

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Buckland

and/or common

2. Location

street & number W side of N. C. 37 at jct. of SR 1313 not for publication

city, town Buckland vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Gates code 073

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name ~~Raleigh XXXX Smith XXXX D XXXX Smith et al~~ Roger Vann Smith, Smith Buckland Corp.

street & number ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 2011 37th St., SE, Unit 202

Washington, DC 20020-1260

Ph: (202) 575-3358

city, town ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ vicinity of state ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Gates County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Gatesville state North Carolina 27938

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes  no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The former seat of the prosperous plantation known as Buckland in Gates County stands today as an aging and sadly deteriorating reminder of the rise and decline during the nineteenth century of an agricultural economy dependent upon slave labor. Once the center of land holdings which exceeded three thousand acres, Buckland is associated today with only ninety-seven of those original acres. Those to the north are bounded by a swampy low lying creek called Buckland Mill Branch and to the east and south by N. C. 37 and SR 1220, respectively.

Buckland stands virtually alone on the site today. Crepe myrtles line the drive leading to the house, and the Charlie Smith family cemetery just north of the house is the only remaining secondary site associated with the house. In October 1985 the last out-building, a pyramidal-roof frame smokehouse collapsed from the winds of hurricane Gloria. Earlier in the mid 1970s the pyramidal-roof frame dairy was moved to Perquimans County.<sup>1</sup> Two mobile homes are situated just south of the house.

Buckland, built ca. 1795, is one of the finest remaining examples in the Albemarle region of a large frame two-story plantation house with finished attic. It stylistically illustrates a sophisticated transition from the Georgian style to the increasingly popular Federal style. Maintaining a traditional asymmetrical fenestration pattern, Buckland also has one of the earliest--if not the earliest--example of a double-pile center-hall plan remaining in the Albemarle region.

The plantation house follows an imposing five-bay two-story gable-roof form with paired exterior end chimneys to each side. The chimneys are paired double-shoulder ones laid in Flemish bond with queen closers, deeply offset stacks, and English bond water-table. The southern two chimney stacks are obviously replacements. A 1795 date brick is located between the shoulders of the northwestern chimney, and it identifies an approximate construction date for the house. The shallow brick foundation is also laid primarily in Flemish bond and includes a single header course close to the ground. Both the original beaded weatherboard and the roof's wooden shingles are obscured by modern materials, asphalt shingles and standing-seam tin respectively.

The exterior of Buckland features fine examples of transitional Georgian/Federal style decorative woodwork. The gable roof which has flush gable ends is accented by tapered rake boards and the cornice features a handsome row of carved modillion blocks which is underscored by a dentil row. Other handsome woodworking features include the wide tripartite door and window surrounds with mitred corners. Both the front and rear entrances are further defined by five-light transoms, and the windows have nicely molded sills. The front and rear elevations contain nine-over-nine sash on the first floor with six-over-nine sash on the second. The side elevations primarily feature six-over-six sash on the first floor, four-over-six at the second, and four-over-four in the attic.

The front facade is distinguished by a handsome double-tier pedimented portico protecting the central three bays. Several of its decorative features, including the modillion block cornice, replicate in detail that of the house; however, questions remain concerning the porch's date of construction. Certainly the first floor section and the foundation are more recent modifications. Given the porch's ruinous condition, a close

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inspection was impossible. On the other hand the rear shed-roof porch is clearly a later unsympathetic addition.

Much of the interior woodwork on the first and second floors of Buckland was removed and sold during the early twentieth century. In spite of this loss Buckland's interior remains highly significant because of its intact double-pile center hall floor plan. The broad center hall is bisected by an exposed summer beam which retains the original wrought iron lamp hook. At the back of the hall, an enclosed string stair rises along the southern partition wall. Following an unusual configuration this stair features two short three-step stringers which rise from both the hall and the southwest corner room. These short steps flank a common landing at the base of a straight flight which then rises to the second floor.

