

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Bullard-Ray House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
650 Washington Street
CITY, TOWN
Eden
STATE
North Carolina

VICINITY OF
Sixth
CODE
037

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth
COUNTY
Rockingham
CODE
157

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Thomas S. Harrington
STREET & NUMBER
818 Jay Street
CITY, TOWN
Eden
STATE
North Carolina

VICINITY OF
North Carolina

27288

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Rockingham County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Wentworth,
STATE
N. C.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None
Determined eligible? No
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
N/A
CITY, TOWN
STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bullard-Ray house stands on a sloping wooded lot, the only surviving residence among the late nineteenth and early twentieth century brick commercial structures of the Washington Street business district in Leaksville, which became a part of the City of Eden in 1967. The original portion of the two-story frame house, which was erected a few years after John Hall Bullard moved to Rockingham County from Massachusetts to operate John Motley Morehead's Leaksville Cotton Mill during the late 1830s, is a substantial but unpretentious Greek Revival dwelling that underwent a major remodeling and expansion in the then popular Colonial Revival style between 1908 and 1915.¹ At the time of the remodeling the house received two rear additions.

The original portion of the house comprises the main, two-story block, two rooms deep and one room wide, and an adjoining two-story section to the southwest that is recessed behind the main block and has one room on each floor. Hip roofs shelter both the main block and the recessed section. A centrally placed interior chimney may have originally furnished fireplaces for the four rooms of the main block, but only one fireplace remains today. There is no indication that there was ever a chimney for the two rooms of the recessed section. The house rests on a foundation of mortared, random-coursed stone that is very low at the front of the house but is several feet high at the rear of the residence owing to the slope of the lot. Just forward of the recessed section, and underneath the present wrap-around porch, is a well lined with the same stonework seen in the foundation.

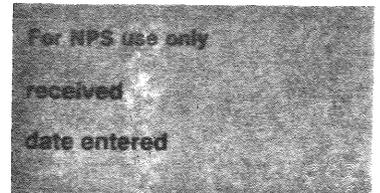
The first story of the house's original sections underwent considerable change during the early twentieth century remodeling, but plain original features remain largely intact at the second story. These include heavy unadorned corner posts and two-part surrounds framing square windows. The windows probably contained six-over-six sash when the house was first built, but the lower six panes were replaced with single panes at a later date, probably during the early twentieth century Colonial Revival remodeling.

The three second story facade windows of the main block are asymmetrically placed in a manner atypical of Greek Revival. The three-bay division of the first floor facade echoes that of the upper story, but the windows are larger one-over-one sash openings. The door to the main block occupies the facade bay closest to the adjoining recessed section of the original house.

The most notable architectural feature of the exterior is the broad, wrap-around porch, which was erected as part of the major early twentieth century remodeling. The porch carries across the full facade and the northwest side elevation of the main block and also occupies the large space forward of the recessed adjoining section on the southwest side of the main section. Fluted Doric columns uphold the porch, and a beveled handrail and plain square balusters run between these supports. A one-bay, gable-roofed portico projects forward of the porch at the entrance to the main block. It is also upheld by fluted Doric columns and has a molded cornice with returns. Squat, tapered piers with chamfered corners uphold the portico's flanking balustrades and add a hint of the bungalow style to the design. The porch space forward of the recessed section of the house is enclosed. While the exact date this enclosure took place is not known, the remains of a balustrade on one of the enclosed walls suggest it was done some time after the porch was erected. The space between the portico and

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the original front door was also enclosed, and this space now serves as a vestibule. The present entrance door consists of a window above three horizontal panels. The style of the door suggests that the porch was enclosed not long after its construction.

At the time of the early twentieth century remodeling two wings were added to the rear of the residence: a broad two-story wing directly adjoining the recessed portion of the house, which contains one large room on each floor; and a one-story kitchen wing adjoining one corner of the larger addition but separated from the original main block by a narrow porch. Both additions have hip roofs and owing to the slope of the lot rest on tall brick foundations. The basement of the two-story section is nearly at ground level and is entered through a simply ornamented, gable-roofed canopy supported by brackets. Broad three part windows with one-over-one sash on the rear of the two-story addition illuminate the large rooms on the wing's two floors.

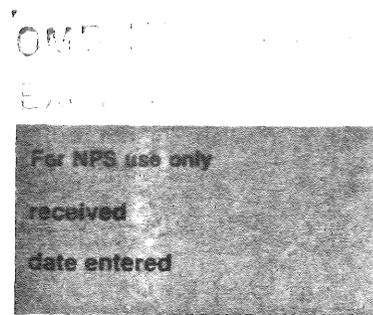
Two small wings were added to the rear of the early twentieth century kitchen during the 1950s which do not detract from the integrity of the house. At about the same time the porch between the original main block and the early twentieth century kitchen was enlarged and enclosed--another change that has had no adverse effect on the residence.

