moved it about half a mile to its present location on the old Henry Player estate; it is now under restoration. A small building from Lillington Hall, the plantation home of General Alexander Lillington of Revolutionary fame, was moved from its original location four miles away, to the Bannerman House property, by Mr. Boney.

"George Boney's Determination Results in Preservation of Pre-Civil War Bannerman house; Open House Planned." The Pender Chronicle, Burgaw, North Carolina: Wednesday, April 5, 1972.

New Hanover County Records, New Hanover County Courthouse, Wilmington, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

New Hanover County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).


10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 acres

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

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

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

CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON 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 [x]

Name:
Thornton W. Mitchell

Title:
Acting Director, Division of Archives and History

Date: 21 March 1974
9.

Pender County Records, Pender County Courthouse, Burgaw, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Pender County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Bannerman House
Players vicinity
North Carolina

USGS Map
Scale: 1:62,500
Date: 1942

Latitude
degrees minutes seconds
34 36 20

Longitude
degrees minutes seconds
77 47 21

Approximate Mean Declination: 1942

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

Burgaw, N.C.