

# INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR  THEMATIC NOMINATION

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC Hamilton Everhart Farm

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER E side of SR 1815, 0.5 mi. SE of Route 52

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Midway

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina

CODE  
037

COUNTY  
Davidson

CODE  
057

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<u>N/A</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Blanche Everhart Young

STREET & NUMBER 30 Chestnut Street

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

VICINITY OF

STATE  
North Carolina

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Davidson County Courthouse  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

STATE

North Carolina

## 6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
Ruth Little, Consultant

ORGANIZATION  
Survey and Planning Branch

DATE  
May 19, 1983

STREET & NUMBER  
Division of Archives and History

TELEPHONE  
919/733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hamilton Everhart Farm is a compact cluster of log buildings constructed about 1860 on both sides of the Thomas Road, in north central Davidson County near present U.S. 52. The most significant building is the two-story log house, with a single exterior end chimney, and a free-standing log kitchen, now moved away from the house. Of almost equal significance is the double pen log barn, which retains several original gates with homemade hardware. The small log potato house is typical of Davidson County farms of this period. Several late nineteenth or early twentieth century frame outbuildings complete the homestead.

The house, three bays wide and two bays deep, is oriented parallel to the road, facing southwest. The log walls, set on fieldstone piers, are concealed by plain weatherboard, and a sheet metal gable roof with overhanging eaves protects the structure. The main entrance is an original door with two vertical flat panels, of Greek Revival design, set slightly off-center in the front elevation. Six-over-six sash windows, apparently original, pierce the log walls at both levels. All openings have wide, mitred surrounds which were apparently added when the weatherboard was installed. A one-story shed porch protects the front elevation. Simple wooden posts, with no railing, support the porch roof. The windows beneath the porch have nonfunctional shutters, added in recent years. The northwest gable end has an exterior end brick chimney laid in random common bond, with a stepped base and single stepped shoulders. The chimney is apparently contemporary with the house, and the bricks at eye-level are decorated with lozenge and scallop designs applied with white paint or mortar which may be original.

The turn-of-the-century rear wing is one-story in height, set at right angles to the main log structure, and has three-over-one sash windows with surrounds and weatherboard identical to the main block. In the center of the gabled tin roof is an interior brick chimney. The small fifteen by eighteen foot gabled log structure with exposed half-dovetailed hewn logs, set in a field west of the house, is the original kitchen which was located behind the house. It was moved to its present location when the present rear wing was added. The log construction of the main block of the house is presumably identical to the kitchen construction. The kitchen has a batten door in the center of the front elevation, and a small original window, protected only by a batten shutter, on the east side. The original chimney has been removed. The front sash window and small rear wing were added when the kitchen was moved. The interior log walls retain traces of whitewash.

The interior of the house is divided by a horizontally sheathed partition wall into a hall and parlor plan, although the "parlor" has always functioned as a bedroom. An enclosed stair with winders, reached from the large room, rises in the inside rear corner of the small room to the second story, originally one large room. The walls and ceilings of the first floor are sealed with horizontal sheathing which is apparently original. All of the doors are of Greek Revival design identical to the front door, with wide mitred surrounds. The mantel and overmantel are of striking design, and dominate the room. Above the segmentally

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arched fireplace opening, the arched frieze has six flat panels, with a simple molded surround framing the entire mantel. The overmantel features five vertical flat panels and an identical surround. A shallow, plain shelf separates the mantel and overmantel.

The second floor was originally left unsheathed, with whitewashed log walls. About 1940 the present narrow tongue-and-groove sheathing was applied, the space divided into two bedrooms, and the present stair railing constructed. The rear wing is finished with narrow beaded sheathing and a mantel of quaint late Victorian design, probably purchased from a millwork company.

A large double pen log barn, almost unaltered, is located directly across the road from the house. It is of half-dovetail construction like the original kitchen. The first floor contains stalls; the second floor, hay storage, and a common pole rafter roof covers the structure. Double batten doors, supported on mortise and tenoned frames which swing on wooden stiles set into stone hinges on the ground level and into nailed wooden fasteners on the top log, close off the central passageway. The side and rear elevations of the barn are sheltered by frame shed additions. The log potato house, a small square gabled building with square corner notching, was probably built later in the nineteenth century than the house and barn. It has a low door in the south gable end and a flue opening in the opposite end. The woodshed, wellhouse, and combination corn crib-granary are frame buildings of early twentieth century vintage. The wellhouse, located just south of the house, is a weatherboarded gable structure with a roof overhang sheltering the well. It was built in 1913 by Robert Everhart. The corn crib/granary, located beside the barn, is an ingenious dual-purpose structure: the weatherboarded side functioned as grain storage, the open-slatted side for corn storage. The corn bin has subsequently been covered with weatherboarding and tin sheathing. Beneath a small stoop in the north gable end is a single door.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

