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 an 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 Kittrell-Dail House

other names/site number ________________________________

2. Location

street & number South side of SR 1117 at junction with SR 1114 N/A

city or town Renston

county Pitt

state North Carolina code NC

zip code 27856

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 meets X does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally, statewide, locally. (X See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) ________

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date of Action
## 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
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<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</td>
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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)
- Domestic/single dwelling
- Domestic/secondary structure

### Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
- Vacant/not in use
- Vacant/not in use

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
- Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival

### Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
- foundation: Brick
- walls: Wood/weatherboard
- roof: Metal/tin
- other

### 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

(Click "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

(Click "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [x] 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.

#### 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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- [x] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

**Name of repository:**

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
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**Period of Significance**

ca. 1855

**Significant Dates**

ca. 1855

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

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**Primary location of additional data:**

| State Historic Preservation Office
| Other State agency
| Federal agency
| Local government
| University
| Other

**Name of repository:**

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Kitrell-Dail House

Name of Property

Pitt County, NC

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.6 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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</table>

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 Nancy Van Dolsen

organization _____________________________________________________________________________

date August 31, 1999

street & number P.O. Box 703

telephone 252.756.6058

city or town Greenville

state NC zip code 27835

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

(Include any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Macon Moye Dail Heirs

street & number 105 Hidden Hills Drive

telephone 252.321.0911

city or town Greenville

state NC zip code 27858

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Setting

The Kittrell-Dail House sits on a 119.59-acre farm tract at the intersection of Abbott Farm Road and Rountree Road, facing west. The area is primarily rural agricultural, but residential subdivisions are in the process of being constructed both to the north and northeast of the property. The house lot is approximately 4.6 acres and retains some historic plantings, including white oak trees (*Quercus alba*). The property borders Rountree Road to the west and Abbott Farm Road to the north. The eastern and southern boundaries border neighboring farms. The farm fields adjoin the historic property and presently support soybean, tobacco, and corn crops.

House, ca. 1855, contributing.

Constructed ca. 1855, the Kittrell-Dail House is a two-story, three-bay, side-gable, single-pile dwelling with rear interior chimneys. Two first period, shed-roof wings, originally separated by a porch, are located on the rear elevation of the house. An early twentieth-century rear ell features a hip-roof rear ell. The house retains integrity, and displays its original floorplan, fireplace mantels, woodwork, floors, and stair.

The house stands on brick piers. The original section of the house is constructed of hewn principal members with sawn intermediate timbers. The framing members are mortised, tenoned, and pegged. The framing includes corner down braces.

When constructed, the Kittrell-Dail House had a central portico covering the front entry; the mortises for the balustrade remain visible on the front of the house. A one-story, hip-roof porch, almost the length of the house, was constructed ca. 1920-1930. The porch was again altered in the mid-twentieth century with decorative metal posts and a concrete floor.

The exterior of the dwelling remains virtually intact with several notable Greek Revival details: fluted cornerposts with molded caps that end approximately 8 inches below the boxed return cornice, a two-part door surround on the primary entrance, and a stylized Greek Revival entry. The entry features two pilasters approximately seven-eighths the height of the central door and two-light transom. The pilasters are crowned with two molded caps, creating a capital in the Tuscan style. Very flat, simplified Greek fretwork fills the space between the pilasters and the door surround. From a distance, the
decorative fretwork and pilasters of the entry, and the two-story pilasters of the corner of the house, promote a strong verticality on an otherwise horizontal building.

Within, the house features a central passage plan flanked by parlors, with rear shed rooms behind the parlors. The plan is highly symmetrical. The central passage, slightly less than eight feet wide, comprises one-fifth of the building's width; each parlor, approximately 15 feet square, represents two-fifths of the building. The windows are located in the center of each wall, as is the fireplace. Because of the location of the staircase on the north wall of the central passage, the door to the northern parlor is not located on the center of the wall. The door to the southern parlor is precisely centered. The second floor features the same plan. The rear shed rooms also have the windows and fireplaces centered on the walls, but the exterior doors into the room from the porch are located at the juncture of the main block and the wing.

