

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR  THEMATIC NOMINATION  
Wilson County

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Manalucus Aycock House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

West side Center Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Black Creek

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF 2nd Congressional Dist.

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Wilson

CODE

195

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Watson & Julia Edwards

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Black Creek

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Wilson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Nash Street

CITY, TOWN

Wilson

STATE

North Carolina

**6 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Kate Ohno, Preservation Consultant, October 25, 1982

ORGANIZATION

Survey & Planning Branch, Division of Archives & History (919) 733-6545

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

109 E. Jones St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

Like the Dr. H.D. Lucas House the Manalucus Aycock House stands on the west side of Center Street in the Town of Black Creek. (See Dr. H. D. Lucas House description for information on the setting) The Aycock House is the largest and most ambitious house in Black Creek. Built in 1900 for Manalucus Aycock, a son of one of the prominent farming families in Black Creek Township, the house is a statement of Aycock's prosperity. The contractor of the house was Claudius C. Rackley of Wilson, one of the most competent builders in the county. The Aycock House was built soon after tobacco became the main cash crop in the area, replacing cotton. Wide-spread interest in tobacco cultivation began in the county in the late 1870s and by 1892 a nearby tobacco market had been established in Wilson, the county seat. The Aycock House reflects the prosperity of the turn-of-the century period in Wilson County as well as the tastes and values of the Aycock family.

The Aycock House is a large two-story frame house set in a grove of mature shade trees. This rambling structure is asymmetrically massed with a multitude of wings and cross gables as well as a generous wrap around porch. The main section of this six-bay double-pile house consists of a hipped-roof section with two-story cross-gable wings projecting from the north, south and east elevations. The cross-gable wings on the north and east elevations have two-story three-sided bays. A contemporary one-story gable roof ell is located at the rear and this is connected to a one-story hipped roof kitchen by an enclosed breezeway. The main section of the house, the ell and the kitchen all have slate roofs and the central hipped-roof section is ornamented by crockets. The hipped-roof porch extends part-way around the south elevation and boasts a beautifully preserved polygonal pavilion with a conical roof capped by a finial. The porch entry is pedimented with mock-half-timbering in the gable and a sawnwork arch stretching between two square posts. The rest of the porch is richly decorated with turned spindlework, turned posts, and sawnwork spandrels. The front door is trabeated and boasts an unusually fine stained glass transom and side-lights. The broad oak door has a large square light and nicely executed moldings. The use of stained glass in the door and other key points in the house is a rare example of stained glass in a rural setting. Most of the residential stained glass in the county is found in the City of Wilson.

On the interior a central-hall plan is followed with broad stairs rising from the front hall. The interior finish is boldly Victorian with a robust newel post, molded door and window surrounds, and ornate corner fireplaces. The Aycock House was renovated during the past ten years by the present owners, the Edwardses, but the character and all the fine early twentieth century details have been retained.

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National Park Service**

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

Wilson Co. MRN, Manalcus Aycock House #16

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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Also on the grounds is an early twentieth century hipped-roof garage which stands to the south of the house also facing Center Street. The garage is also roofed in slate, a rare treatment in Wilson County, particularly in the rural areas.

The Aycock House is one of Wilson County's most ambitious turn-of-the-century residences built in a small town. It is unusual in its size, the quality of its design and workmanship and in its state of preservation. The house is also significant because of its association with the prominent Aycock family and the house's builder, C. C. Rackley, one of the county's finest and most prolific contractors.

The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is probable that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

\_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL

\_\_\_\_\_ STATE

  X   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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

C.C. Rackley

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Manalcus Aycock House (1900-01), located in the town of Black Creek, is one of Wilson County's most ambitious turn-of-the-century residences to be erected in a small town. The house, which displays an unusually high quality of design and workmanship, was built by Claudius C. Rackley of Wilson, one of the county's finest and most prolific contractors. Manalcus Aycock, the original owner of the house, was the son of a prominent tobacco farmer, and his residence reflects the prosperity of turn-of-the-century Wilson County as well as the tastes and values of the Aycock family.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. Associated with the prosperity that tobacco farming generated in turn-of-the-century Wilson County, the Manalcus Aycock House is reflective of the wealth and taste of a successful farming family.
- B. The house was built by Claudius C. Rackley, a prominent Wilson County contractor, for the Aycock family, wealthy tobacco growers in the area.
- C. The house is one of the most ambitious turn-of-the-century residences in the area, and is notable for its porch with intricate sawnwork details and for its stained glass windows.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Manalucus Ayccock House was built on the main street of Black Creek, Center Street, at the turn of the century. Like many other small towns in Wilson County, Black Creek benefitted from the introduction of bright leaf tobacco as a cash crop during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Tobacco cultivation was on the rise at the turn of the century and so were the prices offered for the crop. The prosperity engendered by the switch from cotton to tobacco caused many farm and town houses, large and small, to be built during this period. The Ayccock House was the most impressive turn of the century residence to be built in Black Creek.

