

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Green-Hartsfield House

other names/site number Hartsfield House

2. Location

street & number S side SR 2303, opposite junction with SR 2304

N/A not for publication

city, town Rolesville

vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Wake

code 183

zip code 27571

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

Category of Property

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

2

1 buildings

_____ sites

_____ structures

2

1 objects

Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously

listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official William S. Fris

Date 11-16-89

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National

Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the

National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Georgian/Early Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weatherboard

roof tin

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Green-Hartsfield House, Wake CountyDescription

The Green-Hartsfield House occupies a one-acre parcel in rural northeastern Wake County, near Rolesville and the Franklin County line. From the crest of a small knoll in a grove of mature oak trees, the early nineteenth-century house faces north toward the two-lane Halifax Road (SR 2303). A narrow unpaved drive, approximately 250 feet long, leads from the road to the east end of the house, passing a tenant house and three tobacco barns to the west and two other gable-roofed barns to the east. Directly east of the house there are a log chicken coop and a log shed. Two early terraces marked by stone retaining walls in front of the house and two additional outbuildings—a small house northeast of the main house and a one-story frame barn to the southeast—help define the immediate yard of the Green-Hartsfield house. All of the outbuildings vary in condition from good to poor and appear to date from the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century, with the exception of the small dwelling built about the same time as the main house. This nomination includes only the yard with the Green-Hartsfield House and the small ancillary dwelling, both within the "period of significance", as well as the barn in the house yard.

Tall, vertical proportions and simple detailing characterize the exterior of the Green-Hartsfield House which displays a combination of late Georgian and Federal features. Of heavy, mortise-and-tenon frame construction, the two-story weatherboarded, gable-roofed house stood as a one-room-deep unit until the 1940's when a one-story shed was added across the rear elevation, one of the gable-end chimneys was reconstructed and the first floor was converted from a hall and parlor plan to a center hall plan with the insertion of a partition wall. A thorough rehabilitation of the derelict house from 1985 to 1987 according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards entailed the thorough restoration of the interior and replacement of the shed with a two-story ell. In addition, the removal of a three-bay hip-roofed front porch, not original to the house, revealed the ghostmarks of an original one-bay gable-front entrance porch which was reconstructed in the Federal motif. The new porch features a match stick railing and incorporates four octagonal columns salvaged from the hip-roofed porch, which probably date to the original construction. Original granite steps remain at the entrance, and the foundation of the porch, like that of the main block, is of dry laid granite blocks of various size.

The Green-Hartsfield House has a three-bay main facade with nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows flanking the main entrance and six-over-nine windows at the second story. Six-over-six windows flank the chimneys at the first and second stories of the side facades, except for the first-story bay north of the east chimney which was converted to a door fronted by granite steps at an early date for convenient access to the small dwelling, perhaps an early kitchen. The gable ends also have small, four-pane attic windows flanking the chimney stacks. All of the window sashes had to be replaced due to loss or deterioration, although the simple three-part molded and mitred surrounds and squared sills have been restored. The original six raised panel doors have been replaced at the entrance and in the wall between the front hall and parlor; the front and west side elevations retain original molded weatherboards.

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As constructed, the house was distinguished by a large double-paved-shoulder chimney with freestanding stack of cut granite blocks in each gable end. The west gable-end chimney remains intact, but the 1940's replacement in the east end is of concrete blocks in a design less massive but otherwise similar to the original. The gables are flush with plain, narrow raking boards and the front and rear eaves are shallow with plain cornice and simple curved corner brackets above narrow corner boards. Raised seam tin covers the roof.

