

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Harry Fitzhugh Lee House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 310 West Walnut Street not for publication

city, town Goldsboro vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Wayne code 191

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Charles P. Gaylor, III

street & number 109 North William Street Post Office Box 2004

city, town Goldsboro vicinity of state North Carolina 27530

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds (Deed Book 1033, Page 199)

street & number Wayne County Courthouse

city, town Goldsboro state North Carolina 27530

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Goldsboro Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date August 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records City of Goldsboro Planning Department

city, town Goldsboro state North Carolina 27530

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

A handsome example of the substantial Colonial Revival residences built for prominent citizens throughout North Carolina in the 1920s, the Harry Fitzhugh Lee House was erected in 1922 for Lee (b.1891), a prominent Goldsboro businessman and a great-nephew of General Robert E. Lee, and his wife, Julia Borden Lee (1892-1977), a member of Goldsboro's prominent and pioneering Borden family. The house, designed by local architect John David Gullett<sup>1</sup> and constructed by general contractor J.O. Jones<sup>2</sup>, was built on a two-lot site behind the large, ca 1883 Victorian frame house of Mrs. Lee's parents, the Frank K. Bordens. The Lee House is one of six houses on this block built by Borden descendants on part of the old family farm; it is the first one to be sold out of the Borden family.

Presenting an impressive five-bay northeast facade toward West Walnut Street, the common bond brick house displays a characteristic Dutch Colonial Revival gambrel roof, covered with green Ludowici Imperial Tiles.<sup>3</sup> The second floor roofline is broken on both the front and the rear elevation by frame shed-roof dormers (which extend to almost the full width of the house and contain six windows each) and by small hip dormers in the third floor. Bellcast eaves complete the roofline. The entrance includes an elliptical fanlight and sidelights above panels and is sheltered beneath a cantilevered, classically styled hood with sturdy supporting brackets attached to the pilasters. A curvilinear, brick-paved terrace extends across the front and wraps around each side elevation, connecting to a covered porch on the southeast that is supported by paired Doric pillars, and to a one-and-a-half story gambrel roofed addition on the northwest. This addition, designed by architect A.J. Maxwell of Goldsboro and built in 1939,<sup>4</sup> replaced an original enclosed porch. The house's window sash are six-over-six and only the second floor windows have blinds, which are louvered with an upper panel containing a half-moon motif. The house is flanked by exterior end chimneys on each side. Completing exterior details include molded boxed cornices with returning ends, copper downspouts on the front and rear, a centrally-located bay projection on the rear, and quarter- and half-circular louvered vents on the side elevations.

The interior is especially spacious and focuses upon the wide central hall, from the front of which rises the simple, open-stringer stair along the southeast wall, curving gracefully at the top to meet the second floor landing and then continuing to the third floor. The restrained finish of the plastered interior--flat surrounds, molded crown moldings, simple molded baseboards, and six-panel doors--is typical of the Colonial Revival emphasis on simplicity and the reliance upon furnishings to provide the interior interest. The only mantel on the original first floor is a three-part one in the living room at the north corner of the house; it uses molded and crossetted pilasters to support the convex frieze with a molded central panel and molded shelf. The dining room in the east corner contains two corner china cabinets with arched glass doors. At the rear of the central hall, an elliptical arch marks the entry into the rear transverse hall, off of which are arranged the kitchen in the south corner, the butler's pantry having been removed to expand the kitchen, the central sun room which serves as an extension of the central hall and provides access to the rear yard, a small half bath, and the den in the west corner. From the rear hall rose an octagonal spiral service stairs to the second floor; this was replaced with an elevator in 1975 when climbing stairs became too difficult for the Lees. The northwest library addition, built in 1939 to replace the enclosed porch, is paneled with knotty Arkansas pine and features a handsome Federal style mantel with a central Adamesque sunburst, reeded pilasters, and a molded shelf. The mantel came from an old house in neighboring Duplin County.

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The second floor originally consisted of four bedrooms, two baths, and a small ironing room at the front of the hall. The 1939 remodeling resulted in an expansion of the two northwest bedrooms to accommodate the addition of a pair of bathrooms above the new library. Of note throughout the upstairs are the handles at the windows which allow the operation of the shutters from the interior. The third floor, accessible by the continuation of the central staircase, contains two large, plainly finished bedrooms and a full bath. An attic above this third level was used for storage.

