

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jones-Wright House

other names/site number Polly Wright House

2. Location

street & number West side SR 1003, 0.2 mi. south of jct. with SR 1252 N/A not for publication

city, town Rocky Ford X vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Franklin code 069 zip code 27536

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

William S. Fin, Jr.
Signature of certifying official

2-4-92
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Georgian

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite

walls Weatherboard

roof Shingle

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Jones-Wright House is a two-story, Late Georgian (ca. 1790) frame residence located on a wooded five-acre tract in the rolling farmland of rural northern Franklin County. Set at the end of an unpaved drive leading from State Road 1003, the single-pile, three-bay house sits on an ashlar stone foundation and has a low gable roof with modillioned cornice front and rear. Its nine-over-nine windows are framed with three-part surrounds. One end chimney is double-shouldered, laid in Flemish bond, while the other appears to be an antebellum common bond, step-shouldered addition. At the rear of the house is an early nineteenth century shed addition, with mid-to-late nineteenth century extensions. Recent restoration work has included recreating the original clamshell-bead siding and constructing gabled porticos at the front and rear. The interior of the house has typical Late Georgian woodwork, including panelled wainscoting, six-panel doors with three-part surrounds, an enclosed stair, and framed fireplaces. Adjacent to the main house is the site of a mid-nineteenth century kitchen, marked by a stone chimney. There are a number of other outbuildings on the property, some relating to farming uses in the early twentieth century, others moved onto the property by the current owners. Although these buildings do not contribute to the significance of this property, they in no way detract from the significance, since in materials, form and function they are typical of plantation outbuildings of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Archeological investigations have not been carried out on the property, but there is evidence of below-ground resources which might be the subject of a future amendment to include archeological significance.

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INVENTORY LIST

Key

C = contributing
NC = noncontributing
OB = outbuilding
SI = site

(C) 1. Main House

The main house is a two-story, single-pile, gable-roofed dwelling with heavy timber frame. Its front elevation is three bays wide, the two bays on the north end being placed slightly closer together, reflecting the hall and parlor plan of the interior. The six-panel front door (a modern reproduction, but with the original brass rimlock reinstalled) is placed precisely in the center and is sheltered by a modern reproduction pedimented portico with Tuscan columns. A relatively high foundation of random ashlar granite is punctured at front by large wooden vents with vertical square-in-section wooden bars set on the diagonal. The exterior of the front section of the house is clapboarded with clamshell bead wood siding. (During removal of the previous porch and jacking for foundation repairs, much of the surviving original siding was damaged, and all of it has been replaced with a precise replication.)

The low-sloping main roof has flush gable ends with molded, flared rake boards. Round-butt wood shingles have been applied to the roof, matching shingles found under the previous tin roofing. At the front and rear, the wall has an elaborate boxed cornice supported by closely-spaced modillions. Below the modillions is a base molding ornamented by small dentils, and the top molding of the cornice is a cyma reversa with a row of small dentils along the lower edge. At either end of the cornice is a scroll-sawn end board.

Windows on the front section of the house are nine-over-nine with three-part molded surrounds that have mitred corners. The sills of these windows are in one piece, consisting of a square-edged sill with an ovolo molding below it.

Centered in the south end elevation of the house is a robust double-shouldered exterior brick chimney with corbelled cap. This chimney is laid in Flemish bond to the bottom of the free-standing stack and has paved shoulders and a chevron pattern of glazed headers in the upper chimney face. The lower east face of the shaft is whitewashed from

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where it was enclosed in a porch that has been removed. There is one small four-light window in the gable end next to the chimney stack. On the southeast corner of the main elevation is an apparently-original six-panel door with three-part surround. While there is no porch there now, there is evidence in the framing of an earlier stoop or small porch.

At the center of the north end of the house is a shallower, double-shouldered brick chimney with corbelled cap. Laid in four-and-one common bond, it has stepped shoulders and the lower portion of the shaft is stuccoed and marked out in an ashlar pattern. Although the chimney has the date 1789 written on it, it appears to be a circa 1830s replacement. There are no windows in this gable end.

