

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Burdett Woody House

Siler City vicinity, Chatham County, CH0815, Listed 8/16/2008

Nomination by Beth Keane

Photographs by Beth Keane, April 2008



Façade view



Rear view

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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

1. Name of property

historic name Woody, Burdett, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 2232 White Smith Road not for publication N/A

city or town Siler City vicinity X

state North Carolina code NC county Chatham code 037 zip code 27344

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
_____ 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): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Burdett Woody House
Name of Property

Chatham County, NC
County and State

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	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Chatham County Multiple Resource Nomination

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Work in Progress, single dwelling
DOMESTIC vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Other: triple-A I-house

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation brick
roof tin
walls weatherboard
other brick

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

Burdett Woody House
Name of Property

Chatham County, NC
County and State

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.)

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

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1901

Significant Dates

ca. 1901

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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: _____

Burdett Woody House
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approx. 5 acres

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

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 652500 3963600
2 _____

Zone Easting Northing
3 _____
4 _____
____ 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 Beth Keane

organization Retrospective date April, 2008

street & number 6073 Gold Creek Estates Drive telephone 828-328-8147

city or town Hickory state NC zip code 28601

12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Peter Ross and Louise Barnum

street & number 2232 White Smith Road telephone 919-663-3309

city or town Siler City state NC zip code 27344

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

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

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**Woody, Burdett, House
Chatham County, NC**

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The ca. 1901 Burdett Woody House is located approximately seven miles northwest of Pittsboro, the county seat of Chatham County and approximately seven miles northeast of Siler City, Chatham County's largest city. The house is situated on the east side of White Smith Road (SR 1506) in a largely rural section of the county. The Burdett Woody House sits on approximately five acres carved out of an approximate twenty-five-acre tract. The nomination includes the Burdett Woody House and a smokehouse that is contemporary with the residence.

Located in the piedmont plateau section of the state, Chatham County is dominated by small farms and extensive woods, although newly built housing developments associated with its proximity to the state's Research Triangle are threatening the rural nature of the county. The county's landscape consists largely of gently rolling terrain and numerous streams flowing southeastward.

The two-story, frame I-house sits about 300 feet east of the road, facing south toward Terrells Creek. A gravel driveway leading to the front of the house cuts a swath through a stand of woods and brush that shields the house visually from the road. A frame smokehouse sits approximately forty feet northeast of the back of the house. A number of outbuildings immediately to the east, including a concrete block chicken house, a frame garage/carport, a frame barn, and a frame blacksmith's shop, were not included in the nomination boundary because they are less than fifty years old and do not contribute to the significance of the property.

The Burdett Woody House is shaded by large oak and long leaf pine trees. In addition, several mature deciduous and evergreen trees and ornamental shrubs enhance the yard around the house. An orchard, consisting of approximately eight apple trees, two peach trees and several cherry trees, is situated north of the house. An open field spreads out in front of the house.

Burdett Woody House: ca. 1901 Contributing

The ca. 1901 Burdett Woody House is an intact example of a triple-A, I-house, a traditional building form and plan for a residential farmhouse in central North Carolina around the turn of the twentieth century. Like all triple-A, I-houses, this is a two-story, side-gable house with a central front gable. It is two rooms wide, one room deep, with a central hall and the entrance on the long side. Typical of many I-houses of the era, the Woody House has a one-story rear kitchen/dining ell.

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The Woody House sits on brick piers infilled with a brick foundation. The three-bay frame house, clad with weatherboard siding, is enhanced with corner boards featuring elaborate capitals, a flat frieze with cornice moldings, dentil molding over the crosetted central front door, and square multi-paned, stained-glass windows with denticulated cap molding centered in each saw-toothed shingled gable. The boxed eaves feature applied diamond-shaped wooden medallions in the cornice returns. Prior to World War II, the original posts of the three-bay, one-story, hipped-roof, partial-façade front porch were replaced with slender battered posts resting on brick piers. The roof of the porch is covered with 5-V tin of undetermined age.

The central five-panel front door is flanked on either side by two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows. The three windows at the second level of the façade are symmetrically placed over the first level openings. The newly installed windows throughout the house replicate the original two-over-two sash windows.

The east and west elevations of the main block of the house are identical and include a single window centered at both the first and second levels. The north (rear) elevation of the main block has two single-shoulder stone chimneys with brick stacks. The chimney to the east is placed between the house and the gabled rear ell, while the western chimney is fully exterior.

