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National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Chatham County Multiple Resource Nomination (Partial Inventory: Historic and  
(See Continuation Sheet) Architectural Properties)  
and/or common

2. Location

street & number County boundaries of Chatham County, excluding  
Pittsboro and its one-mile planning radius not for publication

city, town vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Chatham code 037

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership--see individual nomination forms

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Chatham County Courthouse

street & number Junction US 15-501 and US 64

city, town Pittsboro state N.C. 27312

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Duke University Student Windshield Survey; (See continuation sheet)  
Sponsor Dr. Charlotte Brown has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

date 1975 with state cooperation \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History

city, town 109 East Jones St., Raleigh state N.C. 27611

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Individual Structures and Districts

- CH 426                  Bowen-Jordan Farm
- CH 398                  DeGraffenreid-Johnson House
- CH 202                  Ebenezer Methodist Church
- CH 477                  Gregson-Hadley House
- CH 520-523                  Goldston Commercial District
- CH 200                  Goodwin Farm Complex
- CH 493                  Hadley Hotel
- CH 375                  Haughton-McIver House
- CH 431-446                  Mt. Vernon Springs Historic District
- CH 247                  O'Kelly's Chapel Christian Church
- CH 371                  William Alston River House
- CH 422                  William Teague House
- CH 215                  James A. Thomas Farm
- CH 275                  Dr. E.H. Ward House
- CH 421                  Whitehead-Fogelman Farm

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Representation in Existing Surveys

In the winter and spring of 1975, Mary Ann Lee and another Duke University student conducted an architectural inventory of Chatham County as a pilot student independent project under the guidance of Dr. Charlotte Brown, architectural historian, and the Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina State Division of Archives and History. Although this was not a comprehensive inventory, the entire county was criss-crossed and a total of 131 properties recorded. Information gathered is on record at the Survey and Planning Branch, and provided helpful background information for the August, 1982 through March, 1983 survey for the Chatham County Multiple Resource Nomination. From 1980 to 1982, architectural historian Ruth Selden-Sturgill completed a Multiple Resource Nomination for the county seat of Pittsboro, recording 110 sites and nominating ten of them to the National Register.

Other listings in which Chatham County properties are represented are: 1877 Chatham County Courthouse, in Robert P. Burns, Project Director, 100 Courthouses: A Report on North Carolina Judicial Facilities. Two volumes. Raleigh: North Carolina State University, 1978. This provided the basis for a thematic National Register nomination of historic courthouses across North Carolina, in which the Chatham County Courthouse was listed in 1978.

Properties already on the National Register:

Alston-DeGraffenreid House, Pittsboro  
Aspen Hall, Pittsboro  
(formerly: Ebenezer Log Church, Jordan Lake impoundment;  
destroyed and removed from Register)  
Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro  
Hadley House and Grist Mill, Hickory Mountain area  
Lockville Dam, Canal and Powerhouse, Moncure vicinity  
John A. Mason House, Jordan Lake impoundment area  
Paschal-Womble House, Goldston  
Joseph B. Stone House, Farrington area  
Pittsboro Masonic Lodge  
Pittsboro Presbyterian Church  
Hall-London House, Pittsboro  
Luther Clegg House, Pittsboro  
Kelvin, Pittsboro  
Lewis Freeman House, Pittsboro  
London Cottage, Pittsboro  
McLenahan House, Pittsboro  
Moore-Manning House, Pittsboro  
Patrick St. Lawrence House, Pittsboro  
Reid House, Pittsboro  
A. P. Terry House, Pittsboro

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Properties listed on the Survey and Planning Branch "study list":      1

Baldwin's Mill, vicinity of Terrell's

Other properties and districts deemed eligible as a result of this Multiple Resource Nomination but not nominated due to time and money constraints will be added to this list.

Properties listed on the Historic American Engineering Record:

Buckhorn Dam and Power Plant, Cape Fear River  
Carbonton Dam, Carbonton

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>various</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### A. Physical Description

Located almost exactly in the center of North Carolina, Chatham County lies in the Piedmont Plateau where rolling land and small to medium sized farms characterize the area. It is the seventeenth largest county in the state, with 707 square miles bounded in a roughly rectangular shape. On the north it touches Alamance, Orange and Durham counties; on the west and east it is bounded by Randolph and Wake counties, respectively; and on the south by Moore, Lee and Harnett counties. The county's largest city, Siler City, with a population of 4,446, is located about thirty miles southwest of Greensboro, and Pittsboro, the county seat (population 1,332) is thirty-five miles west of Raleigh. The terrain varies from steeply rolling to gently undulating to almost flat, particularly in the eastern ten-mile section which was formerly a seabed. The highest elevations in the county are found in the north-central portion where Edwards, Hickory, and Beck Mountains are among those which rise 200 feet above the surrounding country. Chatham County's landscape has been cut by numerous streams flowing generally southeastward as tributaries of the area's five larger rivers. The important Haw River sets off the eastern third of the county, and is joined by the lesser New Hope River above Moncure; a large portion of the latter and a small segment of the former are now part of the Jordan Lake and Dam impoundment. At Haywood, the Haw joins the Deep River which is the county's southern boundary, and together they form the headwaters of the Cape Fear River which completes the boundary. The Rocky River enters the northwest corner of the county and flows into the Deep River south of Pittsboro. The most important mineral deposits are found along this boundary river: there coal was mined, without sustained success, from the early nineteenth through the early twentieth century, and John Wilcox utilized the iron ore at Ore Hill near Tick Creek for his Revolutionary War iron making activities. Seventy-six percent of the land is forested, chiefly in second-growth pine, and twelve percent lies in cropland. One curious physical feature is the well-known Devil's Tramping Ground in the southwestern corner of the county. It is a circular path forty feet in diameter and one foot wide upon which no vegetation grows, reportedly due to the Devil's nocturnal perambulations.