In September, 1900, R. E. Copeland, administrator of the estate of F. J. Woodard sold to Manalucus B. Ayccock one lot in the town of Black Creek adjoining the land of E. B. Bass, Mrs. Elizabeth Joyner, and the railroad.<sup>1</sup> Manalucus (Nack) Ayccock was born on September 20, 1872, on the Ayccock family farm outside of Black Creek.<sup>2</sup> In 1898 he married Annie E. Moore of Wilson.<sup>3</sup> Lumber for the Ayccock House was cut from the Ayccock farm and it was sawed and milled at the Ayccock sawmill.<sup>4</sup> Ayccock hired Claude C. Rackley as his construction foreman and the other labor consisted of local men.<sup>5</sup> According to Ayccock's son, John Y. Ayccock, who was born in August, 1901, in this house, Manalucus Ayccock drew the plans for the house himself. Construction began in 1900 and was completed in early 1901.<sup>6</sup>

Claude C. Rackley was a Wilson contractor of some distinction. Rackley was born in 1875 in Sampson County where his father was also a builder. He came to Wilson County as a young man and married Lillian Winstead of Elm City, daughter of a local cabinetmaker. Rackley was living in Wilson County by 1897, but it seems likely that the Ayccock House was one of his first big jobs. He later went on to build other notable houses in Wilson and in the county, including the William Woodard House in Gardners Township (1914) and the Dr. Robert Putney House in Elm City (1919).<sup>7</sup>

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Wilson County Deeds, Wilson County Courthouse

Wilson County Vital Statistics Records, Wilson County Courthouse.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	2 3 4 3 1 0	3 9 4 7 2 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Property being nominated consists of one city lot at the southwest corner of Center Street and Central Avenue. See enclosed map with property outlined in red. The property being nominated is the city lot on which the house was built.

0100 A. 10-10-1980

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The Aycocks raised their family in the big house facing the railroad tracks and the couple continued to occupy the house until Manalacus Aycock's death in 1929.<sup>8</sup> Aycock was a prominent planter and merchant.<sup>9</sup> Apparently Aycock's son, John Y. Aycock, inherited the property at this point for in 1936 he and his wife deeded the house to his mother<sup>10</sup> who owned it until 1956 when she deeded it back to John Y. Aycock.<sup>11</sup> Annie E. Aycock lived in the house until her death in 1967<sup>12</sup> and in 1969 her son, John Y. Aycock, deeded the property to Watson and Julia G. Edwards, the present owners.<sup>13</sup> The Edwardses have renovated the house in a sympathetic manner and use it as their home.

Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>R.E.Copeland to Manalacus Aycock, September 26, 1900, Book 56, 64, Wilson County Deeds, Wilson.

<sup>2</sup>Wilson County Vital Statistics records, Wilson County Courthouse, Wilson.

<sup>3</sup>John Y. Aycock letter to the author dated May 13, 1980, hereinafter cited as Aycock letter.

<sup>4</sup>Aycock letter.

<sup>5</sup>Aycock letter.

<sup>6</sup>Aycock letter.

<sup>7</sup>Kate Ohno, Wilson County's Architectural Heritage (Wilson: 1981).

<sup>8</sup>Aycock letter.

<sup>9</sup>Wilson County Vital Statistics records, Wilson County Courthouse, Wilson.

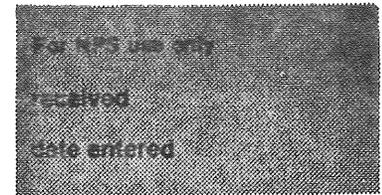
<sup>10</sup>J.Y.Aycock and wife to Annie E. Aycock, December 1, 1936, Book 246, 209, Wilson County Deeds, Wilson.

<sup>11</sup>Annie E. Aycock to John Y. Aycock and wife, February 9, 1956, Book 605, 417, Wilson County Deeds, Wilson.

<sup>12</sup>Aycock letter.

<sup>13</sup>J. Y. and Miriam Aycock to Watson and Julia Edwards, October 13, 1969, Book 1037, 146, Wilson County Deeds, Wilson.