The original one-story rear ell has recently been reconfigured. A second-floor addition, measuring approximately eight-feet long by twenty-five-feet wide, abuts the north elevation of the main block of the house. In addition, the west wall of the original dining room/enclosed porch has been bumped out approximately two feet to accommodate the second-floor addition. The east-side fenestration of the ell consists of two small two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows, symmetrically arranged at the first and second levels, an original two-over-two, double-hung, sash window, providing light for the dining room, and a five-panel, door opening into the dining room. Paired four-pane casement windows are located north of the door. An attached gabled portico shelters the entrance. The ell's north elevation features an exterior, single-shoulder, stone chimney with a brick stack. The bottom portion of the chimney has recently been enclosed by a newly constructed rear utility room with a shed roof. A small gable on the roof of the utility room abuts the chimney. Fenestration of the utility room features an east-elevation entry door, paired four-pane awning windows on the north elevation, and a single four-pane awning window on the west elevation.

The west elevation of the ell has a square four-pane awning window that provides light for the kitchen's pantry; in addition, a small two-over-two, double-hung, sash window provides light for a bathroom. Additional fenestration includes one large and one small two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows, located opposite the windows of similar size on the ell's east

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**Woody, Burdett, House
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elevation. In addition, two small two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows are located at the second level – one directly over the small window on the west elevation and one on the north elevation, both of which provide light for the new sitting room located on the second floor. A screened porch with a gabled roof, which measures approximately ten by twelve feet, is attached at the north end of the ell's west side. A five-panel door, located on the north wall of the expanded portion of the rear ell, provides an entrance from the screened porch to the dining room.

Interior:

The main block of the two-story, single-pile, house features a central hallway with a flight of stairs rising along the west wall. The stairs rise twelve steps to a landing, turn east against the back wall and rise several more steps to the upstairs hall. Turned balusters with a molded handrail flank the staircase and enclose the stairwell at the second level. Turned newel posts with round molded finials are present at the landing and at the top of the staircase. The west-side wall adjacent to the steps is clad with vertical beadboard wainscoting, a molded chair rail, and horizontal beadboard on the upper wall. A five-panel door is located at the end of the narrow, first-floor, central passage. Originally providing access to the rear, west-side, screened porch, it now opens into the expanded dining room. Another five-panel door provides access to a small closet underneath the steps.

The west-side front room received the most elaborate wall treatments. The room retains the original beadboard vertical wainscoting surmounted by beadboards set at an angle on the upper wall. In addition, the room retains an unusual diagonal beadboard ceiling, rib molding, and a central bull's eye medallion. The three-part molded door trim with bull's eye corner blocks are evident in the two first-floor rooms of the main block.

The east-side front room also retains the original beadboard walls and ceiling. The pine mantel surrounding the sealed fireplace on the north wall consists of flanking carved posts surmounted with a recessed panel and a flat mantel shelf supported by carved brackets. A five-panel door located east of the fireplace provides access to a newly installed bathroom.

The second-floor rooms, flanking the central hall, also retain the beadboard walls and ceilings. The beadboard in the east bedroom is laid in a horizontal pattern, while the west bedroom features vertical beadboard wainscoting with horizontal boards on the upper wall. The simple trim surrounding the doors and windows on the second floor consists of flat boards joined at right angles. The original five-panel doors in both rooms remain in place. A closet, located in the northwest corner of the east bedroom, is constructed out of wide boards. The west bedroom retains a plain mantel comprised of flat boards surmounted by two recessed panels and a flat,

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narrow mantel shelf surrounding a sealed fireplace. The east bedroom never had a fireplace. There are no baseboards in any of the rooms in the house.

A door located at the north end of the second-floor central passage opens into a newly constructed sitting room that measures approximately seven by nine feet. A newly constructed bathroom, measuring approximately seven by eleven feet, is accessed from the sitting room and is located behind (north of) the east bedroom.

