

293

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Moore House (also known as Gwydir)

AND OR HISTORIC:
Stamp's Quarter

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South side of U.S. 158, 0.2 mi. on country lane

CITY OR TOWN:
Locust Hill Township (Sixth Congressional District, The Hon. L. Richardson

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Caswell (Preyer) CODE: 033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<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 checked="" 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:
Miss Annie Yancey Gwyn

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1

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

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (listed as Stamp's Quarter)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1940 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

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7. DESCRIPTION

	(Check One)					
CONDITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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/OR ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Moore House, also known as Stamp's Quarter, is a large-scale two-story structure of restrained Federal design. The house is situated 0.2 mile from the main highway at the end of a country lane amid huge boxwoods and red cedars, with a sweeping valley vista to the rear. At the south-east corner of the house stands the fieldstone and brick chimney of a small brick structure which before it burned served as the kitchen. Nearby is a saddlebag log house which may have been servants' quarters. The Moore House, which has been carefully restored, is three bays wide and two deep and is set on a full, raised basement, with exterior end chimneys and a low hip roof.

The (north) facade is laid in one-to-three and one-to-four common bond brick, with the glazed headers creating a striped pattern. The interruption of this patterned field by simple strong architectural details forms an interesting facade composition. In the center bay of the facade at both the first and second levels is an identical double door, each leaf containing three flat panels, set within an arched opening with a simple molded surround and a flat-paneled reveal, and surmounted by a twelve-light fanlight. The facade windows, with six-over-six sash in the basement and nine-over-nine sash in the upper stories, are set within plain wooden architraves, each with a narrow fillet around the outside edge and protected by louvered shutters. Above the openings in the basement and first story are brick flat arches, and at the third story a flat arch surmounts the central door while a single row of brick headers surmounts each window. The soffit of the cornice, which continues beneath the eaves on all four sides, features mutules with guttae. The low hip roof is covered with standing seam tin. The exterior end chimneys, partially recessed into the wall surface, are laid in one-to-three and one-to-four common bond like the wall surface, and the single shoulder and stack of each chimney has been rebuilt. Sheltering the first-story entrance is a three-bay one-story porch, said to be a reproduction of the original, which is constructed of slender Doric columns that support a flat roof, with a simple balustrade at both the first level and the gallery.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The rear elevation has no second-story entrance, and the central first-story entrance has a four-pane transom; otherwise this elevation is identical to the front facade. The rear entrance porch is similar to the front porch but has a pedimented gable roof. The brick of the side elevations is laid in random common bond, and in the rear bay of the basement on each side is an entrance like the others but without a fanlight or transom. Above the basement entrance on the east side in the first-story is a transomed entrance like the rear entrance. The porch which provided access has disappeared.

The basement and first floor of the Moore House follow a center hall plan, one room deep, and the second floor has a center hall with a single room on the west and two rooms on the east. Handsome late Federal trim is present on all three levels.

In the original plan the only basement entrances were in the rear bay of each side, and the rear half of the center hall was partitioned off.

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During renovation this partition wall was removed, and front and rear hall entrances were added. The hall is finished with plastered walls, a molded chair rail, and symmetrically molded door frames with raised-paneled corner blocks. The doors throughout the house have six flat panels, and the soffits and reveals of the exterior openings and of the doors within the brick partition wall to the west of the hall are flat-paneled. A single-flight stair with a plastered spandrel, a plain open string, simple slender balusters, a shaped handrail, and a Doric newel rises against the east wall. With the exception of the flush-sheathed dado, the trim of the east room matches that of the hall. The east room mantel is of simple Federal design with fluted Doric pilasters supporting a raised-paneled frieze and a deeply molded cornice and shelf. The west room, originally left with bare brick walls, a molded chair rail on three walls, and no door or window casings, was completed during renovation.

The first floor is finished with molded baseboards, flat-paneled wainscots and molded chair rails, and plaster walls. In the entrance hall, three-part molded architraves surround the openings. The architraves of the front and rear entrances are enriched with plain block capitals, and a molded keystone crowns the front entrance fanlight. Against the wooden east partition wall the open-string stair, protected by slender plain balusters and a ramped handrail with a spiral newel, rises in two flights to the second story. A rich combination of wood relief, consisting of tulip brackets above a guilloché stringer and a cable molding, ornaments the open string. The stair soffit is flat-paneled, and the flat-paneled wainscot continues up the stair to the second floor.

