

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Coolmore Plantation

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3 (US Highway 64 west of Tarboro)

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Tarboro

VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

Edgecombe

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___ DISTRICT

___ PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ STRUCTURE

___ BOTH

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

___ EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ OBJECT

___ IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ BEING CONSIDERED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ NO

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. C. Powell

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tarboro

___ VICINITY OF

North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Edgecombe County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

301 St. Andrews Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tarboro

North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1940

FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Washington

D.C.

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

Coolmore Plantation, a two-story frame mansion with small one-story wings, was begun in 1859. It was designed in the Italian Villa style by E. G. Lind of Baltimore. The main block has a hip roof intersected by decorative gables. The wide overhang is supported by very elaborate brackets. At the apex of the roof is a fanciful belvedere with stained glass windows. The north (front) facade is three bays wide, the center bay being slightly recessed. This bay features a one-story flat roofed porch with chamfered posts terminated by cornice caps. Above the porch is an elongated, stylized Palladian window. The flanking bays are divided at the second floor level by a simple heavy wooden stringer. On each level there are coupled pairs of windows. Those on the second floor have simple round arched heads. Those on the first are floor length, have segmental arched heads, and are sheltered by cornices supported on moulded brackets.

On the interior, Coolmore presents a series of unusual, elaborate rooms. The entrance hall is apsidal and treated with a profusion of wooden and plaster ornament including pilasters on pedestals supporting elaborate brackets and a false half dome. Behind this is the stair hall featuring a superb elliptical stair which ascends to and is lighted by the belvedere. At the rear is a small rectangular hall.

In the northwest corner is the parlor which retains its original furnishings, marble mantel, wallpaper, and superb painted ceiling in trompe l'oeil with flowers, panels, and other designs. Across the hall is a second parlor with walls painted to resemble polychromed panels, an elaborate painted ceiling, marble mantel, and most of its original furnishings. In the southwest corner is the dining room which has painted walls like those of the second parlor and features cupboards with glazed doors of red patterned glass on either side of the fireplace. The stair hall is painted to resemble polychromed panels like the second parlor.

On the grounds are original servants quarters, gas house, smoke house, carriage house, and other dependencies all treated with cupolas. Some have bracket cornices in imitation of the main house.

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 checked="" 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 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	1861	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	E. G Lind
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1845 Dr. Joseph J. W. Powell, a prominent Edgecombe County physician, acquired the Robert D. Wimberly plantation approximately four miles northwest of Tarboro. He lived in a small farmhouse until 1859 when he began construction of a mansion designed by E. G. Lind of Baltimore. The house was completed shortly before Dr. Powell's death in 1861 and the property was divided by the court, with his widow, Martha B. Powell, receiving one-third of the 1,165-acre estate including their new home "Coolmore." After Mrs. Powell's death the plantation passed to her son Joseph C. Powell. Joseph was a noted agriculturalist and an active member of the Edgecombe County Farmers' Alliance, serving as its secretary in 1889. His son, Joseph C. Powell, Jr., is now resident owner. (Nina Powell, his mother, deeded him the property in 1931).

Coolmore is set in a grove of large magnolias and deciduous trees on a twelve-acre lawn. Since its construction the house remains almost unaltered with its outbuildings complete. Preserved in the house are many of the bills and invoices connected with the construction of house as well as the architect's original drawing. Coolmore is one of the largest, finest, and best documented examples of a plantation house of its style and period in North Carolina.

The house is fully documented in personal diaries and account books. Copies are on deposit at the State office.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. G. Zehmer, Asst. Admin., Research and Restoration; John B. Wells, Survey Specialist

ORGANIZATION

State Department of Archives and History

DATE

10/5/70

STREET & NUMBER

109 East Jones Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

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

TITLE

DATE

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

46

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Coolmore Plantation

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Edgecombe County Records, Edgecombe County Courthouse, Tarboro, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)

Edgecombe County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Census Reports.)

Turner, J. Kelly and Jonathan L. Bridgers. History of Edgecombe County, North Carolina. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Company, 1920.

Waterman, Thomas T. and Francis Benjamin Johnston. Early Architecture of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1947.

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Situate on the south side of State Highway #90, about four miles west of the town of Tarboro, and beginning at a stake on the south side of the right of way of said State Highway, and on the east side of the yard hedge of said dwelling, said stake being N 85 degrees 50 minutes W. 2277 feet and N 87 degrees 40 minutes W. 308 feet from Harry Beech's northwest corner in said Nina B. Powell's line, thence S. 1 degree W. 977.5 feet to a stake, in a path, thence N 88 degrees 24 minutes W. 488.8 feet to a stake, on ditch bank, between the path and ditch thence along said ditch bank S. 68 degrees 36 minutes W. 240.4 feet and S. 42 degrees W. 78.6 feet, cornering, on said ditch bank, thence N. 89 degrees 40 minutes W. 278 cornering, thence N 1 degrees 12 minutes E. 1112 feet to the south line of said State Highway's right of way, thence along and with said State Highway's right of way S. 89 degrees, 40 minutes E. 1037.5 feet to the point of beginning, containing 24.4 acres, according to a survey made by W. L. Trevathan, Engineer, on the 15th day of June, 1931.