The rear (west) elevation of the house matches the front elevation at the second floor level. Across the first level of the rear is a shed addition which probably dates from the early nineteenth century, as its floor structure is frame-sawn and hewn and the trim is mostly secured with cut nails. Like the main section, it has reproduction clamshell bead siding and a random ashlar foundation with wooden vents. The windows and doors on the shed also have three-part surrounds with mitred corners, but the sills are simpler and the sash are six-over-six or four-over-four. Centered in the rear of the shed is a double-leaf door with transom, added by the current owners following the recollection of the previous owner. A Tuscan-columned, pedimented portico is being added by the present owner to shelter this entrance.

There are two additions to this shed section at its south end, one an antebellum corner extension initially on coursed rubble columns (later filled in) with frame sawn floor joists. The other, which carries along the side elevation, encompassing part of the chimney shaft, is a mid-to-late nineteenth century addition with random ashlar foundation, circular-sawn framing and four-over-four windows in flat surrounds. A half-glazed twentieth century door on the south elevation is a survival from a twentieth century porch addition now removed.

The interior of the two-story section of the house has a hall and parlor plan with the larger room located on the north end. An enclosed stair with vertical tongue and groove sheathing rises in the south room along the central wall. Ghostmarks indicate that the stair originally opened into the north room, but with the construction of the rear shed wing in the early 19th century, the end of the stair was relocated to open up into a rear central hall.

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All of the rooms in this section are plastered on hand-split lath above a simple flat-panel wainscot with beaded-edge chairrail. Door and window surrounds are three-part with mitred corners. The doors are six-panel with raised panels on one side and flat on the reverse.

In the south room the firebox opening is arched and the mantel is a low-relief, Late Georgian frame consisting of fluted strips on either side and a fluted panel across the top, framed by a three-part surround. Above this frame, supporting a shallow mantel shelf, is a cyma recta molding with a dentil course below.

In the north room the firebox opening is rectangular and the mantel appears to have been assembled from pieces of different mantels in an attempt to match other mantels in the house. Fluted side panels and a narrow top panel are framed with a single ovolo molding. The shallow, molded mantel shelf has a double row of dentils below it set over a course of raised diamond shapes. A low-relief Greek key motif has been removed for cleaning.

On the second level, the stair rises into the south room with a simple, rounded handrail. An enclosed attic stair ascends over this stair well. The south room fireplace has an arched fire box with a mantel composed of vertical and horizontal fluted strips framed by a three-part surround. Overall, this fireplace is vertical in its orientation. In the north room, the mantel is more horizontal, framing a rectangular fire box with a plain frieze and a three-part surround. This mantel is of pit-sawn lumber assembled with wrought nails and is probably the original mantel cut down and reused when the chimney was replaced.

The rear shed wing is connected to the main house by a segmentally-arched opening framed with a three-part surround. The older portion of the shed wing has a central hall flanked by shed rooms. All three have plastered walls above a flat-panelled wainscot and tongue and groove board ceilings. The north shed room is the most intact. Like other rooms in the house the north shed room has a six-panel door hung on H & L hinges, but the door surround has only a fascia and backband molding. There are also Georgian molded baseboards in this room, unlike the rest of the house, and the woodwork appears to be secured with cut nails, rather than wrought. On its south end, the original south shed room has replacement board sheathing. The interior finishes on the south shed additions are a mix of board sheathing and exposed framing.

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(NC) OB-1. Office

Early 19th century, small, one-story gable-roofed frame office with box cornice and flush eaves. Four-over-four windows and board and batten door have a beaded fascia surround with backband. Framing is pit sawn, but trim and square-edge siding are secured with cut nails. Moved from Wake Forest to preserve it and sited where a previous outbuilding had been located.

(NC) SI-1. Kitchen Site

Adjacent to the main house, the site of a 12 by 24 foot, mid-nineteenth century frame kitchen that deteriorated in place. Site is marked by a large, single-shouldered, coursed ashlar stone chimney that appears originally to have been at the east gable end of the building.

(NC) OB-2. Chicken House

Small, early twentieth century shed-roofed frame building.

(NC) OB-3. Tobacco Pack House

Circa 1930, two-story, gable-roofed frame tobacco pack house covered with asphalt siding.

