

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Harnett	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Lebanon

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
East side of NC 82, .5 miles south of intersection with SR 1780

CITY OR TOWN:
Dunn

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Harnett CODE: 085

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene W. Smith, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 4

CITY OR TOWN: Dunn STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Harnett County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Lillington STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Lebanon was named after the grove of great cedars that surrounded the house until most of them were destroyed by hurricane Hazel (1954). Fortunately, tall pines and other trees still provide a picturesque setting for the pleasant Greek Revival plantation house. Built of frame covered with plain weatherboards, the two-story house is raised on a foundation of brick laid in common bond. Corner posts treated as pilasters define the facades and support a plain frieze and molded cornice beneath the overhang of the roof. Two interior chimneys pierce the hip roof. There is a one-story wing on each side. An early wooden fence encloses a large, well-planted yard that contains several outbuildings, including a frame kitchen and smokehouse.

The main (west) facade of the house is three bays wide, with a three-bay, two-tier porch sheltering the central doorway on both floors. The porch has at each level slender chamfered posts ornamented with delicate sawnwork brackets. These recur as pilasters on the facade at the ends of the porch. Between the front posts runs a balustrade with turned balusters beneath a heavy molded rail. At the first level, the floor of the porch, enclosed by a continuation of the balustrade, extends the full width of the facade. The upper level of the porch has an open pediment. The tympanum, covered with weatherboards, features an oculus divided into quarters filled with louvers. At each level of the facade the entrance consists of a single door flanked by sidelights beneath a four-light transom. Both doors are flat-paneled on the inside but have on the exterior, flush panels outlined by heavy molding, the upper ones in the shape of round-headed arches. The remaining bays of the facade are marked by windows containing four-over-four sash, a pattern that continues throughout the main block.

Extending from the north side of the main block is a small one-story, two-bay wing that continues the fenestration, corner posts and cornice of the main block. It leads to a two-bay addition with plainer finish and later sash. At the rear of the south side of the house is a one-story shed addition that extends around the corner to enclose part of the back porch. The bays of the rear facade are treated like those of the front, except that the upper central bay has only a small square window with replacement sash. Extending across this facade is a one-story porch with a hip roof supported by plain chamfered posts. The balustrade of the front porch is repeated.

The interior of the main block follows a center-hall plan, two rooms deep. The walls are plastered above a simple molded baseboard. The double doors leading from the hall to the two front rooms were installed in the twentieth century. Most of the doorways, however, have six-panel doors with molding outlining flat panels on one side and slightly raised panels on the other. There are a few doors of later design.

According to the owner, the only original mantel is that in the northeast second-floor room. The others are copies of this one. A single panel appears above the square fire opening, and both are flanked by pilasters with cornice caps. The heavy molded shelf breaks over the pilasters.

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The open-string stair rises in one flight along the north hall wall from the rear of the hall. A fat turned newel and slender turned balusters support a heavy molded handrail. The graceful balustrade continues along the stair well at the second level. The arrangement and finish of the second floor are like the first.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area around the Cumberland County-Harnett County line near the present highway N.C. 82 was settled by the Smith family in the mid-eighteenth century. Prominent among them was Alexander Smith, who assembled a large tract of land, operated a ferry, and probably built the large Georgian plantation house, Oak Grove. After his death in 1777, when his son, John Smith, was still a minor, Alexander's widow married Farquhard Campbell, who held the property in trust until John achieved his majority; he probably came into possession of the property in 1790. In 1843 John Smith deeded a number of tracts to his three sons. The Oak Grove property went to John C., another tract to William T., and still another to Farquhard Campbell Smith (named after John's stepfather). The plantation houses built for William and Farquhard still stand within a few miles of the older Oak Grove--and for many years the area was known as Smithville.

Tradition has it that when his son, Farquhard, married in 1824, John Smith built Lebanon for him. The tax lists for this time tend to corroborate this tradition. Farquhard Smith was not listed in 1824, but the next year he was shown as the holder of five slaves while his father's slave holdings decreased by five. The next year his slave holdings increased again with a concomitant decrease in his father's holdings. By 1827 Farquhard was listed as having eight slaves and, for the first time, land in the amount of 3,612 acres. Again, his father's estate decreased in this list by exactly 3,612 acres. The actual transfer of this land from John Smith to Farquhard probably did not occur until the 1843 deed (see above). At this time, "for love and affection and the sum of one dollar", Farquhard received title to several tracts totalling 3,517 2/3 acres, and one-third interest in the "three Ferry Landing places, together with the Flat and Fixtures belonging thereto." In the first census of Harnett County in 1860, Farquhard Smith was shown as owner of 37 slaves.

The Battle of Averasboro (March 16, 1865) occurred in the immediate vicinity of John Smith's plantation house. Sharp fighting drove the family from their home and after spending the day in the trenches, they repaired to Lebanon late in the evening. Lebanon was used as a Confederate hospital during and after the battle. A letter written by Farquhard Smith's daughter records the occasion:

The infirmary was here and oh it makes me shudder when I think of the awful sights I witnessed that morning. Ambulance after ambulance

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drove up with our wounded. One half of the house was prepared for the soldiers, but owing to the close proximity of the enemy, they only sent in the sick, but every barn and out house was full and under every shed and tree the tables were carried for amputating the limbs. I just felt like my heart would break when I would see our brave men rushing into the battle and then coming back so mangled.

Farquhard Smith died in 1871. In the division of his estate, lot number 1 (then containing 850 acres) and the house went to his youngest son, Jesse Slocumb Smith. It was sold to Edward Smith, a brother, in 1880 for \$4,000. Edward Smith willed Lebanon to his nephew, E. W. Smith, in 1914. The house went to its present owner, E. W. Smith, Jr., in 1935.

Lebanon, a typical Greek Revival plantation house is of particular significance because of its well-documented use as a hospital during and after the Battle of Averasboro, March 16, 1865. The house is the only one of the three large houses constructed in the area by the prominent Smith family that has remained in the hands of descendants.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harnett County Records, Harnett County Courthouse, Lillington, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Harnett County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Cumberland County Records, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Cumberland County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		35° 15' 35"	78° 40' 17"	
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit Staff

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: 27 April 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name H. G. Jones

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date 27 April 1972

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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9.

Fowler, Malcolm. They Passed This Way. Lillington, North Carolina: Harnett County Centennial, Inc., 1955.
Whitfield, Emma Morehead. Whitfield, Bryan, Smith and Related Families. Westminster, Maryland: privately printed, 1950.

