

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE

OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON Pigford House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W side SR 1751 1.0 mi S of US 701

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Clinton

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

037

Sampson

163

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Blonnie S. Williams

STREET & NUMBER

713 Calloway Drive #7

CITY, TOWN

Raleigh

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 27610

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Sampson Co. Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

STATE

N. C. 28328

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Thomas Butchko

Jim Sumner, Researcher

DATE

ORGANIZATION

Survey & Planning Branch

Research Branch

June 14, 1985

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

109 East Jones Street

(919) 733-6545

STATE

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh,

NC 27611

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This charming, vernacular Greek Revival house is the only surviving significant dwelling in the county with board-and-batten siding; Sampson County houses from earliest records were exclusively weatherboard. Believed by tradition to have been built about 1850 for Lafayette Pigford, the small, pleasant house has been historically associated with the Pigford family. According to some local tradition this house is on the site of Maryborough, the plantation of James Sampson (____-1789), nephew of Col. John Sampson, for whom the county was named. The frame, one-story, single pile house has a classically-inspired center gable porch on the east facade and includes a rear two-room ell with a later weatherboard addition. Not a large house-containing only the four original rooms and the rear addition-the Pigford House is a picturesque adaptation of a common Greek Revival county house form. It would be speculative to discuss from where came the inspiration to build such a picturesque board-and-batten cottage in a county so dominated by the more usual weatherboard Federal and Greek Revival houses; perhaps it could be attributed to A. J. Downing's influence on mid-19th century rural cottages.

Center-hall in plan and one-story in height, the small house's board-and-batten siding, because of its scarcity in the county, is immediately noticed; a wide bottomboard with upper lip encircles the original house and covers its sills. The center bay of the three bay front elevation is sheltered by a handsome gable front porch supported by four pillars and two pilasters having vernacular molded Doric capitals and bases. All that remains of the connecting railing is the shaped hand rail. The porch's height is slightly shorter than the house's main gable roof; this cross gable form is one of the county's most popular for substantial residences in the mid and late 19th century. At each gable end stands a common bond brick chimney with single shoulders-paved and concave on the south and stepped on the north. Boxed cornices return on the gable ends. Fenestration - mostly boarded up - contain six-over-six sash with simple, flat surrounds; the only remaining louvered shutters flank the north chimney. The rear two-room ell, extending westward from the north parlor has details similar to the front block and an interior chimney. An attached, latticed porch serving as an extension of the through center hall. The entire block rests on its original brick piers.

Entry into the simple, fully plastered interior is gained through the center four-panel door framed by a transom and sidelights. Mantels are very simple vernacular Greek Revival types with pilasters and a frieze. A plain baseboard and raised, four-panel doors with molding are the only other distinguishing elements in the very plain interior; surrounds are simple, flat, and two-part. The mantels in the ell are more substantial than those in the front parlor, having more pronounced pilasters with simple capitals and bases and wider frieze.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL

STATE

XX

LOCAL

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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

ca. 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This charming little dwelling is one of the county's finest surviving examples of the bold gable front porch form of the Greek Revival that was so popular in Sampson County from 1850 until about 1900. According to local tradition, it was erected about 1850 for Lafayette Pigford and located on the site of Maryborough, the plantation of James Sampson (____-ca 1789), nephew of Col. John Sampson, for whom the county was named. The house, uncharacteristically covered with board-and-batten siding instead of traditional weatherboard, may derive its picturesque quality from A. J. Downing's influence on the period's rural cottages; the abandoned cottage is the county's only significant board-and-batten dwelling to survive. The property was purchased by William Sampson (1851-1940); a granddaughter currently owns the house.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Pigford House is associated with the general development of Sampson County's agricultural landscape in the mid-19th century.
- C. A rare surviving example of the use of board-and-batten siding on a middle level dwelling of the period, this house is one of the better adaptations of the front gable porch form of the Greek Revival that was popular in the county from about 1850 until 1900.
- D Is likely to yield information valuable to the history of the area.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Pigford House is located near the county seat of Clinton. The house dates from the middle of the nineteenth century and was associated for many years with James L. Pigford. The house was built on land purchased by Pigford from Hinton Carr after the Civil War.¹ It is not certain if the house was constructed by Carr, Pigford or someone else.

The 1880 census shows that James L. Pigford owned 155 acres valued at \$2,000 and livestock valued at \$200. He grew 16 bales of cotton (7,200 pounds), 900 bushels of corn and lesser amounts of rice, oats, apples and sweet potatoes. In 1880 he was a widower with three children.² He remarried in the early 1880s and fathered two more children. Tax records indicate that Pigford died between 1892 and 1893. His widow Sue Pigford continued to farm the property until 1909 when she sold the house and 65 acres to William Sampson for \$1,500.³

William Sampson continued to farm the property until his death in 1940. The property then passed to his daughter Wixie Sampson and then to her neice Blonnie Sampson Williams, a granddaughter of William Sampson.⁴

The Pigford house is representative of a typical nineteenth century Sampson County family farm.

NOTES

¹Sampson County Deed Book 38, p. 157.

²Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

³Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Sampson County Tax Lists, 1893; Sampson County Deed Book 171, p. 182.

⁴Sampson County Deed Book 931, p. 54.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sampson County Deed Books.

