1. NAME
   COMMON:
   Yates Mill
   AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Lake Wheeler Road
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Raleigh (Fourth Congressional District)
   STATE:
   North Carolina

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (Check One)
   ■ District  ■ Building  □ Site  □ Object  □ Structure
   OWNERSHIP  PUBLIC  PUBLIC ACQUISITION:
   □ Public  □ Private  □ In Process
   □ Private  □ Both  □ Being Considered
   □ In Process
   □ Public Acquisition:
   STATUS
   ACCESSIBLE
   TO THE PUBLIC
   ■ Occupied
   □ Unoccupied
   □ Yes:
   □ Restricted
   □ Unrestricted
   □ No
   PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
   ■ Agricultural  □ Government  □ Park
   □ Commercial  □ Industrial  □ Private Residence
   □ Educational  □ Military  □ Religious
   □ Entertainment  □ Museum  □ Scientific
   □ Transportation  □ Other (Specify)
   □ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   North Carolina State University
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Hillsborough Street
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Raleigh
   STATE:
   North Carolina

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
   Wake County Courthouse
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   310 Fayetteville Street
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Raleigh
   STATE:
   North Carolina

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   TITLE OF SURVEY:
   DATE OF SURVEY:
   DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   CITY OR TOWN:
   STATE:
   CODE:
   FOR NPS USE ONLY
   ENTRY NUMBER
   DATE
The main block of Yates Mill, which may incorporate some of the original mid-eighteenth century structure, is a two-story rectangular weatherboard building with finished attic which measures approximately 34 feet by 27 feet. The exposed ends of the rafters of the gable tin-covered roof create a slight overhang. A small porch with a straight stair is attached to the north side and gives access to the main block of the mill. All openings are asymmetrically placed. The south and west sides have two windows at each level; the north has a doorway and a window at the first and second levels and a large rectangular opening in the gable. Apparently each window had a single horizontally sliding sash and wooden batten shutter. Some of these still exist, although the glazing is missing from the windows.

Attached to the east side is a one-story shed addition measuring approximately 18 feet by 24 feet with an unusually large attic. The lower half is covered with vertical sheathing while the upper section has normal weatherboards. Contiguous to the shed addition is a porch, probably used as a loading dock, which extends 13 feet north of the main block and is covered by a gable roof. The entire structure rests on roughly dressed random coursed rubble piers and secondary wooden supports.

The interior of the first floor is divided into two large areas, the milling and storage room in the main block and the workshop in the shed. Access to the large porch is gained from the north side of the shed. A straight stair on the west wall of the main block leads to the second floor, and a stair on the north side of the second floor leads to the attic level. From the second floor of the main block five steps descend to the shed attic, which runs the full length of the building. Remnants of milling and carding machinery are scattered throughout the structure.

The wooden millrace and overshot waterwheel, both badly deteriorated, are located on the south side. The large millpond behind Yates Mill is retained by an extremely well-preserved dam composed of roughly dressed random coursed rubble.
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 16th Century
- 15th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATES! (If Applicable and Known)

- PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Aborignal
- Prehistoric
- Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Religion/Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The mill site, on Steep Hill Creek, was originally surveyed for Samuel Pearson in October, 1756, and granted to him by the Earl of Granville in 1761. The mill itself was probably built a short time before the survey. At the time of his death in 1800, Pearson was a successful planter and had increased the mill lands to over one hundred acres. The mill was left to his son, Simon, who was forced to sell the property in a sheriff's sale to William Boylan in 1820. Boylan established Raleigh's first newspaper, the North Carolina Minerva and Raleigh Advertiser, in 1799. He was the second president of the State Bank, and while he owned the mill, served on the commission to build a new state capitol. During his ownership Boylan rebuilt the mill and modernized it. In 1854 it was purchased by James Penny, Thomas Briggs, and John Primrose. Primrose sold his interest to James Dodd in 1859. Dodd, along with Thomas Briggs, formed Briggs and Dodd Construction Company to contract mill work in Wake County. Briggs was Raleigh's most influential post-Civil War businessman. Having wisely converted his Confederate currency into silver before the war's conclusion, he was one of the few North Carolinians with investment potential during Reconstruction.

Briggs and Dodd sold their interest to James Penny in May, 1864, and thereafter the mill was known as Penny's Mill. According to tradition Penny killed a Mr. Franklin for nonpayment of a mill debt and, although freed by the courts, was intimidated by Union soldiers who believed Franklin to have been a northern sympathizer. On at least one occasion the soldiers attempted to burn the mill. In 1869 Penny transferred the mill to his son-in-law, Phares Yates, whose family continued its operation until 1948, and from whom comes the mill's present name. A. E. Finley, head of the North Carolina Equipment Company, obtained the mill and operated it until 1953 when he was forced to close for lack of demand. The mill was last operated in 1963 for the benefit of photographers and is now owned by North Carolina State University.

Yates Mill is one of the few examples of the early American milling industry left in eastern North Carolina. Of the four mills known to have served eighteenth century Wake County, this is the only site on which an actual mill remains. It is of further interest in that at various times it has been utilized for lumber manufacturing, corn and wheat milling, and wool carding.
Wake County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills and Estate Papers).

Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroup: Wills).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: nine acres

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John B. Wel$ III, Survey Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History

DATE: February 5, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh

STATE: North Carolina

CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National □ State □ Local □

Name: Dr. H. G. Jones

Title: Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date: February 5, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date
