

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:	The Tate House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	The Cedars

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:				CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:			
100 South King Street				Tenth			
CITY OR TOWN:				The Hon. James Broyhill			
Morganton							
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:		CODE		
North Carolina		37	Burke		023		

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:				North Carolina	STATE:	
Charles Gordon Tate, Jr.						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
P.O. Box 386						
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	ZIP CODE	CODE	Burke	COUNTY:
Morganton		N. C.	28655	023		

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				North Carolina	STATE:
Burke County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
Union Street					
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE	Burke	COUNTY:
Morganton		Burke	023		

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:				North Carolina	STATE:	
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			Burke
ENTRY NUMBER				FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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INSTRUCTIONS

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Occupying most of a downtown city block and surrounded by wooded, park-like grounds, the Tate House long has been a dominant feature of this small, upper Piedmont town. The core of the house is in the Greek Revival style and has a center hall plan, two rooms deep. It is of brick laid in Flemish bond, and brick pilasters separate each of the bays of the house, which is three bays wide and two deep. The twelve-over-twelve sash of the main block was replaced at the first floor with two-over-two sash, but the symmetrically molded architraves with corner blocks and roundels were retained when the temple-form house was remodeled in the Second Empire style (circa 1868). The remodeling involved removal of the pedimented gable roof and replacement with a mansard roof. The mansard roof has large, double window dormers above each bay except the central one of the main (north) facade. At this point a large, three-story octagonal tower, capped with a bracketed mansard roof with dormers in alternating faces of the octagon, was built. Only five facets of the tower are exposed until it rises above the main block. The main entrances are through the east and west faces of the tower which are perpendicular to the main facade. The windows found in all of the exposed faces of the tower are set in recessed brick panels. One-story porches extend from the tower across the main facade with the entrances to the porches located at the outer corners of each and formalized with small gables supported by paired, turned posts. A spindle frieze runs beneath the molded cornice of the porches. Doors just above the entrance doors in the tower give access to the porch roofs. These doors are sheltered by small bracketed hoods. A one-story three-bay dining and service wing with a mansard roof extends south from the southeast side of the rear facade. The wing is of brick laid in common bond with brick pilasters dividing the bays. The dormers over each bay resemble the ones of the main block but have single windows rather than double. This wing appears to be contemporary with the tower addition.

The base of the tower forms a vestibule which opens into the large central stair hall. (The seven types of wood used in the ceiling of the vestibule are said to be native to Burke County.) The heavy Victorian stair rises along the west wall to a landing across the width of the hall. The first room to the east is called the White Parlor and has an elaborate shell cornice and ornate medallion, both dating from the renovation. Also in this room is a white marble mantel with a pseudo-three-centered-arched opening and central cartouche, typical of the Victorian period. Across the hall to the west is the Red Parlor, so called because of the red and gold fabric panels (said to be of the late nineteenth century) which cover most of the walls of this room. The mantel in this room is also of white marble but with a square opening. The decor of this room is said to be patterned after a design seen at the Vienna Exposition of 1873. The dining room, the largest and most elaborate room, is separated from the White Parlor by the library and is located in the rear wing. The paneled ceiling has a large wooden medallion surrounded by rectangular, flat panels of various sizes arranged in symmetrical patterns. The room has a wainscot of reeded, vertical sheathing and a small, built-in cabinet with a glass front flanked by symmetrically molded pilasters extending up to a molded cornice supported by small consoles and surmounted by a spindle course. The mantel consists of combinations of paired consoles, pilasters, and turned balusters supporting small shelves. A mirrored overmantel is flanked by shelves and has a

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(Number all entries)

cornice similar to the cabinet. An especially elaborate door leads from the dining room into the hall. It features a diagonally set square panel with quarter fans filling the corners, and small, horizontal panels above and below, with three narrow vertical panels at bottom of the door. This door has symmetrically molded architrave with roundel corner blocks at the top and at chair rail level. Sliding doors separate the library and dining room. The trim is less elaborate in the rest of the house, and more of the Greek Revival trim remains on the second floor.

