

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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date entered

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 Rosedale

and/or common Wharton House

2. Location

street & number S. side State Road 1407 1.2 mi. E of jct. with U. S. 264
not for publication

city, town Washington -x- vicinity of congressional district 1

state North Carolina code 37 county Beaufort code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. J. D. Briley

street & number Route 5, Box 2728

city, town Greenville - - - vicinity of state North Carolina

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Beaufort County Courthouse

street & number Second Street

city, town Washington state North Carolina 27889

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Architectural Resources of the
title Tar-Neuse Basin has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records Survey & Planning Branch, N. C. Division of Archives & History

city, town 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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

Rosedale sits on the south side of unpaved State Road 1407 about four miles west of Washington. Located in a grove of live oaks, the house stands well back from the road in a large yard surrounded on three sides by cultivated farmland. The house has not been inhabited in over twenty years, and the house and yard reflect this neglect.

Rosedale is a large two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame structure with a center hall, double-pile plan. A small one-story shed porch shelters the main entrance. The porch is supported by four square paneled posts and features small scrollwork brackets around the cornice; flush sheathing appears around the door with four heavily molded octagonal panels. The door is framed by sidelights and a transom filled with etched glass, and large console brackets above the sidelights support a bracketed cornice. The fenestration of the house is of four-over-four sash; the windows of the first floor are of floor-to-ceiling height while those of the second floor are slightly smaller. The windows are framed by narrow paneled pilasters which support a small molded cornice with scrollwork brackets. Large paneled cornerposts support a wide cornice with large scrolled and turned brackets. The rear of the house is identical to the front, but the shed porch, now removed, ran the width of the house and connected with a small one-room structure trimmed to match the house. The house has four interior-end chimneys which rise above the roofline in the form of square paneled bases beneath paired octagonal stacks; the chimneys are brick with a stucco covering. This decorative treatment of the chimneys is identical to that of the Rodman House, built ca. 1848, on West Main Street in Washington.

Upon entering the house through the main doorway, a wide hall runs the depth of the house flanked on either side by two rooms. The most elaborate architectural feature of the house is the stair, which rises in a single flight up the east wall of the hall. The large newel has an octagonal shaft with robust turnings; a wide molded handrail is supported by handsomely turned balusters. Elaborately scrolled brackets complete the trim of the stair. The first floor of the house is consistently trimmed with wide and heavily molded baseboards, with symmetrical surrounds, and grained four-panel doors. Some doorways feature well-proportioned crossets, while other doors have crossets of exaggerated proportions. A double doorway provides access between the two rooms on the west side of the house; the opposite rooms are joined by a doorway which opens between two closets in the southeast room. Circular ceiling medallions appear in the hall and in the northeast room. The mantels throughout the house are rather simple, being the typical Greek Revival treatment of pilasters supporting a wide frieze beneath a heavy shelf.

The plan of the second floor is like that of the first floor. The trim is also similar to the first floor, although smaller in scale and lacking the crosset treatment of the doorways. An enclosed stair to the attic rises above the main stairway; the attic is floored and plastered. The house has never received plumbing or wiring.

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 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

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Rosedale Plantation is a rare survival of the stereotyped antebellum plantation mansion in eastern North Carolina. Although lacking the white-columned portico typical of the stereotype, Rosedale does feature a grove of live oaks, elaborate Italianate exterior trim, and handsome Greek Revival interiors of large scale. Built as the home of David Bradley Perry, a prominent Beaufort County planter, Rosedale continued after the Civil War as the center of a large plantation in the hands of Col. Rufus Watson Wharton, a Civil War veteran and the son-in-law of David B. Perry. At Col. Wharton's death in 1915, Rosedale was inherited by his daughter and son-in-law, United States Senator and Mrs. John H. Small, who leased the farm and house to tenants.

Criteria:

- A. Associated with the large-scale plantation unit which supported a relatively small number of wealthy planters in eastern North Carolina during the prosperous decade before the Civil War.
- B. Associated with the lives of David Bradley Perry, prominent Beaufort County planter; Col. Rufus Watson Wharton, Civil War veteran, planter and attorney; John H. Small, United States Senator from North Carolina, 1898-1918.
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of the large plantation mansion in terms of size and degree of finish, as well as provides the best surviving example of vernacular Italianate and Greek Revival architecture found in Beaufort County outside the county seat of Washington.
- D. Is likely to yield information on antebellum plantation household activities.

