

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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 Wynne's Folly

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER East side of U. S. 264, 0.9 mi. south of jct. with SR 1311
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Engelhard VICINITY OF 1st CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE North Carolina CODE 37 COUNTY Hyde CODE 95

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Camille B. Clarke

STREET & NUMBER 607-A Elm Street

CITY, TOWN Greenville VICINITY OF North Carolina STATE North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hyde County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN Swan Quarter STATE North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 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

Wynne's Folly is a substantial plantation house of vigorous vernacular Greek Revival character, the most ambitious of its period surviving in sparsely-settled Hyde County. The two-story frame house is highly cubical in effect, being five bays wide and five deep and measuring 40 by 40 feet. Its shallow pyramidal roof is pierced by pairs of interior end chimneys. The house stands on very low brick piers, above which is a broad water table of wood. The walls are now covered with asbestos shingles, but the wooden trim is unchanged, including massive corner posts treated as pilasters, which, together with the wide frieze and overhanging cornice, emphasize the boxy mass of the building. Windows are large, having nine-over-nine sash at the first level and nine-over-six at the second. These are flanked by fluted pilaster strips above plain board sills, which carry a simple, shallow triangular lintel suggestive of a pediment.

The porches are missing, but the main central entrance treatment remains intact. On the front (west) facade, heavy unfluted Doric pilasters carry a simple entablature. Within this heavy frame, a double door, each leaf having one long Greek Revival panel, is flanked by four-light sidelights and surmounted by, a four-light transom and corner lights. The latter elements are flanked by handsome scroll consoles incised with foliate motifs. The doorway at the second level has a single two panel Greek Revival door with transom and a head similar to the window treatment. This single door treatment recurs at the first and second level on the sides and rear as well.

Within, the house is characterized by spaciousness and simplicity, with accents of well-executed classical detail. The house has an unusual plan. Four large rooms are separated by intersecting halls running in a T-shaped arrangement. The front (west) entrance leads into a hall which terminates at a broad cross hall that runs along the north-south axis of the house. A handsomely treated transverse arch carried on flat-paneled pilasters occurs at the junction of the two halls. The fluted door and window surrounds employ roundel cornerblocks; consistent throughout are typical Greek Revival doors with two long panels framed by flat broad moldings. Narrow flat panel aprons occur beneath most windows. Most of the wide, molded baseboards are marbleized. The hall is accented with a circular plaster ceiling medallion. The well-executed mantels are typically Greek Revival in form, with heavy pilasters carrying a broad frieze; one of the mantels is marbleized. At the north end of the cross hall, the stair ascends in two runs with a transverse landing in between. It features a heavy turned newel, posts turned with an urn motif at the top, and slim turned balusters of walnut which carry ramped and eased broad molded handrail. Above the window of the landing is a door, seemingly in its original place, but which has no apparent function, save to maintain the symmetry of the north exterior elevation.

Accenting this relatively simple and very representative Greek Revival finish is the use of delicate, well-executed foliate motifs suggestive of anthemions. In the hall, four radiating foliate elements enrich the ceiling medallion. The stair, rising at the north end of the cross hall, features a heavy turned newel and slim turned balusters of walnut; richly treated brackets mark the ends of the treads and consist of an asymmetrical, fanned anthemion. Each of the Greek Revival mantels in the front parlors has at the ends of the frieze panel and atop each of the pilaster panels a scroll which terminates the panel moldings and from which springs an anthemion.

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wynne's Folly is believed to have been built in the late 1840s for Richard Wynne, traditionally in order to court a young woman who married another man instead. Since 1882 the place has been in the ownership of the Clarke family, and was owned from 1882 to 1899 by Dr. Edward Clarke, a locally prominent physician. The substantial Greek Revival plantation house is the most ambitious of the surviving antebellum houses in sparsely settled Hyde County; the typical simplicity and spaciousness of the building are enriched by delicate, rather academic classical ornament.

The Clarke house, also known as Wynne's Folly, was built near Englehard, in Hyde County, sometime in the late 1840s for Richard Inge Wynne. The traditional explanation for the unusual nickname of the house is that Wynne built it to impress a young lady he was wooing, only to be disappointed when she married someone else.¹ Wynne was a native of Franklin County who began purchasing land in Hyde County in 1847. By 1850 Wynne, at the age of 30, had become one of the county's leading planters. His 400-acre tract was valued at \$20,000, making it the fourth most valuable farm in Hyde County. Only one county farmer owned more slaves than the forty-five claimed by Wynne.² His primary crop was corn, as the 1850 census credits his farm with the production of 10,000 bushels. Wynne also produced 330 bushels of oats, 200 bushels of sweet potatoes, and owned live-stock valued at almost \$2000.

