

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Selma MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Everitt P. Stevens House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER E side SR 1003 .1 mi. North of
the Jct. W/SR 1934

CITY, TOWN Selma, VICINITY OF Third

STATE North Carolina CODE 037 COUNTY Johnston CODE 101

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME H. H. McCormick Phone: (919) 934-2690

STREET & NUMBER 121 West Riverside Drive

CITY, TOWN Smithfield, STATE North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Johnston County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Smithfield, STATE North Carolina

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Thomas A. Greco/Principal Investigator August, 1980

ORGANIZATION Town of Selma DATE

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 357 TELEPHONE (919) 965-3388

CITY OR TOWN Selma, STATE North Carolina

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

The Everitt P. Stevens House, located at the intersection of State Routes 1003 and 1934, is a traditional vernacular farmhouse built c.1850. The white frame house has elements of the Greek Revival Style, which was popular during the ante-bellum period, in the door and window surrounds. The three bay front elevation has a central entrance which originally had a two story entrance bay porch as evidenced by the flush sheathing and the boarded up second story doorway. The fenestration consists of 4/4 windows with simple molded surrounds and plain corner blocks. Originally the house had two exterior end chimneys, however, one has been removed. The chimney has a single stepped shoulder form and is constructed of stuccoed fieldstone with an exposed brick stack above. A rear shed addition was added c.1940 and was extended across the entire rear elevation c.1970.

The building follows the traditional center hall plan and is one room deep. The simple open string begins with a straight run and ends in a series of narrow winder at the top. The banister, and newel post are simply carved and possess plain rectangular balusters. The two principal first floor rooms have identical woodwork consisting of a low wainscot with a raised panel motif and mantels of simplified Greek Revival design. The chair rail of the wainscot serves as the interior window sills. The window and door molded architraves are executed in a more elaborate profile without corner blocks. The rear addition houses a new kitchen and additional bedroom. A large closet and bathroom were built into the right front room. This addition did not destroy any of the original fabric of the structure and is planned to be removed in the current plans for restoration. The second floor rooms were originally much plainer than those on the first floor. The two mantels on this floor have unfortunately been removed and several closets have been added. These recent additions, however, were so badly executed that they did not destroy any of the original fabric of the structure.

Several outbuildings exist on the site, although none of them date from the same period as the house. The outbuildings consist of a large barn with two shed additions built c.1900, a square tobacco barn built at the same time and a new bulk tobacco barn. There are also several foundations of buildings that have burned. The group of outbuildings form an integral unit with the house and will in the future shield the house from a new subdivision thereby keeping the house in a complimentary setting.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

____ NATIONAL

 X

STATE

____ LOCAL

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 checked="" 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 c. 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stevens House is the only surviving example of an ante-bellum farmhouse within the Town of Selma. The house was built in the mid-nineteenth century by Everitt P. Stevens on land which was willed to him by his father, Jacob, in 1829. The house, also, served an important role at the end of the Civil War. After the confederate defeat at the Battle of Bentonville (March 19-21, 1865) the confederate army re-assembled around the grounds of the house where the last Grand Review of the army was held on April 6, 1865. In attendance at the review were Generals Hardee, Johnston and Governor Vance.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Stevens house played an important role at the end of the Civil War when the Confederate Army troops, led by General Hardee re-assembled on the grounds of the house after the defeat at the Battle of Bentonville (March 19-21, 1865). The last Grand Review of the army was held here on April 6, 1865 with Generals Johnston, Hardee and Governor Vance in attendance.
- C. The Stevens house is a typical example of an Eastern North Carolina ante-bellum plantation house. It is the only surviving example in the immediate area surrounding the Town of Selma.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Everitt Pearce Stevens House was built c.1850. The land on which the house is situated was originally part of the landholdings of Jacob Stevens (c.1740-1829) ¹, Everitt's father. When Jacob died on 3 December 1829 he left a 700 acre plantation to his son Everitt P. Stevens (c.1800-1878) The will reads: "Son, Everitt - 700 acres land on South side of the Neuse River, including the plantation where he lives and the Brady place - Negroes, Lot, Solomon, Mounteville (sic), Barney, Clarkey and Nathan Younger." ² At the time of his father's death, Everitt was living on the plantation with his first wife, Rhoda Houlder (Holder) Stevens, whom he married in 1819.³ Based on the number of slaves which were left to Everitt it appears that the plantation was producing cotton, which was the major cash crop of Johnston County up to the turn of the century. In 1849, Everitt married his third wife, Elizabeth Stancell Stevens.⁴ The present house is presumed to date from the time of Everitt's third marriage based on the stylistic detailing of the structure. Since the plantation was located on the Smithfield Stage Road, the house became a stage stop.

