#### NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Office of Archives and History Department of Cultural Resources

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

#### **Zebulon Baird House**

Weaverville vicinity, Buncombe County, BN0242, Listed April 30, 2009 Nomination by Sybil Argintar Photographs by Sybil Argintar, January 2007



Façade view



Side view

National Register

other (explain): \_\_\_

removed from the National Register

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property		
historic name <u>Baird, Zebulon H., House</u>		
other names/site number <u>N/A</u>		
2. Location		
street & number		not for publication N/A
state North Carolina code _NC	county Buncombe code _	_021 zip code <u>28804</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
Places and meets the procedural and professional	ne documentation standards for registering propert requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my o I recommend that this property be considered sign nal comments.)	ties in the National Register of Historic pinion, the property <u>X</u> meets
In my opinion, the property meets does comments.)	not meet the National Register criteria. ( See o	continuation sheet for additional
Signature of commenting or other official Date		
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<ul> <li> entered in the National Register</li> <li> See continuation sheet.</li> <li> determined eligible for the</li> <li>National Register</li> <li> See continuation sheet.</li> <li>determined not eligible for the</li> </ul>		

#### Baird, Zebulon H., House\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Property

#### 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

<u>X</u> private

\_\_ public-local

\_ public-State

\_public-Federal

#### Category of Property (Check only one box)

\_X\_ building(s) \_\_\_\_ district \_\_\_\_ site \_\_\_\_ structure \_\_\_\_ object

### County and State

#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

#### Contributing Noncontributing 0 buildings 1 0 0 sites 0 0 structures 0 0 objects Total 1 0

Number of contributing resources previously

listed in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_N/A

#### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

#### 6. Function or Use

#### **Historic Functions**

(Enter o	categories from instructions)				
Cat:	domestic	5	Sub: _	single dwelling	
	ent Functions				
	categories from instructions)		Cub		
Ca	t: <u>work in progress</u>			:	

#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
LATE VICTORIAN

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation <u>concrete, brick</u>

roof <u>asphalt</u>

walls <u>weatherboard</u>

other \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Buncombe County, North Carolina County and State

#### Baird, Zebulon H., House\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Property

#### 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

\_\_\_\_A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

\_\_\_\_\_B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

<u>X</u> C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

\_\_\_\_\_ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

<u>X</u> B removed from its original location.

\_\_\_\_ C a birthplace or a grave.

\_\_\_\_ D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

\_\_\_\_ F a commemorative property.

\_\_\_\_ G less than 50 years of age or achieved

significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- \_\_\_\_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- \_\_\_\_ previously listed in the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ designated a National Historic Landmark
- \_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Location of Additional Data

- \_X\_ State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- Local government
- \_\_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: <u>Western Office, Archives and History</u>

Buncombe County, North Carolina County and State

#### \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

architecture

#### Period of Significance

\_ca. 1878 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

<u>ca. 1878</u>

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

#### **Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

\_unknown\_\_\_\_

#### 10. Geographical Data

#### Acreage of Property \_0.80 acres\_\_\_

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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1	17	356560	_3848150

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#### **Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

#### **Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

#### 11. Form Prepared By\_\_\_\_

name/title	Svhil H	Argintar	Preservation	Planning	Consultant	
name/ litte	Oybii I I.	Argintar,	1 10301 1011	1 Ianning	Consultant	

organization	Southeastern Preservation Services	date	October 21	2008

street & number\_166 Pearson Drive\_\_\_\_\_\_telephone\_(828) 230-3773\_\_\_\_

city or town <u>Asheville</u> state <u>NC</u> zip code <u>28801</u>

#### 12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### **Continuation Sheets**

#### Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### **Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)		
name _ <u>This Old House, LLC</u>		
street & number_65 Charlotte Street	telephone_(828) 251-9966	
city or town_Asheville	state_ <u>NC</u> zip code _ <u>28801</u>	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

#### Zone Easting Northing

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•	See continuation sheet.

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Baird, Zebulon H., House name of property Buncombe County, North Carolina county and state

#### SUMMARY

Located in Weaverville, in northern Buncombe County and set on a level lot facing east onto Weaverville Road, the ca. 1878, T-plan, heavily decorated Zebulon H. Baird House is located on the southernmost portion of a parcel of land of approximately 330 acres which was historically associated with the Baird family. The house was threatened by demolition and was moved in 2005 one hundred yards to the south from its original location at the north side of the lot, but was oriented as in its original location (see Exhibit B) although approximately thirty feet closer to Weaverville Road. The house retains a high degree of architectural integrity, with the only notable change being the construction of a new foundation consisting of concrete block and applied brick. A curving gravel drive runs along the south side of the lot, with a gravel parking area located to the west-southwest of the house (see Exhibit B, site plan). Currently, the view to the north is open land and commercial development currently under construction, with Highway 19/23 located to the west. To the east of the house, across Weaverville Highway, and up a partially forested hillside is modern residential development. South of the property is woods and commercial development dating from the 1940s to 1950s.

#### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Zebulon H. Baird House is a two-story, multi-gabled, T-plan house with two front gables, two side gables, and one rear gable in the main block. There is a one-story gabled ell at the rear of the house, projecting to the west, which appears to have been added soon after the house was built based on nearly identical window moldings. The house is clad in weatherboard with elaborate detailing in its scrollwork and window moldings. Bargeboards located at gable peaks and ends have a circular scrollwork pattern, and attic vents display a delicate scrollwork pattern of rosettes set in a square framework. The ornate chimneys with elaborate corbelling collapsed in the move and will be rebuilt in the current renovation back to their original configuration. Windows throughout the house are two-over-two, double-hung wood sash. On the original site, the foundation was composed of original dry stack stone piers and modern concrete block infill. The current foundation is constructed of concrete block with a parged surface. <sup>1</sup>

The front, or east, elevation of the house is three bays wide with two front gables; a cross gable over the front porch and a gabled wing projecting to the east. The first floor, at the southeast corner, contains the hip-roof porch, and there is a bay window on the projecting wing. There are two windows above the porch and a single hooded window above the bay window with a central peaked molding. There is a heavily pinnacled, bracketed tri-partite, squared bay window with hip roof, pilasters and heavy molding at the northeast corner of the first floor. There is one modern replacement one-over-one sash window above the front door. The front porch balustrade displays additional scrollwork designs, in a repeating series of teardrop-shape cutouts. Porch brackets also make use of refined scrollwork in a lacy, circular motif. The front door has four vertical lights over three panels, and may be a ca. 1930s replacement, based on the style.

The south elevation is one bay wide on the main block, with the one-story addition recessed to the north.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Survey photos, Archives & History western office, 1980.

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Details of the main block include the same type of bay window as on the front, with a single hooded window on the second floor. The one-story wing has a full-width engaged porch on this elevation, with simple chamfered posts and handrail. There are two flush vertical board doors on this side, both of which are period replacements of the originals. In the current renovation work, this porch will be enclosed with glass and will retain its full appearance as an engaged porch.

The west elevation is two stories tall, with a side gable on the south side and a projecting front gable on the north. There is no fenestration on the main block, with a single centered window in the rear ell being the only opening. The gabled one-story ell projects from this elevation, with the ghost line of an added hip roof bath from ca. 1960 on the first floor against the main block. This bath was removed in the recent move of the house, and will be replaced by a two-story tower containing baths for each of the floors since there are currently no other baths in the house. At the end of the porch and located on the main block near the juncture of the ell is a five-panel door on the first floor, facing west, which has a projecting drip molding and a surround similar to those found on the windows. The door is a period replacement, but the molding appears original.

The north elevation is four bays wide, with two single windows on the first and second floors of the main block and two windows on the ell. Centered over the windows on the main block is a cross gable.

Inside, the house is relatively plain, with a center hall floor plan and an unfinished attic space (see Exhibit A, floor plan). Walls throughout the house are flush horizontal board, and those that have color appear to be a light-color non-opaque stain. Ceilings are also flush board, some of which have exposed structure at the present time due to renovation work, but these original materials will be placed back on the open structure after work is completed. Floors throughout are the original tongue-and-groove hardwood. Typical doors throughout the house are five-panel.

Upon entering the house, the stairs are located along the south side of the central hall. The balustrade consists of reeded balusters and a carved newel post with chamfered corners and bulls-eye details, capped by a beveled square top. Stairs retain their original simple wood treads and risers. To the left of the hall, to the south, is a large parlor with faux wood graining and the most elaborate of all the mantels in the house, with delicate sawtooth wood trim and projecting beveled molding and diagonal boards flanking the opening. This mantel, along with all of the others in the house, are currently removed from the walls while chimney flues and exterior brick stacks are re-built due to their collapse during the moving of the house. In addition to the elaborate mantel in the south parlor, additional mantels have molded pilasters surrounding the openings, with molded cornices just beneath the mantel shelves, indicative of a high level of craftsmanship throughout the house.

