

State of North Carolina
Division of Archives and History

Sampson COUNTY

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Garland, N. C. QUAD

X MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME
HISTORIC Marcheston Killett Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER W side SR 1222, 1.8 mi N of US 701

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Clinton Third

STATE North Carolina CODE 037 COUNTY Sampson CODE 163

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> 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"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME Claudius Peterson (919) 592-7588
STREET & NUMBER Route 4, Box 64
CITY, TOWN STATE VICINITY OF Clinton, NC 28328

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
STREET & NUMBER REGISTER OF DEEDS
CITY, TOWN CLINTON, N.C. 28328 STATE

6 FORM PREPARED BY
NAME / TITLE Thomas Butchko, Consultant
ORGANIZATION Survey and Planning Branch DATE May 21, 1985
STREET & NUMBER 109 E. Jones St. TELEPHONE (919) 733-6545
CITY OR TOWN Raleigh, N. C. 27611 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

Marcheston Killett (1839-1909), a native of near Bishopville, South Carolina, moved to Sampson County and built this large, frame house soon after the Civil War in the already locally popular gable-front porch form. Most commonly treated in a Greek Revival manner, here the house is given its most elaborate Victorian embellishment in the county, although Greek Revival elements are still very evident in the porch and pilasters. In the early 1910s, "Darling Love" Davis, the present owner's grandfather, acquired the farm from Killett's estate; Davis's son-in-law, the Rev. Claudius Peterson (ca. 1885 - 1917), was some relation to Killett. The Petersons lived here with Davis. The handsome, spacious house, with its vigorous interior woodwork, is one of the finest surviving examples of a housing form that was very popular among the middle class planters of Sampson County from about 1850 to the end of the nineteenth century.

The house type derives its name from the dominant front, central porch contained under the engaged, projecting gable of the cross-gable roof. The house orients to the east. The one-story house (the attic was never finished) is double-pile, center-hall in plan; its original weatherboard has been covered with vinyl siding. Standing seam metal covers the cross-gable roof, which is pierced by interior common bond brick chimneys. On the rear northwest of the front block is the kitchen, a former one room log structure, which predated the house. It was moved on-half mile from a rear field after the main house was erected and incorporated into the ell, being given the same boxed cornice and corner-briards as the front block. The kitchen was further enlarged with a rear transverse section. This entire rear ell is connected by a since-enlarged porch running the length of the ell along its southern elevation. Four pillars with two pilasters support the pedimented porch roof and are connected with a turned balustrade. The house's corner pilasters assist in carrying the bracketed, boxed returning cornice, with paired brackets placed above the porch pillars; the raking cornice is also bracketed. Similar pilasters and bracketing are on the rear kitchen rooms. A diamond-shaped louvered vent marks the center of the front gable. Window sash are six-over-six. The surrounds on the front block are composed of colonnettes with molded capitals supporting a molded cornice; those on the front facade also are dentiled. A wide baseboard rests above the infilled brick pier foundation.

Entrance into the plastered center hall interior is through the handsome central door. A large, molded and dentiled cornice is held over the trabeated transom by large end pilasters while slender colonnettes separate the door from the sidelights. The raised octagonal panels below the sidelights echo the shape of the panels in the four raised-panel door. The interior is relatively simple, plastered throughout with dado, except in the front southeast parlor which has a sheathed wainscot. Interior surrounds are molded and simple ceilings are sheathed board also. At the rear of the hall is the door leading onto the now-enclosed rear porch; it also has trabeated transom and sidelights with excellent framing colonnettes. The front northeast room is unlike all the rest, being vigorously detailed. Heavy pilasters, extensive dentiling and three reeded octagonal frieze panels embellish the interesting mantel. Around the handsome, four-panel door is an unusual surround of applied molding in diamond, lance and baguette shapes.

In the past several years the weatherboard facade has been covered with vinyl siding with care being taken to retain the architectural ornamentation. A new poured cement porch floor with broken tile surface replaced the original wood floor. The farmstead retains a number of frame outbuildings, all clustered around the house and sheltered beneath many large oaks and a sizeable pecan orchard. Included are the commissary, a weather-boarded, front gable building with a projecting front which has six-over-six sash windows.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Marcheston Killett House Item number 7 Page 1

The large ca. 1915 frame barn has a tall front gable containing the center aisle and side sheds sheltering the four stalls. Later tractor sheds have been added on the sides. The entire barn was covered with metal sheeting in 1937. A small frame weatherboard utility house is to the west of the house; it too has a front gable roof. The crib/packhouse is a two-story frame structure with asphalt siding. At the rear of the property are two tobacco barns - one being frame with sheetrock on the exterior walls and the other of square-notched logs with asphalt siding. Also on the farm are the grape arbor, two chicken houses, vario hog sheds, and two new metal silos. Locations are known for the former blacksmith shop, pole cribs, stables, washhouse, dairy, log smokehouse, and buggy house.