Near the end of the Civil War, the plantation house and surrounding area served as a reassembly point and campground of the Confederate Army. The Army of Tennessee and several other troops, under the command of General Joseph E. Johnston, suffered a dramatic defeat at the hands of General Sherman's troops in the Battle of Bentonville (March 19-21, 1865). On March 23, 1865, Assistant Adjutant - General Archer Anderson sent a memo from Headquarters which reads, "The Army will move to-morrow morning by the Lewisburg road, to camp two or three miles the other side of the railroad depot. Corps commanders will send staff officers ahead to communicate with Major John Johnson, engineers, at Steven's House by 10 a.m., and learn the ground intended for their troops."⁵ B. L. Ridley, who was a soldier in the Army of Tennessee kept a journal of the days prior to the surrender. On March 24, 1865 he writes, "...ordered to go to-day two miles beyond Smithfield depot, on Lewisburg road. Soldiering in these piny woods is more disagreeable than any I have yet experienced."⁶ On April 6, 1865, after two weeks in camp, the last Grand Review of the troops was held. According to B. L. Ridley's journal, dated April 7, he writes, "I neglected to state that Governor Vance and many ladies from Raleigh came down to see the review of Hardee's Corps. Everything went off well (aside from our decimated ranks). The ladies cheered General Hoke's division of North Carolinians."⁷

(Continued on attached sheet . . .)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Clark, Walter (ed.). Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861-1865. Nash Brothers; Goldsboro, North Carolina 1901.
2. Marriage Register. Johnston County Courthouse; Smithfield, North Carolina.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 Acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	745000	3,938,230	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

For Boundary description please see attached map.

Another eye witness, from the 72nd Regiment of North Carolina Troops, also described the Last Review, "The regiment remained in camp near Smithfield until 10 April. During this time our corps under command of General Hardee was reviewed by General Johnston, General Hardee, Governor Vance and others. There was not in the grand parade of that day - the last grand review of the Confederate Army - a more soldierly body of troops than the Junior Reserves. Later in the day, Governor Vance made a stirring speech to the North Carolina Troops, which by its eloquence aroused enthusiasm and caused fire of patriotism to burn more brightly in our hearts. On 10 April we begun our last retreat before Sherman." ⁸

Everitt P. Stevens lived in the house until his death in 1878. After his death the property went to his fourth wife, Mary Jane Stevens.⁹ Currently the house is vacant and the property is being sub-divided for new housing. The present owners, however, have plans to restore the house.

FOOTNOTES

1. Clarence P. Stevens. The Stevens Genealogy and Family History. Clarence P. Stevens; Escalen, California. 1950. p. 72.
2. Register of Wills. Johnston County Courthouse, Smithfield, North Carolina. Will Book I--page 409.
3. Marriage Register 1760-1850. Johnston County Courthouse, Smithfield, North Carolina. Page 257.
4. Ibid. page 490, 561. Everitt's second wife only lived for 10 months.
5. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1895 Vol. XLVI, Part III, page 144.
6. B.L. Ridley, "Last Battles of the War" Confederate Veteran. Confederate Veteran. Vol. III, No. 1, Jan. 1895. page 20.
7. Ibid. Vol III, No. 3, March 1895, page 70.
8. Walter Clark (ed.). Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861-1865. Nash Brothers, Goldsboro, North Carolina 1901. Vol. IV, page 59.
9. Register of Wills. Johnston County Courthouse, Smithfield, North Carolina. Will Book 3, page 203-204. Everitt P. Stevens died in 1878 leaving his entire estate (242 acres of land plus house, etc.) to his wife Mary Jane Stevens.

JMB 1024-0018
EXP 12-31-84

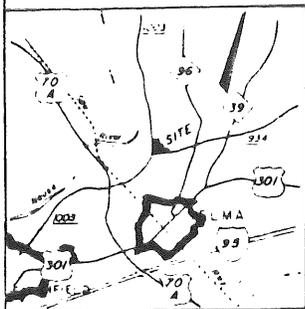
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES - Continued. . . .

3. Register of Wills. Johnston County Courthouse, Smithfield, North Carolina.

4. Ridley, B. L. "Last Battles of the War"
Confederate Veteran. Vol. III, No. 1, Jan. 1895.

5. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1895.

6. Stevens, Clarence P. The Stevens Genealogy and Family History. Stevens, Clarence P.; Escalen, California. 1950.



Vicinity Map

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF LENOIR
 I, the undersigned, being duly qualified, do hereby certify that the map of the proposed subdivision of the land shown on the reverse hereof has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police, and that the same has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police.

DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH
 I, the undersigned, being duly qualified, do hereby certify that the map of the proposed subdivision of the land shown on the reverse hereof has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police.

DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
 I, the undersigned, being duly qualified, do hereby certify that the map of the proposed subdivision of the land shown on the reverse hereof has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police.

DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE
 I, the undersigned, being duly qualified, do hereby certify that the map of the proposed subdivision of the land shown on the reverse hereof has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police.

DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

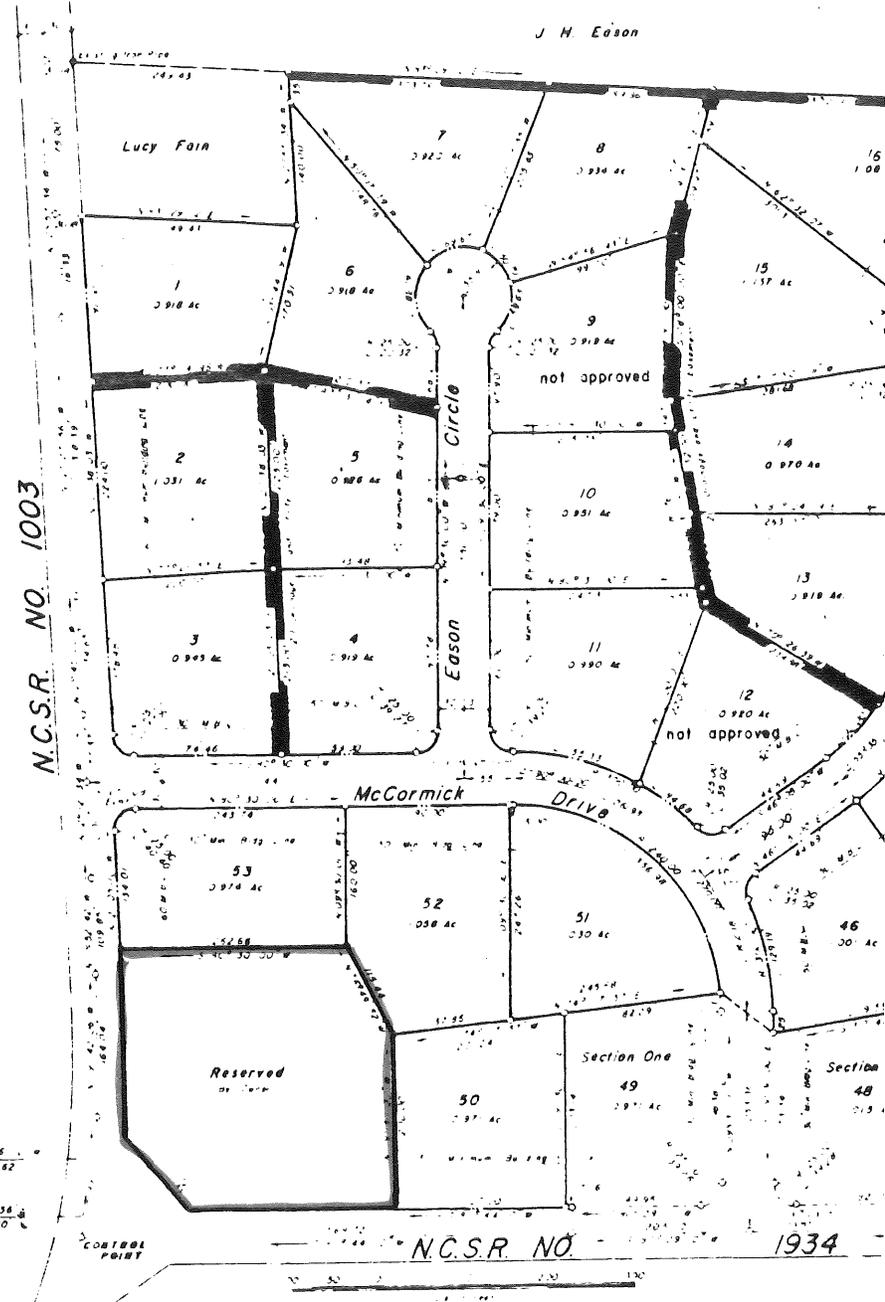
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE
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DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE
 I, the undersigned, being duly qualified, do hereby certify that the map of the proposed subdivision of the land shown on the reverse hereof has been approved by the Board of Health and the Board of Public Safety and the Board of Fire and Police.