In size and in types of crops produced, Wynne's farm was highly representative of Hyde County in this period. Its farms seldom reached the size of large plantations in other eastern counties. Only John Donnel's plantation of 1800 acres, valued at \$35,000, and worked by 225 slaves was substantially larger than Wynne's; only six people in Hyde County in 1850 owned as many as 30 slaves. Antebellum Hyde County was sparsely populated, with less than 5,000 residents. Located on the northern portion of Pamlico Sound, and surrounded by rivers and lakes, Hyde County was not easily accessible to the rest of the state. Attempts were made to utilize Englehard's potential as a port, but they were unsuccessful, leaving Hyde in a state of relative isolation.² Hyde County was rural and agricultural in 1850, on a scale well above subsistence, but its economy was not on a par with the plantations of the lower Cape Fear and Roanoke Valley.

Wynne married Mary Ballance, an older Hyde County woman. The date of marriage is uncertain. She died in 1850, at the age of 48, leaving no children.³ Wynne sold his land in a number of transactions, and by 1860 had disappeared from the county.⁴ The chain of title of the house becomes clouded at this point. It eventually ended up in the hands of J. W. Spencer, who sold it to Peters Spencer in 1870.⁵ In 1882 Mary L. Spencer, widow of Peters Spencer,⁶ sold the property to Dr. Edward Clarke. The forty-five acre tract cost Dr. Clarke \$2000.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Clarke was born in Beaufort County on January 27, 1845. He served in the Confederate Army, in the 3rd Cavalry, until 1865. After the war he attended medical school at New York University, graduating in 1868. He moved to Hyde County, married Florence Mary Gibbs of Middletown in 1869, and started practice as a physician. After purchasing the property, Clarke set up an adjacent office from which he practiced medicine for many years. He was especially skilled as a surgeon. A Hyde County history quotes an unnamed newspaper as saying that Clarke "was the best known Surgeon east of the Wilmington-Weldon Railroad." Dr. Clarke's wife died March 15, 1879. He later married Clara B. Hoyt. Clarke died February 11, 1899, one of the county's most prominent citizens. He was buried in the family graveyard at St. George's Episcopal Church, at Lake Landing, a church he had helped to found in 1868.

After his death, Dr. Clarke's land was divided among his four children, Dr. Francis Clarke, Isabelle Clarke, Edward Clarke, and Seth Clarke. Within two years, however, Seth Clarke had purchased all interest in the land from his three siblings. He willed the land to his wife, Laura Clarke, at his death in 1932. The current owner, Camille B. Clarke, is the daughter of Seth Clarke.

FOOTNOTES

¹Hyde County Historical Society, Hyde County History: From Wapoppin to Wysocking and Beyond, Lake Landing Area History (Charlotte, Herb Eaton, Inc., 1976), 77, hereinafter cited as Hyde County History.

²Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Hyde County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, Agricultural Schedule, Slave Schedule; Hyde County History, 16.

³Hyde County History, 77; Hyde County Wills, Book 7, p. 435.

⁴Hyde County Deeds, Book 4, p. 123; Book 6, p. 35, 114, 212, 428; Book 10, p. 406.

⁵Hyde County Deeds, Book 15, p. 315.

⁶Hyde County Deeds, Book 16, p. 287.

⁷Hyde County History, pp. 94-95.

⁸Hyde County Wills, Book 11, p. 354; Hyde County Deeds, Book 28, p. 189, 193.

⁹Hyde County Wills, Book 13, p. 46.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Hyde County Records. Microfilm copy. Division of Archives and History. Raleigh, North Carolina. Subgroups: Deeds, Wills.
- Hyde County Historical Society. Hyde County History: From Wapoppin to Wysocking and Beyond, Lake Landing Area History. Charlotte: Herb Eaton, Inc., 1976.
- Seventh Census of the United States, 1850. Microfilm copy. Division of Archives and History. Raleigh, North Carolina. Hyde County. Population Schedule, Agricultural Schedule, Slave Schedule.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres LATITUDE LONGITUDE
 35° 30' 01" 76° 1' 41"
 UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

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 Description prepared by Catherine Bishir, Head, Survey and Planning Branch
 Significance prepared by Jim Sumner, Survey Specialist.

