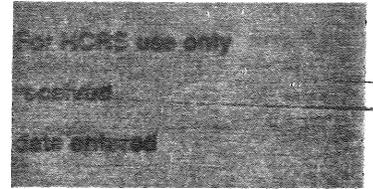


United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections**1. Name**

historic The Gilbert McMillan House and Cemetery

and/or common

**2. Location**street & number Northeast side SR 1325,  
1.6 mi. Northwest of junction with SR1323 not for publicationcity, town Laurel Hill Church  vicinity of congressional district Eighth

state North Carolina code 037 county Scotland code 165

**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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

**4. Owner of Property**name Scotland County Historic Properties Commission  
Dick Brown, Chairman Dixie Guano Company  
Edwin Pate, President

street &amp; number Post Office Box 787

city, town Laurinburg vicinity of state North Carolina 28352

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Register of Deeds, Scotland County Court House

street &amp; number

city, town Laurinburg state North Carolina 28352

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**title of Historic Sites in Scotland County An inventory  
has this property been determined eligible?  yes  nodate 1980-1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History

city, town 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, state North Carolina 27611

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## 7. Description

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

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in the first quarter of the nineteenth century for Gilbert McMillan (1763-1832), a planter and descendant of early Scottish pioneers, this two-story frame house is the county's earliest example of the (nearly) two-story house form which dominated residential construction in Scotland County and much of North Carolina in the nineteenth century. The two-room dwelling displays the characteristic engaged full-width front porch and the traditional engaged shed rooms across the rear elevation. The enclosed stair rises from the open porch (between these rooms) to the second story. Notable here is the low height of the principal roof, elevated three feet above the roofline of the porch and shed rooms, thereby allowing for second story rooms of almost full-height and indicating the evolution toward the full two-story block.

The McMillan House is finished with simple, well-executed details, featuring a large, reeded, transitional Georgian-Federal mantel. The unaltered house is one of the county's earliest and finest examples of craftsmanship in the post pioneer period when the residents were beginning to erect substantial dwellings combining regional forms with more formal architectural elements.

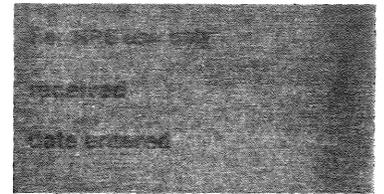
Located down an isolated dirt road the house remains in its unspoiled original setting sheltered by trees and overlooking fields with extensive woods in the rear along Jordan Creek. The area remains exclusively agricultural.

The weatherboarded, two-story, single-pile house has a main three-bay-by-two-bay block with a full-width engaged shed porch across the west (front) elevation; the porch has been enclosed with a frame wall replacing the original railing with screen wire above. At each end of the gable roof stands an exterior end, Flemish-bond chimney with single paved shoulders and a stuccoed heel. Both stacks have been replaced in common bond brick; the north chimney stack was replaced about 1930 and the south around 1965. Across the rear elevation are a pair of engaged shed rooms flanking the open center porch bay which has since been enclosed. The gable end eaves are shallow; front and rear eaves are near flush. Window openings on the main front block are short and squat, having original six-over-six sash with flat, simple surrounds. On the rear northeast is the two-room ell, connected by an attached porch along its south elevation connecting to the center bay of the rear shed. This ell, apparently dating from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, also has six-over-six sash, but with larger, elongated proportions. The entire house is covered with a standing seam metal roof and sits on brick piers.

Entry through the facade's first story center door is into the south room; the parlor is on the north. The interior is sheathed with vertically applied boards above the horizontally-laid sheathing marking the wainscot in the hall and parlor. A molded chair rail carries around the top of the wainscot. The ceiling is also sheathed. The mantel here combines Georgian and Federal elements with vernacular detail. It is a large two-part mantel with a heavily molded shelf and diagonal reeding ornamenting the faces of the frieze and pilasters. The firebox is segmentally arched. The parlor's mantel is similar, but neither as large nor as intricately detailed. Doors are six-panel with strap hinges and have beaded and molded surrounds. The window surrounds are similar. The two shed rooms across the rear elevation are used as sleeping rooms; from the center shed room rises the enclosed stairs through the parlor to the second floor, which follows a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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



Continuation sheet    Description    Item number    7    Page 1

similar two-room plan. The second floor rooms have sufficient height for standing, but have an angled ceiling. Windows along the front are quite short. The upstairs is also sheathed with wide boards.

