Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

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The Dean Farm complex is an unusually well-preserved cluster of buildings including a handsome vernacular Federal-Greek Revival house, plus several outbuildings, three of which are of considerable age and architectural interest. The complex is located on a slight rise near the main road (N.C. 56); a few hundred yards down the road—and included in the nomination—is

the Dean family cemetery.

The farm dwelling is a two-story frame house with a gable roof. It is of traditional form and is distinguished by handsome and consistent Greek Revival finish. The front and back facades are three bays wide, as are the gable ends, which are pedimented—a feature very unusual in Franklin County. At each end are two large single—shoulder chimneys of large stone blocks. The elevations are defined by strong, wide baseboards, from which break out the bases of heavy, symmetrically molded corner posts treated as pilasters. These carry a wide, plain frieze that continues around the house. The house is covered with plain weatherboards, and the tympana of the pediments are flush—sheathed. The building rests on a foundation of stone; beneath the southwest room is a full cellar, which is entered by a weatherboarded bulkhead with a batten door hung with strap hinges. (The cellar, plus interior features and construction elements suggest that the southwest part of the house was built first, and the house as it now stands expanded around this core in the Greek Revival era.)

Across the main (south) facade extends a three-bay hip roof porch with fluted Doriz columns connected by a turned balustrade; this porch replaced a one-bay padimented entrance porch shown in a late nineteenth century photograph; the four extant columns resemble—and may in fact be—the four paired Doric columns shown in the photograph. The central entrance, a single door, is set in a simple frame as are the windows, with nine-overnine sash at the first level and six-over-nine at the second. The side elevations have three evenly spaced bays separated by the two chimneys; to the rear extends a gable-roof one-story ell of recent but uncertain date.

The interior of the Dean House, as suggested by its exterior appearance, follows a center-hall plan two rooms deep. As is typical of Franklin County dwellings, an enclosed stair rises from the hall through the southwest front room. This front room has Federal style finish suggesting it is part of an earlier house. It has a simple three-part Federal mantel with an unusually tall frieze. The wainscot is flat-paneled with delicate Federal moldings, and door frames in this room are mitered molded ones. but simpler finish, and a similar, two-part, Federal mantel exist in the room above. The rest of the house has finish typical of the Greek Revival era in Franklin County: symmetrically molded door and window frames with roundel corner blocks or molded ones with broad flat Greek Revival moldings; and plain Greek Revival mantels with simple pilasters supporting an unadorned frieze. The front hall and front east parlor have plastered walls, symmetrically molded door and window frames with roundel corner blocks, and two-panel doors with heavy Greek moldings. The rear two rooms have simple sheathed wainscots, and door frames with broad Greek Revival moldings. The mantels in these rooms, as upstairs, are simple Greek Revival ones, each

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTÉRIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
North Carolina	
COUNTY	
Franklin	
FOR NPS USE ON	(LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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with plain pilasters supporting an unadorned frieze.

In the front east parlor, there is an impressive, rather academic Greek Revival mantel, resembling one illustrated by Asher Benjamin and typical locally (in Franklin and Warren counties) of the work of Warrenton builder Jacob Holt. A symmetrically molded architrave with roundel corner blocks frames the rectangular fire opening. Flanking this, and projecting out beyond it, are paired tapered fluted Doric colonnettes that rest on heavy bases; these carry a heavy, unbroken frieze dominated by a high-relief horizontal fluted roll. Above, the heavy shelf breaks out at the end-block space. In this room, flat panels occur under the windows, framed by the window architraves.

Near the house, essentially in the side and rear yard, are several outbuildings, including a smokehouse, corncrib, harness room, and barn; the latter is of more recent date than the former three, which are probably of early nineteenth century vintage and are exceptionally fine and well-preserved examples of three different types of construction. Southwest of the dwelling is the corncrib, a gable-roof structure constructed of hewn logs joined in a diamond notch. It stands on rocks placed at intervals. The gables are weatherboarded, and there is a single opening, like a window, sheltered by a wooden batten shutter hung on strap hinges attached by pintils. The roof is covered with wooden shingles. Also west of the house, in the middle of the yard, is a small gable roof building said to have been the smokehouse; of frame, covered with beaded weatherboards, attached with rosehead nails. Its door is hung with wooden hinges. Beyond the fence that encloses the yard is the harness room or tack house. It is a small building constructed of finely hewn planks joined at the corners in a handsomely executed dovetail. Its door is missing. The barn, of frame covered with weatherboards, has a central aisle flanked by stalls. Formerly a kitchen stood to the rear of the dwelling but was torn down in recent years. Near the house stands a mounted farm bell.

The graveyard, at the edge of the highway and west of the house, contains marked family graves, including those of Thomas and Martha Dean, T. P. and Mary Dean, and several children. The visible presence of this family cemetery enhances the sense of continuity and stability that characterizes the Dean Farm.