(NC) OB-4. Barn

Early twentieth century, small, one-story gable-roofed frame barn with sheds on sides and rear.

(NC) OB-5. Garage

Early twentieth century, shingled frame double garage/carriage house moved to the property from another location. There are no doors at the front openings of the gable-roofed building.

(NC) OB-6. Mobile Home

Circa 1975, metal-sheathed, gable-roofed frame mobile home set parallel to drive.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

<p>Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)</p> <p>Architecture</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Period of Significance</p> <p>ca. 1790-ca. 1840</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>Significant Dates</p> <p>ca. 1790</p> <hr/> <p>ca. 1805</p> <hr/> <p>ca. 1840</p> <hr/>
	<p>Cultural Affiliation</p> <p>N/A</p> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>Significant Person</p> <p>N/A</p> <hr/>	<p>Architect/Builder</p> <p>Unknown</p> <hr/>	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Probably built ca. 1790 for Revolutionary War veteran Daniel Jones (1749-1819), the Jones-Wright House in northwestern Franklin County is a well-crafted and relatively intact example of a Late Georgian Style plantation house. It is a member of a notable, but dwindling, set of similar houses constructed in the late eighteenth century for members of that county's class of small planters and moderately well-to-do farmers. Among the most distinctive features of the house is its ornate modillion cornice. For most of its history, the Jones-Wright House was used by its various owners as rental property, and it is known locally as the Polly Wright House because of the long period in the nineteenth century when its tenant was Mary D. "Polly" Wright (ca. 1782-1871). Miss Wright was a spinster, but one who owned relatively substantial amounts of land and numbers of slaves. At various times during its history, the house underwent minor modifications at the hands of owners or occupants. Probably during the first decade of the nineteenth century, a trio of one-story shed rooms was constructed across the rear (west) elevation and an arched opening was cut between the main room (hall) and the central shed room. About 1840, probably during the ownership of Bennett Perry, the chimney on the north elevation was rebuilt and a first addition was made to the south end of the shed wing. An extension of this addition, built in the second half of the nineteenth century, stretches along the south wall of the main block. An early twentieth century front porch has been removed.

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Historical Background

The Franklin County residence which has been known as the Polly Wright House since at least 1934 was probably constructed in the late 1780s for Daniel Jones (1749-1819). Born in Granville County, he was a son of Edward and Abigail Sugar (also variously spelled Sugan, Sugre) Jones, who were among the first families to settle in the Shocco Creek area of that county. Daniel Jones saw service as a captain in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, being involved in the Battle of the Brandywine in Delaware and serving also in South Carolina [Carpenter letter; Boddie - p. 186]. In the second decade of the nineteenth century, Jones was elected to the state legislature from Granville County, to which he had returned in the preceding decade. He was in the General Assembly for at least three terms and was serving his second term in the Senate when he died [Cheney - pp. 265-275; (Raleigh, N. C.) Star].

In 1769, Daniel Jones had begun acquiring tracts of land in the Lynches Creek area of what is now the northwestern corner of Franklin County (part of Bute County until 1779). His acquisitions culminated with the 1791 purchase of a 57.5-acre tract which gave Jones a plantation totaling approximately 740 acres [Bute County deed book 3, pp. 23-24 and will book 2, p. 72; Franklin County deed book 5, pp. 116-117 and deed book 7, p. 76]. The only apparent indication of a construction date for the house is a brick with the year 1789 crudely etched in its face; however, reliance cannot be placed on this date, because the brick is located in a chimney built in the antebellum era [Carpenter interviews]. Stylistic and technological elements of the building, however, suggest that it was constructed in the 1780-1800 period.

Daniel Jones was a typically prosperous member of Franklin County's planter class in the late eighteenth century. Census records indicate his ownership of nineteen slaves in 1790 and twenty-three in 1800. While these numbers are relatively large for North Carolina as a whole, they are about average when compared with Franklin County statistics. In 1790, there were twenty-nine slave-owners in the county with more than twenty slaves. Also in that year, slaves comprised about forty per cent of the county's population as against an average of about twenty-five per cent across the state [U. S. Census, 1790 and 1800; Pearce, Franklin County - pp. 23-29; and Lefler and Newsome - p. 129].