The sophistication and character of the original interior woodwork is evident in the few remaining examples. A sample of the first floor wainscoting is still evident in the northwest room where a closet addition conceals its beautifully molded chair rail and baseboard. Between these is a single hand planed board. One original door with eight deeply raised panels is also located in this northwest room. Georgian in detail, the beauty of the stair's original shapely turned balusters, molded handrail, and square-in-section fluted newel post is evident on the second floor. The only original mantel is located in the northeast bedroom on the second floor. It too is Georgian and features a deeply molded shelf and two large flat panels.

Given the extended history of Buckland from the early eighteenth century to the present, archaeological studies of the area could provide significant information on the development of the agricultural economy in the Albemarle region.

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Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> The Buckland dairy is currently located behind the Richard Pratt House near Bethel in Perquimans County. This frame pyramidal-roof frame dairy has two notable features, a ventilator frieze and a plastered cove cornice.

# 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 checked="" 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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** ca. 1795 **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

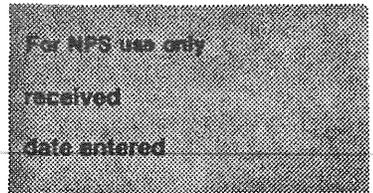
Probably built ca. 1795 by William Baker, Buckland stands today as an excellent example of large-scale plantation houses built in the Albemarle region during the late eighteenth century and well into the nineteenth century. This massive asymmetrically-fenestrated five-bay two-story frame house with finished attic is a rare example of a double-pile center-hall plan and may well be the only early example of the form remaining in the Albemarle region. Located six miles north of the Gates County seat of Gatesville, the property called Buckland was owned during the late eighteenth century by William Baker. Baker, like his father Henry and brother Laurence, divided his energies between politics and planting. As a member of the state House of Commons in 1778 William Baker introduced the bill to create Gates County. He and his brother were among, if not the, largest planters in the county at the outset of the nineteenth century. When he died in 1805 William Baker had over 3,000 acres and 108 slaves scattered over seven plantations. William M. Harvey, Baker's son-in-law, operated the plantation at Buckland up until his death in 1827, after which Ann Harvey took over. In 1847 Samuel E. Smith bought the house and 122 acres. Smith was primarily a farmer though one of considerably less means than Baker. In 1860 he owned seventeen slaves. Following his death in 1886 and that of his wife Sallie in 1901, their son Dr. Richard C. Smith inherited Buckland. The younger Smith chose not to live there and sold the place in 1914 to Charlie and Ida Smith, longtime tenants on the property. Charlie Smith was apparently born to a slave family belonging to Samuel Smith around 1858. He died in 1951 and since that time Buckland has been jointly owned by his heirs.

**CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:**

- A. Associated with the development in the Albemarle region of North Carolina of a plantation economy dependent upon slave labor from the late eighteenth century through the antebellum period; also provides rare insight into post Civil War relationships between the property owners and their former slaves, first as long standing tenants and subsequently becoming the property's owners in the early twentieth century.
- B. Associated with William Baker (b. ? - d. 1805) who served both in the state House and Senate, introduced bill in 1778 to create Gates County, and became one of the largest plantation and slave owners in Gates County.
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a highly significant late eighteenth century plantation house; rare period example of the use of the double-pile center-hall plan in the Albemarle region.
- D. Likely to yield significant information about nineteenth century and early twentieth century life as Buckland evolved from a plantation to a small farm.

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Buckland is located about six miles north of the Gates County seat of Gatesville in northeastern North Carolina. Both the surrounding community and a nearby swamp are also called Buckland. The house, today situated on a ninety-seven-acre farm, is an example<sup>1</sup> of the "mature double-pile center-passage plan," the only one of its type in the region. It was apparently built in 1795. A brick on the north rear chimney bears that date. Its builder was William Baker, a member of a family of particular significance to Gates County and the Albemarle region in the late seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth centuries.<sup>2</sup>

The family's association with the area extends back to the receipt of land by John Blake in 1670 and by his son-in-law Henry Baker in 1694.<sup>3</sup> Before William Byrd's resurvey in 1728 Buckland fell within Nansemond County, Virginia. After that date it became part of Chowan County, North Carolina. In 1759 it became part of Hertford County and in 1779 part of newly-created Gates County. Bakers of each generation served their respective governments, from militia officers and members of the Virginia House of Burgesses through to Gates County representatives. The family was unmistakably part of the ruling elite. The name they chose for their estate and applied to two houses before 1795 may have English origins, taken from Buckland parish in Kent near Dover.<sup>4</sup>