To the right, or north side, of the central hall are two additional rooms, both of which contain the same flush board walls. The room at the northeast corner of the house also has a fireplace and a bay window the same as the parlor to the south. Through a door at the end of the entry hall are the two rooms that make up the ell.

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The flush board ceiling here, as noted above in the main section of the house, has been temporarily removed during renovation, but will be replaced with the original materials. All of the rooms in the first floor of the house are relatively plain in their detailing, except for the faux wood grain in the front room with the bay window.

The stairs turn to the east at the second floor. The balustrade at the second floor has the same balusters as below, with a simple chamfered rail and square, uncapped newel post. The second floor follows the floor plan of the first, except there is no ell at the rear. There is one room to the south and two rooms to the north of the central hall. Mantels here are plainer in their detailing than on the first floor, with simple shelves and plain wood pilasters framing the opening. Some of the second-floor doors are four-panel rather than five-panel. The attic space is unfinished.

#### **Integrity Assessment**

As noted above, under the threat of demolition, the Zebulon H. Baird House was moved in 2005 from its original location which was further to the north on the same parcel. It remains on land that was historically associated with the Baird family, but is in a new setting that is lower in elevation than the original. However, it is oriented exactly as it was originally, facing east. In the move, the house was raised up on jacks and placed on a grid of steel beams, and moved using a trailer dolly which was pulled by a bulldozer. Once at the site of the new concrete pier foundation, the house was again jacked up to remove the steel beams and lowered onto the new piers. The piers were then faced with brick and masonry walls were built to enclose the crawlspace. Although an attempt was made to secure the brick chimneys by banding with steel, they collapsed in the move and will be rebuilt in the current renovation. The only architectural changes to the building in its current location include the new concrete foundation with a parged surface, the glass enclosure of the rear porch, and a small two-story rear addition for baths which is required to bring the building up to code. The foundation will also be covered with extensive foundation plantings in the current renovation. Despite these changes the house retains a great deal of its architectural integrity, continuing to express its significance as a highly decorated T-plan house the late nineteenth century and notable for its association with the Baird family, a prominent and historically important family in early Buncombe County history.

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#### SUMMARY

The Zebulon H. Baird House, with a period of significance of ca. 1878, the date of construction, is an excellent local example of a pre-railroad-era T-plan house with elaborate exterior architectural ornamentation, including scrollwork balustrades and cornice decoration, heavily molded and hooded window surrounds, and corbelled chimneys, unusual for Weaverville, North Carolina at this date. While moved from one part of the original acreage associated with the house to a section further south on the same property, the house is oriented as it was originally at a slightly lower elevation, and retains a great deal of architectural integrity. The house meets National Register Criterion C and Criterion Consideration B as it is significant primarily for it its architectural value. The move was necessary to prevent its demolition. Its new location is similar to its original setting in terms of orientation, setting, and general environment, although approximately thirty feet closer to Weaverville Road. It retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling.

#### HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Buncombe County was founded in 1792 and the county seat, Asheville, originally called Morristown, was established soon after, in 1797. Asheville remained as an isolated community through most of the nineteenth century, with some trade opening up due to the building of the Buncombe Turnpike in 1828. This drover's road connected Greeneville, Tennessee to Greenville, South Carolina, with Asheville being one of the main stopping points along the route. Houses built in the pre-railroad time period in Buncombe County were often constructed of locally available materials, and relied on local labor and craftsmen for their construction. It was not until the railroad arrived in 1880, however, that Asheville began to experience its greatest period of growth, lasting until the end of the 1920s. During this period, many houses were built in the most popular styles of the day, and pre-railroad houses often had embellishments added. With railroad access, building materials were plentiful and there was seemingly no end to the amount of skilled labor available to meet construction needs.

Brothers Zebulon and Beaden (or Bedent) Baird, both of whom were born in Scotland, moved to North Carolina from New Jersey in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and arrived in Buncombe County in 1793, making them one of the oldest families in the county. Both were merchants by trade, and were among the first merchants in Buncombe County. The Baird brothers owned and operated a store near Pack Square in downtown Asheville. They often made trips to towns along the North Carolina coast, carrying with them furs, meat, flour, molasses, and other goods, and trading for merchandise which they could then sell in their general store.<sup>2</sup>

By the Civil War, the two brothers, both owning farms, had accumulated over 2,800 acres of land in the northern part of Buncombe County, in the Reems Creek/French Broad Township area. Zebulon Baird, Zebulon H. Baird's great-uncle, represented Buncombe County in the House of Commons from 1800 to 1803 and in the Senate in 1806, 1809, 1821, and 1822. One of the major pieces of legislation which he

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Evans, Kimberly. Study list application for "Zebulon Baird House", January 2007.