In population density Chatham County ranks seventy-seventh in the state, with 33,415 people spread out at an average of forty-four per square mile. Only three percent of the land is classified as urban. After Siler City and Pittsboro, the next largest town is Goldston with a population of 353; six other small villages and approximately eleven even smaller scattered crossroads communities are also found. One thousand twelve miles of roads traverse Chatham County, 838 miles of them in secondary rural roads. The major east/west thoroughfare is US 64 which bisects the county and follows the line of the old stagecoach road from Raleigh to Fayetteville. US 15-501 runs north/south to join Pittsboro with Chapel Hill and Sanford in Lee County; farther west, US 421 follows a northwest/southeast route and connects Siler City and Goldston to Greensboro and also to Sanford. The Southern Railway (former Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad) parallels this latter route, while the Norfolk and Southern briefly crosses the very southeastern corner of the county, and the Seaboard Coast Line joins Pittsboro and Moncure with Raleigh.

Chatham County's thirteen townships are dotted with small to medium size farms settled in low valleys and hills, and more recent standardized nonfarm housing. It is the farm complexes, originally varying in size but now comprising an average of one hundred acres, which form the backbone of the county's historic visual and economic development. They are the predominant architectural resource in Chatham County today, although they provide only thirteen percent of the housing stock now available. Late nineteenth-century churches, and

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a smaller number of country stores remain strong focal and social points as well. Development pressures, always a threat to the rural landscape, are being felt most keenly in the northeastern section with its proximity to Chapel Hill, Durham, and the Research Triangle Park, and in the eastern section where the Jordan Lake and Dam, flooded only in 1982, is attracting recreational use and growth.

### B. Significant Periods

In the mid-eighteenth century, settlement started in what was to become Chatham County, and in 1771 the county was formed from the south-central portion of Orange County. At that time the county was more nearly rectangular in shape than it is today, with only a slight jog forming a promontory in the southeast corner. The earliest known structure in Chatham County dates from 1790, so the county's period of architectural significance dates from then through the first three decades of the twentieth century.

From the initial period until about 1830, certain developmental patterns were set upon which the county expanded throughout the rest of that century as its population grew. The first settlers fanned out from two chief points of entry: the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers in the southeast, and the northwest corner with its connection to the wagon road of the "Great Valley of Virginia." The rich bottom lands along rivers and streams were favored farm sites, and a number of wealthy plantations as well as mining and iron-making activities were established, along the Deep River. Grist mills and attendant sawmills were established, one of the most important being Colonel Ambrose Ramsey's at what was to become Lockville on the Deep River. Important east/west and north/south thoroughfares developed, forming the basis for the current US 64 and US 15-501, respectively. Along the former route, members of the important Halifax County Alston family founded their large plantations. Pittsboro and Haywood were significant settlements. Both were laid out on the Lancaster central-square plan, although Pittsboro as the seat of government developed more fully than did the smaller village. A crossroads community began at the site of what is now Siler City, and by 1937 twenty-two post offices were scattered across the county.

Various new patterns were introduced in the decades up to the 1880s. A high level of antebellum agrarian prosperity found architectural expression in fine Greek Revival structures on small plantations, in Pittsboro and Haywood, and at Mt. Vernon Springs where an important Baptist academy was constructed. The efforts of the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company to build a system of locks, dams and canals intertwined with the building of plank roads, chiefly in the western portion of the county; with increased connections to larger population centers in the region, Chatham County's back country status began to fade. The Civil War brought one railroad into the county, which heralded later nineteenth century developments. In 1868, twelve townships were established by the application of a simple gridwork boundary scheme. The county's first cotton textile mill with its attendant mill village was founded in 1872 by Carney and Luther Bynum on the Haw River at Bynum.

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From the 1880s through the 1930s the county acquired features which characterize significant portions of it today. The opening of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway lines in 1884 stimulated the development of Goldston, Bear Creek, Bonlee, and most importantly, Siler City, which was incorporated in 1887. Similarly, the town of Moncure in the eastern section was established with the coming of the Seaboard Line. Simplified construction techniques, the popularity of a simple Gothic Revival style, and continued rural growth resulted in the two-story farmhouses and simple frame churches which remain essential features on Chatham County's landscape. Tobacco farms and their attendant structures became prevalent in the northeast portion of the county. In 1897, a two-and-three-quarter-mile wide strip of land on the northern boundary west of the Haw River was lost to Alamance County and in 1907, a much larger section of land south of the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers as far west as Carbonton was granted to the newly-formed Lee County. Siler City grew to be the industrial center of the county, although electric generating plants were built along the Cape Fear River and later, brick-making companies went into business along the southern boundary. Farmers around Silk Hope turned to dairying in about 1926 and others, chiefly in southwestern Chatham County, went into large-scale broiler production. Residential, civic and commercial structures, concentrated in the small towns and villages, followed nationally-popular styles with brick joining frame as a favored construction material.

**ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY**

The predominant character of Chatham County's architectural heritage from the late eighteenth through the mid-twentieth century is that of a conservative, often vernacular, local building tradition gradually molded and altered, then finally supplanted, by nationally popular trends and styles. The range of architecture in this rolling, centrally located North Carolina County thus gives its version of a tale repeated in neighboring piedmont counties and, with variations, in other parts of the state. This interplay of local and national factors lends interest as well as historic value to the architecture of the widespread farms, two small towns, and various crossroads communities which constitute the county today. It is unique not so much in its overall pattern as in the developments and details which have formed a characteristic "sense of place" in the Chatham County landscape.

The first concern of the white settlers who arrived in the mid-eighteenth century in what is now Chatham County was to establish themselves in agriculture, and the area's rolling terrain with its many small streams and a few larger rivers was well-suited to this purpose. Whether small or large, the farm complex with its associated buildings was the primary feature of the county's architectural and economic landscape through the nineteenth century, and remains an important historic resource today. Environmental, cultural, and commercial considerations were among the most important of those affecting the choice of site and the nature of the buildings constructed. Tillable and preferably rich soils, adequate water supplies, and reasonable access to transportation routes were critical factors, and sites along stream bottoms were the first selected. Those who had settled in the southern portion of the county by

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migrating up the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers from Wilmington and Cross Creek<sup>1</sup> (later Fayetteville) had some access to those commercial centers, while those who had come down the wagon road of the "Great Valley of Virginia" to settle in the northwest corner found connections to trading paths leading between Hillsboro and the Quaker-settled territory (now Greensboro) to the west. The central portion of the county grew in population toward the end of the eighteenth century, when the founding of the county seat in Pittsboro in 1787 and its conjunction with the stagecoach route that joined Raleigh and Salisbury encouraged development in that area.

From the eighteenth century on, buildings were constructed on the basis of pragmatic concerns, vernacular traditions, and the influence of period styles which grew more potent as time progressed. Wood was the logical choice for building material in this abundantly forested area, and log and frame structures were virtually the only kinds constructed until the last quarter of the nineteenth century when machine-cut brick became more prevalent. Early dwellings were given a solar orientation to catch the winter sun and regular fenestration to benefit from cooling breezes in the summer, and later houses were typically fronted upon the closest thoroughfare for proximity as well as to present the best facade to passersby. This concern for frontality was by no means unique to Chatham County. Locally applied, it meant that the facade was often the most elaborate portion of a structure's exterior, with alterations and additions generally made to the rear of the building or perhaps an entirely new, larger house constructed on the front of the old. On farms, outbuildings were placed to the rear and/or sides of the dwelling which was kept visually separate from them. This frontality was most pronounced in the homes of the more affluent, but became increasingly common as the nineteenth century progressed, and is evident in the county's churches, civic, and commercial structures as well as its homes and farms. Throughout the time period under consideration for Chatham County, few houses exhibit a thoroughgoing academic character; major efforts to reproduce period styles were usually reserved for entrances, stairs and mantels.<sup>1</sup>

Farm sites are the chief repository for completely vernacular structures, most commonly outbuildings, which continued to be built into the early part of the twentieth century. Log construction in particular is found in barns, cribs, and sheds long after its use ended for dwellings and more prestigious structures. Farm complexes came to resemble small "villages" as a distinct purpose was assigned to each, typically small, building according to the needs of the family and the specialization of function common here and throughout the south.<sup>2</sup> Older dwellings were generally not abandoned, but incorporated into newer ones or reused as outbuildings. Other factors influencing the development of these complexes, which were often occupied and built by generations of the same family, are changes in agricultural practices, continued building over time, and a widespread familiarity with various construction techniques coupled with the availability of material. The diminishment of vernacular traditions in these as well as other Chatham County structures coincides with advances in technology and the increased centralization of cultural influences.



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While farm dwellings and buildings are centrally important in the county's predominantly rural landscape, small towns, communities, and industrial developments are significant also. Up to the Civil War era, Pittsboro and Haywood (about eight miles southeast on the Cape Fear River) were the only commercial centers. Both were platted along the Lancaster Central-square plan in the late eighteenth century, but Pittsboro as the seat of government grew to be the more substantial of the two. Crossroads stores and ordinaries sprang up respectively at ferries and at major intersections of the dirt roads which traversed the county. The water power of the Haw, Rocky, Cape Fear and Deep rivers as well as some of their tributaries, was used for grist and saw-mills which served an important function throughout the nineteenth century and, in some instances, into the twentieth.<sup>3</sup> Churches, the final important element of antebellum architecture, were mostly crude structures with simple plans, although the Quakers in the northwestern section would have had partitioned bicameral meetinghouses according to the dictates of their religious heritage. After the Civil War, three major additions completed the county's building pattern which had been set in the previous decades. The 1872 textile mill at Bynum was the first of various, generally small industrial enterprises which came to be located chiefly in the southern and western sections of Chatham County. The coming of the railroad in 1884 resulted in seven small new towns, the most important being Siler City, and attendant developments nearby. In the twentieth century, the thorough adoption of nationally-popular styles brought about an increasingly standardized county architecture.

