

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Buck Spring Plantation (site)

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Nathaniel Macon House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
S.R. 1348

CITY OR TOWN:  
Vaughan vicinity

STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 32      COUNTY: Warren      CODE: 93

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Preservation work in progress</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Warren County Commissioners

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Warren County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Warrenton      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 32

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Warren County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Warrenton      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 32

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East Capitol and Independence Avenue, S.E.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: D.C.      CODE: 51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: North Carolina

COUNTY: Warren

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" 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 site of Nathaniel Macon's Buck Spring plantation in Warren County is composed of approximately 70 acres adjacent to Spring Branch, a tributary of Hubquarter Creek which empties into Lake Gaston. It lies to the west just off county road 1344. Most of the land is covered by forest, but the homesite is in a large relatively open area about a half mile from 1344 at the end of the unpaved county road 1348.

Approaching the site from the southeast on 1348, the visitor passes on the left the graves of Macon, his wife Hannah Plummer Macon, and their only son. Before his death Macon requested that his grave be marked by a simple cairn of stones and that there be no inscribed marker. The cairns marking all three graves have survived. The large inscribed tombstone at the head of Macon's grave was placed there early in this century.

On the right side of the road further on is the corncrib. It is a most unusual log structure and has a high wooden shingle roof with a deep overhang. Most of its fabric is thought to date from Macon's time. At the end of the road are the dwelling house, smokehouse, and caretaker's house. The last mentioned is a relatively modern structure. The dwelling house is essentially a reconstruction done in the 1930s when Buck Spring was "restored." The framing of the smokehouse is original, but most of the exterior dates from the "restoration." Nearby is a log stable thought to be a late nineteenth or early twentieth century building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>history</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input 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 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

Nathaniel Macon was a nationally prominent United States Representative and Senator from North Carolina. He was born near Warrenton, Warren County, North Carolina, the son of Gideon and Priscilla Macon, on December 17, 1758. Macon pursued classical studies and attended Princeton College. In 1763 his father willed him the five or six hundred acre nucleus of what was to become the Buck Spring plantation, where in 1781 he built the small house which served as home the remainder of his life.

Macon served in the House of Representatives from 1791 to 1815. From 1801 to 1807 he was Speaker of the House. During this time he was one of the most powerful men in the nation. Intimate with Jefferson, Monroe, and John Randolph, Macon was continuously a champion of conservative fiscal policy and strict constructionism. Elected to the United States Senate on December 5, 1815, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Francis Locke, Macon served until his own resignation on November 14, 1828. On three occasions he was elected president pro tempore of the Senate. In 1825 he received twenty-four electoral votes for vice-president.

Macon came out of retirement in 1835 to become president of the state constitutional convention. Later in 1836 he served as a presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Van Buren and Johnson. Nathaniel Macon died near the town bearing his name in Warren County on June 29, 1837, and was interred on his estate near his home. Long before his death Jefferson had called him "the last of the Romans."

The house and seventeen hundred and twenty-four acre plantation were sold by Macon's executor, Weldon Edwards, to Francis A. Thornton in 1839. Thornton's executors conveyed the property to Robert L. Jones on December 10, 1852, and the executor of the Jones estate transferred the property to George W. Robinson on January 10, 1857. One thousand and fifty-three acres, including the homestead, were sold by Robinson's trustees to Simon Green on December 19, 1860. The same tract was sold to the trustees of J. Herbert Taylor on June 7, 1889. Taylor divided the property further, selling 191½ acres on which the house and outbuildings stand to Hilliard T. Howard on September 8, 1894. This property was shortly thereafter subdivided into five tracts, three of which were conveyed to the Commissioners of Warren County on April 27, 1934. The dwelling and other buildings were included with these three lots.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dodd, William E. Nathaniel Macon. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1903.  
 Warren County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)  
 Warren County Records, Warren County Courthouse, Warrenton, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)  
 Waterman, Thomas T. The Early Architecture of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1947.  
 Wellman, Manly Wade. The County of Warren. Chapel Hill: University of

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	36° 29' 04"	78° 00' 05"	0	'	"
NE	36° 28' 55"	78° 00' 21"	0	'	"
SE	36° 28' 30"	77° 59' 47"	0	'	"
SW	36° 28' 55"	78° 00' 21"	0	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 70

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
 J. G. Zehmer, Survey Specialist; Sherry I. Penney, Survey Assistant

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History      DATE: June 18, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh      STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 32

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Dr. H. G. Jones

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date June 18, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

