

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Benjamin May-Lewis House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number N. side of US 264-A, 0.3 mile E. of junction with US 264, 0.2 mile down asphalt lane not for publication

city, town Farmville
x vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state North Carolina code 037 county Pitt code 147

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" 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
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name B. M. Lewis Heirs c/o Mrs. Benjamin May Lewis
Eva May Lewis Walker
1700 Cavendish Court
Charlotte, NC 28211

street & number P.O. Box 111

city, town Farmville vicinity of state North Carolina

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pitt County Courthouse

street & number West Third Street

city, town Greenville state North Carolina 27834

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic and Architectural Resources of the Tar-Neuse River Basin
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records N.C. Division of Archives and History
Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section

city, town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Benjamin May-Lewis House is a handsome frame dwelling whose conservative form and carefully crafted Federal-Greek Revival finish typify the finest houses of its period and region. The house sits about two-tenths of a mile off the north side of US 264-A at the end of an asphalt lane. Its long front yard is enclosed by a wooden fence. Cultivated farmland bounds the house and yard to the east and west. A large fenced pasture covers the sloping terrain to the north behind the house and contains the May-Lewis family cemetery.

The May-Lewis House appears to have been constructed in the 1830s as a single-pile, two-story dwelling with rear shed sleeping rooms and a Federal finish. In the 1850s, the house received a substantial remodeling. It was probably during this time that the rear shed rooms were raised to two stories thus giving the house its double-pile form. Resting on brick piers, the house has an asymmetrical, three-bay front (south) elevation. Pairs of brick chimneys with free-standing stacks stand at each end of the gable roof (east and west elevations). All four chimneys are now stuccoed and painted. A boxed cornice with an applied base molding extends across the facade. Plain weatherboards protect the exterior and terminate at either end with Greek Revival cornerboards. Fenestration on both levels of the front elevation and on the first floor of the side elevations is nine-over-nine lights per sash. Second floor windows on the side elevations contain six-over-six sash. Only the windows on the facade retain their turn-of-the-century shutters. All windows are set in handsome, mitered, tripartite surrounds with simple sills. The same surround treatment frames the front entrance and its four-light transom.

A replacement, turn-of-the-century porch with a hip roof and square-in-section posts dominates the facade and wraps around the east side elevation. A circa 1909 documentary photograph in the possession of the owner shows the same hip roof porch but with Colonial Revival columns and a turned balustrade. A kitchen and dining room wing with open porches on its east and west sides was added to the rear (north) elevation circa 1907.¹ Both porches have been enclosed and the east porch was remodeled for a den in the 1950s.

On the interior, the Federal-Greek Revival finish reflects the periods of prosperity enjoyed by the original owner. Initially constructed on a hall-and-parlor plan, it was altered to a center-hall plan during the 1850s remodeling. Many Federal elements such as chair rails, baseboards, and flat panel doors with applied moldings and Carpenter style locks remain throughout the house. However, at the time of the remodeling some Federal woodwork was replaced with Greek Revival elements. In the parlor, a Greek Revival beaded ovolo molding was added at the base of the chair rail and tripartite window and door surrounds were updated by changing the back band molding.

The robust, three-part, Greek Revival parlor mantel, derived from the patternbooks of Asher Benjamin, was added to the existing scheme of panelling. A duplicate mantel was installed in the bedroom opposite the parlor. An enclosed stair rises to the second floor which also displays a combination of elements including simple Federal mantels and Greek Revival door surrounds. The attic is reached by an enclosed stair and is divided into two rooms by a partitioning wall. A board-and-batten door with a wooden box lock allows access between the rooms. The attic is fully plastered.

More recent remodelings have been minor and include the conversion of the northwest first floor room in the main block into a bathroom, the extension of the enclosed stair to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Architectural Description Item number 7

Page 1

For NPS use only
received
date entered

the second floor to reduce steepness, and the creation of an opening between the parlor and the northeast room.

Numerous outbuildings remain on the farm. In the northeast corner of the yard beside the house sits a small frame antebellum smokehouse with a gable-roof. A large group of farm-related structures are situated in a row west of the front yard. This group consists of a packhouse, packhouse/shelter, dairy, two grain bins, stables (12 stall with loft), tractor shed, and general storage shed.² Except for the metal grain bins, all are of frame construction and date from the late-nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. A second cluster of farm buildings is located in the southwest corner of the farm on the north side of US 264-A. A tenant house, storage shed, packhouse, and four tobacco barns, all of frame construction, comprise this group. They appear to date from the early to mid-twentieth century. A large frame granary/dovecot, the only other antebellum outbuilding known to have been on the farm, stood with this group until five years ago when it burned.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Benjamin May-Lewis House

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Architectural Description Item number 7

Page 2

NOTES

¹Interview with Mrs. Blanche Lewis Rouse, Farmville, NC, 26 February, 1985.