Available tools and technologies closely affected the methods and modes by which buildings were constructed. In the early period, the necessary tools for log construction were axes, adzes, augers and perhaps saws for making dovetail joints. In farmhouses throughout the antebellum period, sills were hewn of logs and the framing members were cut by cumbersome pit saws and, later, water saws; they were jointed together by pegged mortise and tenon joints made by mortise chisels, mallets, and augers. Frows were used to make wood shingles and interior laths, and planes were used to smooth the board sheathing.<sup>4</sup> By the 1850s portable sawmills were available, and would have speeded up the building process if they were used in Chatham County. Balloon framing had been devised earlier, but apparently was not used in the county until after the Civil War.<sup>5</sup> By the late 1870s up-and-down sash saws had been replaced by more efficient portable or steam-powered circular saws, which could cut all types and sizes of lumber at high speeds. Parts of houses such as doors, moldings and mantels were then reproduced by machine rather than by the individual craftsman. New jigsaws and lathes produced turned and sawn exterior woodwork such as bargeboards, porch posts, brackets and balustrades, all of which came to adorn many late-nineteenth century Chatham County houses. Towards the end of that century, brick-molding machines were developed which could produce more regular bricks more quickly than could the hand-pressed process which had preceded them.<sup>6</sup> Most commercial ventures then switched to brick rather than frame materials for construction. In the twentieth century, standardized techniques and materials--some of the latter prefabricated wholesale--further simplified the building process and resulting structures.

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Early Architecture

Although it was settled in the mid-eighteenth century, Chatham County's rolling terrain yields scant evidence of its first half-century of buildings. The earliest known structure is the 1787 Patrick St. Lawrence House (N.R.) in Pittsboro. The log and frame materials from which these structures were formed were very susceptible to weather and insect damage unless carefully built and tended to, but many structures were not intended to be permanent and were abandoned as the pioneers rebuilt or moved on to other territories. Nevertheless, documentary evidence, a small number of extant late-eighteenth century structures, and an understanding of then-current building traditions give a good indication of Chatham's architecture as it developed into the early national period. Domestic architecture from the British isles and Germany, which provided the initial points of origin for most of the county's early settlers, was the predominant vernacular mode. The influences of the late Georgian and Federal styles are also evident in the one, one-and-a-half, and two-story houses built in this era ending about 1820.

The majority of dwellings and outbuildings of this period were constructed of log, as Methodist minister Frances Asbury noted during his 1780 visit to the county when he saw ". . . little else but cabins in these parts built with poles. . . ." <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, the first choice of all settler/builders was not necessarily a log constructed house. Those arriving in the Chatham area from the British Isles either directly or indirectly from coastal North Carolina, apparently exhibited a preference for frame dwellings, often following the hall-parlor plan. <sup>8</sup> In the 1750s, the Irishman Connor O'Dowd amassed a fortune with his bolting and sawmills, as well as other enterprises, on the Deep River. <sup>9</sup> It is likely that his house would have been a frame dwelling. The ca. 1755 frame house of John Brooks, who migrated up the Cape Fear River from Cross Creek to western Chatham, boasted glass windows and gambrel roof. Although the gambrel roof was common in the coastal areas at this time, <sup>10</sup> the Brooks house is Chatham County's only known example; it survives now only in a drawing. Popular in the mid to late eighteenth century, these roofs were more difficult to construct than the more common gable roofs, but offered more headroom. <sup>11</sup>

By contrast, the German, Scotch-Irish, English and other settlers who arrived in the piedmont from southeastern Pennsylvania via the "Great Valley of Virginia" brought with them knowledge of log construction techniques which required a simpler set of tools than frame construction. Although the Germans and Scandinavians initiated this building tradition, those in close proximity to them in Pennsylvania soon acquired and helped to widely disseminate the methods. While horizontal log construction is found throughout the New World, it became most common in the upland South. <sup>12</sup> In German and subsequent American log buildings, the logs were hewn square to form smooth walls and a close fit, spaces between them were chinked, and the corners joined by usually one of six common notching methods. Saddle notches were used on logs left in the round, but for hewn logs full dovetail and v-notches were preferred, the latter style coming to predominate as the settlers moved into the Valley of Virginia throughout the

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eighteenth century.<sup>13</sup> In Chatham County, all three notching types are found in early nineteenth century structures. The simpler half-dovetail, less common diamond, and cruder late-nineteenth century square notches are also in evidence. Log buildings in the county are typically one room large structures, and most are slightly rectangular in plan, and with wall dimensions ranging from sixteen to twenty-four feet. Interior finishes are plain, but at times show the influence of higher-style Georgian, Federal, and later, Greek Revival modes more common in frame structures.

