

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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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

William A. Jeffreys House
AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side S.R. 1101, 0.9 mi. east of U.S. 401

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Youngsville

X VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

37

Franklin

069

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

__PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

__MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

__YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

X NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Jim Brown

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Raleigh

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina

Robert L. Clemens
Rt 1 Box 290
✓ stop
Box 290, Youngsville, N.C.
27590

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Franklin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Louisburg

STATE

North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

The William A. Jeffreys House is an example of the tripartite house type which was popular in northeastern North Carolina in the early nineteenth century. It consists of a two-story central block with the gable end facing front, with flanking one-story wings, their gable roofs perpendicular to that of the central element. The exterior finish is quite plain and vaguely Federal in character. The interior finish is consistently Greek Revival. (While it appears that the house is all of one period of construction, it is possible that the Greek Revival finish was added later.)

The main facade of the central section is three bays wide, with a central double door surmounted by a transom; each leaf of the door has three flat panels. The flanking windows, like those of the single-bay wings, contain nine-over-nine sash with simple molded window frames and plain sills. The three bays at the second level contain six-over-nine sash, and in the gable--which is not pedimented--there is a lunette set in a molded frame with keystone. Across the width of the central section is a one-story gable-roof porch with a simply framed lunette. The porch, added in the twentieth century, has paired posts, a double spindle frieze, and a simple balustrade. (A photograph taken evidently in the 1930s shows no front porch.)

At either end of the house--at the one-story wings--are single-shoulder brick chimneys of irregular bond that stand on stone bases. A similar chimney rises at the rear of the central section and is flanked by tall, narrow windows with vertical six-over-six sash at both levels. Tiny four-pane windows occur in the gable. Under the first-story windows throughout the house are ornate Victorian shelves, carried on fancy sawn brackets projecting from an equally fancy sawnwork apron; these are not shown in the ca. 1930s photograph. The house stands on a rather high brick basement stuccoed in recent years.

The interior follows the plan characteristic of the house-type: a lateral front hall with a large single room to the rear, and single rooms in each wing, reached by doors at either end of the hall. Here the stair is somewhat unusually placed, for it is enclosed and rises from a doorway in the right rear corner of the hall, rising across small closets flanking a tiny hall to the rear room. The finish throughout is consistently Greek Revival, with symmetrically molded or fluted architraves with plain corner blocks. Those at the windows continue to the floor to frame single panels. The doors have six flat panels, and most of the doors have been rehung. The mantels are typical Greek Revival ones: that in the right parlor has heavy symmetrically molded pilasters and frieze, with large Greek key end blocks; that in the left parlor has plain pilasters, plain end blocks, and a long Greek key across the frieze; others combine simple heavy pilaster and frieze forms in various ways. The second-story rooms are similarly finished, and the third level contains two finished rooms, which are flush-sheathed as is the stair. There is a finished and remodeled basement.

The plaster of the house was removed and replaced with sheet rock, some of the flooring replaced, and many of the interior doors were rehung by the previous owner. The present owner has stabilized the house and furnished it, and it now is in good condition.

To the west of the dwelling are two small frame outbuildings, each with gable roofs and very simple finish.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1842

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William A. Jeffreys House, evidently built for the promising young legislator in the early 1840s, is an unusual combination of the tripartite form--usually a Federal era house type--with robust Greek Revival interior finish. It is the only example of the tripartite form in Franklin County and one of the few in the state outside the Warren-Halifax county group.

In 1832 Robert B. H. Brazier and H. H. Tharp, prominent cartographers of North Carolina, surveyed and drew a map of the lands of William M. Jeffreys in Wake and Franklin counties, North Carolina. The Raleigh and Louisburg post road and the Little River bisected the tract at right angles, forming the Jeffreys lands into four large sections. The principal part of the northeast section which lay in Franklin County about the "3 Branches"--a three-pronged tributary of the Little River--was deeded in 1841 to William Andrew Jeffreys, son of William Jeffreys. The total acreage of the senior Jeffreys's lands as mapped by Brazier and Tharp, was 7,383 acres. Jeffreys deeded his son 1,037 acres.

William Andrew Jeffreys was born January 23, 1817, on his father's plantation in Franklin County. His mother was Elizabeth Hartzfield Jeffreys. He was married to his first cousin, Martha Hart Jeffreys, daughter of Robert Nicholas Jeffreys, Sr., and his wife Gillie Hunter (granddaughter of Wake County planter and tavern keeper, Isaac Hunter) on June 18, 1840. Three children were born to William A. and Martha Hart Jeffreys: Robert Walter Jeffreys, Edward Livingston Jeffreys, and William Andrew Jeffreys, Jr.