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

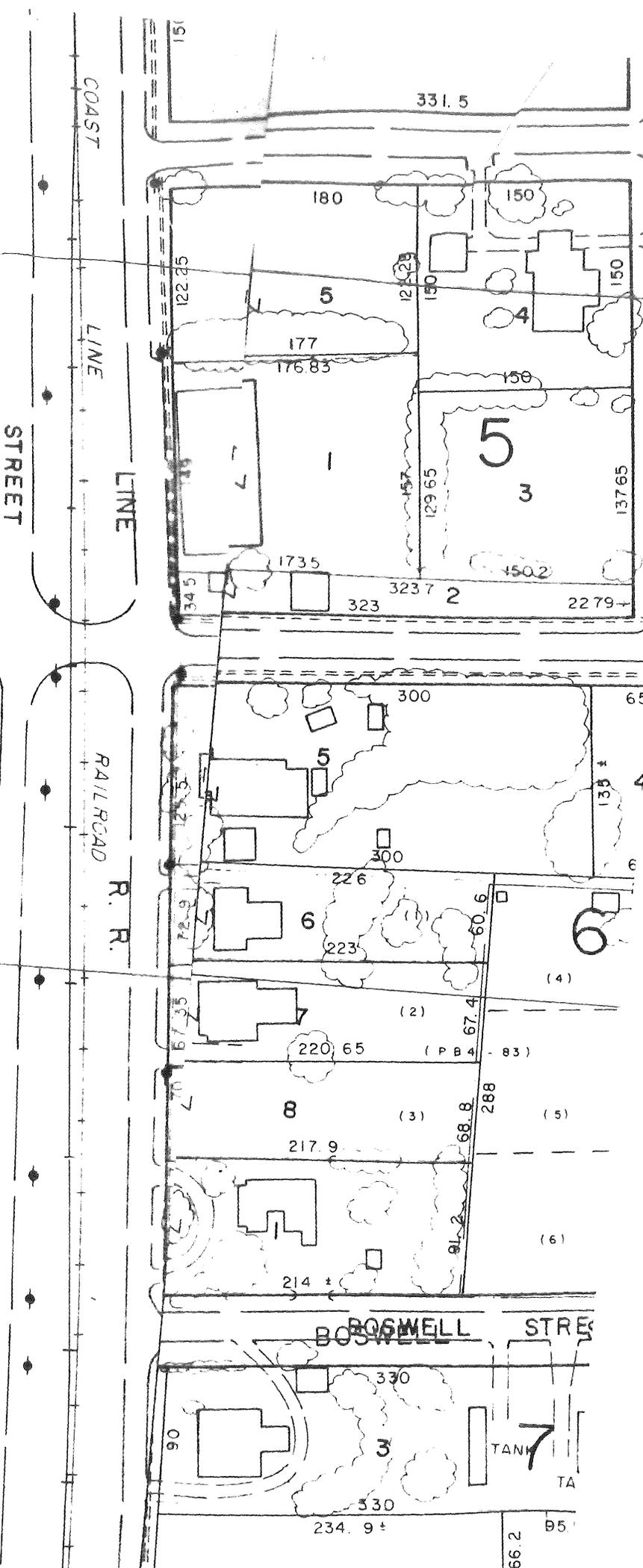
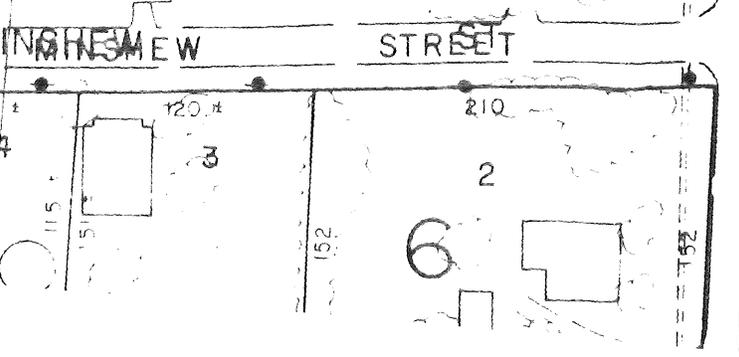