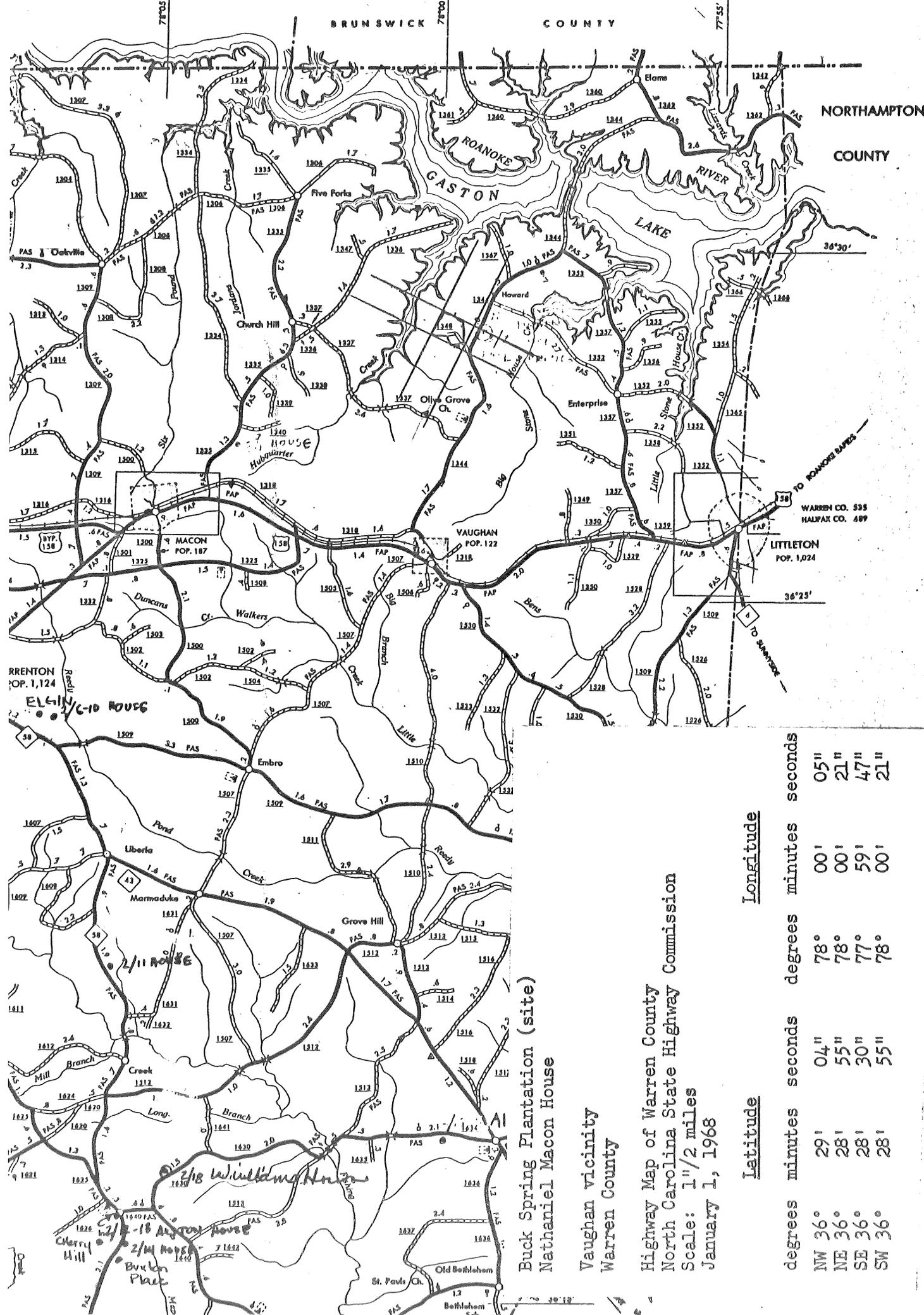
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Buck Spring Plantation (site)  
 Nathaniel Macon House

Vaughan vicinity  
 Warren County

Highway Map of Warren County  
 North Carolina State Highway Commission  
 Scale: 1"=2 miles  
 January 1, 1968

Latitude		Longitude	
degrees	minutes seconds	degrees	minutes seconds
NW	36° 29' 04"	78°	00' 05"
NE	36° 28' 55"	78°	00' 21"
SE	36° 28' 30"	77°	59' 47"
SW	36° 28' 55"	78°	00' 21"







