

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR  THEMATIC NOMINATION

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

~~Pugh-Boykin House~~

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

306 Elizabeth Street

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

— VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Sampson

CODE

163

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Jeff D. Johnson, III

STREET & NUMBER

306 Elizabeth St.

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

— VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 28328

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Register of Deeds (Book 849, Page 486)

STREET & NUMBER

Sampson Co. Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Clinton

STATE  
North Carolina 28328

**6 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Thomas Butchko

Jim Sumner, Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Survey & Planning Branch

Research Branch

DATE

May 22, 1985

STREET & NUMBER

109 E. Jones Street

TELEPHONE  
(919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh,

STATE  
North Carolina 27611

## 7 DESCRIPTION

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This side-hall plan, Greek Revival house is believed to have been built in the 1850s for Thomas L. Pugh; its construction is attributed to builder Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known mid-19th century contractors in the Clinton vicinity. The handsome, two-story, frame house was acquired by Thomas Wright Boykin, a member of the county's prominent Boykin family, in 1872. The house was purchased in 1923 by Virginia James Beaman Pigford for rental purposes; her great-grandson currently owns and occupies the house. Exhibiting the battered, peaked and dog-ear surrounds so prevalent in the city's Greek Revival architecture and continuing in use until the early 1900s, this house is rather different from the county's other side-hall Greek Revival houses in that it has a hip and not a gable front roof.

This side-hall plan, double-pile, two-story house is contained under a hipped roof of standing seam metal and pierced by a central interior common bond brick chimney. The house faces northeast. A single room dining wing projects off the northwest side under a gable roof. With flush gable eaves, this room originally terminated with an exterior end chimney which was removed sometime ago. Along the northeast facade of the house's two-bay-by-four-bay main block is the attached, hip roof porch. Chamfered posts connected with a rail of large turned balusters support the porch. The wall, sheltered by the porch, is covered with wide board sheathing. Sash are six-over-six with battered and peaked, two-part surrounds with dog-ears. Both front windows, to the front parlor and to the dining room, are nine-over-six and extend to the floor. The parlor window has the battered surround, while the dining room window has a two-part surround with decorative shutters. Prominent, oversized, paneled pilasters mark the house's four corners and carry the boxed cornice and a relatively shallow frieze. The entire house rests on infilled brick piers.

Entrance into the plastered interior is through double, four-panel doors with a tra-beated transom, sidelights and the same battered, peaked, dog-ear surround as on the windows. The stairs rise from the front of the hall and are surprisingly plain, having simple square spindles and a small, square newel post with pyramidal top. Surviving Greek Revival elements consist of the two-part, beaded surrounds, the dado boards, and several two-panel doors. The mantels were removed in the 1950's when the house was used for apartments. Also at that time a celotex ceiling was added throughout most of the house. Sometime earlier the rear hall of both floors was enclosed for bathrooms.

The Pugh-Boykin House is located in an area of simple, late 1920s Bungalows, not far from the West Main Street-Chesnutt Street-West Johnson Street Historic District. However, several other intrusive houses and a cluster of ca 1970 brick townhouses between this house and the historic district prevent the house's inclusion in the district. Outside of the city limits Elizabeth Street is known as Boykin Bridge Road and leads to the family homestead of the Boykin Family.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

\_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE XX LOCAL

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                      1850s                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT                      Thomas Lee (attrib.)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This handsome Greek Revival dwelling in Clinton was built in the 1850s; its construction is attributed to Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known Clinton vicinity builders in the mid-19th century. The side-hall plan house continues the sophisticated treatment of the town's finer Greek Revival houses, exhibiting excellent battered, peaked, and dog-eared surrounds. The handsome house was acquired by Thomas Wright Boykin, a member of the county's prominent Boykin family, in 1872. Since 1923 the house has been owned by Virginia James Beaman Pigford and her descendents. The present owner, her great-grandson, is also a collateral descendent from Thomas Wright Boykin.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Pugh-Boykin House is indicative of the mid-19th century growth of the county seat of Clinton from a small governmental center to the chief commercial and educational town in the county. This house is a handsome example of the sophisticated residences erected by the town's growing middle and upper classes.
- B. The construction of the house is attributed to Thomas Lee, the most prominent of the known mid-19th century builders of the Clinton vicinity. It is one of only several attributed structures of his to survive.
- C. Built in the prevailing Greek Revival style of mid-19th century Sampson County, Pugh-Boykin House is a handsome dwelling exhibiting the county's traditional Greek Revival elements. It is one of many examples that illustrate the variety of forms the Greek Revival assumed in the county.
- D. Is likely to yield information valuable to the history of the area.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Pugh-Boykin house is located in the southern part of Clinton. the house is believed to have been built shortly before the Civil War for Thomas L. Pugh by prominent Clinton builder Thomas Lee.