The character of the interior reflects the significant changes made during the early twentieth century remodeling. The front ground floor room of the main block displays the most elaborate Colonial Revival detailing seen in the house. It is entered through a door with a single, ornamentally bordered glass panel. The placement of the stair along the room's southwest wall and surviving second story partitions indicate that the main block originally followed a side hall plan, but the ground floor hall partition was removed and replaced with a richly ornamented portal. The portal consists of two fluted Ionic columns which rise from paneled bases on either side of the the former partition. Flanking the columns are ornate brackets embellished with scrolls and leaf-like ornament. A second noteworthy Colonial Revival feature of this room is the fireplace, whose thick molded shelf, supported by curving brackets, is flanked by columns which rise above the shelf to freely styled capitals based on no particular classical order. The fire opening has a white tile inlay and an elaborately detailed iron coal grate. The hearth is laid in white tile with a colorful border. In contrast to the more richly detailed features of this room, the stair is relatively plain; it rises from the front of the room to the back and has a simple, early twentieth century newel, a simple molded handrail, and plain balusters. Both the stair and the adjoining room have a plain, deep baseboard, a characteristic Greek Revival feature that is probably original to the house.

The rear first floor room of the main block also underwent major changes as the result of the early twentieth century remodeling. The most significant changes were the installation of a large three-part window on the outer wall and the addition of a flat wainscot and molded chair rail. As in the front ground floor room, the earlier deep baseboard was retained.

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The ground floor room in the recessed section of the original house also witnessed considerable change as a result of the early twentieth century remodeling. A dentil ceiling molding was applied around the room, and the rear wall was removed when the rear addition was erected to form a large parlor. Vaguely classical pilasters frame the passage between the earlier portion of the parlor and the added space. The newer portion of the parlor has a mantel with a Neo-Federal three-part arrangement; it also has the same dentil ceiling molding seen in the other portion of the room.

While the three second story rooms of the house's original section also experienced changes at the early twentieth remodeling, they also retain some original features. The plain deep baseboards seen on the first floor also remain upstairs. The partition between the front second story room and the stair survives to indicate that the house originally followed a side hall plan. The door between the front room and the hall has a four-panel door that appears to be the only remaining mid-nineteenth century door in the house still in its original place. The second floor rooms of the house's original section also have plain, symmetrical surrounds that are probably early features of the residence. The room at the rear of the second floor that forms part of the two-story early twentieth century addition is simply finished but has a three-part Neo-Federal style mantel similar to the one in the room directly below it.

The inventory of John Hall Bullard's estate taken shortly after his death in 1870 indicates that at least two structures, a "store house" and "a small house called the office" stood on Bullard's property at that time, but neither of these buildings or any other appurtenant structures are still standing.²

FOOTNOTES

¹Sanborn Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Leaksville-Spray, North Carolina, 1908 and 1915 (New York: Sanborn Map Company, above dates).

²Inventory of the estate of John Hall Bullard, deceased, dated September 19, 1870. Copy provided by Mrs. Jean Harrington.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Unknown

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bullard-Ray house, whose original sections were built by John Hall Bullard (1808-1870) not long after he moved from Massachusetts to Rockingham County in the late 1830s to operate the Leaksville textile mill of John Motley Morehead, is virtually the only domestic structure related to the antebellum development of the Leaksville Mill still standing in the community. John Motley Morehead (1796-1866), a prominent businessman with broad commercial interests, one of the leaders of the state's progressive element, and the Governor of North Carolina from 1841 to 1845, completed the Leaksville Cotton Mill in 1839 and engaged Bullard to manage the plant. Under Bullard's direction the mill became one of the most successful in the state. Bullard was one of several industrialists who moved from the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions to North Carolina during the antebellum period and played an important role in establishing the state's first textile mills. Bullard ran the mill for only a short time, however, before resigning to become a merchant in Leaksville, Bullard achieved considerable success in his mercantile enterprise by introducing a wide variety of goods from Boston and other northeastern cities to Leaksville. The Bullard-Ray house is also associated with Bullard's grandson, John Bullard Ray (1875-1958), a prominent Leaksville physician and a leader in the town's business and community affairs. Ray remodeled and considerably enlarged the house between 1908 and 1915. As originally constructed, the Bullard-Ray house was a representative example of the substantial but unpretentious Greek Revival houses erected in North Carolina during the antebellum period. The extensive alterations and additions to the house made by John Bullard Ray during the early 1900s reflect changing tastes in domestic design and the early twentieth century prosperity of Leaksville and Spray.

