NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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1 NAME			, me	
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	Jesse Clement House			
AND/OR COMMON				
2 LOCATIO	N			
STREET & NUMBER				•
	Maple Avenue (No house	e number)	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
	Mocksville	VICINITY OF	Eighth	
STATE	Nambh Camalina	CODE 037	COUNTY Davie	CODE 059
	North Carolina	037	Davie	033
CLASSIFI	CATION			
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SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jesse A. Clement House is a two story brick structure which stands in Mocksville. According to local tradition, the house was built around 1828 and was the center of a large plantation. Members of the Clement family still own the house.

The Clement House is of a regional Federal character. The facade is plain, and interior features point to a late-Federal, early Greek Revival date. The double porch with remnants of sawnwork ornament is a late-nineteenth century addition to the facade. boxed cornice reaches across the front and back of the house with a flush cornice board on the gable ends.

The house has a symmetrical three-bay facade facing north. Two nine-over-nine sash windows are on the first story with a double front door between them. Above each window is a flat brick arch, and above the front door is a rectangular transom with three oval lights. Two nine-over-six sash windows on the second story, flank a central door opening onto the porch.

A variety of brick bonds occur in the Clement House. The facade of the house is laid in Flemish bond, as is the east wall. The south and west walls, however, are laid in variations of common bond ranging from 1:7 to 1:16.

Variety in the Clement House also extends to the chimney types. The east wall contains two interior gable end chimneys, two windows on each floor, all four of which were cut into the wall in this century, and one small window of six lights (original) in the attic. The chimney on the west wall is partially recessed and has stepped shoulders. Attic windows of six lights flank the chimney as well as two windows per floor.

The rear facade is marked with two doors and a window on the first floor and three windows on the second. The two doors--one from what is now the kitchen (southeast room) and one from the center stair hall--are close together and appear to be the original openings.

The interior follows a center hall plan with the staircase rising at the back of the hall. The hall is flanked on the first floor by one large room on the west side and two smaller ones on the east. All of the rooms in the house have tall baseboards, plaster walls, four-paneled doors, original flooring, and wood ceilings. The west room contains a large fireplace with a mantel which is accented by an inset, reeded panel in the frieze. Six patterns of reeding, each running perpendicular to the next, adorn the frieze panel.

A chairrail, actually a board set into the plaster, carries around the walls of the northeast room. The frieze of the mantel in this room also contains a reeded inset, but in this instance the reeding is cut diagonally and meets in a small triangle in the middle of the panel. The fireplace opening is flanked by two slender, semicircular, reeded pilasters. In the back room on the first floor the mantel frieze has two separate reeded insets, placed side by side, and the opening is also flanked by pilasters. These pilasters, however, are not reeded and they widen at the base.

Form No 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The stairway at the back of the central hall is plain and open string. It returns on itself and has square-in-section balusters. A wainscot of flush sheathing follows the staircase, and the newel post is a large column topped by a wooden sphere.

Upstairs four rooms open from a large hall. Each room contains a small fireplace with mantels smaller and plainer than those downstairs.

The structure 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 significance of the structure. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is possible that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC 1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNINGCONSERVATION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION SCIENCE
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1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jesse A. Clement House, a two-story brick structure in Mocksville, was built about 1828 for a member of a prominent western Piedmont family. The regional Federal character of the house reflects construction methods of the period in Rowan and Davie County area. Sturdy, boxy two-story brick houses of the early-19th century, rare in eastern North Carolina, are a key element in the architectural development of the Piedmont. Clement was a prosperous local businessman who owned a tannery, two plantations, and a brokerage firm dealing in plug tobacco, cotton, and wheat. He was also a member of the North Carolina House of Commons in 1838-1839. Clement's brother, John, was a member of the North Carolina House of Commons and introduced the legislation which formed Davie County from a part of Rowan County in 1836. Clement's sons, Baxter Clegg and William, migrated to Arkansas where William served in the state senate and as lieutenant governor and Baxter Clegg practiced medicine. During the Civil War, Jesse Clement at the age of 53 commanded a regiment known as the "Davie Greys"; he died at the age of 68 in 1876.

