United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Nan	ne			
historic Wil	liam Hagler House			
and/or common	Beech Hill;	Haigler House		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	East side of SR 1.3 miles north	1510 of the junction wit	h SR 1509 —	not for publication
city, town	Grandin	_X_ vicinity of	congressional district	Tenth
state Nort	th Carolina code	37 county	Caldwell	code 027
3. Clas	sification			
Category districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership publicX private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	Status occupied unoccupiedX work in progress AccessibleX yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park x private residence religious scientific transportation other:
street & number	and Mrs. Monty Minto			
city, town Leno	oir	vicinity of	state	North Carolina 2864
5. Loca	ation of Lega	I Description	n	
courthouse, reals	stry of deeds, etc. Caldw	ell County Courtho	use	
street & number				
city, town	-		state	Namble Court 1: 2000
	Lenoir resentation i	n Existing S		North Carolina 2864
VI IIOPI				Y
title	N/A	has this prop	perty been determined ele	gible? yes _^ no
date			federal state	countylocal
depository for su	rvey records N/	A		
city, town			state	

Condition excellent good fair	X deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one X original site moved date _	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Description

The William Hagler House is sited on a rise above the Yadkin River on a 126 acre tract in a remote, unspoiled section of northeast Caldwell County. Probably constructed in the late 1830s, the house is related to other early nineteenth century dwellings in North Carolina's western Piedmont built for settlers of continental European ancestry. Though the building is little more than a brick shell, its masonry construction, compact form, simple plan, and gable end chimney arrangement make it a significant remnant of the early masonry building traditions in the region. It's supporting outbuildings are lost, but the site is likely to contain archaeological remains related to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlement patterns and agricultural life in the region.

The two-story structure rests on a fieldstone foundation, and is constructed of brick laid up in 1:7 common bond. The front (north) facade is slightly asymmetrical, with the entrance on the three-bay, first floor level set off-center to the left. The windows of the two-bay second floor are placed directly above those of the first. Brick jack arches form the lintels of the door and window openings here and elsewhere on the house. Original window sash were removed at an undetermined date or lost through deterioration, though a fragment in one first-floor window indicates the lower windows were of nine-over-six sash. The upper windows were probably six-over-six. The batten front door remains. Joist pockets in the brick facade probably indicate the former presence of a porch.

Single-shoulder exterior chimneys are centered on the gable ends, each flanked by pairs of windows on both levels. Smaller, square attic windows flank the stacks.

The rear elevation has two entrances, both with batten doors, set off-center between the two windows. The two second floor windows are asymmetrically placed, one over the right window, the other over the left door. The right door probably provided entrance to a frame, one-story rear ell, now lost.

The interior followed a two-room plan on both floors, though the partitions were removed in a mid-1970s restoration attempt that was never completed. The wood floor of the first level, apparently badly rotted, was also removed at that time. The second floor is in place, reached by the remains of an open-string stair rising from the first floor.

The interior walls were never finished, but left exposed brick and whitewashed. The mantels at the fire openings on the end walls of both levels have been lost. Window frames are plain. No other woodwork remains. The roof was rebuilt in the 1970s to protect the building from the elements.

No outbuildings associated with the house survive, though many are known to have existed, and archaeological remains are likely to be present.

8. Significance

1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899	X architecture	community planningconservationeconomicseducation	law literature military music t philosophy	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	ca. 1838	Builder/Architect Unit	known: William Hagler	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William Hagler House occupies a quiet, unspoiled rural setting on a 126 acre tract by the Yadkin River in northeastern Caldwell County. The unpretentious two-story, two-room plan brick house typifies the dwellings constructed by settlers of German stock in the western Piedmont in the early nineteenth century. The house was constructed by the late 1830s for William Hagler, farmer and son of a Swiss immigrant, on land that had been purchased by his father in the late eighteenth century. The house remains with Hagler's descendents, andis being restored by its current owners.

Criteria Assessment:

- A. Associated with the early settlement and agricultural development of the upper Yadkin River Valley in the far western Piedmont of North Carolina.
- C. Representative of the simple but substantial early nineteenth century dwelling type constructed by settlers of German stock in the region.
- D. May be likely to yield information important in the study of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlement patterns and agricultural life in western North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interio.
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page

The William Hagler House, also called Beech Hill, was built in the late 1830s by William Hagler. The brick house is located in the Grandin community of rural Caldwell County. It overlooks the Yadkin River.