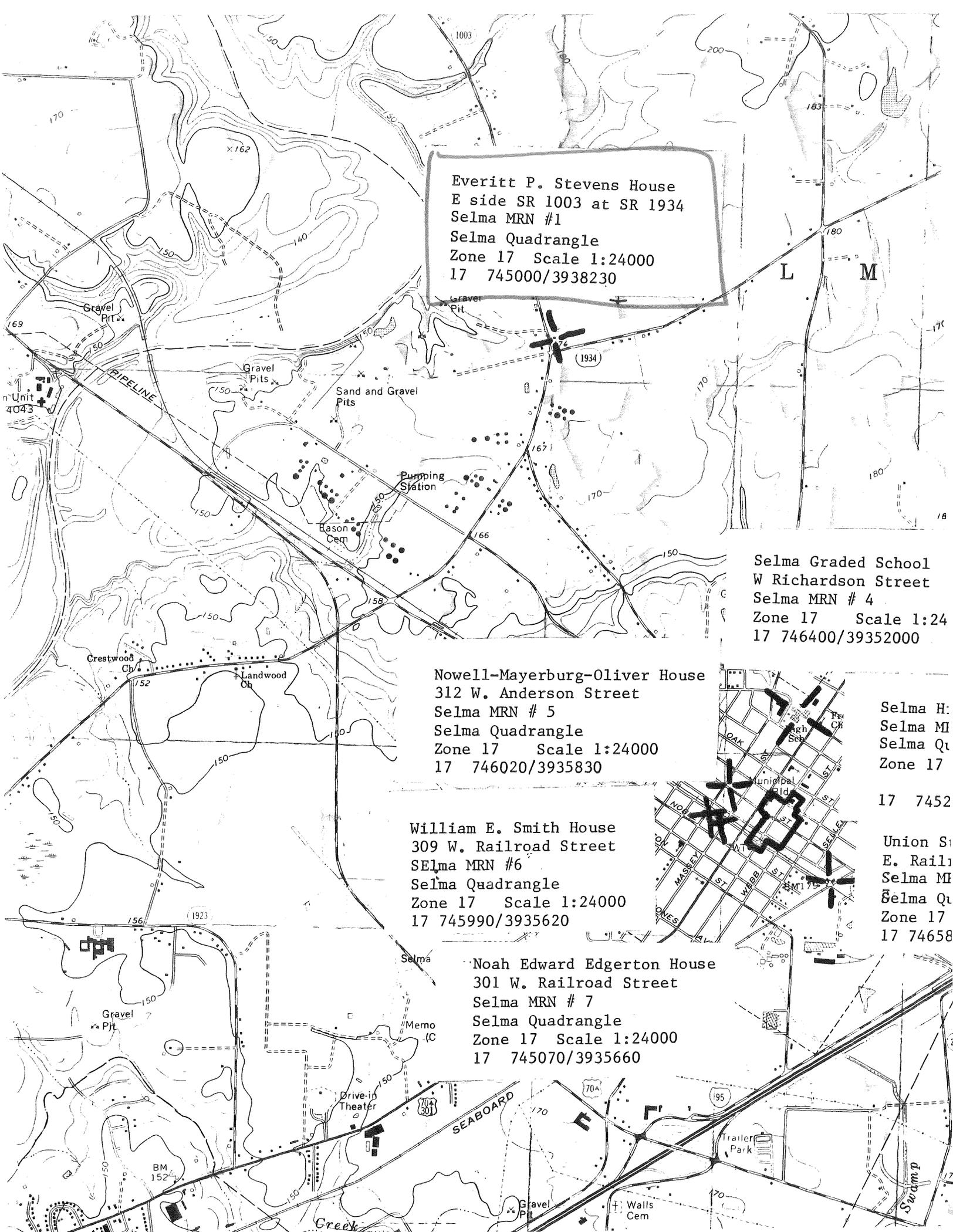
DATE _____
 OFFICE _____

Note: A fire load study and drainage statement is attached showing the fire load and roof of each of several where shown thereon.



Boundaries of Everitt P. Stevens House

Consists of a two acre plot, located at the northeast corner of the intersection of SR 1003 and SR 1934, as outlined on the accompanying map, being a separate plot in a new subdivision and includes the house and principal outbuildings.



Everitt P. Stevens House
E side SR 1003 at SR 1934
Selma MRN #1
Selma Quadrangle
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000
17 745000/3938230

Selma Graded School
W Richardson Street
Selma MRN # 4
Zone 17 Scale 1:24
17 746400/39352000

Nowell-Mayerburg-Oliver House
312 W. Anderson Street
Selma MRN # 5
Selma Quadrangle
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000
17 746020/3935830

Selma H
Selma M
Selma Q
Zone 17

17 7452

William E. Smith House
309 W. Railroad Street
Selma MRN #6
Selma Quadrangle
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000
17 745990/3935620

Union S
E. Rail
Selma M
Selma Q
Zone 17
17 74658

Noah Edward Edgerton House
301 W. Railroad Street
Selma MRN # 7
Selma Quadrangle
Zone 17 Scale 1:24000
17 745070/3935660