To the rear (south) of the main house is the remodeled and much expanded schoolteacher's brick cottage which faces east. It originally was a Gothic cottage with a small tower. Its porch and other details of its finish relate to the Second Empire remodeling of the main house.

8. 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 checked="" 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"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tate House is not only a clever and ambitious adaptation of a large house in the Greek Revival style into the more up-to-date Second Empire style but also is a monument to Samuel Tate, a local hero who survived the Civil War and went on to excel financially and politically, despite setbacks. Perhaps his most lasting contribution to his community was seeing to the location of two large state institutions in his relatively small hometown far from the state capital. The house dominates downtown Morganton much as its master appears to have dominated local civic affairs.

The Greek Revival portion of the Tate House was built by Dr. William L. McRee, a Morganton physician, who died in 1855. Following McRee's death, Samuel McDowell Tate is said to have bought the house in anticipation of his marriage to Miss Jennie Pearson, which was delayed until after the Civil War. Their marriage took place on October 29, 1866, and Tate set about expanding and embellishing McRee's house (which had been rented during the interim). Loss of Burke County records during the Civil War prevents accurate dating of these transactions. Family tradition has it that by the time their second child was born (1869), the remodeling was complete and the house had much the form it bears today.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Tate recruited and was commissioned Captain of Company D, 6th Infantry Regiment, North Carolina state troops. Participating in some of the most important battles of the war, Tate was wounded several times and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel at Gettysburg. Following the war he was elected president of the Western North Carolina Railroad. In this capacity he displayed financial and organizing ability in his efforts to rehabilitate the property. He was removed from that office by Governor William W. Holden in 1868, but was identified thereafter for several years, in various capacities, with the building of the western division of the railroad, from Salisbury to the French Broad River. He was elected to the lower house of the North Carolina General Assembly in 1874 and soon became one of the commanding figures in that body. The establishment of the Hospital for the Insane in Morganton and the removal of the North Carolina School for the Deaf from Raleigh to Morganton were among his accomplishments. In 1886 he was appointed national bank examiner for the district extending from West Virginia to Florida and served in that capacity until 1892. He was appointed treasurer of North Carolina that same year, serving until 1894. Tate died intestate on June 25, 1897, as he was dressing for dinner. His wife, Jennie, lived until 1902, and Irene, the last survivor of their ten children, retains a life estate in his still-impressive house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research and architectural description by Charles Greer Suttlemyre, Jr., survey specialist.
 Burke County Records, Burke County Courthouse, Morganton, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Wills, Estate Papers and Court Records).
 Burke County Records, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Wills, Estate Papers and Court Records).
 National Cyclopedia of American Biography. New York: J. T. White and Company, 1893 to present.
 The News-Herald. Morganton, North Carolina: August 9, 1963.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
LATITUDE		LONGITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
Corner	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	35°	44'	39"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81°	41'	23"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION: Office of Archives and History DATE: March 1, 1978

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 H. G. Jones

Title State Historian/Administrator

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received
date entered

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Item number 10

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The boundary of the Tate House (The Cedars) National Register nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Burke County Tax Map #46-2 drawn to a scale of 1"=100'. The boundary includes the Tate House, the Tate Cottage (originally constructed as a school, ca. 1875, later remodeled for a residence), and those portions of the surrounding yard and gardens which retain their integrity. Total area is 1.7 acres.