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was instrumental in helping to pass was the legislation authorizing the creation of the Buncombe Turnpike.

Zebulon H. Baird (1855 – 1937), builder of this house, was the grandson of Beaden and Mary Anne Baird, who had two sons, William R. and Israel. Beaden Baird, in his will dated March 15, 1833, left land and possessions equally to his wife Mary Anne and sons William R. and Israel. Beaden Baird, like many Buncombe County residents of the time, was a slaveholder. To his wife he granted a portion of his land, the house and furnishings, and four of his "negroes", Edward, Nancy, Adelia, and Eliza. To his son William R. Baird he gave 531 acres in the Weaverville and Reems Creek area and "negroes" Joe, Henry, and Mary. Israel Baird received 800 acres on Beaver Dam Creek along with "negroes" Perry, Mingo, and Clara.<sup>3</sup> William R. Baird married Christina Weaver (the Weavers being another prominent Buncombe County family), and they had seven children, Israel V., William, Zebulon H., Elisha, John R., Mollie, and Catherine. <sup>4</sup>

Zebulon H. married Margaret (Maggie) Henderson on May 5, 1902, when he was forty-seven and she was twenty-seven. They lived in the house that he had built ca. 1878 on land which he had inherited from his father William.<sup>5</sup> Zebulon H. Baird appears in the 1880 Census in French Broad Township of Buncombe County, but was listed as a retail merchant, not a farmer.<sup>6</sup> This indicates that he was indeed living on the property by 1880, and may suggest the long-held family historical tradition that the house was built as early as 1878. There is not a great deal of historical information about Zebulon H. Baird, other than his association with the Baird family as early settlers in the county and large landholders. Zebulon H. Baird died in 1937, but had previously deeded to his only son Henry Boscombe Baird (1902-2000) two tracts of land, one for eighty acres, and one for 250 acres, all considered to be part of the William R. Baird lands on Reems Creek. The 250 acres had been obtained on April 24, 1876, and registered on August 6, 1879, also serving as an indicator that the Zebulon Baird House was likely built as noted in family history, ca. 1878. The additional eighty acres were obtained on February 4, 1885, and recorded December 9, 1885.7 Henry Baird continued to live in the house until he died, having sold some acreage to Dr. H. E. Bolinger on May 27, 1977.8 Apparently additional acreage had also been sold through the years to Carl Higgins.9 When Henry Baird died in 2000, the house and all acreage were purchased for commercial development on June 12, 2002 by J. David Caudle from Baird (through his estate), Bolinger and Higgins.<sup>10</sup> The proposed development never took place and Caudle agreed on December 30, 2005 to sell the Zebulon H.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Buncombe County Wills Book A, pp. 79-81.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Arthur, John Preston. <u>Western North Carolina History</u>. Johnson City, Tennessee: The Overmountain Press, 1914, reprinted 1996, p. 155.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Buncombe County Marriage Records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Buncombe County Census Index for 1880, p. 110.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 455, p. 245.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 1165, p. 621.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 2705, p. 392.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 2825, p. 476.

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Baird House to the non-profit Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County, with the stipulation that it be moved to the south side of the property. The Society, through its revolving fund, then sold the house to Michael G. Bryant on April 13, 2006.<sup>11</sup> Bryant chose not to renovate the house and sold it on May 4, 2006 to This Old House, LLC, the current owner, who is renovating the house for commercial rental use.<sup>12</sup>

#### **ARCHITECTURE CONTEXT**

The T-plan house was commonly built in Buncombe County in the mid to late nineteenth century, but the Zebulon H. Baird House also exhibits fashionable ornamentation that was being nationally promoted by architectural pattern books, architects and builders by the 1860s and 1870s. Although intricate sawnwork details, such as roofline brackets, eave ornamentation, and porch balustrades, had decorated Italianate and Gothic Revival style houses from the 1850s on, the ca. 1878 Baird House marks an early use of mass-produced materials more typical of the period following the 1880 arrival of the railroad in this area of western North Carolina. It appears to be one of rural Buncombe County's earliest examples of a house with fashionable sawnwork decoration in the picturesque cottage mode.

The house's ornamentation pre-dates the more elaborate Queen Anne style which did not become popular until the mid to late 1880s. The bold, gabled window hoods and paired roof brackets are similar to those seen on Italianate style houses and those cast in metal for commercial buildings. The heavily molded roof cornice is reminiscent of Gothic design, and the delicate scrollwork at the gable peak and ends is simply attached to provide a stylish, "tasteful" flare to this otherwise traditional, T-plan two-story house. Multiple roof gables, bay windows with "stick" detailing, and the highly decorated front porch with its free form chamfered post brackets make the Baird House stand out among the county's rural residences of the time.