William A. Jeffreys was trained in law and practiced from his Franklin County plantation. He was, according to his remaining correspondence and papers, an elegant gentleman and a vitally interested participant in Democratic party politics. He was elected to the state Senate in 1844 to represent Franklin County. The Jeffreys papers in the North Carolina Archives suggest the potential for a bright political career for Jeffreys if he had lived longer. Martha Hart Jeffreys was a woman of charm and social sensibilities. Numbers of invitations to teas, balls, cotillions, and other state social events survive in the family papers, and picture her to be one of the belles of Raleigh society at the time of her marriage to Jeffreys.¹

When William A. Jeffreys planned a trip to Texas in the late spring of 1845, his friend, Robert B. Gilliam of Louisburg, North Carolina, wrote an introduction for him in which he said: "Mr. J. is a gentleman of the first standing in this section of Country. /He/ has filled a highly honorable political station in the legislature of the State and both in his public & private capacity commands the confidence of all who know him."²

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Jeffreys probably built his dwelling house sometime between 1841, when he received the property, and his death in 1845. Family tradition suggests a date sometime about 1842.

As late as March 15, 1845, Jeffreys and his friend, Seth Jones, were engaged in correspondence over breeding their horses, and establishing their pedigrees. Jeffreys became ill and was dead on October 3, 1845, at the age of twenty-nine. His tomb was hewn out of solid rock on his father's plantation, and over a year after his death he was finally buried in a rosewood casket in the huge boulder, a stone ledger placed over him giving his name and dates. The site is now marked by a state highway historical marker.

His estate papers in Franklin County show that he died possessed of 1,037 acres of land in Franklin County, many slaves, cash on hand, bonds, notes, the usual plantation stock, and handsome household effects. The Jeffreys library contained many titles in law, history, and naval science, as well as a number of novels. The widow and three young sons continued to live on the estate, and the land and slaves remained undivided for mutual benefit. In 1857 Martha Hart Jeffreys petitioned the court and was granted her dower, which included the "dwelling house."

The Jeffreys sons were educated at the Louisburg Academy, Hillsborough Military Academy, and Edward Livingston Jeffreys went to the University of North Carolina and then studied medicine. When Matthew S. Davis, headmaster of the Louisburg Academy, wrote young Jeffreys a letter of recommendation to the University on December 18, 1860, he referred to him as a "credit for studious habits, correct deportment and high toned morality."³ The Jeffreys family was similar to many of their station in North Carolina on the eve of the Civil War. Young Edward L. Jeffreys, then a student at the University, received a letter from his aunt, Mrs. John O. Jeffreys of Elm Grove Plantation in Franklin County, on March 23, 1861, in which she expressed her political views: "If the old State stays in the Union and my friends begin to move out I am going too, in fact I am for leaving anyway. It humbles my pride to think we are living under the administration of a Black Republican President. I suppose you are a secessionist, it is needless to ask you the question."⁴ Evidently young Jeffreys was thinking of joining his classmates in Confederate gray, for his mother writing from her parents' home, Oak Grove, in Wake County, where she had recently moved, says:

Your Grand Ma, says give her love to you, and tell you to be certain not to turn fool and join no company for she has had trouble enough already, and seems more is coming . . . I want you to write me soon and let me know your views on the subject. It is all excitement now, and they will tell you it is your duty to join, but do not let them fool you into it. Your Grand Pa, says if you join them you will repent it. for he knows something about it.

Young Jeffreys did not join the army.

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Martha Hart Jeffreys moved her household from her Franklin County plantation to Oak Grove, her parents' home in nearby Wake County, about 1861. From that time until August 27, 1892, when all but 147 acres of the 1,037 acre Franklin County lands were sold to pay a mortgage to J. J. Thomas Company of Wake County, the house was only occasionally occupied.

Martha Hart Jeffreys died June 4, 1896, and was survived by her only remaining son, Robert Walter Jeffreys, who was married to his first cousin, Alvarado Ovando Jeffreys, a daughter of Robert N. Jeffreys, Jr., of Wake County.

Since that time the dwelling house and a small acreage has had a number of owners; in 1973 Luther and Bernice Fuller Barham sold the house to James Brown, a Wake County real estate developer.

¹Genealogical information from Jeffreys Papers in Archives and Mary Jeffreys Rogers of Raleigh.

