

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Alamance Battleground State Historic Site

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1, on Highway 62, near intersection with S. R. 1129

CITY OR TOWN:
Burlington

STATE North Carolina	CODE 37	COUNTY: Alamance	CODE 001
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

STATE: North Carolina	CODE 37
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Graham

STATE North Carolina	CODE 37
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

STATE: North Carolina

COUNTY: Alamance

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<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 ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Alamance Battleground covers a 40-acre area of open fields and woods where, for two hours on May 16, 1771, the Regulators fought the militia under the command of William Tryon, royal governor of North Carolina. Recent additions to the site include a visitor center housing interpretive displays, a series of markers noting various aspects of the battle, and a large column with plaques commemorating the Regulators. This column was moved to the present site in 1963 from its original site at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park where it was erected in 1901. The John Allen House, a typical late eighteenth century dwelling once owned by the brother-in-law of a Regulator leader, Herman Husband, was restored and moved to the battleground in 1966.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. 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 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Alamance Battleground is the site of the defeat of the Regulators by the North Carolina colonial militia under the command of Royal Governor William Tryon. This battle marked the climax of the Regulator movement which had disturbed the colony for several years.

The Regulators sought to challenge the malpractices of judges, sheriffs, and other office holders, which included extortionate fees required by local officials, unreasonable demands by tax collectors, and cases wherein much of the tax collected was kept by the official rather than being sent on to the government. The Regulators objected to the domination of the provincial government by the eastern planters. These grievances, it should be noted, were against specific misuses of power by the governing officials, not against the government itself. The Regulator leaders were, in fact, careful to point out that they were in no way fighting for a change in the "Form or Mode of Government." Another complaint was the shortage of specie (hard money).

The Regulators at first tried to correct official corruption by legal and peaceful means. Led by such men as Herman Husband of Orange County and Thomas Person of Granville, the Regulators petitioned Governor Tryon, presented their grievances to the assembly, and stated their complaints in a series of "Regulator Advertisements." These efforts were not effective, and eventually dissatisfaction led to increasing outbreaks of lawlessness. Alarmed by the incidents of mob violence, the Assembly passed a riot act aimed against the Regulators. The Regulators responded with threats of wider violence; the governor in turn called out the militia to suppress the insurgents. On May 16, 1771, after brief and fruitless negotiations, Tryon's force of over 1,000 militia men attacked about 2,000 poorly-armed Regulators. Within two hours the government forces were victorious. Tryon lost nine men and had sixty-one wounded; nine Regulators were killed and an undetermined number wounded.

Immediately after the battle, one man was summarily hanged by Tryon's forces. Shortly thereafter twelve Regulators were tried and convicted of treason; six were hanged, six pardoned by the governor. A monument was erected in 1901 in memory of these men, naming "James Pugh, Robert Matear, Benjamin Merrill, Captain Messer, and two others whose names are now Unknown," and recalling the words of Pugh, who was reported to have said before he was hanged, "Our blood will be as good seed in good ground, that will soon produce one hundred fold."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE North Carolina	
COUNTY Alamance	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8.

Governor Tryon offered clemency to all Regulators who would take an oath of allegiance. Within six weeks over 6,000 had done so. After the battle and the utter defeat of the Regulator movement, some Regulators left North Carolina "in despair of seeing better times."

The Regulator movement was an expression of the growing pains of the young colony as settlement advanced westward. As with most of the large colonies whose expansion was in one direction, there was a mounting tension between the long-entrenched landowners of the established coastal areas and the small farmers of the Piedmont. Like the Regulator movement of South Carolina and Bacon's Rebellion in Virginia, the North Carolina Regulator movement reflected the social and economic differences between the tidewater and inland regions as well as the common resentment of malpractices by corrupt government officials and the shortage of specie. Thus Alamance Battleground was the scene of one of the conflicts which played an important role in the growth of the American colonies.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boatner, Mark Mayo. III. Encyclopedia of the American Revolution. New York: David McKay Company, Inc., 1966.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage, and Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1963.