²Some of these farm buildings were located in the front yard but were moved approximately 150 feet west to their present site. Interview with Mrs. Eva S. Lewis, wife of Benjamin May Lewis, Jr., Farmville, NC, 2 February 1982.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number

8

Page 1

The Benjamin May-Lewis House is located in western Pitt County, near the town of Farmville. The imposing house was constructed in several stages over a period of years and it has been continuously owned and generally occupied by the descendants of Benjamin May III.

The early history of the house is sketchy. It appears that the Federal style core of the house was constructed in the 1830s by Benjamin May III.¹ In 1850, Benjamin May III owned 1,824 acres of land valued at \$6,729.² By 1860, the year May died, the real estate value of his property had jumped to \$30,000 which would indicate major improvements had been made to the mansion house during that time.³

The May family came to the Pitt County section of what was then Beaufort County in the mid-eighteenth century. One John May, a native of Scotland came from Virginia to North Carolina in April 1745 through the Albemarle section and into Beaufort County where he left three sons--John, Jr., Benjamin, and James.⁵ Apparently, John May lived in the area for a number of years and then moved on to Richmond County, Georgia, where he raised a new set of children and where he died in 1785.⁶ Major Benjamin May (1737-1808) became a prominent man in Pitt County affairs and "acquired thousands of acres of land in the Farmville vicinity shaping a productive acreage out of the wilderness."⁷

The May-Lewis House is located on a portion of the lands once owned by Major May. In 1790, Benjamin May II, the oldest son of Major May, received 300 acres "on the South Side of Little Cotentney Creek" and a Negro slave from his father.⁸ By the time of his death in 1815, his land holdings totaled 2,938½ acres.⁹ Benjamin May II was also active in political affairs. He was a Federalist and represented Pitt County in the State House of Commons from 1804 to 1809 and in the State Senate from 1810 to 1812.¹⁰

Benjamin May II died intestate in 1815. In the "Division of Lands of Benjamin May II," dated January 28, 1818, the child, Benjamin May III, was allotted 460 acres.¹¹ This is most likely the tract upon which the May-Lewis House was later built. Evidently, Benjamin May II's widow, Penelope Grimes May (1771-1845), remained the guardian of their younger children and managed the lands of those children too young to assume the responsibility. She is recorded as the head of household in the 1820 census.¹² In 1830, she is listed as the family head of a four-member household and as owning sixteen slaves.¹³

During the 1830s, Benjamin May III became old enough to manage his farm and prior to 1838, he married Mary Ann Eliza Williams.¹⁴ He is recorded in 1840 as the head of a six-member household and as owning twenty-seven slaves. One of the females was between 60 and 70 years of age which indicates that Penelope May, who died in 1845, was living in his home.¹⁵ Ten years later, he owned 1,824 acres of land valued at \$6,729. Of his land, 600 acres was farmland and 1,224 was woodland. His twenty-nine slaves raised 1,625 bushels of corn, 60 bushels of rye, 325 bushels of peas and beans, 200 bushels of Irish potatoes, 500 bushels of sweet potatoes and livestock worth \$935. In addition, his farm produced 75 pounds of wool and 100 pounds of butter.¹⁶

In 1860, Benjamin May III, like his father before him, died without a will.¹⁷ The 1860 census listed Mary Ann Eliza May as the head of the household. The couple had

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Description

Item number 8

Page 2

produced seven children, two of whom died in childhood. The four children remaining in the household in 1860 were William (age 21), Mary Finetta (age 11), Penelope (age 2), and Benjamin May IV (age 5 months). Slave ownership was broken down as follows: Mary A. E. May-3, William May-2, and minor heirs of Benjamin May, deceased-28.¹⁸ Family tradition has it that:

. . . Mary Ann Eliza Williams [May's]. . . courage during the Civil War days is marked by a bullet hole in a chimney. Yankee soldiers, or carpetbaggers, it is not certain which, tried to steal some horses from the May property. Mary Ann, standing in a side entrance, called to her retainers to shoot the marauders, who shot back at her. The bullet, the story goes, hit the chimney near the doorway and the hole can still be seen.¹⁹