The only support building on the property is a two-story, two-car garage along the rear (southwest) property line. It also was designed by A.J. Maxwell in 1939<sup>2</sup> and closely follows the Dutch Colonial Revival style of the house. The garage level also contains a maid's room with full bath and closet, and a separate tool room. <sup>6</sup>A large play room on the second floor was used as an apartment during World War Two.

The house stands on an impressively landscaped two-lot site and is surrounded by extensive formal and informal plantings of boxwoods, hollies, and camellias beneath a lush canopy of hackberries, oaks, and flowering dogwoods. Originally laid out by a Mr. Gillette, a landscape architect from Richmond, Virginia, the gardens have matured into a luxuriant and verdant setting for the house. Dominating the site is a tremendous hackberry which is listed by the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources as the largest common hackberry in the state. The former tennis court for the adjacent Frank K. Borden House was transformed by the Lees into one of several rose gardens on the site. On the rear property line, adjacent to the garage, is an iron gate which came from the old Bank of Wayne Building, which was torn down in 1922 and replaced with the present Wachovia Bank and Trust Building; Mrs. Lee's father was prominent with both banks.

Footnotes

1. Original plans in possession of the owner.
2. April 13, 1982 letter from W. Fitzhugh Lee of Charlotte, North Carolina, son of Harry Fitzhugh Lee, to the owner.
3. Ludowici Celadon Tile Company. The dates on the backs of those tiles which have been removed for replacement are December 8 and 15, 1921.
4. August 27, 1982 letter from W. Fitzhugh Lee to the owner.
5. ibid.
6. op.cit., April 13, 1982 letter.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" 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 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** 1922 **Builder/Architect** John David Gullett

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Harry Fitzhugh Lee House, a noteworthy example of the substantial brick Colonial Revival dwellings erected during the 1920s in North Carolina, was designed by local architect John David Gullett and erected in 1922 for Harry Fitzhugh Lee (b.1891), a prominent Goldsboro businessman and a descendent of the Henry "Lighthouse Harry" Lee family of Virginia. Lee's wife was Julia Borden Lee (1892-1977), the daughter of Frank K. Borden, a leading Goldsboro businessman, and the great-granddaughter of Arnold Borden, on whose farm this section of Goldsboro was laid out in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Borden family, with extensive farming, manufacturing, banking, and mercantile interests, has been, and continues to be one of Goldsboro's most prominent families. Included on the house's lushly landscaped grounds is a hackberry tree that is recognized by the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources as the largest hackberry in the state.

### Criteria Assessment

A The Harry Fitzhugh Lee House occupies an important position in the growth and development of the Walnut Street-Virginia Street neighborhood during the early twentieth century and is important to the neighborhood's anticipated renovation.

B It is associated with Goldsboro's prominent Borden family, for Mrs. Lee was a Borden. It is one of six surviving dwellings built by family members on this block which, along with this western section of town, was laid out in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries on a part of the Arnold Borden farm.

C The house is a noteworthy example of the Colonial Revival style, here showing the Dutch Colonial influence in its gambrel roof.

D. May be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

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## Significance

Harry Fitzhugh Lee was born on March 21, 1891 at "Highland Home", Stafford County, Virginia, the youngest son of Daniel Murray Lee and Nannie E. (Ficklin) Lee.<sup>1</sup> According to a study of the Lee family, he is a descendant of the prominent Richard Lee family of Virginia, being a great-grandson of Henry "Lighthorse Harry" Lee (1756-1818), a major-general in the Revolution, a great-nephew of Robert E. Lee (1807-1870), the Supreme Commander of the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and a nephew (and namesake) of Fitzhugh Lee (1835-1905), the commander of the Cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War and the Governor of Virginia from 1886-1890. Lee was graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in June 1911 with a certificate in electrical engineering and later that year<sup>2</sup> began his career with the Carolina Power and Light Company in Raleigh, North Carolina. His work throughout the Carolinas took him to Goldsboro where he met Julia Borden (1872-1977), the daughter of Frank Kornegay Borden, Sr. (1857-1941) and Sallie Smith Jones Borden. The Borden family was, and continues to be, one of Goldsboro's most prominent families. Frank and his father, Edwin Brownrigg Borden (1831-1918), were actively involved in the banking, railroad, manufacturing, mercantile, farming, political, religious, and social affairs of Goldsboro for a span of ten decades.<sup>3</sup> Both built houses which stand on the same block as the Lee House. E.B. Borden's first house, built in 1853, burned in 1865, and rebuilt in 1870, was<sup>4</sup> headquarters for General Schofield during the Union occupation of Goldsboro in March 1865. "Fitz" Lee and Julia Borden were married in Goldsboro on October 1, 1919.

