Form 10-300  
(National Park Service)  
(U.S. Department of the Interior)  

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory - Nomination Form  

1. NAME  
COMMON:  
Sloop Point  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  

2. LOCATION  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Off SR 1561, 2.4 miles from junction with US Highway 17  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Vista (Third Congressional District, Hon. David Henderson)  
STATE:  
North Carolina  
CODE:  
37  
COUNTY:  
Pender  
CODE:  
141  

3. CLASSIFICATION  
CATEGORY (Check One):  
- District  
- Site  
- Structure  
- Object  
- Being Considered  
- In Process  
- Public Acquisition:  
- Public  
- Private  
- Both  
- In progress  
- Occupied  
- Unoccupied  
- Unrestricted  
- Yes  
- No  
- Restricted  

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY  
OWNER'S NAME:  
Miss Eleanor Mac Millan  
Sloop Point  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Hampstead  
STATE:  
North Carolina  
CODE:  
37  

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS  
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
DATE OF SURVEY:  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
STATE:  
CODE:  

For NPS Use Only  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE  

See Instructions
Sloop Point is a small but impressive frame dwelling with an exceptionally wide gable roof that covers both the house and the front porch. It is a one-and-a-half story house with large brick exterior end chimneys. Apparently late in the eighteenth century, shed additions were constructed across the rear, the front porch was added, and the roof line was changed. The foundation reflects this change in that the central block is built above a full basement constructed of stuccoed stone while the front porch and rear rooms rest on brick piers.

The front (east) facade, three bays wide, is covered with early molded weatherboards, the only such remaining on the exterior. Under the porch is a central door flanked by windows framed by molded architraves and sills and containing nine-over-nine sash. The porch is supported by extremely heavy square wooden pillars and is enclosed by a molded handrail, below which runs an early built-in bench. The porch ceiling features two square vents that provide ventilation for the upstairs rooms.

Each gable features a massive chimney between two large windows with nine-over-nine sash at the first level. At the second level the chimney is flanked by large windows with nine-over-six sash and beyond these by smaller ones with four-over-four sash. The double-shoulder English bond chimney on the north gable features brick wings at the first shoulder and a stone foundation. It appears to have been rebuilt above the first shoulder, probably when the present roof form was established. On the south end the chimney is quite unusual, consisting of two massive Flemish bond sections which join in a semicircular arch between the first and second levels and rise in a single stack. Beneath the arch is a curious double doorway above a basement entrance.

The rear (west) facade, somewhat altered by recent additions, is three bays wide with a central entrance featuring an unusually large multi-light transom that extends beyond the doorway to the left.

On the interior Sloop Point exhibits the so-called "Quaker plan" with a large parlor to the right and two smaller rooms to the left. The parlor has been reduced in size by the erection of a partition which creates a center hall. The late eighteenth century addition on the rear contains a center stair hall and small flanking rooms.

The main parlor has walls plastered above a flat-paneled wainscot that breaks under each window. Dominating the room is a full-height Georgian mantel, which features an arched opening framed by a crossetted architrave. The flat-paneled overmantel is flanked by fluted pilasters that support a full entablature of which only the cornice carries around the whole room. The entablature is broken above the pilasters.

The smaller southeast parlor is finished in a similar fashion and features an identical mantel, while the southwest parlor has plastered walls, above a molded chair rail and a dado consisting of two flush horizontal boards. The mantel is also less elaborate, with a rectangular opening separated from a heavy molded shelf by a single horizontal raised panel.
There are three narrow doorways in the west wall, two leading to the southwest addition and the other, via a diagonal passage, to the addition's central stair hall. On the south wall of both this southwest room and the southeast parlor are adjacent doors leading to the small enclosed porch. These doors, located under the arch of the double chimney, are arranged in an unusual fashion so that on the exterior of the house, they appear to be a normal double door.