Mary A. E. May petitioned the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in 1860 for her dower from her husband's estate of 1600 acres, more or less.²⁰ This she received and continued to live in the home as guardian of her minor children: Mary Finetta, Penelope, and Benjamin May IV. The oldest children, Martha May Parrott and William May, received their inheritance not long after their father's death.²¹ In August 1866, Mary A. E. May, petitioned the court for a partition of her husband's remaining lands on which she had dower for her three children.²² By September 25, 1866, the partition was complete and the land was divided as follows: Mary Finetta May Lewis-270¼ acres, Penelope May-320 acres, and Benjamin May IV-260 acres.²³ The tract that was allotted to Benjamin May IV included the family home.

At the time of the 1870 census, Mary A. E. May was listed as head of the family with a farm of 1,200 acres valued at \$11,000. They raised 1,500 bushels of corn, 300 bushels of oats, 28 bales of ginned cotton, 15 bushels of peas and beans, and 50 bushels of Irish potatoes. Their livestock was worth \$600 and the value of all farm products was \$6,600.²⁴ Mrs. May presumably acted as agent for her children's lands. The 1,200 acres included 850¼ acres belonging to her children and a 350 acre farm Mrs. May inherited from her father. In 1875, Mary A. E. May exchanged her 350 acre farm for the 320 acre tract allotted to Penelope May Keel in 1866 and for \$1,000 to make up for the difference in acreage between the two tracts.²⁵

Mary A. E. May died in 1887 and left 300 of the 320 acres she obtained from Penelope to her son Benjamin May IV with life estate. At his death, it was to pass "to his heirs" and if he were "without heirs. . . it was to revert back to his next of kin."²⁶ Shortly before his mother died, Benjamin May married Fannie Lang.²⁷ He and his family lived in the house for several years. Later he moved into Farmville and rented the homeplace to tenants.²⁸

In September 1904, Benjamin May Lewis, Sr. bought 240 acres and the house from Benjamin May IV for \$6,000.²⁹ This was 240 of the 260 acres that Benjamin May IV had received from his father's estate. Benjamin May Lewis was the son of James T. Lewis and Mary Finetta May Lewis.³⁰ His mother, Mary Finetta Lewis was, as previously noted, one of Benjamin May IV's sisters.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 3

Benjamin May Lewis continued to rent the house for several more years. It was not until January 1907 that he and his family moved in.³¹ In 1914, he purchased for \$10,000 the 300 acres Benjamin May IV had inherited from his mother.³² However, since Benjamin May IV did not own it in fee simple, his children were supposed to sign the deed. At that time, only two of his six children signed for him to sell the land as the rest were minors. Before he died in 1916, Benjamin May Lewis conveyed the one-half acre upon which Lewis Chapel Free Will Baptist Church now stands.³³

Benjamin May Lewis, Sr. willed his lands to his children: John B. Lewis, Benjamin May Lewis, Jr., Blanche Lewis Rouse, Effie Lewis Brake, James T. Lewis, and William A. Lewis.³⁴ Because all of Benjamin May IV's children did not sign in 1914 to allow their father to sell the 300 acres, the heirs of Benjamin May Lewis, Sr. had to purchase the shares of Benjamin May IV's (who had also died) heirs in 1930.³⁵ Later four of the heirs of Benjamin May Lewis, Sr. either sold or traded their shares to Benjamin May Lewis, Jr. giving him a total of approximately 432 acres.³⁶ Mrs. Brake kept her share of 108.5 acres.³⁷

Benjamin May Lewis, Jr. was highly regarded in Farmville and in Pitt County. He was involved in extensive agricultural pursuits. From 1934 to 1938, he was a Pitt County Commissioner and chairman from 1936 to 1938. Ben Lewis was "noted for his tenacity" and managed to hold the farm together during the depression of the 1930s. He died on October 1, 1960.³⁸ The May-Lewis House is now owned by his widow, Mrs. Eva S. Lewis.³⁹ Today, the major crops grown on the farm are tobacco, soybeans, wheat, and corn. Cattle are also raised on the farm.