The Cedars and The Tate
Cottage
Burke County Tax Map#46-12
1"=100'

46-2

48-10

UNION

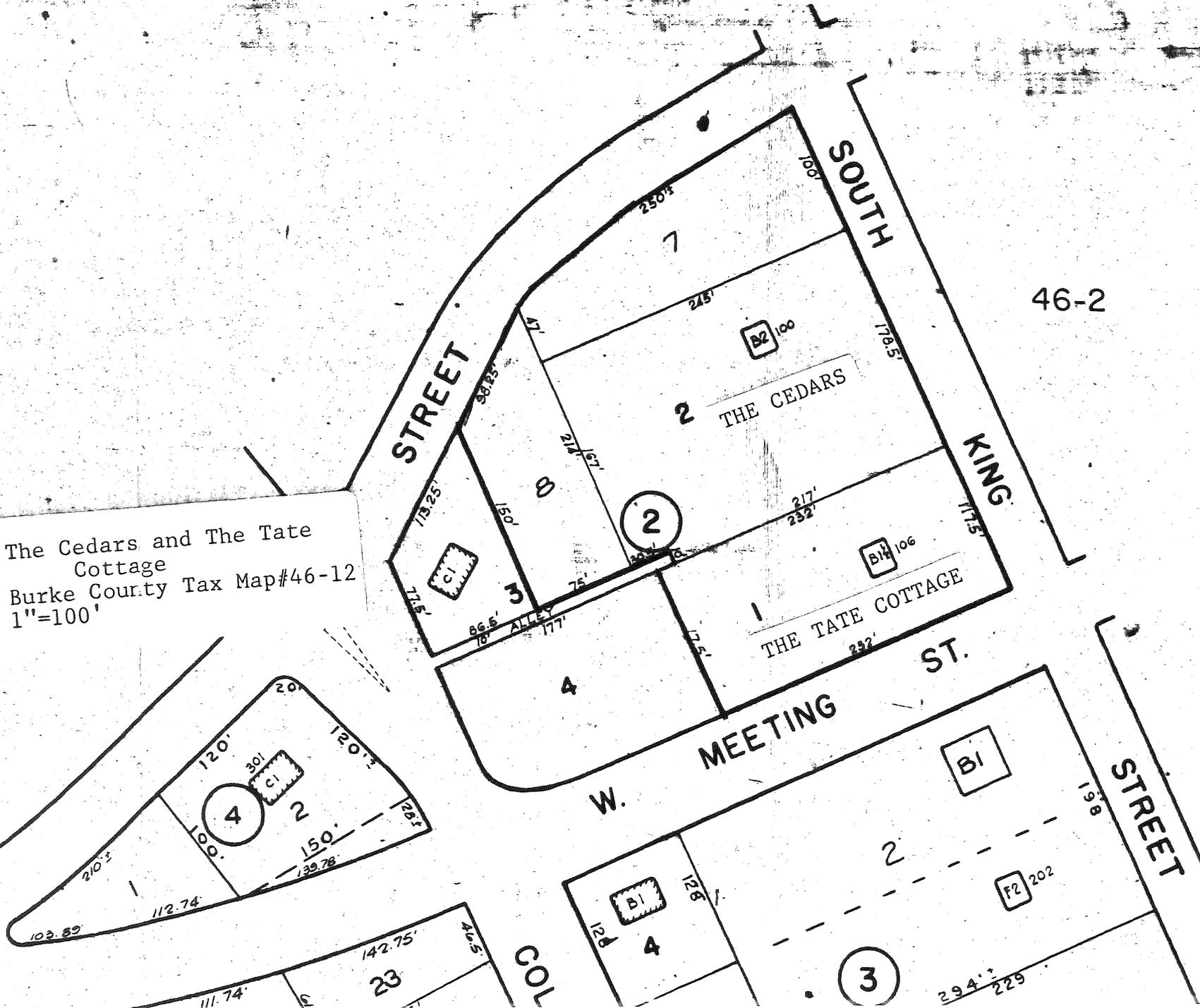
STREET

SOUTH

KING

W. MEETING ST.

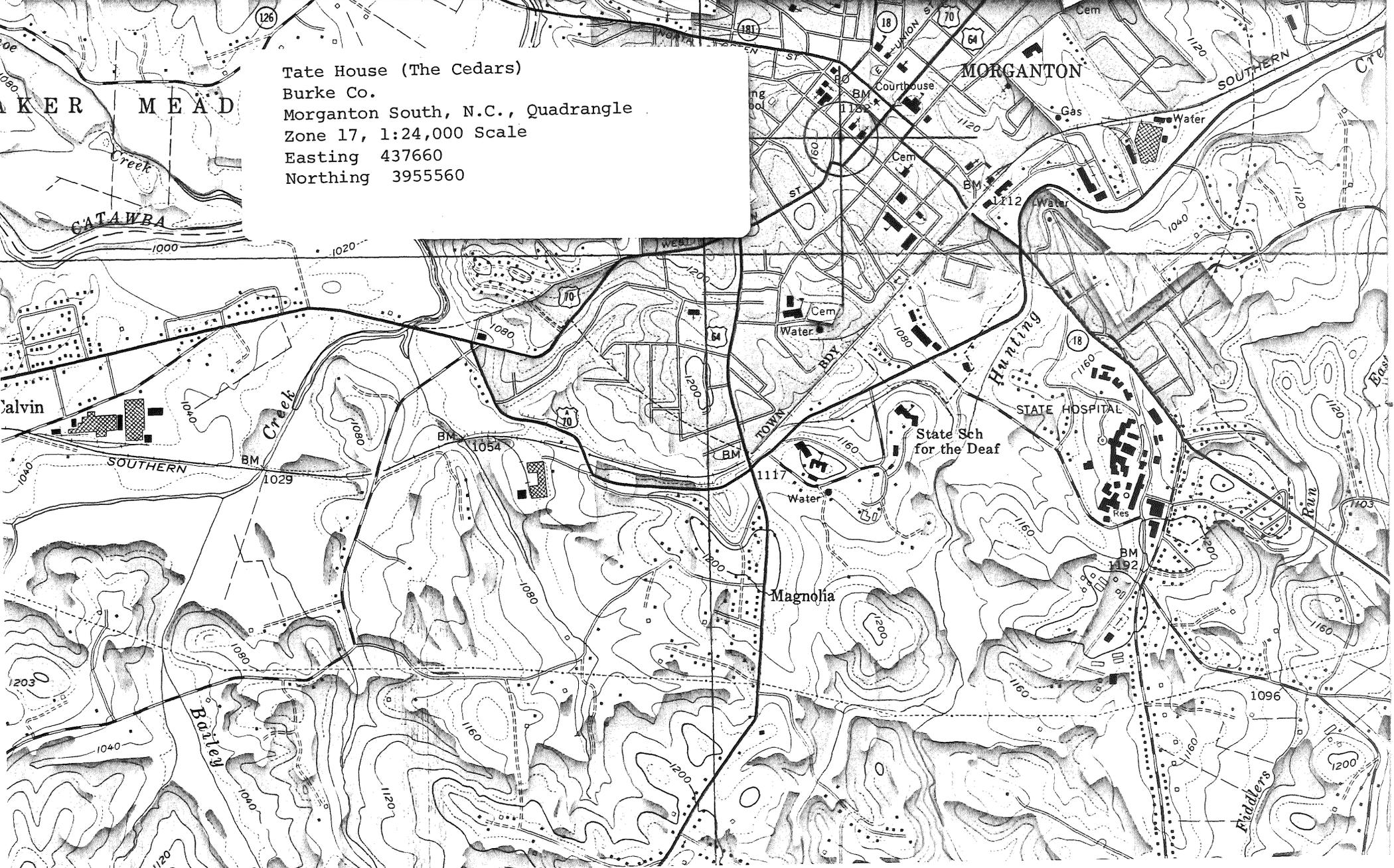
STREET

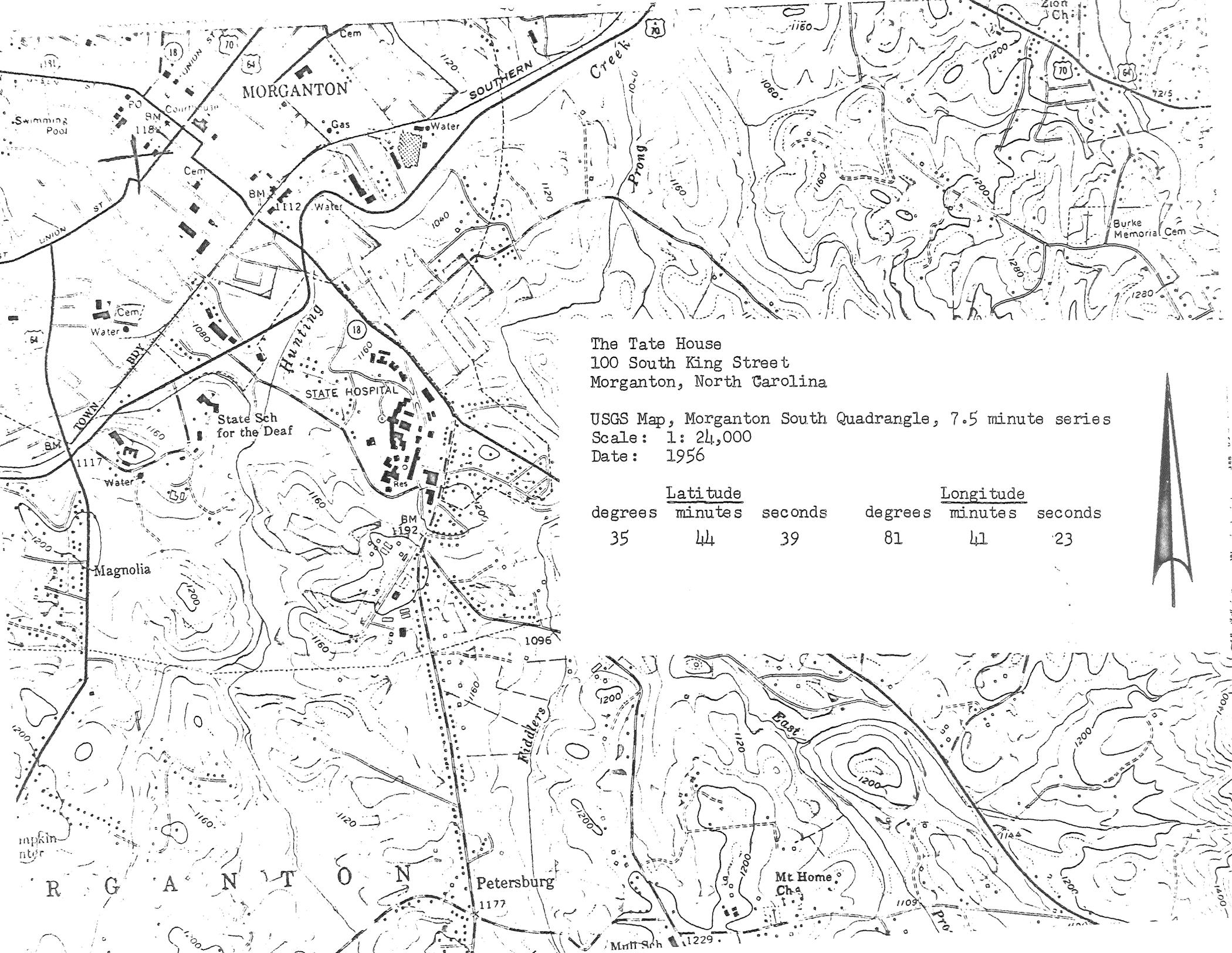


ERIOR

4 MI. 434000m E. 0.3 MI. TO N. C. 181 42'30" 137 181 18 70 64 4655 1 SW (MORGANTON NORTH) 40' 3 M

Tate House (The Cedars)
 Burke Co.
 Morganton South, N.C., Quadrangle
 Zone 17, 1:24,000 Scale
 Easting 437660
 Northing 3955560





The Tate House
 100 South King Street
 Morganton, North Carolina

USGS Map, Morganton South Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series
 Scale: 1: 24,000
 Date: 1956

<u>Latitude</u>			<u>Longitude</u>		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
35	44	39	81	41	23