The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which are present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretatinon 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 compoentt of the significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but is is probably that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

INVENTORY

- A Commissary - frame, weatherboard, with prominent projecting front gable, three bay facade with six-over-six sash window, upper loft.
- B Barn/stable - tall front gable with lateral sheds and later side tractor sheds, contains four stalls, frame, completely sided over with metal in 1937, originally built ca. 1915.
- C Silos - two new, circular, corrogated metal silos.
- D Utility shed - front gable, frame weatherboard.
- E Grape Arbor - small, four posts by four posts
- F Pumphouses - two new brick.
- G Crib - two story, frame, asphalt brick covering; added tractor sheds.
- H Chicken Houses - two shed roof, open side facing south.
- I Tobacco Barn - frame with sheetrock sheathing, one shed.
- J Tobacco Barn - square-notched logs, brick asphalt sheathing, various sheds.
- K Hog Sheds - several of salvage lumber.
- L Utility - frame, gable roof.
- M Pecan orchard - planted in 1910s.
- AA Site of former dairy
- BB Site of former pole cribs

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Continuation sheet Marcheston Killett Farm Item number 7 Page 2

- CC Site of former Carriage House
- DD Site of former Blacksmith shop
- EE Site of former stables

There are nineteen structures or potential archaeological sites which contribute to this nomination, including five known sites of earlier buildings.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Marcheston Killett House is located just south of Clinton, N. C. The house was constructed by Killett (1839-1909) shortly after the Civil War.

Killett was a native of South Carolina, who moved to Sampson County in the mid-1860s. He was only in his mid-twenties when he oversaw construction of his Greek REVival house. Census figures indicate that the Killett farm was a typically modest Sampson County farm. The 1870 census shows that Killett owned 480 acres but had only 30 acres under cultivation. His real estate was valued at \$1,400 in the deflated currency of the immediate post war period. In 1880 Killett had 50 acres under cultivation, growing mostly corn, cotton and sweet potatoes. He owned substantial amounts of livestock. His real estate was valued at \$4,000 in 1880.¹

Neither the 1870 nor 1880 censuses show Killett and his wife Susan with any children. In 1880 however, two neices, Katie Davis and Lou Davis were living in the Killett household.² Following the death of Killett the house and land came to be the property of D. L. Davis. What relationship, if any, D. L. Davis had with Killett and his Davis neices is not clear. According to local tradition the house was used during this period as a home for unwed mothers. The house is presently owned by Claudius Peterson, a grandson of D. L. Davis.³

The Killett house is considered to be one of the finest middle class farm houses remaining from the middle nineteenth century. Its importance is augmented by the large number of remaining outbuildings, including a tobacco barn, packhouse, crib, and grape arbor.

FOOTNOTES

1. Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.
2. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.
3. Information supplied by Mr. Claudius Peterson. Sampson County Deed Book 518, p. 271

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ninth and Tenth Census of the United States, 1870 and 1880, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.
Peterson, Mr. Claudius, information in Survey and Planning Files, Raleigh, N. C.
Sampson County Deed Books, Sampson County Courthouse.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 38.4 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	742925	3869850	B	17	743250	3869725
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	17	743125	3869450	D	17	742775	3869575

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property being nominated is lots 1 and 4 in the division of the lands of Mrs. Daisy Peterson, containing 38.4 acres total, and being recorded in the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office, Book 518, Page 271, dated 30 January 1939. A copy of the deed is enclosed.



Pasture



K

- AA - Former Dairy
- BB - Former Pole Cribs
- CC - Former Carriage House
- DD - Former Blacksmith Shop
- EE - Former Stables

Field

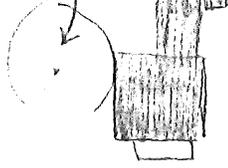
Pecans



C



Oaks



AA

F

K

D

G



BB



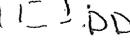
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EE

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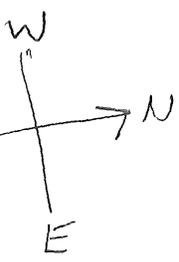
CC

