

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina
COUNTY: Perquimans
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sutton-Newby House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Not for publication, see continuation sheet 2

CITY OR TOWN:
New Hope Township

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First
The Hon. Walter B. Jones

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Perquimans CODE: 143

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. Clyde L. Russell

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 3

CITY OR TOWN:
Hertford

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Perquimans County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Church Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hertford

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
East Capitol and Independence Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D. C.

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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2. Location

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Southwest of junction of S.R. 1300 and S.R. 1303

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 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

The Sutton-Newby House is a rather small one-and-one-half story eighteenth century dwelling with medieval elements. It has frame front and rear elevations; originally both ends were of brick, but only the west brick end remains intact.

The four-bay front (north) facade is covered by a shed porch which carries around the east shed addition; most of its fabric is probably replaced, but evidently a full-width porch was an original or early feature of the house, for the facade beneath the porch is covered with wide flush boards. These form backs for one of the more important features of the house--the porch benches, one to either side of the front door. These are themselves backless and extend nearly the length of the facade. Each consists of a long single board with rounded edges, supported on sawn bracket-like bases, one in the middle and one at either end; at the ends flanking the door the support rises in a sinuous J-shaped curved top above seat level, serving as bench end. The robust curvilinear supports are apparently of Georgian design and strongly resemble elements employed in the judge's bench at the Chowan County Courthouse (built 1767) and in some pew bases in Christ Church, Arlington, Virginia (built 1767-1773). It should be noted, however, that somewhat similar benches occur on early nineteenth century houses porches in Edgecombe County. The door, in the second bay from the left, has been replaced, but the windows, set like the door in molded frames, contain nine-over-six sash with wide muntins. The two gable dormers are apparently replacements; the absence of attic-level end windows suggests the original existence of dormers.

The west end of the house is of brick laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers; there are closers at each end and, in the gable, above a course of English bond, the headers are arranged in chevron patterns paralleling the slope of the gable. The massive Flemish bond chimney has double shoulders, with very steep paved weatherings, a freestanding stack, and a molded cap. The brickwork shows that originally the elevation was symmetrical, with a steeply sloping roofline on each side, but the rear roofline was changed to allow the roof to extend over the rear shed extension, which may have been raised from an earlier one-story shed. A second-level window has been inserted to the rear of the chimney. The two window openings at the first level have nine-over-six sash and are topped by wooden lintels; some reworking of brick around the windows is evident. A second chimney occurs at the east end, but the brick end is gone, and the chimney is covered by a shed addition.

The interior of the house has undergone alterations on the first floor, but some of the fabric survives, and the stair and second floor retain early elements. The plan is somewhat changed and may have had a center hall. Door and window frames are molded, and the window architraves continue around four sides and have no sill. A number of doors with six robust raised panels, hung on HL hinges with rosehead nails, survive as well. In the left front room there is a simple, rather curious mantel of uncertain period. Two vertical boards flank the square fire opening and the horizontal board above it, and the inner and outer sides of each element are deeply and roundly chamfered, terminating at each corner in a lamb's tongue. The simple shelf on brackets appears to be considerably later.

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7.

Rising back to front from about the center of the rear extension is a very handsome closed-string Georgian stair, with posts square in section with molded caps, and turned balusters carrying a heavy molded handrail. If it is original, its position may have been altered when the rear extension was constructed or, if a one-story shed preceded the present extension, the stair may have risen from that. The finish of the second floor is consistent and simple, although the four six-panel raised-paneled doors, leading to the two rooms on each side of a small central hall, have different kinds of moldings. The molded door frames are simple as are the baseboards beneath plastered walls. This floor was apparently unheated.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian!	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Exploration and Settlement</u>
<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

The Sutton-Newby House, probably one of the oldest surviving buildings in the state, is important as one of the few extant examples of the medieval style of dwelling in the state. It is a member of the small group of eighteenth century frame houses with brick ends in northeast North Carolina; the group includes the Myers-White House and the Old Brick House. The patterned glazed brickwork and the form also relate to the Newbold-White House.