The earliest style to be used in Chatham County was that of the Georgian, an architecture derived from classical and Renaissance traditions during the reigns of the first three Georges in England and brought to America. Dominant in the larger coastal cities until about 1780,<sup>14</sup> this mode clung in Chatham until slightly after the turn of the nineteenth century. Dwellings constructed in this style were ". . . well proportioned, composed for formal effect, and . . . embellished with robust ornament." This was the style for cultured and comfortable Americans. And, in a more modest scale, in a simple form, and with cautious embellishment, this was the style for artisan, trader, and farmer.<sup>15</sup> After the first two decades of the nineteenth century, features of the Georgian mode were rarely used, and the Federal style became popular in the county's town and rural areas up to the 1840s; again, it lingered later in this and other areas of the piedmont than it did elsewhere in the country. Federal architecture, also known as the Adam style after the British brothers Robert and James Adam who originated it in the latter part of the eighteenth century, is characterized by a lighter and more delicate use of classical motifs than the more heavy Georgian designs. It was popularized in pattern books such as Owen Biddle's The Young Carpenter's Assistant, which was published in 1805. Typical Federal features in Chatham County houses are slender proportions, brick end chimneys, and thinly-molded wood surrounds except in the tall mantels which may be arranged in three parts and embellished with reedwork and heavily molded shelves.

Although log construction per se is often difficult to date, the presence of stylistic features and the degree of skill evident in joining the logs indicate fairly clearly the differing eras in which structures were built. In Chatham, some fine examples of early nineteenth century log construction remain, testifying to the well-developed abilities of unknown builders throughout the county. All of these were apparently originally one-room one-story dwellings, later incorporated into larger frame structures or used as outbuildings. The earliest structure may be the Hatch-Farrell House (CH-369) just east of Pittsboro, with its eighteen-inch logs joined together by half-dovetail notches, and rafters supported by a tilted false plate, the only known example of this eighteenth-century building technique in Chatham County.<sup>16</sup> In Matthews Township, the Cheek-Estridge (CH-423) and Sheriff R. B. Paschal (CH-425) houses, built ca. 1790 to 1800 near one another, feature Georgian double-shouldered chimneys of beautifully laid coursed rubblestone, which were probably built by the same expert craftsman. The two-bay v-notch Cheek-Estridge House retains its vernacular Georgian interior finish with tall arched mantel, while the Paschal House was incorporated into a two-room frame dwelling with impressive vernacular Federal mantel.

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Saddle notches were used for the slightly later Isiah Coles House (CH-336)<sup>1</sup> in Williams Township, which was given similar Federal-era treatment; its remaining one end stone chimney is well crafted with a single shoulder. Unfortunately, only one of these four structures is in reasonable repair and two are slated for demolition by their owners.

The early decades of the nineteenth century also saw the use of the half-dovetail notch, which provided a close fit and was more difficult to execute than the v-notch that became more generally prevalent somewhat later in the nineteenth century. In the eastern part of the county, neatly-constructed log buildings with half-dovetail notches joining tightly fitting logs are found on the Merritt-Lucas (CH 267) and Jimmy Yates (CH 257) farm complexes. Those on the former site, which the owners believe may have been the home of prominent Chatham resident George Lucas who owned sixty-eight slaves in 1790, have been most recently used as a smokehouse and detached kitchen. The two structures on the Jimmy Yates farm show a similar degree of skill but were probably constructed in the 1830s; one with its massive stone chimney dated 1837 is now the ell to a Greek Revival house, and the second was reportedly built as a school. Like many other county log structures, these have been covered with weatherboards and/or other siding that often make such buildings difficult to distinguish visually today.

Other less common examples of log construction were also part of the early-nineteenth century Chatham County landscape. Perhaps the most unusual early church was the Ebenezer Log Church (former N.R., now destroyed), which may have been built as early as 1820. Its chimney with lathed-stick stack and squared-log base was joined to the main block by dovetail notches, an extremely rare construction technique in America and perhaps a medieval holdover.<sup>17</sup> Photographs of the early-nineteenth century Garland White Springhouse in Matthews Township, constructed with full dovetail notches and off-center door, illustrate an unusual two-level plan for Chatham County: one side which straddles a rock-lined spring is built onto a small rise while the other is supported by a log lower level.<sup>18</sup> Plank logs, apparently also uncommonly used in the county, are found on the Markham-Ferrell crib (CH 260) which is joined with square and dovetail notches, and on the tall smokehouse at Rock Rest (CH 408) constructed ca. 1810 to 1820 with double-notch joints not found elsewhere in Chatham.<sup>19</sup>

Next to log houses, one to one-and-a-half-story frame houses were the second major dwelling type in early Chatham. These small structures displayed simple but well-crafted finishes with vernacular Georgian and Federal features. Here the hall-parlor plan, again preferred by those of British Isles background, first appeared and remained very popular throughout the county until the mid-nineteenth century. This is a two-room plan, often with a half-story above, where various domestic activities took place. The larger room, or "hall," was used for cooking and dining; the smaller parlor was often used as a sitting or entertaining room; and the upstairs room(s)<sup>20</sup> served as sleeping chamber although other rooms were also used for this purpose. An enclosed stair with winders, conservative of space and not difficult to construct, rose along the partition wall and was usually carved out of the parlor. In Lockville, General