William Baker (d. 1805) was a rather large man who reportedly "loved good eating and enjoyed a glass of Madeira or old Jamaican toddy." He also had a fondness for horse racing (races were often conducted at Brady's Path about a mile from Buckland). Baker was a "facetious man" who liked to tell stories, often at his own expense.<sup>5</sup> That quality may have stood him in good stead in his years of public service. During his term in the state House from Hertford County he introduced the bill to create Gates County in 1778. He then represented Gates for two terms in the House and two in the state Senate between 1779 and 1787. Baker's role as Gates County representative at the Hillsborough convention in 1788 was the caper to his political career. On the local level he was registrar at the first meeting of Gates County court in 1779 and a justice for many years thereafter.<sup>6</sup>

However, politics took a backseat to planting particularly in the years after 1788. Whereas William Baker had thirteen adult (or taxable) slaves in 1787 by 1801 the number had risen to fifty-one. Still that number accounted for scarcely half of his total slaveholdings. By 1805 Baker had amassed 108 slaves including infants, women, and children. The number of acres for which Baker was held taxable also increased, more than doubling from 1,481 in 1787 to 3,005 in 1805. William Baker and his brother Laurence had far more slaves than anyone else in Gates County in the early nineteenth century, with William's total being double that of Laurence whose number in turn exceeded all others in the county. Their landholdings, with each of them exceeding 3,000 acres, were among the most sizable in the county with only two other planters, Wills Cowper and Isaac Hunter, in their league. Most Gates farmers had much less, with farms in the 100-200 acre range.<sup>7</sup>

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William Baker's wife was the former Judith Norfleet, said to have been "a most amicable woman, of excellent understanding and truly pious." Simmons Jones Baker (1775-1853), whose memories from childhood constitute much of what we know about the Bakers, lived with his uncle William and aunt Judith while his father Laurence was off with the Patriot army. S. J. Baker in 1847 left a detailed description of the house as he remembered it, recalling that the Baker's was a one-story mansion with dormer windows and a piazza. Elsewhere in his reminiscence Baker made it clear that the house where his uncle and aunt lived had once belonged to his grandfather Henry Baker (who died in 1770).<sup>8</sup> The structure which S. J. Baker described, at any rate, bears no resemblance to the later (present-day) William Baker house, believed to have been built in 1795.

William Baker died at Roanoke of the gout on June 21, 1805. By the terms of his will written two years earlier most of his property went to his widow with specified tracts and personal items going to his children Richard, Margaret, and Ann. Judith Baker received the homestead and mill seat and gristmills established some years earlier by his father Henry. Richard was to receive much of the plantation on his twenty-first birthday. He and his mother and sister divided the household items at Buckland, including much furniture (most of it mahogany), eight bedsteads, silverware, china, and piano. Also divided up were three barrels of pork, ten barrels of fish, and the crop then growing. The division of the slaves was a bit more of a problem. The elder Baker asked that "my old man Jack" and his family be set apart in Richard's division and that "he be continued as an overseer on the plantation whereon he now lives as long as he behaves himself well." Some idea of the size of Baker's estate is gained by the fact that his 108 slaves were scattered in groups of fifteen to twenty-six over seven different plantations in Gates and Hertford counties. The greatest number were at the "Manor Plantation" (Buckland) and the "Old Plantation" (probably Henry Baker's seat).<sup>9</sup>