It is not clear if or for how long Daniel Jones and his family lived in the house on Lynches Creek, but at some time prior to August 1807.

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he apparently conveyed a 746.5-acre tract of land to John Haywood, son of the noted North Carolina and Tennessee jurist of the same name. This tract appears to correspond to that on which the house was located. The deed recording the transaction has been lost, and it is only through Haywood's sale of the property in 1807 that we learn of his ownership [Franklin County deed book 14, pp. 112-113; Powell - p. 87; Ashe - pp. 274-281; and John Haywood death notice]. John Haywood, Jr., is said to have lived in another part of the county, but it was probably during his period of ownership that a three-room shed addition was constructed across the rear elevation and a broad, segmentally-arched opening was cut between the main block and the addition [Carpenter interviews]. It is thought that the long-time rental history of the house began during this period.

John Haywood sold the Jones land in 1807 to William Moore, from whom Epps Moody purchased the property in the following year. Deed records and local tradition suggest that both Moore and Moody were involved in land speculation in early nineteenth century Franklin County [Franklin County deed book 14, pp. 112; deed book 14, p. 213; Carpenter interviews].

Epps Moody sold the property in 1812 to Colonel Jeremiah Perry (1761-1839), a member of one of the county's most prominent families and a distinguished citizen in his own right. In addition to being a substantial landowner and planter, Perry was a trustee of the Franklin Academy, a forerunner of Louisburg College [Franklin County deed book 16, p. 61; Pearce, Franklin County - p. 110; and Sharpe - pp. 1858 and 1870]. The 1823 list of taxable property for Franklin County shows that Perry then owned more than 4,000 acres, and at the time of his death he owned more than 100 slaves [Franklin County List of Taxables, 1823]. Perry resided on his 1,500-acre plantation Cascine (National Register) in a house built about 1751 by his uncle, also Jeremiah Perry [National Register Boundary Amendment].

In his will, Jeremiah Perry divided his large landholdings among several of his sons, most of whom received the tracts of land on which they already were living. To his son Bennett Perry, he left ". . . the whole of the tract of land, lying on Lynches Creek which I purchased of Epps Moody with everything belonging thereto. . ." [will book K, p. 179]. The north elevation chimney was probably built, replacing an earlier chimney, about 1840, shortly after Bennett Perry received the property. A second rear addition was probably also constructed at this time.

Bennett Perry (d. 1848) was another of the affluent planters of

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antebellum Franklin County, owning 2,250 acres of land at the time of his death, thirty-five slaves in 1830, and forty-eight slaves in 1840. The Perrys had only one child, to whom Bennett Perry left his estate after the death of his wife. This child was Elizabeth Perry Alston, wife of Thomas N. F. Alston of Warrenton in neighboring Warren County [will book N, p. 356; US Census, 1830 and 1840, Franklin County, and 1850, Warren County; Franklin County estates papers, Thomas N. F. Alston estate].

The Alstons apparently continued to use the house for rental purposes, making a few additional alterations prior to the Civil War. During the 1850s and 1860s, they were paying taxes on more than 3,000 acres of Franklin County land in the Hayesville Township on Lynches Creek. Listed in the same district during this period was Mary D. Wright, who owned 1,175 acres and nine to eleven slaves [Franklin County tax records for 1855-1870].

Thomas N. F. Alston died in 1872, and twelve years later, Mrs. Alston conveyed a 459-acre tract of the Perry lands to one of her sons, Walter Alston, who was then living in Vance County. This tract contained the Jones-Wright House, as did the smaller, 241-acre parcel which Walter Alston, who had moved to Texas, sold to the Edwards brothers in 1886 [deed book 65, p. 374 and deed book 74, p. 17].

J. L. B., J. A. and J. L. Edwards were middle-aged, bachelor brothers who were listed in the 1880 U. S. census as living with their mother in the Hayesville Township of Franklin County, where they engaged in farming [U. S. Census, Franklin County, 1880]. The 1886 deed indicates that during the intervening years they had moved to neighboring Vance County.