Criteria Assessment:

- A. The Bullard-Ray house is associated with the antebellum development of the North Carolina textile industry and with the increasing prosperity of the town of Leaksville and the northern piedmont region during the period 1835-1861. The house is also associated with the early twentieth century development of Leaksville.
- B. The Bullard-Ray house is associated with John Hall Bullard, one of several industrialists from the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions who played an important role in the establishment of North Carolina's earliest textile mills. Bullard was brought to North Carolina by John Motley Morehead, a businessman with broad commercial interests and a leader of the state's progressive political element, who served as North Carolina's governor from 1841 to 1845. The Bullard-Ray house is also associated with John Bullard Ray, a prominent physician and leader in the business and civic affairs of Leaksville during the early twentieth century.

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- C. The Bullard-Ray house embodies distinctive characteristics of the Greek Revival style as applied to substantial but unpretentious residences, notably in the simple surviving interior and exterior trim. The house embodies more fully distinctive characteristics of the Colonial Revival style on the free use of classical details on the porch and in the principal first floor rooms.

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The Bullard-Ray House was built in the Rockingham County community of Leaksville (now Eden) in the middle 1840s by John Hall Bullard.¹ A native of Massachusetts, Bullard (1808-1870) moved to Rockingham County in the late 1830s at the behest of John Motley Morehead to run Morehead's Leaksville textile mill.²

John Motley Morehead (1796-1866) was one of North Carolina's most important ante-bellum figures. Elected as governor on the Whig ticket in 1840, and serving from 1841 until 1845, Morehead was one of the leaders of the state's progressive element, and was a staunch advocate of a number of causes, including transportation development, constitutional reform, and improved education.³ Morehead owned "a big combination business . . . [at Leaksville] which developed into various kinds of mills, cotton and otherwise, general merchandise and supplies of all kinds."⁴ Morehead's textile mill was begun in 1835 but was not completed until 1839. It was the first such mill in Rockingham County and was one of the first in the state.⁵ Needing someone experienced in the textile business Morehead hired Bullard from Boston "to build and manage the mill for him."⁶

Bullard helped develop the mill into one of the most successful in the state. He ran the mill only a short time, however, before resigning to become a merchant in Leaksville. Bullard was "the pioneer modern merchant in the region and made his purchase in Boston and other eastern cities and introduced a better variety of goods and by quick sales and short profits forced a general reduction of prices."⁷

Bullard died intestate in 1870. The property was eventually purchased by his daughter Annie and her husband James B. Ray. Ray was Bullard's business partner for a period and continued as a Leaksville merchant into the 1870s.⁸ In the 1880 census he was listed as a superintendent of a cotton factory. James and Annie Ray had five children.⁹ The fourth of these, John Bullard Ray, was born in 1875. He attended medical school at the University of Maryland, where he received his medical degree in 1898.¹⁰

John Bullard Ray practiced medicine in Rockingham County from 1899 until his death in 1958. He was regarded as the dean of the Rockingham County medical profession at the time of his death. Ray was also a civic leader. He served as a mayor of Leaksville from 1907 until 1910, was a member of the local school board and draft board, president of Leaksville's Home Savings and Loan Association, a charter member of the local YMCA, vice-president of the Leaksville Bank and Trust, chairman of the Rockingham County health board, physician for the state prison camp at Wentworth for 20 years, and company doctor for the Marshall Field and Company Cotton Mills. Ray was named Rockingham County physician of the year three times. In 1972 a bridge over the Smith River near Eden was dedicated to Dr. Ray. In 1905 he married Mary Eliza (Chattie) Ivie. From around 1908 until around 1915 Ray greatly enlarged the house. He and his wife had one son, who died in infancy in 1926. Dr. Ray was survived by his widow and a sister.¹¹ His home is now owned by a niece, Mrs. Jean Harrington.

The Bullard-Ray House is one of Rockingham County's most important historical houses, with roots in the area's industrial, commercial, and medical life. John Bullard's relationship with the Leaksville Mills, called "one of the most important nineteenth century industrial sites in North Carolina"¹² by one observer, was brief but critical. The Bullard-Ray House is believed to be the only remaining domestic structure related to the mill.

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The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is probable that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

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NOTES

¹In 1967 the communities of Leaksville, Spray, and Draper merged to form Eden. William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968), 157.