Final settlement of the Baker estate was complicated by the deaths of Judith and Richard, both in 1811. Baker's widow with the assistance of her brother-in-law Laurence Baker, who himself died in 1807, had kept up the "Manor Plantation" with its twenty-six slaves. Most of these were sold off by 1810 along with much of the land until she was left with 787 acres and eight slaves. Fifty-seven slaves were still at Buckland in 1810 but apparently not under the charge of Judith Baker. A minor imbroglio erupted in that year when Richard Baker's guardian accused two slaves belonging to Laurence's son John B. Baker of "having feloniously cut and carried away Timber off the land belonging to the orphan also for taking the steers and cart from the plantation for the purpose of carrying the slaves to market." The judgment of the court was against cousin Baker who was ordered to pay costs and against the two slaves, Charles and Prince, who were "to Receive Twenty-five lashes on their Bare Back." Richard Baker, who attended Edenton Academy, was still underage when he and his mother died in 1811.<sup>10</sup> The estate then passed to his two sisters. Ann Baker had married William Harvey in 1808. Margaret (Peggy) Baker married Benjamin Wynn of Perquimans County in 1817. "They both inherited very large estates but alas!" lamented S. J. Baker in 1847, long after Buckland had left Baker hands.<sup>11</sup>

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William Mallory Harvey (? - 1827) assumed operation of the Buckland plantation in 1811. From that date to 1826 he was taxed on 1,470 acres and ten to twenty adult slaves. In 1820 Harvey owned a total of thirty-four bondsmen. His trade in slaves was quite extensive to judge by county records. His brother-in-law, Benjamin Wynn, had a somewhat smaller operation with 1,062 acres and twenty-one slaves.<sup>12</sup> William Harvey died in 1827, leaving his estate including forty-one slaves and a considerable number of livestock to his wife and six children. Ann Harvey was taxed on 1,430 acres valued at \$2,500 plus two adult slaves in 1830.<sup>13</sup> Her slaveholdings were sufficiently small enough so that she was apparently not caught up in the general alarm that spread through Gates County following the rebellion of slaves led by Nat Turner in southeastern Virginia in 1831. The fate of Buckland over the decade of the 1830s is uncertain. By the mid-1840s Buckland was owned by Samuel Hunter of Nansemond County, Virginia. The nearby Wynn farm was owned by James Pipkin. In January 1847 Samuel Smith bought both tracts. He paid Hunter \$1,250 for the 122 acres, "commonly known as the tract on which Mrs. Ann Harvey formerly lived." In fact Smith had been paying taxes on the 122 acres since 1843 suggesting some sort of earlier arrangement with Hunter.<sup>14</sup>

Samuel E. Smith (1815? - 1886) was born in Virginia but apparently lived in Gates from an early age. He was married twice, first to Mary Copeland in 1838, by whom he had a son Richard. No records exist of the date of his marriage to his second wife Sallie. By 1850 he had a second child by that marriage. They were also boarding two students in 1850 since they had the room in the large house. Smith was primarily a farmer although of considerably less means than the Bakers. In 1850 he had only two slaves; by 1860 the number had increased to seventeen. By this latter year his personal estate, which included a piano and silver and gold watches, was estimated at \$19,700. Still his slaveholding and landholdings, just over 500 acres, were small compared to William Baker's sixty years earlier.<sup>15</sup>

The size of Smith's farm remained constant in the postwar years. He kept about 150 acres in cultivation, primarily in corn, oats, wheat, and, by 1880, some cotton. He also had sizable herds of livestock and one acre of apple trees. The Smiths kept two black domestic servants and several farm laborers on the property. Although primarily a farmer Samuel Smith did operate a general store near Buckland in the 1870s and 1880s.<sup>16</sup> Smith died in 1886, leaving all of his estate to his wife Sallie with the provision that it go to his son Richard at her death. He requested that he be buried in the family cemetery at his nephew Henry Willey's house.<sup>17</sup>

Sallie Smith (1830? - 17 January 1901) chose not to live at Buckland after her husband's death, moving three miles away to live with her sisters. She did continue to pay taxes on the 250-acre farm which she leased to tenants. This arrangement was not suitable to her son Richard who lodged a legal complaint against the lessees in 1891. In the suit he charged them with "gross negligence and violation of contract." They had promised to keep the buildings at Buckland in good shape. Instead R. C. Smith found them to be in "deplorable condition," with the dwelling, barn, stables, other outbuildings,

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and fences falling victim to rot and decay. The tenants had failed to insure the buildings and already one of them, a storehouse valued at fifty dollars, had burned. R. C. Smith sought some compensation and assurance that his mother, who depended on the rent for her income, would not be taken advantage of any further. Mrs. Smith died in 1901, leaving her personal belongings to her sisters and nephew.<sup>18</sup>