The Sutton-Newby House, much altered, provides few clues to its age other than the suggestion of early eighteenth century vintage. The history of the property is inconclusive as to date of building, as some part of the farm on which it stands has been occupied for nearly three centuries. (The 1733 Moseley Map shows Sutton's Creek near the present house, a creek name that survives to the present.) There are two key dates in considering possible construction dates--1713 and 1745. In 1713 Joseph Sutton I (1673-1724) received a grant for the house site, although the land had apparently been his since about 1682 (when he inherited it from his father Nathaniel) and had been included in a grant given his mother in 1684. Possibly in 1713 he was clearing his title preparatory to building a house, but it is not clear whether he lived on the immediate site of the present house or on the lower half of the farm.

In 1745 Joseph Sutton II (ca. 1700-1771) purchased the land lying between the present house site and the main road; the house land crosses this tract. It is possible he was rounding out his boundaries preparatory to building a house. The inconvenience of having a lane crossing a neighbor's land hints at a construction date after this purchase but does not of course prove it.

Joseph Sutton II had inherited the house site in 1724. He married in 1733 and began raising a family larger than that of his father. (Thus, if he did not build the house he may well have been responsible for its early enlargement.) He was a prominent planter who represented Perquimans in the House of Commons between 1739 and 1760. He was also a justice of the peace and one of the original directors of the Town of Hertford. His landing on Suttons Creek below his dwelling house was an official inspection place. On his removal to a farm on Little River about 1765 he gave the farm on Suttons Creek to his son Joseph III, confirming the gift by will in 1771. Joseph Sutton III (ca. 1735-ca. 1794) was a captain of militia.

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8.

He owned the house until 1787 when financial difficulties reduced his estate. In that year it was purchased by his son-in-law, Francis Newby.

Francis Newby (ca. 1752-1807) was a planter, keeper of the Hertford ferry, justice of the peace, and member of the House of Commons (1795). He removed to the house and willed it to his son Joseph in 1807. Joseph Newby owned the house until his death about 1819. It then fell to his children, of whom Joseph B. Newby was the last survivor; the property was sold to James Whedbee in 1841. During the remainder of the nineteenth century the house had a number of short-term owners, some of them non-residents. One of them, Nathan Davis, has left his name with the house, which is locally referred to as the Newby-Davis House. In 1914 the house was purchased by George B. Benton (1866-1943). Benton was a trustee of Woodland Methodist Church. At his death in 1943 the property passed to his children and in 1961 it became the sole possession of his daughter Beatrice and her husband Clyde L. Russell, the present owners.

Despite alterations and the uncertainty of its history, the house is of considerable significance to the early development of domestic architecture in North Carolina. In his study of the medieval style in the south, H. C. Forman cites the house--referred to as the Davis House--as one of the state's few examples of the medieval characteristics more common in Virginia and elsewhere in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He notes particularly "its quaint gables decorated with chevrons in glazed brick." And, like T. T. Waterman in The Early Architecture of North Carolina, Forman calls attention to the early rear addition rooms, a transitional step from the one-room-deep to the two-room-deep plan. The medieval form of the house relates it to the Newbold-White House, also in Perquimans County, and to the Old Brick House in Pasquotank County, which shares the brick end-frame front and rear combination, as does the gambrel-roof Myers-White House in Perquimans County. Thus the house, in spite of several changes, some quite early, is a rare and important example of early building trends in the part of the state settled first, having significance not only in itself but in its relationship with other early dwellings.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research by Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., consultant; architectural description by Catherine W. Cockshutt, survey supervisor.
 Forman, Henry Chandlee. The Architecture of the Old South: The Medieval Style 1585-1850. New York: Russell and Russell, 1948, 1967.
 Perquimans County Records, Perquimans County Courthouse, Hertford, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Perquimans 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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		36 ° 11 ' 16 "	76 ° 22 ' 56 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives and History

DATE: 29 April 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
 Thornton W. Mitchell