Julia Borden Lee was given the two lots on which the house stands by her parents. The first lot, originally the back yard of her parents large, adjacent ca 1883 frame Victorian house, was given in 1920.<sup>5</sup> It was on this lot that in 1922 this house, designed by local architect John David Gullett<sup>6</sup>, was erected by general contractor J.O. Jones.<sup>7</sup> A second lot, adjacent to Virginia Street and originally the tennis court for the Frank K. Borden House, was given in 1927.<sup>8</sup> On this lot were laid out extensive formal and informal gardens. Designed by a Mr. Gillette of Richmond, Virginia, these gardens were planted over a period of several years.<sup>9</sup>

The Lees were prominent in the business, social, and church affairs of Goldsboro throughout their lives there. Harry rose to be the Regional Manager for Carolina Power and Light for the entire Coastal Plain of North Carolina and oversaw the electrification of the most heavily agricultural area of the state during his forty-six years with the company. He retired in October 1957 and was honored the next year with the naming of C.P. and L.'s newest generating<sup>10</sup> plant on the Neuse River ten miles west of Goldsboro as the H.F. Lee Generating Plant. He was for many years an officer in Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church and was active in the Kiwanis Club, the Men's Garden Club, and the Goldsboro Rose Society. As a member of the Goldsboro Parks and Recreation Commission,<sup>11</sup> he did much to plant and maintain the extensive rose and azalea gardens in Herman Park, a large park donated to the city in 1892 by Henry and Solomon Weil in memory of their brother Herman.

Julia Borden Lee was known for her generosity and willingness to help others. Educated at St. Mary's School in Raleigh and at Gunston Hall in Washington, D.C., she was active in the church, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Goldsboro Women's Club. She was a nurse's aid during both World Wars and during the Second World War served as an airplane spotter for the Army Air Force Training Base (now Seymour

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Johnson Air Base) in Goldsboro.<sup>12</sup> She died on December 4, 1977 and was buried in the Borden family plot in Goldsboro's Willowdale Cemetery. H. Fitzhugh Lee remained in the house until December 1979 when he moved to Charlotte to be closer to his son and daughter. He resides there now.

The Lee House is one of the finest of the architect-designed Colonial Revival residences in Goldsboro and, as the most substantial and impressive of the three Dutch Colonial Revival houses in town, it is particularly important to the stylistic variety of Goldsboro's architectural fabric. The block on which the Lee House is situated, bounded by George, Walnut, Virginia, and Chesnut Streets, contains six Borden family houses dating from 1870 to ca 1938 and serves as the entry into a handsome, but declining, early-twentieth century neighborhood of modest, middle-class Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Bungalow style houses; across Walnut Street from the Lee House is Goldsboro's only International Style dwelling. This section of town, which was incorporated into the city in 1895 and 1909,<sup>13</sup> centers upon the eclectic Union Depot (NR) which was completed in 1909 at the end of West Walnut Street in an area then known as Borden's field.<sup>14</sup>

The Lee House was purchased in 1982 by Goldsboro attorney Charles P. Gaylor, III and his wife, Rhonda McDonald Gaylor, as their residence.<sup>15</sup> Gaylor, the vice-chairman of the Goldsboro Historic District Commission, plans to donate an easement on the Lee property to the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina. This block, which serves as a buffer between the Walnut-Virginia Street neighborhood and the Central Business District three blocks east, is under increasing development pressure for demolition and incorporation into the CBD; it is zoned CBD and residential-office. An easement donation would decrease the redevelopment pressures on the block by the removal of one-sixth of the block from the potential market. It is anticipated that such a donation would not only stabilize this block and neighborhood, but encourage the neighborhood's further renovation.