Criteria Assessment:

- B. The Jesse Clement House was built by a member of a family active in the western Piedmont. Clement served in the North Carolina House of Commons, 1838-1839, and his brother, John, introduced the legislation in the North Carolina House of Commons which formed Davie County from a portion of Rowan County. His sons were prominent citizens of the state of Arkansas--William was a state senator and lieutenant governor and Baxter Clegg was a well-known physician.
- C. The Jesse A. Clement House is a representative example of the regional, vernacular Federal brick houses so important to the domestic architecture of the western Piedmont area of the state. The two-story house, built around 1828, exhibits a variety of brick bonds, chimney types, and fenestration. The use of Flemish bond on the more prominent front and east elevations is notable. The interior finish is of vernacular late Federal character.

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An avenue of trees once led to the early 19th century home of Jesse A. Clement in Mocksville, North Carolina. The approach road to the two story brick house no longer falls between these rows of trees, but both the house and the trees still stand as reminders of the social, economic, and political contributions of the Clement family to Davie County.

Jesse A. Clement, the son of Henry and Elizabeth Winkler Clement of Rowan County, was born on December 6, 1808. 1 Jesse had three brothers and three sisters, several of whom distinguished themselves in the history of the North Carolina Piedmont. John Clement, a brother, was a member of the House of Commons from upper Rowan County and presented a bill in 1836 to establish Davie County. 2

Jesse Clement married Melinda Nail on January 1, 1828, and local tradition maintains that this is the year in which the home was built. Legend describes the method in which bricks for the home were made: Jesse Clement cleared a large plot of land, scattered corn over it, had his slaves pour water on it, and allowed his herd of hogs to root for the corn, thereby mixing mud for the bricks. 4

Even if his brick making methods were proved to be legend rather than fact, the story points out the entrepreneur's spirit which lived in Jesse Clement. His interests included the operation of a tannery, two plantations, and a brokerage firm which dealt in manufactured plug tobacco, cotton and wheat. It is no surprise that Clement's correspondence contained an 1833 letter addressed "To All Good Whigs In the Forks of the Yadkin," which proclaimed the "glorious news" that the Tariff Bill was about to become a national law. It went on to say that "the trade party (and manufacturers) have gained a triumph. Never one to miss an investment opportunity, Jesse Clement also joined a joint stock venture formed under the name of the Yadkin Plank Road Company. The company planned to invest in a plank road built from Mocksville to Lexington which would eventually connect with the Fayetteville plank road.

It seems obvious that Jesse A. Clement was a prominent and well-respected citizen of Mocksville, and this may explain the fact that his name appears as trustee on a large number of documents concerning the payment of debts. For example, on May 25, 1841, Jesse Clement gave James Torrentine \$1.00 for personalty to pay an \$80.00 debt; on December 10, 1842, Jesse Clement paid John Sheek \$1.00 for three lots in Mocksville, a steam saw mill and other buildings, personalty and livestock to pay debts. In addition, Jesse Clement served in the North Carolina House of Commons in 1838-1839.

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When the Civil War began, however, Jesse Clement left his home and businesses to fight for the South. At 53 years of age he was exempt from military service, but he commanded Company F, the "Davie Greys," and he fought in some of the most severe battles of the War. His regiment fought on such fronts as Harpers Ferry, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. 12

Jesse Clement's sons, Baxter Clegg and Jesse Lee, also left home to fight for the South. 13 On April 22, 1864, Jesse A. Clement wrote Melinda that he "stopped one night at Garysburg to see Baxter. I found him still there. He was well and his horse was looking much better than I expected to find them. He was out in all the snow without any tents to stay in. He said that he did not suffer in the cold." 14