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Rosedale Plantation was developed from several tracts of land purchased by Col. Thomas Latham (1773-1854) from Allen Grist, sheriff of Beaufort County, in 1832 and 1840.¹ Col. Latham probably purchased the land to provide a home for his widowed daughter, Mary Latham Williams, who had remarried in 1831 to David Bradley Perry.² In 1837 Perry purchased an adjoining 150 acres from his stepson, John G. Williams, who had received the land from his grandfather, Col. Latham.³ At Col. Latham's death in 1854, the Perrys received formal title to the plantation they were living on, and probably built the present house, known as Rosedale, soon afterwards.⁴ In addition to this plantation, Perry had purchased a plantation of 1096 acres in 1854.⁵

David Bradley Perry (1800-1866) was from a Connecticut family who had settled in Williamston, Martin County, to engage in the tar and turpentine business.⁶ After his marriage to Mary Latham Williams in 1831, Perry became a planter of wealth and prominence in Beaufort County. The 1850 census recorded Perry owning 2,500 acres of land valued at \$10,000 and 81 slaves, while his plantation produced 3,600 bushels of corn and 1,200 bushels of sweet potatoes.⁷ In the following ten years Perry increased his holdings as well as his plantation's productivity; the 1860 census showed Perry with 2,700 acres of land worth \$40,000, 99 slaves, livestock valued at \$4,850, and 85 bales of ginned cotton and 10,000 bushels of corn grown on his plantation.⁸ Perry was evidently a man of trust and responsibility in the community, since in 1842, 1843, and 1847 he signed a \$10,000 bond of security for Francis H. Hawks, the newly appointed clerk of the county Superior Court, and in 1852, 1855, 1856, and 1857 he signed the bond of security at the election of Jarvis B. Harding as sheriff of Beaufort County.⁹ Fulfilling the role of plantation master, Perry must have been the host of lavish entertaining at his large mansion, as he was described as "a gentleman noted throughout Eastern North Carolina for his hospitality and intelligence."¹⁰

At his death in 1866, Perry left his estate to be equally divided between his daughters Elizabeth Blount, Isabella Carter, and Mary Wharton, the wife of Col. Rufus Watson Wharton.¹¹ The Whartons bought the interest of the other heirs in the 720 acre farm, and apparently were the first to call the property Rosedale. Rufus Watson Wharton (1827-1915) was a native of Guilford County who practiced law in Salem, Forsyth County, before the Civil War.¹³ During the Civil War Wharton served as a major and then captain of Company E, Eleventh North Carolina Volunteers, and then as lieutenant-colonel of the Sixty-Seven State Troops. Wharton began farming his father-in-law's farm soon after his marriage at the end of the war. A writer noted in 1885 that on acquiring the plantation, Col. Wharton "at once set about improving the land, putting it in the first-class order we find it in today . . . He raises annually some ninety-five or one hundred bales of cotton, besides corn and rice as well as his supplies When he took charge of the farm it was terribly run down, but by means of judicious drainage, manuring, etc., he has increased its production capacity three-fold."¹⁴ Col. Wharton served as a Beaufort County magistrate,

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as the county attorney for many years, and as a member of the State Board of Agriculture.

Col. Wharton died intestate in 1915, and Rosedale was inherited by his children D. Evans Wharton, Thomas P. Wharton, and Isabella C. Small, the wife of John H. Small, United States Senator from North Carolina, 1898-1918.¹⁵ Sen. and Mrs. Small obtained title to the plantation, and leased it and the house to tenants.¹⁶ In 1937 the Smalls sold Rosedale to the East Carolina Company, who in turn sold the house and 329 acres to Mr. T. J. Moore.¹⁷ Since that time, the property has exchanged hands several times before the present owner acquired the property in 1977.¹⁸

Although dilapidated in appearance, Rosedale is intact and is in sound structural condition. The house appears to be as originally built, still without plumbing or electricity, although the back porch has been removed. The numerous outbuildings around the house were taken down in the 1960s, but the large grove of live oaks still shade the house. The house survives as the only large plantation dwelling dating from the prosperous decade before the outbreak of the Civil War. Stylistically, the house is unusual in that the exterior detail reflects the Italianate influence while the interior features characteristic Greek Revival trim. The interior is interesting for its mixture of machine-produced details, such as the doors and stair, with hand-produced trim of vernacular quality.

This structure is, of course, closely related to the surrounding environment. Archeological 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 archeological record. Therefore, archeological 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.