With the removal of the 1940's partition, the interior of the house has been returned to its hall and parlor plan. Original wainscot with a simple molded chair rail that doubles as window sills, molded and mitred surrounds, six raised panel doors, and variable-width heart pine flooring appear throughout the main block of the house; original plaster on upper walls and ceilings, extremely deteriorated by 1985, was replaced with sheetrock, although an original large, round ceiling medallion of plaster was restored in the hall. Wainscot on the first floor is flat paneled constructed of three twelve-inch boards. The highlight of the hall is a large, unusually decorative vernacular Georgian-Federal mantelpiece with flat-paneled pilasters divided into two units by molding and a two-panel frieze flanked by pilasters bearing an applied diamond motif and topped by a heavily molded and dentil cornice supporting the high shelf. The other mantels are more typical, of simple Federal finish with flat paneled friezes and molded cornices. Along the interior wall, an enclosed dog-leg stair leads from the hall to the second floor; in the parlor, the under side of the projecting staircase is sheathed in flat panels. The parlor exhibits two alterations to the first-floor interior: the window on the north side of the fireplace was converted to a door at an early date and a window on the south wall converted to a door for access to the 1940's shed addition was retained for access to the new ell.

The two-room second floor has sheathed wainscot and original or very early red-brown paint which was matched on woodwork throughout the house. The east room of the second floor has a balustrade with rounded railing and match stick balusters protecting the stairwell to the first floor. The fireopening in this room was closed when the chimney was replaced, but the simple Federal mantel was retained. An enclosed dog-leg stair in the southeast corner of the western room leads to the attic, which is partially finished with flooring in place, panelled center wall, and exposed pegged rafters.

The two-story gable-roofed rear ell is identical in its proportions and finish to the original block. A two-tiered engaged shed-roofed porch along the west, "inside" elevation of the wing has boxed posts and match stick railing. Against the main block of the house, a small two-story shed extends a few feet beyond the porch. Windows are six-over-nine double-hung sashes and the foundation is cinderblock covered in cement. The wing has its own two-run staircase and contains a kitchen, half-bath and utility room on the first floor and a bedroom and bath on the second. On each floor, interior finish reproduces that of the original house, respectively.

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The small mortise and tenon frame dwelling nearby to the northeast appears to have been built about the same time as the Green-Hartsfield House or shortly thereafter. The side gabled structure, sited perpendicular to the main house, has a massive stone chimney in the south gable end, sits on stone piers, and is sheathed in molded weatherboard. Facing west, the three bay facade has an engaged porch with one bay enclosed. Sash is nine-over-six in molded surrounds. The interior is simply finished; there is no mantel at the fireopening. The doors are replacements. There is an entry and one bay on the rear facade which retains the decking of a full-facade attached porch.

Behind the main house is an early twentieth-century one-story, gable-front frame barn with deep side sheds and board and batten doors with strap hinges. The east shed is enclosed and the west shed is open at the north end. The building is weatherboarded, rests on stone piers, and has raised seam tin on the roof. It is in fair to good condition, and is considered "non-contributing" for the purposes of this nomination.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1805

Significant Dates

c. 1805

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Green-Hartsfield House in rapidly developing northeastern Wake County is an example of an increasingly rare type, a principally intact vernacular Federal farmhouse of the first decade of the nineteenth century. The two-story frame house on a granite foundation retains its original hall and parlor plan, with two rooms on the second floor and a partially finished attic. Extensive original woodwork includes paneled wainscot, an enclosed staircase to the second floor, and two first-floor mantels; the mantel in the hall is particularly robust with paneled frieze, pilasters to which a diamond motif is applied, and a dentil cornice. Immediately northeast of the house is a small one-story mortise and tenon frame building with massive stone chimney which appears to have been built shortly after the Green-Hartsfield House and may have served as an early kitchen. Years of neglect and deterioration were reversed with a 1986 to 1987 restoration of the main house which was conducted according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. It entailed reconstruction of the entrance porch according to ghost marks and mortise slots and replacement of a ca. 1940 rear shed with a two-story rear ell.