Richard C. Smith (September 1839 - ?) became the owner of Buckland after his mother's death by the terms of his father's will. Although the elder Smith apparently did not serve in the Civil War his son did enlist in Company B of the Fifth Regiment North Carolina Infantry in June 1861. A private, he was discharged for reasons unknown in November of the same year.<sup>19</sup> Before the war the young Smith had worked as a clerk in Halifax County. After the fighting he received training as a physician and commenced practice in Gatesville as early as 1869. Smith continued to practice in the county seat, where he owned a town lot, through the end of the nineteenth century.<sup>20</sup> After his mother's death he and his wife Jennie, married since 1873, may have lived at Buckland for a short while since the place was known for many years thereafter as the "Doctor Smith House." At some time prior to 1910 Smith and his family moved to Virginia.<sup>21</sup>

Charlie (1858? - 1951) and Ida (June 1862 - 1943) Smith, a black couple, were the next owners of Buckland. Although it is impossible to verify from available records it appears likely that Charlie Smith was born to a slave family belonging to Samuel Smith.<sup>22</sup> The Smiths were married on October 9, 1880. The first of their fourteen children was born that year. Smith was a tenant farmer for a relatively short time, renting thirty acres at the time of the 1880 census.<sup>23</sup> Four years later he bought the tract he had been renting from Samuel Smith.<sup>24</sup> Thirty years after that, in 1914, Smith bought Buckland and its 110 acres for \$4,000.<sup>24</sup> R. C. Smith, it is said, could have gotten more for the place from someone else but sold it to the black couple "in appreciation of their service to the family and their desire for the old home." Dr. Smith, as has been shown, had for many years been concerned about the condition of the house and no doubt believed that permanent occupation by the couple would offer some stability. However, Charlie and Ida Smith had no money for restoration and in fact, when faced with hard times, sold almost all of the interior woodwork for a reported \$1,200.<sup>25</sup> No other major changes have been made to the house since the nineteenth century.

In 1943 the Smiths, then well along in years, transferred ownership of the property to their children. Mrs. Smith died that same year at age eighty-one. Charlie Smith lived to age ninety-three and died in 1951.<sup>26</sup> Other family members lived in the house for some time thereafter; still others lived nearby. Two of the Smith sons, James (1859 - 1973) and Willie (1898 - 1977), as well as their wives, are buried in a small family plot near the house. Others among the fourteen children, ten men and four women, moved north, to New York, Michigan, and Connecticut, taking jobs as teachers, porters, and one as a pharmacist.<sup>27</sup> Ownership of Buckland has to this day remained in the hands of Smith heirs, a number of whom live in the Tidewater area of Virginia. One of the heirs, speaking of the others, has declared it their intention not to sell the house since to do so would

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contravene the wishes of their grandparents Charlie and Ida Smith.<sup>28</sup> Plans are now underway to find ways to preserve and restore the house. Meanwhile the condition of the building has begun to decline rapidly in recent years, with particular damage to the porch and exterior.

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NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Carl Lounsbury, "The Development of Domestic Architecture in the Albemarle Region," North Carolina Historical Review (January 1977), 41.

<sup>2</sup>Buckland has erroneously been associated with the Harvey family, specifically with North Carolina's colonial governors John Harvey and Thomas Harvey. A writer in 1938 further claimed that the present house was built in 1650 and was the state's oldest standing structure. Harry Z. Tucker, "Buckland," State, 10 September 1938; see also Gates County Index, 11 September 1969.

In point of fact the Harveys had their home in Perquimans County on land between the Yeopim and Perquimans rivers, an area which in time became known as Harvey's Neck. Beth Crabtree, North Carolina Governors, 1585-1974; Brief Sketches (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1974), 14, 19; William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968), 216.

The mistaken assumption by the 1938 writer may be explained by the fact that a Baker daughter in the nineteenth century did marry a Harvey.

<sup>3</sup>Thomas F. Baker, "Some Historical Facts About Buckland Plantation" (unpublished, 1984), copy on file in the Survey and Planning Branch, Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>4</sup>Claiborne T. Smith, Jr. sketch of Laurence Baker in William S. Powell (ed.) Dictionary of North Carolina Biography (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1979), I, 90.

