

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 an 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 Long Valley Farm

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number North/northwest side of SR 1451 (Manchester Road)  
between NC 210 and NC 24/87  not for publication

city or town Spring Lake  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Cumberland and Harnett code 052 zip code 28390

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William S. Ruff SHPO  
Signature of certifying official/Title

12-20-97  
Date

State of Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
24	19	buildings
1		sites
5	10	structures
		objects
30	29	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling-house
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure-garage
- AGRICULTURE/processing-tobacco barn
- AGRICULTURE/storage-granary
- AGRICULTURE/storage-silo
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural field-pasture
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility-barn
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding-shed

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling-house
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure-garage
- AGRICULTURE/processing-tobacco barn
- AGRICULTURE/storage-granary
- AGRICULTURE/storage-silo
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural field-pasture
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility-barn
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding-shed

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Colonial Revival
- Front-gable frame buildings
- Bungalow
- Other: Side-gable frame building

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Concrete
- walls Brick
- Wood/weatherboard
- roof Asphalt
- other Metal

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheet.

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.
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.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture
Architecture
Social History

Period of Significance

1914-1943

Significant Dates

1937-1938

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Christian, Robert Wall

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Husted, Ellery--architect

McNeill, George--builder

Williams, Miles--builder

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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

LONG VALLEY

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 1,429.92

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	17	683640	3899290
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	17	684910	3899880

3	17	685640	3899400
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	17	685435	3898390

See continuation sheet

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 Davyd Foard Hood (Margaret Stephenson is the co-author of the inventory list)

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 16 August 1993

street & number Isinglass, 6907 Old Shelby Road telephone 704/462-4331

city or town Vale state N.C. zip code 28168

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name James Stillman Rockefeller

street & number P.O. Box 2606 telephone 203/869-4330

city or town Greenwich state Connecticut zip code 06836

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 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.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 6 Page 1

---

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS

INDUSTRY/Manufacturing facility-mill  
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility-mill  
INDUSTRY/waterworks-dam  
LANDSCAPE/natural feature-pond  
LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object-gazebo

CURRENT FUNCTIONS

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor  
recreation-picnic area  
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility-vacant  
INDUSTRY/waterworks-dam  
LANDSCAPE/natural feature-pond  
LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object-  
gazebo

Section number 7 Page A

walls: metal  
concrete

roof: metal

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties,  
North Carolina

---

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS (24)

1. Long Valley Farm Seat
3. Farm Seat Garage
8. Mill Pavilion
12. Mill House and Gates
15. Granary
17. Pack House
18. Forge
19. Commissary
20. Garage/Shop
21. Fertilizer House
26. Great Barn
28. Equipment Barn
29. Hay Barn
39. Overseer's House
41. Worker's House #1
42. Worker's House #2
45. Worker's House #2 Garage
47. Pack House
49. Main Path Tobacco Barn #1
50. Main Path Tobacco Barn #2
51. Worker's House #4
52. Worker's House #4 Garage
57. North Pasture Tobacco Barn #1
58. North Pasture Tobacco Barn #2

NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS (19)

5. Kennel
6. Boathouse
13. Farm Manager's Residence
16. Tractor Shed
22. Playhouse
25. Equipment Shed
27. Feeder Shed
31. Silo Shed
33. New Farm Manager's House
36. Hog Shelter/Feeding House
37. Machine Shed
38. Storage Shed
40. Overseer's House Garage
43. Worker's House #3 Fragment
46. Granary

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 2

---

- 48. Bulk Tobacco Barn
- 54. Worker's House #5
- 55. Worker's House #5 Pack House
- 56. Worker's House #5 Garage

CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES (5)

- 2. Springhouse
- 9. Dam and Pavilion Gates
- 10. Pump House
- 34. Water Tower
- 35. Water Tower Pump House

NONCONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES (10)

- 4. Woodshed
- 7. Summerhouse/Gazebo
- 11. Diving Platform
- 14. Pump House
- 23. Cooler
- 24. Cooking Pit
- 30. Silo
- 32. Grain Bin
- 44. Worker's House #2 Pump House
- 53. Worker's House #4 Pump House

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 3

## LONG VALLEY FARM INVENTORY

Long Valley Farm, a winter agricultural estate comprising approximately 1,429.92 acres in Cumberland and Harnett counties, is an irregularly-shaped parcel of land lying on the north/northeast side of SR 1451 (Manchester Road) between NC 210 on the east and NC 24/87 on the west. The estate lies to the northeast of the Manchester crossroads and the larger town of Spring Lake. The landscape of the estate is made up of cultivated fields (approximately 200 acres), fenced pasture (approximately 250 acres), woodlands (approximately 800 acres), water courses and the McDiarmid Mill Pond (approximately 100 acres), and house and building grounds (approximately 80 acres). The estate carries along the Manchester Road for 1.80 miles. This entire frontage is given over to cultivated fields that are now planted with soybeans, corn, and tobacco. To the passerby these fields have the appearance of a prosperous farm and provide no indication of the nature of the Rockefeller winter estate whose heart is essentially insulated from the public by these fields and the pastures and woodlands which lay behind them on the north and northwest. From the Manchester Road, there are two packed clay roads which enter the farm. The westernmost road, now protected by a closed gate, extends northward in a straight line to the farm seat in the west center of the tract. The second entrance, now used by the family and farm staff, is about three-quarters of a mile to the northeast. It continues to the northwest, between pastures and fields, to the main agricultural complex which is partially visible from the Manchester Road. This farm lane then continues to the northwest to intersect with the (earlier) main entrance path at a point just south of the farm seat. Here the farm lane continues through woodlands to the west and into the adjoining Overhills estate. At a point east of the farm seat, a secondary farm lane branches to the north, then northeast, and east to a small field, the large north pasture, and to the woodlands on the back side of the estate. There are other secondary paths, some of which are little more than lines in the land, which carry over the estate and provide access to all parts of the property.

There is no formal organization to the arrangement of buildings and structures on the estate, nor is there any apparent hierarchy to their placement on the land except for the fact that the farm seat (#1) occupies spacious house grounds at the south end of the McDiarmid Mill pond. A parallel reading of the property on the USGS map (Manchester Quadrangle) and the site map which accompany this nomination indicates certain patterns of use which define the character of Long Valley Farm and create a sense of privacy for the family's occupation of its seasonal residence. As noted above, the fields which carry along the Manchester Road front of the estate are not unlike those of the neighboring Overhills estate or well-tended agricultural lands in rural Cumberland County. Except for one opening, the



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 4

fields are bounded on the rear (northwest and north) by stands of pine and mixed trees which essentially block any public view into the heart of the farm. The main agricultural complex, comprising some twenty buildings and structures (#13 through #32), is located at the front of the opening and is visible from the Manchester Road. There is another small group of buildings (#34 through #38) around the New Manager's House (#33) which stands on a knoll to the southwest.

The farm lane which carries diagonally to the northwest from the main agricultural complex to the farm seat, is flanked by broad, open fenced pastures to the west/southwest and woodlands to the east/northeast. This transitional area of woodlands and pastures is a second level of insulation between the visible and public part of the farm and the private enclave at the heart of the Long Valley estate. There are three residences for workers and attendant outbuildings (#39 through #46) along this lane; however, only two of the houses are occupied. Along the west edge of the pastures are three tobacco-related buildings (#47 through #50) and to the west of the farm seat (#1) stands worker's house #4 (#51) and its outbuildings (#52 and #53). The only other farm buildings which are not located to the south of the farm seat and its outbuildings (#1 through #12) and the mill pond are worker's house #5 and its outbuildings (#54 through #56) and two tobacco barns (#57 and #58) which are northeast of the farm seat and well beyond its view.

The heart of the estate consists of the farm seat and its outbuildings (#1 through #12) and the great McDiarmid Mill pond. They occupy the west center of the estate lands and are virtually enclosed on all sides by dense woodlands except for a small opening on the southeast where a field lays on the edge of the pond. The woodlands (and the far north pasture) occupy the remainder of the Long Valley Farm acreage to the west, north, and east. The farm seat and its immediate outbuildings (#1 through #7) are located in a grove of towering, aged pine trees at the south end of the mill pond. The house sits in the grove in a large mowed grass lawn which is partially enclosed on the south by a simple wood picket fence. The house faces north to the lake and enjoys splendid views which are washed by the sun in morning and afternoon. The mill pavilion, mill house, dam, and gates (#8 through #12) are located to the northeast of the house and along the southeast rim of the pond.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 5

Long Valley Farm Seat Complex

1. Long Valley Farm Seat (James Stillman Rockefeller Residence)  
1937-1938  
Contributing

Standing at the south end of the mill pond, the Long Valley Farm seat is the residence which James Stillman Rockefeller built for himself and his family soon after acquiring the deed to the property. The house has been occupied continuously by Rockefeller and his family. The one-story south wings with their massive, double-shouldered, reused brick chimneys project from the two-story main block to create a U. There are smaller, secondary service wings at the northwest corner of the house.

The two-story, five-bay north facade of the main block faces the mill pond and has a two-story, three-bay pedimented porch at its center. The sash are nine-over-nine and the windows have plain board surrounds. There are double-panel louvered blinds painted dark green. The house was constructed to require little maintenance and is sided with eight-foot lengths of lapped, wood-grained asbestos which simulate weatherboards; it remains unpainted. The house sits on a low, common-bond brick foundation and the roofing is asbestos shingles.

The living room is in the east one-story wing and the dining room is in the west wing. Each wing has bay windows and a massive chimney. The kitchen is in a service wing near the dining room. Sash in the south and service wings are six-over-nine and six-over-six. The service entrance to the house is at the northwest corner. A wisteria-covered pergola leads to this entrance. The north, two-story pedimented portico leads into the entrance hall, which is the stem of the T-hall with the top of the T running east and west through the two-story main block. Halls into the one-story wings, which form the U, extend south from the ends of the top of the T into the living room and the dining room.

Main Block

In the hall the floors are wide pine boards. The walls are vertical flush pine boards, most having beaded edges. These and other materials are reused from the Henry London hardware store in Pittsboro. The door and window openings are plainly framed and have a simple edging. The entrance doorway has a six-panel, raised-panel door with three-pane sidelights above molded, raised panels; the doorway frame is plain boards with applied molded backbands. There are H-L hinges on the doors of the gun room, which is off the entrance hall on the east. The furnishings and the mellowness of the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 6

pine give the flavor of an old country place. There is a doorway in the center of the east-west cross hall; where the stem of the T intersects its top, which leads out onto the south porch and on into the courtyard formed by the main block and the one-story wings. The stair to the second story is along the north wall of the cross hall west of the entrance hall. The open-string stair with a turned-baluster railing rises from the west. The cross hall is lighted by bay windows with window seats on its south wall east and west of the center doorway.

The east guest room has wide pine floors and horizontal pine sheathing. An early nineteenth-century Federal-style mantel with heavy reeding and diagonally set reeded panels is located on the east wall near the cross hall. To the west is a bathroom with its original, white fixtures and yellow ceramic tile wainscot. The west guest room has pine floors, paneling, and ceiling; the paneling and ceiling were painted white in 1964. There is a corner fireplace with brick facing and hearth and a molded wood surround. A bathroom on the east also opens into the entrance hall at the stem of the T.

West Wing

The dining room has pine paneling on the walls and ceiling, which were painted white in 1964 to appear whitewashed. The ceiling beams were left unpainted. The floors are wide pine boards of a better quality and wider than in the hall. The room functions as both a dining room and sitting room with a table in the bay overlooking the courtyard and a sofa in the bay overlooking the south yard and a sofa, chairs, and a bench grouped around the fireplace. The butler's pantry leads from the hall, adjacent the dining room, into the kitchen. There are china and glass cupboards. The kitchen has the same finishes and cabinets as the butler's pantry. There is a food pantry off the kitchen in a space northwest of the dining room chimney, as well as a laundry room fitted with sinks, washing machines, and closets, and a staff bathroom.

East Wing

The living room occupies all of the east wing. Bay windows flank the broad fireplace on the east wall with a third bay overlooking the courtyard and a fourth bay at the south end of the room overlooking the yard. The walls are unvarnished pine paneling, whereas the ceiling and exposed beams have the appearance of cleaned whitewash. The floor is wide pine boards. The mantel is hewn-beam surrounds with an applied molded shelf and brick facing and hearth. Bookcases flank the large bay overlooking the south yard. The windows have wood cornices.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 7

---

Second Story

There are three bedrooms with connecting bathrooms and closets on the second story and two sleeping porches. Interior floors are pine and walls are vertical pine paneling.

The west bedroom has a Federal-style mantel with sunburst bosses and "money" border on the mantel shelf. The bathroom, off to the north, has its original fixtures and mottled granite shower stall with chrome fittings. There is a large cedar-lined closet. The suite of cedar furniture is the original furniture in the room.

The middle bedroom is the smallest of the three. It is above the entrance hall and has painted pine paneling and wide pine floors. A glazed door with five-pane sidelights opens onto the front sleeping porch, which overlooks the mill pond. The bathroom has its original fixtures, including a corner tub, pale green ceramic tile wainscot, and a brick-imprinted floor.

The east, master bedroom has a view of the mill pond. The room has unvarnished pine paneling and a painted, simulated whitewash ceiling. The old mantel on the east wall has uprights of laurel and magnolia with berries. The bathroom, on the west wall at the north, has its original fixtures, including a fitted corner tub and shower stall, which are a pale peachy pumpkin color. The walk-in closet is also on the west wall and leads through to the middle bedroom.

The upper levels of the two-tier north and south porches are enclosed with glass jalousies and are furnished with beds and used as sleeping porches.

Grounds

The grounds are planted with azaleas, dogwoods, magnolias, flowering fruit trees, camellias, japonicas, and other materials. A group of magnolia trees is north of the house. There is no defined or symmetrical garden; however, there are circular and rectangular plantings of mixed bulbs throughout the south lawn. An eighty-to-ninety-year-old pear tree and the wisteria is said to survive from the Christian House. The two live oaks were brought here by Mrs. Rockefeller from her family's place on Cumberland Island, Georgia. The grounds are otherwise mixed hardwoods, hollies, crepe myrtles, and pines. On the south the large yard, with its grassy lawn, is enclosed by an unpainted wooden picket fence. The fence was designed and constructed in 1938-1939 and has been repaired as necessary. There are gates to the east and west of the house; the east gate has not been used in recent years. Outside of the picket fence to the south there is a group of pine trees sixty to one-hundred years old.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 8

- 
2. Springhouse  
ca. 1914  
Contributing

The springhouse, located northeast of the house, resembles an eighteenth-century smokehouse in appearance and size, approximately twelve feet by twelve feet. The springhouse sits on a common-bond brick foundation, is sided with weatherboards, and has asphalt shingle roofing. There is a board-and-batten door on the west side. It has a poured concrete box, approximately six feet by ten feet and ten feet deep with a frame top, across the east side.

3. Farm Seat Garage  
ca. 1939  
Contributing

The garage is a one-story, frame, weatherboarded building which is covered with sheet aluminum. The wide paired board-and-batten doors are in the center of the east gable end. The floor is dirt.

4. Woodshed  
ca. 1976  
Noncontributing

The framing is creosote poles and wood frame with sheet aluminum roofing. The present structure replaces an earlier woodshed.

5. Kennel  
1980  
Noncontributing

The dog kennel was built in 1980 to house the dogs of a granddaughter who resided at Long Valley from 1980 to 1982. The kennel has three interior spaces each with its own door. The south room is the office; the middle space is the kennel itself; and the north room is the feed room. The building is sheathed with board-and-batten and has sheet aluminum roofing and a poured concrete floor. The attached woven-wire dog lot is divided east and west into four separate pens.

6. Boathouse  
1978  
Noncontributing

The boathouse was constructed by Miles Williams, the present farm manager, and is a frame, board-and-batten building with a concrete-block foundation and a dirt floor. There are double doors on both the north and south gable

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 9

ends. The wood elements are reused from an old mule stable. The roofing is asphalt shingles.

7. Summerhouse/Gazebo  
1985  
Noncontributing

The summerhouse/gazebo was built by Miles Williams to replace and be just like an earlier one here that was contemporary with the Christian House. A walkway passes through the summerhouse. The structure has three-by-six uprights with one-by-three diagonal slat braces and pyramidal roof.