On the interior, the house exhibits a range of woodworking finishes – from the solid newel post with its bull-eyes, and deep chamfer and bevels that compliment the exterior details – to simple post and lintel mantels, one with an ogee arch. Of particular note is an elaborate mantel in the parlor with sawtooth frieze with gougework, flanked by bracketed piers with diagonal beaded board, which appears to be a local interpretation of the Eastlake style. Much of the woodworking appears to have been crafted by hand. The interior is entirely finished in wood sheathing, a common feature of western North Carolina houses.

One of the houses built closest to the time of the Zebulon H. Baird House is the **John H. Holcombe House** in the Lower Hominy section of the county, begun in 1882 as a one-story building and expanded into a two-story house in 1897. This house, while similar in its T-plan form, is much plainer than the Baird House, but does have projecting bay windows on two elevations.<sup>13</sup> Another house, which was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 4207, p. 1454.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Buncombe County Deed Book 4218, p. 1265.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Swaim, Douglas, ed. <u>Cabins and Castles: The History and Architecture of Buncombe County, North Carolina.</u> County of Buncombe, 1981, p. 137.

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begun in the mid-nineteenth century and expanded ca. 1910 is the Davidson-Davidson House near Swannanoa, a triple-A, T-plan house which evolved from a one-and-one-half-story house. Again, as with the Holcombe House, this house does not appear to have been built with any degree of ornamentation and refined detailing like the Zebulon H. Baird House.<sup>14</sup> Additional T-plan houses in the county dating from the last decade of the nineteenth century include the Job Barnard House (1889); the Malinda Payne House (ca. 1878 and ca. 1890); the S. J. Ashworth House (ca. 1892); and the Ben Alexander House (ca. 1893). The Job Barnard House in Weaverville makes use of some scrollwork ornamentation in the gable ends and porch brackets, but this house was built over ten years later than the Baird House, after the coming of the railroad.<sup>15</sup> The Malinda Payne House in the northwest part of Buncombe County is as elaborately decorated as the Zebulon H. Baird House, with a scrollwork porch balustrade and ornate gable ends, but also began as a much simpler structure, with the two-story ell and ornamentation added in 1890 by local carpenter Will Waldrop.<sup>16</sup> The S. J. Ashworth House also features some of the decorative woodworking on the exterior which began to be typical of houses in the county beginning in the late nineteenth century after the railroad. Like the Zebulon H. Baird House, this house has projecting bay windows with heavy brackets and scrollwork porch brackets and gable ends, but has a later date of construction.<sup>17</sup> Finally, the Ben Alexander House in Fairview displays highly decorative porch brackets on the exterior, along with a great deal of millwork on the interior, due to the fact that Ben Alexander and his brother William owned and operated a sawmill. This house, also post-railroad, was more typical of the prosperity of the county in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ibid, p. 150.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ibid, p. 119.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ibid, p. 131.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 146.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Ibid, p. 145.

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Baird, Zebulon H., House name of property Buncombe County, North Carolina county and state

#### **BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The boundaries for this nomination are indicated on the accompanying survey map, with a scale of 1 = 50'.

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The house has been moved due to plans for future development to the north, but it remains on the southern portion of the property historically associated with the house which provides an appropriate setting. It is oriented facing east towards the road, as it was on its original site, with a lawn between the house and road

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Section <u>Photos</u> Page <u>10</u> <u>Baird, Zebulon H., House</u> name of property <u>Buncombe County, North Carolina</u> county and state

#### Zebulon H. Baird House Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs, except where noted.

Name of property:	Zebulon H. Baird House
	Weaverville
	Buncombe County
	North Carolina
Photographer:	Sybil H. Argintar
Date of photos:	January 2007

- 1. Front of building, view west (February 2009)
- 2. South elevation, view north (February 2009)
- 3. South and west elevations, view northeast (February 2009)
- 4. North elevation, view south (February 2009)
- 5. Foundation detail (February 2009)
- 6. Window hood detail.
- 7. Scrollwork on porch
- 8. Stair hall, view west.
- 9. First floor parlor, view southwest.
- 10. First floor room, view northwest.
- 11. Second floor hall, view east.
- 12. Second floor room, view southeast.
- 13. Typical mantel.
- 14. Typical door.