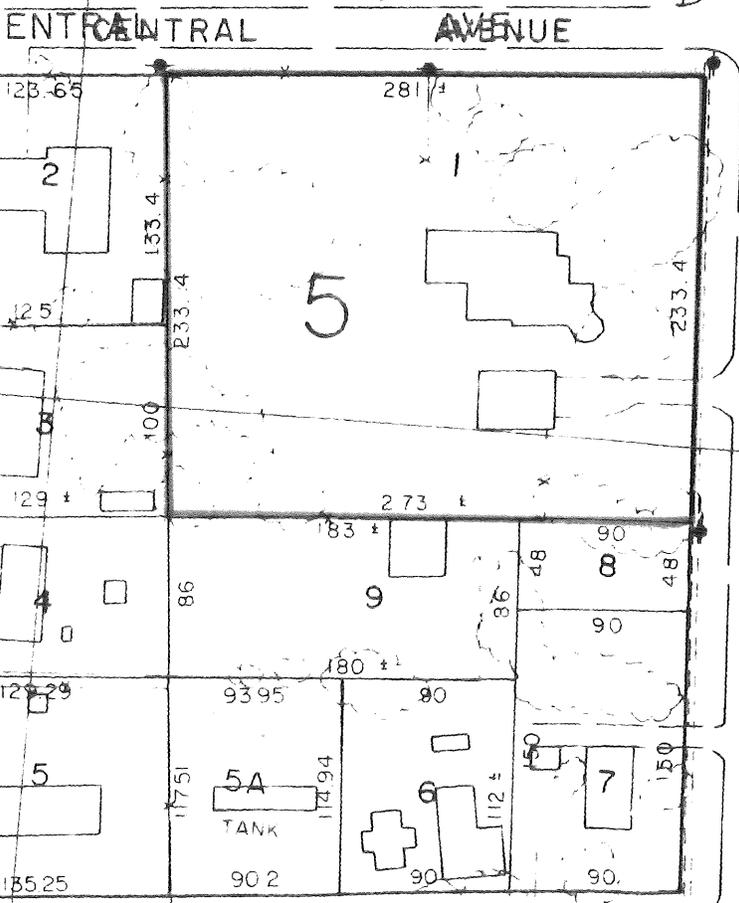
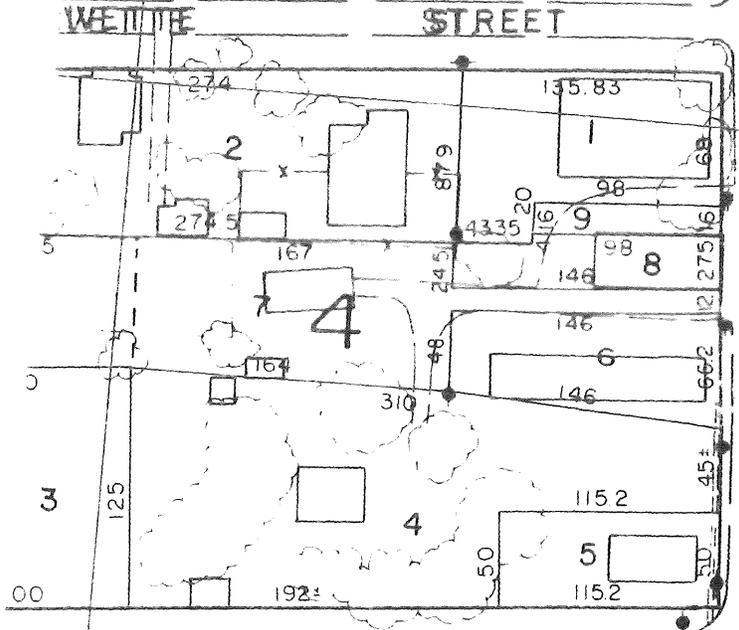
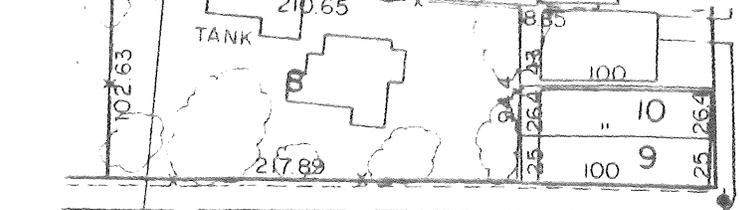