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Historical Background

William Green, son of Colonel Joseph Green of Revolutionary War fame, was born in Wayne County on February 17, 1772.¹ On July 17, 1800, Green married Sarah Jeffreys (1784-1820) of Wake County, daughter of David and Barbara Bell Jeffreys.² Sarah Jeffreys' grandfather was Osborne Jeffreys (ca. 1700 - December 9, 1793), a noted North Carolina civic leader who amassed one of the largest landholdings in the region. At his death, Osborne Jeffreys was the largest landowner and heaviest taxpayer in Franklin County and his holdings of at least 19,000 acres extended to Wake, Northampton and other piedmont and eastern North Carolina counties.³ Jeffreys left sizeable tracts of land to each of his five sons. His son David's bequest included fifteen tracts in Franklin County, one of which contained the Jeffreys homeplace. The only mention in the will of Osborne Jeffreys' Wake County holdings is the bequest "To son, William Jeffreys, "4 tracts of land both sides of Little River, part in Wake and part in Franklin Counties, about 2500 acres with all the other lands on both sides Little River below Osborne Jeffreys [another son] part on said river." (Franklin County Will Book A, pages 161-63). On June 22, 1799, approximately one year before he married Sarah Jeffreys, William Green purchased a tract of 1,000 acres "on both sides of Little River adjacent Andrew Hartsfield and Shearing" for \$4,000 from her uncle, William Jeffreys (Wake County Deed Book Q, page 342).

On the basis of architectural analysis and documentary evidence, it may be deduced that the Green-Hartsfield House was constructed sometime between 1799, when William Green purchased the property containing the house site, and 1807, the year of his death. The 1799 deed and earlier documents relating to the property give no indication of a dwelling, and the late Georgian/early Federal detailing of the house seems to preclude an eighteenth-century building date. William and Sarah Jeffreys Green had three children, none of whom would have been old enough to supervise construction of a house prior to the 1820's (by which time the overall design and detailing of the house would have been out of fashion): Harriet (b. January 26, 1802), Bryan (July 8, 1803-1861) and William Allison (b. May 2, 1805).⁴ There is no evidence that the Greens lived elsewhere and it is presumed that Sarah Green remained on the homestead with her children after the death of Bryan Green in 1807. When Harriet and William Allison married, they moved to Raleigh and Granville County, respectively; only Bryan, who married Martha Mints Hartsfield (April 23, 1806-December 26, 1866) in 1823, remained at the Wake County homeplace.⁵

Bryan Green's wife, Martha Mints Hartsfield, was the daughter of the Greens' neighbor to the north, Andrew Hartsfield, cited in the 1799 deed from William Jeffreys to William Green. In 1839, Bryan Green sold to his brother-in-law, Dr. Wesley Hartsfield, a 245-acre tract east of the Little River, "lying south of Hartsfield's Mill Dam" and Halifax Road "except one-half acre containing the burying ground" for \$1,200. (Wake County Deed Book 14, page 56). This tract corresponds to the property of the Green-Hartsfield House which sits about 250 feet south of Halifax Road and several hundred yards from the "burying ground". Dr. Hartsfield already had purchased other

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tracts from Bryan Green, including a 40-acre tract "on and near the water of Little River" and adjacent to Andrew Hartsfield's land for \$150 in 1835 (Wake County Deed Book 12, page 34), and a 4 or 5 acre tract "lying on the waters of Little River on the North side as a Mill Seat" for \$17 in 1838 (Wake County Deed Book 13, page 68).

With what he purchased from Bryan Green and what he received from his father, Andrew Hartsfield, who purchased acreage from Bryan Green, (Wake County Deed Book 14, page 48) and William Jeffreys (Wake County Deed Book 13, page 56), Dr. Wesley Hartsfield accumulated sizeable holdings on both sides of the Little River prior to the War Between the States. Wesley Hartsfield is buried and commonly accepted as having resided at the dwelling known as the Hartsfield-Price House on Halifax Road about one-half mile west of the Little River, which he received as part of a 1,131-acre parcel from his father in 1839 (Wake County Deed Book 15, page 356). It is not known who occupied the Green-Hartsfield House for more than two decades after Wesley Hartsfield acquired the property. Dr. Hartsfield served in 1859 as secretary of the Botanico Medical Society, a short-lived organization, which sought to reduce the use of "mercurial and other poisons, bleeding, blistering, freezing, starving, and the knife" through treatment of diseases with herbs and other plants.⁶ Dr. Hartsfield lost three of his five sons in the War Between the States. ⁷ Near his family's "mill seat", first mentioned in an 1803 deed, arose a small community known variously as Hartsfield or Hartsville and later as Mitchell's Mill, after R. Calvin Mitchell purchased much of the Hartsfield holdings.⁸