The central passage retains the original staircase, which rises at the rear of the hall, has four steps to 90 degrees, and then has ten steps to the second floor. The staircase has a steep rise. The stair features a newel post that is almost seven feet tall. The square newel has a molded cap, and the square balusters are topped with a molded hand rail. A true-board dado is located at the foot of the stairs.

The central passage and flanking parlors feature the same door and window surrounds, and baseboard. The stepped moldings are flat and linear. The southerly front room has an original closet to the east of the fireplace. The closet door, as well as all of the doors in the original portion of the house, are four panel. The mantels in the two front rooms are identical, except for a decorative motif on two applied blocks: the mantel in the southern parlor has a rosette, the mantel in the northern parlor features a maltese cross. The northern front room has a two-part paneled apron beneath the windows that fills the space between the sill and the baseboard.

The two rear shed rooms each have a fireplace that shares a common chimney with a front room. The mantels are identical and have a very simple post and lintel design. The northern rear room has an original closet.

The two rooms upstairs feature mantels that are slightly more ornate than those found in the shed rooms. The windows have two-part paneled aprons that do not reach the baseboard. The eastern room has an original closet. The western room retains its original
paint. The walls are whitewashed and the woodwork has a paint that has become a pale blue-gray.

A one-story, one-room, hip-roof frame kitchen was added to the rear of the northern shed room, ca. 1920-1930. The addition features exposed rafter ends. When the kitchen was added, brick piers on the north wall of the house were infilled with concrete block; the addition stands on a continuous concrete block foundation. The weatherboards on the addition are continuous with the main block, suggesting the entire building was resheathed at that time. In ca. 1970, a porch on the south side of the kitchen wing was enclosed and a bathroom also built on the rear of the southern shed room and the south wall of the enclosed porch.

The kitchen addition measures 15 feet by 13.5 feet. A flue for a stove is located in the east corner. The kitchen has paired six-over-six window on the northern wall; an identical paired window replaced the original six-over-six window in the shed room. The ceiling and walls in the kitchen are covered with horizontal beaded boards. The window and door surrounds are plain boards.

**Kitchen, ca. 1855, contributing.**

A kitchen building, contemporary with the construction of the dwelling, stands east of the house. The timber frame building stands on brick piers, and has been converted into a shop building. The building appears to have been moved during the early twentieth-century to its present location from elsewhere on the property. The north gable end of the building has been replaced; possibly when the fireplace was removed, or the building relocated. The exterior is covered with 5-V agricultural metal, and the interior sheathed with horizontal beaded boards. Where the boards have been removed, it can be seen that the interior was originally sheathed and never was plastered. An addition, built most likely during the early twentieth century, was constructed onto the southern end of the one-story, gable-roof building. The ceiling joists, measuring approximately six inches by four inches, extend beyond the plate. The rafters are butted at the peak. The timber frame is mortised, tenoned, and pegged.

**Summary**

The Kittrell-Dail House possesses architectural integrity and retains its original floorplan,
moldings, mantels, staircase, plaster, windows, and siding. The house retains its integrity of design, setting, materials workmanship, location, feeling, and association. The house is significant as an intact vernacular Greek Revival house in Pitt County.
Significance Summary

The Kittrell-Dail House, built ca. 1855, is significant as an intact example of a Greek Revival style dwelling in rural Pitt County. Farmer Stanley Kittrell (1811-1859) built the house for his family on his five hundred acre farm in western Pitt County where he raised cattle, swine, and sheep and grew corn, wheat, and sweet potatoes. The stylized entry, fluted cornerposts with molded caps, simplified classical motifs embellishing the mantels, and paneled aprons beneath the windows remain intact and illustrate the dwelling’s vernacular interpretation of Greek Revival patternbook designs. Also significant is the rare and intact freestanding kitchen that remains behind the house. The Kittrell-Dail House holds significance on the local level in the area of architecture for its embodiment of the localized Greek Revival style.