As each of the brothers died, he willed his portion of the jointly owned property to the surviving brother(s). The last of the Edwards brothers, James L., died intestate in 1926, but in a 1927 Vance County deed, his sister, Lucy A. Smith, averred that her brother had stated to her his wish that all his property would go to her son, Pryor C. Smith. In the deed, she conveyed to her son all of her interest in the property owned by James L. Edwards at his death, including the house tract in Franklin County [Vance County will book A, p. 217 and will-book C, p. 295, and deed book 141, p. 366].

Pryor Smith died in 1948, and in his will, dated 14 June 1934, he left to his daughter Mrs. Clara Smith Rowland ". . .for the term of her natural life, the Polly Wright farm in Franklin County, containing about 201 acres. Same being the tract of land conveyed by Walter

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Alston to John Edwards and brother and originally containing 241 acres" [Franklin County will book X, p. 14]. This is the first documented reference to the property as the Polly Wright farm. In 1982, Clara Rowland sold the house and a five-acre tract of land to Joanne G. Carpenter, who has been working on a restoration of the house since that time [Franklin County deed book 810, p. 6].

Questions which arise out of the local tradition of calling this the Polly Wright House mainly deal with who Polly Wright was, when she lived in the house, and what about her made her association with the house so important that it would retain her name long after she was dead.

Mary D. Wright (ca. 1782-1871), known as "Polly," was a spinster daughter of Griffin Wright (d. 1816), a well-to-do planter in late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Franklin County, who is also known to have constructed a least one bridge across the Tar River at the request of county officials [Pearce, Franklin County - p. 19]. Early nineteenth century tax records for Franklin County indicate that Griffin Wright owned as much as 1,450 acres just prior to his death, as well as eighteen slaves. They also show that he and one of his sons operated a cotton gin for several years [Franklin County List of Taxables, vol. I, 1805-1815]. In his will, Griffin Wright stipulated that all of his single daughters should ". . . have the liberty and privilege of living and remaining in the house with my wife as usual as long as they may live single together. . . ." At the time of his death, there were at least three unmarried Wright daughters [Franklin County will book E, p. 110; and Marriage Bonds Index].

Unfortunately, the 1820 census records for Franklin County have not survived to the present, so it has not been possible to gain an indication of who was living with Griffin Wright's widow, Delphia, in the family home at that time. At least two of his daughters married in the early 1820s, and the 1840 census is the first which provides a listing for Mary Wright, when she appears in Hayesville Township as a free white female between the ages of forty and fifty with a free white female age ten to fifteen living with her. She also owned one slave who was engaged in agricultural work. In 1850, Mary Wright, age sixty-nine, was listed in the U. S. census with her sister, Elizabeth, and brother-in-law, David Hunt, but it is not clear if she was living with the Hunts or they were living with her [U. S. Census, Franklin County, 1830, 1840 and 1850; and Marriage Bonds Index].

A gap exists in the available Franklin County tax records from the mid 1830s to the mid 1850s. When they resume in 1855, Mary D. Wright is

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listed as owning more than 1,200 acres of land and ten slaves [Franklin County List of Taxables, Hayesville District, 1855]. Some of the land appears to have been inherited, but during the 1840s and early 1850s she had purchased more than 900 acres [Franklin County deed book 29, p. 381, deed book 30, pp. 219 and 466, deed book 31, pp. 300 and 760]. The enumerator who covered the Hayesville Township of Franklin County for the 1860 U. S. Census listed Mary D. Wright under her nickname, Polly. The seventy-nine-year-old spinster apparently was living alone at the time, except for the eleven slaves who constituted the major portion of her personal estate, which was valued at thirteen thousand dollars [US Census, 1860].

It is assumed that, for much of the period between the mid 1830s to 1871, when she died, Mary D. "Polly" Wright lived in the house that came to bear her name. According to the current owners, a twentieth-century tenant claimed to have found a chest of Mary Wright's papers in the attic, but its current whereabouts are unknown. Why she might have rented this house as her residence instead of living on her own property is not clear. However, possibly as an older single woman not directly involved in farming her land, she may not have felt a need to live there or to undertake the expense of building an appropriate house. Miss Wright died without leaving a provable will, and it is said that by the time her estate was settled, there was little left to be divided among her nieces and nephews [Franklin County Orders and Decrees, vol. 1, pp. 288-219; Carpenter interviews].