In his will, Wesley Hartsfield left 555 acres containing the Green-Hartsfield House to his son Flavius. (Wake County Deed Book 25, page 129). It is believed that the house acquired its popular local designation as the Hartsfield House as a result of Flavius' tenure here. In 1884, Flavius' widow, Nannie A. Hartsfield, sold the house tract, which had been enlarged to 565 acres, to R. Calvin Mitchell (Wake County Deed Book 76, pages 252 and 544).

Apparently Mitchell's cotton, grist and sawmill operation was no longer profitable by the turn of the century, when the surrounding community lost population and its post office. Mitchell sold the Green-Hartsfield House and 245.2 acres, cited as the Hartsfield Farm, to George W. Duke in 1905 (Wake County Deed Book 195, page 296). For several decades beginning in the 1940's, the house and acreage were used as farm rental property by Duke and his heirs, who moved away from the area. Sometime during this period, the two-story house was enlarged with a one-story shed wing across the rear elevation. George Oris Duke inherited the house and 169.25 acres in 1946 (Wake County Will Book P, page 177). In 1985, George Oris Duke's widow sold the house to Surry P. Roberts, who conducted a National Park Service-certified rehabilitation of the property in 1987.

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During the last years of the eighteenth century and the first years of the nineteenth, the gentry of North Carolina's central piedmont built substantial houses with greater frequency than in previous years, reflecting their success as commercial agriculture increased, yet by and large remaining within regional traditions established before the Revolution. According to architectural historian Catherine Bishir, change during this period appears "in the increasing number of two-story houses, the increasing use of the central passage, and the gradual shift from the late Georgian to the Federal or Adam style in their detail."⁹ While many continued to build finely finished one- or one-and-one-half-story houses with simple Georgian and Federal elements, more often their houses were two stories, and the great majority repeated long-established plans. Bishir explains that these taller new houses, for the most part, "presented their position in the landscape not through the external display of ornament and fashion, but through the old language of excellent materials and craftsmanship and their newly imposing size."¹⁰ Exteriors remained rather austere, with ornament restricted to a simple cornice and porch supports, in contrast to interior finish which reflected taste and wealth in handsomely crafted elements such as wainscoting, mantelpieces and ceiling medallions.

In Wake County, relatively few houses remain from the eighteenth and very early nineteenth centuries. There are several in Raleigh, but they are either heavily altered (such as the Theophilus Hunter House, c. 1800), unique in form (Elmwood, 1810, a side hall plan town house), or distinctive for their rich ornamentation (Haywood Hall, begun 1792, and White-Holman House, 1789-1799). Numerous early nineteenth-century houses remain outside Raleigh in rural or recently suburbanized areas, especially in the eastern part of the county, ranging from small one-story houses with three-bay main facades to two-story dwellings with five-bay facades, all one room deep and almost all with original or early rear sheds or ells and often quite altered. A few two-story frame houses with gable-roofs, exterior end chimneys, three-bay main facades and traditional hall and parlor or center hall plans are scattered through the southern and western portions of the county, including the Nancy Jones House of c. 1803, with handsome transitional Georgian/Federal detailing and modern asbestos shingles near Cary, and the early nineteenth-century John Norris House near Holly Springs, characterized by single-shoulder Flemish bond chimneys and displaying replacement windows and siding. Several houses of this type occur in the northeastern part of the county, in addition to the Green-Hartsfield House: The Bennett Bunn House near Zebulon, which has an original rear shed but also has a replacement porch and later dormer; the Hartsfield House near Wake Forest with double-shoulder Flemish bond chimneys and restrained Federal woodwork; the Hallie Moss House near Zebulon; and the Wall Plantation near Wake Forest.