Oaks

Pecan orchard
planted in 1910s
M

Field

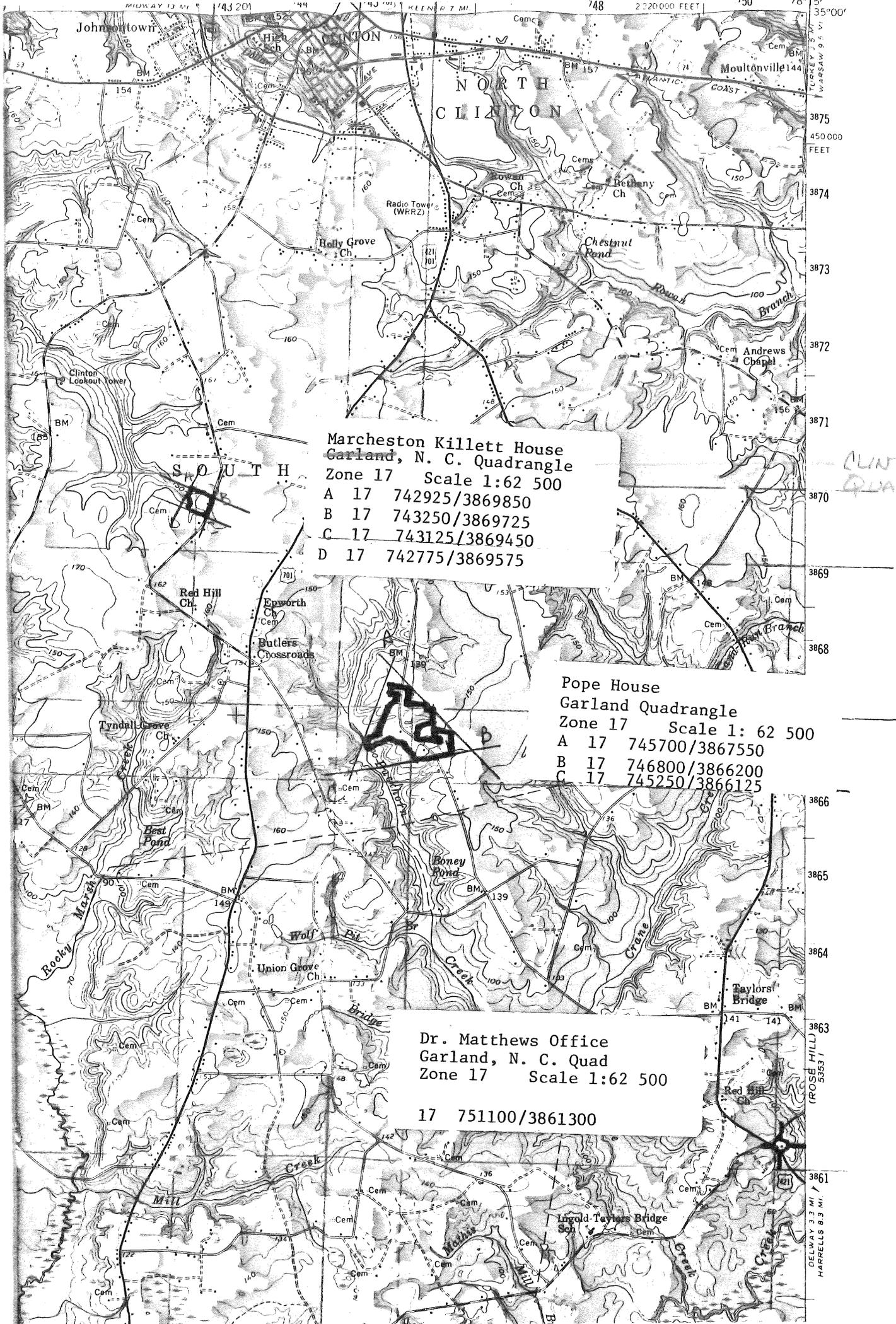
Property line



Marcheston Killett Farm

Sampson County, N.C.

NOT TO SCALE



Johnsontown

High Sch

NORTH CLINTON

Moultonville 144

Marcheston Killeet House
 Garland, N. C. Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500
 A 17 742925/3869850
 B 17 743250/3869725
 C 17 743125/3869450
 D 17 742775/3869575

SOUTH

Pope House
 Garland Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1: 62 500
 A 17 745700/3867550
 B 17 746800/3866200
 C 17 745250/3866125

Dr. Matthews Office
 Garland, N. C. Quad
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

17 751100/3861300

CLINTONS QUAD

(ROSE HILL) 5353 1

DELWAY 3.3 MI HARRELLS 8.3 MI

35°00'

3875

450 000

FEET

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