The first-floor rear ell retains its original oak flooring, four-inch board walls, and beadboard ceiling, all recently uncovered by the removal of one or more layers of vinyl, carpeting, paneling, and acoustic tiles. A closet, formerly located in the southeast corner of the dining room, has been removed and a new bathroom now occupies this space. The dining room has recently been enlarged by removing a 1950s-era bathroom that was located in the former west-side porch and bumping out the west-side wall several additional feet. The wall between the dining room and the kitchen has recently been removed providing a more open floor plan. A former pantry was revealed in the restoration work and has been restored to its original configuration in the northwest corner of the kitchen. A small half-bath can be accessed from the pantry. The newly constructed rear utility room is entered from a door in the north wall of the kitchen. The second-floor addition is accessed at the north end of the center passage through an open doorway leading into the sitting room. A door in the northeast corner of this room leads into the bathroom. The existing fireplace chimneys remain exposed in the utility room, the first-floor bathroom, and the second-floor bathroom.

Summary of Exterior Changes to the Burdett Woody House

The exterior of the main block of the Burdett Woody House remains essentially unchanged. Inappropriate alterations to the house made in the 1940s and 1950s have been reversed in the recent restoration of the house. The 1950s sliding-glass door on the façade has been removed and the weatherboards covering the opening replicate the original weatherboards of the house. Modern one-over-one, double-hung, sash windows have been replaced with two-over-two, double-hung, sash windows that replicate the original windows. A five-panel door was located and has replaced the previous 1950s-era front door.

Changes to the rear ell have been more substantial, but care has been taken to match the original fabric and details of the ca. 1901 house. A small utility room has recently been added to the north elevation of the ell, a screened porch is being added to the west elevation, and part of the west wall of the ell has been bumped out several feet. In addition, a second-floor addition, comprised of a sitting room and a bathroom, has recently been constructed. These changes have necessitated a slight change to the west-side pitch of the ell's roof. A portion of the roof has

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been replaced with 5-V tin, closely matching the existing roof. New windows, window surrounds, and doors match the original windows and doors, with the exception of the small awning and casement windows.

Summary of Interior Changes to the Burdett Woody House

The interior of the main block of the ca. 1901 Burdett Woody House retains most of its original architectural fabric. Inappropriate alterations made to the interior over the years have been reversed in the recent restoration of the house. Modern paneling in the east-side room has been removed, revealing the original beadboard walls. The removal of layers of carpet and linoleum throughout the house has revealed the original oak floor boards in the four main rooms and pine floors in the central passage. Where missing, moldings surrounding the windows and doors have been meticulously copied and replaced. Chair rail moldings have also been replicated and restored. An exact copy of the missing newel post has been located and will be put in place at the bottom of the staircase. In addition, several interior doors that match the original five-panel doors have been located and put in place. The 1950s-era staircase enclosure has been removed. The closet door under the staircase and the door opening at the end of the central passage have been restored. In addition, the door located west of the fireplace in the east-side, first-floor room has been removed and the opening sealed over with beaded board. An appropriate mantel resembling the original first-floor mantel in the west-side front room has been located and will be put in place.

Changes to the rear ell have been more extensive. The 1950s-era bathroom, located in the enclosed west-side porch, has been removed and the west-side wall bumped out several feet. A new bathroom, accessed from the east-side front room, is located in the southeast corner of the dining room, replacing a former closet. A portion of the wall between the dining room and kitchen has been removed. A former pantry that was removed in the 1950s reconfiguration of the kitchen has been restored. A new small half-bath has recently been added adjacent to the pantry. New additions include a rear utility room and a west-side screened porch. Also, a new sitting room and bathroom have been added to the second floor.

All recent changes and additions to the Burdett Woody House have been approved by the Restoration Branch of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Smokehouse: ca. 1901 Contributing

A frame smokehouse sits approximately forty feet off the northeast corner of the house. The one-story, gable-front building is covered with weatherboards and has a standing-seam metal roof. A central vertical-board door with iron strap hinges is located in the south gable end.

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SUMMARY STATEMENT

The ca. 1901 Burdett Woody House and its associated ca. 1901 smokehouse, located in a rural area of Chatham County, meet National Register Criterion C for architecture. The period of significance is limited to ca. 1901, the approximate year that the house was constructed. The Burdett Woody House is an excellent example of a type of folk architecture once commonplace in the North Carolina rural landscape: the triple-A, I-house.