<sup>5</sup>Simmons Jones Baker, "Recollections of the Family Baker" (written 4 February 1847, transcribed by Historical Records Survey in 1938), cataloged as Baker Family Paper, North Carolina State Archives.

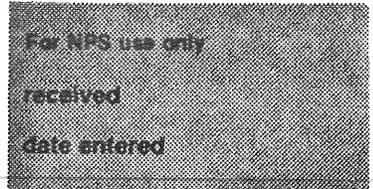
<sup>6</sup>John L. Cheney, Jr. (ed.), North Carolina Government, 1585-1979: A Narrative and Statistical History (Raleigh: Secretary of State, 1981), 203, 204, 209, 214, 219, 766; Walter Clark (ed.), The State Records of North Carolina (Raleigh: State of North Carolina, 1907), XIII, 578; Gates County Court Minutes, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>7</sup>State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787, 2nd ed. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 39; Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: North Carolina (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1978), 24; 1800 Census; Gates County Tax Records and Estates Records, William Baker folder, North Carolina State Archives. Baker's 108 slaves in 1805 were second only to Mills Roberts's 111 in 1860 for the greatest number of slaves ever held in Gates County.

<sup>8</sup>Baker Family Paper, North Carolina State Archives. Simmons Jones Baker told the story of being whipped by Judith Baker for using the word "bitch" in her presence.

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<sup>9</sup>Gates County Will Book 1, p. 240; Gates County Estates Records, William Baker folder, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>10</sup>Gates County Tax Records and Estates Records, Richard Baker and William Baker folders, North Carolina State Archives; 1810 Census.

<sup>11</sup>Gates County Marriage Bonds, and Baker Family Paper, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>12</sup>Gates County Deeds and Tax Records and Baker Family Paper, North Carolina State Archives; 1820 Census.

<sup>13</sup>Gates County Tax Records and Estates Records, William M. Harvey folder, North Carolina State Archives; 1830 Census.

<sup>14</sup>Gates County Deed Book 19, pp. 368, 395; Gates County Tax Records, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>15</sup>Gates County Marriage Bonds, and Tax Records, North Carolina State Archives; 1850 and 1860 Censuses, Population and Slave Schedules. There is no record of the number of slavehouses at Buckland in these years.

<sup>16</sup>1870 and 1880 Censuses, Population and Agricultural Schedules; Levi Branson (comp.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1884), 325.

<sup>17</sup>Gates County Will Book 4, p. 247.

<sup>18</sup>Gates County Estates Records, Samuel E. Smith and Sallie Smith folders, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>19</sup>John Wheeler Moore (comp.), Roster of North Carolina Troops in the War Between the States (Raleigh: State of North Carolina, 1882), I, 165; Weymouth T. Jordan, Jr. (comp.), North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865: A Roster (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1973), IV, 154.

<sup>20</sup>Levi Branson (comp.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory (Raleigh: Levi Branson), 1869, p. 65; 1884, p. 325; and 1897, p. 291; Gates County Tax Records, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>21</sup>1900 and 1910 Censuses.

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Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 8

<sup>22</sup>Samuel Smith had seventeen slaves in 1860, one of them a two-year-old male. In 1870 David Smith and his family, including thirteen-year-old Charles, lived very near Samuel Smith's residence. 1860 and 1870 Censuses, Slave and Population Schedules.

<sup>23</sup>Gates County Index, 7 May 1941; 1880 Census, Population and Agricultural Schedules.

<sup>24</sup>Gates County Deed Book 35, p. 264; Deed Book 67, p. 151; and Deed Book 75, p. 568. Smith gained clear title to the property in 1925. A lien placed on the farm in 1930 was cancelled in 1941. Gates County Deed Book 79, p. 152.

<sup>25</sup>Gates County Index, 7 May 1941. For tax purposes Buckland was valued at \$3,340 in 1926. Gates County Tax Records, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>26</sup>Gates County Deed Book 86, p. 582; Gates County Vital Statistics, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>27</sup>Gates County Index, 7 May 1941.