The screened porch which connects the main block to the kitchen terminates with a pantry at its east end. Entry to the pantry as well as to the two rooms of the two-room plan kitchen is gained through doors opening onto the porch. The window nearest the northeast corner of the kitchen ell has been replaced with a smaller window. A brick flue stack stands between it and the northeast corner of the kitchen. The interior of the kitchen ell is finished with flush sheathing and simple door and window surrounds.

The only surviving outbuildings here are a small, German-sided, one-seat privy with a shed roof and a smokehouse/shed that is sheathed with German siding, sheltered under a front gable roof of standing seam metal and substantially enlarged with several shed additions.. Both of these simple, unsubstantial buildings were built in this century. Located 400 yards southeast of the house and visible from the house is the McMillan family cemetery, containing the graves of the builder, some of his descendants, and a number of others. There are a total of thirty-five stones with twenty-two being enclosed iwthin the handsome iron fence that surrounds the McMillan section. The fence is stamped "The Stewart Iron Works Company, Cincinnati, Ohio." Gravestone cutters represented are S.B. Buie, Lauder of Fayetteville, and Berryhill & Johnson of Charlotte. The cemetery is located in a heavy stand of pines and is marginally maintained.

# 8. Significance

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 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	Unknown	Builder/Architect	Unknown
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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Gilbert McMillan House and Cemetery occupy a pivotal place in the architectural history of rural Scotland County in that the house features the earliest and finest craftsmanship of the post pioneer period in that area. The paved should Flemish bond chimneys and transitional Georgian-Federal interior woodwork are particularly noteworthy. It was built in a period when the residents--all farmers--were beginning to construct substantial dwellings combining regional forms with elements of specific architectural style. Its diminutive two-story form, was a transition from the story-and-a-half houses of the early 19th century and the later full height two-story houses which continued to be the model for domestic buildings for the remainder of the century. McMillan (1763-1832) and his first wife Margaret (\_\_\_\_-1817), their son Hector McMillan (ca. 1814-1862) and his wife Margaret (1815-1901)--all of whom lived in the house--are buried together with other members of their family in a fenced enclosure in the cemetery which is included in this nomination. Prominent in the cemetery are grave markers signed by their makers, S. B. Buie, Lauder (of Fayetteville), and Johnson and Berryhill (of Charlotte). Both the builder Gilbert and his son Hector were planters in Richmond (now Scotland) County and descendants of the early Scottish pioneers in the region.

**Criteria Assessment:**

- A. The Gilbert McMillan House and Cemetery are associated with the settlement and agricultural development of that portion of Richmond County which later became Scotland County in that the house is among the preeminent examples in the county of the post-pioneer period dwelling.
- B. The Gilbert McMillan House and Cemetery are associated with the lives of the builder and his son, planters of relative wealth, who lived in the house and are buried in the cemetery on their former plantation.
- C. Being the earliest and most intact example of the diminutive two-story house form in Scotland County, the McMillan House embodies the distinctive characteristics of the transitional Georgian-Federal house at the same time that it is a stage in the transition from the earlier one-and-a-half story form to the full height two-story dwelling. The Flemish bond brick chimneys and Georgian-Federal interior woodwork are particularly noteworthy for Scotland County.

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered

Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page 1

Between 1795 and 1809 Gilbert McMillan (1763-1832) purchased in separate parcels a large tract of land in Richmond (now Scotland) County. On that site in the first quarter of the nineteenth century he constructed the dwelling still known today as the Gilbert McMillan House.<sup>1</sup>

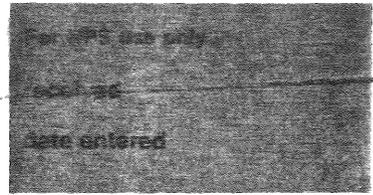
McMillan, the son of Archibald McMillan from whom portions of the above property were acquired, was a planter of relative wealth who by the 1830s owned approximately 700 acres of land and a number of slaves in Richmond County. He primarily grew cotton which was the chief crop in coastal plain and southern North Carolina (including Richmond County) in the antebellum era. Like many other farmers and planters of the period, McMillan saw his fortune improve with the growth of the South's cotton economy. The house he built in Richmond County was indicative of the type of structures built by the emerging class of successful and moderately wealthy planters in the early nineteenth century. McMillan died 12 March 1832 and was interred at the cemetery on his plantation where his first wife Margaret was buried following her death, 27 November 1817. He left "the dwelling house" and 250 acres of land to his second wife Sarah.<sup>2</sup>

