

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Black Jack

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
John Hilliard House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
S.R. 1510, south of intersection with S.R. 1500

CITY OR TOWN:  
Red Oak vicinity      Second Congressional District  
The Hon. L. H. Fountain

STATE North Carolina	CODE 37	COUNTY: Nash	CODE 127
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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) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mr. Hyman L. Battle and Mr. Thomas B. Battle

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Rocky Mount Hills	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Nash County Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37
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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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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: North Carolina	COUNTY: Nash	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Black Jack is a well-preserved late Georgian plantation house, with an unpretentious dignity provided by its good proportions and the consistent use of simple, well-executed details throughout. Most of the original fabric apparently survives, though some dates from 1935 renovation. Details of construction provide evidence that it may originally have been a smaller (one-and-one-half-story) house, enlarged in the Federal era. The main block is a two-story frame structure, three bays wide and two deep, covered with beaded weatherboard and having a gable roof with a molded box cornice. The surround is the same as used on the windows. A large, double-shoulder brick chimney laid in one-to-eight common bond occurs at each end; each has a molded cap. Fenestration is consistent, displaying diminution from nine-over-nine to six-over-nine sash on the front (west) and rear facades. The ends have four-over-four sash at both levels and in the gables. Most of the windows have simple molded frames. Both a single-story shed extension and gable additions have been added to the rear facade, terminating in a full-length screened-in porch. The front facade has a single-story pedimented center bay entrance porch which was reconstructed on the foundations of the original porch. The front door consists of eight raised panels and still retains its wooden box lock. The surround is the same as used on the windows.

The interior of Black Jack follows a traditional hall-and-parlor plan and has handsome late Georgian finish. The parlor is treated with a wainscot consisting of two ranges of raised panels and a simple molded chair rail. The walls are plastered, and a wide, deeply molded cornice carries around the room. There are simple, wide molded door architraves and narrower window architraves. The large mantel has an arched opening with plaster surround and beaded architrave surmounted by three raised panels and a heavy, molded shelf. The back band is deeply molded.

The parlor has a flush-sheathed wainscot with a narrow molded chair rail, and the same door and window architraves used in the hall. It appears that the original cornice has been replaced with a narrower one and the mantel is not original, but very similar in design to the mantel in the hall. The doors in both rooms contain six panels, raised on one side, flat on the other and hung on HL hinges. A small door with six raised panels provides access to a closet beneath the stair.

The enclosed stair with winders ascends from the hall to the second floor, which maintains the same floor plan. The two rooms are treated identically with simple molded door and window architraves, and beaded chair rails and baseboard. The mantels are very simple, consisting of a square opening with a plaster surround, and a wide molded architrave. Small chamfered, flat board shelves have been added to them, resting directly on the architraves, supported by simple, unadorned curvilinear brackets. The doors on the second floor are the same as on the first. An enclosed stair with winders and diagonal sheathing leads from the northerly room to the attic, which is fully sheathed.

The rear additions are all far more recent than the original construction and serve as cooking and added sleeping areas. There are also a number of dependencies around the house of greatly varying ages, including one log outbuilding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Black Jack is among the earliest and best-preserved plantation houses in Nash County. Apparently built for planter John Hilliard about 1800, the simple two-story dwelling exemplifies the retardataire use of Georgian stylistic elements and the fine traditional craftsmanship characteristic of the area. The house is one of a few plantation houses surviving from the early nineteenth century when nearby Hilliardston flourished as the center of a notable plantation social and economic system; the area around Hilliardston was the first settled and long the wealthiest part of Nash County.

The house now called "Black Jack," after the oaks in the yard, was probably built by John Hilliard on land he had inherited from his father, Isaac, in 1790. The building date is uncertain but the house is stylistically similar to the nearby "Meadows," built by John's brother, Robert Carter Hilliard, probably about 1800.

John Hilliard was born in 1773 in Nash County, attended the University of North Carolina in 1798 and served two terms in the state House of Commons of 1802 and 1803. On January 5, 1807, he married Elizabeth Barker Tunstall and their son, Robert Carter Hilliard, was born at his father's plantation in 1808. Robert C. Hilliard studied medicine at Baltimore Medical College in Baltimore, Maryland, and represented Nash County in the 1830 session of the House of Commons. He married Mary Rebecca Harrison Walker.