The area surrounding the house should be rich in archaeological remains that could provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Although no excavations have been undertaken at the May-Lewis House, it is quite likely that any trash pits or old wells that may be found will yield useful information concerning the house and its past occupants.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance Item number 8

Page 4

For NPS use only

received

date entered

NOTES

¹Family tradition maintains that the May-Lewis House was built in 1812 by Benjamin May II (1768-1815) as a wedding present for his son Benjamin May III (1813-1860). However, stylistically the house appears to date from the 1830s. Furthermore, in the May-Lewis family cemetery, located near the house, the earliest owner of the house that is buried there is Benjamin May III; "Bullet Hole from Civil War Still Visible in Ben Lewis House," The Farmville Enterprise, N. D., N. P.

²Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Pitt County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, p. 111.

³Division of Lands of Benjamin May [III], 1862, Pitt County Deeds, Book QQ, p. 416.

⁴"Family Burying Grounds Fading From Scene," The Farmville Enterprise, 6 December 1962, N. P.

⁵Jeannette Cox St. Amand Papers, ECU Manuscript Collection, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, "The May Family."

⁶Ibid.

⁷Hugh T. Lefler, History of North Carolina: Family and Personal History (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1956), III, 449.

⁸Benjamin May, Sr. to Benjamin May, Jr., 3 March 1790, Pitt County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Pitt County Courthouse, Greenville, Book M, 251, hereinafter cited as Pitt County Deeds.

⁹Division of Lands of Benjamin May [II], 28 January 1818, Pitt County Deeds, Book AA, 283.

¹⁰James H. Broussard, "The North Carolina Federalists, 1800-1816," The North Carolina Historical Review, Vol. LV, Winter 1978, p. 40. Several sources state that Benjamin May I was a member of the state House of Commons from 1804 to his death in 1808. However, based on this article, this appears to be incorrect. It is most probable that this was actually Benjamin May II who served in the House from 1804 to 1809 and then in the Senate from 1810 to 1812.

¹¹Division of Lands of Benjamin May [II], 28 January 1818, Pitt County Deeds, Book AA, 284.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 5

¹²Fourth Census of the United States, 1820: Pitt County, North Carolina, 543, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

¹³Fifth Census of the United States, 1830: Pitt County, North Carolina, 63, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

¹⁴The exact date of their wedding is not known. However, their first child was born in 1838 thus they were probably married in the mid-1830s.

¹⁵Sixth Census of the United States, 1840: Pitt County, North Carolina, 390, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

¹⁶Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Pitt County, North Carolina Population Schedule, 25, Agricultural Schedule, III, Slave Schedule, 464; microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

¹⁷Laura Foster Renard, The May, Lang, Joyner, Williams Families of North Carolina (Pitt County Area) (Durham: Laura Foster Renard, 1975), p. 15.

¹⁸Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Pitt County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 120; Slave Schedule, 75; microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

¹⁹"Bullet Hole from Civil War Still Visible in Ben Lewis House," The Farmville Enterprise, N. D., N. P.

²⁰Estate Records of Benjamin May [III], Pitt County Estate Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

²¹Division of Lands of Benjamin May [III], 1862, Pitt County Deeds, Book QQ, p. 416.

²²Estate Records of Benjamin May [III], Pitt County Estate Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

²³Division of Lands of Benjamin May [III], 25 September 1866, Pitt County Deeds, Division of Land Book 1, 99.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 6

For NPS use only

received

date entered

- ²⁴Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Pitt County, North Carolina, Agriculture Schedule, 3; microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- ²⁵Thomas E. Keel and Penelope Keel to Mary A. E. May, 28 December 1875, Pitt County Deeds, Book F-3, 10.
- ²⁶Will of Mary A. E. May, 4 March 1881, probated 8 March 1888, Pitt County Wills, Office of the Clerk of Court, Pitt County Courthouse, Greenville, Book 2, 422; hereinafter cited as Pitt County Wills.
- ²⁷Renard, p. 15.
- ²⁸Interview with Mrs. Ruth May Miller, daughter of Benjamin May IV, Sanford NC, 20 April 1982.
- ²⁹Benjamin May [IV] to Benjamin May Lewis, September 1904, Pitt County Deeds, Book W-7, 366.
- ³⁰Renard, p. 16.
- ³¹Interview with Mrs. Blanche Lewis Rouse, daughter of Benjamin May Lewis, Sr., Farmville, NC, 19 April 1982.
- ³²Benjamin May [IV] to Benjamin May Lewis, 4 June 1914, Pitt County Deeds, Book B-11, 315.
- ³³Benjamin May Lewis to Lewis Chapel FWB Church, 1916, Pitt County Deeds, Book E-17, 409.
- ³⁴Will of Benjamin May Lewis, Sr., 31 December 1915, probated 19 June 1916, Pitt County Wills, Book 4, 538.
- ³⁵Ben May, Jr. [V] and wife, Johnnie May, Francis May (wife of William May, deceased), S. K. Miller and wife, Ruth May Miller, J. C. Lashley and wife, Mary May Lashley, Fred May and wife, Eunice May, and Francis May (unmarried) to John B. Lewis, B. M. Lewis, Blanche Lewis Rouse, Effie Lewis Brake, James T. Lewis, and W. A. Lewis, Pitt County Deeds, Book U-18, 207, 210, and 212.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Benjamin May-Lewis House

