

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Burke	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Creekside
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Intersection of US 70 and 70A west of Morganton			
CITY OR TOWN: Morganton (Tenth Congressional District, Hon. James Broyhill)			
STATE North Carolina	CODE 37	COUNTY: Burke	CODE 023

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Fred George		
STREET AND NUMBER: Creekside		
CITY OR TOWN: Morganton	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Burke County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Morganton	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:		

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Creekside, a singularly monumental example of the early Greek Revival influence in western North Carolina, is a two-story brick mansion with a gable roof, a pair of interior chimneys at the ridge, and a heroic tetrastyle portico. The brickwork is quite unusual in that three different bonds are employed. The main (north) facade and the east side are laid in mechanical bond, the rear is in one-to-six common bond, and the west side is in Flemish bond. Emphasizing the massiveness of the house are the heavy brick pilasters and the front portico. The pilasters, each with a molded wooden capital, occur between the bays on three sides of the house and at all four corners. On the rear the bays are separated by simple pilaster strips without caps. The tetrastyle pedimented portico covers the three central bays of the five-bay front facade and features heavy stuccoed brick Doric columns. The only adornment on the entablature is a range of applied rectangular wooden blocks on the frieze, each featuring a leaf design on its face. The tympanum, covered with flush siding, contains a central lunette filled with tracery and framed by a heavy molded architrave with keystone. Below the lunette is a curious horizontal wooden plate incised with a foliate design.

The entablature of the portico is repeated on the main block and originally carried around the pedimented ends and the rear of the house. The row of blocks on the frieze occurs only around the sides; the rear frieze is plain. A storm destroyed the cornice on the east and west ends, and it was never replaced, but the frieze remains intact.

The size of the windows is consistent with the large scale of the building. Those at the first level are floor length and contain twelve-over-twelve sash; those at the second also have twelve-over-twelve sash but are slightly smaller.

The central entrance, although fairly large, appears smaller set in the context of the massive facade. Although framed by a heavy molded architrave with roundel cornerblocks, the narrow paneled leaves of the double door and the finely leaded fanlight and sidelights recall the more delicate scale and style of ornament characteristic of the Federal period. The sidelights have splayed diamond panes, and the fanlight features a tiny keystone, reeded reveals and small circular panes around its perimeter. The lightness of composition is repeated, although somewhat less convincingly, in the second story triple window above the entrance. The central section has large twelve-over-twelve sash, in contrast to the small splayed diamond panes of the flanking windows.

The house has a center-passage plan two rooms deep. The main hall continues the compatible combination of delicate Federal motifs within an essentially Greek Revival setting. Most of the hall is a typically massive Greek Revival design with heavy chair rails, wide doorways with cornerblocks and roundels, and paneled doors adorned with Greek key designs. The stairway, which rises from the rear of the hall in two flights, is just as characteristically Federal, with slim balusters square in section, a rounded handrail, a slender rounded newel, and delicate vernacular curvilinear foliate brackets beneath each tread.

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7.

All the rooms on both floors are finished like the hall, the parlors being distinguished by their fine mantels. The mantel in the northeast parlor features a Greek key design across the frieze, which is supported by fluted Doric colonettes. Here the mantel is flanked by superb trompe l'oeil panels painted to resemble round-headed niches containing statues on pedestals. The mantel in the northwest parlor, although different, is also typically Greek Revival with a plain center tablet and Greek key end blocks supported by wide fluted pilaster strips.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas George Walton is thought to have begun building Creekside for his fiancée, Elizabeth A. Murphy, in 1836. They were married in 1837, and the house was completed shortly thereafter. Creekside was built near the site of an earlier house belonging to the Greenlees, members of a family that held extensive land grants in western North Carolina in the eighteenth century. Records of Burke County were destroyed in 1865 when Union General George Stoneman passed through Morganton, thus making exact deed research difficult.

Thomas George Walton, great nephew of George Walton, who signed the Declaration of Independence, is said to have taken many of the design ideas incorporated into this house from buildings he had seen in Virginia while traveling and visiting there. Walton family tradition has it that the house was designed by Thomas G. Walton himself. Walton was a gentleman farmer whose family had been locally prominent and associated with various business ventures for many years. He represented Burke County in the House of Commons in 1850. When the Civil War began, he was elected colonel in charge of his county's reserves and served throughout the war, although he was fifty years old by the time it ended. Following the war Walton served on the board of directors for the State Hospital for the Insane, both in Raleigh and Morganton. When Walton died in 1905 his extensive holdings were divided among his several children, and Creekside fell to his son, Herbert Huske Walton, who survived until 1949. The house is currently owned by his daughter, Louise Walton Boggs George (Mrs. Fred George).

Creekside, one of the largest houses of its age in the western part of North Carolina, has been described by Thomas T. Waterman as "the most monumental mansion of the Piedmont." From the eighteenth century until Creekside was built in 1836, the major houses built in the Catawba Valley of Burke County were of Federal design. Creekside marks a departure from the trends then current in its locality and must be viewed as a house whose classic proportions and impressive scale make it truly outstanding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Burke County Records, Burke County Courthouse, Morganton, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroup: Wills).