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Ambrose Ramsey's inn (Ramsey's Tavern), which was important before and during the Revolutionary War, may have been of this type. Photographs of the now-destroyed one-and-a-half-story structure show the steeply-pitched roof, engaged front and rear porches, and the broad brick end chimneys common to many substantial eighteenth century North Carolina houses. The Williams House (CH 253), similarly constructed and still standing in New Hope Township, is a good example of a one-and-a-half-story hall-parlor plan with transitional Georgian/Federal features such as beaded weatherboards, six-panel doors, and brick chimneys laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers. On the interior, an arched mantel in the hall is constructed flush to the wall, and beaded battens which form a five-part frieze rise above the simple shelf to form a paneled overmantel; the ceiling beams are exposed above the vertically-sheathed walls. The ca. 1810 Thomas Snipes House retains some similar elements, but has an asymmetrical three-bay facade which is another typical feature of small antebellum Chatham County houses. The one-story Tysor-Green House near Rocky River (CH 388) illustrates an unusual plan: its two equal-size rooms are built around a massive central stone and brick chimney, and reached by a small entrance vestibule. More commonly found in New England than in the South, this plan has seventeenth-century English antecedents and may have reached Chatham County from the coastal region.<sup>21</sup>

It was for Chatham's two-story houses, associated with wealthy families like the Alstons and others, that more elaborate Georgian and Federal stylistic features apparently were reserved. Whether built as hall-parlors or on the more formal Georgian-influenced central-hall plan, these houses have symmetrical facades, brick end chimneys, and fashionably-executed period details. The late eighteenth or early nineteenth century Joseph B. Stone House (N.R.) features a transomed double-leaf entrance leading to a wide central hall; its never-painted interior walls are dressed by elaborate wainscoting while its four Georgian mantels still bear their original flat black paint, and an enclosed stair rises from rear to front in the hall.<sup>22</sup> The three Alston family houses built between 1810 and 1840 illustrate a variety of more academic Federal embellishments: entrances with fanlights and/or sidelights; paneled staircases and detailed interior woodwork; and elegant mantels with classic pilasters, three-part friezes with central sunbursts, and heavily molded cornices.<sup>23</sup> The oldest of these houses is Aspen Hall (N.R.) which Joseph John ("Chatham Jack") Alston built shortly after his arrival from Halifax County between 1790 and 1800. Onto this Georgian structure a new Federal/Greek Revival wing was constructed, apparently by noted Pittsboro woodworker Martin Hanks, between 1830 and 1840.<sup>24</sup> The ca. 1810 Alston-DeGraffenreid House (N.R.) was constructed by Chatham Jack for his first son, John Jones Alston, and a Melus Broome was retained to do the brick and plaster work on the house, whose interior features a central ceiling medallion and floral wreath motif along its cornice.<sup>25</sup> With some interior features similar to those of the newer wing on Aspen Hall, the Alston-Dark House (CH 386) may have been built for Chatham Jack's tenth child Philip K. D. Alston (b. 1811), although its early history is unclear.<sup>26</sup> Only one other house in the county of this period exhibits similar high-style details, the two-story Georgian/Federal Vestal-Albright House (CH 418) in Albright Township, constructed initially as a hall-parlor dwelling and now enlarged. Its double-shouldered chimney of bricks laid in Flemish bond is perhaps the finest

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in Chatham County; other notable exterior details on the original three-bay facade are the three-part architraves, and thick unmolded sills framing the tall sashes, and benches with carved supports apparently built into the beaded weatherboard facade. On the interior, the dominant feature is the elaborate Federal mantel with fluted pilasters rising to a paneled overmantel and molded cornice with pierced dentils. A two-tier balustrade at the second floor of the enclosed stair is composed of fine Georgian-style turned members.

Illustrating an unusual plan in rural Chatham, the early nineteenth century two-story John Snipes Strowd House in Baldwin Township (CH 291), whose tall, narrow facade shows Georgian and Federal influences, is defined by a hall-parlor interior distinctly similar to the side-hall plan popular in North Carolina coastal regions during the first half of the nineteenth century. Separate entrances with six-panel doors lead into the hall and unusually narrow parlor; in the hall, a partially enclosed stair rises along the rear wall to which a one-story shed extension was originally attached. The house's exterior resembles that of the Green Womack House in Pittsboro (CH 52).<sup>27</sup>

While the skill of Chatham County's early builders is evident in its vernacular as well as more high-style structures, most of these people remain anonymous. John Dillard is known to have built the first jail and repaired the courthouse in Pittsboro in the early 1780s.<sup>28</sup> Between 1793 and 1795, brickmason James Patterson--described by Lawrence Wodehouse as a "mechanic"<sup>29</sup>--constructed the first building on the University of North Carolina campus at Chapel Hill in neighboring Orange County, a two-story, ninety-six by forty-foot structure with sixteen rooms and four passages.<sup>30</sup> Otherwise, the traditional building skills needed for Chatham's mostly vernacular architecture were passed along within the family and local community. From an early period, children were often apprenticed to carpenters, joiners and bricklayers, but the names of these craftsmen do not survive in conjunction with Chatham's earliest houses.