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	36 ° 00 ' 31 "	79 ° 31 ' 15 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	36 ° 00 ' 31 "	79 ° 31 ' 8 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	36 ° 00 ' 23 "	79 ° 31 ' 8 "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	36 ° 00 ' 23 "	79 ° 31 ' 15 "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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:
John B. Wells, III, Survey Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: March 15, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

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

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 March 15, 1971

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

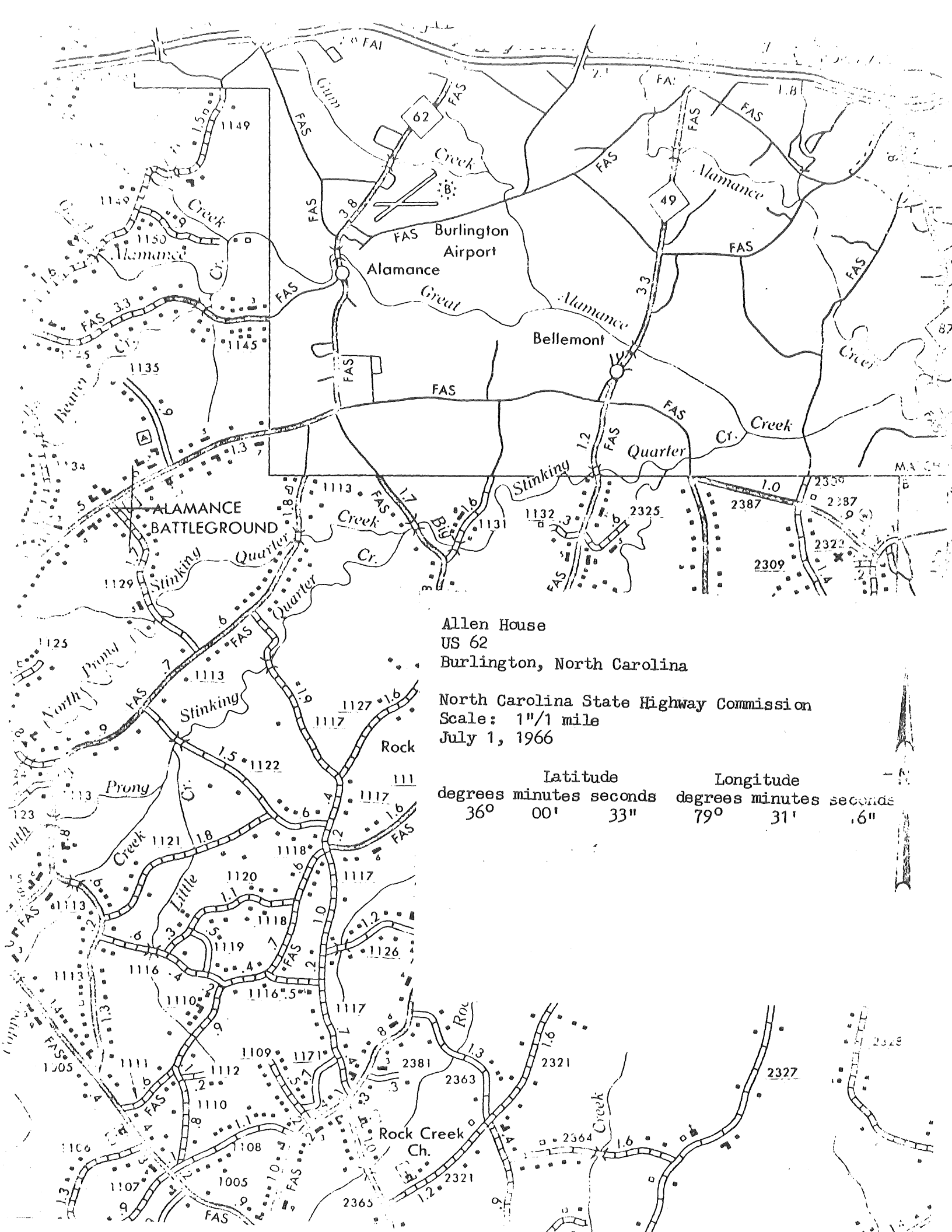
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