The Jones-Wright House had many tenants following Mary D. Wright, with N. H. Newton, the discoverer of the chest containing Mary Wright's papers, being a long-time occupant in the twentieth century [Carpenter interviews]. During its long period in tenancy, a number of alterations were made to the house, including the early twentieth century construction of a replacement porch which extended across the facade and replacement of most of the original clamshell beaded clapboards. The house was allowed to deteriorate on both exterior and interior to a marked degree. During the current restoration, which is continuing, a new wood shingle roof has been installed, as has replacement beaded siding which replicates the original sheathing material. In addition, the early twentieth century porch has been replaced by a gable-roofed, entrance-bay portico based on physical evidence discovered during work on the house [Carpenter interviews; 1975 photographs].

[Note: in preparing this nomination, reference was made to a draft historical significance statement written by Jim Sumner of the Research Branch in 1983.]

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Architectural Context

Franklin County in the late eighteenth century was, as it is today, overwhelmingly rural in character. Unlike neighboring Warren County to the north, which had large plantations, Franklin County was dotted with small farmsteads, plantations of over 1,000 acres being exceptions. However, these small plantations appear to have been relatively prosperous in the late eighteenth century [Tar Neuse - p. 7-1].

A 1974-75 comprehensive survey of pre-Civil War buildings in Franklin County, conducted by Michael Southern and Catherine Cockshutt (Bishir), identified a large number of Late Georgian Style residences of relatively high quality surviving in the county from the late eighteenth and possibly early nineteenth centuries (few have been accurately dated by documentary research). They also recorded a substantial number of Greek Revival style dwellings, while there were correspondingly few Federal Style residences. Whether the predominance of the Late Georgian Style indicates poor economic conditions at the beginning of the nineteenth century, or whether it indicates a conservative building tradition is not clear. However, the fabric of surviving buildings indicates that Franklin County had a large number of moderately well-to-do farmers for whom substantial, well-crafted houses were built, and the county contains a remarkable collection of Georgian domestic architecture of a quality not repeated in the same numbers in later architectural developments [Survey Files].

These Georgian Style houses occur in both one and two-story forms, usually with hall and parlor plans, or some variant of that plan like the continental or Quaker three-room plan. Most are single-pile, though frequently with shed rooms or additions. The most common organization is the three-bay front elevation. Too few original porches survive to generalize, although a number appear to have had small, gabled porticos. The gable roof with flush gable ends predominates, usually with a simple box cornice.

Most of the Georgian houses have double-shouldered exterior end chimneys with paved shoulders and free-standing, corbelled-capped stacks. Most are of Flemish bond brick, though there are a few stone chimneys, and the high foundations on which the houses sit are either brick or random ashlar granite.

Other features that recur in most or all of the Georgian houses in the county include six-raised-panel doors hung on H or H & L wrought strap

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hinges; nine-over-nine windows with three-part surrounds and heavy, molded sills; beaded or, particularly, clamshell-molded clapboards; enclosed stairs sheathed in tongue and groove vertical boards; simple flat or raised-panel wainscoting; plaster walls; and Georgian pattern fireplaces consisting of arched fireboxes, a framed mantel with one or multiple panels, and a heavily-molded mantel shelf.

The Jones-Wright House has much in common with other Georgian houses in the same general area of Franklin County. The smaller Peggy Wright House (no longer extant) was more simply-detailed, but had a typical stone foundation and double-shouldered Flemish bond chimney. The Perry-Timberlake House, although much added-to, has clamshell molded clapboards, virtually identical three-part window and door surrounds, and a similar mantel of fluted side panels with a shallow, molded mantel shelf. The Ballard House has nine-over-nine windows with three-part surrounds virtually identical to the Jones-Wright House, the same flat-panelled wainscot, and the ghost of a gabled portico.