The Burdett Woody House, built for a prosperous Chatham County farmer, exhibits several unique features that signify the sophistication of the builder and/or owner. The exterior of the house is embellished with corner boards with capitals, a flat frieze with cornice molding, dentil moldings over the crosetted central door and gable windows, applied diamond-shaped wood medallions on the cornice returns, and colored glass in the multi-light gable windows. The interior is handsomely sheathed with beaded boards, laid at angles in the front living room. In addition, molded door and window surrounds with corner blocks with bull's eyes add a touch of elegance to the interior of the house. The Burdett Woody House, set well off the road, in a rural, protected environment, is a testament to a time period when Chatham County was dominated by small to middling farms and is representative of the economic success and social respectability of the Woody family.

Historic context for the Burdett Woody House is provided by "Villages, Industries, and Farms: Modernization after 1880," (page 6:3-4, page 7:1-2, and page 8:22-30) in "Chatham County Multiple Resources Nomination" (MPDF). The house falls under the following property types: "Post-Civil War Nineteenth-Century Architecture," and "Twentieth-Century Architecture" (page 7:14-16, and Page 7:18-19). Additional context for the Burdett Woody House is provided herein. Houses in Chatham County are significant as reflections of the architectural trends that reached the county and the choices and adaptations that people made in terms of architectural design and style. Individual houses in Chatham County must retain a high level of integrity to be considered eligible under Criterion C for architectural significance, according to the registration requirements in the MPDF, page 7:24, and page 8:51.

Historic Background

The township of Silk Hope is located approximately midway between Pittsboro, Chatham's county seat, and Siler City, the county's largest city. According to oral history, the name, Silk Hope, came from an early-nineteenth-century venture to create a silk industry in the area, although no signs remain of the industry. A few churches, a school, and a small store serve the many farmsteads in the vicinity. One of the early settlers in the Silk Hope vicinity was Manley Durham (1839-1889). He married Sarah L. Craton (1848-1926) and together they

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accumulated several hundred acres. The couple had four daughters that survived to adulthood: Annie, Eura, Etta, and Gay. After Manley's death in 1889, his widow, Sarah, divided the land between the four daughters and their husbands. Each daughter received approximately the same allotment in value (Deed Book D-P, p. 335-338).

Eura Durham (b. November 24, 1878) married Burdett Woody (b. November 10, 1875) on December 23, 1895. Burdett's parents, William Woody (b. March 13, 1846, d. October 27, 1922) and Nancy Johnson (b. July 26, 1848, d. April 30, 1916), also early settlers to the region, were the parents of nine children: seven boys and two girls (Chatham County vital statistics).

On December 9, 1901, Sarah Craton Durham deeded to Eura and her husband Burdett ("Dett") Woody fifty-seven acres along Terrells Creek. It adjoined three other parcels allotted that day to Eura's sisters (Deed Book D-P, p. 335-338). At the time, Dett was twenty-six, Eura was twenty-three and they had been married for six years. Dett and Eura had three children, a boy, William, who died as an infant, Cloyce (1898-1987), who never married, and Leela, who married Mathis Self. Shortly after acquiring the property, Dett and Eura built the house that now stands on the property and moved their young family in. Over the years, Dett and Eura acquired adjoining parcels, including some of the land originally given to one of Eura's sisters.

On December 29, 1919, the Woodys acquired thirty-four-and-one-half acres from Arlie Johnson and his wife, Callie. This property was also located along Terrells Creek (Deed Book F-T, p. 455). In addition, on January 13, 1943, they acquired another fifty-five acres from Airlie Johnson, known as the A. C. Johnson home place, named for the previous owner, Airlie's father (Deed Book J-A, p. 17). The Woody family farmed their land and operated a nearby grist mill and cotton gin.

Several years after Dett's death, on October 30, 1943, Eura decided to sell the accumulated property. On July 12, 1950, she sold 143 acres, including the house, to John C. Johnson and his brother, B. G. Johnson (Deed Book K-N, p. 28). At the time, the property was valued at \$8,500.00. Surviving another twenty years after her husband's death, Eura died on April 4, 1963. She and her husband, along with their daughter, Cloyce, are buried in the cemetery adjacent to Sapling Ridge Methodist Church, about a mile south of their home.