An excellent example of a small, thoroughly vernacular farm complex is provided by the Beckwith-Goodwin Farm ( , CH 214), constructed in various stages between ca. 1819 and 1839 and virtually intact today. Set on a cleared rise facing south, the simple one-story house and detached kitchen (the earlier dwelling) to its rear each feature a massive end stone chimney, one with exterior fire opening rare in Chatham County. To the west of these structures is found a neat cluster of log outbuildings and tobacco barns exhibiting half-dovetail, saddle, diamond, and square notching. A slightly grander but also representative "Plantation" (now destroyed) was offered for sale by owner James Baker in the 1801 Raleigh Register:

206 acres of tillable land tolerably good and well watered about 3/4 miles from Pittsboro.

Log Cabin, kitchen, stable, corn crib and also a new framed house--(31 x 21 with 10 ft. pitch). Good Springs.<sup>31</sup>

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Few outbuildings from this period survive, but two fine Federal-era frame barns are still standing in Baldwin Township. The Norwood-Man (CH 311) and John Snipes Strowd (CH 292) barns are two-story structures with flush gables, constructed with large hewn framing members fastened together with oversized pegs; the former is central-passage while the latter is a side-passage barn. Other important early structures were grist mills, near which sawmills may have been run as a side business. Documentary photographs of Ramsey's Mill in Lockville compared to the surviving 1790-1800 Baldwin Mill in Hadley Township show that both were substantial four-story gable-roofed frame structures with irregular fenestration.

Antebellum Architecture

Throughout the antebellum period, a variety of influences continued to mold Chatham County's architecture. Vernacular construction techniques and interpretations of academic, nationally-popular styles were central factors. Toward the middle portion of the antebellum period, Chatham County's more ambitious architecture began to show a transition from the Federal to the next dominant style, that of the Greek Revival. Again, this was another classically-inspired mode of design popularized in works like Asher Benjamin's 1830 The Practical House Carpenter. In Chatham County the Greek Revival style appeared later and remained popular locally longer than it did nationally, as it did in many other rural areas across the state. In its purest form, the Greek Revival style encompassed temple front structures with pedimented porticos supported by large columns, lower and broader facades with wider sashes than in the Federal era, and embellishments which were usually rectilinear and symmetrical in design. Pittsboro was the closest point of dissemination for this nationally-popular style, and the Henry Adolphus London House there (now destroyed) was a particularly striking example of the temple form. Generally, however, Chatham's conservative builders did not adopt the temple-front plan, but adapted selected elements of the style to lend a fashionable air to their houses. Exterior white paint became universally popular, although some older houses retained their colonial coloration and at least one house of the post-Federal era was given an interior treatment of turquoise paint (House, CH 370). A number and variety of Chatham County structures show the influence of the Greek Revival up to the decade after the Civil War.

A wider array of house types survives from this period than from the earlier era. Loss of early structures is doubtless one reason for this, and it is always difficult to assess the full range of architectural resources available in a previous time when the extant examples may not be fully representative of that era. Nevertheless, it is reasonable to assume that, in this expansive antebellum period, the increased wealth of many county residents coupled with a growing population and closer cultural contacts, was responsible for some of the greater variation in types.

Dwellings in this period ranged from crude log slave quarters to substantial frame two-story houses with elegantly detailed trim. Certain conventions prevailed no matter if the structure were large or small. National advances in technology were

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slow to have an impact in Chatham County, and tools and construction methods did not change greatly from the early through the mid-nineteenth century. Generally, traditional methods of handling log and frame construction prevailed. Dwellings and some outbuildings were raised from the ground to aid in ventilation and to protect them from vermin; a few houses boasted complete stone foundations pierced by wooden ventilators and in some cases, ground-level access openings. Most chimneys were built with brick stacks and stone (often roughcast) bases, and the smaller number of those built entirely with coursed stones or hand-made bricks exhibit a higher degree of craftsmanship. Wood was always used in county architecture of this period. Chatham County's first known brick structure was the 1843 courthouse in Pittsboro, and brick buildings were not found elsewhere in the county until the late nineteenth century. No substantial domestic stone structure is known to have existed. Logs were used for one-story houses and numerous outbuildings, the best-constructed of these exhibiting the skill of their builders in neatly joined logs with the common v- or saddle-notches, or rarer half-dovetail notches. Typical farm structures were smokehouses, cribs, sheds, and barns, ranging in size and type from small to medium size gable-roof dependencies with simple board-and-batten doors in the gable end, to more commodious cantilevered barns which often received later side and rear shed additions.

One-story antebellum houses were almost always constructed of logs. The few simple frame examples which survive are generally small, and probably were servants' quarters or other dependencies to a larger house. Only two structures believed to be slave cabins are now in existence, both made of v-notched logs. The one on the Vestal-Albright Farm (CH 418) is small and crude, served by a large stone end chimney; the other, which is thought to be part of the Alston-DeGraffenreid plantation (N.R.), follows a dogtrot plan, rare in Chatham County, with a stone chimney for each pen and plain Greek Revival trim around the sashes. Of the somewhat larger one-story frame houses, the coastal cottage form may have been more prevalent than it appears today, for it was common elsewhere in North Carolina from the eighteenth through the mid-nineteenth centuries. The White House (CH 337) on US 64 east of Pittsboro may be the county's best surviving example of the type. This house illustrates features common to coastal cottages: gable roof, three-bay facade sheltered by an engaged porch partially enclosed to form a sleeping room, and brick chimney with wide base and narrow neck at each end. The rear shed rooms are a later addition, although they often were engaged under the main roof in other coastal cottages.