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☐ Pre-Columbian;	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
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PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ble and Known)		
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The Dean Farm, a well-preserved complex which has remained in the hands of a single family since 1842, is representative of the moderate-sized farm-described in 1883 as a "three-horse farm"--vital to the history of rural North Carolina. The Greek Revival dwelling and the several out-buildings—examples of log, weatherboard, and dovetailed plank constructionare unpretentious but unusually handsome and well-executed.

On December 9, 1840, Thomas Dean (1821-1883) and Martha Stokes (1820-1893) posted their marriage bonds in Franklin County. Just over a year later, on January 11, 1842, Thomas purchased from Martha's father, William Stokes, for \$225, a tract of 264½ acres on the south side of Peachtree Creek. The 1842 purchase coincided roughly with the birth of the Deans' (apparently) first child, Elizabeth. Evidently the Stokes family owned considerable land in the neighborhood, and the area was populated by close relatives: another Stokes daughter, Nancy, had married Allison Lea (Leigh) who also obtained Stokes land, bordering the Deans' land; Gray Stokes, a brother, also held land nearby, some of which Thomas Dean later bought (after the Civil War).

The small core of the present house—with Federal stylistic elements and earlier construction elements—probably existed before Dean purchased the land. It seems reasonably certain that it was for the growing Dean family that the house was expanded to its two-story-high, center-hall-plan, two-room-deep size and given the consistent Greek Revival finish; this was probably done in the 1840s. During the decades before the Civil War, Dean's primary holding was the 264-acre tract on Peachtree Creek, to which he added two more parcels to make 335 acres by 1860. He is listed as holding between 5 and 16 slaves. The 1860 census showed Dean, aged 47, a farmer with real estate evaluated at \$2,600, and personal property at \$10,560. His family included seven children ranging from eighteen to three years old; Allison and Nancy Leigh lived next door. The Dean Farm, with 167 acres improved and 167 unimproved, produced a standard range of crops. Dean owned fifteen slaves; his brother-in-law Leigh, thirteen.

After the Civil War, the Deans were able to hold on to the farm and even expand the property, to over 1,000 acres by 1883. At Dean's death in that year, he left his wife Martha for life 200 acres to include "my Mansion House, all out houses and other improvements," all the household and kitchen furniture, some livestock, and farming implements "sufficient

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to carry on a two horse farm." An inventory of personal property in his estate included

1 Apple Mill & press, 1 lot cider cask, 2 Stills, 1 horse cart, 1 ox cart, 1 one horse waggon, 1 two horse waggon, & harness, 1 buggy & harness, 1 Lot of farming implements for a 3 horse farm, 15 bbls of corn, 1,000 lbs fodder, 8 bus. oats, 30 bus. wheat, 300 lbs. bacon, 1 cotton gin, 120 lbs of Lint Cotton, 1 horse, 2 mules, 2 cows & calves, 1 yoke of oxen, 12 head of sheep, 10 head of hogs, 1 mill

4 beds bedSteads & furniture, 4 mattress bed Steads & furniture, 10 pieces of parlor furniture, 10 chairs, 1 bottle case, 2 desk, 1 iron Safe, 3 tables, 1 clock, 2 pairs dining-room furniture, 1 large chest, 1 lot of crockery ware, 1 lot of kitchen furniture and one Sewing Machine.

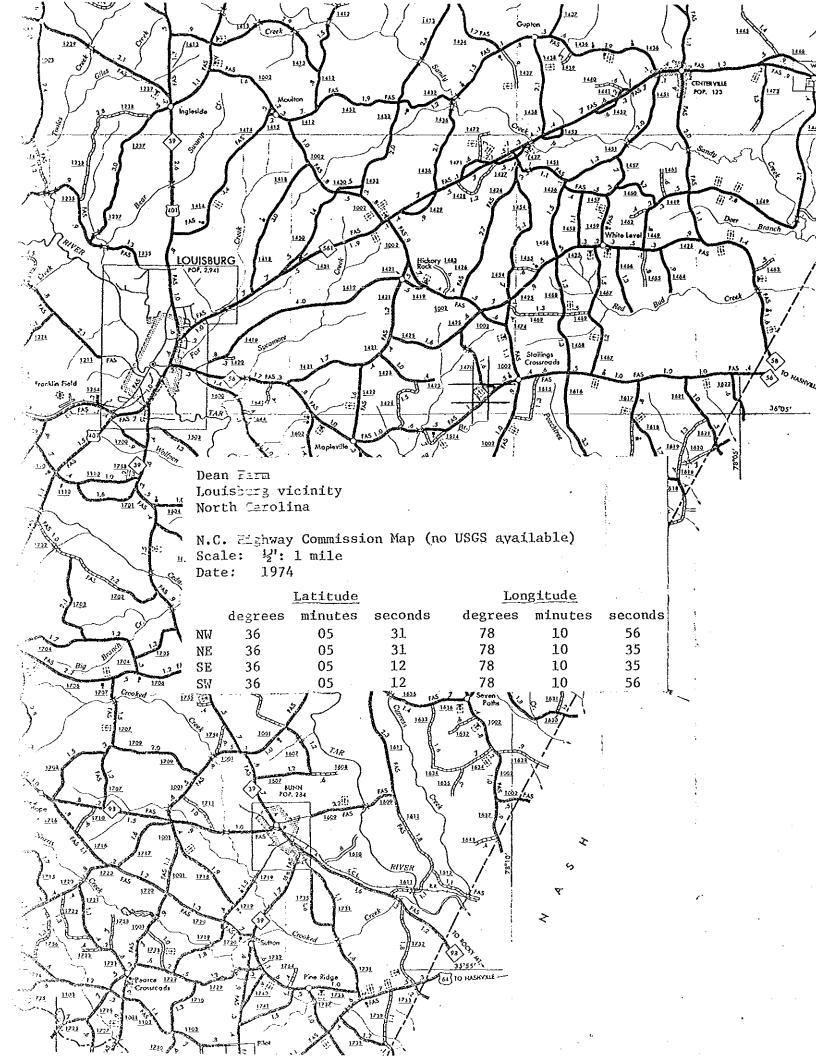
After the death of Martha Dean in 1893, the two sons who had received specific bequests in the father's will subject to her life estate executed a pair of contracts between them. James A. Dean had been devised the mansion house tract, and T. P. Dean an adjoining tract. In deeds of March 13, 1894, they recorded their agreement to "exchange some portions of the tracts so that T. P. Dean should have the Dwelling house and out houses." The property has continued in the Dean family, and is kept in good condition by the present owner, who lives in town.