More rural neighboring Franklin County retains a larger percentage of its late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century housing stock, much of it with Georgian or transitional Georgian-Federal detailing. In southwestern Franklin County, in the general vicinity of the Green-Hartsfield House, most of the early nineteenth-century

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houses are one story. The few that are two stories include two houses southeast of Youngsville -- the Jeffreys House, similar to the Green-Hartsfield House in its basic form yet more distinctly Georgian in its proportions, and the late Federal May House, which is quite altered on the exterior but features a fully sheathed original interior. The May House and numerous other early dwellings in Wake and Franklin counties feature cut stone exterior gable-end chimneys.

The architectural significance of the Green-Hartsfield House becomes evident in the context of extant early nineteenth-century frame houses in northeastern Wake and southwestern Franklin counties. Remaining on its original site, the well preserved and restored house epitomizes the characterization of the central piedmont gentry's early nineteenth-century residential building in the vertical proportions of its two-story, one-room-deep form highlighted by octagonal porch supports and the massive double-shouldered cut stone chimney in the west gable end. Though not elaborate, the traditional hall and parlor interior contrasts to the exterior in its restrained elegance and fine craftsmanship displayed in the flat panelled and sheathed wainscoting throughout, the large and decorative mantelpiece in the hall and simpler mantelpieces elsewhere, and the hall's plaster ceiling medallion. In its vicinity, today it is unique for its combination of the two-story hall and parlor form, original heavy cut stone chimney and handsome and refined interior finish that has remained virtually intact for almost 200 years.

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Notes

- 1) Typescript, Genealogy Vertical File, N. C. State Library, Raleigh, The Green Family of Wayne County, N. C., compiled records by Sally Kirby Wilkins, Goldsboro, N. C., Sept. 1932, n.p.
- 2) Ibid.
- 3) Ibid., including typescript of letter from Col. William F. Green, C.S.A., to cousin Mrs. Mary L. G. Jones, July 3, 1898.
- 4) Ibid.
- 5) Ibid.
- 6) Murray, Elizabeth R., "Wake--Capital County of North Carolina", Capital County Publishing Co., Raleigh, N. C., 1983, p. 445.
- 7) Ibid. p. 542
- 8) Ibid, p. 662
- 9) Catherine Bishir, "North Carolina Architecture," unedited manuscript for forthcoming publication, p. 44.
- 10) Ibid., pp. 45-46.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"The Green Family of Wayne County, NC." Typescript, Genealogy Vertical File, NC State Library, Raleigh. Compiled records by Sally Kirby Wilkins, Goldsboro, NC, September 1932.

Murray, Elizabeth R. Wake -- Capital County of North Carolina. Capital County Publishing Co., Raleigh, NC, 1983.

Wake County Register of Deeds, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, NC.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 1

UTM References

A

1	1	7
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7	3	1	6
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1	1	9	0
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3	1	9	7	1	7
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7	3	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated portion of the Green-Hartsfield House property is indicated by the bold broken line on the accompanying site plan/landscape design map entitled "Surry Roberts Farmstead" and drawn at a scale of 1" = 10'. The nominated area is a portion of Lot # 271-0012 (Parcel ID # 0019089), Wake County Tax Office.