Sarah McMillan continued to live in the house built by her husband, and apparently her son Hector McMillan (ca. 1814-1862) who lived close by, ran the family cotton plantation. The 1860 census lists Hector McMillan as owning fourteen slaves and his mother eight.<sup>3</sup> After the Civil War the McMillan House passed to Hector McMillan's wife, Margaret J. McMillan (1815-1901), and from her eventually to Archibald A. Malloy, a farmer, in 1881.<sup>4</sup> Malloy sold the property to one L. B. Prince in 1893.<sup>5</sup> Five years later L. B. Prince deeded the house to Irene Prince, the wife of his son Dr. D. M. Prince, a local physician. In that deed L. B. Prince stipulated that the property ultimately was to pass to his grandchildren Virginia and Daniel Malloy Prince.<sup>6</sup> Around 1930 the Dixie Guano Company purchased the Gilbert McMillan House. Recently the Scotland County Historic Properties Commission has acquired the dwelling and is seeking to preserve it as one of the significant architectural reminders of the area's antebellum cotton economy.<sup>7</sup>

The house is of great importance to the history of the development of regional vernacular domestic architecture because of its form, plan, and finish, and because of its remarkable intactness. The two story main block has a second story that stops short of full height and may indicate a transitional phase between the early one-and-one-half story and story and a jump houses characteristic of the region and county and the two-story house that became prevalent in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. This block, the form that predominated in traditional North Carolina architecture for over a century, is here expanded by the full-width shed porch and rear shed rooms characteristic of the Carolinas. The traditional two-room plan of the house has the distinctive scheme typical of the southeastern section of the state: the central bay of the rear shed was originally an open porch, and the stair rises from that space, ascending back to front to the second-story rooms. The finish and detail are important as well. Good traditional craftsmanship is evident in the use of Flemish bond brickwork. Inside, all surfaces are sheathed in local pine and element of formality and refinement appears in the handsome chair rail and wainscoting of the first story rooms. A vernacular version of late Georgian and early Federal decorative motifs appears in the boldly carved mantel with its reeding and gougework. Withal, the house is a vivid and remarkably intact representative of regional and local form and plan executed with high local craftsmanship.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Item number 8 Page

NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Richmond County Deed Books (microfilm), Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, Deed Books H, 93; HH, 179, 181, hereinafter cited as Richmond County Deed Books.

<sup>2</sup>Guion Griffis Johnson, Antebellum North Carolina: A Social History (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1937), 52-55; Richmond County Original Wills, Gilbert McMillan, 1832, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>3</sup>Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Richmond County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 114; Agricultural Schedule, 27; Slave Schedule, 47, hereinafter cited as Richmond County Census with appropriate year, schedule, and page number.

<sup>4</sup>Richmond County Deed Book, HH, 179, 181; Richmond County Census, 1880, Population Schedule, 40.

<sup>5</sup>Richmond County Deed Book CCC, 57.

<sup>6</sup>Richmond County Deed Book KKK, 85; Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1884 (Raleigh: Levi Branson Office Publisher, 1884), 559.

<sup>7</sup>Interview of Tom Butchko, architectural historian, with members of the Scotland County Historic Properties Commission, 1981, notes of interview at Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property One acre

Quadrangle name Laurinburg

Quadrangle scale 1:62 500

UMT References Lat. 34° 56' 09" Long. 79° 29' 10"

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property to be nominated is Lot 20, Map 313, and that portion of Lot 2, Map 313 which lies on the north east side of SR 1325. These Tax Maps are located in the Tax Collector's Office, Scotland County Court House, Laurinburg, N.C. Lot was cut out of Lot 2 in 1980 when the Dixie Guano Co. deeded said lot to the Scotland County

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries** Historic Properties Comm. Lot 20 is recorded in Scotland County Deed Bk. 8M, p. 157. The relevant portion of Tax Map state code county code 313 is attached.