²Lindley A. Butler, Our Proud Heritage: A Pictorial History of Rockingham County, N. C. (Bassett, Va.: Bassett Printing Corporation, 1971), 67-68, hereinafter cited as Butler, Our Proud Heritage.

³Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, third edition, 1973), 360-361.

⁴Burton Alva Konkle, John Motley Morehead and the Development of North Carolina, 1796-1866 (Philadelphia: William J. Campbell, 1922), 103, hereinafter cited as Konkle, John Motley Morehead.

⁵Konkle, John Motley Morehead, 103-104; Butler, Our Proud Heritage, 67-68.

⁶Butler, Our Proud Heritage, 67.

⁷Webster's Weekly, August 15, 1901.

⁸Rockingham County Estates Papers, John Hall Bullard; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Rockingham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Levi Branson (ed.), North Carolina Business Directories (Raleigh: various publishers, nine volumes, 1866-1897), I, p. 97, II, p. 138; Rockingham County Deed Book 3c, p. 359.

⁹Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Rockingham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

¹⁰Greensboro Daily News, August 14, 1958.

¹¹Greensboro Daily News, August 14, 1958; July 21, 1972; Rockingham County Records: marriage Index. Death Index; Sanborn Maps, Shelby, 1908, 1915.

¹²Brent D. Glass, North Carolina: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (Washington, D. C.: Historic American Engineering Record, 1975), 27.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Quad Map SW Eden, N. C.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

A

1	7	6	1	0	7	0	0	4	0	3	8	8	4	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

C

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

D

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
 Property includes house and lot within city limits of Eden, N. C., 650 Washington Street, between Henry Street and Bridge Street (NC 87).

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A		N/A	

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Significance statement prepared by Jim Sumner, Research Branch
Description prepared by Peter R. Kaplan, Survey and Planning Branch

ORGANIZATION N. C. Department of Archives and History DATE January 7, 1982

STREET & NUMBER 109 E. Jones Street TELEPHONE (919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN Raleigh, N. C. STATE _____

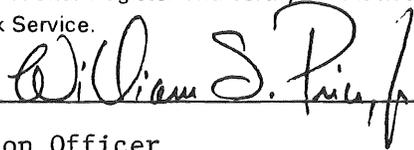
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE April 14, 1982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- United States Census Office. Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Rockingham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Rockingham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule. Microfilm copies.
- Webster's Weekly. August 15, 1901. Reprint. Copy in file.

SOUTHWEST EDEN QUADRANGLE
NORTH CAROLINA—ROCKINGHAM CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5057 11 SW
(NORTHEAST EDEN)

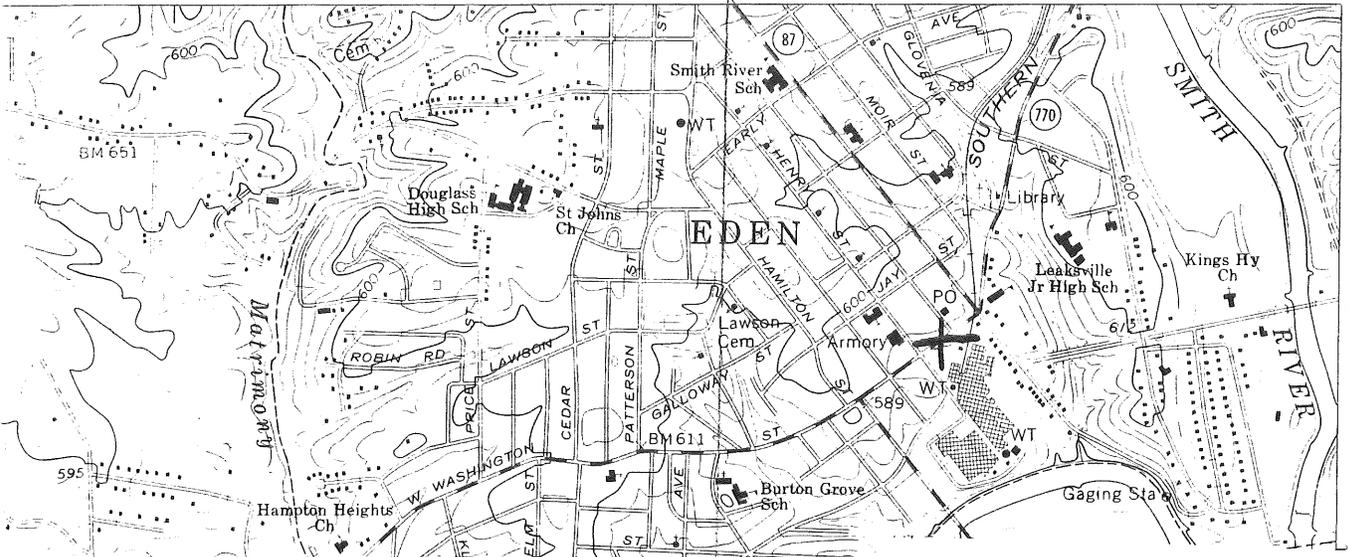
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611