On February 19, 1954, the Johnson brothers sold their share of the property to Patsy Hawkins, who promptly turned around and deeded it to James Curnie Johnson and his wife, Annie Mae (Deed Book L-Q, p. 447-448). Curnie Johnson was born in Chatham County on November 12, 1912, the son of John C. Johnson and Daisy Cheek Johnson. He married Annie Mae Draper, a native of Henry County, Virginia, and the daughter of John Peter Draper and Lena Lovelace Draper. Curnie and Annie Mae had two children, James Edward and Martha. Over the

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years, Curnie raised wheat, corn, milo, barley, and ran a small dairy herd of about twenty cows. The Johnsons made changes to the house, including installing indoor plumbing and electricity, and enclosing the rear porch and the interior stairs located in the central hall. They also added some of the outbuildings on the property, including the barn and chicken coop. Annie Mae built a small homebuilt greenhouse (no longer extant) so that she could raise flowers and expand her orchid selling business (Ross interview, April 11, 2007).

The Johnsons also took in an elderly relative, widow Etta Cheek. They agreed to care for her in exchange for her seventy-nine acres of land (one of the original Durham property allotments to their daughters). Etta was given the west-side front room of the house and lived there for several years. The Johnsons also worked in the textile mills, Annie Mae as a winder and Curnie as a maintenance supervisor. They both retired from Hadley-Peoples Manufacturing Company in Siler City and continued living in the house until their deaths: Curnie died on January 2, 1997, while Annie Mae died on November 29, 2000. They were members of Mount Olive Baptist Church and are buried in the cemetery behind the church. They are survived by their son, James Edward Johnson, residing in Siler City, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren (*Chatham News/Record*, January 9, 1997 and December 7, 2000).

After the death of Annie Mae Johnson, the house was vacant for approximately four years. On March 10, 2004, the heirs of Annie Mae, including her son, James Edward, and his wife, Gwendolyn, sold approximately twenty-five acres, along with the house, to Peter Ross and Louise Barnum (Deed Book 1001, p. 784 and 779). Peter and Louise have restored the house and plan to make it their home.

Context C – Architecture

The Burdett Woody House is typical of many of Chatham County's turn-of-the-twentieth-century farm houses, although it exhibits several unique features. The ca. 1901 two-story, triple-A, I-house with one-story rear ell features a one-story, hipped-roof front porch, shingled gables, and stained-glass windows in the gables. Further embellishments include cornerboards with capitals, a flat frieze with cornice molding, boxed eaves with cornice returns displaying applied decorative, diamond-shaped, wood medallions, and dentil molding over the crosetted front door and gable windows. Three rear, single-shoulder chimneys, typical of others in the area, consist of stone bases with brick stacks. A metal roof covers the house and the porch.

Various levels of ornamentation exist throughout the house with the first-floor public areas exhibiting more elaborate detail than the second-floor bedrooms. The west-side front room received the most attention with the beadboards laid diagonally on the upper walls and ceiling.

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A central wood ceiling medallion is an unusual feature of the room. Beadboards also cover the walls and ceilings in the remainder of the house, although in the second-floor, west-side bedroom they are laid vertically for the wainscot and horizontally above the chair rail. Five-panel doors were utilized throughout the house. More elaborate molded door and window surrounds with bull's-eye corner blocks can be found in the first-floor rooms, while plain boards joined at right angles surround the openings on the second floor.

Although the triple-A, I-house was a common house type built in Chatham County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many have been destroyed by fire, neglect, or demolition. Several that remain in the county are comparable to the Burdett Woody House, although the majority of the houses have undergone extensive remodeling.

The ca. 1908 Joe Johnson House (CH 623) located in the Silk Hope vicinity on the north side of SR 1579 (0.4 miles west of junction with SR 1504) was built several years after the Burdett Woody House. The Johnson House is a one-and-one-half-story triple-A, I-house that has been covered with vinyl siding. The one-over-one windows are modern replacements, as are the front door and the exterior-end chimney. The house retains its partial-width front porch with a hipped roof and turned posts. The house has multiple rear additions. Any original exterior ornamentation has either been removed or covered with the vinyl siding.

The ca. 1900 Merritt House (CH264) located in the Farrington vicinity on the west side of SR 1008 (0.5 miles south of the Durham County line) is similar to the Burdett Woody House in that it is a two-story triple-A, I-house built at the turn-of-the-twentieth century. The Merritt House has been extensively modernized and is now surrounded by a golf course community known as Governors Club and a strip mall is located directly across the street from the house. The house retains some of its original exterior features including shingles in the front gable, a partial-width front porch supported by turned posts, and a rear side porch attached to the two-story rear ell. The two exterior-end chimneys have been rebuilt above their shoulders. The windows are modern six-over-six sash windows. A large inappropriate Palladian-style window has been added to one of the gable-end elevations. The house is now used as a real estate office and has a large sign in front of it close to the road.