\_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE XX LOCAL

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. 1860                              BUILDER/ARCHITECT      unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hamilton Everhart Farm is the most intact example in Davidson County of the small homestead built throughout the county in the mid-nineteenth century. The 117-acre complex on the Thomas Road near Midway contains a rectangular, two-story half-dovetailed log house, a contemporary free-standing log kitchen, a double-pen barn, and a potato house, built about 1860 by Hamilton Everhart. The interior of the house follows a hall-and-parlor plan and is distinguished by a retarditaire, vernacular Georgian style arched mantel and overmantel. The small farm, numerous outbuildings, and the now-demolished blacksmith shop which formerly stood on the farm are typical of the small scale and self-sufficiency of the Davidson economy in the nineteenth century.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The Hamilton Everhart Farm is a well-preserved, representative example of a type of agricultural complex common throughout the county. The blacksmith shop which formerly stood on the farm is also typical of Davidson's strong self-sufficiency in the nineteenth century.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

According to family tradition, Hamilton Everhart built his log homestead at the time of his marriage to Barbary Brinkley, and the couple raised eight children on the farm.<sup>1</sup> The census records for Davidson County substantiate this tradition. Hamilton was the son of a German Lutheran farmer, John Christian Everhart, born in the Pilgrim Church community to the south. John moved to the Midway community, joined the Midway Methodist Church, and raised his large family.<sup>2</sup> The first census in which Hamilton is listed as maintaining a separate household is the 1860 census. Hamilton is 22, his wife Barbary is 18, and he is employed as a day laborer. They have no children, but own real estate worth \$300.<sup>3</sup> In the same year, Hamilton purchased a sixty-five acre tract "on the waters of Thomases branch" from Henry Shoaf for \$700.<sup>4</sup> Because of the discrepancy in property value, Hamilton may have bought this tract after the census was taken. This tract is referred to in the deed as lot number five of the Philip Mock estate division. Mock was a wealthy Midway landowner who died intestate in 1851. His widow received the Mock homeplace as her dower, and the children shared in the remaining acreage of the 599-acre farm.<sup>5</sup> Lot five was deeded to Philip B. Mock, who promptly sold it to Henry Shoaf, and Shoaf sold it a few years later to Everhart. It is not known whether or not there was a house on lot five when Hamilton purchased it. The \$700 purchase price could indicate an existing house or no house at all. Everhart apparently already owned some property when he bought lot five, because the deed description mentions that the lot adjoined "Everhart's line," although lot five is the earliest purchase recorded for Everhart in the Davidson County deed books. In the absence of documentation, the family tradition that Hamilton built the house when he married, and architectural evidence must remain the sole guidelines for dating the construction of the house about 1860.

By 1870, Hamilton and Barbary had three children ages 2 through 9, owned thirty-four additional acres of land, and their real estate was valued at \$500. Hamilton's occupation had shifted to that of farmer, indicating that he was apparently cultivating his own land.<sup>6</sup> By 1880 his two oldest sons worked with him on the farm, and he and Barbary had five daughters under the age of thirteen.<sup>7</sup> Soon after 1880, their last child, Robert G., was born. Robert was apparently the only child who remained at home, and about 1906 he married and moved his bride into the homeplace where his father still lived. The only significant modernization of the house is said by family members to have occurred at this time.<sup>8</sup> Robert moved the old log kitchen several hundred yards away from the house and built a new frame kitchen-dinig room wing onto the house, and covered the exterior log walls with weather-board in order to spruce up the old house for his new bride. He probably added the front porch at this time also.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 114.0 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	5,6,9	2,9,0	3,9	7,6	4,0,5	B	1,7	5,7,0	3,9,0	3,9	7,6	5,9,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	1,7	5,7,0	3,4,0	3,9	7,5	8,3,0	D	1,7	5,6,9	4,5,0	3,9	7,5	8,6,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of Tax Map 31, Davidson County Tax Office, contained in Lot 1, bounded on the east by Lots 24, 21, 20, 19, 57, 58, and 5, on the south by the Thomas Road (SR 1815) and by Lot 7, on the west by Lot 6 and by the U.S. 52, and on the north by Lots 64 and 24, as outlined in red on map.

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When Hamilton Everhart died in 1908, he left all his property, including his "home tract," the house and farm, and his "farming tools such as mowers, hay rakes . . . wagons, plows, feed cutters, etc." and blacksmith tools to his son Robert. He stipulated that Robert was to pay \$50 to each of his brothers and sisters out of the property.<sup>9</sup> Robert continued to improve the property after his father's death. He built a new wellhouse, located a few feet from the house, and signed one of the front weatherboards "RGE 1913." He farmed and operated his father's blacksmith shop until 1917, when he moved to the nearby community of Holly Grove and bought the Holly Grove Mill, which he ran for the rest of his life.<sup>10</sup> Robert rented out the farm to Roy Snyder, who lived there for forty-eight years. At Robert's death in 1960, his daughter Blanche Everhart Young inherited the property, and has used it in recent years as a summer cottage.<sup>11</sup>

### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> Blanche Everhart Young, interview with, 21 April 1983, Midway vicinity, North Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Doris G. Everhart, "Everhart Family Sketch," The Heritage of Davidson County, North Carolina, 1982, p. 177.