8. Mill Pavilion  
ca. 1850-1860; reworked in 1920s  
Contributing

The large, frame pavilion is located on the southeast side of the pond at the back edge of the dam about midway between the family residence and the mill house. The original, but reworked, spillway for the mill pond is under the pavilion. The spillway is now poured concrete and the pavilion itself rests on poured concrete. Pervasive at the pavilion is the sound of water spilling over the gates located under the structure. The water makes a steady, full-fall sound.

The pavilion faces west toward the mill pond. It is rectangular in plan with its short dimension toward the pond. It is constructed of unusually massive timbers which are exposed, as the structure is not covered with siding. The six major uprights, one at each corner and one on each long side, are fourteen inches square. The cross beams are twelve by fourteen inches and are unevenly spaced. Near the northwest corner within the pavilion the floor steps up, with the step running east and west, and there is a board-and-batten blind opening over the spillway. There is a step from the pavilion to the dam at the west end of the north side. A wooden lounging bench, or large swing, for viewing the pond hangs on chains from the framing near the southwest corner. The rear, east three-quarters of the pavilion holds a continuous wooden bench which runs around the perimeter just inside the railing. The pavilion is enclosed by a square-member wood railing with a shaped handrail. A screened sitting area occupies approximately the central half of the north half of the pavilion. A wooden box containing lifesaving gear is near the center of the pavilion about two-thirds from the front.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 10

9. Dam and Pavilion Gates  
ca. 1850-1860, reworked ca. 1938, repaired 1973  
Contributing

The earthen dam runs from the southeast corner of the family residence yard past the pavilion, to and past the mill house, and finally tapering into the east bank of the mill pond north of the mill house. The dam broke just north of the pavilion in 1973 and the remnants of the old dam are behind the present repaired dam. A drivable path runs along the top of the dam. The top and pond faces of the dam are grassed and mowed. The back face is in a state of natural vegetation, which includes grasses, vines, some briars and reeds, and a few trees, mostly pines.

The present gates at the pavilion bear a metal label with the name of the installer which reads: "Campbell Water Wheel Co., Philadelphia, Pa., James S. Rockefeller, Esq., March 28, 1938, Number 274." The same company installed the machinery at the mill house (#12) and the gates at the nearby Overhills Lake at about the same time. The pavilion gates have screw jacks for raising and lowering the gates. The two outside gates drop to lower the level of the pond; the center gate rises from the bottom to drain the pond.

10. Pump House  
1938  
Contributing

The frame pump house is near the southeast corner of the mill pavilion. It is sheathed with lapped weatherboards and sits partially on a poured concrete foundation and piers with later rubble infill making a full foundation. A six-inch pipe from the lake originally ran the wheel that pumped the water up to the thousand-gallon tank located beneath the pavilion. The system now runs on electricity. The pump house is built over a 360-foot deep artesian well with fifteen pounds pressure.

11. Diving Platform  
1960s  
Noncontributing

The diving platform is near the northwest corner of the pavilion. It projects into the mill pond from the dam. The platform has a creosote wood frame, a deck platform of two-by-fours, and a painted metal railing. At the northwest corner of the platform there are steps going down into the water.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 11

12. Mill House and Gates  
ca. 1938-1940  
Contributing

The mill house was built by a crew headed by farm manager George McNeill. The mill operated and ground corn meal, which was marketed under the Long Valley name, until 1947.

The two-story, frame mill house sits just behind the dam and faces the mill pond to the west. The mill is sided with lapped weatherboards and has a sheet tin roof and a poured concrete foundation. The mill wheel is on the south elevation. A doorway enters the upper level of the mill house from the dam at the north end of the west elevation. A second doorway enters into the shed on the rear, east elevation at the lower, or ground, level. The exterior doors have five horizontal panels. In the two-story main block of the mill there are two windows, which contain six-over-six sash, on the north, side elevation at each level. There is also a window in the north end of the rear shed. The doors and all of the windows have plain board surrounds with fillets above the lintels. The building has a wood floor between the two levels and all of the wood framing is exposed on the interior. On the interior there is a board-and-batten door into the rear shed. The machinery and equipment remain intact and in situ inside the mill. The machinery, which includes both milling machinery and a direct-current, DC, electric generator, was installed by Campbell Water Wheel Co. of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The electric generator is in the front, pond side ground level of the mill and contains the date July 2, 1938 and the job number 276.

The concrete work was also constructed by the Campbell Water Wheel Company. Poured concrete buttresses contain the gates and reinforce the dam just south of the mill building. The gates were closed about 1976. The millrace is also poured concrete and the concrete face of the dam continues northward curving out into the pond forming a retaining wall. The bank of the pond north of where the retaining wall ends is lower and is the emergency overflow area. The overflow area runs around to the northeast of the mill into the low ground behind, east of the mill house. At the north end of the concrete gate area a poured concrete retaining wall continues on the back of the earthen dam, tapering into the earth. There are several mature pine trees along the edge of the dam in this area.

Main Agricultural Complex

13. Farm Manager's Residence  
1970  
Noncontributing

The manager's residence is a one-story common-bond brick-veneer house with a low-pitched end-gable roof, covered with asphalt shingles and having horizontal louvered attic gable vents. The house has simple boxed eaves and



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 12

---

eight-over-twelve and six-over-six window sash. The primary, south facade has six bays, asymmetrically placed, with two-bay end-gable wings. A shed-roofed, brick foundation porch with a broken-tile floor and Tuscan columns forms the main entry into the house. On the rear, north side of the house there is an enjoined shed which encompasses the kitchen and service porch. The rear stoop has a poured concrete floor. The manager's residence has a living room-dining room combination, a large den with a fireplace, three bedrooms, an office, two bathrooms, a kitchen, and a mudroom.

14. Pump House  
1970  
Noncontributing

The concrete-block pump house is low to the ground with only three rows of blocks above ground level. It has plywood gable ends and an asphalt shingle roof. The opening is on the south gable, facing the house.

15. Granary  
1940  
Contributing

The granary is a two-story, frame, front-gable building which faces west. It is sheathed with weatherboards and has sheet metal roofing. The granary is built on tapered, poured concrete piers with wood blocks in a secondary position. The entrance has double, board-and-batten doors and a loading platform. In the center of the second level there is a narrower double door. The east gable end has a single six-over-six sash window in the center at both levels. The windows have plain board surrounds with fillets across the top of the lintels. Later openings cut to each side are filled with aluminum storm windows. The roof rafter ends are exposed and there are triangular brackets, or knee braces, on the ends. A nearly contemporary shed with a weatherboarded east end occupies all of the north side elevation. It has bracketed three-by-six posts on poured cement bases. The building is now painted white with traces of brown paint showing through.

On the interior there is a center aisle with three grain bins, having tongue-and-groove ceiling board, to either side. The stair rises at the southwest corner to the second level that has a thirty-inch high tongue-and-groove ceiling-board apron around the space. The stair has an easy rise.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 13

---

16. Tractor Shed  
Ca. 1950  
Noncontributing

The tractor shed is a simple, frame building on a concrete-block foundation. It has a dirt floor. The walls and roof are covered with sheet tin. There is a broad opening across the entire west gable end that is filled with board-and-batten doors that slide back to positions parallel to the south and north walls. Two six-over-six sash windows are in both the north and south walls; four six-over-six sash windows are off-center in the east gable end above a work bench.

17. Pack House  
1940  
Contributing

The gable-roofed pack house is a two-level, frame building situated to the east-northeast of the manager's residence. It is covered with corrugated metal and has sheet-tin roofing. The east end, the grading room, is supported by brick piers while the west, pack room has a brick foundation. Building materials from the Christian House were reused in this building. Molded window surrounds fitted with blind hooks were reused on the west side and at the east window on the south side. Six-over-six sash containing handblown glass panes were also reused as were the two board-and-batten doors which are on the south. The interior of the pack room, on the west, is covered with reused tongue-and-groove boards, also from the Christian House. A five-panel tongue-and-groove door connects to the east room where the stair to the loft rises in the southeast corner. Creosote pole sheds have been added on the north and east sides. The north shed has a sheet metal roof; the east shed has a corrugated metal roof.

18. Forge  
Ca. 1914  
Contributing

The forge is a frame building covered with weatherboards. Full-width sheds have been added along both side elevations. The center structure is covered with sheet-tin roofing. The forge area itself is flush sheathed with some ventilation--the south half of the west gable end is open. It a dirt floor and the interior timbers are blackened. The anvil remains but not in place. The building stands on a variety of wood blocks or piers. The sheds have flush sheathing that appears to be reused weatherboards; they have numerous traces of brown paint under the present white. The building has been expanded nine to ten feet on the east gable end. Most of the shed supports are creosote poles or creosote-treated timbers.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 14

19. Commissary  
Ca. 1914  
Contributing

The commissary is a frame building with vertical board-and-batten sheathing. There is an awkward pent over the west, front gable. A five-panel tongue-and-groove door, with a white porcelain knob, is in the center of the west end flanked by a window on each side. There are two windows on the rear, east end. The windows are six-pane sash that appear to be removable. The building was repaired in 1964 and stands on brick and concrete-block piers. A creosote pole, gable end shed has been added to the east, rear end of the original building. A large, creosote pole shed addition used for automobiles has been added to the south side. The sheds are covered with sheet metal. The commissary is now used for tool, equipment, and miscellaneous storage.

20. Garage/Shop  
Ca. 1942  
Contributing

The garage, located north of the manager's house, is frame construction on a concrete-block apron foundation; it has a poured concrete floor. The east and west elevations are covered with corrugated metal; the north elevation is covered with sheet tin; and the south elevation is open. The roof is covered with recent sheet metal, possibly aluminum. On the east and west elevations there is a single window with six-over-six sash near the north, rear. On the interior there is a workbench along most of the length of the west wall and a board-and-batten wall cupboard on the east end of the north wall. The framing is two-by-fours.

21. Fertilizer House  
Ca. 1942  
Contributing

The fertilizer house is a one-story, frame, weatherboard-covered building on tapered, poured concrete corner piers and brick intermediate piers. The rafter ends are exposed and the building has a sheet tin roof. A wooden loading platform, or dock, covered by a later pent, is on the south, front-gable elevation. The platform is accessed by a set of four wooden steps at the east end of the platform, and double board-and-batten doors are in the center of the south elevation.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 15

---

22. Playhouse  
1972  
Noncontributing

Both the playhouse and the cooler are due north of the commissary with the cooler being to the north of the playhouse. Both area frame, shed-roof buildings with sheet plywood siding and sheet metal roofing, and rest on concrete blocks. The plywood is vertical and horizontal on both, and both have exposed two-by-four rafter ends. Both were built by Miles Williams; the playhouse in 1972 for his daughter Sandra.

23. Cooler  
1980  
Noncontributing

In addition to the description in the above entry about the playhouse, the cooler was built by Williams in 1980 to keep meat, especially hams. It has a heavy locker-type door and lock.

24. Cooking Pit  
Ca. 1980  
Noncontributing

The cooking pit is an open rectangular masonry pit for smoking and barbecuing meat. A hog-scalding vat is a part of the pit.

25. Equipment Shed  
Ca. 1955  
Noncontributing

The equipment shed was built about 1955 by George McNeill, who was the manager of Long Valley Farm at that time. It is a simple creosote-pole open-sided shed with a dirt floor. The rafters are two-by-sixes and it has sheet-tin roofing. The east and west gable ends of the structure are sheathed with corrugated galvanized sheet metal. It is used for miscellaneous equipment storage.

26. Great Barn  
1940  
Contributing

The great barn is inside the wooden, horizontal-board fence that runs west from the southwest corner of the barn and separates the domestic outbuildings, which are in the yard of the manager's residence, from the rear, north pasture, which contains livestock barns.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 16

The great barn is a large, frame, weatherboard-covered building with a sheet tin roof. It sits on a poured concrete base and has two-by-six exposed rafter ends. The entrances on both the east and west gable ends have sliding board-and-batten doors. The six-over-six sash tack room window with a plain board surround and a fillet across the top of the lintel is near the center of the south elevation. Sheds supported by creosote posts on pyramidal poured concrete bases run the full length of the north and south elevations. The posts have four-by-four brackets at the top.

On the interior there is a center passage with five bays on the north and six on the south. The north and south west bays, the first upon entering, are corn cribs. These have wire screen behind wood slats, which allow ventilation. Both also have five-panel tongue-and-groove doors set high. On the north, the remaining four bays are stalls, or stables. On the south, there are five remaining bays with the tack room, which is sheathed with horizontal flush boards, being in the center, with two stalls on each side of it. The stalls have horizontal flush board partitions between them and flush vertical board partitions between the stalls and the passage. The stall doors are board-and-batten. All stalls are fitted with quarter-round hay racks, or mangers. A ladder to the loft is in the northwest corner of the passage. The loft is a large, undivided, floored area.

27. Feeder Shed  
Ca. 1952  
Noncontributing

The feeder was built to feed beef cattle. The shed is a creosote pole structure with corner-braced poles and a sheet metal roof. It is gabled-roofed and has a dirt-floored passage running north and south with the roof ridge. An intact wooden feeding trough is on the west; the east trough has been removed. Excluding the passage, the remainder of the shed floor is poured concrete.

28. Equipment Barn  
1940  
Contributing

The large equipment barn is framed with two-by-fours and has a concrete-block foundation, a dirt floor, corrugated galvanized sheet metal siding, and a sheet tin roof. The doors on the south, front gable end are sheet metal over frame; the doors on the north, rear gable end are paired, vented, vertical flush boards.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

29. Hay Barn  
1940  
Contributing

The hay barn has a grid frame made of two-by-fours set on a poured concrete base. It has two-by-six rafters, a dirt floor, corrugated galvanized sheet metal siding, and a sheet metal roof. The rafter ends are exposed. A sliding door is across the east half of the south, front gable; there is a like door on the north, rear gable end. Horizontal board gates are across the remainder of both door openings.

30. Silo  
1966  
Noncontributing

The 400-ton silo is west of the hay barn, with a wire fence separating them. The silo was erected by a Virginia firm and is constructed of one-foot by two-foot concrete panels. The panels are held in place by adjustable metal rings. The silo sits on a thick, polygonal, poured concrete base.

31. Silo Shed  
1966  
Noncontributing

A frame shed, or shelter, is on the southwest side of the silo. It sits on poured concrete piers and has a wood floor, sheet tin sides, and a sheet metal roof. Abutting the shed is the feeding trough.

32. Grain Bin  
Ca. 1976  
Noncontributing

The metal grain bin is south-southwest of the silo and sits on a poured concrete pad.

Workers' Houses and Other Farm Structures

33. New Farm Manager's House  
1992  
Noncontributing

This rectangular brick veneer house was designed and built by Williams and Williams, contractors of Raleigh, as the residence for Johnny Ray. Ray is working with Miles Williams, the present farm manager, and is being groomed to become farm manager upon Williams's retirement. The house, covered with a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 18

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

---

side-gable roof, has an asymmetrical seven-bay east front elevation. Here, a sheathed decorative gable rises above the off-center entrance and the four closely spaced bays to the north. The rear elevation is also asymmetrically arranged with a chimney standing in the near center of the elevation and three windows to the north and a door and window to the south. The door opens onto an open wood deck. There is one window on the north gable end and two on the south end. The interior includes four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a combination kitchen/dining room, a living room and enclosed porch area.

34. Water Tower  
Ca. 1940  
Contributing

The iron-frame water tower is east of the new farm manager's house on the highest elevation on the knoll. The tower is square in plan and sits on concrete pads. It tapers as it rises upward. The wooden water tank was taken down in 1992.

35. Water Tower Pump House  
Ca. 1940  
Contributing

The pump house has a concrete-block foundation and asphalt shingles over diagonal board sheathing. It has exposed rafter ends and a sheet tin roof.

36. Hog Shelter/Feeding House  
1966  
Noncontributing

The structure has creosote poles with four-by-four braced brackets and a sheet metal roof. The hog pens are at the rear, south, and the front is open. There is a poured concrete floor.