William Hagler was born in 1788, one of thirteen children of John and Elizabeth Hagler. John Hagler was born in Switzerland in the middle 1730s. He was raised in New York where he married Elizabeth Van Hoose, an immigrant of prominent Dutch descent. The Haglers moved to North Carolina, eventually stopping at King's Creek in present day Caldwell County where Hagler purchased a 250 acre tract, which was the same tract upon which William Hagler built his house. John and Elizabeth Hagler were among the many settlers who infused North Carolina with new blood in the latter half of the eighteenth century. Those who settled in the Piedmont were typically first or second generation Americans who had settled from Europe into a northern colony, and then migrated south. In the area that would become Caldwell County these settlers were predominantly German or Scotch-Irish. One Caldwell historian has written that "These early settlers built unpretentious log cabins and started the work of clearing lands and producing a living in the wilderness." John Hagler built a log cabin which later served his descendants as a kitchen.

William Hagler served in the Wilkes County militia during the War of 1812. He married Elizabeth Mullens.⁴ The 1850 census shows that he had added to his father's original tract and owned 401 acres, of which he was farming 150. The farm was valued at \$2,000, while his livestock was valued at \$344. He grew 750 bushels of corn, 135 bushels of oats, 50 pounds of tobacco, and lesser amounts of wheat, rye, and Irish potatoes. His farm produced 104 pounds of butter. He owned three slaves.⁵

William Hagler died in the late 1850s. His will left a life estate to his wife Elizabeth, with the property to be divided among his children at her death. The 1860 census shows that Elizabeth Hagler was living at her home along with a son S. D. Hagler. The tract was being farmed, with the 401 acre tract valued at \$2,800. Livestock was valued at \$950, corn continued to be the largest crop, with a production of 1,000 acres, and the Haglers owned three slaves.

Sometime between 1860 and 1870 Sarah Hagler Kendall, the third daughter of William and Elizabeth Hagler, moved to the Hagler farm with her husband William Kendall in order to care for her mother. William Kendall, born September 9, 1810, and Sarah Hagler Kendall, born August 23, 1823, spent much of their early married life at the Kendall homeplace four miles south of the Hagler farm. It was at the former house that the six Kendall children, all daughters, were born. The 1870 census shows that all six daughters were living at the Hagler house with their parents and grandmother. Elizabeth Hagler was 89 years of age in 1870. The agricultural schedule lists Elizabeth Hagler and William Kendall's farm separately. Combining the listings gives a farm of 220 acres, valued at \$3,000. Although listed only as a farmer in the census William Kendall was also a "fine carpenter," oh his daughter recalled.

In the 1870s Sarah Hagler Kendall acquired full title to the land from her siblings. Elizabeth Hagler died in $1872.^{11}$ The 1880 census lists the value of the Kendall's property

FHR-8-300 (11-78)

OMB 1024-0018 FXP 12-31-84

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received JUL 20 1982 date entered

Continuation sheet HISTOR

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page :

as \$2,500. Corn continued to be the largest crop, with oats, rye, wheat, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, tobacco, and apples also grown. William Kendall died in 1892, while his wife survived him until 1908.

In 1909 the heirs of the Kendall estate sold the property to Blanche Kendall Ferguson for \$2,000.\frac{14}{2} Blanche Ferguson was the daughter of Lindsay Carson Ferguson and Sarah Kendall Ferguson. Sarah Kendall Ferguson was the second of William and Sarah Hagler Kendall's six daughters. She was educated at Davenport College in Lenoir. She taught school in the area until she married Captain Lindsay Ferguson, a widower with four children. They had seven children, of which Blanche was the eldest.\frac{15}{2}

Blanche Ferguson never married. In 1953 she sold the property to George Hill Carter and Edith Ferguson Carter, the latter of whom was her niece. ¹⁶ The Carters continue to farm most of the old Hagler farm. The house, however, was sold to Mrs. Martha Neal Hagler Worth of Miami, Florida in the 1960s and in 1978 was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Monty Minton of Lenoir. Mrs. Minton is a granddaughter of Lindsay and Sarah Ferguson and thus a direct descendant of the builder. The Mintons hope to restore the house.

The structure, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the structure. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significicance 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.

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number

Page

FOOTNOTES

 1 Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Unpublished genealogical material compiled by William Haigler Ferguson, copy in files of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, hereinafter cited as Ferguson, Genealogical Material.

²Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, Third Edition, 1973), 76-88.

Nancy Alexander, Here Will I dwell: The Story of Caldwell County (Salisbury: Rowan Printing Company, 1956). Caldwell County was formed in 1841 from Burke and Wilkes.

 4 Ferguson, Genealogical Material; Muster Rolls of the War of 1812 Detached From the Militia of North Carolina in 1812 and 1814 (Raleigh: Ch. C. Raboteau, 1851, reprinted by Winston-Salem: Barber Printing Company, 1926), 117.

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule.

 6 Caldwell County Will Book A, p. 90. The will was written in 1856 but no probate date is given.

Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule.

8 Ferguson, Genealogical Material.

Ferguson, Genealogical Material. The daughters were Elizabeth, born 1846; Sarah, born 1848; Mary, born 1850; Mattie, born 1852; Carolina, born 1854; and Etta, born 1856.

Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Ferguson, Genealogical Material.

Ferguson, Genealogical Material. Caldwell County Deed Book 11, pp. 302, 303, 304. The three purchases by Sarah Kendall Ferguson were made from Hilda Kendall Webb in 1871, Walter Hagler in 1874, and Mary Kendall Tucker in 1874. All three were registered in 1881.

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

¹³Ferguson, Genealogical Material.

14 Caldwell County Deed Book 49, p. 169.

Ferguson, Genealogical Material. Lindsay Ferguson was Captain of the Caldwell County Home Guard during the Civil War.

¹⁶Caldwell County Deed Book 285, p. 471.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10.	Geograp	hical Data					
_	nominated prope	•					
Quadrangle UMT Refer	e name <u>Grand:</u> ences	in, N.C.			Quadrang	le scalel	: 24000
A 117 Zone	4 612 71210 Easting	319 910 81010 Northing	B Zo		01115	319 910 Northing	81615
c [117]	4 6 3 9 0 0	319910 21710	D 1	7 4 6 3	81910	319 819	91910
E 17	4 6 2 8 5 0	3,9 8,9 9,6,0	F				
G			н				
and woo	odland adjacer	ion and justification it to the Yadkin R see enclosed 1917	iver that ha	s remained			
List all sta		es for properties overl	apping state o		undaries		
state	N/A	code	county	N/A		code	
state		code	county			code	
rganization	Archaeology N. C. Divis	f Significance by and Historic Preson of Archives and Jones Street	servation Se	ction	nuary 8	3, 1981 733-6545	
ity or town				state	North	Carolina	27611
		toric Prese	ervation				
The evaluate	ed significance of	this property within the s	state is:				
65), I hereb according to	y nominate this pr	ic Preservation Officer for operty for inclusion in the rocedures set forth by the ricer signature	e National Regis	ter and certify	that it ha	as been evalua	lic Law 89— ated
tle Stat	e Historic Pr	eservation Office	r		date	JUne 24,	1982
For HCRS		property is included in th	ne National Regi	iter	date		500 (874) 201
Keeper of	the National Regis	ter in the					2463
Attest:				5- 77 486	date		
Chief of Ro	gistration						334

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Item number 9

Page

- Alexander, Nancy. <u>Here Will I Dwell: The Story of Caldwell County</u>. Salisbury Rowan Printing Company, 1956.
- Caldwell County Records. Deed Books, Will Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.
- Ferguson, William Haigler. Unpublished genealogical material. Copy in files of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section.
- Lefler, Hugh Talmage and Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, Third Edition, 1973.
- Muster Rolls of the War of 1812 Detached from the Militia of North Carolina in 1812 and 1814. Raleigh: Ch. C. Raboteau, 1851. Reprinted by Winston-Salem: Barber Printing Company, 1926.
- United States Census Office. Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule; Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedules, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Caldwell County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OMB NO. 1024-0018
EXP. 12/31/84
For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Item number

10

Page 1

The unspoiled remote rural setting of this property, with long vistas across the fields and woodland surrounding the house down to the Yadkin River, is an impressive and important component of the visual and historical character of the site. Neglect of this intact natural setting would reduce the historical and visual value of the property.

The 126 acres have been in continuous association with the family farm since the 18th century, and in association with the existing house since its construction in the 1830s. This remains of the original family farm that at its largest size in the 19th century was only 401 acres. This association represents the continuity of small family farming operations through generations, and is a rare example of family and land associations remaining intact to the present.



