State of North Carolina  
Division of Archives and History  

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR  

---XAXA--- MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME  
HISTORIC: Pugh-Boykin House
AND/OR COMMON: 

2 LOCATION  
STREET & NUMBER: 306 Elizabeth Street
CITY. TOWN: Clinton
STATE: North Carolina

3 CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>OCCUPIED</td>
<td>AGRICULTURE</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td>UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>COMMERCIAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>PARK</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>YES RESTRICTED</td>
<td>PRIVATE RESIDENCE</td>
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</table>

N/A

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Jeff D. Johnson, III
STREET & NUMBER: 306 Elizabeth St.
CITY. TOWN: Clinton
STATE: North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Registry of Deeds, ETC: Register of Deeds (Book 849, Page 486)
STREET & NUMBER: Sampson Co. Courthouse
CITY. TOWN: Clinton
STATE: North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Thomas Butchko, Jim Sumner, Researcher
ORGANIZATION: Survey & Planning Branch, Research Branch
STREET & NUMBER: 109 E. Jones Street, (919) 733-6545
CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh, North Carolina
STATE: North Carolina
This side-hall plan, Greek Revival house is believed to have been built in the 1850s for Thomas L. Pugh; its construction is attributed to builder Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known mid-19th century contractors in the Clinton vicinity. The handsome, two-story, frame house was acquired by Thomas Wright Boykin, a member of the county's prominent Boykin family, in 1872. The house was purchased in 1923 by Virginia James Beaman Pigford for rental purposes; her great-grandson currently owns and occupies the house. Exhibiting the battered, peaked and dog-ear surrounds so prevalent in the city's Greek Revival architecture and continuing in use until the early 1900s, this house is rather different from the county's other side-hall Greek Revival houses in that it has a hip and not a gable front roof.

This side-hall plan, double-pile, two-story house is contained under a hipped roof of standing seam metal and pierced by a central interior common bond brick chimney. The house faces northeast. A single room dining wing projects off the northwest side under a gable roof. With flush gable eaves, this room originally terminated with an exterior end chimney which was removed sometime ago. Along the northeast facade of the house's two-bay-by-four-bay main block is the attached, hip roof porch. Chamfered posts connected with a rail of large turned balusters support the porch. The wall, sheltered by the porch, is covered with wide board sheathing. Sash are six-over-six with battered and peaked, two-part surrounds with dog-ears. Both front windows, to the front parlor and to the dining room, are nine-over-six and extend to the floor. The parlor window has the battered surround, while the dining room window has a two-part surround with decorative shutters. Prominent, oversized, paneled pilasters mark the house's four corners and carry the boxed cornice and a relatively shallow frieze. The entire house rests on infilled brick piers.

Entrance into the plastered interior is through double, four-panel doors with a trabeated transom, sidelights and the same battered, peaked, dog-ear surround as on the windows. The stairs rise from the front of the hall and are surprisingly plain, having simple square spindles and a small, square newel post with pyramidal top. Surviving Greek Revival elements consist of the two-part, beaded surrounds, the dado boards, and several two-panel doors. The mantels were removed in the 1950's when the house was used for apartments. Also at that time a celotex ceiling was added throughout most of the house. Sometime earlier the rear hall of both floors was enclosed for bathrooms.

The Pugh-Boykin House is located in an area of simple, late 1920s Bungalows, not far from the West Main Street-Chesnutt Street-West Johnson Street Historic District. However, several other intrusive houses and a cluster of ca 1970 brick townhouses between this house and the historic district prevent the house's inclusion in the district. Outside of the city limits Elizabeth Street is known as Boykin Bridge Road and leads to the family homestead of the Boykin Family.
STATE LOCAL NATIONAL

PERIOD       AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

__PREHISTORIC__      _ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC_  _COMMUNITY PLANNING_  _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE_  _RELIGION_