37. Machine Shed  
Ca. 1969  
Noncontributing

The machine shed has a grid frame made of two-by-fours set on a concrete-block base. The shed has sheet tin sides, a sheet metal roof, and a dirt floor. It was built by farm manager Miles Williams about 1969.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 19

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

- 
38. Storage Shed  
Ca. 1945  
Noncontributing

The frame storage shed has weatherboarded siding and sits on cement blocks. The building's shed roof is covered with sheet tin and has exposed rafter ends. The board-and-batten door is on the north elevation. It was relocated to the west in 1992 when the new farm manager's house was built.

39. Overseer's House  
Ca. 1914  
Contributing

The overseer's house is the first house on the path between the main agricultural complex and the farm seat, to the northwest. The one-story frame house was moved to this site in 1970 from the nearby site of the present manager's residence when that residence was built. The house has a hipped, standing-seam metal roof with a hipped-roof front dormer. It has brick and concrete-block flues. A hipped-roof screen porch is on the front elevation. The house sits on a concrete-block foundation and has concrete-block front steps. The three-bay front elevation contains the original one-over-one sash, the top sash being shorter than the bottom. The windows have plain board surrounds with fillets across the top of the lintels. The replacement sash are two-over-two. The front door contains a glazed pane above two horizontal panels. The house and porch have boxed eaves with simple moldings. The pantry and shed porch across the rear are also set on concrete-block piers. The plan is two rooms across the front with a center hall beginning at the rear of the living room, on the west, and running to the rear of the house. There is some original woodwork, but the walls are covered with manufactured paneling. The interior doors are five-horizontal-panel tongue-and-groove.

40. Overseer's House Garage  
1970  
Noncontributing

The garage is an unsubstantial creosote pole structure with sheet tin sides, a sheet metal roof, and a dirt floor.

41. Worker's House #1 (Elizabeth McGregor House)  
Ca. 1914; moved and expanded in 1938  
Contributing

The front, main block of the house was a staff quarters at the Christian House, which stood at the south end of the mill pond where the family residence now stands. It was moved here in 1938 and the rear ell was added at that time. Elizabeth McGregor lived here from 1938 until her death in



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 20

1954. Her daughter Sallie "Bettie" McGregor Henry continued to live here until 1964 when she moved to worker's house #2 and Jerome "Black Jake" Carter moved in here. The house is now vacant; "Jake" was the last occupant.

The house is a one-story, L-shaped, gable-roofed frame house covered with lapped weatherboard siding. The front, main block sits on brick piers with concrete-block infill; the kitchen ell sits on poured concrete piers with concrete-block infill; and the small rear shed addition sits on creosote poles. The main block has a board frieze and flush sheathed molded boxed eaves that return on the gable ends, whereas the eaves of the sides of the ell are ceiled with tongue-and-groove and the rear gable end return is flush boards. A diamond-shaped, louvered attic vent is in the east gable. The front porch and front shed room are enjoined and sit on brick piers. The porch ceiling is tongue-and-groove. The lower portion of the porch is enclosed with lapped weatherboards forming a railing which involves the two surviving chamfered porch posts. The weatherboard apron was added about 1968. The porch flooring is thick pine with ventilation spaces between the boards. The front shed room is engaged under the roof. The exterior doors are five-horizontal-panel tongue-and-groove. The west front door has a single-pane transom above it. On the east of the front elevation, there is a sixteen-pane later window. The windows on the east and west ends of the main block have two-over-two sash and have plain board surrounds with fillets across the top of the lintels. The sash on the rear of the main block, on the ell, and on the small, rear shed addition are six-over-six. A brick chimney is in the center of the rear gable of the ell. The ell is the kitchen.

42. Worker's House #2 ("Bettie's" House)  
Ca. 1914  
Contributing

Hubert Capps, who was hired by farm manager George McNeill in 1939, lived here until his death in 1964. At that time Sallie "Bettie" McGregor Henry moved here. She is the present occupant. "Bettie" was born on Long Valley Farm and was raised in a house now lost before moving into worker's house #1 with her mother, Elizabeth McGregor.

Worker's house #2 is a one-story, frame house with lapped weatherboard siding. The original sections of the house sit on dark brick piers with common-bond brick infill and sheet-tin roofing. The house has pent gable ends. The front porch is on the west side of the front, north elevation, and is engaged. The porch has a lapped German-siding apron with two-by-four supports. The entrance doorway is in the center of the front elevation, under the porch. The front doorway has a two-pane transom. A rear porch at

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 21

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

the southwest corner of the main, front block has been enclosed. There is a shed addition on the west side of the original ell and a kitchen was added to the rear of the original ell. The original sections of the house have six-over-six sash with plain board surrounds and molded tops over the lintels. There are rectangular, louvered attic vents in the original gable ends. Brick chimneys pierce the roof in the east portion of the main block and at the rear of the original ell; one brick flue pierces the roof in the west portion of the main block and a second brick flue is near the east end of the rear, south elevation of the kitchen.

43. Worker's House #3 Fragment  
Ca. 1925, partially dismantled in 1992  
Noncontributing

This rectangular frame building is a remnant of the gable-front bungalow originally erected on the present site of the new farm manager's house. In 1992, some frame additions and a portion of the original house were taken down, leaving this portion which, in turn, was moved downgrade to the southwest to be used for storage. The exterior walls of the bungalow retain their original weatherboarding; other walls, once interior walls, retain their sheathing.

44. Worker's House #2 Pump House  
Ca. 1964  
Noncontributing

The pump house is built of concrete blocks with a sheet tin shed roof.

45. Worker's House #2 Garage  
Ca. 1939  
Contributing

The garage is sided with lapped weatherboards and has concrete-block piers. An automobile bay is on the west and a smaller storage room is on the east; a flush board partition separates them. The storage room has a board-and-batten door and a wood floor.

46. Granary  
Ca. 1944  
Noncontributing

The frame granary has flush horizontal-board sheathing, a sheet tin roof, and sits on concrete-block piers topped by a course of brick on which the sills rest. The rafter ends are exposed. The board-and-batten granary door is in the northwest gable end. The granary was built by Hubert Capps.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 22

47. Pack House  
1940  
Contributing

The two-story pack house stands alone on a sandy knoll south of the house on the west side of the main path to the Manchester Road. The piers and foundation are concrete-block and it is covered with sheets of galvanized tin. The roof rafter ends are exposed and there are triangular knee braces, or brackets. Concrete-block piers support the south end while the north pack room has a solid concrete-block foundation. Double board-and-batten doors on the east side provide entry into the south room. The stair to the second story rises on the west wall, which also contains a window with six-over-six sash. At first floor level a horizontal, flush, pine board partition separates the two rooms. The pack room has a five-horizontal-panel door on the east side and two pairs of six-over-six sash windows on the north side. The second story is a single room.

48. Bulk Tobacco Barn  
Ca. 1970  
Noncontributing

This bulk tobacco barn is at the edge of an open pasture near the east side of the main path to the Manchester Road. The prefabricated barn rests on a concrete-block foundation and has a shed attached to the east end. The shed is supported by creosote posts and has a weatherboarded east gable end. The barn is covered with sheet aluminum and has a sheet aluminum roof.

49. Main Path Tobacco Barn #1  
Ca. 1925  
Contributing

A pair of frame tobacco barns lies south of the bulk tobacco barn on the east side of the main path to the Manchester Road along a slight grade break. The barns are situated in a line perpendicular to the path in an area that is lightly wooded. The barns face south and have brick foundations, vertical wood battens over green tar paper, and galvanized tin roofs. A single door is in the center of the south side and the flue of each is near the center of the north side. There are pairs of vent holes in the walls. The interiors of the barns retain the rafters on which the sticks of tobacco are hung. Main Path Tobacco Barn #1 is the west barn.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 23

---

50. Main Path Tobacco Barn #2  
Ca. 1925  
Contributing

This is the east of the pair of tobacco barns described above.

51. Worker's House #4  
Ca. 1925, 1962-1964  
Contributing

The house faces south and is a one-story-with-attic, frame, front gable house with side wings. It has lapped weatherboard siding, a sheet tin roof, and interior brick chimney. The main block has plain board surrounds with fillets across the top of the lintels. The west wing has plain board surrounds and exposed rafter ends and is nearly contemporary with the main block. The front porch is the width of the three-bay main block; it is screened, has a wood floor and a flush board ceiling. An enclosed porch also extends across the rear, north of the west wing and halfway across the main block. The windows contain six-over-six sash and are all approximately the same size with the exception of the front window in the east wing, which is smaller and is a 1970s replacement. There are six-over-six sash in the attic gables with screened attic vents at the apex. The living room has a bracketed-shelf mantel.

52. Worker's House #4 Garage  
1930s  
Contributing

The frame garage has wide, lapped weatherboards and a common-bond brick foundation. It has exposed rafter ends and a sheet tin roof. The main block is divided longitudinally into a dirt-floored automobile bay on the south, and a narrower storage room with a wood floor on the north. The storage room has a board-and-batten door. Sheds have been added to both the north and south sides of the garage. The north shed has posts and sills on the ground; the south shed was built in 1962 and has brick piers with concrete-block infill.

53. Worker's House #4 Pump House  
1960s  
Noncontributing

The pump house is immediately south of the garage. It is concrete-block with a sheet tin roof and a board-and-batten door.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 24

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

54. Worker's House #5  
1947  
Noncontributing

Worker's House #5 is a one-story-with-attic, front-gable, concrete-block house with a sheet metal roof. The front porch has a concrete-block foundation with a poured-concrete floor and metal posts. The porch roof has wood rafters and an asphalt roof. The front door is in the center of the west elevation and is flanked by a window on each side. The side elevations each have three windows, which contain six-over-six sash. On the rear there is a screened porch with a weatherboarded apron. A flue pierces the roof on the south slope of the roof. On the first floor the house has a living room, a dining room-kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom; there is one room in the attic. It was built to replace an earlier house that burned.

55. Worker's House #5 Pack House  
1968  
Noncontributing

The frame, front-gable pack house was built by Miles Williams in 1968. It is covered with galvanized sheet tin. The pack house faces north with a door in the center of the elevation, flanked by a window on each side. A shed with creosote poles and a sheet metal roof is on the west side.

56. Worker's House #5 Garage  
1974 or 1975  
Noncontributing

The small, frame garage has plywood sides, a poured-concrete floor, and a sheet metal roof.

57. North Pasture Tobacco Barn #1  
Ca. 1939-1940  
Contributing

A pair of concrete-block tobacco barns is located at the far northeast reach of the property in a large open field which is surrounded by woods. The field is now in pasture. Both of the end-gable concrete-block barns are laid in common bond and have sheet tin roofs and dirt floors. There are vent holes the size of the blocks in the gable ends. The doors of both barns are missing. Some of the tobacco-stick rafters remain in each barn.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 25

---

58. North Pasture Tobacco Barn #2  
Ca. 1939-1940  
Contributing

North Pasture Tobacco Barn #2 is the second, east, of the pair of tobacco barns described above. A live spring is at the rear, near the center, of the east barn. The barn had a one-story, open shed, which is now missing, attached to its east side.

59. Long Valley Farm fields, pastures, and woodlands  
Ca. 1914-1943  
Contributing

Located north of Manchester Road, Long Valley Farm presently embraces a total of some 1,429.92 acres. The genesis of the present farm was Robert Wall Christian's January, 1914 initial purchase of 363.90 acres that he enlarged within a year to a total of 966.72 acres. This original 1915 acreage is the south-central section of the present farm and is composed of fields and pastures embraced by woodlands on the east, north and west. Most of the buildings and structures that serve the farm operations are sited along a loop road that leads from Manchester Road north into the farm along the western edge of the central fields and pastures; west-to-east through the heart of the farm; and then south to Manchester Road through eastern fields and pastures. The present layout of the farm reflects its 1914-1925 appearance since eight of the buildings from that era are located along this loop road, and most of the subsequent buildings are interspersed among them. The centrally-located fields and pastures, together with their peripheral woodlands, also reflect the 1914-1925 era and Christian's experiments in scientific farming that are documented in the "Soil Survey of Cumberland County" issued by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1925. The northern and western stands of woodlands shelter the fields and pastures from prevailing winds, and in the sheltered areas Christian practiced crop rotation, calculated artificial fertilization, and artificial drainage of the Kalmia and Myatt sandy loam of the farm. The Rockefellers, who acquired full title to the property in January, 1937, have continued the farming practices established by Christian, except that the original 40-acre tobacco allotment has been allowed to greatly shrink and a herd of pedigree Hertford cattle has been introduced. The bulk of the property they purchased in 1940 to complete the present acreage is 520 acres of woodland to the north of the 1914-1915 farm that reinforces the sheltering of the cleared land.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 1

## Summary

The creation of Long Valley Farm as an agricultural estate by Robert Wall Christian in the early twentieth century and its expansion and development as a winter agricultural estate by James Stillman Rockefeller in the late interwar and World War II period, reflects the confluence of a series of forces in Cumberland and Harnett counties in the first decades of the twentieth century that occurred nowhere else in North Carolina in like fashion. The creation and expansion of Long Valley Farm in the period from 1912 to 1943 likewise reflect the traditions of local agriculture, larger developments including the movement toward scientific agriculture that was occurring throughout the state, and the patterns of upper-class land ownership and recreational activities that describe both the period of significance, 1912-1943, and place--the former plantation lands of North Carolina. In short, the history and significance of Long Valley Farm is as a part of the local fabric of Cumberland and Harnett counties and as an important exception within its landscape that achieves significance on a larger statewide level.

Up to 1912, when the farm's core 363.90 acres was subdivided, platted, and sold as Farm No. 1 of the Croatan Club lands, the history of the property comprising Long Valley Farm is a part of the larger history of the demise of the McDiarmid family plantation and the development of the Overhills Country Club resort here in the 1910s. The death of Daniel McDiarmid (1803-1873) in 1873 set in motion a series of events that resulted in the dismemberment of Ardnave, his 13,000-plus-acre plantation on the Little River lying in both Harnett and Cumberland counties.

In 1892 the McDiarmid lands were purchased by John Y. Gossler of Pennsylvania and Rufus Hicks of Wilmington, North Carolina, and was shortly sold to the Consolidated Lumber Company. The company cut over the stands of pine trees before selling the acreage in 1901 to William Johnston, a shipowner in Liverpool, England. In 1906 he sold the property to two bankers, James T. Woodward of New York and Gen. John Gill of Baltimore. It appears that Woodward and Gill were acting as the agents for a group of fellow bankers and capitalists who formed themselves into the Croatan Club of Manchester. The Croatan Club set about to develop the property as a private shooting preserve.

In 1910 the property was sold to a partnership of James Francis Jordan (1859-1919) of Greensboro and Leonard Tufts of Pinehurst. Within two months, in February 1911, Tufts, whose father had developed Pinehurst, sold his one-half interest in the property to William Kent (1864-1928) of California. Jordan and Kent formed the Kent-Jordan Company and began the construction of a lodge in which to accommodate guests at the newly formed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 2

---

Overhills Country Club.

In order to raise additional capital for their building and development programs at Overhills and to gain congenial neighbors in the area, the Kent-Jordan Company subdivided lands on the edges of their contiguous holding. In December 1912, the Kent-Jordan Company sold a tract of 363.90 acres, including a part of the McDiarmid mill pond, described as Farm No. 1 on the map of the Croatan Club lands, to Dr. Joseph P. Ewing (1865-1916). Those 363.90 acres thus became the core of the farm which evolved in the following decades into the 1,400-plus-acre Long Valley Farm of today. Dr. Ewing, then a resident of Fayetteville, held the property for just over a year, selling it in January, 1914, to his brother-in-law Robert Wall Christian.

It was Robert Wall Christian (1869-1927), a gentleman farmer and businessman, who created Long Valley Farm, enlarged it to over 960 acres, and resided on the property until his death in 1927. Christian, an advocate of scientific agriculture, was elected to the North Carolina Legislature in 1924 and introduced legislation to provide a farm agent to each county in North Carolina. At Long Valley, he undertook agricultural experiments which were broadly recognized and he was appreciated for his scientific approaches to farm management and crop production. A month following his death, Long Valley Farm, including all the lands, stock, equipment, and crops, was sold to the partnership of Percy Avery Rockefeller (1878-1934) and Windsor T. White (1866-1958). Both Rockefeller and White were members of the Overhills Country Club. Rockefeller eventually became the major backer of its operations and, finally, the owner of Overhills which became his winter estate. Under the direction of the Overhills manager, Long Valley Farm continued to operate as a stock and crop farm during the Rockefeller/White ownership.