Title Acting Director, Division of Archives and History

Date 29 April 1974

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

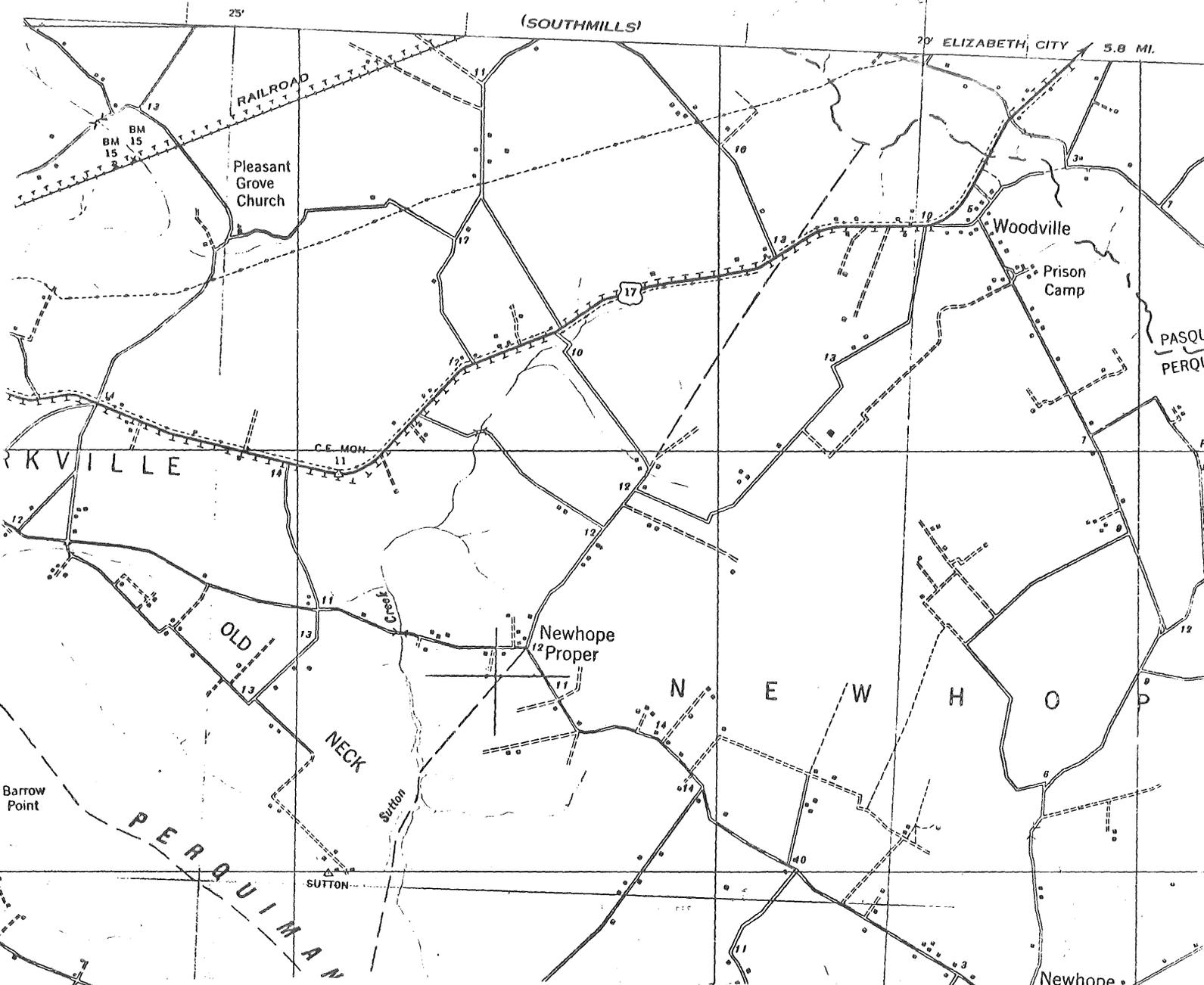
ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WAR DEPARTMENT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U.S. ARMY



Sutton-Newby House
New Hope Township
North Carolina

USGS Map, Hertford Quadrangle
Scale: 1: 62,500
Date: 1941

Latitude

Longitude

degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
36	11	16	76	22	56