# **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

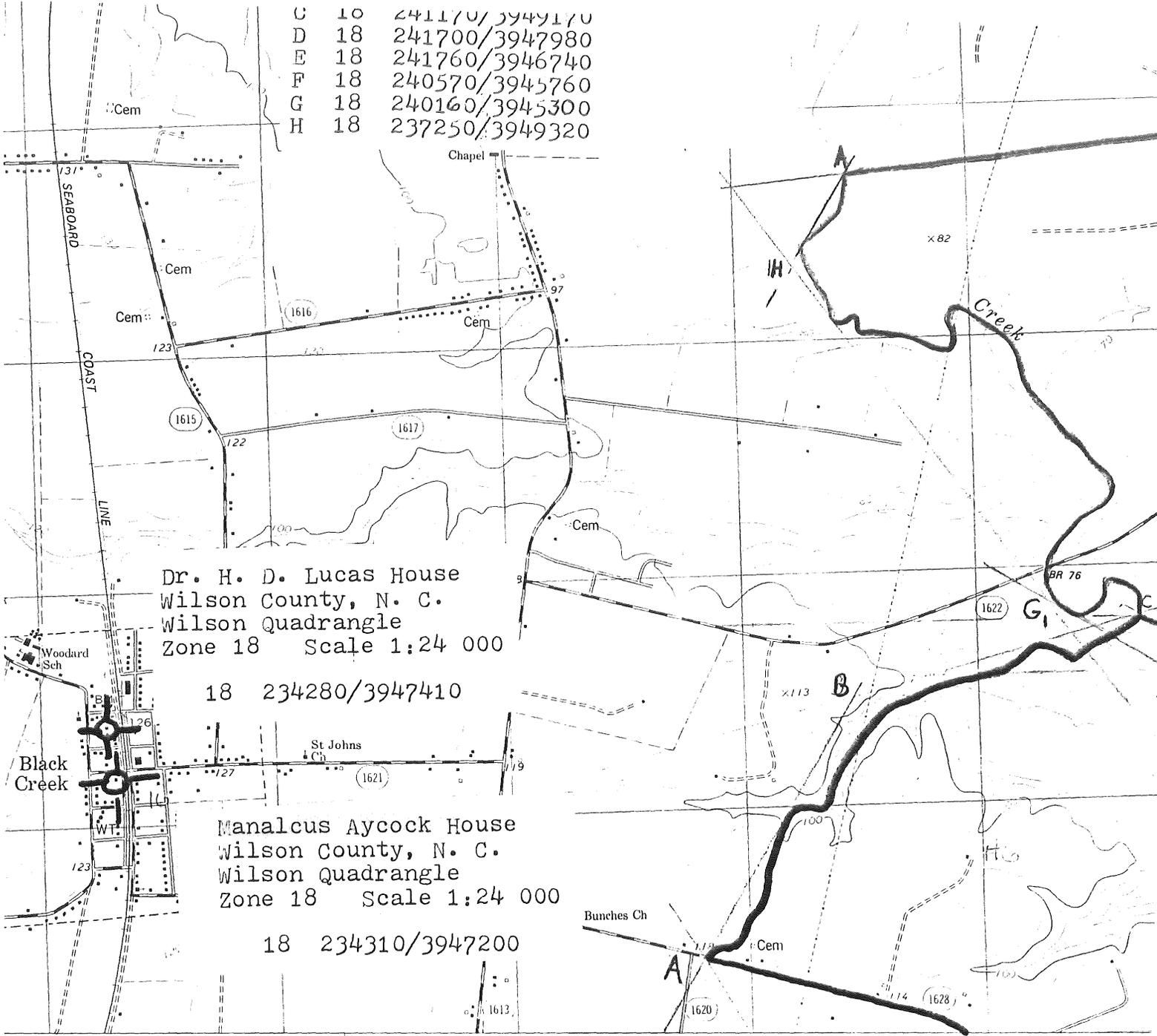
Continuation sheet Manaclus Aycock House Item number 13 Page 1

## Photographs

The Manaclus Aycock House was originally surveyed and photographed during the 1980 county-wide inventory. The house was revisited in 1985 to determine its current condition. The house was found to be occupied, well-maintained and to be accurately depicted in the earlier photographs.



C 10 241170/3949170  
 D 18 241700/3947980  
 E 18 241760/3946740  
 F 18 240570/3945760  
 G 18 240160/3945300  
 H 18 237250/3949320



Dr. H. D. Lucas House  
 Wilson County, N. C.  
 Wilson Quadrangle  
 Zone 18 Scale 1:24 000

18 234280/3947410

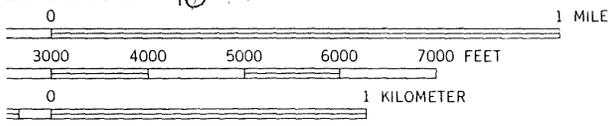
Manalcus Aycock House  
 Wilson County, N. C.  
 Wilson Quadrangle  
 Zone 18 Scale 1:24 000

18 234310/3947200

(FREMONT)  
 5455 III SW

LE 1:24 000

16 117



INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 C VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIF  
 Primary highway, hard surface Lig im  
 Secondary highway, hard surface Ur  
 Interstate Route U. S

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FEDERAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 A LIST OF MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