As a result of the Stock Market Crash of 1929, financial problems during the early 1930s, and the death of Percy Rockefeller in 1934, farming activity at Long Valley Farm languished for several years. In 1936, James Stillman Rockefeller, the nephew of Percy Rockefeller, acquired Windsor White's one-half undivided interest in Long Valley Farm. In 1937, Rockefeller acquired his uncle's one-half undivided interest in the farm and thus became sole owner of the estate.

Having visited his relatives at Overhills where he developed an affection for the Sandhills region of North Carolina, James Stillman Rockefeller quickly set about to create a seasonal (winter) estate at Long Valley Farm. He erected a substantial two-story farm seat overlooking the McDiarmid mill pond, constructed agricultural outbuildings, rebuilt the



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 3

---

dam, and made other improvements to the property. Part of this work was completed while he was stationed at Fort Bragg during World War II and in residence at Long Valley Farm. During the past half-century, James Rockefeller and his family have maintained Long Valley Farm as a winter residence and agricultural estate under the supervision of a resident manager.

Long Valley Farm, comprising some 1,400-plus acres of fields, pasture, woodlands, house grounds, waterways, and a mill pond, and some fifty-eight buildings, is eligible for listing in the National Register and satisfies Criteria A, B, and C. It is important on a statewide level in the areas of social history, architecture, and agriculture. Because of its historical associations with the sequential development of Overhills as a country club and the winter estate of the Percy Rockefeller Family and its own creation during the period of 1937-1943 as the winter agricultural estate of James Stillman Rockefeller, it is important in the area of social history. Its statewide significance in the area of agriculture is twofold. It is important as the site of Robert Wall Christian's advanced scientific farming practices during the period from 1914 to 1927. Long Valley Farm also satisfies the requirements of Criterion B for its association with the life of Robert Wall Christian, an important scientific farmer and agriculturalist in early-twentieth century North Carolina. Christian's efforts at Long Valley Farm, as described in the SOIL SURVEY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, are important in themselves; however, they have a higher value as a reflection of the innovative movement to modernize farming in North Carolina that began to have a recognizable influence on agriculture in the old North State in the 1910s and 1920s. Long Valley Farm is also agriculturally significant in North Carolina as one of the few important and intact gentleman's agricultural estates which survive from the interwar period (and the twentieth century). Long Valley Farm is important in the area of architecture as a unique collection of buildings whose appearance reflects both local traditions of building and the American country house movement of the interwar period in a setting and series of circumstances that is highly unusual in North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 4

---

LONG VALLEY FARM

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SOCIAL HISTORY CONTEXT

THE LATER NINETEENTH AND TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY HISTORY  
OF THE PROPERTY THAT BECAME (OVERHILLS AND) LONG VALLEY FARM

Although Guion Griffis Johnson's magisterial ANTE-BELLUM NORTH CAROLINA provides remarkable insight into the society and economy of the state's pre-Civil War plantation system, much research remains to be completed before an understanding of certain aspects of its history is thoroughly gained. One such area requiring further research is an account of the great plantations in coastal and southeastern North Carolina that were the basis of a large and important naval stores industry from the eighteenth century into the post-Civil War period. The Cape Fear River and its tributaries, including the Little River, drained much of southeastern North Carolina and it was along the Cape Fear and these lesser streams that thousands of Highland Scots settled and prospered in the eighteenth century. Here they established farms and plantations, towns such as Fayetteville, and organized strong communities whether urban or rural that reflected their heritage. The Presbyterian religion was a signal component of their lives and churches were their first organized associations.

Traditionally, the ministers of these early churches were leaders of their community and educated in Scotland. About 1794, the Rev. Angus McDiarmid (1757-1827) left Scotland and came to Cumberland County where he ministered to several churches, including Long Street Church, for a period of some thirty years. McDiarmid immediately entered the close circle of the leading Highland Scot families and in 1796 he married a daughter of that society, Ann McNeill (1773-1853). The couple had three sons; however, only the youngest son, Daniel McDiarmid (1803-1873), had issue and he eventually came into possession of most of the McDiarmid lands. By inheritance and through his own industry, Daniel McDiarmid became a man of substance and prominence in Cumberland County. He built a handsome house, known as Ardnave, as the seat of his large plantation which was also known as Ardnave. Ardnave, the house, stood on a slight rise on the north bank of the Little River, just above the point where the Western Plank Road crossed the river. The construction of Ardnave is believed to have occurred about the time of Daniel McDiarmid's marriage, in the 1830s, to Ann Eliza Wright, the daughter of Isaac Wright of Bladen County.

By the time of his death in 1873, Daniel McDiarmid was a wealthy man. In addition to his major land holdings, he had considerable investments in stocks and bonds as well as cash. To his only sons Archibald and William he

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 5

---

bequeathed ". . . all my lands in Cumberland and Harnett counties to be equally divided by & between them, also my Turpentine Still & fixtures, Coopers tools, etc. also my two teams of mules & Turpentine wagons." To his wife he left ". . . my dwelling house & its appurtenances, together with one half of the cleared & enclosed part of the lands and one thousand acres of the uncleared part of the lands Known as the Home Lands, equivalent to about twelve hundred acres, (as she may select). . . ." To his daughter Catherine E. Robinson he left \$3,000 for the education of her son Henry McDiarmid Robinson who became an attorney and, ironically, would oversee the final auction sale of Ardnave and its 1,200 acres in 1899. At least 200 of these 1,200 acres became a part of the acreage of Long Valley Farm.

Archibald Knox McDiarmid (1849-1933) and William James McDiarmid (1852-1911) became prominent businessmen in Cumberland County; however, their enterprises were not entirely marked by good fortune. In the summer of 1884, in order to raise capital, the brothers and their wives, together with Henry McD. Robinson and N. W. Ray, mortgaged "The McDiarmid Lands" for \$13,000. Six years later, in 1890, when faced with need for further capital, they executed a deed of trust for their property on the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad at Spout Springs, as security for an indebtedness of \$5,000 owed to John Y. Gossler and George E. Gossler, copartners trading as Gossler and Co. The McDiarmid brothers had had a saw and planing mill on this property prior to June 1890 when it burned. Apparently the rebuilding and refitting of the mill was the reason for the indebtedness of \$5,000 to the Gossler brothers. A second mortgage was placed on the property to secure an additional \$2,500. Unfortunately, the McDiarmid brothers were unable to meet these obligations and on 2 January 1892 "The McDiarmid Lands" were put up at auction at Spout Springs at four o'clock in the afternoon.

The partnership of John Y. Gossler of Philadelphia and Rufus W. Hicks of Wilmington placed the highest bid for the property, \$10,500, and on 5 January 1892 they were given title to "The McDiarmid Lands." John Y. Gossler was president of the Consolidated Lumber Company and later in 1892 he and Hicks transferred the McDiarmid Lands and the McDiarmid saw mill property which they had also purchased at auction in January to the Consolidated Lumber Company. It remains unknown at present what portion of the McDiarmid property was cut over by the lumber company for timber during the nine years it was in the company's ownership. However, it is known that hunts were held on the property in the later years of the nineteenth century and one of the men who attended these hunts encouraged the next purchase of the property.

On 15 March 1901, the Consolidated Lumber Company and John Y. Gossler of Philadelphia sold their holdings in Harnett and Cumberland counties for \$18,000 to William Johnston, a shipowner of Liverpool, England. The

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 6

---

property, in two tracts totaling 20,035 acres, was described in the deed as being ". . . principally the lands owned by Daniel McDiarmid and by him conveyed by will to his sons, W. J. and A. K. McDiarmid." It would appear that prior to the 1899 survey of the property prepared for the Consolidated Lumber company, there had been no modern survey of the property; the earlier references to acreage of the McDiarmid lands had apparently been estimates.

The Fayetteville OBSERVER of 21 March 1901 carried the news of the transaction under the heading "A Big Land Deal" and described Johnston as "one of the principal owners of one of the big trans-Atlantic steamship lines" and a friend of Samuel Spencer, the president of Southern Railroad. Spencer and Johnston jointly inspected the property at Spout Springs and returned to Baltimore where the transaction was closed. The article also described Johnston's plan for the property.

It is proposed by this Englishman and his son to make a great game preserve on this property. This son was fox hunting in the Spout Springs neighborhood year before last with a party of Greensboro sportsmen, and so pleased was he with the country that when he went back to England he told his father of the possibilities of the place as a game preserve, with the result that Mr. Johnston came over himself and was also so impressed that he decided to purchase the whole tract.

Eight months after his father purchased the McDiarmid lands, Edmund Alan Johnston was married to Janie McDiarmid (1877-1959), the daughter of Archibald Knox McDiarmid. The couple occupied a house on the property, now lost, which was known as "Arranmore." For reasons that might have included Edmund Johnston's health problems (asthma), the Johnstons decided to leave Arranmore and removed to Baltimore. On 10 July 1906, the Johnston holding in Harnett and Cumberland counties, expanded by additional purchases, was sold for \$32,500 to James T. Woodward of New York and John Gill of Baltimore. In a front page article on 15 November 1906, the Fayetteville OBSERVER described the new plans for the property which would be carried through under the ownership of an association of capitalists, bankers, and businessmen called the Croatan Club of Manchester. Woodward (d. 1910) was president of Hanover National Bank of New York; Gill was president of the Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company of Baltimore and the failed Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad. On 4 January 1907, Woodward and Gill conveyed the property to the newly-organized Croatan Club of Manchester.

The Fayetteville OBSERVER and the Baltimore SUN carried accounts of the purchase and the organization of the Croatan Club of Manchester.

This land was first brought to the attention of General Gill when he was

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

president of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad. Its advantages as a sporting preserve were quickly recognized by him on his frequent business visits to the section, and he concluded to purchase it if he could enlist enough of his friends in the enterprise of holding it for hunting purposes. Mr. James T. Woodward was the first approached, and he also thought so well of the proposition that he immediately joined with General Gill and bought the land.

It was then that the suggestion of forming a club, to be composed of the personal friends of the original promoters, was conceived and carried into effect.

The purchase of the old McDiarmid Lands by John Gill and James Woodward and its subsequent ownership by the group of capitalists and their friends who incorporated as the Croatan Club of Manchester is part of a larger story that saw expression throughout the South. As great fortunes were made or consolidated in the industrial expansion of the United States in the years after the Civil War, capitalists, financiers, industrialists, and leaders of related professions quickly acquired large incomes that were not essential for reinvestment in business. One of the first and longest lasting expression of this era in America's social history was the erection of country houses and the development of estates within commuting distance of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and cities throughout the nation. The erection of seasonal residences was also a part of this expansive life. The great summer cottages of Newport, Rhode Island, and Biltmore in North Carolina are the penultimate expression of this process. Late in the interwar period Long Valley Farm would be expanded as just such a seasonal residence (winter) by a capitalist of a later generation.

The establishment of hunting clubs and game preserves was another part of this phenomenon. The short-lived Croatan Club of Manchester was one important example in North Carolina and part of a distinguished, if little known, history of game and shooting lodges and clubs in the state. The Currituck Club in extreme northeast North Carolina is probably the oldest such club in the state; however, it was the hunting in lower Guilford and upper Randolph counties that attracted the most attention, the wealthiest sportsmen, and remains legendary to this day. This occurred in large part as a result of the J. P. Morgan & Company's role in the reorganization of Southern Railroad. Among the first of these Piedmont hunting camps was the lodge erected in 1899 at Climax for General John Gill and James Swan Frick of Baltimore. Gill sold his interest in the Climax property in 1904 and, two years later, was a partner in the purchase of the Harnett and Cumberland county lands. However, while hunting in Guilford and Randolph counties he came to know James Francis Jordan who served as a local guide and developed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 8

---

friendships with several of the magnates who came south to hunt. The extent to which the Croatan Club developed their game preserve and erected accommodations on the property is unclear as is the reason the club decided to abandon its North Carolina shooting fields. The death of James T. Woodward in 1910 was probably the critical factor as he had been a guiding force in the organization of the club.

## THE CREATION OF OVERHILLS COUNTRY CLUB (1910-1912)

On 24 December 1910 the Croatan Club of Manchester deeded their property in Harnett and Cumberland counties to a partnership of James Francis Jordan and Leonard Tufts. The selling price of \$75,000 was more than double what the club had paid for the property four years earlier. Clearly, substantial improvements had been made to the property and it is possible that at least one of the log lodges erected by the club survives today at Overhills as a residence. Under the headline "Mr. Tufts Makes Big Purchase in Cumberland" the Fayetteville OBSERVER announced the sale and outlined the plans for the property.

Mr. Tufts intends to develop this property, retain it as a game preserve and winter resort in connection with his Pinehurst property and otherwise use its broad acres in such a way as to make it attractive to his guests.

Leonard Tufts was the son of James W. Tufts (1835-1902) who had developed Pinehurst in nearby Moore County as a resort and was now the president of the family company. James Francis Jordan (1859-1919) was a tobacconist in Greensboro, had served as sheriff of Guilford County, and, as a well-known Piedmont sportsman, he had led or been a member of many hunts in the fields of Guilford and Randolph counties and on the Croatan Club property.

From the deed by which the 20,758-acre tract was conveyed to the new owners, it can be established that there was some serious farming on the property, probably largely to provide food for the game. The deed conveyed the land "Together with all the tangible personal property belonging to the party of the first part, exclusive of cash on hand, and located on these lands, including especially all stock, cattle, vehicles, farming tools, grain feed-stuff of every kind, hogs, sheep--in fine all the tangible personal property of every kind belonging to the party of the first part, used upon or connected with the operations of said real estate."

Less than two months after purchasing the Croatan Club property, Leonard Tufts sold his one-half undivided interest to William Kent of Kentfield, California. The circumstances of Tufts' withdrawal from the project are not

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 9

---

known, nor is it clear how Kent became involved in the project. James F. Jordan and William Kent formalized their relationship in the spring of 1911 through the formation of the Kent-Jordan Company and each, in turn, would sell his interest in the property to the new company. William Kent had a broad background in real estate development and soon the plans for the property, which shortly came to be known as Overhills, included a residential development which was to be called Pinewild. Beginning on 30 August 1911, the Fayetteville OBSERVER carried a series of articles concerning the plans of the Kent-Jordan Company and despite the enthusiastic promotion of Pinewild as a concept, it appears that the residential development was never moved beyond the planning stage.

Other plans of the Kent-Jordan Company did come to fruition in the early 1910s including the construction of a large shingle-clad hotel overlooking the golf course by Donald Ross, which opened in 1913. To raise capital for that project and to gain some congenial neighbors in the vicinity, the Kent-Jordan Company platted and sold tracts on the edges of their holding. Among the first of these transactions, on 1 September 1911, was the agreement by the J. Van Lindley Nursery Company of Greensboro to purchase 643.20 acres on which they planned to develop fields for growing out nursery stock. A year later, on 21 December 1912, the Kent-Jordan Company sold a tract of 363.90 acres to Dr. Joseph P. Ewing of Fayetteville for \$17,943. The tract, the core of Long Valley Farm, was described as "Being Farm No. 1 on the map of the Croatan Club land, made by E. W. Meyers for Kent-Jordan Company." Because of the high selling price, it would appear that there should have been substantial buildings on the property. However, the only surviving building which can be said with certainty to have been on the property then is the mill which was converted into a recreational lakeside pavilion probably in the 1920s.

THE EWING OWNERSHIP OF FARM NO. 1 OF THE CROATAN CLUB LAND (1912-1914)

Dr. Joseph P. Ewing (1865-1916), the son of Dr. W. R. Ewing and a native of South Carolina, had removed to Fayetteville from Dillon, South Carolina, in 1908/1909. On 2 December 1908, Dr. Ewing's wife, Sallie Christian Ewing, purchased a tract of 100 acres in Seventy-First Township in Cumberland County from L. D. and Julia C. Bennett. A month later, on 13 January 1909, Dr. Ewing and his wife purchased an additional six tracts of land in Seventy-First Township from the Bennetts. This last purchase included the 1,000-acre Cottonade Plantation near Fayetteville. According to his obituary in the Fayetteville OBSERVER, "Dr. Ewing who was well liked in this community, came to Fayetteville 7 years ago from Dillon, S.C., after closing at the latter town a very successful medical practice for a number of years. . . . Since coming to this county he had been engaged in farming and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 10

---

the real estate business." It is believed that the Ewings lived at Cottonade; however, it is not known whether they lived on the property they purchased from the Kent-Jordan Company. Their ownership of "Farm No. 1 of the Croatan Club land" lasted but fourteen months. On 24 January 1914, Dr. Ewing and his wife sold the farm to her brother Robert Wall Christian of Seneca Falls, New York, for \$18,000.