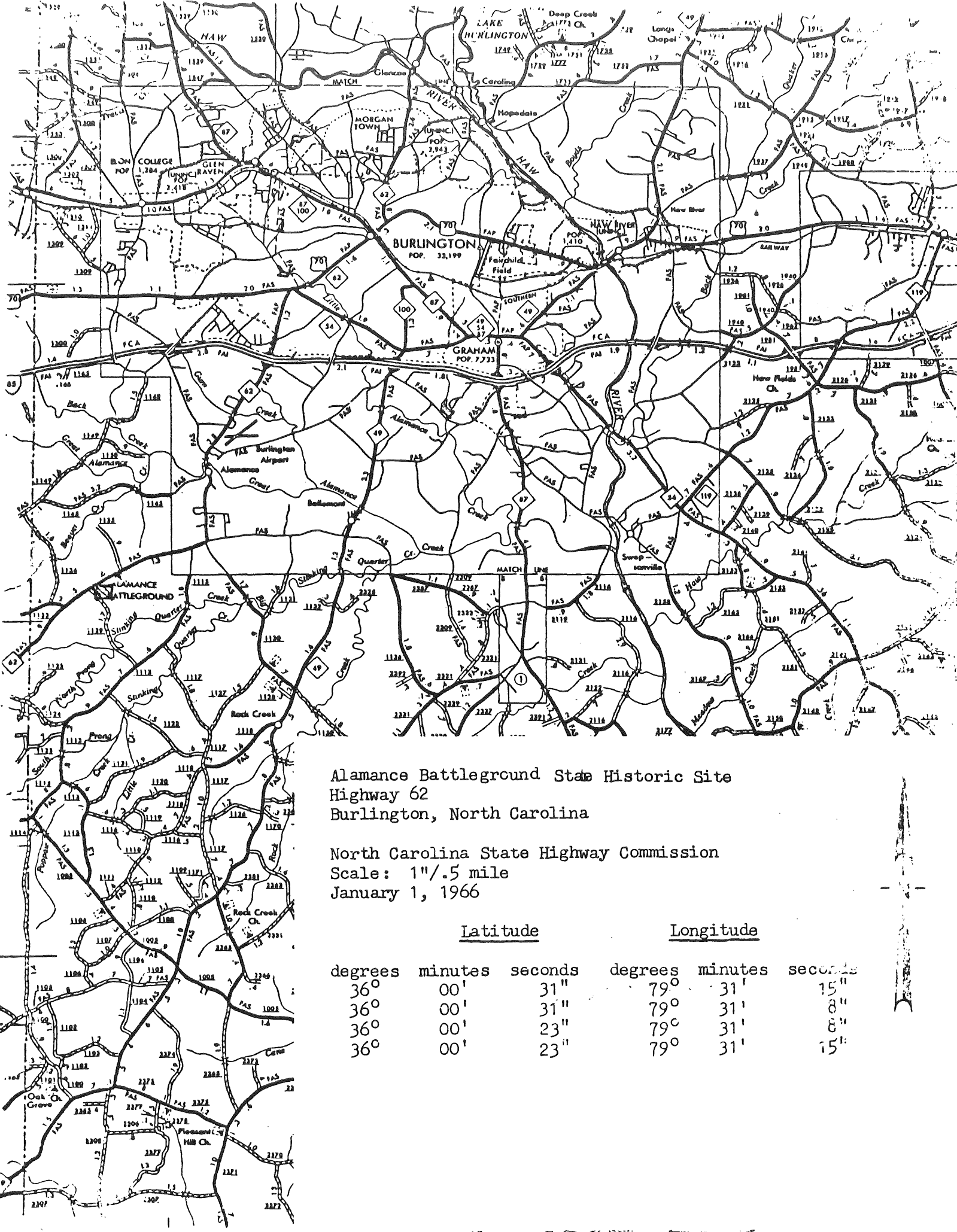
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Allen House
 US 62
 Burlington, North Carolina

North Carolina State Highway Commission
 Scale: 1"/1 mile
 July 1, 1966

Latitude			Longitude		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
36°	00'	33"	79°	31'	16"



Alamance Battleground State Historic Site
 Highway 62
 Burlington, North Carolina

North Carolina State Highway Commission
 Scale: 1" = .5 mile
 January 1, 1966

Latitude

Longitude

degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds
36°	00'	31"	79°	31'	15"
36°	00'	31"	79°	31'	8"
36°	00'	23"	79°	31'	8"
36°	00'	23"	79°	31'	15"