

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Ayr Mount

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
St. Mary's Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hillsborough

STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37      COUNTY: Orange      CODE: 135

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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kirkland

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Ayr Mount

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

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Orange County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East Margaret Lane

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Building Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East Capitol and Independence Avenue, S.E.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: D. C.      CODE: 11

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COUNTY: Orange

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ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

## 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 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

Ayr Mount, an early nineteenth century house built of brick laid in Flemish bond, consists of a two-story main block flanked by single-story wings. Both the three-bay main block and the two-bay wings have steep gable roofs and high molded water tables beneath which are small eight-paned basement windows.

The central entrance of the north (front) facade is protected by a single-story porch with a hip roof supported by chamfered posts. This porch, which extends across the three bays of the main block, was built about 1894, replacing a smaller wooden portico which covered only the central entrance bay. The windows on the front of the main block and the wings are all alike, having nine-over-nine sash and stone lintels surmounted by flat arches. The windows on the sides and rear of the house are also topped by flat arches but lack the stone lintels. A fine modillion cornice extends across the facade of the central block and the wings.

The rear of the main block has five windows on the first level and three on the second with a projecting brick entrance to the cellar in the left bay under the water table. Each gable end contains two small windows with six-over-six sash. An off-center interior end chimney rises from the rear slope of each gable. The gable of each wing is similarly treated, having two small windows and a chimney rising behind the ridge of the roof.

The interior of the main block features a transverse hall with two unequal rooms beyond. The wings are entered through doorways at either end of the hall. The interior of Ayr Mount exhibits consistent handling of decorative elements throughout the house. All rooms have plaster walls above a paneled wainscot. This paneling usually consists of a range of small horizontal raised panels above a range of larger vertical ones. The windows and doors have paneled reveals and soffits. The mantels on projecting chimney breasts are more or less elaborate variations on a basic design which combines panels with variously fashioned pilasters and moldings. The fine detail of the woodwork, together with the subtle relationship of the repetition and variety, is largely responsible for the beauty of the interior.

The largest room is the southwest parlor, which contains the most elaborate mantel in the house. This mantel features a reeded cushion frieze and bands of incised geometric designs supported by reeded pilasters. The paneled overmantel reaches to the ceiling and is topped by a corbel cornice consisting of pointed pendants, which carries around the entire room. The room in the west wing contains a mantel which has a paneled overmantel similar to that in the large parlor but not as ornate. A molded shelf is supported by a pair of small consoles above reeded pilasters. The cornice is similar to that in the southwest parlor.

The southeast parlor features a less elaborate mantel without an overmantel. It has two cornice shelves, the lower resting on reeded pilasters; the second, which provides the mantel shelf, is supported by shorter reeded pilasters. To the right of the fireplace is a ceiling-high cupboard with solid paneled doors. At the top of the cupboard is a row of pierced dentils

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

7.

surmounted by a molded cornice which carries around the room. The room in the east wing has the same arrangement with a similar mantel and a cupboard which lacks the row of dentils.

The second floor is approached by an open-string stair rising in three flights from the left side of the hall. The stair has wave design brackets, balusters square in section, and an unmolded rail which terminates in a scrolled newel. The paneled wainscot continues up the stair but is flat-paneled rather than raised as in the hall.

The plan of the second level is the same as the first. The interiors, although not as elaborate, are quite similar to those on the first floor. Each mantel has panels and reeded pilasters. Doors at each end of the hall open into the finished attics of the wings, neither of which contains a fireplace. An open string stair rises in two flights from the right side of the second floor hall to a finished attic. The treatment of this stair is in the same manner as the main stair with flat paneled wainscot, square balusters, and scrolled newel. It is unusual to find such an elaborate secondary stair. The upper flight has been enclosed recently to conserve heat. There are two simple mantels on the third floor, each having a molded shelf above vertical flat panels. The wainscot is of plain horizontal flush sheathing.

3. 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 type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Kirkland is thought to have arrived in Hillsborough between 1780 and 1790. By 1810 he had built a brick house on a large tract of land formerly owned by William Courtney. The house, called "Ayr Mount," apparently derived its name from the town of Ayr, Scotland, the Kirkland family home.

Kirkland died in 1836, leaving his estate to his wife, Margaret Scott Kirkland. Subsequently their son, John Umstead Kirkland, acquired Ayr Mount from the settlement of his mother's estate. John lived in the house until his death in 1879, whereupon the property descended to his wife, Elizabeth A. Simpson Kirkland. On July 16, 1883, Samuel S. Kirkland, son of John and Elizabeth Kirkland, acting as trustee for Mrs. Hattie McLaren Kirkland (widow of John Kirkland, Jr.) and her children, purchased from Elizabeth's estate 360 acres near Hillsborough "known as Kirkland Home Tract and including Ayr Mount." In 1895 Hattie Kirkland made improvements to the house which included the present porch on the main facade. In 1908 Mrs. Kirkland died intestate, and Ayr Mount passed to her six children. Samuel Simpson Kirkland, her only surviving child, now owns and lives in Ayr Mount.

Ayr Mount, one of the finest early houses in the Hillsborough area, is especially notable for its superlative woodwork and unusual floor plan. It is rare today to find a house which retains so much of its original fabric, has been so sympathetically adapted to modern life, and has been lived in throughout its history by the descendants of its builder.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lefler, Hugh T., and Paul Wager (eds.), Orange County: 1752-1952. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The Orange Printshop, 1953.

Orange County Records, Orange County Courthouse, Hillsborough, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

Orange 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
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	36°	04'	30"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	79°	06'	28"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8 Acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John B. Wells, III, Survey Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: March 11, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 East Jones Street

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Dr. H. G. Jones

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date March 11, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 \_\_\_\_\_



Ayr Mount  
 St. Mary's Road  
 Hillsborough, North Carolina

Champion Map Corporation  
 P. O. Box 17435  
 Charlotte, North Carolina  
 Scale: 3/8"/1000 feet  
 no date



<u>Latitude</u>			<u>Longitude</u>		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
36°	04'	30"	79°	06'	28"



**HILLSBOROUGH, N.C.**

All changes and corrections in this map are the property of Champion Map Corporation.