ROBERT WALL CHRISTIAN AND THE CREATION OF LONG VALLEY FARM (1914-1927)

At his death in 1927, Robert Wall Christian was described as "one of the most successful and scientific farmers in this section of the State" in his obituary published in the NEWS AND OBSERVER in Raleigh on 14 March 1927. It was here on the farm he acquired from his brother-in-law and which he expanded by the purchase of additional tracts totaling over 600 acres that he became well-known throughout the county, region, and the state for his advanced agricultural practices. Exactly when he came to call his place Long Valley Farm is not known; however, the name well-described his property. Then, as now, Long Valley Farm stretched along the west side of the road connecting NC 210 and NC 24/87. Its long, fertile, and broad fields, which lay parallel to the road, form a part of the extensive valley-like landscape of bottom lands along the Little River. On 9 January 1915, a year after his purchase from Ewing, Robert Christian expanded his farm in Seventy-First Township of Cumberland County by the acquisition of three contiguous tracts of land from L. D. Frutchey.

In exchange, Christian conveyed to Frutchey a real estate holding in Montgomery County and paid him \$10,000. The property which Christian acquired from Frutchey was three of five tracts which Frutchey had purchased on 1 August 1911 from the Kent-Jordan Company. In that deed they were described as "tracts of land out from South end of Croatan Club tract, and being tracts Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 as shown on map made by E. W Meyers, Engineer." Two months later, on 8 March 1915, Robert Christian purchased two tracts of land, of one hundred acres each, from Neill Black. Through these purchases Christian enlarged his Long Valley Farm to the size which it remained through his lifetime and until 1940. In the deed, these contiguous tracts were described as "being part of the McDiarmid Home Place, known as 'Ardnave'," conveyed by H. McD. Robinson, Commissioner, to Neill Black by deed dated January 31st, 1900." At the public auction at the Market House in Fayetteville, in 11 December 1899, Neill Black had been the highest bidder for the last fragment of the McDiarmid Family's great plantation. By these purchases Robert Christian enlarged his Long Valley Farm to the size which it remained through his lifetime and until 1940. Ironically, he also created a new twentieth century farm--one of Cumberland County's finest--from the reassembled parts of one of Cumberland County's greatest nineteenth-century



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 11

plantations, Ardnave.

Robert Wall Christian was born on 26 February 1869 in Montgomery County, North Carolina. Either by training or experience, he became a mining engineer and worked in Alaska, Montana, and Colorado prior to residing in New York where he was living when he bought the nucleus of his Long Valley Farm from Dr. Ewing. Relatively little is known of his personal life. He was a widower when he came to Cumberland County with his only daughter Elizabeth Christian who had been born in 1899 in Montana. When he arrived in Fayetteville, he quickly entered local society as a relation of the well-established Ewings.

Except for the survival of the McDiarmid Mill, it is unclear what number and manner of buildings were standing on the tracts which he assembled in 1914 and 1915 as Long Valley Farm. Lacking that sure knowledge, it is reasonable to believe that he built the oldest frame houses and agricultural outbuildings which survive at Long Valley, most still in use. In addition to the mill and mill pond, two of the buildings which Robert Christian erected were illustrated in a special "Rotogravure Section" published by the Fayetteville OBSERVER in January 1932. These were "The Christian Home" and the "Overseer's Home, Long Valley Farm." "The Christian Home," Mr. Christian's residence, was a two-story Colonial Revival frame house which stood on the site, overlooking the lake, now occupied by the two-story frame Colonial Revival frame seat (#1) built for James Stillman Rockefeller in 1937-1938. The Christian House was pulled down in 1937 and a one-story quarters which stood near it was moved to the east and expanded as a residence (#41) for estate staff. The Overseer's House is a one-story frame house (#39) finished with simple turn-of-the-century details and continues in use as a workman's dwelling. A third frame house (#42), now the home of a member of the estate staff, also appears to date from the 1910s. Four agricultural outbuildings, the forge (#18), the commissary (#19), and two tobacco barns (#49 and #50), also probably date from Christian's ownership. Two worker's houses (#43 and #51) were erected in the 1920s. There were surely other buildings in use at the farm but they have been lost and/or replaced during the building program undertaken by James Rockefeller after he acquired the farm.

About 1916-1917, and perhaps coinciding with the death of Dr. Ewing in 1916, Robert Christian became the principal and president of the Christian-Ewing Company which manufactured fertilizer. Throughout his residency in Cumberland County he was known as a farmer and he identified himself as such for the 1920 census. He was listed as the head of a household which included his daughter Elizabeth (Betty) and his nephew W. R. Ewing who was also a farmer. He was elected as the Cumberland County representative to the North

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 12

Carolina House of Representatives for the 1925 Session. He was appointed as a member of four committees for that session: Agriculture, Banks and Banking, Finance, and Game. In that session he introduced House Bill No. 220 which would have enabled each county in the state to have a county agricultural agent. His legislative career was checked by an automobile accident in Raleigh after which he was hospitalized. During the later 1910s and the 1920s, his work at Long Valley Farm gained the attention of local and state agricultural figures and mention was made of his agricultural practices in the SOIL SURVEY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY published in 1922. Robert Christian also served as chairman of both the Cumberland County board of commissioners and the county board of agriculture. He also served as president of the State Farmers' Association and was a director of the Cotton Cooperative Association.

Robert Wall Christian died unexpectedly on Sunday afternoon, 13 March 1927, at Long Valley Farm, leaving as survivors his daughter Elizabeth C. Brenizer, his sister, and his mother, Mrs. W. S. Ingraham. On the 14th, the Fayetteville OBSERVER carried a prominent front page notice of his death with a subtitle which described him as "One of Cumberland County's Most Prominent Citizens and a Leader in the Farming Industry." It further advised its readers that "Death Came Without Warning as He Conversed With Friends in His Home 'Long Valley'." An account of his funeral from First Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville was published by the Fayetteville OBSERVER on 15 March:

A large concourse of friends from many parts of the state attended the funeral services yesterday afternoon for Robert W. Christian, prominent citizen of Cumberland County and one of North Carolina's leading farmers. . . .

Seldom, it is indeed, that more gorgeous floral offerings are seen at a funeral testifying to the love and esteem in which Mr. Christian was held in a community he loved so well. . . .

Included in those who followed the body to its final resting place (in Cross Creek Cemetery) were the faithful negro retainers on Mr. Christian's farm. The devoted attachment of the negroes who worked for him was not the least notable tribute paid Mr. Christian in his death.

THE ROCKEFELLER AND WHITE PERIOD OF CO-OWNERSHIP (1927-1936/1937)

The settlement of Robert Wall Christian's estate moved quickly, in part because his only daughter, Elizabeth Christian Brenizer, was the sole

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 13

beneficiary of his will. Shortly after his death, she departed from Fayetteville to join her husband, Captain H. C. Brenizer, at his post in Manila, Philippine Islands. On 7 April 1927, less than a month following his death, Long Valley Farm was sold to Percy Avery Rockefeller and Windsor T. White for \$50,000. The deed for the property, 966.72 acres known as "R. W. Christian's 'Long Valley Farm,'" also conveyed to the new owners all stock, crops, and equipment then existing and in use on the farm. Their quick purchase of Long Valley Farm occurred in large part because they were already familiar with the property, having hunted over it while vacationing at Overhills.

Between 1912, when the Kent-Jordan Company sold "Farm No. 1 of the Croatan Club lands" to Dr. Ewing and the death of Robert Wall Christian on 13 March 1927, major developments had taken place on the vast and contiguous tract of former McDiarmid Family lands which came to be known as Overhills. The dream of James Francis Jordan (1859-1919) to create an important country club and hunting preserve on the property had been largely realized by the time of his death in 1919. A lodge had been built and opened in 1913 and a course--laid out in two phases by Donald Ross--offering eighteen holes of golf was available for play by the spring of 1916. In December of 1916, Percy Rockefeller first visited Overhills and in the spring of 1917 William Averell Harriman (1891-1986) first came to Overhills. Both men would build cottages at Overhills for their own use. By 1920 Percy Rockefeller became a principal financial backer of the Overhills Club. Both he and W. Averell Harriman were among the "wealthy syndicate of sportsmen" who were mentioned in Jordan's obituary as having taken over operations at Overhills. The incorporation papers for the Overhills Land Company were drawn up in 1921.

During the 1920s, Overhills developed as a small but fashionable winter resort used mainly by Percy Rockefeller, W. Averell Harriman, and their business and social friends in New York, many of whom had attended Yale. During the decade fox hunting became a major activity and hunt and riding stables were built. Joseph Brown Thomas (1879-1955) designed the kennels for the fox hounds and hunting dogs at Overhills and used the plan of the kennels as an illustration in his HOUNDS AND HUNTING THROUGH THE AGES (1928). The glamorous hunt life of Overhills was handsomely recorded in the paintings of Percival Leonard Rosseau (died 1937), some of which also appeared in HOUNDS AND HUNTING THROUGH THE AGES. Rosseau had a studio residence at Overhills. The extent to which polo was played at Overhills has yet to be established; however, an existing frame barn was remodeled as a stable for Harriman's polo ponies and teams from Overhills played at both Camp Bragg and Pinehurst. His interest in Overhills appears to have waned in the later 1920s and he is better known for his playing at Meadow Brook and the other great polo clubs of the 1920s and 1930s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 14

---

Although the role of Percy Rockefeller and Windsor White at Long Valley Farm appears to have been largely that of absentee owners, their decade-long stewardship of the farm merits much more than passing mention. Of the two, Percy Rockefeller appears to have been the more active partner at Long Valley just as he was at Overhills. He was born in New York on 27 February 1878 to William and Almira Goodsell Rockefeller. William Rockefeller (1841-1922) was the younger brother of the great capitalist and philanthropist John Davison Rockefeller (1839-1937). Rockefeller was graduated from Yale in 1900 and in 1901 he was married to Isabel Stillman (1876-1935), the daughter of James Stillman (1850-1918), the founder, president, and chairman of the board of National City Bank of New York.

Following their marriage, James Stillman erected and furnished a townhouse for the couple at 13-15 East 74th Street which adjoined his own residence at 9 East 74th Street. In 1907-1908, Percy Rockefeller built a large Renaissance Revival country house called Owenoke Farm in Greenwich, Connecticut. Following his graduation from Yale he entered his father's office at Standard Oil Company and was subsequently named to the board of National City Bank. The writer of his obituary suggested that his greatest business achievement was his participation in the formation of the Air Reduction Company in 1915; the company held American rights to the Claude process of extracting oxygen and nitrogen from air. At one time Percy Rockefeller is said to have held seats on the boards of fifty-one companies. This broad involvement was much criticized in later years, for in it lay the foundations of financial reverses, lawsuits against directors for negligence, and losses in investments that plagued his later years and his estate.

Windsor T. White (1866-1958) was born in Orange, Massachusetts, to Thomas H. and Almira (Greenleaf) White. In 1890 he graduated from Worcester Polytechnical Institute and, two years later, in 1892 he was married to Delia Bulkley Holden. He was a founder and president of White Motor Company, 1906-1921, and chairman of the company board from 1921 to 1927. He was chairman of the board of Park Drop Forge Company and a director of National City Bank of Cleveland. He maintained a residence at Halfred Farms, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and he was a long time member of the Chagrin Falls Hunt Club where he played polo and hunted. Windsor T. White first came to Overhills in 1925 and in 1926, the year he was named to the board of Masters of Foxhounds Association in America, he made three more visits. He was again at Overhills in February 1927, a few weeks before the death of Robert Wall Christian on 13 March 1927.

Although Overhills was held as a private company by a group of club members, member use of Overhills appears to have diminished in the later 1920s while

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 15

---

Percy Rockefeller and his family came to use the property more and more as a seasonal residence. Percy Rockefeller built a large house known as The Covert in 1922. In 1928 construction was begun for Isabel Stillman Rockefeller on Croatan Lodge, a handsome brick house designed by Hiss & Weeks who had earlier designed the seat of Owenoke Farm in Greenwich. These two buildings physically stamped Overhills as a Rockefeller family property. The Stock Market Crash of 1929 effectively ended the member use of Overhills and Percy Rockefeller acquired most members' shares. By January 1932 when the Fayetteville OBSERVER devoted eight pages of photographs to Overhills and Long Valley Farm in its special, promotional "Rotogravure Section" on Fayetteville, Overhills was publicly described as "the Carolina estate of Mr. Percy A. Rockefeller."

Two and a half years later, on 25 September 1934, Percy Avery Rockefeller died. Less than a year later, on 22 August 1935, Isabel Stillman Rockefeller died. Between 1934 and 1938, the heirs and executors of Percy Rockefeller's will were busy settling an estate complicated by a series of legal actions and relatively little liquid capital. It appears likely that the executors of the Rockefeller estate had reached something of a gentleman's agreement with Windsor T. White and Percy Rockefeller's nephew, James Stillman Rockefeller, concerning the disposition of Long Valley Farm. On 28 February 1936, Windsor T. and Delia White conveyed their one-half undivided interest in Long Valley Farm, including its acreage, crops, stock, and machinery, to James Stillman Rockefeller. On 11 January 1937, the National City Bank of New York, the executor of the estate of Percy Avery Rockefeller, deeded his one-half undivided interest in Long Valley Farm to James Stillman Rockefeller who thus reunited Long Valley Farm under a single ownership in which it has remained to the present.

JAMES STILLMAN ROCKEFELLER AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF LONG VALLEY FARM  
AS A WINTER AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE (1936/37-1943)

When, at the age of thirty-three, James Stillman Rockefeller purchased a one-half interest in Long Valley Farm from Windsor T. and Delia H. White, he was neither a stranger to the place nor a novice as a gentleman farmer. He had visited Overhills for winter holidays, beginning in 1921, and ridden on horseback across the property over which Overhills held hunting and fishing rights. Since 1930 he had owned and operated Indian Mound Farm in Lexington, Kentucky, on which he raised Hertford cattle and tobacco. Married and the father of four children, an assistant vice-president at National City Bank of New York, and experienced as the owner of Indian Mound Farm, he was well positioned in 1936/1937 to develop Long Valley Farm as a winter estate for his family and an on-going agricultural operation.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 16

---

James Stillman Rockefeller was born in New York City on 8 June 1902 to William Goodsell Rockefeller (1870-1922) and his wife Sarah Elizabeth Stillman (1872-1935). He was the couple's third son and the third of their five children. He was graduated from Yale University in 1924. In that same year he captained the Yale crew team, as the United States crew team, to victory in the 1924 Olympics in Paris. Upon graduation, he entered the banking house of Brown Brothers & Company where he remained until 1930 when he joined National City Bank of New York.

On 15 April 1925, he was married to Nancy Campbell Sherlock Carnegie (born 15 December 1900), the daughter of Andrew Carnegie, II and his wife Bertha Sherlock Carnegie. Nancy Carnegie was the granddaughter of Thomas Carnegie (1843-1886), the brother of the philanthropist Andrew Carnegie (1835 -1918). In 1881, Thomas Carnegie purchased some 4,000 acres of Cumberland Island, Georgia, near the fabled resort of Jekyll Island. Four years later he completed a handsome Renaissance Revival mansion, Dungeness, which was occupied by his widow Lucy after his death. She, in turn, continued to acquire property on the island and to build mansions for her children, creating for her family an enclave with few equals in the United States. Although Nancy Carnegie was born in New York on 15 December 1900, her youth and formative years, virtually her entire life until her marriage, were enjoyed in this rich and sheltered world of lush privilege and handsome surroundings.