Burke County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Wills).

Camp, Cordelia. Sketches of Burke County. Morganton, North Carolina: The News Herald, 1954.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			CORNER	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		35° 44' 07"	81° 42' 31"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 Acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit Staff, John B. Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History

DATE: 7 September 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh

STATE: North Carolina

CODE: 037

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 *J. B. Wells*

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date 7 September 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 _____

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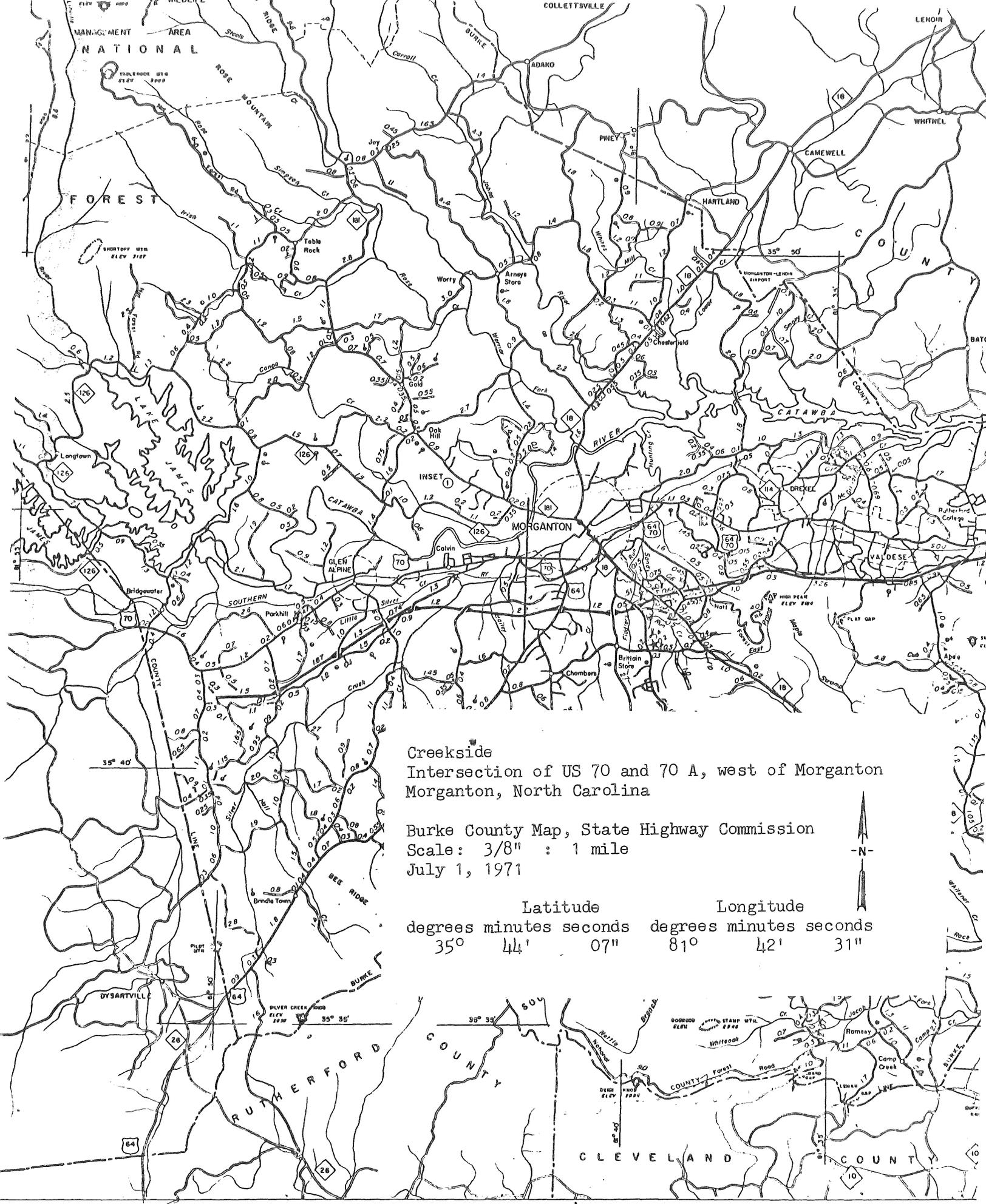
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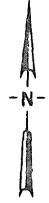
9.

Waterman, Thomas T., and Johnston, Frances B. The Early Architecture of North Carolina. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 1947.