Both rooms in the rear addition are finished with walls plastered above a wainscot composed of two horizontal flush boards. Each room originally had a single window in the west (rear) wall that has been removed. The central stair hall has walls finished with horizontal flush sheathing. Portions of the south and west walls, however, have been covered with molded weatherboards apparently taken from the exterior when the house was re-sided. A closed-string stair rises from the north side of the hall to the finished attic. It features a square newel and a beaded handrail with balusters square in section. These are set in a most unusual manner, being perpendicular to the slope of the stringer rather than to the surface of the treads. The attic contains two large bedrooms with rectangular storage spaces to the front and rear, each of which is lighted by a single small window. Both bedrooms are finished with plaster walls and molded chair rails. The mantels are quite simple, each consisting of an arched opening with a single horizontal raised panel above, the whole being framed by a heavy molded architrave. All the doors in the attic feature flat-paneled fronts and vertical batten backs and are hung with H-L hinges.
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Aboriginal
- Prehistoric
- Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Religion/Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation
- Urban Planning
- Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sloop Point house is situated on a tract of land called in early deeds "Ashe's Neck." Perhaps because it projects into Topsail Sound where small vessels anchored, it later came to be called "Sloop Point Neck" or simply "Sloop Point." On Moseley's 1733 map of North Carolina, however, Sloop Point is identified only by the name "J. Ashe" which refers to its original owner, John Baptista Ashe. In Ashe's will of 1731 it is probably Sloop Point that is meant by the region referred to as "New River Banks."

John Baptista Ashe owned land in Bath in the early 1720s and was "Receiver of the Powder Money" for Port Bath as early as 1723. He was a member of the Assembly in 1725 and probably was a member of that body for several preceding years. In the session of 1726, representing the precinct of Beaufort, he was designated speaker of the Assembly. Ashe was at this time a supporter of Governor Burrington and had defended him in a law suit. When Burrington was removed from office, Ashe made a formal address asking the Lords Proprietors to restore Burrington to the province. In 1729 the king purchased the colony, Burrington became the royal governor, and John Baptista Ashe was made a member of His Majesty's Council, who were advisors to the governor. Ironically, Ashe later became Burrington's chief antagonist and was a strong leader of the popular faction against royal prerogative.

Ashe also was among the enterprising group who first settled the lower Cape Fear area. He was granted land there September 7, 1726. This was probably the Sloop Point tract of 1,000 acres. He later acquired several thousand acres in other locations and is known to have lived at Grovely Plantation on Old Town Creek. He probably built the Sloop Point house sometime after 1726 and before 1731 (the date of his will mentioning Grovely as his home). It is likely but not certain that Ashe lived at Sloop Point as well.

John Baptista Ashe died in 1734. His son, John, who was only fourteen at the time of his father's death, ultimately came in to the possession of Sloop Point. One of the principal figures in the colony, John Ashe held the office of speaker of the Assembly in 1762, and led opposition to the Stamp Act in 1765. He helped foster revolutionary feeling in North Carolina, and when Richard Caswell was elected the first governor of the state in 1776, Ashe became treasurer. In 1778 he left this post to lead North Carolina troops against the British in Georgia. Imprisoned by the British, ill and wounded, Ashe died in 1781. By the terms of his will, Sloop Point went to his son, Captain Samuel Ashe, who also served in the Revolution.
8. On April 2, 1795, "Samuel Ashe of Green Hill on Rocky Point" sold Sloop Point to James Moore for 2,000 pounds. (This Samuel Ashe should not be confused with his uncle of the same name who was governor in 1795 and whose plantation home, "The Neck," was upriver from Green Hill.) By deeds of 1796 and 1798 Moore conveyed Sloop Point to Mark McClammy. McClammy left it to his son by his will dated January 7, 1803. The property was then sold under a court order to Almond Hall in 1808. Stockley Sidbury bought from Hall in 1814 "all that tract... in Sloop Point Neck formerly the property of Daniel McClammy..." for $3,000. Woodman S. Sidbury then acquired Sloop Point by bidding $2,400 when it was sold in a sheriff's sale in 1825. In the same year Lewis Whitfield paid Sidbury $3,250 for the tract. Whitfield in his will of March 6, 1848, left the plantation to his daughter, Rachel Wright. She in turn conveyed the property on December 9, 1856, to her daughter and son-in-law, Mary and Dougal MacMillan. By this deed she provided that Sloop Point should go to the children of Mary and Dougal MacMillan, and the next owner was their son, Dr. William D. MacMillan. After his death, his wife, Margaret MacMillan, willed the property to her daughters, Joanna Hall, (now deceased), and Eleanor MacMillan, the present owner.

Sloop Point is possibly the earliest surviving house in southeastern North Carolina and certainly one of the oldest frame houses in the state. The "West Indian" type porch found in other coastal areas of the state is an interesting concession to the hot climate and is an architectural feature common to the Carolinas, Deep South, and West Indies.
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 [x] Local [ ]

Name: H. G. Jones
Title: Director, State Department of Archives and History
Date: 15 July 1971

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date ____________________________


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