__1400-1499__      _ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC_  _CONSERVATION_  _LAW_  _SCIENCE_

__1500-1599__      _AGRICULTURE_  _ECONOMICS_  _LITERATURE_  _SCULPTURE_

__1600-1699__      _ARCHITECTURE_  _EDUCATION_  _MILITARY_  _SOCIALLY/HUMANITARIAN_

__1700-1799__      _ART_  _ENGINEERING_  _MUSIC_  _THEATER_

__1800-1899__      _COMMERCE_  _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT_  _PHILOSOPHY_  _TRANSPORTATION_

__1900__      _COMMUNICATIONS_  _INDUSTRY_  _POLITICS/GOVERNMENT_  _OTHER (SPECIFY)_

SPECIFIC DATES  1850s  BUILDER/ARCHITECT  Thomas Lee (attrib.)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This handsome Greek Revival dwelling in Clinton was built in the 1850s; its construction is attributed to Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known Clinton vicinity builders in the mid-19th century. The side-hall plan house continues the sophisticated treatment of the town's finer Greek Revival houses, exhibiting excellent battered, peaked, and dog-eared surrounds. The handsome house was acquired by Thomas Wright Boykin, a member of the county's prominent Boykin family, in 1872. Since 1923 the house has been owned by Virginia James Beaman Pigford and her descendants. The present owner, her great-grandson, is also a collateral descendant from Thomas Wright Boykin.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

A. The Pugh-Boykin House is indicative of the mid-19th century growth of the county seat of Clinton from a small governmental center to the chief commercial and educational town in the county. This house is a handsome example of the sophisticated residences erected by the town's growing middle and upper classes.

B. The construction of the house is attributed to Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known mid-19th century builders of the Clinton vicinity. It is one of only several attributed structures of his to survive.

C. Built in the prevailing Greek Revival style of mid-19th century Sampson County, Pugh-Boykin House is a handsome dwelling exhibiting the county's traditional Greek Revival elements. It is one of many examples that illustrate the variety of forms the Greek Revival assumed in the county.

D. Is likely to yield information valuable to the history of the area.
The Pugh-Boykin house is located in the southern part of Clinton. The house is believed to have been built shortly before the Civil War for Thomas L. Pugh by prominent Clinton builder Thomas Lee.

Thomas Pugh (born circa 1824) was a farmer and tailor. He lived at the house with his wife Elizabeth and at least eight children. The 1870 census credits Pugh with the ownership of $2,500 worth of real estate. In 1872 Pugh sold the house and its downtown lot of one acre to Thomas Wright Boykin for $1,300.

Thomas Wright Boykin was a member of one of Sampson County’s more prominent families. He was one of eight children of John Boykin (1787-1864) and Rebecca Wright. John Boykin was a North Carolina State Senator in 1842 and 1843. Thomas Wright Boykin also had an uncle (Thomas Boykin) and a cousin (John L. Boykin) who represented Sampson County in the General Assembly.

Born in 1819 Thomas Wright Boykin was 53 and one of Sampson County’s leading farmers when he acquired the Pugh house. The 1860 census credits him with the ownership of over 800 acres valued at $4,000 while in 1870 he owned over 1,200 acres. In 1880 he owned 1,140 acres valued at $8,000. Only 40 acres were improved in 1880. Boykin lived with his wife, the former Elizabeth Hobbs, and their five children.

The house passed out of the Boykin family in the 1920s when it was obtained by Virginia Pigford for rental purposes. A number of her descendants have owned the property since, including her daughter Isabelle Pigford Paison, her granddaughter Frances Paison Johnson, and the house’s current owner Jeff D. Johnson, a great grandson of Virginia Pigford.

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**FOOTNOTES**

1 Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, Agricultural Schedule.

2 Sampson County Deed Book 38, p. 375.

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**


**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .52 acre

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<thead>
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<th>UTM REFERENCES</th>
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<tr>
<td>B [3, 8]</td>
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<tr>
<td>C [4, 7, 9]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D [4, 7, 9]</td>
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</table>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property to be nominated is lots seven, eight, nine and ten as shown on the map of a lot Subdivision in Clinton for Pierce and Tucker, dated February 1920 and recorded in the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office, Map Book 1, page 40. Also described in Deed Book 849, Page 486, dated 24 January 1973. A copy of the deed is attached.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuation sheet</th>
<th>Pugh-Boykin House</th>
<th>Item number 8</th>
<th>Page 1</th>
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5 Sampson County Deed Book 487, p. 164; Book 525, p. 291; Book 567, p. 588; Book 849, p. 486.