<sup>28</sup>Margaret Taylor to Melanie Murphy of the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, 6 December 1983, letter on file in the Survey Branch, Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 97 acres

Quadrangle name Gatesville, N. C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

**UTM References**

A 

1	1	8
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3	4	2	0	3	0
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4	0	3	8	2	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

1	8
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3	4	2	1	1	0
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4	0	3	7	7	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

1	1	8
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3	4	1	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	0	3	6	7	6	0
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D 

1	8
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3	4	0	8	1	0
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4	0	3	7	2	8	0
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E 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See attached copy of Gates County timber map (new) #27, parcel 76 for appropriate property boundaries as indicated by red outline. The ninety-seven acres being nominated constitute the last acreage still associated with the former plantation of Buckland.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	n/a	code	county	n/a	code
-------	-----	------	--------	-----	------

state		code	county		code
-------	--	------	--------	--	------

# 11. Form Prepared By

Description: Drucilla Haley York, Architectural Historian  
 name/title Statement of Significance: Michael R. Hill, Research Historian

organization Eastern Office  
N. C. Division of Archives & History date Nov. 27, 1985

street & number 117 W. 5th St. telephone (919) 752-7778

city or town Greenville state North Carolina 27834

# 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 William S. Rice, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date January 9, 1986

**For NPS use only**

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

date

**Keeper of the National Register**

**Attest:**

date

**Chief of Registration**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Buckland: Gates County

Continuation sheet BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Page 2

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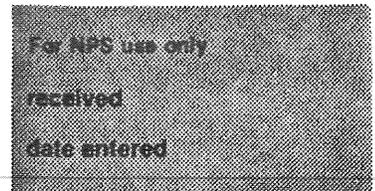
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Buckland: Gates County

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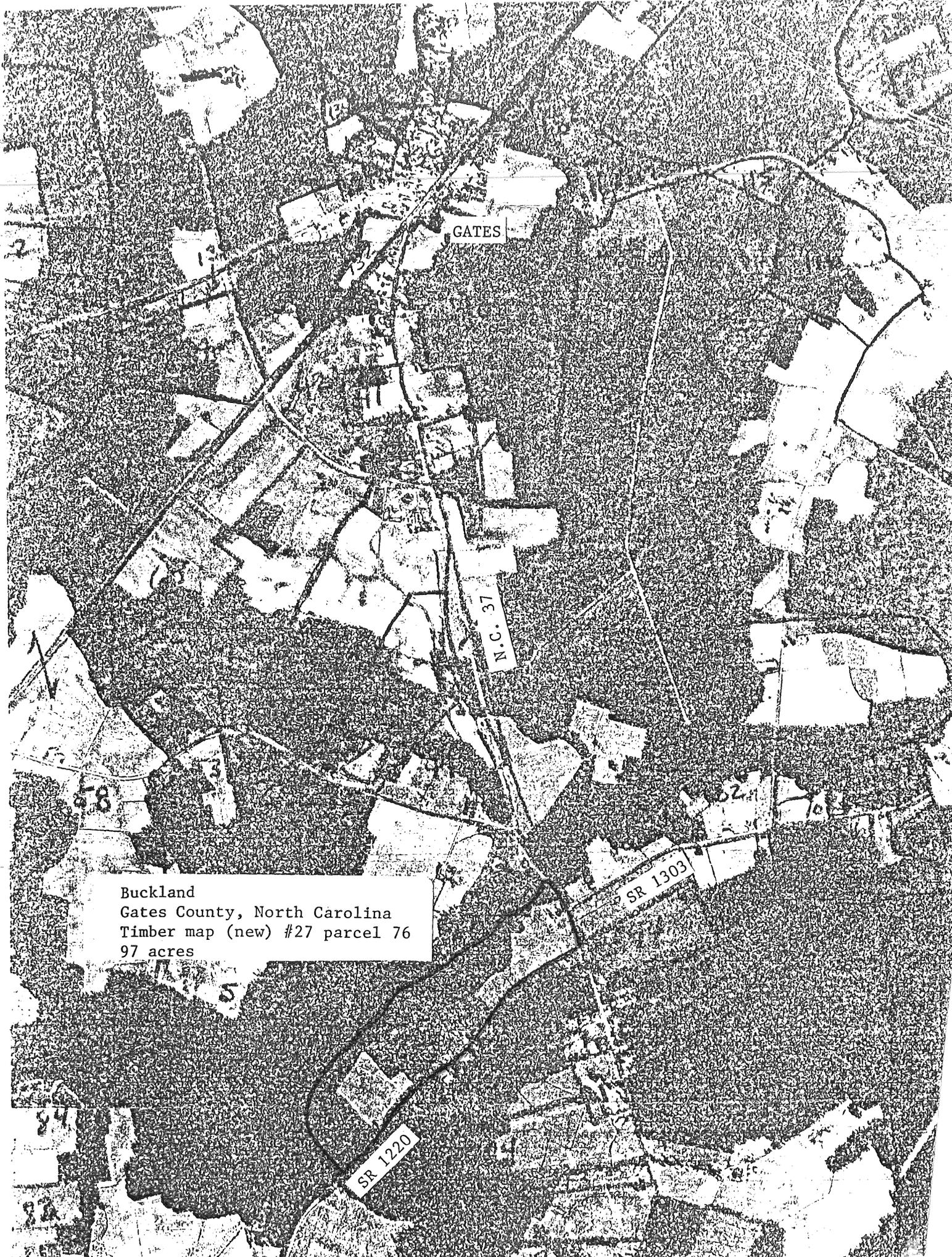
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GATES