Historical Background

Stanley Kittrell (1811-1859) acquired the land upon which the house stands from his father, John Kittrell. John Kittrell, prior to his death in 1818, had amassed 730 acres, which the court partitioned into eight parcels in 1818. Stanley Kittrell received Lot #4, a tract of 131 acres. An additional 16.5 acres of his father’s land came to Stanley Kittrell, at the division of his sister Polly (Kittrell) Noble’s share of the property, at the settling of her estate in 1822.¹

During his lifetime, Stanley Kittrell accumulated an additional 402.5 acres surrounding the land he had received from his father and his sister.² His farmstead of 551 acres bordered both Contentnea Creek and Sandy Run.

In 1845 Stanley Kittrell married his first wife, Winifred Jenkins, who gave birth to their daughter, Grizzy Ann Catherine the following year.³ Winifred died in 1848, less than a month after giving birth to their second child, Jonathan (John) Harrell Kittrell. In 1850,

¹ Pitt County, Division of Land Book, CC:115.
² Pitt County Deed Book, RR:376.
³ Genealogical information on the Kittrell family was found in the Resource Survey file for the Stanley Kittrell House, Division of Archives and History, Eastern Office, Greenville, North Carolina.
Stanley Kittrell did not live with his two small children, but a 20-year-old relative, also
named Stanley Kittrell, occupied his house and worked as a laborer for him. Kittrell
primarily grew Indian corn, wheat, sweet potatoes, and peas. He also raised beef cattle,
swine, and sheep for wool.

Stanley Kittrell married a second time, in 1851, to Martha A. Carr, who gave birth to
three children, two who survived infancy: Matthew L. and Martha Stanley Winifred.
Around 1855 during the mid-1850s, Stanley Kittrell had a stylish, up-to-date, Greek
Revival house constructed for his growing family. The house had four rooms on the first
floor, two on the second floor, and a separate kitchen building.

In 1858, Stanley Kittrell died, leaving a wife and four children under the age of twelve.
Martha Ann Kittrell kept the family intact, and continued running the farm. She operated
a thriving farm in 1860, growing primarily Indian corn, sweet potatoes, beans, wheat,
cotton, and Irish potatoes. As her husband had, she raised sheep for wool, swine, beef
cattle, and honey bees. In addition, Martha kept three dairy cattle.

Stanley Kittrell’s property was divided into four lots in 1867. His eldest son, John H.,
received a 143 acre tract that most likely included the house. His daughters Martha
(known as Winnie) and Grizzy Ann Catherine, also received 143 acre tracts, while
Matthew received a 122 acre tract.

John H. Kittrell married Clara Noble in 1869, and in 1871 sold 70 acres of the land he
had inherited from his father to Benjamin F. Tucker. Less than a year later, he sold the
remaining 73 acres of the tract to Tucker. Tucker had married Stanley Kittrell’s widow
(and John H. s stepmother) Martha. Benjamin F. Tucker and Martha Kittrell Tucker sold
the 143 acres inherited by John H. and an additional 192 acres that were parts of the land
inherited by Matthew and Grizzy Ann Catherine that had been acquired by Martha (their

4 Federal Manuscript Population Census, North Carolina, Pitt County, Griffin’s District, 1850.
5 Federal Agricultural Manuscript Census, North Carolina, Pitt County, Griffin’s District, 1850.
County, Contentnea District, 1860.
7 Pitt County Deed Book, RR:376.
8 Pitt County Deed Book, TT:479.
9 Pitt County Deed Book, VV:177.
mother), to Marcellus Moore in 1886. Moore fell into financial difficulties, and the 335 acre tract was sold at auction six years later to Grizzy Ann Catherine (married to John W. Spivey). Less than a month after the auction, Grizzy Ann Catherine Spivey sold the property to her daughter and son-in-law, Richard and Mary Jane Wingate in 1892.

The Wingates held onto the farm for 15 years, and sold the 214 acres of the property (including the house) out of the family in 1907 to Elias E. Dail. The farm passed to Dail’s son, Harvey Dail, in 1917. Eight years later, at the death of Harvey Dail, the farm was bequeathed to his wife, Callie Moye Dail. Callie Moye Dail gave the farm to her son, Macon Moye Dail. Macon Moye Dail Sr. bequeathed the farm to his wife, Helen Zechariah Dail, who then passed the farm to their son, Macon Moye Dail, Jr. The heirs of Macon Moye Dail, Jr. presently own the property, which consists of the house, kitchen, and tobacco barn standing on a 119.59 acre tract. The land is still farmed, but the house stands vacant. The present owners of the property plan to restore the house.