Footnotes

1. August 10, 1983 letter from William Fitzhugh Lee of Charlotte, North Carolina, the son of the original owner, to Tom Butchko of Raleigh, preservation consultant.
2. ibid.
3. The Heritage of Wayne County, North Carolina-1982, (Goldsboro, North Carolina: Wayne County Historical Society, Inc. and the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society, 1982), p.162, 163. See also Frank K. Borden obituary, Goldsboro News-Argus, October 10, 1941.
4. Bob Johnson and Charles S. Norwood, eds., History of Wayne County, North Carolina, (Goldsboro, North Carolina: Hilburn Printing Company, 1979), p. 104.
5. Wayne County Register of Deeds, Deed Book 161, Page 434.
6. Original plans in the possession of the owner.
7. April 13, 1982 letter from William Fitzhugh Lee to the owner.
8. Wayne County Register of Deeds, Deed Book 194, Page 135.
9. Telephone conversation with William Fitzhugh Lee on August 16, 1983.
10. op.cit., August 10, 1983 letter.
11. ibid.
12. ibid., see also obituary in the Goldsboro News-Argus, December 4, 1977.
13. Lionel Weil, Goldsboro and its Government, (Goldsboro, North Carolina: Lionel Weil, 1923), p.1. The 1859 city boundary was the lot line between the two lots that comprise the Lee home; the house location was within the 1859 city limits while the gardens were not.
14. Johnson and Norwood, op.cit., p. 226.
15. Wayne County Register of Deeds, Deed Book 1033, Page 199.

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The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archeological remains which may be present can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure and nearby structures. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often evident only in the archeological record. Therefore, archeological 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.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Letters from H. Fitzhugh Lee's son to the owner and the preservation consultant.  
Deed records. / Original plans.

The Heritage of Wayne County, North Carolina-1982, (Goldsboro, North Carolina: Wayne County Historical Soc., Inc. and the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Soc., 1982.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.9

Quadrangle name Northwest Goldsboro, N.C.

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute  
1:24000

UTM References

A 

17	772	240	3919	580
Zone	Easting	Northing		

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing		

C 

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D 

--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--

G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property to be nominated is the house lot at 310 West Walnut Street in Goldsboro, North Carolina, which also has frontage onto Virginia Street. It is shown on a survey map dated August 4, 1982; a copy of that survey is attached.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
-------	-----	------	--------	-----	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Butchko, Preservation Consultant

organization

date September 7, 1983

street & number 293 Newton Road

telephone (919) 847-3588

city or town Raleigh

state North Carolina 27609

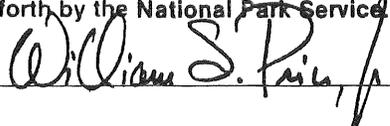
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date October 20, 1983

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

(4)	(5)	(6)	(14)	(13)	(12)	(11)	(10)	(9)	(8)
50	50	55	51.67	50	53.33	50	85	60	100