NOTES:

¹Allen Grist to Col. Thomas Latham, 4 May 1832, Beaufort County Deeds, Office of the Register of Feeds, Beaufort County Courthouse, Washington, Book 17, 290, hereinafter cited as Beaufort County Deeds; Allen Grist to Col. Thomas Latham, 16 July 1840, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 20, 363.

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²Marilu Burch Smallwood, Some Colonial and Revolutionary Families of North Carolina, Vol. II, (n.p.: n.p., 1969), p. 282; most of the genealogical information on the Latham, Perry, and related families was taken from this source. The George H. and Laura E. Brown Library, Washington, also has genealogical files on these families.

³John G. Williams to David B. Perry, 1 July 1837, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 19, 163.

⁴Will of Thomas Latham, 24 March 1855, Beaufort County Orphans Book I, 263, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; in his will Col. Latham left "my daughter Mary Perry and her husband David B. Perry the plantation I bought of Allen Grist whereon the said David B. Perry now lives."

⁵Jesse B. Lucas to D. B. Perry, 14 Sept. 1854, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 28, 463.

⁶Smallwood, Some Colonial and Revoluntionary Families, Vol. II, pp. 285-86.

⁷Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Beaufort County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 392; Slave Schedule, 349; Agricultural Schedule, 219, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

⁸Eighth Census of the United States, 1860; Beaufort County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule, 98; Agricultural Schedule, 41, microfilm of National Archives Manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

⁹Beaufort County Deeds, Book 21, 293, Book 22, 38; Book 24, 183; Book 28, 733; Book 29, 332; Book 30, 6.

¹⁰Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina, Vol. II, (Charleston, S.C.: Empire Publishing Company, 1885), p. 152.

¹¹Will of David B. Perry, 17 Dec. 1863, probated 1866, Beaufort County Orphans Books M, 309, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Elizabeth Perry Blount was married to Major John Gray Blount, the son of the wealthy Washington merchant John Gray Blount, and was the grandmother of Lindsay C. Warren, United States Congressman from North Carolina, 1925-1940, and United States Comptroller General, 1940-1954, Smallwood, p.283.

¹²Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina, Vol. II, pp. 152-53.

¹³Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina, Vol. II, pp. 152-53.

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¹⁴Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina, Vol. II, pp. 152-153.

¹⁵Thomas P. Wharton, Power of attorney to John H. Small, 25 July 1918, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 206, 164; for information on Sen. Small, see Ursula Fogleman Loy and Pauline Marion Worthy, eds., Washington and the Pamlico (Washington-Beaufort County Bicentennial Commission, 1976), pp. 405-06.

¹⁶D. Evan Wharton to Thomas P. Wharton and Isabella C. Small, 15 May 1916, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 191, 552; Thomas P. Wharton to John H. Small, 15 Oct. 1925, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 260, 38.

¹⁷John H. and Isabella Small to the East Carolina Company, 23 December 1937, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 321, 18; the East Carolina Company to T. J. Moore, 23 December 1937, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 321, 25.

¹⁸T. J. Moore to H. H. Swanner and William J. Chauncey, 20 January 1951, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 406, 248; H. H. Swanner to William J. Chauncey, 10 March 1962, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 532, 488; William J. Chauncey to J. D. Briley, 12 January 1977, Beaufort County Deeds, Book 745, 477.

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- Beaufort County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Beaufort County Courthouse, Washington.
- Beaufort County Orphans Books, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- Eighth United States Census, 1860, Beaufort County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Genealogical files, George H. and Laura E. Brown Library, Washington.
- Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina, Vol. II Charleston, S. C.: Empire Publishing Company, 1885.
- Loy, Ursula Fogleman, and Pauline Marion Worthy, eds. Washington and the Pamlico. Washington-Beaufort County Bicentennial Commission, 1976.
- Seventh United States Census, 1850, Beaufort County, North Carolina, Microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Smallwood, Marilu Burch. Some Colonial and Revolutionary Families of North Carolina, Vol. II, n.p.: n.p., 1969.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet, "Bibliographical references," item number 9, page 1.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Washington

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	8	3	1	1	5	7	0	3	9	4	1	0	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification The property included in the Rosedale nomination is shown within the red line on the attached map, "Map of Rosedale Farm, 1937," and represents that portion of a large plantation still immediately associated with the house.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marshall Bullock, Consultant to Mid-East Commission, Survey & Planning Branch

organization Archaeology & Historic Preservation Section date August, 1980
N. C. Division of Archives & History

street & number 109 East Jones Street telephone 919-733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

