

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 DeVane-MacQueen House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number E side of NC 87 .5 mile S of jct. with SR 2233 not for publication

city, town x vicinity of Grays Creek

state North Carolina code 037 county Cumberland County code 051

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 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 type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 Mrs. C.H. Wellons

street & number Rt. 7 Box 190

city, town Fayetteville vicinity of state NC 28306

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

street & number P.O. Box 2039

city, town Fayetteville state NC 28302

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Cumberland County Historic Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date 1978 x federal x state x county x local

depository for survey records Division of Archives and Historic Survey and Planning Branch

city, town Raleigh state NC 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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

Built c.1855, the DeVane-MacQueen House reflects the major Greek Revival trends which dominated domestic architecture of antebellum Cumberland County and North Carolina. Local houses which follow this trend take several different forms, and the DeVane-MacQueen House, with its two-story double-pile central-hall plan and hip roof, illustrates one of them. In addition, the house bears characteristic Greek Revival fenestration, window, door, and mantel treatment. In this way, the fairly substantial dwelling seems to be part of a country house tradition reflected in other dwellings such as Fair Oaks c.1858 and Westlawn (NR) c.1858 near Fayetteville.

Originally associated with a prosperous farm, the DeVane-MacQueen House is situated in Gray's Creek Township, west of the Cape Fear River and north of Willis Creek, on the Fayetteville-Wilmington Road. The house, set back from the road at the end of a drive approximately 800 feet in length and surrounded by towering hardwoods, is the two-story five-bay frame dwelling with a low hip roof. It rests on piers made of uncut sandstone, a natural material found in abundance between the house and its environs and the Cape Fear River. The house, which is covered with plain weatherboards and has corner pilasters, is sheltered by an attached hip-roof porch protecting the three central bays along the front facade. Porch columns are slender square-in-section ones with recessed faces and they are linked by a balustrade with simple rectangular-in-section balusters.

The porch shields a central entrance which consists of a door with four recessed panels framed by a 6-pane transom and 4-pane sidelight surmounting raised panels. The door is flanked by two 6/6 sash window openings on each side which have two-step Greek Revival surrounds. Window treatment is the same throughout the remaining front and three to four bay sides, with the addition of louvered shutters. The entire main block is capped by a low hip roof now covered with asphalt shingles. Double interior chimneys covered with stucco pierce the roof and serve each room.

The interior of the DeVane-MacQueen House follows a double-pile central-hall plan. The central hall is wide and contains a straight enclosed string stair which leads to the second floor. The stair is highlighted by simple rectangular-in-section balusters and a slender newel featuring a molded cap and chamfered corners with a lamb's tongue motif.

Woodwork in the hall and lower floors is representative of that found throughout the house. The wide floorboards are pine and the baseboards are beaded. Like the main entrance, all the doors have four recessed panels except for that of the staircloset which has two raised panels. Mantels exhibit Greek Revival post-and-lintel construction and plain or stepped shelves, with the one in the left front room exhibiting a paneled frieze and slender pilasters, and the others plain friezes and pilasters. An unusual feature is that most rooms have small closets with single panel doors and rim locks, which were probably added early in the house's history.

The floor plan of the house is intact except for minor alterations at the rear of the second floor hall where a bathroom was added and at the rear of the

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Continuation sheet

Description

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first floor where a full-facade porch was enclosed a section at a time. It contains kitchen and storage facilities to replace the "old kitchen" which once was situated in the rear yard.