When the Clements returned from the Civil War, Baxter Clegg attended the University of Louisiana Medical School and practiced as a physician in Arkansas before returning to Mocksville in the late 19th century. William Clement, his brother, also became a physician and served as a State Senator and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Arkansas. 16 Their father, Jesse, returned to Mocksville after the War and continued farming until his death on May 7, 1876. 17 In his will, probated on April 30, 1877, Jesse left his estate to his wife for her life, and after her death it was to be equally divided between his children, Mary Eaton, Martha Hargrave, William A. Clement, Baxter Clegg Clement, Laura C. Clement, Jesse Lee Clement, and Charles A. Clement. 18

Melinda Clement lived in the house until her death on June 16, 1891, whereupon Baxter Clegg Clement and his wife (twenty years his junior), Lina Barber, continued to live in the house. 19 Dr. Baxter Clement died in 1927, but Lina remained in the house until her death there in the 1940s. 20 Her heirs 21 retained the property, renting it to tenants until November 6, 1978, when the title was transferred to the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, Inc., and then to Dr. and Mrs. William F. Long of Hamlet, North Carolina. 22

FOOTNOTES

¹Mary J. Heitman, "Early Pennsylvania Citizen," Clement Family Bible Records, Clement Papers, Davie County Public Library.

²Mary J. Heitman, "John Clement, Citizen of Rowan and Davie," The Mocksville Enterprise, 1 March 1934.

Clement Family Bible Records; Interview with Miss Flossie Martin, 9 February 1978 (Mrs. J. K. Sheek of Mocksville, granddaughter of Jesse A. Clements supports the 1828 date, although no deeds or other public documents to that effect have been

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found); Harvey Dinkins, "Ante Bellum Clement Residence," <u>Winston-Salem Journal Sentinel</u>, 5 July 1944.

Dinkins, "Ante Bellum Residence," Mocksville Enterprise. 28 May 1967.

5 Ibid.

Jesse A. Clement Papers, 1836-1870, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

7 Ibid.

Thomas Foster to Henry R. Austin, 19 April 1841, Deed Book I, p. 399; James Torrentine to Jesse A. Clement, 25 May 1841, Deed Book I, p. 409; John Sheek to Jesse A. Clement, 10 December 1842, Deed Book 2, p. 80; William Lunn to Jesse A. Clement, 10 March 1843, Deed Book 2, p. 115; Thomas Gray to Jesse A. Clement, 13 March 1844, Deed Book 2, p. 306; Nancy Doolin to Jesse A. Clement, 29 February 1844, Deed Book 2, p. 273; as found in Jo White Linn, Davie County, N.C. Will and Deed Abstracts--Wills 1836-1900, Deeds 1836-1850 (Salisbury: 1973).

Davie County Deed Records, Deed Book I, p. 409, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

Davie County Deed Records, Deed Book 2, p. 80, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

11 John L. Cheney, Jr. (ed.), North Carolina Government, 1585-1974 (Raleigh: Department of the Secretary of State, 1975), p. 309.

12 James W. Wall, <u>History of Davie County in the Forks of the Yadkin</u> (Mocksville: Davie County Historical Publishing Association, 1969), pp. 166-168.

13 Ibid.

¹⁴Jesse A. Clement to Melinda Clement, Blackwater Bridge, 22 April, 1864, Jesse A. Clement Papers, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

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¹⁵ Linda Hines, "A Young Confederate Captain--Dr. Baxter Clegg Clement," The Mocksville Enterprise-Record, 14 November 1963.

¹⁶ Dinkins, "Ante Bellum Residence."

¹⁷ Clement Family Bible Records, Mocksville.

Jesse A. Clement Will, Davie County, Office of the Clerk of Court, Will Book 2, p. 59.

¹⁹ Clement Family Bible Records; Hines, "Dr. Baxter Clegg Clement."