After the couple were married, they rented an apartment in New York for two years and then removed to Greenwich, Connecticut where they rented houses until building their own house, Rockfields, in 1932-1933. For its design they turned to Augustus Noel, a member of the firm of Carrere and Hastings, who provided them with the design of a handsome Georgian Revival country house. They erected Rockfields on a tract of land on Indian Spring Road which Mr. Rockefeller purchased from the estate of his father. The couple continue to occupy this house as their principal residence and here they raised their four children who were born between 1926 and 1933.

During the later 1920s, the couple visited Mrs. Rockefeller's cousin, Floyd Wright, at his farm at Lexington, Kentucky. When, about 1930, a 400-acre farm on Russell Cave Pike in Lexington became available, Mr. Wright convinced James Rockefeller to purchase the property. He named it Indian Mound Farm. Indian Mound was the name of the Jekyll Island house which had belonged to James Rockefeller's grandfather William Rockefeller (1841-1922). James Rockefeller continues to own Indian Mound Farm where he has long raised Hertford cattle and tobacco. When he acquired Indian Mound Farm, there was a simple frame house on the property: he has never treated it as a primary winter or seasonal residence. Long Valley Farm has held that distinction for

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties,  
North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 17

---

him for over half a century.

Sarah Elizabeth Stillman, James Rockefeller's mother, was the daughter of James Stillman (1850-1918), a founder of National City Bank of New York, president of the bank from 1891 until 1909, and chairman from 1909 until his death in 1918. In 1930, James Stillman Rockefeller joined National City Bank (later First National City Bank, and Citibank) where he remained an executive for the next thirty-seven years. He was promoted to assistant cashier in 1931 and held a series of positions culminating as chairman: assistant vice-president, 1933; vice president, 1940-1948; senior vice-president, 1948-1952; executive vice-president, 1952; president and director, 1952-1959; and chairman, 1959-1967. He is president and director of Indian Spring Land Company and vice-president and director of the Indian Rock Corporation. In 1941, he enlisted in the United States Army and served as a lieutenant colonel from 1942 to 1946.

Having become the full owner of Long Valley Farm in January 1937, James Rockefeller set about to make repairs and improvements to the farm. During the period since Percy Rockefeller's death in late September 1934, the farm had been largely neglected by his heirs and executors who were uncertain as to the eventual disposition of the entire Overhills property. For the entire period of the Rockefeller/White ownership, the Christian House at Long Valley had been the residence of Overhills staff, including, at one time, the resident trainer of polo ponies. James Rockefeller determined that it would not be a suitable residence for his family and, in turn, determined to build a new seat for the farm. He turned to Ellery Husted, a graduate of Yale and an architect practicing in New York in the firm of Kimball & Husted, for the design of the house (#1).

The site chosen, ca. 1914, by Robert Wall Christian for his own residence was one overlooking the McDiarmid mill pond. James Rockefeller appreciated the felicity of that location and took down the Christian house to clear the site for his new residence. Having built Rockfields in Greenwich, Connecticut, in 1932-1933, James and Nancy Rockefeller were experienced builders in 1937 when they hired Ellery Husted and advised him of their needs for a winter residence at Long Valley. Husted designed a traditional two-story Colonial Revival house flanked by one-story wings which project to the rear and contain large spacious living and dining rooms. On the pond front he provided a two-tier pedimented portico, on which to enjoy the view and pond breezes, and a two-tier porch across the rear elevation with a screened sleeping porch on the second story. A series of bedrooms, en suite with bathrooms, were positioned in the main block. While the house was being constructed, James and Nancy Rockefeller stayed at Croatan at Overhills. Nancy Rockefeller noted in the Croatan guest book during her visit of 24-25

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 18

April 1937, that "'Long Valley' House all staked." During her visit of 12-13 March 1938 she wrote "Roof on wings-2nd story up." On her visit of 13-15 May 1938, she signed the Croatan guest book for the last time adding "Long Valley House almost finished."

During the period he was building the Long Valley seat, James Rockefeller was also about other improvements to his winter estate. The principal one was the rebuilding of the dam (#9) and the replacement of the gates at the McDiarmid mill pond. The surviving gates carry the label of their maker, Campbell Water Wheel Co. of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the name of the client, and the date of "March 28, 1938." He also realized that he would need a good estate and farm manager to oversee Long Valley and for advice he turned to William Bryon Bruce who had been manager at Overhills since 1932. Bruce recommended a local man, George McNeill, who came to Long Valley where he remained as manager until 1962 when he was succeeded by Miles Williams, In the late 1930s and early 1940s--including the period when he was stationed at Fort Bragg and occupied Long Valley for extended periods--James Rockefeller undertook the construction of agricultural outbuildings on the property. The Reinecke Construction Company of Fayetteville had built the farm seat (#1); however, the remainder of the buildings erected at Long Valley were constructed by a crew headed by George McNeill. In some instances a general plan was roughed out by Rockefeller while in others, McNeill built as he felt necessary. These buildings include: a garage for the farm seat (#3); a mill house and gates (#12); a granary (#15) at the manager's house; a pack house (#17); a garage shop (#20); fertilizer house (#21); the great barn (#26); an equipment barn (#28); hay barn (#29); water tower (#34) and pump house (#35); two garages (#45 and #52); a granary (#46) and a pack house (#47) near the farm seat; and a pair of tobacco barns (#57 and #58) in the present north pasture. In addition, a frame quarters which stood some 100 feet from the Christian house was relocated and expanded as a residence (#41) for a long-time estate worker Elizabeth McGregor (died 1954).

In 1940, during the period of renewal and rebuilding at Long Valley Farm, James Stillman Rockefeller enlarged its acreage to the size that it remains to the present. On 10 May 1940, Overhills Farms, Incorporated, conveyed two tracts of land to James Rockefeller. The first and largest tract of the two comprised 525.50 acres which lay in both Cumberland and Harnett counties and on the north and northwest of the Christian farm. It included a portion of the McDiarmid mill pond. The second, smaller tract was part of an exchange of lands between Long Valley Farm and Overhills whereby Long Valley Farm's acreage was consolidated on the north side of the Manchester Road and Overhills gained title to all of the acreage on the south side of the Manchester Road. In the exchange, Overhills deeded to James Rockefeller a narrow rectangular parcel of 28.50 acres which lay on the north side of the



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 19

---

Manchester Road (SR 1451). James Rockefeller, in turn, and on the same day, deeded to Overhills Farms, Incorporated, a tract of 90.80 acres of the former Christian farm which lay on the south side of the Manchester Road. The boundaries of Long Valley Farm have remained the same and its acreage intact since 1940.

The building program initiated by James Rockefeller in 1938 was largely completed by 1943: it represented the most significant building activity at Long Valley Farm since Christian built his own residence, worker's houses, and agricultural buildings in the 1910s. The most significant post-World War II event occurred about 1947-1950, when James Rockefeller brought one truck load of Hertford cattle from Kentucky and initiated the herd of Hertford cattle which has stood at Long Valley to the present. During the 1950s and 1960s, agricultural buildings were erected as necessary. Three events bear mention. In 1962, George McNeill retired as manager at Long Valley and he was succeeded by Miles Williams who continues to the present as the farm manager. In 1966, a 400-ton pre-cast concrete silo and companion feeding shed were built. At the end of the decade, in 1969-1970, the old overseer's house (#39) built by Robert Wall Christian was relocated along the farm lane between its original location and the farm seat where it continues in use as a workman's dwelling. In its place a new brick veneer residence (#13) was erected for farm manager Miles Williams; he continues to occupy it to the present. Otherwise, the agricultural landscape of Long Valley Farm has remained little changed to the present. Tobacco is grown on about four acres and it has been supplemented in recent years as a cash crop by soy beans. Green pastures, dotted by the red and white Hertford cattle, heifers and calves, and woodlands of towering pines and hardwoods, remain the dominant image of the farm seen by the passer-by traveling on the Manchester Road (SR 1451).

Long Valley Farm has remained in constant use to the present as the winter estate of James and Nancy Carnegie Rockefeller and their four children: James Stillman Rockefeller, Jr. (born 7 January 1926); Nancy Rockefeller McFadden Copp (born 7 January 1927); Andrew Rockefeller (born 29 May 1929); and Georgia S. Rockefeller Rose (born 11 October 1933). In recent decades, fourteen grandchildren, the eldest being Barclay McFadden, III (born 30 May 1950) have also used Long Valley Farm for their winter and school holidays. Great-grandchildren have likewise recently come to enjoy the pleasures of the place. Through this tradition of continued family use through four generations of the James Stillman Rockefeller family, Long Valley Farm is a member of a small, but important group of seasonal family residences (winter and summer) in North Carolina. The largest number of these places are clustered in resort communities at Flat Rock (NR, 1973), Linville (NR, 1979), Blowing Rock, Roaring Gap, and Nags Head (NR, 1977). Long Valley Farm, like

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 20

Orton, the great plantation on the Cape Fear River still held by the descendants of cotton factor James Sprunt (NHL 1973), survives as an important individual example in North Carolina of a seasonal estate. The wealth that maintains Orton is largely North Carolina based as are its owners. Long Valley Farm, relatively modest in its size, nevertheless reflects a larger financial background, that of its owners James Stillman Rockefeller and Nancy Campbell Sherlock Carnegie Rockefeller, who are members of two of America's wealthiest and most socially prominent families of the twentieth century.

LONG VALLEY FARM: AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AND CONTEXT

The agricultural significance of Long Valley Farm does not easily fit into the conventional patterns for which properties are usually noted for significance in that area of North Carolina. This condition derives in large part from the very exceptional nature of the property itself. Its statewide significance in the area of agriculture is twofold. It is important as the site of Robert Wall Christian's advanced, scientific farming practices at Long Valley which were a reflection of the broad, innovative movement to modernize agriculture in North Carolina in the opening decades of the twentieth century. Christian's efforts in Cumberland County were akin to those of Roger Alden Derby and other well-educated New Englanders who developed a farm in Moore and Richmond counties beginning in 1911, and to those of Harold Doubleday who had vineyards in Polk County from 1893 to 1925. Admittedly, this movement is a large and significant part of the state's early-twentieth century agricultural history that has yet to be documented in any comprehensive way. Nevertheless, some preliminary observations can be made. The second basis of the farm's significance in the area of agriculture is its creation, maintenance, and preservation, as a gentleman's winter agricultural estate of the interwar period. It is one of the very few properties of this type which have survived intact and in one single, continuous ownership from the interwar period to the present.

While the house grounds still retain towering pine trees of considerable age, there are few traces at Long Valley Farm of the turpentine operations which were carried on here in the nineteenth century by the McDiarmid family. The principal reminders of the turpentine operations are the scars on the aged pine trees which mark the cuts made more than a century ago to drain rosin from the pines. The chief and only visible evidence of their ownership of the property is the frame mill which survives, remodeled as a pond-side

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 21

---

pavilion, at the east edge of the mill pond. There is a strong local tradition, associated with the local McCormick family, that the building was a saw mill. Like the McDiarmids, the McCormicks were an important Scottish family. Lumber for one of their family houses is said to have been cut here. Given the vast extent of the McDiarmid family's turpentine and naval stores operations, it is possible that they had a mill which was used exclusively as a saw mill. The more usual practice in North Carolina would have featured both grist and saw milling operations at a single site, in one or a pair of adjoining buildings. The McDiarmid mill stones survive in the ca. 1938-1940 mill house (#12). It is clear from the deeds concerning the property that the mill was a part of the McDiarmid family property.

It is also known that there was at least one other water-powered mill on the McDiarmid family plantation. In the paid newspaper advertisement of the sale, at auction, of the remaining 1,200 acres of the family's Ardnave plantation, there were two paragraphs which described the property to be sold on 11 December 1899. The second paragraph was a general description of the buildings, land, and water power:

On this tract is located one of the best residences in the county (10 rooms) and outhouses, stables, etc., and the land is of a high quality and well-adapted to the cultivation of all kinds of crops. About 500 acres of the land is cleared. On the tract is a fine water power, where the Muddy Creek mill formerly stood. All persons desiring a good home would do well to examine this land. The title is perfect.

Neill Black was the high bidder at the auction and on 31 January 1900 Ardnave and its 1,200 acres were deeded to him. It is believed that 200 of the "500 acres of land [that] is cleared" was the 200 acres which Neill Black sold in 1915 to Robert Wall Christian.

When the Kent-Jordan Company sold land in the early 1910s to L. D. Frutchey of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and Joseph P. Ewing of Fayetteville, North Carolina, it is clear that they were seeking to gain congenial neighbors for their country club project. The deed to Frutchey is dated 1 August 1911, well over a year prior to the deed from the Kent-Jordan Company to Joseph P. Ewing on 21 December 1912. Perhaps not so coincidentally, both deeds were received in the office of the Register of Deeds in Fayetteville on 15 April 1913 and recorded on 1 May. From a reading of the deeds it appears that, for purposes now unclear, the deed to Frutchey was either back-dated or a replacement deed.

On 21 December 1912, the Kent-Jordan Company conveyed to Joseph P. Ewing a tract of 363.90 acres in Seventy-first Township described as "Being Farm

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 22

No. 1 on the map of the Croatan Club land, made by E. W. Meyers for Kent-Jordan Company." The purchase price was \$17,943, a high figure which suggests that there must have been some considerable improvements on the property. In retrospect, it appears likely that Dr. Ewing purchased the property as a real estate investment and made little if any improvement to it before selling it, on 24 January 1914, to Robert Wall Christian for the price of \$18,000.

When Robert Wall Christian acquired the tract of 363.90 acres which he expanded by purchases of contiguous property to the 966.72 acres comprising his Long Valley Farm from 1915 to 1940, he joined a small but impressive group of late-nineteenth and turn-of-the-century planters and farmers who had farms in Cumberland County. Col. Wharton Jackson Green (1831-1910), a well known political and social figure, was the best known of the group. He came to Cumberland County from Warren County in November 1880 and established himself at a farm to which he gave the name "Tokay Vineyard." He lived there until his death in 1910, and it was at Tokay Vineyard that he penned his memoirs RECOLLECTIONS AND REFLECTIONS (1906). Cottonade, purchased in 1909 by Dr. Ewing, was another of the turn-of-the-century farms that was handsomely developed in the 1910s and 1920s. In the special "Rotogravure Section" of the Fayetteville OBSERVER in January 1932, two pages of photographs illustrated its numerous buildings, fields, and "Blooded Guernsey Cows."

Insight into Robert Wall Christian's operation of Long Valley Farm comes from three sources: the farm buildings of his era which survive to the present; his obituary with the reprinted account of farm production and crop rotation which had appeared in the SOIL SURVEY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA (1922); and the listing of his animals, crops, and equipment which appeared in the deeds by which Percy Rockefeller and Windsor T. White acquired his farm.

There are eight buildings (#2, #18, #19, #42, #49, #50, and #51) still standing at Long Valley which were built, largely in their present form, for Christian; two additional buildings (#43 and #41) are portions of Christian-era buildings which have been altered during the present ownership. Of the eight intact buildings, three are residences built for farm workers. The largest is the overseer's house (#39) of ca. 1914 which originally stood on the site now occupied by the later-built residence (#13) of the present farm manager. Contemporary with it, is a second one-story frame house (#42) that also continues to be occupied by estate workers. In the 1920s, Christian built two small gable-front frame bungalows (#43 and #51) for use as dwellings by his farm workers. The weatherboarded frame house (#51) on the rise near the farm seat remains largely as built but with

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 23

some later compatible frame additions. The second bungalow (#43), on the rise dominated by the water tower, was also expanded. In 1992, its additions were pulled down and the house, partially dismantled, was moved downgrade to make way for a new brick veneer residence (#33) erected for the next farm manager, Johnny Ray, who is now working under Miles Williams. Also surviving are Christian's forge (#18), a simple dirt-floored frame building, and his farm commissary (#19), a board-and-batten-covered frame building. A pair of tobacco barns (#49 and #50) also survive. Christian's spring house (#2) still stands to the northeast of the farm seat (#1); however, a staff quarters was relocated in 1938 away from its original site near Christian's house, and expanded as a residence (#41) for Elizabeth McGregor, an estate employee. In the obituary published in the Fayetteville OBSERVER on 14 March 1927, Christian's role as a leading farmer in the region and his farming practices at Long Valley were given fulsome coverage:

Mr. Christian was one of the most successful and scientific farmers in the state and while in the legislature was instrumental in the passage of some of the most beneficial farm measures in the history of the state. He had carried on experiments at his farm that were watched and commented on by state and federal agricultural experts. . . . After coming to Cumberland county from New York state about 10 years ago he devoted the larger portion of his time to farming and assisting other farmers of this section. . . . At the time of his death he was president of the Christian-Ewing Fertilizer plant.