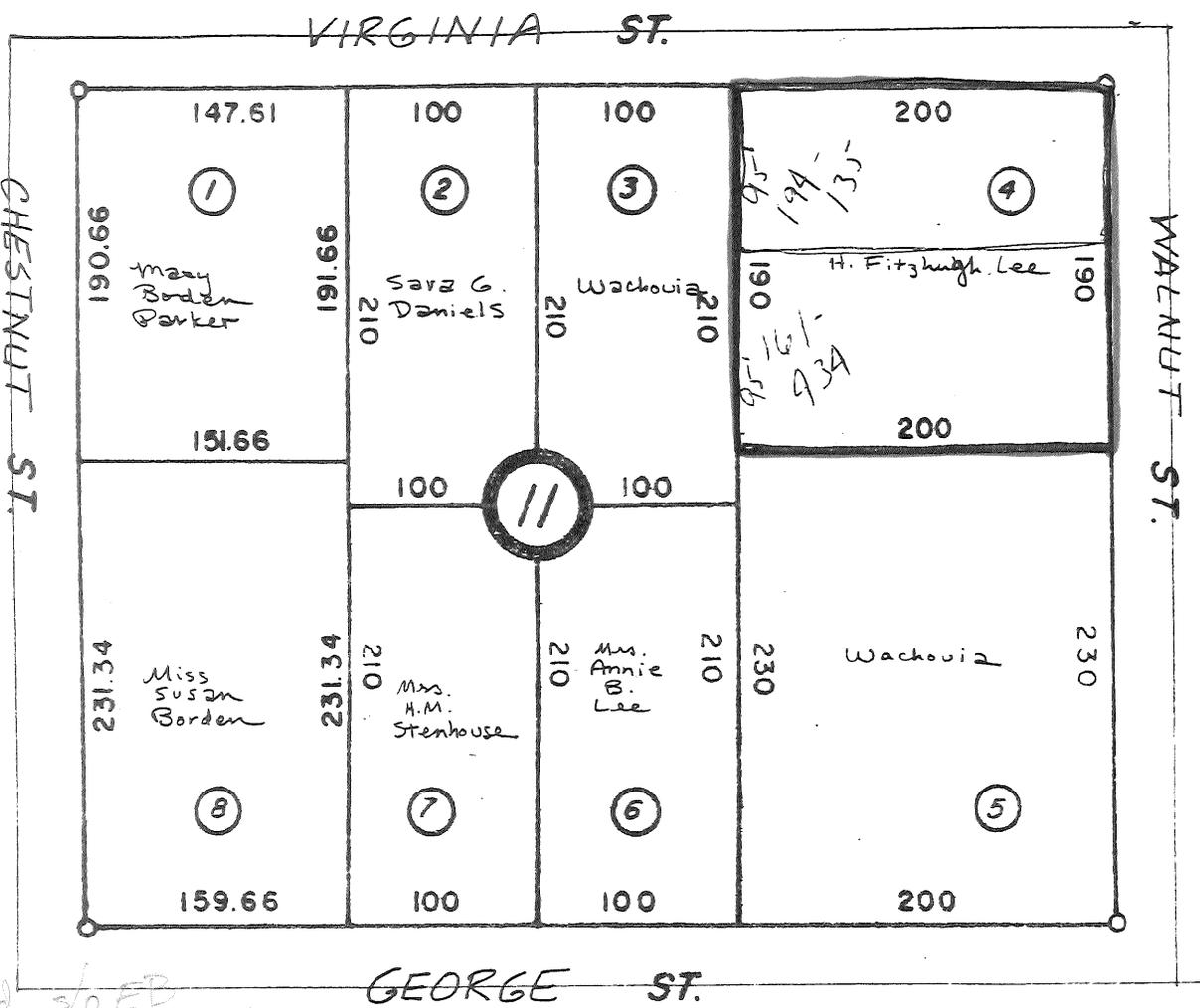
SEE

100	93.48	75	54.35	150	54.65
(5)		(5)			