Several outbuildings associated with the house remain. These include a small gable-roof frame building in the front yard which is said to have served as a schoolhouse, as well as scattered buildings to the rear. The most important are a frame gable-roof barn with protective sheds on each side, a chicken coop, and a smokehouse. In the distance are two tobacco barns, one constructed of log with a skirt shed and tin roof and the other made of corrugated metal. In a wooded area at the extreme rear of the property is a two-story slave-turned-tenant house which exhibits rough, unpainted weatherboard construction, 6/6 sash windows, and a front sleeping porch. It is only one of two such structures remaining.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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 ca. 1855 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The DeVane-MacQueen House c.1855 is a well-preserved example of the Greek Revival country house of mid-nineteenth century Cumberland County. Characterized by two-story double-pile five-bay construction with a hip roof and central hall, the tradition is shared by at least two other dwellings--Fair Oaks c.1858 and Westlawn c.1858--near Fayetteville. The DeVane-MacQueen House, situated in Gray's Creek Township in the southern part of the county, exhibits the predominant Greek Revival features of mid-century including a front door with sidelights and transom, 6/6 sash windows, four recessed panel doors, and post-and-lintel mantels. The house was included in landholdings of nineteenth century agriculturalists Thomas DeVane, and, after 1869, Neill MacQueen, who also became the county sheriff and whose descendant still occupies the house. Originally associated with the traditional farm economy of Cumberland County, surrounding lands, although decreased in total acreage, continue to be cultivated today.

Criteria assessment:

- A. The DeVane-MacQueen House is associated with the traditional farm economy of mid-nineteenth century Cumberland County, and housed prosperous agriculturalists who not only raised large amounts of cash crops but engaged in agribusiness activities like operating a turpentine still and a flour or grist mill.

- C. The DeVane-MacQueen House c. 1855 follows the Greek Revival country house traditions of the middle 1800s with its two-story double-pile form, hip-roof, central-hall plan, and characteristic Greek Revival fenestration, door, window, and mantel treatment.

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DeVane-MacQueen House
Continuation sheet Historical Background Item number 8 Page 1

DeVane-MacQueen House: Historical Description

Neill MacQueen, Gray's Creek agriculturalist best known for serving as Cumberland County sheriff from 1884 to the time of his death in 1888, acquired three tracts of land from Thomas DeVane on 16 January 1869.¹ The third of these was most likely the house tract, acquired by DeVane at a commissioner's sale in 1854.² This is very close to the building date of the house as determined by architectural evidence, so it seems that Thomas DeVane, an extensive landowner and cultivator, either built the house himself or acquired it soon after construction.

DeVane's 1600 acres, 400 of which were improved, were valued at the sizeable sum of \$6,000 in 1860. Raising livestock was secondary to crop production, which included 1500 bushels of Indian corn, 500 of sweet potatoes, 225 of rye, and lesser amounts of peas, beans, and Irish potatoes. Corn was Cumberland County's main food and cash crop, of which DeVane produced a large harvest.³

Neill MacQueen began acquiring lands in Cumberland County in 1866, and three years later obtained the Gray's Creek plantation.⁴ In addition to farming interests, in 1870 he employed four men to operate a turpentine still eight months out of the year and produced just over 9,000 dollars worth of spirits and 6,000 dollars worth of rosin.⁵ In 1880, he operated a flour or grist mill in Gray's Creek Township.⁶ Both endeavors were very much related to the farm economy of nineteenth century Cumberland County and represent typical rural enterprises in which ambitious farmers participated.

Neill MacQueen was active in Cumberland County and was best known for his term of service as sheriff beginning in 1884.⁷ While serving as sheriff, he and his family lived at the Taylor-Utley House in Haymount, Fayetteville's western district. According to newspaper accounts, MacQueen died at his Haymount residence on 20 April 1888 while still in public office. He was buried with Masonic ceremonies at the Big Rockfish Presbyterian Church where he and his wife of twenty-seven years, Flora Caroline, were members.⁸

MacQueen died intestate, leaving behind his wife, Flora, a son, Neill A., and a married daughter, Eliza J. Byrne, who were of age, as well as four daughters and three sons, all minors. His lands were ordered to be sold by a commissioner; the sale eventually took place in 1894-1895, at which time Flora C. MacQueen became the highest bidder of not only for the "Utley Residence" in town but for 252 acres of former DeVane land in Gray's Creek. This land was subject to dower and homestead rights, meaning that it was the old family homestead-plantation tract.⁹

The family had returned to Gray's Creek by this time. In 1918, Flora MacQueen and others deeded a parcel of land including the "residence of the late