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

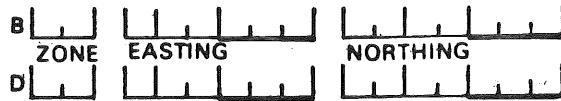
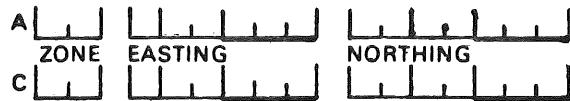
Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.51

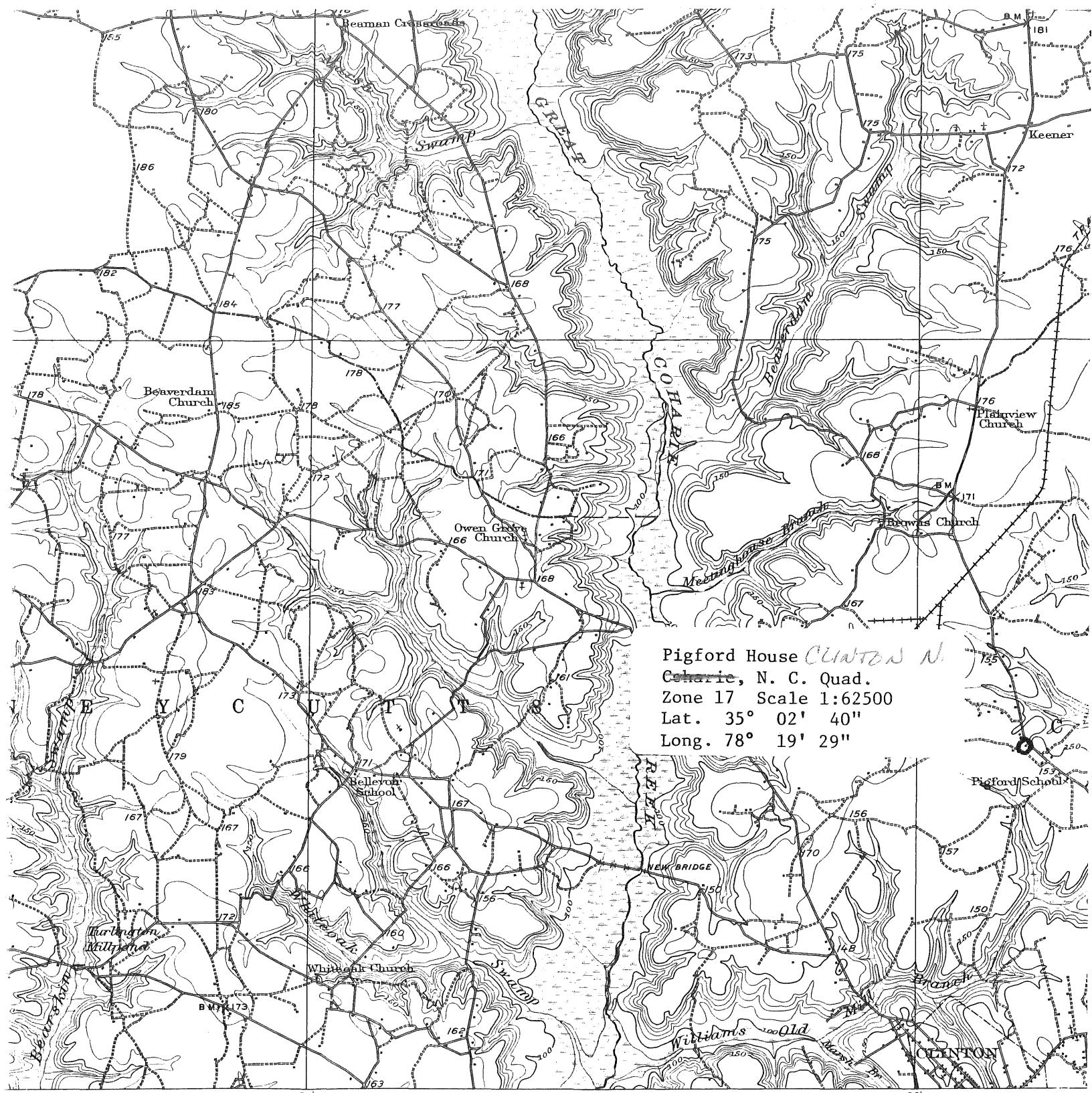
Lat. $35^{\circ} 02' 40''$
Long. $78^{\circ} 19' 29''$

UTM REFERENCES



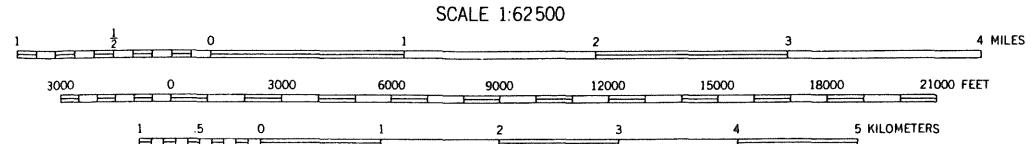
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Property being nominated is described in Sampson County Deeds, Vol. 931, page 54. Copy is enclosed.



Pigford House *Clinton N.*
 Cullowhee, N. C. Quad.
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62500
 Lat. $35^{\circ} 02' 40''$
 Long. $78^{\circ} 19' 29''$

23°
 TRUE NORTH
 MAGNETIC NORTH
 APPROXIMATE MEAN
 DECLINATION 1907.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Clinton N.