While the Jones-Wright House's ornate modillion cornice is unique, a similar modillion cornice was found on the Holden-Jenkins-McGee House (no longer extant), which also had a double-shouldered Flemish bond chimney, six-panel doors with H & L hinges and identical three-part surrounds, and the same flat-panel wainscot. The Newell-Strange-Stallings House (no longer extant) also had a boxed cornice with dentils, together with double-shouldered chimneys, nine-over-nine sash and the same three-part surrounds. While the Moore House has a Quaker plan, it has similar Flemish bond double-shouldered chimneys and the same three-part surrounds, among other common elements [Survey Files; Carpenter interviews].

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5

UTM References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated property are as indicated by the dashed line on the accompanying map, drawn at a scale of 1 inch equals 100 feet, traced from an August 10, 1988 survey by William T. Dement, Jr., R.L.S.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Included in the nomination is a five-acre tract of land which has been associated with the Jones-Wright House since the period of significance and which provides an appropriate setting for the property. It is the remainder of a larger tract which was originally associated with the house.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David R. and Allison H. Black/Architectural Historians
organization Black & Black, Preservation Consultants date December 1, 1991
street & number 620 Wills Forest St. telephone (919) 828-4616
city or town Raleigh state North Carolina zip code 27605

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National Park Service

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National Park Service

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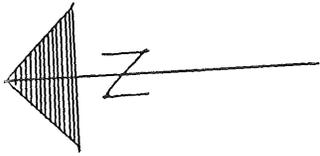
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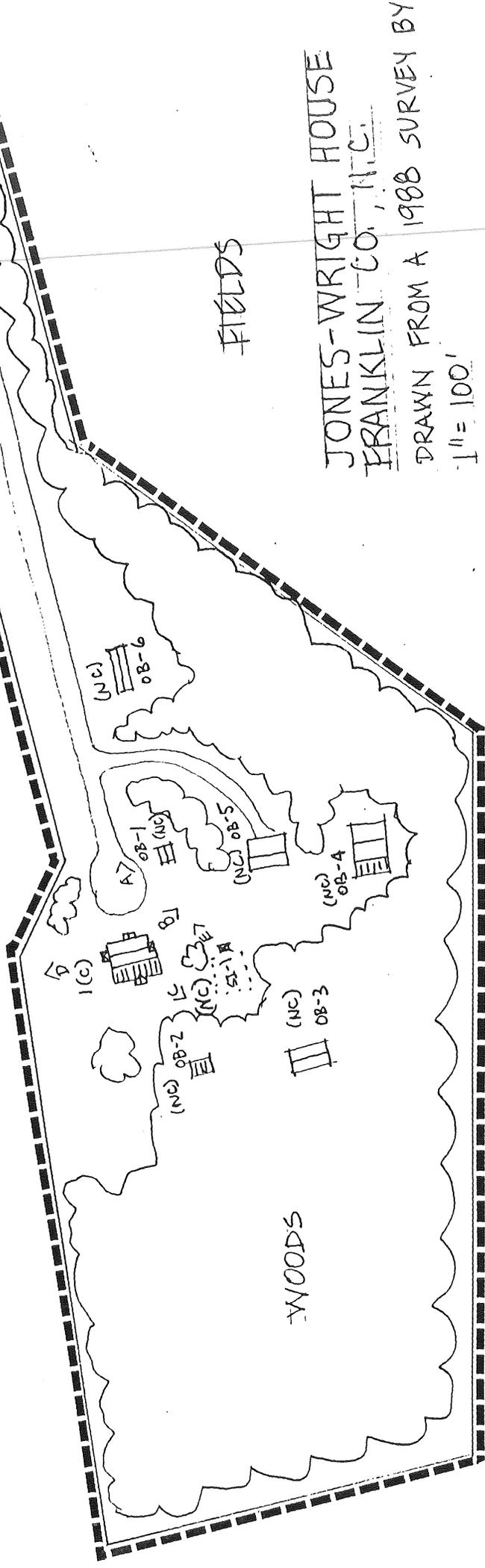
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FIELDS

FIELDS

WOODS



JONES-WRIGHT HOUSE
FRANKLIN CO., N.C.

DRAWN FROM A 1988 SURVEY BY
1" = 100'

INGLESIDE QUAD.
ZONE 17 1:24 000

JONES - WRIGHT HOUSE
Rocky Ford vic, FRANKLIN Co., N.C.
N: 4010560
E: 7383390