Architectural Context

The Greek Revival style first appeared in North Carolina domestic architecture during the 1830s in the construction of large plantation houses. In the 1840s and 1850s, the Greek Revival style in Pitt County manifested itself in blocky proportions and in exterior architectural details, such as corner pilasters, columns as porch supports (rather than chamfered posts), and sidelights and transoms. Inside, mantels and surrounds exhibited flat, linear forms; paneled aprons decorated the area below windows; and moldings with cornerblocks around doors and windows began to appear. During this period, central passage, double-pile plans with interior chimneys became more popular, gradually replacing the single-pile, hall-parlor plan with rear shed rooms as the more dominant form. A similar transformation occurred in adjacent Lenoir County. In nearby Wilson County, the central passage, double-pile plan was slower to catch on, with two-story,
single-pile, two-room plans with exterior entrances into each room a predominant form from 1840 to 1860, as in the Wiley Simms House (ca. 1840), Edwin Barnes House (ca. 1840), Smith House (ca. 1850), and the Dr. Stephen Woodard House (ca. 1855).  

The Kittrell-Dail House is one of a few documented houses in the area constructed with rear interior chimneys during the mid-nineteenth century. This form is more commonly found in the Piedmont regions of the South. In contrast, the Spier Worthington House (ca. 1860), in nearby Winterville Township, exhibits the more prevalent form for two-story houses in the region: a two-story, three-bay, building with a low hip-roof and two exterior end chimneys. In many ways, the Kittrell-Dail House illustrates the transition between the single-pile and double-pile plan in its two-story, central-passage, single-pile main block with rear interior chimneys that also serve the one-story, rear shed rooms. The function of the rear shed rooms as full-size parlors, rather than as service rooms or as small, secondary social spaces, is another example of a gradual acceptance of a full double-pile plan rather than the traditional single-pile form. The survival of the detached kitchen also gives the property added architectural significance.

The Kittrell-Dail House is also notable for its unusual Greek Revival detailing around the entry. The fretwork is singular, and exemplifies a skillful vernacular interpretation of Greek Revival motifs. More commonly, Greek Revival fretwork was reinterpreted in porch columns and balustrades, such as found in the Greek Revival portion of the King House and the Tyson House in Falkland Township, Pitt County. An entry with sidelights, transom, and a split door was a more typical front door treatment, such as found in the ca. 1849 Deberry-Mayo House and the ca. 1853 Joel Patrick House, than the single door with transom surrounded by stylized fretwork found on the Kittrell-Dail House. The six interior fireplace mantels and the paneled aprons beneath the windows also show an understanding of the Greek Revival aesthetic reinterpreted in the architectural vocabulary of the region.

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17 Power, 63.
18 Power, 361.
19 Power, 469.
20 Power, 65, 336.
Bibliography


Pitt County Deed Books, Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

Pitt County Division of Land Books, Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

Pitt County Will Books, Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

Verbal Boundary

Beginning at a point on the east side of Rountree Road approximately 450 feet south of the intersection of Rountree Road and Abbott Farm Road; thence approximately 450 in a northerly direction along the edge of Rountree Road to the intersection with Abbott Farm Road; thence approximately 450 in a easterly direction along the south side of Abbott Farm Road to a point; thence approximately 450 in a southerly direction along the edge of a fieldrow to a point; thence approximately 450 in a westerly direction to the place of beginning; containing approximately 4.6 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the extant, pre-1860 domestic buildings on the property, the house and kitchen, and the surrounding house lot with its historic trees. The 4.6 acre lot, in addition to including both contributing buildings, provides an appropriate rural context for the property.
KITTRELL-DAIL HOUSE
RENSTON VIC, PIT'T COUNTY, NC
SITE MAP KEYED TO PHOTOGRAPHS
NO SCALE
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and North Carolina Geodetic Survey


Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: North Carolina coordinate system (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 12 meters south and 27 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

There may by private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.