Thomas Pugh (born circa 1824) was a farmer and tailor. He lived at the house with his wife Elizabeth and at least eight children. The 1870 census credits Pugh with the ownership of \$2,500 worth of real estate.<sup>1</sup> In 1872 Pugh sold the house and its downtown lot of one acre to Thomas Wright Boykin for \$1,300.<sup>2</sup>

Thomas Wright Boykin was a member of one of Sampson County's more prominent families. He was one of eight children of John Boykin (1787-1864) and Rebecca Wright. John Boykin was a North Carolina State Senator in 1842 and 1843. Thomas Wright Boykin also had an uncle (Thomas Boykin) and a cousin (John L. Boykin) who represented Sampson County in the General Assembly.<sup>3</sup>

Born in 1819 Thomas Wright Boykin was 53 and one of Sampson County's leading farmers when he acquired the Pugh house. The 1860 census credits him with the ownership of over 800 acres valued at \$4,000 while in 1870 he owned over 1,200 acres. In 1880 he owned 1,140 acres valued at \$8,000. Only 40 acres were improved in 1880. Boykin lived with his wife, the former Elizabeth Hobbs, and their five children.<sup>4</sup>

The house passed out of the Boykin family in the 1920s when it was obtained by Virginia Pigford for rental purposes. A number of her descendants have owned the property since, including her daughter Isabelle Pigford Faison, her granddaughter Frances Faison Johnson, and the house's current owner Jeff D. Johnson, a great grandson of Virginia Pigford.<sup>5</sup>

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, Agricultural Schedule.

<sup>2</sup>Sampson County Deed Book 38, p. 375.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bizzell, Oscar M., ed. The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina. Winston-Salem: The Hunter Publishing Company, 1983.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .52 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	7 4 4 1, 0, 0	3, 8 7, 5 4 7, 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property to be nominated is lots seven, eight, nine and ten as shown on the map of a lot Subdivision in Clinton for Pierce and Tucker, dated February 1920 and recorded in the Sampson County Resister of Deeds Office, Map Book 1, page 40. Also described in Deed Book 849, Page 486, dated 24 January 1973. A copy of the deed is attached.

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Pugh-Boykin House

Item number 8

Page 1

<sup>3</sup>Oscar M. Bizzell (ed.) The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina (Winston-Salem: The Hunter Publishing Company for the Sampson County Historical Society, 1983), 72, 318, hereinafter cited as Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County.

<sup>4</sup>Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Sampson County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Bizzell (ed.) The Heritage of Sampson County, 318.

<sup>5</sup>Sampson County Deed Book 487, p. 164; Book 525, p. 291; Book 567, p. 588; Book 849, p. 486.

Royal-Crumpler-Parker House  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1"62 500

Robert Herring House  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

GARLAND QUADRANGLE  
NORTH CAROLINA  
MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

17 743425/3875850

17 744250/3876050

748 2 220 000 FEET | 750

78°15' 35"00"

College Street Historic Dist.  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

W. Main-N. Chestnutt Sts. HD  
Garland and Coharie Quads  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

- A 17 743875/3876275
- B 17 744200/3875700
- C 17 743800/3875200
- D 17 743700/3876025

- A 17 745050/3875900
- B 17 745350/3876075
- C 17 745150/3876000
- D 17 745125/3875850

Pugh-Boykin House  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

17 744075/3875800

Powell-Bethune Building  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

17 744250/38775450

Gen'l. Thomas Boykin House  
Garland, N.C. Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62500

- A 17 739300/3872625
- B 17 740575/3872175
- C 17 740200/3871000
- D 17 739100/3871250

Fleet Matthis Farm  
Garland Quadrangle  
Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

- A 17 749675/3862100
- B 17 749725/3861450
- C 17 748225/3860875
- D 17 748100/3861500