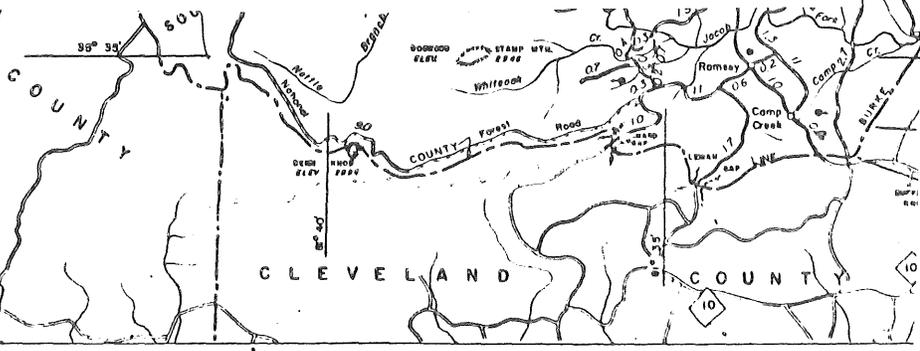


Creekside
 Intersection of US 70 and 70 A, west of Morganton
 Morganton, North Carolina

Burke County Map, State Highway Commission
 Scale: 3/8" : 1 mile
 July 1, 1971

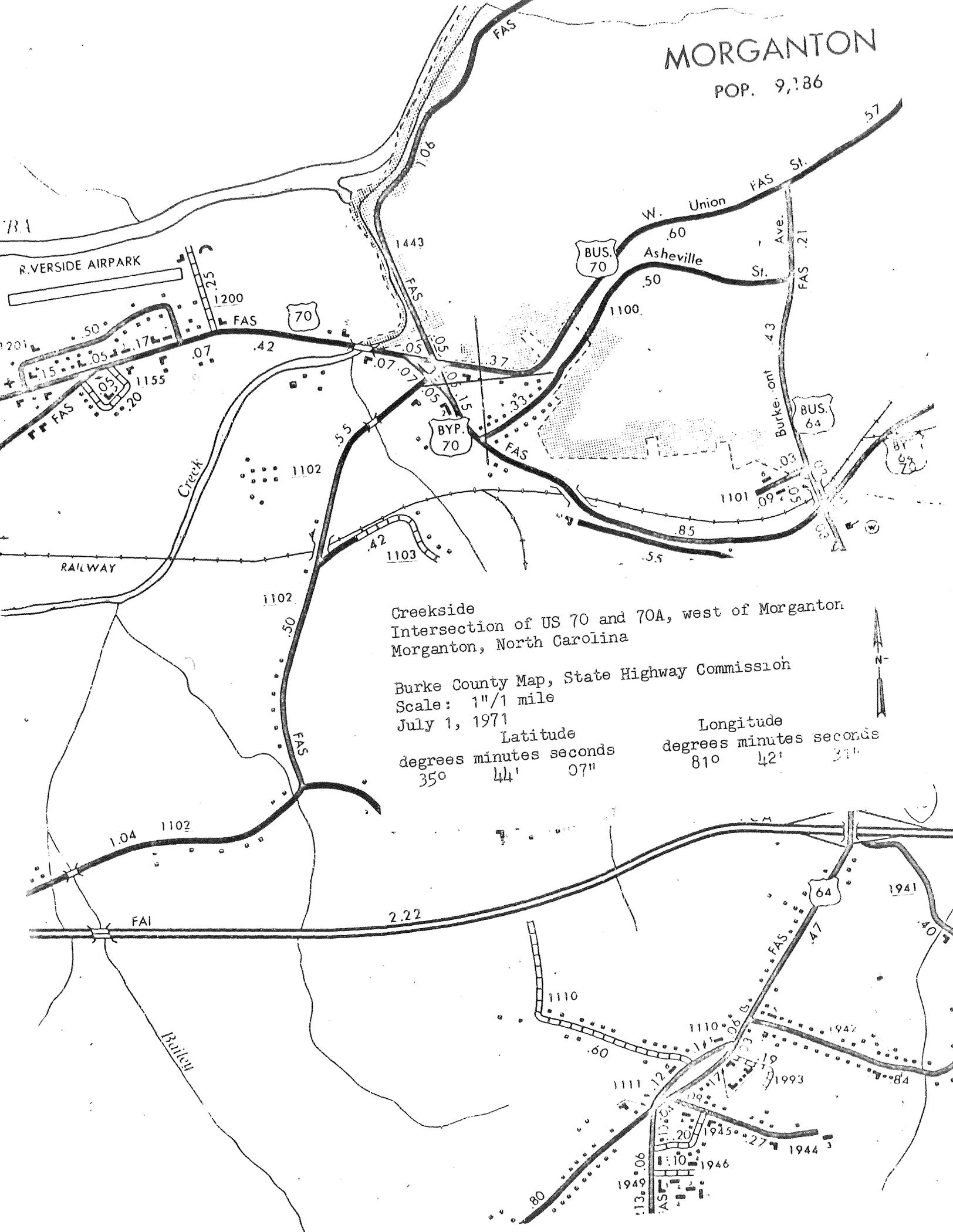


Latitude			Longitude		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
35°	44'	07"	81°	42'	31"



MORGANTON

POP. 9,186



Creekside
Intersection of US 70 and 70A, west of Morganton
Morganton, North Carolina

Burke County Map, State Highway Commission
Scale: 1"/1 mile
July 1, 1971

Latitude
degrees minutes seconds
35° 44' 07"

Longitude
degrees minutes seconds
81° 42' 31"