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Neill McQueen" to her youngest daughter, Almenia MacQueen Baker.¹⁰ Her husband, in turn, deeded the property to their daughter, Caroline Baker Wellons, in 1954.¹¹ This descendant of Neill MacQueen continues to occupy the house today, and leases the accompanying twenty-six acres to tenants for farming purposes.¹²

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DeVane-MacQueen House: Reference Notes

¹Thomas W. DeVane and wife to Neill McQueen, 16 January 1869, Cumberland County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, Book 58, Page 30, hereinafter cited as Cumberland County Deeds. Note: The family surname varies in spelling from record to record, but in order to be consistent the author has chosen that favored in family records which is MacQueen.

²Cumberland County Deeds, Book 58, Page 30.

³Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Cumberland County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, 19, microfilm of the National Archives manuscript copy, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, hereinafter cited as Census with appropriate references to year, county, schedule, and page number.

⁴Peter MacQueen, Jr., "The Ancestors and Descendents of Peter MacQueen" (Privately printed, 1976), 21, hereinafter cited as Peter MacQueen, "Ancestors".

⁵Ninth Census, 1870, Cumberland County, Rockfish Township, Industry Schedule, 1.

⁶Tenth Census, 1880, Cumberland County, Gray's Creek Township, Manufacturer's Schedule, no page number given.

⁷Peter MacQueen, "Ancestors", 22.

⁸Fayetteville Observer, 26 April 1888; Peter MacQueen, "Ancestors", 21-22.

⁹Neill MacQueen Papers, Cumberland County Estates Records, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

¹⁰Cumberland County Deeds, Book 270, Page 464.

¹¹Cumberland County Deeds, Book 634, Page 642.

¹²Interview with Caroline Baker Wellons, by Linda Jasperse, at her home, Gray's Creek, North Carolina, 23 February 1982.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 26.0 acres

Quadrangle name Saint Pauls

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UTM References

A	<u>17</u>	<u>696720</u>	<u>3861915</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>17</u>	<u>697710</u>	<u>3861780</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>17</u>	<u>697700</u>	<u>3861575</u>
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D	<u>17</u>	<u>696725</u>	<u>3861570</u>
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E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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F	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

All of Lot 1, Subdivision 1851, Map 99, Gray's Creek Township, as outlined in red on map.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
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state		code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda Jasperse, Principal Investigator, County of Cumberland

organization Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch date November 19, 1982
Division of Archives and History

street & number 109 E. Jones Street telephone 1-919-733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

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 William S. Rice, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Cumberland County Records: Deeds, Estate Records.

Fayetteville Observer, 26 April 1888.

MacQueen, Peter, Jr. "The Ancestors and Descendents of Peter Mac Queen."
Privately printed, 1976.

United States Census Records, Eighth Census, 1860; Ninth Census, 1870; Tenth
Census, 1880, Cumberland County, North Carolina, various schedules.

Wellons, Caroline Baker. Cumberland County, North Carolina. Interview by Linda
Jasperse, 23 February 1982.

② D.C. Bake

42 AC

ALMENIA M^S & QUEEN BAKER

SUB # 1851
PB 16-7

① 26 AC

⑬ EVAN

46.41

DeVane-MacQueen House
Grays Creek vicinity
Cumberland County
Quadrangle: Saint Pauls, N.C.
Scale 1:62,500

Acreage: approx. 26 acres
Zone: 17

UTM: A	Easting 696720	Northing 3861915
B	Easting 697710	Northing 3861780
C	Easting 697700	Northing 3861575
D	Easting 696725	Northing 3861570