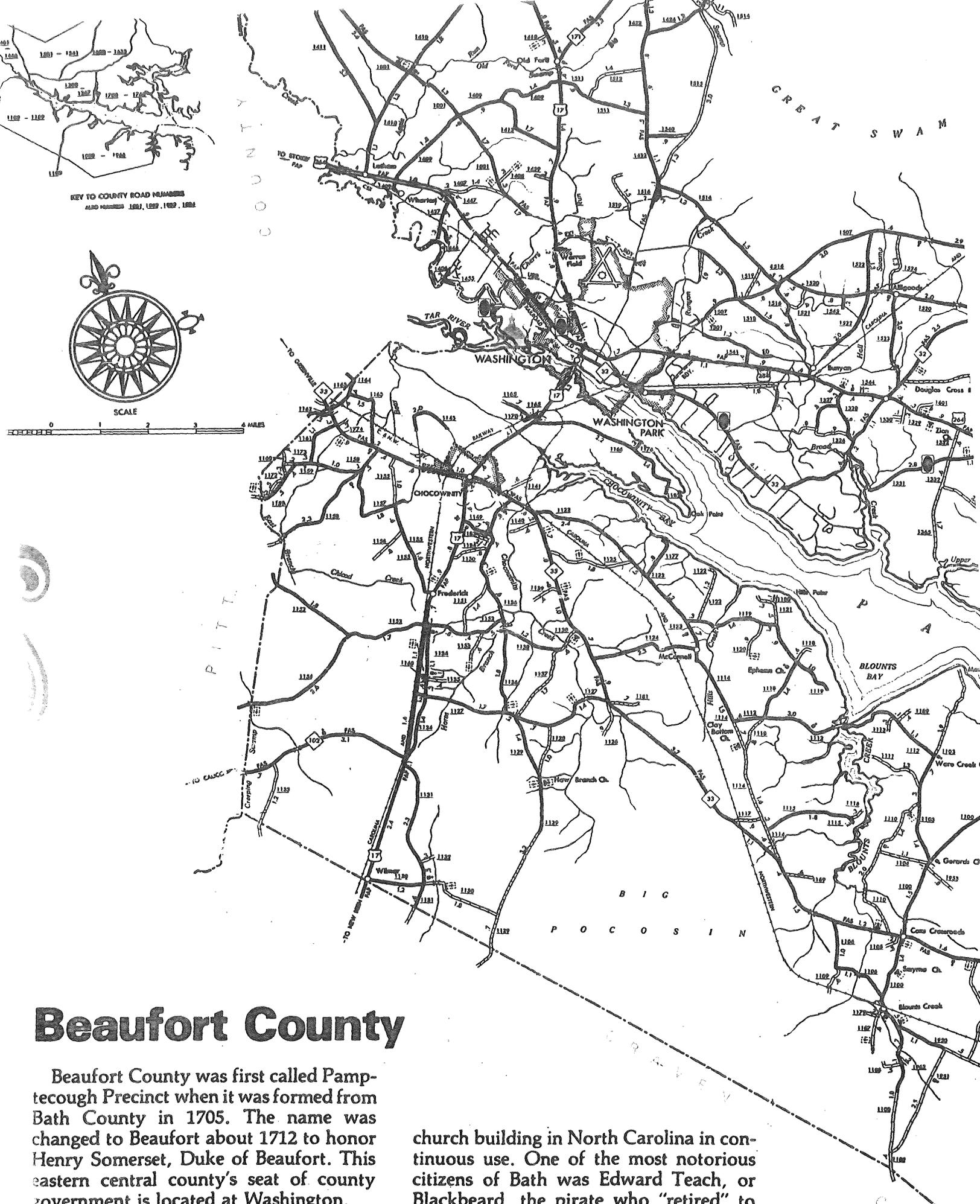
national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Ray E. M.*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 16 October 1980

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest: Chief of Registration	date



Beaufort County

Beaufort County was first called Pamptecough Precinct when it was formed from Bath County in 1705. The name was changed to Beaufort about 1712 to honor Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort. This eastern central county's seat of county government is located at Washington.

Dividing the county approximately in half is the Pamlico River. It's the lower

church building in North Carolina in continuous use. One of the most notorious citizens of Bath was Edward Teach, or Blackbeard, the pirate who "retired" to Bath. He married a young girl from Bath