state N/A code county N/A code

# 11. Form Prepared By

Architectural Description by Thomas Butchko (consultant) and Davyd Foard Hood, Historical name/title research by Joe. A. Mobley, Catherine Bishir, and Davyd Foard Hood (staff)

organization Division of Archives and History date March 23, 1982

street & number 109 East Jones Street telephone

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

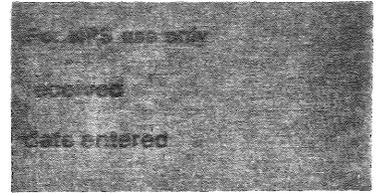
State Historic Preservation Officer signature *William S. P...*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date April 8, 1982

<b>For HCRS use only</b>	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	date
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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



Continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Item number 9

Page 1

Branson, Levi, ed. Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1884. Raleigh: Levi Branson Office Publisher, 1884.

Interview of Tom Butchko, architectural historian, with members of the Scotland County Historic Properties Commission, 1981. Notes of interview at Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Johnson, Guion Griffis. Antebellum North Carolina: A Social History. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1937.

Richmond County Records. Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. Subgroup: Deeds, Wills.

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Scotland Co Hist Prop Comm  
Gilbert McMillan House  
Deed 8M, P157, 1980

20

S. P. 1325

MAP

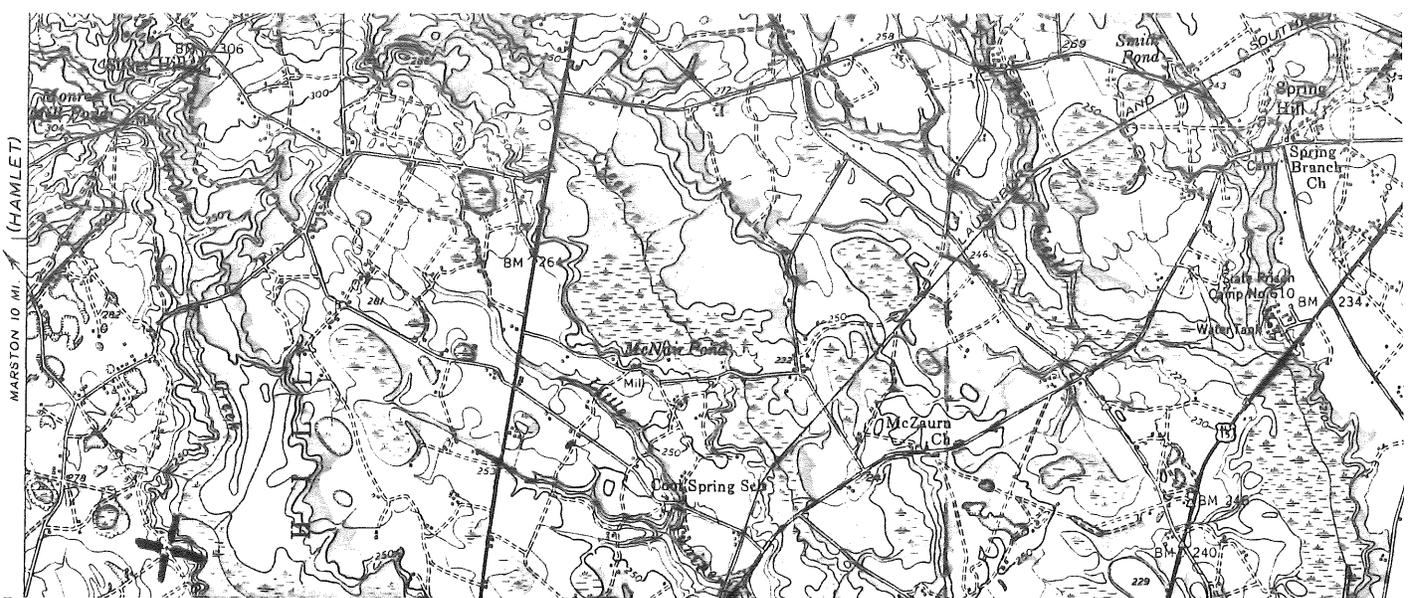
15-567 left on 1323 v 3rd ~~right~~ - 1325 - 2 miles or so  
59000m N.