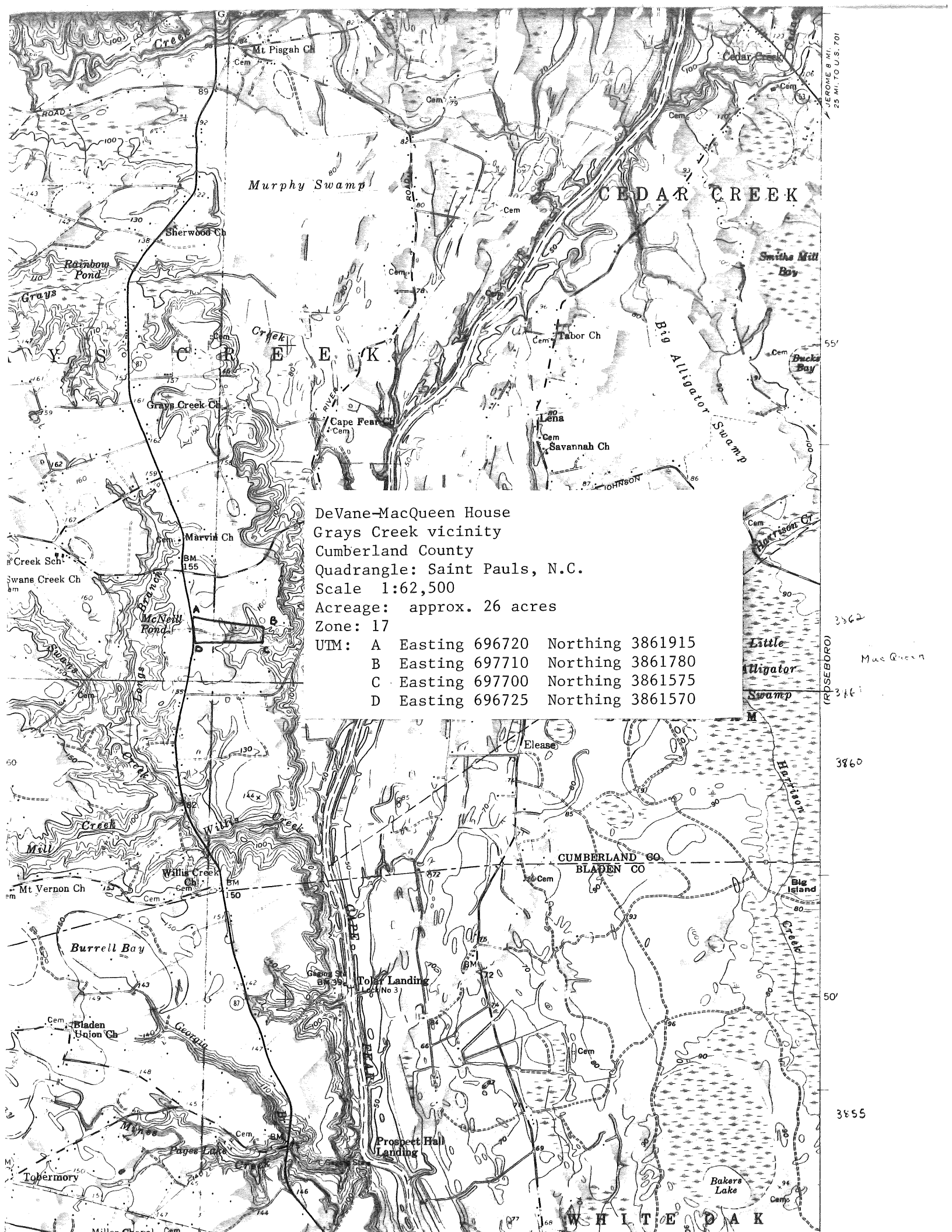
North A Baker

49 AC

⑭

⑮

NO. 1
1/2 AC



DeVane-MacQueen House
 Grays Creek vicinity
 Cumberland County
 Quadrangle: Saint Pauls, N.C.
 Scale 1:62,500
 Acreage: approx. 26 acres
 Zone: 17
 UTM: A Easting 696720 Northing 3861915
 B Easting 697710 Northing 3861780
 C Easting 697700 Northing 3861575
 D Easting 696725 Northing 3861570

JEROME B. WILSON
 25 MI. TO U.S. 701

55'

3862

3860

50'

3855

(RDSEBORO)

MacQueen

CUMBERLAND CO.
 BLADEN CO.

WHITE OAK