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 7

³⁶Pitt County Deeds, Books T-23, p. 363, T-23, p. 368, X-21, p. 427, M-23, p. 406, T-23, p. 362, T-23, p. 361, Y-21, p. 245, B-19, p. 383.

³⁷B. M. Lewis to Effie Lewis Brake, 10 January 1941, Pitt County Deeds, Book T-23, 365.

³⁸Interviews with Mrs. Eva S. Lewis, wife of Benjamin May Lewis, Jr., Farmville, NC, 2 February 1982, 30 January 1985; John B. Lewis, Jr., "Children of Benjamin and Artimissia (Mittie) Baker Lewis," Chronicles of Pitt County, North Carolina, ed. Elizabeth H. Copeland (Greenville, N. C.: Pitt County Historical Society, 1982), p. 457.

³⁹Will of Benjamin May Lewis, Jr., probated 5 October 1961, Pitt County Wills, Book 11, 405. Mrs. Eva S. Lewis has a 43% interest in the farm and 57% is in a trust for Mrs. Lewis and her daughter, Eva Lewis Walker.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 202 acres

Quadrangle name Walstonburg, North Carolina (1931)

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	2	6	10	0	2	5	3	9	4	3	1	0	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing									

B

1	8	2	6	1	0	6	5	3	9	4	3	2	7	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing									

C

1	8	2	6	1	2	8	0	3	9	4	4	0	2	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

1	8	2	6	0	0	0	0	3	9	4	4	2	1	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing									

E

Zone		Easting				Northing									

F

Zone		Easting				Northing									

G

Zone		Easting				Northing									

H

Zone		Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached Pitt County tax map #412P, Farmville Township. Property outlined in red.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stanley L. Little, Archives and History Assistant
Eastern Office

organization N.C. Division of Archives & History date March 1, 1985

street & number 117 West 5th Street telephone 919/752-7778

city or town Greenville state North Carolina 27834

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 William S. Little, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date April 18, 1985

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Continuation sheet Historical Significance Item number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

- Broussard, James H. "The North Carolina Federalists, 1800-1816," The North Carolina Historical Review. LV, Winter 1978.
- "Bullet Hole From Civil War Still Visible in Ben Lewis House." The Farmville Enterprise, N. D. [probably late 1961], N. P.
- Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Estate Records of Benjamin May [III], Pitt County Estate Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- "Family Burying Grounds Fading From Scene." The Farmville Enterprise, 6 December 1962, N. P.
- Fifth Census of the United States, 1830, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Fourth Census of the United States, 1820, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Interviews with Mrs. Eva S. Lewis, wife of Benjamin May Lewis, Jr., Farmville, NC, 2 February 1982, 30 January 1985.
- Interview with Mrs. Ruth May Miller, daughter of Benjamin May IV, Sanford, NC, 20 April 1982.
- Lefler, Hugh T. History of North Carolina: Family and Personal History. 4 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1956.
- Lewis, John B., Jr. "Children of Benjamin & Artimissia (Mittie) Baker Lewis. Chronicles of Pitt County, North Carolina. Ed. Elizabeth H. Copeland. Greenville, N. C.: Pitt County Historical Society, 1982.
- Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.
- Pitt County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Pitt County Courthouse, Greenville.
- Pitt County Will Books, Office of the Clerk of Court, Pitt County Courthouse, Greenville.
- Renard, Laura Foster. The May, Lang, Joyner, Williams Families of North Carolina (Pitt County Area). Durham, N. C.: Laura Foster Renard, 1975.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Benjamin May-Lewis House

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

St. Amand, Jeannette Cox, Papers. East Carolina University Manuscript Collection, East Carolina University, Greenville.