Clement Family Bible Records; "Mrs. Clement Dies At Home in Mocksville," Mocksville Enterprise, 1944; "Private Sale," The Davie Record, 26 January 1944.

Heirs: Charles C. Hines, Rebecca Barber Locklair, Anne Clement Ridenhour, Baxter Clegg Clement III.

Davie County Deed Book 106, pp. 256-257. The title was transferred by a deed and option agreement between the heirs of Lina Clement, the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, Inc., and Dr. and Mrs. William F. Long.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERE VCES

Cheney, John L. (ed.). North Carolina Government 1585-1974. Raleigh: Department of the Secretary of State, 1975. Clement Papers. Davie County Public Library. Mockeville, North Carolina. 10GEOGRAPHICAL DATA A. 17/539940/3971700 ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ____13.72 acres В. 17/539760/3971180 **UTM REFERENCES** 17/539780/3971410 5 3 9 7 2 5 E 1,7 5 3,9 7,2,5 3,9,7,1,4,1,0 3.9 7.1 4.7.0 ZONE G|1.7| 3,9 7,1 4,7,0 53,98,0,0 3,9 7,1 7, See area as per survey . on attached plat map labeled "Survey for Historical Preservation Fund of N.C., Inc., 2-17-78. LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE CODE CODE COUNTY FORM PREPARED BY NAME/TITLE Description prepared by Gwynne S. Taylor, consultant Significance prepared by Gwynne S. Taylor, consultant DATE Survey and Planning Branch North Carolina Division of Archives and History April 23, 1979 STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE 919-733-6545 109 East Jones Street CITY OR TOWN STATE North Carolina 27611 Raleigh PSTATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL XX NATIONAL. STATE 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 DATE May 10, 1979 TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST: DATE KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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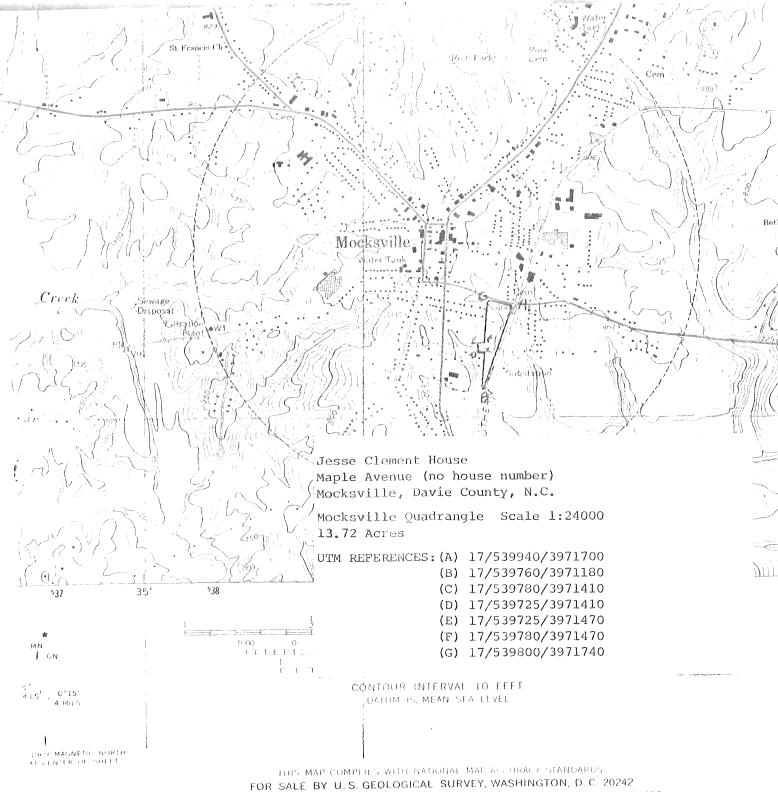
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- Davie County Deed Records. Davie County Courthouse. Mocksville, North Carolina.
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- . "Mrs. Clement Dies at Home." Mocksville Enterprise. 1944.



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