NO. 68

MAP

SEE



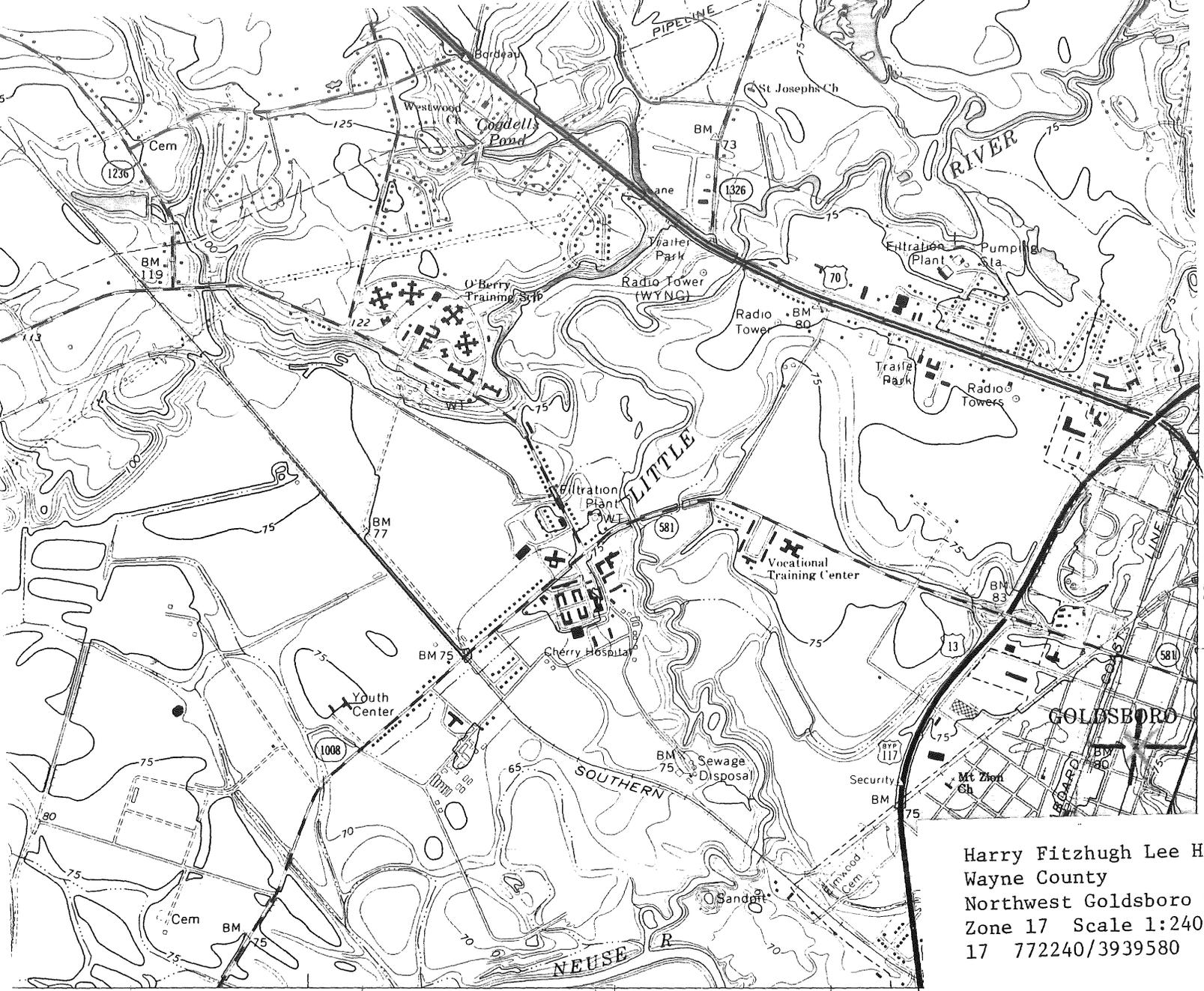
*Revised, 3/0 EB*

*John Borden s/o EB*

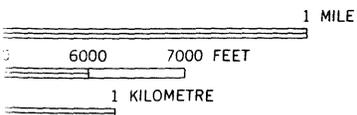
NO.	54
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SUBDIVISION	DEVELOPER	REFERENCE	Drawn By:	LITTLETON	TOWNSHIP
			Compiled By:		GOLDS
			Date:	2 - 21 - 62	
			Scale:	1" = 100'	

*Map #55*



Harry Fitzhugh Lee Ho  
 Wayne County  
 Northwest Goldsboro Q  
 Zone 17 Scale 1:2400  
 17 772240/3939580



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface Light-duty road, hard or improved surface

Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road

Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route



STANDARDS  
 VIRGINIA 22092  
 AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ADVANCE SHEET  
 SUBJECT TO CORRECTION  
 WORKING COMPOSITE  
 UNIT A CLEMONS  
 C. BOJANOWSKI - F  
 E. SHARKSHNAS - F  
 M. HOUSEMAN - P

NORTHWEST GOLDSBORO, N. C.  
 N3522.5 - W7800/7.5

1974  
 AMS 5354 I NE-SERIES V846

GOLDSBORO WEST NE  
 GOLDSBORO WEST PROJECT

CONTOUR  
 GOLDSBORO

