

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 1

1. Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

2. Location: Acreage bordering the existing listed property on the west, southeast and east sides.
South side NC 55 near junction with NC 50,
Newton Grove vicinity,
Sampson County (163), North Carolina (037)

3. Classification:

Private ownership
Buildings
Contributing buildings: 1
Non-contributing buildings: 3
Contributing sites: 2
Total Contributing Resources: 3
Total Non-contributing resources: 3
Total Resources: 6

4. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-655), I hereby submit this amendment to the Isaac Williams House nomination and certify that this amendment has been evaluated according to the procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

William S. Price Date 4-20-89
Dr. William S. Price, Director, N. C. Division of Archives and History and State Historic Preservation Officer.
109 E. Jones Street
Raleigh, N. C. 27611

5. National Park Service Certification

Signature of the Keeper Date _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 2

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions

AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/agricultural field
FUNERARY/cemetery
LANDSCAPE/forest

Current Functions

AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/agricultural field
FUNERARY/cemetery
LANDSCAPE/forest

7. Description

Architectural Classification

No style
N/A

Materials

foundation: brick
walls: WOOD/weatherboard
roof: asphalt
other: METAL/iron

This boundary increase amendment to the Isaac Williams House nomination includes 37.59 acres of cultivated fields and woodland added to the 2.8 acre home lot for a total of 40.39 acres. The additional acreage also includes the family cemetery, a brick ranch house built by the current owners in 1960, and several farm buildings associated with the farm use of the property.

The Isaac Williams property nominated in this amendment consists largely of rolling cultivated farmland south of NC 55 that stretches in a series of fields for about a third of a mile. Along the southwest corner of the cultivated property is a small branch that meanders through a tall stand of mature hard and softwood timber. Woods also surround the southernmost field of the tract. A drainage ditch along the northeast corner of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 3

property leads to a small pond at the edge of the woods, and other drainage ditches define the north corners of the farm.

Situated on a high point about two hundred yards from the house is the family cemetery, surrounded by a cast and wrought iron fence.

In addition to the main house, constructed ca. 1867, there are four other buildings on the property, one approximately contemporary with the house, the others modern farm outbuildings and a modern house. All are located within fifty yards of the main house.

Inventory List

(NC) 1. One-story brick ranch house constructed in 1960.

(NC) 2. Wood and metal bulk tobacco curing barn constructed in 1962.

(NC) 3. Wood and metal bulk tobacco curing barn constructed in 1967.

(C) 4. One and a half-story frame servants quarters, ca. 1867. According to the family, originally located directly behind the main house. Date of move unknown. Now used for storage. Handhewn and pit sawn framework and door rimlock ghosts indicate that it is probably contemporary with the main house.

(C) 5. Family cemetery (site). Small plot surrounded by early twentieth century cast and wrought-iron ornamental fence. Date of earliest burials unknown, but contains graves from at least late nineteenth century. The three gravestones in the cemetery appear to be early twentieth century in date.

(C) 6. Fields and Woodland (site). Cultivated fields bordered by woodland, representing productive resources associated with the main house since its construction.

8. Statement of Significance

Level of Significance: Local

National Register Criteria: A & B

Areas of Significance: Criterion A-Agriculture

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 4

Period of Significance: 1867-1936
Criterion Exception D-Cemetery
Significant Dates: 1867
Significant Person: Isaac Williams
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Architect/Builder: Unknown

The 1983 nomination for the Isaac Williams House in Sampson County, North Carolina, is based largely on Criterion A, for the house's association with the growth and development of the agricultural economy of Sampson County during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Due to a more conservative approach to the nomination of rural properties at that time, the farmland associated with the house, also containing the family cemetery, was not included in the nomination. However, this farmland has been associated with the house since its construction, has remained continuously in the ownership and occupancy of the same family, and is the productive entity on which the agricultural associations of the house are based. Apart from the construction of a small brick ranch house and a pair of farm outbuildings, the property retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

As the 1983 nomination details, Isaac Williams purchased his farm in 1867 and apparently built his house on the land not long thereafter. He soon became a large and successful farmer. The Schedule of Agriculture of the 1870 Census lists Williams as having a farm production value 27th out of 200 farmers in Westbrook Township, increasing to 10th highest out of 291 farmers in the 1880 counting. In addition to a diversified production of corn, oats, wheat, cotton, cowpeas, sweet potatoes, apples, peaches, cows, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, Williams gathered the sap from fifteen acres of longleaf pine and carried it to a turpentine still for distillation and sale. (Butchko: Williams House Nomination, Item 8, p. 1)