The west room, or main parlor, is the most elaborately finished room in the house. Symmetrically molded architraves with corner blocks containing applied sunburst medallions surround the openings. The tripartite fully-developed Federal mantel has paired colonnettes with sunburst capitals supporting a full entablature of reeded architrave, frieze with end blocks and a central tablet with applied sunbursts, and a deeply molded cornice and shelf with a scalloped drip course. Several bands of gougework surround the rectangular fireplace opening. The finish of the east room corresponds to that of the stair hall. The mantel is a simpler version of the parlor mantel.

The second floor trim follows that of the center hall and east room on the first floor. The hall floor at this level extends out above the first floor landing to form a small platform enclosed by the stair rail which breaks out around it. This platform perhaps held a candle stand which illuminated the stair. The two small east bedchambers each contain a small corner mantel consisting of fluted Doric pilasters supporting a wide plain frieze with corner blocks and a molded cornice and shelf. The mantel in the west bedchamber is identical to the mantel in the east room on the first floor.

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 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 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 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 severe exterior appearance of the Moore House contrasts with the rich Federal motifs which appear throughout the interior. The treatment of the raised basement of the Moore House as a visually integral feature of the structure by means of matching exterior architectural detail is atypical of Caswell County and is one of the major factors in the imposing appearance of the house. The Moore House is one of the best preserved and most handsome houses of the Federal era in the northern Piedmont of North Carolina.

The Moore House was probably built by Samuel Moore, who in 1785 purchased the land the house stands on. Moore acquired two adjacent tracts—a 640-acre tract for 100 pounds specie, and a 400-acre tract for which he paid 500 pounds specie. Since the latter tract, bought from Stephen Williamson, commanded a disproportionately higher price compared to the 640-acre tract, there may have been a house or other improvement on it. The kitchen on the property, destroyed by fire in 1942 and now in ruins, had two large exterior end chimneys constructed of fieldstone with brick stacks; it is believed to have been an earlier residence on the site. This structure may have been the Williamson dwelling.

The present house, however, is considered to have been constructed for Moore around 1790. This would be consistent with the exterior appearance of the house; the interior finish appears stylistically later. In 1850, Moore was listed in the agricultural schedule of the United States Census as possessing 930 acres, 600 being under cultivation; his farm was valued at \$6,000. By far the most abundant crop on hand was the 9,000 pounds of tobacco, indicating the chief enterprise of Moore's farm. In 1854, the house and 903 acres was sold to George W. Swepson and Paul Watlington for \$6,000. Swepson, who lived near the Moore farm, and Watlington had it "run off and divided into several tracts one of the said parcels known as the Creek house tract." In 1854, Watlington sold to Swepson his half interest in this tract, containing 351 3/4 acres, for \$1,500.

George Swepson was a son-in-law of the eminent Caswell County lawyer and legislator, Bartlett Yancey. Swepson emerged as a powerful figure during Reconstruction in North Carolina. He built up large business interests and became "the leading director" of the Raleigh National Bank, and was also elected president of the Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad. In the uncertain business conditions of the time he and several others promoted an unsuccessful railroad bond scheme in which they attempted

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to capitalize on the good faith and credit of the state. The resulting debacle brought to light irregularities which destroyed Swepson's standing.

It is uncertain whether Swepson ever lived in the Moore House inasmuch as he was a nearby resident when it was owned by Moore. It is more likely that he bought it speculatively, for resale. In 1858 he sold two tracts to Rufus Stamps for \$5,500, one containing the present house. Rufus Stamps is shown on the census agricultural schedule of 1860 as the owner of 720 acres whose crop included 8,000 pounds of tobacco.

In 1942, Miss Annie Yancey Gwyn bought the house, which had been unoccupied for twenty-five years and served as a barn. Through her efforts it was returned to its original elegance and is now her residence.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research by Charles Blumo, survey specialist; architectural description by Ruth Little Stokes, survey specialist.
 Caswell County Records, Caswell County Courthouse, Yanceyville, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Caswell County Records, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Asho, Samuel A. History of North Carolina. Raleigh, North Carolina: Edwards and Broughton Printing Co., 1925.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		36 22 22	79 25 39	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9 1/2 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION: Office of Archives and History DATE: 15 February 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 H. G. Jones

Title State Historian/Administrator

Date 15 February 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 _____

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