See continuation sheet

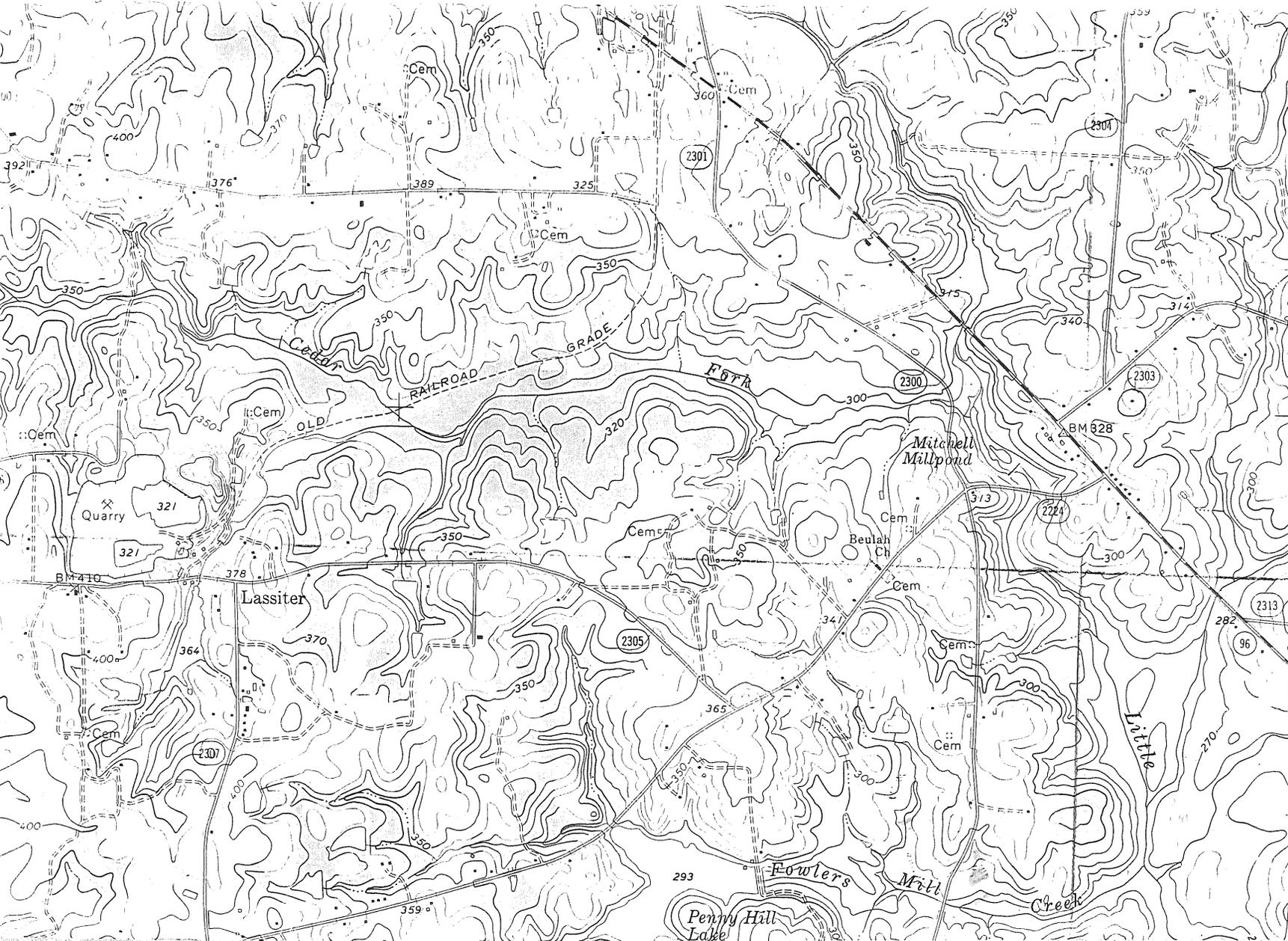
Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the c. 1805 Green-Hartsfield House and the immediately surrounding yard defined by terraces to the south (front), a contemporary small dwelling or kitchen, and an early 20th-century barn. It is drawn to include the "contributing" resources (with the exception of the barn) and the immediate setting and to exclude late 19th- and 20th-century agricultural buildings with fall outside the period of significance.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Surry Roberts, property owner; and Claudia Brown, National Register Coordinator
organization N/A; State Historic Preservation Office date October 1989
street & number 700 Runnymede Rd.; 109 E. Jones Street telephone 919/781-1274; 919/733-6545
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27611



3979
3978
55'
3977
3976

ZEEBULON 8 MI.

GREEN-HARTSFIELD
HOUSE
ROLESVILLE QUAD
WAKE COUNTY, NC
ZONE 17

N: 3977730
E: 736190