<sup>3</sup> United States Census Records, Population Schedule, Davidson County, Midway Post Office, p. 92. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>4</sup> Davidson County Deed Book 19, page 80, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>5</sup> Philip Mock Estate File, 1851; Davidson County Deed Book 12, page 662; North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>6</sup> United States Census Records, Population Schedule, Davidson County, Midway Township, p. 301. North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>7</sup> United States Census Records, Population Schedule, Davidson County, Midway Township, p. 212. North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>8</sup> Blanche Everhart Young, interview with.

<sup>9</sup> Hamilton W. Everhart Will, Will Book 5, page 392. North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>10</sup> Blanche Everhart Young, interview with.

<sup>11</sup> R. Grant Everhart Will, Will Book 13, page 12. North Carolina State Archives.

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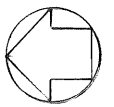
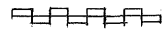
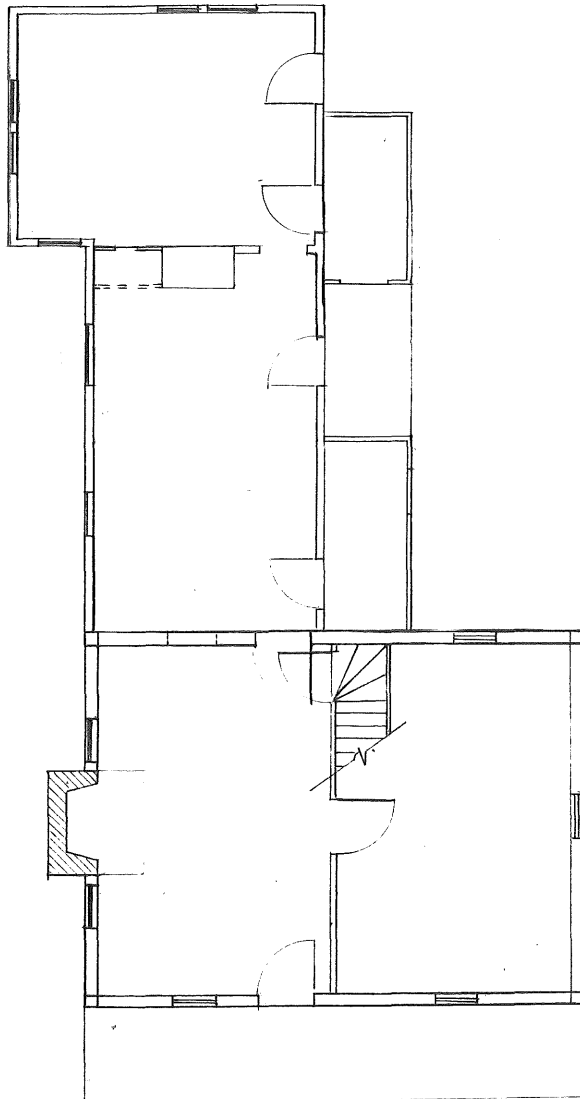
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Davidson County Deed Books, Estate Files, Will Books, North Carolina State Archives,  
Raleigh, North Carolina.

Everhart, Mrs. Doris G. "Everhart Family Sketch," The Heritage of Davidson County,  
North Carolina, p. 177.

United States Census Records, Population Schedules, Davidson County, 1860, 1870,  
1880. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Young, Blanche Everhart, Interview with. 21 April 1983. Midway vicinity, North  
Carolina.



HAMILTON EVERHART FARM c. 1850  
NR MIDWAY

9-7-83 PBT 1/8" = 1'0"



E 1638

(37) 1.22 AC.

(36) 8.81 AC.

(64) 24.47 AC.

(1) 117.14 AC

(3.30 AC)

(20) 5 AC. GAL.

*Hamilton Eusebius Town Du-157  
Dorchester, N.C.  
Dorchester County, N.C.  
Tax Map 31 Lot 1*

6.2 AC.

(6) 7.35 AC

(7) 11.74 AC.

(5) 3.69 AC.

(2) 10.74 AC

(8.46 AC)

(65) 10.32 AC.

(66) 10.32 AC.

(57) 2.50 AC.

(58) 2.50 AC.

THOMAS ROAD 181'

(18A) 38.8

(10.84 AC)

(18) 27.96 AC

US 52

3.5 AC.

(106)

170

1106 (3.1 AC)  
1135