Dr. Hilliard received the house in the final settlement of his father's estate in 1830. John Hilliard died in 1814, leaving minor children. (His widow remarried Dr. Joseph Arrington, and lived at his plantation.) After financial reverses, Dr. Hilliard was forced to sell his plantation in a sheriff's sale of 1840, and moved his family to New Iberia, Louisiana, where he died in 1867. Joshua Watson purchased the plantation from Hilliard in 1840, and in 1875 the property passed into the Tucker family who in 1883 sold it by deed of mortgage to T. P. Braswell. He in turn left the property to his granddaughter, Mamie Braswell, who married Hyman Battle. Her sons, Hyman and Thomas Battle, now own Black Jack.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research by John Baxton Flowers, III, survey specialist; architectural description by Neil Pearson, consultant.  
 Bodie, John Bennett. Southside Virginia Families. Pacific Coast Publishers California, 1956.  
 Nash County Records, Nash County Courthouse, Nashville, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).  
 Nash County Records, Division 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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36°	05'	43"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		77°	52'	31"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Survey and Planning Unit  
 ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives and History DATE: 15 July 1974  
 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 Thornton W. Mitchell  
 Title Acting Director, Division of Archives and History  
 Date 15 July 1974

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

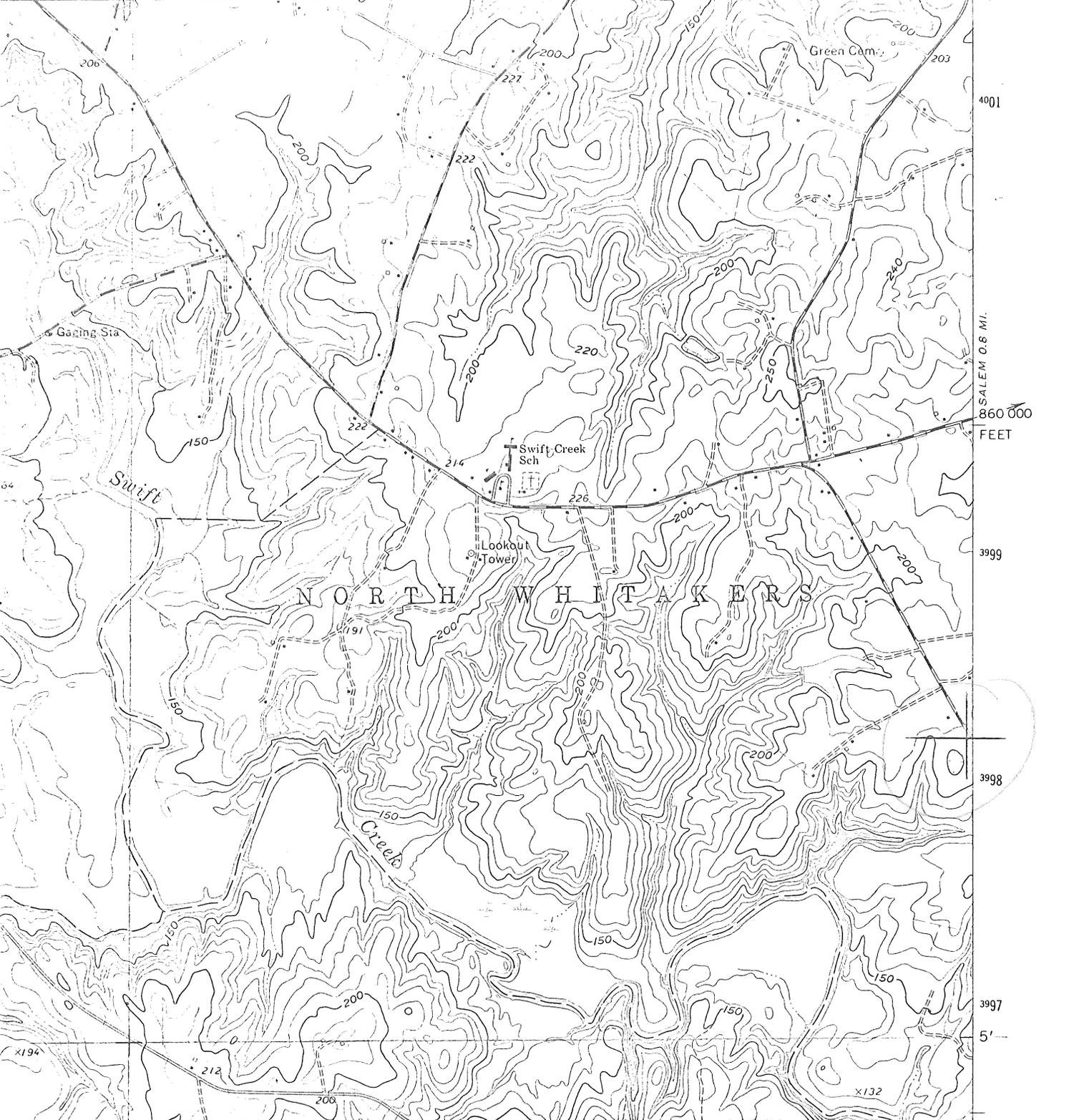
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SALEM 0.6 MI.  
860 000  
FEET

3999

3998

3997

3996

Black Jack  
Red Oak vicinity  
North Carolina

USGS Map, Red Oak Quadrangle  
Scale: 1: 24,000  
Date: 1963

<u>Latitude</u>			<u>Longitude</u>		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
36	05	43	77	52	31