The 414-acre farm was the home of Harvel Harris who bought it in 1857 for \$5,010 from William Jackson (DB 32, p. 414). It was sold to G. W. Stokes in 1867 for \$2,500. Stokes probably sold it to Thomas Dean, his brother-in-law. (DB 34,p. 448) The place has stayed in the Dean family for the last century.

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		Historic F						I hereby certify that this property is included in the						in the	
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	89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been													1	
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	forth by the National Park Service. The recommended							Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation					ation		
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES



#### Mr.s. CLYDE E. RODWELL

P, O, BOX 148 WARRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27589

Dear Mrs. Cochahutt.

Leis Wheles of Louisburg asked me to give the information I have found in the Registrar of weeds office in Leusburg in regard to the Bean Farm, No. 381 in your national Register of Historia Places - The information as you have it is incerved. It was my gether's birthplace and about six miles from my juther's plantation where I grew to an edult. My Jather, was been in 1864. His mother died at his hith. His gather later married again and two years after the civil war rock his plantation and moved to Luisburg - If the 4/4 acris he hald was the total, it brought jish half he had paid you in - Such was the atte of the iranomy in the South after the war. Below is the information I have - If more is available I shall send in to you after my neck received in Leusling. anni I. Rodwell

Regularo Deeds, Lucioburg Book 32 - page 414

William Jackson to Harvel Anerio Jac 5010.00 lying on hath sides of long branch . Dec. 22, 1857 Book ? (tailed to note)

Harvel Harris to D. M. States Jo \$ 2560.00 414 acres - May 18, 1864 Mrs. Clyde E. Rodwell P. O. Box 148 Warrenton, Horth Carolina 27589

Dear Mrn. Rodwell:

Thank you for sending the information concerning the history of the Dean Farm in Franklin County. It is good to know of your family's role in the history of the place. I will make the appropriate corrections in our information. From your account, however, I cannot tell for sure who your father and father's father were—what were their names? Is the deed of 1857 from Jackson to Harvel Harris the present site of the Dean Farm house and outbuildings? And is the 414-acre tract Harris sold to 0. W. Stokes in 1867 also the present site of the Dean Farm house and outbuildings? Do you know when the Deans did begin to live at the place?

Again, thank you for your assistance. When deed research is done in rural areas, where there are no lot numbers or street addresses, cometimes wistakes occur, despite our efforts to be as accurate as possible. It is only through the help of people like you who are personally familiar with the area and the people involved that we can correct such wistakes. I look forward to hearing from you if you find further information.

Sincerely yours,

Catherine V. Cockshutt Head, Survey and Planning Branch Historic Preservation Section



January 25, 1978

Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Dr. William J. Murtagh National Register of Historic Places Department of the Interior National Park Service 18th and C Streets, NW Washington, DC 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Division of Archives and History Larry E. Tise, Director This letter contains new information pertinent to a National Register nomination listed for North Carolina. Please correct your records accordingly.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION REGARDING NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

Name of Property Dean Farm

County & State Franklin County, North Carolina

Town/Vicinity Louisburg vicinity

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE:

In significance:

The 414-acre farm was the home of Harvel Harris who bought it in 1857 for \$5,010 from William Jackson (DB 32, p. 414). It was sold to G. W. Stokes in 1867 for \$2,500. Stokes probably sold it to Thomas Dean, his brother-in-law (DB 34, p. 448). The place has stayed in the Dean family for the last century.

Sara W. Hodgkins, Secretary James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor



Sincerely yours,

Catherine W. Bishir, Head Survey and Planning Branch

Archeology/Historic Preservation Section

etherine W. Broker