

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Wake	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Yates Mill

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Lake Wheeler Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh (Fourth Congressional District)

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Wake CODE: 183

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input 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:
North Carolina State University

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hillsborough Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
310 Fayetteville Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE: North Carolina

COUNTY: Wake

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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 main block of Yates Mill, which may incorporate some of the original mid-eighteenth century structure, is a two-story rectangular weatherboard building with finished attic which measures approximately 34 feet by 27 feet. The exposed ends of the rafters of the gable tin-covered roof create a slight overhang. A small porch with a straight stair is attached to the north side and gives access to the main block of the mill. All openings are asymmetrically placed. The south and west sides have two windows at each level; the north has a doorway and a window at the first and second levels and a large rectangular opening in the gable. Apparently each window had a single horizontally sliding sash and wooden batten shutter. Some of these still exist, although the glazing is missing from the windows.

Attached to the east side is a one-story shed addition measuring approximately 18 feet by 24 feet with an unusually large attic. The lower half is covered with vertical sheathing while the upper section has normal weatherboards. Contiguous to the shed addition is a porch, probably used as a loading dock, which extends 13 feet north of the main block and is covered by a gable roof. The entire structure rests on roughly dressed random coursed rubble piers and secondary wooden supports.

The interior of the first floor is divided into two large areas, the milling and storage room in the main block and the workshop in the shed. Access to the large porch is gained from the north side of the shed. A straight stair on the west wall of the main block leads to the second floor, and a stair on the north side of the second floor leads to the attic level. From the second floor of the main block five steps descend to the shed attic, which runs the full length of the building. Remnants of milling and carding machinery are scattered throughout the structure.

The wooden millrace and overshot waterwheel, both badly deteriorated, are located on the south side. The large millpond behind Yates Mill is retained by an extremely well-preserved dam composed of roughly dressed random coursed rubble.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <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 checked="" 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 mill site, on Steep Hill Creek, was originally surveyed for Samuel Pearson in October, 1756, and granted to him by the Earl of Granville in 1761. The mill itself was probably built a short time before the survey. At the time of his death in 1800, Pearson was a successful planter and had increased the mill lands to over one hundred acres. The mill was left to his son, Simon, who was forced to sell the property in a sheriff's sale to William Boylan in 1820. Boylan established Raleigh's first newspaper, the North Carolina Minerva and Raleigh Advertiser, in 1799. He was the second president of the State Bank, and while he owned the mill, served on the commission to build a new state capitol. During his ownership Boylan rebuilt the mill and modernized it. In 1854 it was purchased by James Penny, Thomas Briggs, and John Primrose. Primrose sold his interest to James Dodd in 1859. Dodd, along with Thomas Briggs, formed Briggs and Dodd Construction Company to contract mill work in Wake County. Briggs was Raleigh's most influential post-Civil War businessman. Having wisely converted his Confederate currency into silver before the war's conclusion, he was one of the few North Carolinians with investment potential during Reconstruction.

Briggs and Dodd sold their interest to James Penny in May, 1864, and thereafter the mill was known as Penny's Mill. According to tradition Penny killed a Mr. Franklin for nonpayment of a mill debt and, although freed by the courts, was intimidated by Union soldiers who believed Franklin to have been a northern sympathizer. On at least one occasion the soldiers attempted to burn the mill. In 1869 Penny transferred the mill to his son-in-law, Phares Yates, whose family continued its operation until 1948, and from whom comes the mill's present name. A. E. Finley, head of the North Carolina Equipment Company, obtained the mill and operated it until 1953 when he was forced to close for lack of demand. The mill was last operated in 1963 for the benefit of photographers and is now owned by North Carolina State University.