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

Sixth Census of the United States, 1840, Pitt County, North Carolina, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville.

Benjamin May-Lewis House

Pitt County

Quad: Walstonburg, N.C.

Zone: 18 Scale: 1:24,000

UTM: Easting Northing

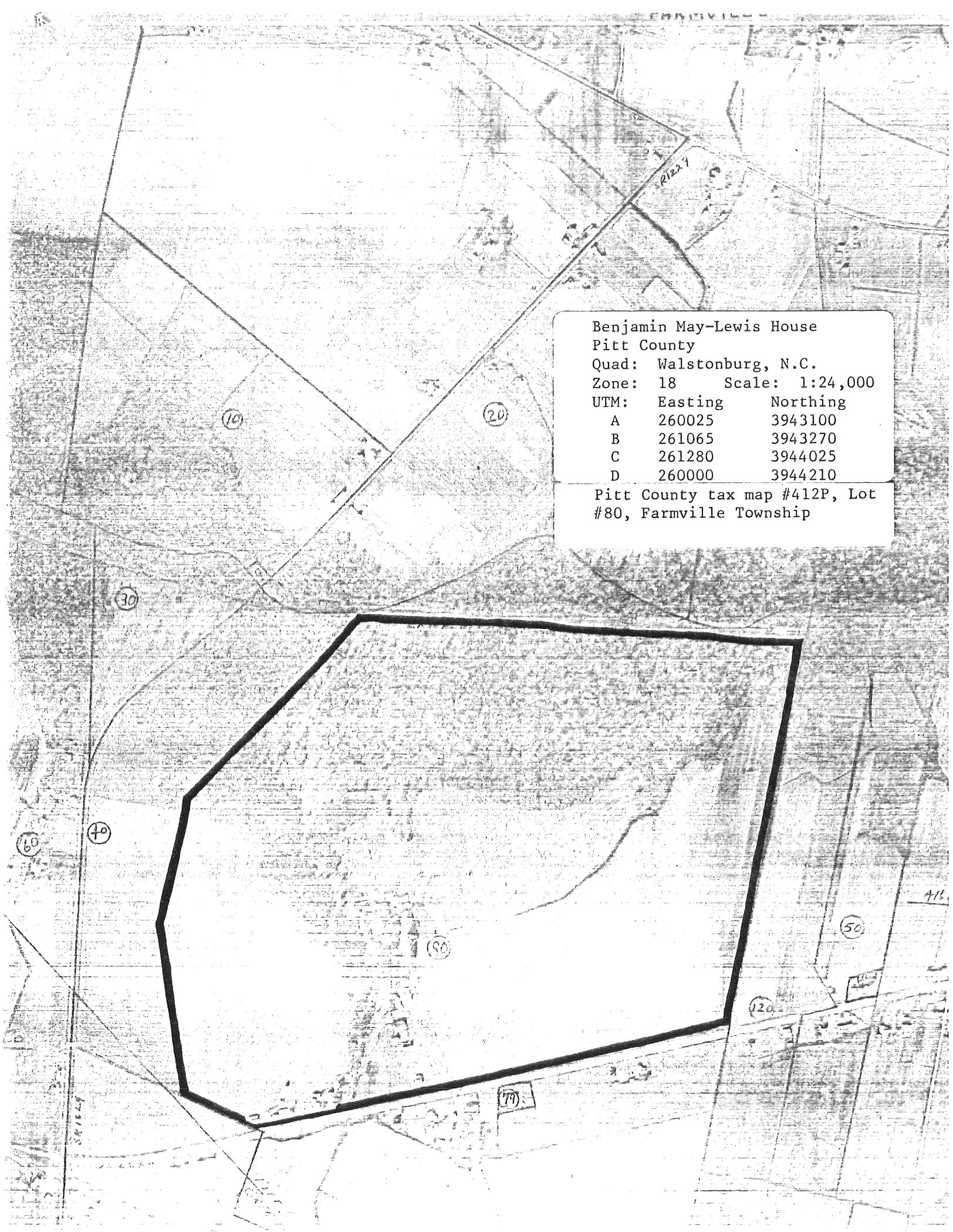
A 260025 3943100

B 261065 3943270

C 261280 3944025

D 260000 3944210

Pitt County tax map #412P, Lot
#80, Farmville Township



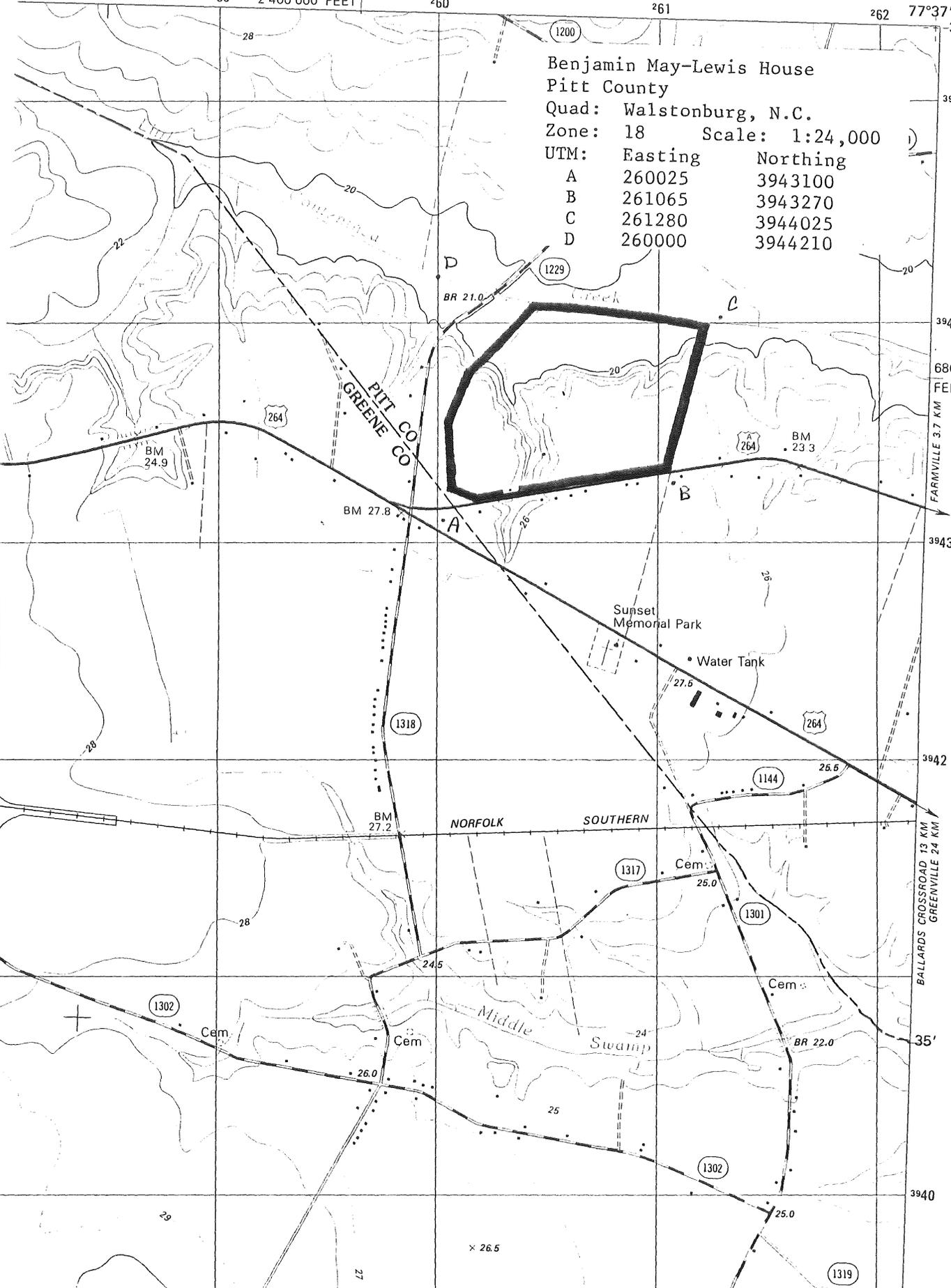
WALSTONBURG QUADRANGLE NORTH CAROLINA 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 FALKLAND 15' QUADRANGLE

5455 II NE
(FALKLAND)

40' 259 2 400 000 FEET 260 261 262 77°37'30" 35°37'30"

Benjamin May-Lewis House
Pitt County
Quad: Walstonburg, N.C.
Zone: 18 Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: Easting Northing
A 260025 3943100
B 261065 3943270
C 261280 3944025
D 260000 3944210



680 000
FEET
FARMVILLE 3.7 KM

BALLARDS CROSSROAD 13 KM
GREENVILLE 24 KM

CONVERSION SCALES