ORGANIZATION Division of Archives & History	DATE
STREET & NUMBER 109 East Jones Street	TELEPHONE 733-4763
CITY OR TOWN Raleigh	STATE North Carolina 27611

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 May 12, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

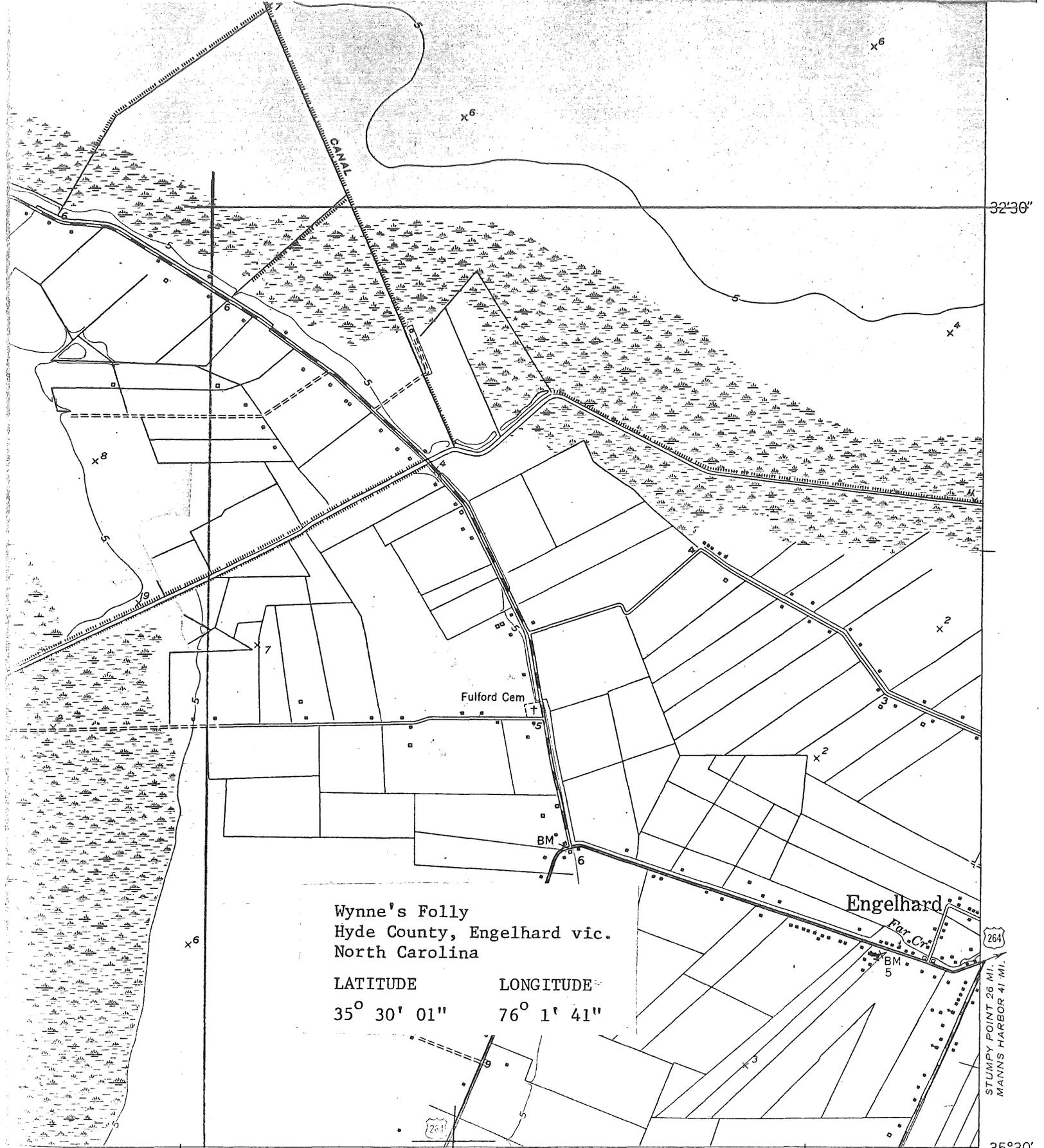
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Wynne's Folly
Hyde County, Engelhard vic.
North Carolina

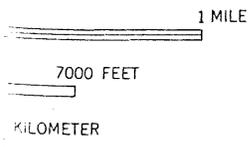
LATITUDE 35° 30' 01" LONGITUDE 76° 1' 41"

LAKE LANDING 3.1 MI.
QUARTER 21 MI.

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1953

MIDDLETOWN 2.4 MI.

USC&GS T-8974

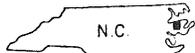


H76

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route State Route



32°30"

35°30"

76°00"

STUMPY POINT 25 MI.
MANN'S HARBOR 41 MI.

(MIDLAND ANCHOR)