Isaac and Laura Williams lived on the farm until their deaths, hers on January 19, 1898, his on May 23, 1920. Both are buried in the family cemetery on the farm. (Butchko: Williams House Nomination, Item 8, p. 1)

The homeplace, with 160 acres, was inherited by Isaac Johnson Williams (1887-1964), the youngest son. In 1908 he married Mamie

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 5

Britt (1887-1918), who is also buried in the family cemetery. In addition to farming, Williams operated a sawmill on this farm, reportedly on a site directly behind the present brick ranch house. Isaac J. Williams moved to Godwin in 1936 and an older brother, Theodore Samuel Williams (1871-1940) acquired the farm. (Butchko: Williams House Nomination, Item 8, pp. 1, 2)

In 1938 Theodore S. Williams and his wife Bettie sold a forty acre tract of the farm, including the house, to his nephew, John "Shannon" Williams (1909-1949), a son of Isaac J., subject to a life estate for the property. (Sampson County Deeds: Book 492, p. 264) Also a farmer and sawmill operator, Shannon lived there with his wife, Mary Lillian (Lee) Williams, until his death. (Butchko: Williams House nomination, Item 8, p. 2) Although Shannon Williams died in 1949, the property was not conveyed to his children until 1960 because of the life estate still held by his aunt. (Sampson County Orders, Decrees and Special Proceedings: Book 40, p. 313-317) In the intervening years the house was occupied by his widow and their children. (Butchko: Williams House Nomination, Item 8, p. 2)

In the 1960 subdivision of the property, Mary Ann Williams Hill, the eldest of John Shannon Williams's children, received a parcel adjacent to the homeplace. On this property she and her husband, Edward J. Hill, built a brick ranch house. Over the next seventeen years the Hills purchased the other portions of Mrs. Hill's father's tract from her brother and sister. (Butchko: Williams House Nomination, Item 8, p. 2) When the main house was vacated by Mrs. Hill's mother, the Hills restored and enlarged the building for their own residence. Until recently, Mr. Hill has farmed the property himself. It is now rented to another farmer for cultivation. (Hill Interview)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Butchko, Tom. National Register Nomination for Isaac Williams House. Raleigh: N. C. Division of Archives and History, 1983.

Butchko, Tom and Sumner, Jim, Sampson County Multiple Resource National Register Nomination. Raleigh: N. C. Division of Archives and History, 1985.

Sampson County Deeds, Clinton, N. C.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 6

Sampson County Estates Papers, Clinton, N. C.

Sampson County Superior Court. Orders, Decrees and Special Proceedings, Clinton, N. C.

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State Historic Preservation Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Approximately 37.59 acres added to the originally-nominated 2.8 acres for a total of 40.39 acres.

UTM References:

Timothy Quad
Zone 17

A: E-737920
N-3903460
B: E-738340
N-3903560
C: E-738800
N-3903120
D: E-738680
N-3902760

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of this amendment to the Isaac Williams House nomination are as shown by the dashed line on the accompanying map drawn from a map of the J. Shannon Williams land dated May 1960 and contained in Sampson County Superior Court: Orders, Decrees and Special Proceedings, Vol. 40, page 315.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of this amendment encompass land originally associated with the Isaac Williams House and which has been continuously associated with the Williams family since the mid-19th century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Isaac Williams House (Boundary Increase)

Section number _____ Page 7

11. Form Prepared By:

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Black & Black, Preservation Consultants
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Raleigh, N. C. 27605
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Photographs

All Photographs:

Boundary Amendment to Isaac Williams House
Newton Grove Vicinity, Sampson County, North Carolina
Photographer: David R. Black
February 6, 1989
Negatives in files of North Carolina Division of Archives &
History, Raleigh, N. C.

- A- View Northwest from Cemetery
- B- Isaac Williams House from North
- C- Adjacent Ranch House
- D- View of Fields from Northwest
- E- View of Back Field from South

TIMOTHY QUADRANGLE
 NORTH CAROLINA—SAMPSON CO.
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 NW/4 COHARIE 15' QUADRANGLE

5354 IV SE
 NEWTON GROVE NORTH

ROADS) 734 25' DUNN 10 MI. 736 2 180 000 FEET BENSON 14 MI. 78° 22' 30" 35° 15'



15AC WILLIAMS 1705E (BOUNDARY INCREASE)
 ZONE 17 A E-737420 N-3903460
 B E-758340 N-3903560
 C E-738550 N-3903120
 D E-738690 N-3902760

NEWTON GROVE 15' V
 GOLDSBORO 22' V
 540 000 FEET

3903
 3901
 3900

BM 189
 Oak Grove
 Ch