79°45'
36°30'

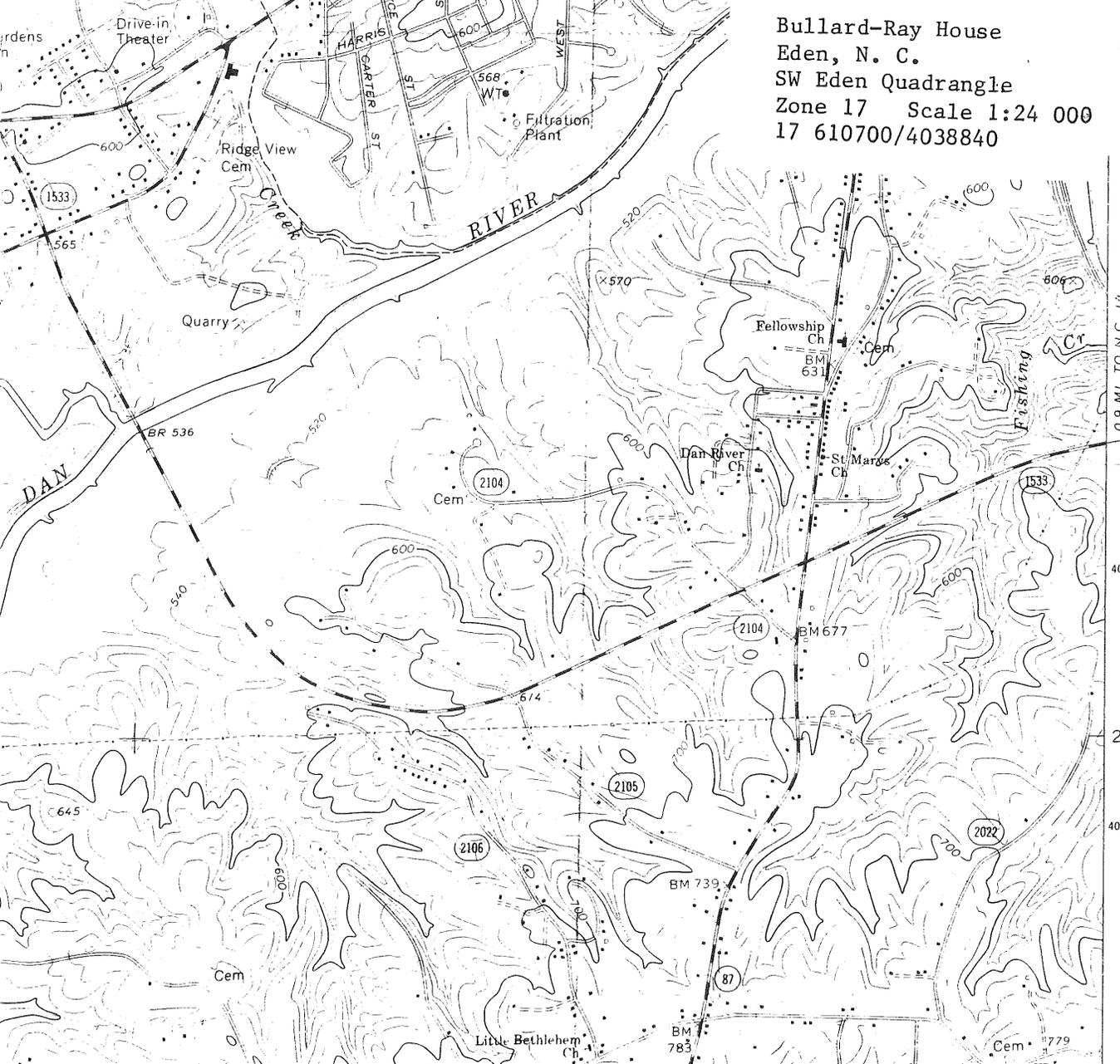


1 000 000
FEET

4039

Bullard-Ray House
Eden, N. C.
SW Eden Quadrangle
Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
17 610700/4038840

038



0.9 MI. TO N.C. 14

4036

27'30"

4035