The ca. 1880 Merritt-Lucas Farm (CH267), also located in the Farrington vicinity on the west side of SR 1008 (0.7 miles north of junction SR 1717) is a two-story, triple-A, I house with a rear, one-story, ell. The house has undergone considerable changes. Estimated to have been constructed about twenty years earlier than the Burnett Woody House, the exterior of the Merritt-Lucas House is much plainer than the Woody House. The house exhibits no ornamentation other than some simple gable trim. The house sits on an new concrete block foundation and has modern six-over-six sash windows, two new interior chimneys piercing the rear slope of the roof,

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and a great deal of lattice work covering the back wing. According to the current owner, the interior of the house was extensively remodeled in the 1970s.

The ca. 1890 Dr. Hackney House (CH 274) located in the Bynum vicinity on the east side of US 15/501 (0.8 miles north of the junction with SR 1525) is a two-story, triple-A, I-house with a rear one-story ell that has undergone considerable modernization. The house has vinyl siding, two modern, exterior-rear, chimneys, new six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows, skylights, a new rear one-story addition, and a new metal roof. There is nothing to suggest the age of this house other than its style.

The ca. 1900 Tom Wombles House (CH 385) in the Bonlee vicinity (northeast side of SR 2170 at the junction with SR 2120) is a two-story, triple-A, I-house with a chamfered end bay. The house is covered with vinyl, has a new exterior-end chimney, and the original porch was replaced with a wrap-around porch. The house features an extensive amount of gingerbread trim.

The ca. 1905 C. Watson Thomas House (CH 546) in the Siler City vicinity (north side of SR 2120, 0.3 miles southwest of the junction with SR 2176) compares favorably with the Burdett Woody House. Although it is in a deteriorated condition, the two-story, triple-A, I-house has managed to escape modernization and retains its original wood siding, shingled front gable, four-over-four sash windows, and interior chimneys. It also has the original partial-width front porch with turned posts and brackets. The rear one-story ell was added onto in 1926 and one of the shed porches was enclosed in 1955. Other than the shingled front gable, the house has minimal exterior embellishments.

The Burdett Woody House remains noteworthy among the few remaining two-story, triple-A, I-houses in the area. Its unusual detailing includes the crosetted front door and dentil molding that is repeated in the gable windows, colored panes in the gable windows, elaborate corner post capitals, a flat frieze and cornice moldings, and boxed eaves with applied diamond-shaped wooden medallions. The interior diagonal beadboard walls and ceiling with rib molding and bull's eye medallion in the living room of the Woody House are also notable features.

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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries for the Burdett Woody House nomination are shown by a black line on the accompanying map, drawn at a scale of one inch equals 200 feet. The northern, western, and southern boundaries constitute the legal property lines. The eastern boundary runs just east of the smokehouse, from the northern boundary, an existing right-of-way, to the southern boundary tree line. The eastern boundary includes the ca. 1901 smokehouse while excluding the non-historic outbuildings.

Boundary Justification:

The property boundary for the Burdett Woody House encompasses an approximate five-acre tract of the land historically associated with the property containing the ca. 1901 Burdett Woody House and the associated ca. 1901 smokehouse. The eastern boundary of the nominated parcel does not follow the parcel line, but runs in a straight line immediately east of the house and smokehouse, excluding modern outbuildings farther to the east. The five acres provide an appropriate setting similar to the original agricultural settings, including open fields and an orchard.

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Section Photos

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The following information applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: Burdett Woody House

County and State where property is located: Chatham County, North Carolina

Address: 2232 White Smith Road, Siler City, NC 27344

Name of Photographer: Beth Keane

Date of Photographs: April, 2008

Photographs:

Photograph 1: South elevation; camera looking north

Photograph 2: South and east elevations; camera looking northwest

Photograph 3: West and north elevation

Photograph 4: Eave and gable detail

Photograph 5: Interior: center hall staircase

Photograph 6: Interior: mantel in west-side bedroom, second level

Photograph 7: Interior: ceiling in west-side front room, first level

Photograph 8: Smokehouse