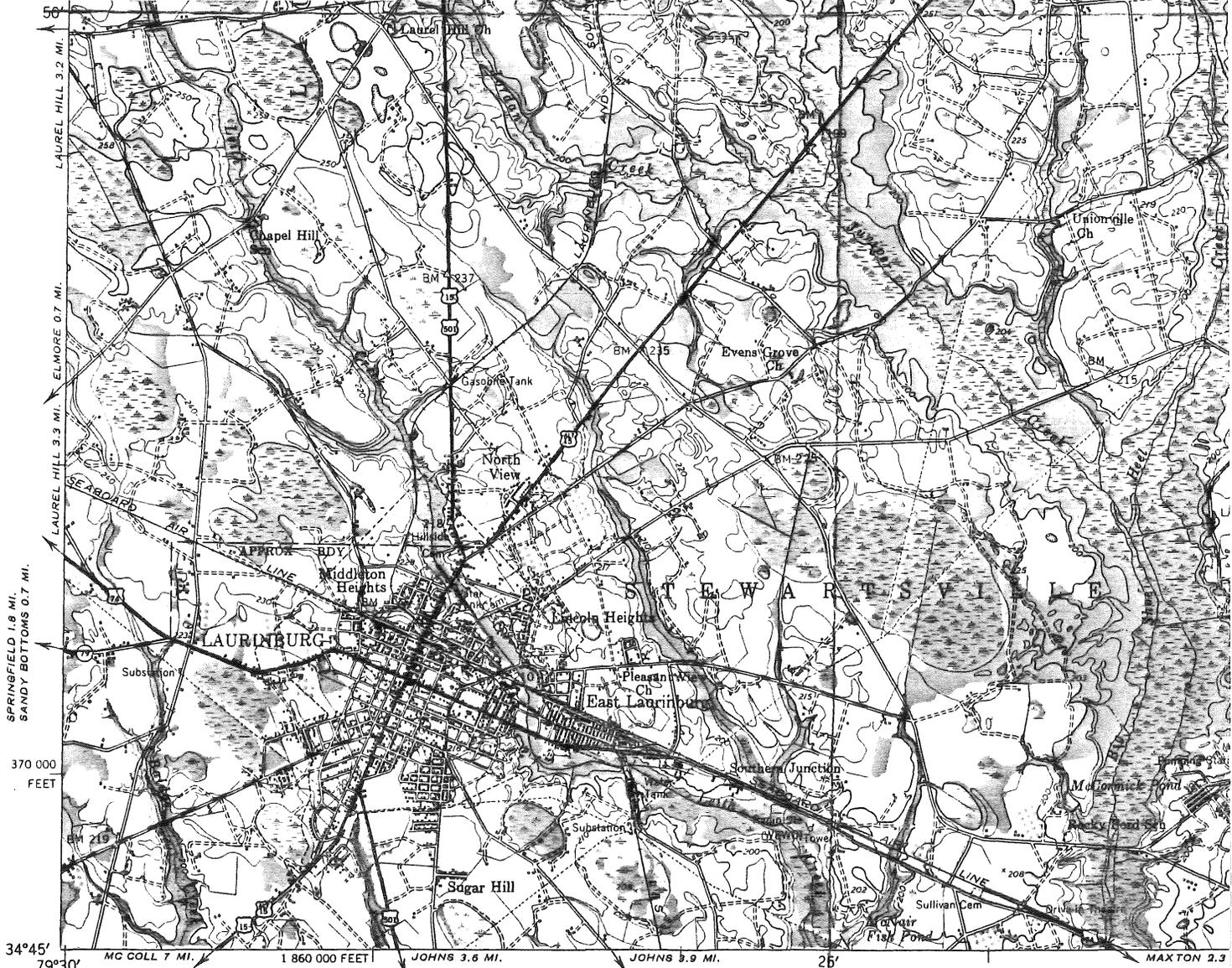
Gilbert McMillan House  
Scotland County, NC.

Laurens Quad - 1957

L A U R E L H I L L



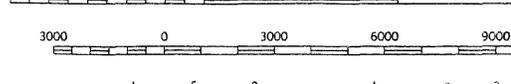
Gilbert McMillan House  
 Laurel Hill Church vic.  
 Laurinburg Quadrangle  
 Zone 18      Scale 1:62 500  
 Lat. 34° 56' 09" Long. 79° 29' 10"



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Published for civil use by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods  
 Aerial photographs taken 1948-1949. Field check 1949

SCALE 1:62 500



2 1/2"  
 TRP  
 MAG