In the "Soil Survey of Cumberland County," issued by the United States department of agriculture in 1925, the following mention is made on the valuable farm lands owned and operated by Mr. Christian:

"A successful crop rotation, based on experiments made by a very progressive farmer, is being followed on his farm, which consists largely of Cahaba sandy loam and artificially drained Kalmia sandy loam. The first year a crop of wheat or oats is harvested, and is followed by a crop of cowpeas; the cowpea seed is picked, the vines are plowed under, and (lime?) is applied at the rate of 1,000 per acre; the second year cotton is grown, followed by crimson clover or rye; the third year corn or some other crop is grown. This rotation appears to be a good one for nearly all the soils of Cumberland county.

"The Myatt sandy loam, one of the smallest types in the county, occurs in a few areas of the terrace along the Little River. The largest area lies northeast of Manchester. A large part of this type of soil is included in one farm, and this land has produced as high as 80 bushels of corn, 65 bushels of oats, one-and-one-half bales of cotton, and five

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 24

---

tons of millet and cowpea per acre. In one year the same piece of land produced 65 bushels of oats and 40 bushels of corn per acre. Other crops are also grown at the rate of two crops per year on this soil. About 800 pounds per acre of 8-4-3 fertilizer is used for cotton applied at the time of planting. Corn planted this year following cotton is not fertilized at time of planting, but 100 pounds of nitrate is applied later as a top dressing. A very promising experiment in crop rotation, which is described in the chapter on agriculture, is being conducted on this farm--land of the Myatt sandy loam and the associated Cahaba sandy loam."

In the death of Mr. Christian the agricultural life of the county has suffered a great loss.

The passage concerning his legislative career appears to be something of an overstatement by the local press; however, the account published in the soil survey publication can be taken as a factual account of Christian's crop rotation experiments.

The analysis and study of soil types, the calculated usage of commercial fertilizers, the experiments in crop rotation, and other scientific approaches to farming which Robert Wall Christian employed at Long Valley reflected a modern approach to agricultural production which was being advocated and practiced in North Carolina. The work of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the numerous bulletins they published and distributed were critical to encouraging increased production and higher rewards on farms throughout North Carolina. The work which Robert Wall Christian undertook at Long Valley Farm was probably not unique; however, his work there is important as an example of such efforts and it is also important because the farm which he cherished and on which he lavished his attention and finances, has survived to the present as a working farm. It seems unlikely that many other such places, for which topical documentation survives, will have continued to exist in recognizable form.

Robert Wall Christian's agricultural practices at Long Valley Farm and the farm itself are significant for yet another reason. Although Christian was born in North Carolina in Montgomery County, the knowledge and financial acumen which he applied to the practice of agriculture in Cumberland County was not local. Instead, in 1914 Christian brought back to North Carolina and to Long Valley Farm, a wide knowledge of soil and its chemistry which he had employed in his career as a mining engineer in Alaska, Colorado, Montana, and elsewhere. In that manner, he was like a larger group of men, many of them from New England and the Northeast, who saw in North Carolina the opportunity to undertake agricultural experiments on a much larger and different scale

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 25Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett Counties, North Carolina

than they might in the northeastern United States. It is also true that the climate of North Carolina and its various regions was a part of the lure. Ulysses Doubleday, a native of New York, purchased land in 1890 in Polk County, near Tryon, and established a vast vineyard which his son Harold Doubleday operated until 1925. A couple of years later, about 1892, the J. Van Lindley Orchard Company planted some 50,000 peach trees in Moore County. As far as can be determined that undertaking was the first critical step in the development of a peach orchard industry that prospered in the years afterward in Moore and Richmond counties and the larger Sandhills region. The establishment of the North Carolina State Horticultural Society's Experimental Farm at Southern Pines in the mid-1890s was important to the peach industry and to the practice of agriculture and horticulture in the Sandhills and the state. In 1910, Ralph Page, the son of Walter Hines Page, and Raphael Pumpelly established a peach orchard in Moore County. They were shortly joined by Roger Alden Derby, also Harvard educated, who acquired some 2,400 acres on the Richmond-Moore County border where he established his own farm. None of these farms continue to exist in any recognizable form. It is not coincidental that James Walker Tufts (1835-1902) of Boston also established his legendary resort in the Sandhills at Pinehurst in 1895 and that his son and successor at Pinehurst, Leonard Tufts, undertook agricultural experiments in Moore County.

The deed conveying Long Valley Farm to Percy Rockefeller and Windsor T. White is dated 7 April 1927; the purchase price was \$50,000. The deed also conveyed to the new owners the existing stock, crops, and equipment that was then in use or on the premises at Long Valley Farm:

8 mules, 1 horse, 15 brood sows, 1 boar, 15 tons of hay, about 500 bushels of corn, about 500 bushels of cotton seed, 4 corn planters, 3 cotton planters, 5 two-horse plows, 4 middle breakers, 7 single turnplows, 5 cotton plows, 1-two-horse cultivator, 5 small cultivators, 3 spring tooth cultivators, 4 two-horse wagons, 1 Ford truck, 1 old Ford Car, 1 corn binder, 1 reaper and binder, 1 grain thresher, 1 pea thresher, 1 ensilage cutter, 1 hay bailer, 1 mowing machine, 1 three-horse weevil duster, 1 saddle gun, 1 hand gun, 1 six h.p. gasoline engine, 1 old Gasoline Engine, 1 concrete mixer, 1 hay rake, 1 clod breaker, 1 drag harrow, 2 disc barrows, 3 fertilizer distributors, 1 soda distributor, 1 tractor plow, 1 tractor disc, 1 seed grader, 18 hand hoes, 4 pitchforks, 4 spades, 200 bags cement, one shredder, one anvil, one drill press and one forge.

This listing corresponds to the citations of crops grown at Long Valley Farm which were discussed in the SOIL SURVEY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 26

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Rockefeller and White's purchase of Long Valley Farm from the Christian estate was largely to consolidate the Overhills holding and to own a nearly one-thousand-acre adjoining property over which Overhills had enjoyed hunting and fishing rights since 1912. Neither Rockefeller nor White had an active hand in the operation of Long Valley Farm for the periods of their respective ownership. While Christian had employed an overseer at Long Valley to manage the farm and provide immediate supervision to the laborers, Rockefeller and White turned the management of Long Valley over to the Overhills manager. In the special "Rotogravure Section" promoting Fayetteville which was published by the Fayetteville OBSERVER in January 1932, there was an eight-page section given over to illustrations of "Overhills, the Carolina Estate of Mr. Percy A. Rockefeller." Included therein was a half-page photograph of the mill pond and pavilion at Long Valley and a separate full page of five photographs and text illustrating Long Valley Farm: the aforementioned photographs of the Christian house and the overseer's house; two photographs of panoramic farm scenes; and a smaller vignette showing "Tractors Preparing the Ground for Winter Cover Crops at Long Valley Farm." The text accompanying the photographs overstates the acreage of Long Valley Farm, more than doubling it to "some two thousand acres" and informs the readers that there were 700 acres in cultivation. Apparently, the Overhills fields along the Little River and which adjoined Long Valley were included in the latter number.

Long Valley Farm, of the Overhills Estate, comprises some two thousand acres, 700 of which are under cultivation, and here the most modern methods are employed. Captain Frank N. Miller, a former British Cavalry officer, who is manager of Overhills, has an efficient farm organization under the direct supervision of an overseer, to raise not only the feed and grain crops for the estate stables, but cotton and tobacco as well. Though not naturally arich soil, Long Valley Farm, by scientific fertilization, rotation of crops, and intensive cultivation, has been transformed into one of the most productive plantations in the Sandhills.

Two years later, on 25 September 1934, Percy Rockefeller died, leaving an estate that was compromised by over-extension, lawsuits, a lack of liquid assets, and uncertainty as to the eventual disposition of Overhills itself. The settlement of his estate would not be completed until 1938. During the period from his death to January 1937, when his executor sold his one-half interest in Long Valley Farm to James Stillman Rockefeller, Long Valley Farm was benignly neglected. During the winter of 1935-1936, James Stillman Rockefeller reached a gentleman's agreement with Windsor T. White and the executor of his uncle's estate to acquire Long Valley Farm. On 28 February 1936, Windsor T. and Delia H. White conveyed their one-half undivided interest in Long Valley Farm to James Rockefeller. The deed also conveyed



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 27

". . . an undivided one-half interest, in and to all the straw, hay, unsold crops, livestock, farming implements, trucks, tractors, Machinery and all other personal property appurtenant to and now located upon the aforesaid 'Long Valley farm' and all monies on deposit in the savings and/or checking account in the name of 'Long Valley Farm' with the Branch Banking & Trust Company of Fayetteville, North Carolina and also in the Cumberland National Bank in Fayetteville, North Carolina." A year later, on 11 January 1937, the National City Bank of New York, executor of the estate of Percy Rockefeller, conveyed the remaining one-half interest in Long Valley Farm to James Rockefeller for \$13,000. Including the sum paid to Windsor T. White, the purchase price in 1936/1937 was a fraction over one-half of the \$50,000 which had been paid for Long Valley in 1927.

Having acquired full title to Long Valley Farm in January 1937, James Rockefeller moved quickly to develop it as his winter estate and to renew the agricultural prominence the farm had earlier enjoyed. By 25 April 1937, the Christian house had been pulled down, the site cleared, and the new house staked out. It was completed in May 1938. Concurrently, the dam at the McDiarmid mill pond was rebuilt and fitted with new gates which bear the date of 28 March 1938. Knowing that he would need a good manager to oversee his plans for renewing Long Valley Farm and to manage its operations thereafter, he approached William Bryon Bruce, the manager at Overhills, for advice in securing a good man. Bruce recommended a local man, George McNeill. James Rockefeller hired McNeill who remained as manager at Long Valley Farm until 1962. Soon after McNeill came to Long Valley, the teams of mules which had been used to cultivate the fields and farm were replaced entirely with tractors. The frame mule barns have long since been lost.

The other important event which occurred within a few years was the purchase and exchange of land with Overhills by which James Rockefeller enlarged Long Valley Farm to the size it has remained to the present. On 10 May 1940, Overhills Farms, Incorporated, conveyed two tracts of land to James Rockefeller. The first, largest tract comprised 525.50 acres in Harnett and Cumberland counties which lay to the north and northwest of the Christian farm and included a portion of the McDiarmid mill pond. The second tract was a small narrow rectangular parcel of 28.50 acres which lay on the north side of the Manchester Road (now SR 1451). In turn, James Rockefeller and his wife, by a deed of the same date, conveyed to Overhills Farms, Incorporated, a tract of 90.80 acres which lay on the south side of the Manchester Road and between it and the Little River. By these transactions the acreage of Long Valley Farm was consolidated on the north side of the Manchester Road and Overhills Farms, Inc., became the owner of the agricultural lands on the south side of the Manchester Road.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Section number 8 Page 28

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

During the period from 1937 until about 1943, George McNeill supervised the construction of at least sixteen buildings and structures. Except for two garages for automobiles, all the other buildings, including the water tower and pump house, were necessary for the agricultural operations at Long Valley Farm. The largest of these buildings was the great barn (#26). Two new tobacco barns (#57 and #58) joined two existing tobacco barns (#49 and #50) which probably dated from Christian's era and two new pack houses (#17 and #47) were added for tobacco processing.

Tobacco would remain an important crop at Long Valley Farm for many years, despite the fact that its allotment of 40 acres during Christian's time had been allowed to greatly shrink during the Rockefeller/White ownership. McNeill built a granary (#15) near his own dwelling in the principal cluster of Long Valley's agricultural outbuildings that surrounded it. About 1940, McNeill built a mill house (#12) near the mill pavilion (#8) in which corn was ground and marketed under the Long Valley name until 1947. About 1944, Hubert Capps, a farm employee, built a second granary (#46) near the house he was then occupying (#42).

After the flurry of activity from 1937 to 1943 that marked the renewal of Long Valley Farm, the life of the estate began to develop its own patterns. In the late 1940s, and perhaps as late as 1950, a truck load of twenty Hertford heifers was brought to Long Valley from Indian Mound Farm. They were the stock from which the present herd of some 236 cows, yearlings, and calves has grown. In 1947, a workman's dwelling which stood at the edge of a field and with a view to the mill pond burned and it was replaced with a gable-front cement block dwelling (#54). It was also in 1947 that the Long Valley Mill ceased to grind corn at the mill house (#12) and market it under the Long Valley name.

Patterns of agricultural production continued largely the same through the 1950s. During that decade three farm outbuildings were erected: a tractor shed (#16) about 1950; a feeder shed (#27) about 1952; and an equipment shed (#25) about 1955. During the 1960s, the principal event which occurred at Long Valley and affected its agricultural production was the retirement of George McNeill in 1962 and the hiring of Miles Williams to take his place. In 1966 a pre-cast concrete silo (#30) and companion feeder shed (#31) was erected for the storage and feeding of ensilage. A hog shelter and feeding house was also erected in 1966. The decade ended with the construction of a pack house (#55) about 1968 near the last built (1947) workman's dwelling, the erection of a machine shed (#37) about 1969, and the addition of a bulk tobacco barn (#48) about 1970. In the twenty-three years since 1970, the agricultural life of James Rockefeller's agricultural estate has changed little. The Hertford cattle operation remains the dominant enterprise with

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 29

---

tobacco and soy beans as cash crops. The workman at the farm have continued to include both blacks and whites who have occupied dwellings on the farm or lived off-premises. In 1992, Johnny Ray was hired to train under farm manager Miles Williams and become his eventual successor. In anticipation of his taking on that position, a substantial brick veneer house (#33) has been erected on the rise to the south of Mr. Williams' residence.

LONG VALLEY FARM: ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AND CONTEXT

The buildings and structures at Long Valley Farm are significant in the area of architecture on a statewide level as a unique collection of buildings comprising the fabric of an important winter agricultural estate which reflect both local traditions and craftsmanship and the American Country House movement of the interwar period. These fifty-eight buildings and structures, mostly frame, exist in a setting and series of circumstances that is highly unusual in North Carolina. The historic buildings in this enclave were constructed in two periods: the Christian period of ownership, 1914-1927; and the era of renewal and expansion by James Stillman Rockefeller, 1937-1945. In their design, materials, craftsmanship, and finish, both subgroups of buildings and structures reflect their time and place in North Carolina history.

Chronologically, the oldest building at Long Valley Farm predates the ownership of both Robert Wall Christian and James Rockefeller. It is the former McDiarmid Mill which stands on the east edge of its mill pond. The heavy timber frame building, said to have been used as both a corn and saw mill, dates to the antebellum period and was originally sheathed, probably with weatherboards. Either during the Christian ownership, or, more probably, while the farm was owned by Percy Rockefeller and Windsor White, the weatherboards were removed and the mill converted into a lakeside pavilion for entertaining. While those alterations compromised the building, architecturally, as an important example of an antebellum mill in Cumberland County, the mill pavilion is the only known nineteenth-century mill or mill fragment to stand in any form in the county and one of the few in south central North Carolina. Ironically, the alterations undertaken to the mill building in the 1920s, which effectively destroyed the building's nineteenth-century integrity, have achieved a significance in their own right as a reflection of the conversion of the lands and buildings of the nineteenth century McDiarmids into the sporting and leisure grounds for a group of wealthy landowners in the twentieth century.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 30

Of the ten buildings which survive at Long Valley Farm from the Christian period of ownership, there is a near even division of domestic buildings and agricultural outbuildings. All of these buildings are of frame construction and most are sheathed with weatherboards. Included in the group of six domestic buildings are five houses and the spring house (#2) which stood near Christian's house. It remains in its original location where it rests on a brick foundation and is covered with weatherboards and a hipped roof. In form and appearance, it resembles an eighteenth-century smokehouse and would have been a likely part of the domestic house yard of Robert Wall Christian's Colonial Revival house.