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Franklin County Records, Franklin County Courthouse, Louisburg, North Carolina
 (Subgroups: Wills, Deeds, Tax Records, Estate Papers, Maps).
 Franklin County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
 (Subgroups: Wills, Deeds, Tax Records, Estate Papers, Maps).
 William Andrew Jeffreys and Family Papers, 1804-1871, Division of Archives and History,
 Raleigh, North Carolina.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres State Plane Coordinates: 664,196/244,880
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 7	7 3 4 9 6 0	3 9 8 2 0 2 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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 Research by John Flowers, III, survey specialist; architectural description
 by Catherine W. Cockshutt, survey supervisor.
 ORGANIZATION _____ DATE 19 January 1976
Division of Archives and History TELEPHONE _____
 STREET & NUMBER _____
109 East Jones Street 919/829-7862
 CITY OR TOWN _____ STATE _____
Raleigh North Carolina

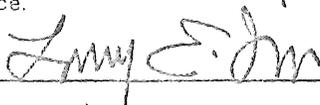
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 19 January 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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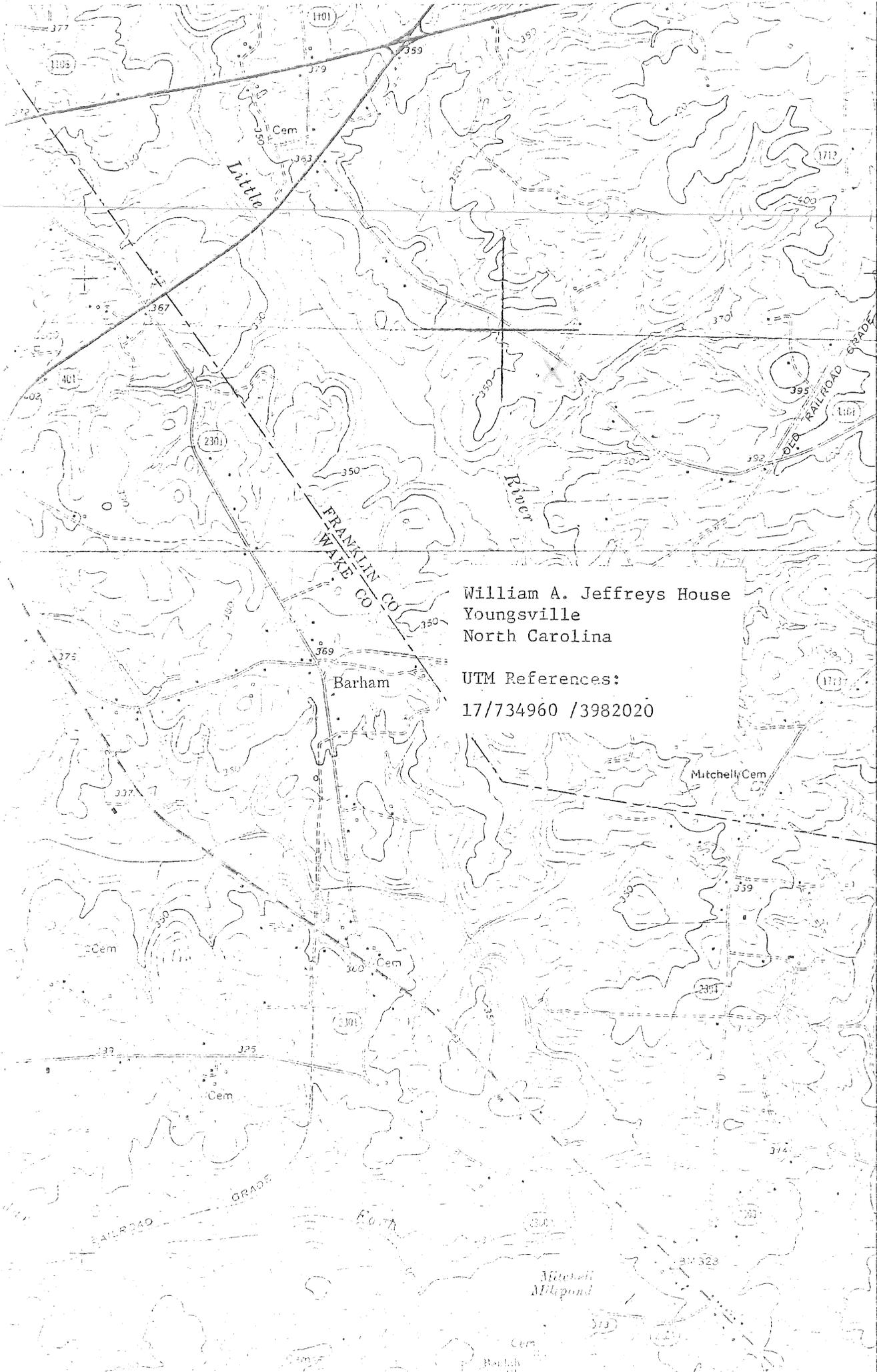
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Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups:
Wills, Deeds, Tax Records, Estate Papers, Maps).

Wake County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Wills, Deeds, Tax Records, Estate Papers, Maps).



3983
57'30"
3982
3981
3479
3478
55'

corrected
location
9/9/87

William A. Jeffreys House
Youngsville
North Carolina

UTM References:
177734960 /3982020

(BUNN WEST)
5355 IV NE