Yates Mill is one of the few examples of the early American milling industry left in eastern North Carolina. Of the four mills known to have served eighteenth century Wake County, this is the only site on which an actual mill remains. It is of further interest in that at various times it has been utilized for lumber manufacturing, corn and wheat milling, and wool carding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

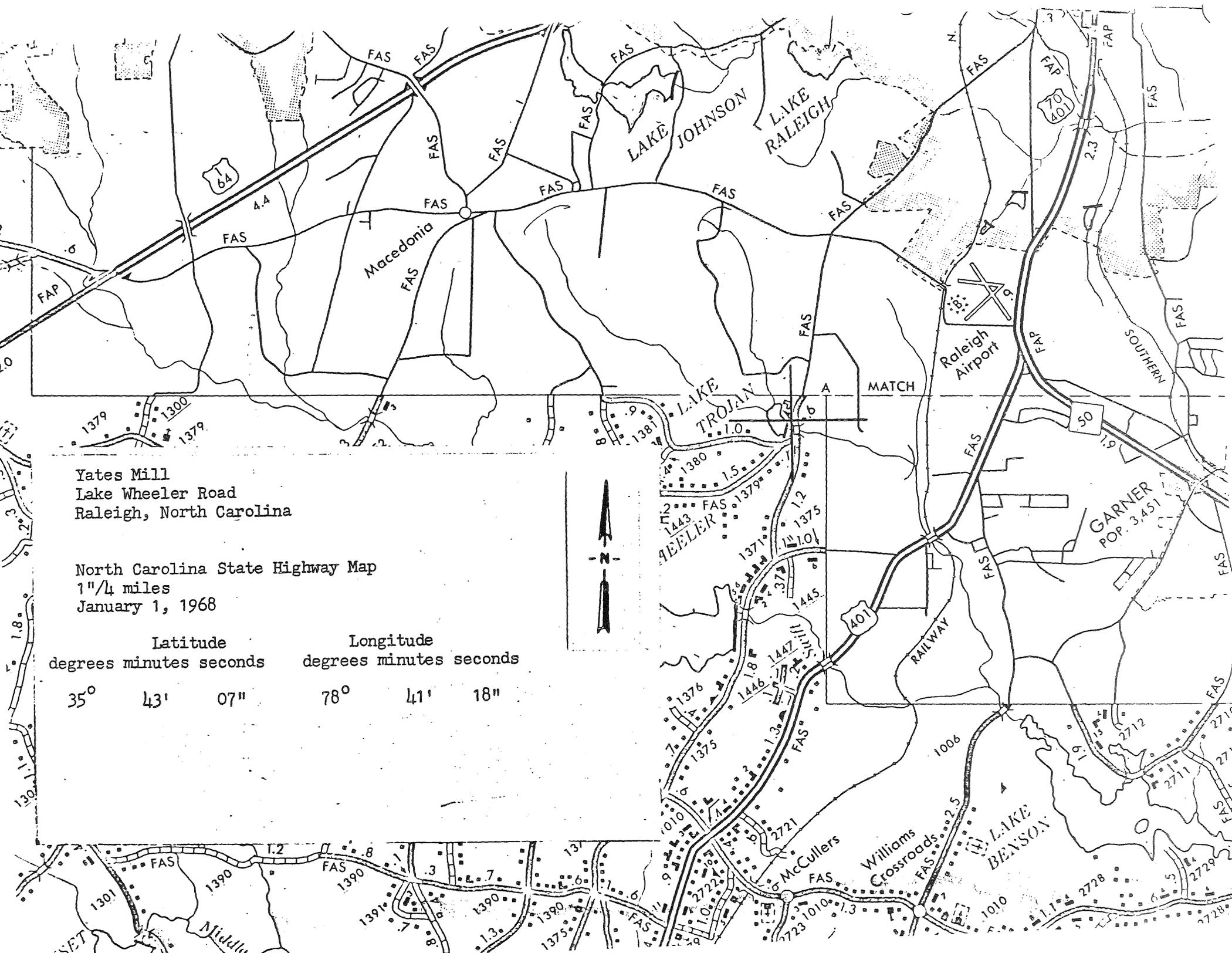
Name	
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(Number all entries)

9.

Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson. North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Junior League of Raleigh, Inc., and the Raleigh Historic Sites Commission, Inc., 1967.

Wodehouse, Lawrence. "Architecture in North Carolina, 1700--1900." North Carolina Architect, Part 2, January--February, 1970, pp. 30-31.



Yates Mill
 Lake Wheeler Road
 Raleigh, North Carolina

North Carolina State Highway Map
 1" / 4 miles
 January 1, 1968

Latitude			Longitude		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
35°	43'	07"	78°	41'	18"