The group of five houses, three of which remain in use as residences, includes the overseer's house (#39) and four dwellings which were built for occupancy by farm laborers. The overseer's house is a one-story, weatherboarded, frame house finished in simple fashion and not unlike many such houses erected in the small towns and countryside of North Carolina in the first decades of the century. Many, because of their function and location, have been lost or compromised by modern sidings or substantial alterations. While the overseer's house has been relocated, a contemporary house (#42) built for farm workers still stands on its brick piers. Its finish is likewise simple as would be typical of such dwellings. The third house (#41) which dates, in part, to early in Christian's ownership comprises a former quarters for domestic workers which stood in the Christian house yard and a ca. 1938 addition. When the Christian house was taken down and the site cleared for the present farm seat (#1), the former quarters was moved down the farm lane, toward the overseer's house, and expanded with an ell for continued use by an estate employee. This reuse and moving of buildings is typical on large-scale agricultural operations.

In the 1920s, and probably about 1925, Robert Wall Christian built two small gable-front weatherboarded frame bungalows for farm workers. When built they were very similar if not identical in appearance. Worker's house #4 (#51) still stands on its knoll-top site to the west of the farm seat (#1) and retains the feeling of its original appearance in the midst of compatible frame additions on the sides and rear. Worker's house #3 (#43) originally stood on a knoll to the southwest of the original site of the overseer's house. There, it, too, received frame additions; however, they were removed and the original house exposed in 1992 when it was relocated downgrade to make room for a new house (#33). Like the houses of a decade earlier, these two dwellings, erected for farm workers were simply built and modestly finished.

Of the four agricultural outbuildings, two are important examples of their type in North Carolina. In the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, many plantations and large farms had their own blacksmith shops or forges.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 31

Such buildings were a commonplace occurrence in the agricultural landscape; however, because of fire and their general construction, most have been lost. In addition to the forge (#18) at Long Valley, another known plantation forge exists in Wake County on land which was once part of the important Mial Plantation. Both buildings have dirt floors and simple framing and roofing. The forge at Long Valley Farm has been expanded on the east gable end and sheds have been built along its sides. The second building at Long Valley Farm which was also a once-common building type on nineteenth century plantations and early-twentieth century farms is the commissary (#19). At Long Valley Farm, the small frame building is covered with board and batten. In the twentieth century commissaries were usually associated with the operation of tenant farms; however, documentary evidence suggests that Christian hired farm workers and provided housing for them rather than adopting the wasteful tenant system of farm operation.

There are a pair of frame tobacco barns (#49 and #50) standing at Long Valley on the side of the main lane leading from the Manchester Road to the farm seat. They are virtually identical in construction and appearance and are thought to have been built by Christian, probably in the 1920s. Now covered with green tar paper held in place by vertical wood battens and a galvanized tin roof, they are similar to dozens of like buildings in south central North Carolina.

From available evidence, it appears that there were probably no buildings erected at Long Valley Farm between the time of Christian's death and the purchase of the property by James Rockefeller in 1936/1937.

When James Rockefeller purchased Long Valley Farm in 1936/1937 and expanded it in 1940 to its current acreage, he had two purposes in mind. One was to develop a winter residence for his family and the other was to renew the farm which he had known in its prime to productiveness and prosperity. Having spent winter holidays at Overhills since 1921, he appreciated both the setting of Long Valley Farm and its countryside and the climate of the Sandhills. The practice of having multiple and/or seasonal residences was one which had been enjoyed by both the Rockefeller and Carnegie families for several generations. With Long Valley Farm, he was able to have both a winter estate and to have one which adjoined Overhills, which became the joint winter estate of his double first cousins. (In 1938 Overhills was deeded by the executor of Percy Rockefeller's estate to his five children whose descendants hold it to the present.) The practice of multiple residences, often an in-town apartment and a country house within commuting distance of the city, was part of the larger phenomenon of the country house movement which began in the late nineteenth century and expanded in the early twentieth century. Although, technically, the seat (#1) of Long Valley Farm was built as a winter

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetLong Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 32

residence rather than a suburban country house, the design of the house is informed by the architectural theories of country house design.

While Augustus Noel of the firm of Carrere and Hastings had designed the couple's house in Greenwich, they turned to Ellery Husted, who had been a member of the class of 1922 at Yale, for the design of the Long Valley house. Husted was a principal in the firm of Kimball & Husted. Where Rockfields in Greenwich has something of the lush spirit that characterized Georgian Revival country house design in the 1920s and very early 1930s, the house at Long Valley has a different character on the exterior. Designed in 1937, it reflects a spare somewhat modern flavor that describes Colonial Revival houses of the late interwar period and which continued to influence the design of Georgian and Colonial Revival houses throughout the 1940s and into the 1950s. There are contemporary houses in the suburbs of Eastover and Myers Park in Charlotte which reflect the same spirit and are the like products of the rising tide of modernism on the heels of the Great Depression. While the exterior of the house projects a cool, handsome yet almost austere appearance, the interior has a warm traditional character that is achieved through the reuse of earlier building materials for flooring and other woodwork and antique and traditional furnishings. It should also be noted that the exterior appearance of the house owes in part to the pioneering use of asbestos weatherboards as a preventative against grass fires. Within a few years, the United States government would sheath barracks and quarters with asbestos shingles and after the war the housing quickly erected for returning G.I.s would often be sheathed in asbestos shingles.

On 24 April 1937, James and Nancy Rockefeller arrived at Overhills for a two-day visit. Nancy Rockefeller added the notation, "'Long Valley' House all staked," when she signed the Croatan guestbook. They returned to Overhills for the traditional Thanksgiving and New Year's holidays. On a two-day visit to Overhills and Long Valley on 12-13 March 1938, Nancy Rockefeller noted "Roof on Wings-2nd story up" in the Croatan guestbook. The couple returned to Overhills again in April and for a stay on 13-15 May 1938 when Nancy Rockefeller would sign the guestbook at Croatan for the last time, adding "Long Valley House almost finished." These visits both document winter and spring holidays and James Rockefeller's general supervision of the construction of the house by the Reinecke Construction Company of Fayetteville which had also built Croatan at Overhills for James Rockefeller's Aunt Isabel. At the same time he was overseeing the rebuilding of the dam and gates (#9) at the McDiarmid Mill pond whose broad waters were a critical part of the setting of the new house.

Having been completed in 1938, the county seat of James and Nancy Rockefeller at Long Valley Farm joined a small number of houses erected in North Carolina

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm

Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 33

in the interwar period that were designed by nationally-known architects or men whose practice was confined largely to New England or the larger northeastern United States. The precedent had been established in the nineteenth century when wealthy North Carolinians had turned to architects in New York for the design of important residences and public buildings. In 1844, Governor John Motley Morehead hired A. J. Davis to remodel and expand his house Blandwood in Greensboro and through that work Davis gained other commissions in the state. Admittedly, Davis and Morehead were exceptional men and so, too, was George Washington Vanderbilt, the builder of Biltmore, and his architect Richard Morris Hunt. In the twentieth century, the building boom that occurred in important residential construction in the interwar period actually began before World War I when tobacco magnate Richard Joshua Reynolds turned to Charles Barton Keen for the design of his Reynolda estate; Reynolda House was completed in 1917. After Reynolda House, Keen went on to design a small group of unusually handsome houses in the 1910s and 1920s for in Winston-Salem, Greensboro, and other Piedmont towns.

Keen was but one of several architects who practiced in Philadelphia and New York and who built impressive suburban and country houses for North Carolina clients or for men who would build houses in the state. Henry Bacon, Harrie T. Lindeberg, William Lawrence Bottomley, Waddy Wood (of Washington), Aymar Embury, II, Delano and Aldrich, and the firm of Hiss & Weeks who designed Croatan for Isabel Stillman Rockefeller are the most prominent members of the architectural profession who worked in North Carolina in the early-twentieth century and interwar period. Another group of architects and firms who are less well-known also worked in North Carolina. Included in this group are the firms of Mayer, Murray and Phillips and Karcher and Smith who worked principally in Winston-Salem. Ellery Husted is a member of this second group of architectural professionals whose work in North Carolina is just now being closely examined and whose ranks are likely to increase as intensive architectural research is soon undertaken at Pinehurst. At present little is known of his career except that it extended into the 1950s when he wrote "Shelter in the Atomic Age" which was published in the BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENCE in September 1953. Mr. Rockefeller knew Husted when he was at Yale in the 1920s.

Architecturally, the seat of Long Valley Farm is closely related to a group of houses erected on farms in the 1920s and 1930s. Most are substantial houses of Georgian or Colonial Revival style design and follow traditional plans. Perhaps the best known member of this group is the house Aymar Embury, II designed for author James Boyd for his Weymouth estate (NR 1977) at Southern Pines. Boxwood Lodge, designed by Delano & Aldrich about 1935 for Mrs. Margaret Cunningham Craig and erected in rural Davie County is another important example. Both of those houses as well as the seat at Long Valley

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 34

have large comfortable living and dining rooms for entertaining family and friends. The ground story also includes rooms for hunting and fishing equipment and related gear. Rooms for the owners, family, and guests are located on the second story.

The construction of some seventeen, mostly agricultural outbuildings on Long Valley Farm was supervised by farm manager George McNeill during the period from 1938 to 1943. These building projects were undertaken by both farm workers and others engaged for the purpose during slow or dormant periods on the farm. The plan of some of these buildings was sketched in free-hand fashion by James Rockefeller and in other cases, Mr. McNeill was trusted to build what was necessary in the way of farm buildings. As a result, these buildings reflect both the use of materials from the farm and local craftsmanship as well as the time-honored tradition of keeping otherwise idle farm workers engaged on projects during the slow winter months.

Among the first buildings erected by McNeill in 1938 were the weatherboarded frame garage (#3) for Mr. Rockefeller's automobile, and the nearby pump house (#10) to serve the farm seat. Soon thereafter, McNeill and his crew built simple frame garages (#45 and #52) at two of the worker's residences. During 1939-1940, McNeill erected two tobacco barns (#57 and #58) in a remote northeast area of Long Valley Farm. Apparently because of their isolated position, they were built of concrete blocks to guard against fire.

The major program of building at Long Valley Farm undertaken by George McNeill occurred in 1940-1941 when some nine agricultural outbuildings were erected. The majority of these buildings were built in the area adjoining the overseer's house, where the forge and commissary already stood. The largest of these buildings is the great barn (#26), a weatherboarded frame center-passage building under a front gable roof. It was raised on a poured concrete foundation and includes corn cribs, stalls, a tack room, and a large hay loft. The nearby hay barn (#29) was also built on a poured concrete base and has a front-gable roof; however, its elevations are covered with corrugated galvanized sheet metal--a material which was used on other secondary buildings of the period including the equipment barn (#28) which stands nearby.

McNeill erected two pack houses for the processing of tobacco on the farm in 1940. One (#17) stands in the main agricultural complex and is covered with corrugated sheet metal and stands on a brick and brick pier foundation. The second one (#47) was built on a cement block foundation on the west side of the main entrance lane and is covered with galvanized sheet metal. After the great barn, the most substantial building erected at the main complex is the granary (#15), a weatherboarded frame building erected on poured cement



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 35 Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

---

piers. It has a gable-front form and a center passage inside flanked by grain bins with a stair rising to grain storage on the second level.

Three buildings/structures from the 1940-era building program have to do with water supply or water power. On the knoll to the southwest of the overseer's house, McNeill erected a metal water tower (#34) with a cypress tank; the tank has since been lost. At the base of the tower he erected a frame and cement block pump house (#35). When the new gates were installed in the mill pond dam at the pavilion, a second set of gates was installed by the Campbell Water Wheel Company for a mill building which dates to ca. 1940. The weatherboarded frame building (#12) is two stories tall and still contains equipment for grinding corn meal. There were four other buildings erected in the period prior to 1945. About 1942, the complex of outbuildings at the overseer's house was expanded by the construction of a garage/shop (#20), a simple frame building erected on a cement block apron foundation. Also dating to ca. 1942, the fertilizer house (#21) is a weatherboarded frame building erected on tapering poured cement piers. About 1944, workman Hubert Capps built a frame granary (#46) a short distance to the north of the house (#42) he was then occupying. He sheathed it with flush horizontal board siding. The final building erected during World War II was a simple frame storage shed (#38).

FOOTNOTE

1. The principal sources of information for Long Valley Farm are the research files and the draft National Register nomination prepared for the Overhills Historic District in 1991-1992. As a related and contiguous property, Long Valley Farm was originally included in the Overhills Historic District nomination. In the summer/fall of 1992, the owners of Overhills, who had sponsored and financially supported the project, decided not to pursue listing in the National Register. In turn, James Stillman Rockefeller, the owner of Long Valley Farm, decided to seek individual listing for Long Valley Farm.

Additional, new research, focusing specifically on Long Valley Farm and its owners, was undertaken to support its individual nomination. This consisted, for the most part, in more completely documenting the ownership of the farm by Robert Wall Christian and James Stillman Rockefeller.

Where newspapers provided information, the name of the newspaper and the date are cited in the text. The series of transactions by which the property passed from the McDiarmid Family to James Stillman Rockefeller are recorded in the Cumberland and Harnett county deed books. In each case where a deed is cited in the text, the date of the deed is also given.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 9 Page 1

---

Cumberland County Records, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Court House, Fayetteville, North Carolina (Sub-group: Deeds).

Draft National Register Nomination for Overhills Historic District, prepared by Davyd Foard Hood (with assistance from Margaret Long Stephenson), 1991-1992. The owners of Overhills did not pursue listing in the National Register. A copy of the draft nomination is in the possession of the author.

The FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER, Fayetteville, North Carolina, scattered issues.

James Stillman Rockefeller, interviewed by Davyd Foard Hood, by telephone, 5 February 1992 and 27 July 1993; interview notes are in the possession of the author.

Miles Williams, interviewed by Davyd Foard Hood, Long Valley Farm, Spring Lake, North Carolina, 4 April 1991 and 16 June 1993; interview notes are in the possession of the author.

SOIL SURVEY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. Washington: U.S Government Printing Office, 1922.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett counties, North Carolina

Section number 10 Page 1

---

UTM References

5. Zone 17 Easting 686000  
Northing 3898360
6. Zone 17 Easting 685930  
Northing 3897840
7. Zone 17 Easting 685900  
Northing 3897800
8. Zone 17 Easting 685930  
Northing 3897730
9. Zone 17 Easting 684865  
Northing 3896860
10. Zone 17 Easting 684170  
Northing 3896440
11. Zone 17 Easting 683540  
Northing 3896230
12. Zone 17 Easting 683280  
Northing 3896330
13. Zone 17 Easting 683275  
Northing 3896450
14. Zone 17 Easting 683075  
Northing 3896505
15. Zone 17 Easting 684005  
Northing 3896750
16. Zone 17 Easting 683640  
Northing 3898000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary line is indicated as a polygon on the USGS Map, Manchester, N.C. Quadrangle.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary line includes the acreage which was historically associated with Long Valley Farm during its period of significance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Long Valley Farm  
Cumberland and Harnett Counties, North Carolina

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs \_\_\_\_\_ Page 1

---

Schedule of Photographs

The following lettered list of photographs is a schedule of photographs included in the nomination for Long Valley Farm. The following information applies to all photographs unless otherwise noted.

Name of Property: Long Valley Farm  
SR 1451(Manchester Road)  
Spring Lake Vicinity  
Cumberland and Harnett Counties  
North Carolina

Photographer: Margaret L. Stephenson

Date of Photographs: 1991(and 1993)

Location of Original Negatives: Division of Archives and History  
109 East Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2807

- A. Farm Seat, looking southwest
- B. Setting of the Farm Seat, looking north/northeast
- C. Farm Seat Living Room, looking east/southeast
- D. Farm Seat Dining Room, looking south
- E. Spring House, looking southeast, photograph by Davyd Foard Hood
- F. Mill Pavilion and Mill Pond, looking southeast
- G. Mill Pavilion and Pump House, looking northwest
- H. Mill House and Concrete Dam, looking northeast
- I. Farm Road with Main Agricultural Complex, looking northwest
- J. Agricultural Complex with the Great Barn, looking southeast
- K. Commissary, looking southeast
- L. Great Barn, looking northeast
- M. Granary, looking northeast