N.C. 37

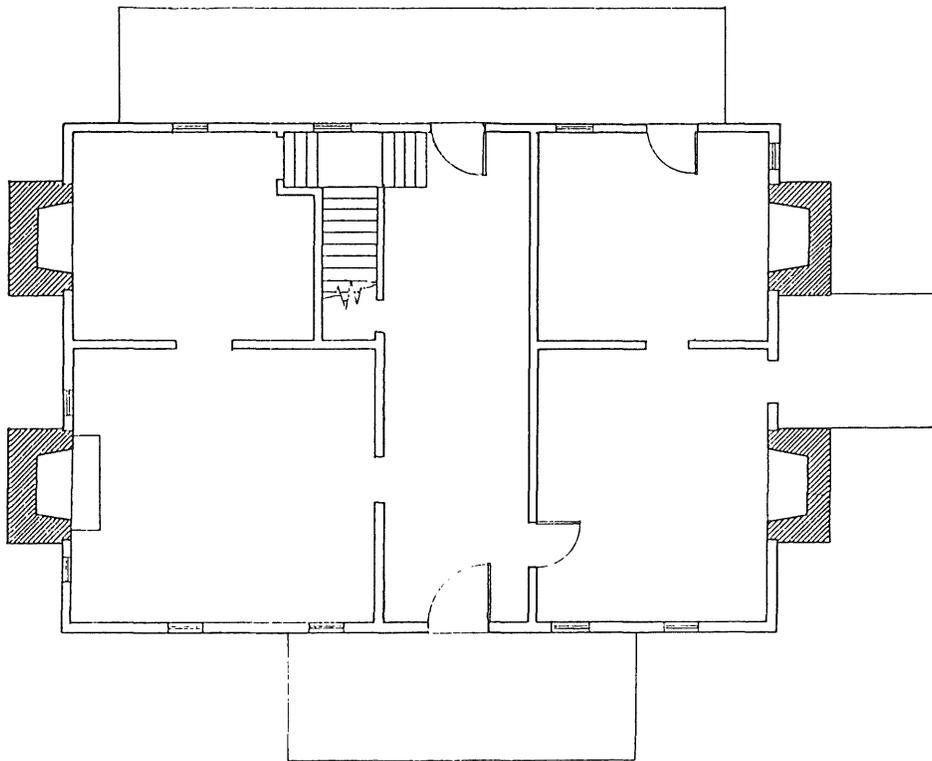
SR 1303

SR 1220

Buckland  
Gates County, North Carolina  
Timber map (new) #27 parcel 76  
97 acres

BUCKLAND

Gates County, North Carolina



First Floor Plan

Courtesy: Carl Lounsbury