Most one-and-a-half to two-story houses built along Federal lines utilized the hall-parlor plan almost uniformly, but show stylistic details ranging from crude to simple but refined, to individualistically ornate. A good illustration of an intact one-and-a-half-story hall-parlor type is the late 1840s Norwood-Hamlet House (CH 297) which boasts three Flemish bond brick chimneys serving the main block and rear shed, and well-crafted interior woodwork including an unusual five-panel frieze on the hall mantel.<sup>32</sup>

Two-story hall-parlor plan houses share similar individualistic features as well as more common elements, and suggest greater social standing than their smaller



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counterparts. Typically, their symmetrical facades are three-bay on the first floor and two-bay on the second, topped by boxed cornice and rake boards, sheathed with plain or beaded weatherboards, and served by two end chimneys. Sashes are usually 9/9/, 9/6, or 6/9 with three-part molded surrounds, doors are six-panel, and mantels can be either simple or more complex. Distinctive features are found in most of the best surviving examples of this type. The ca. 1828 William Alston Rives House (MRN, CH 371) has these Federal features as well as a retarditaire Georgian double-shoulder chimney and arched mantel on its intact interior, a curiously late retention in this plantation house associated with a member of the prominent Alston family. An even more ambitious interior is exhibited by the Teague House (MRN, CH 422), built in the 1830s to adjoin an earlier log v-notch structure; its idiosyncratic three-panel front door and wide mantel with six-panel frieze and reeded pilasters show the influence of the Greek Revival style. It retains earlier features such as beaded weatherboards and exposed ceiling beams, and an unusually massive multi-stepped-shoulder brick chimney between the two sections. In Williams Township, the ca. 1840 Allen Oldham House (CH 269) has much simpler hall-parlor features, but is built upon a high stone foundation more typical of the coastal plain than Chatham County dwellings of this era.<sup>33</sup> Of the many notable features of the late 1830s Whitehead-Fogleman House in its complex near Alamance County (MRN, CH 421), the most striking is the mantel with paneled frieze and overmantel and unusual pilasters gouged in v-shaped designs. Quarter-inch chisels were used to gouge reedwork and designs on mantels in Alamance between 1825 and 1840, but this is the only known example of this kind of work in Chatham.<sup>34</sup> The imposing two-and-a-half-story Hackney-Hudson House (CH 277) near Bynum, also built between 1830 and 1840, clearly shows the influence of the Greek Revival with its 6/6 sashes, and the double-leaf entrance with sidelights and transom. Here the central-hall plan, however, retains an enclosed stair rather than the increasingly popular open one.

The great majority of county houses at this time were single-pile structures with fairly straightforward plans: two rooms on each floor. A much smaller number of unusual house-types is also found, generally with transitional Federal/Greek Revival elements. The commodious two-and-a-half-story Bowen Jordan House (MRN, CH 426) erected in the 1820s, makes use of a central-hall variation of the three-room Quaker plan which is unique in the county although not in the state.<sup>35</sup> A wide hall with enclosed straight-flight stair separates the large eastern room with its elaborate broad mantel: and private boxed stair, from the two smaller western rooms which share a common corner chimney and feature Federal mantels. Two one-and-a-half-story central hall dwellings in New Hope and Baldwin Townships, respectively, are notable for the uncommon paired chimneys at each of their gable ends, which provide heat to each of the four rooms on the first floor.<sup>36</sup> The Copeland House (CH 243) has four Flemish bond brick chimneys and a vernacular interior, while the Bunn Fearrington House (CH 312) has common bond chimneys coupled with Greek Revival elements.

The decade of the 1850s saw the arrival of more full-blown Greek Revival designs in the building of the stylistically paired houses of John A. Mason (N.R.), and William Marcom (CH 251);<sup>37</sup> and the Hadley House (N.R.) and DeGraffenreid-Johnson House (MRN, CH 398). All four are the homes of the rural well-to-do. The first pair, in Williams Township, was constructed by one anonymous builder and the second set by another unknown

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craftsman in central Chatham. These are two-story three-bay houses with end chimneys and central halls featuring attractive open stairways, post-and-lintel mantels, and wide entrances framed with sidelights and transoms. The Marcom House shows off its pedimented gable roof, broad porch with arched brackets, and symmetrical door and sash surrounds punctuated by incised sunburst cornerblocks. The DeGraffenreid-Johnson House displays a different form of the Greek Revival accented by its low hip roof, diminutive portico, and wedge-shaped modillion cornice. When in about 1860 Sheriff R. B. Paschal had a more vernacular Greek Revival addition made to his home (CH 425), he chose a tall, gable-roof form and augmented it with a one-story pedimented portico supported by square-in-section posts. The interior of this single-pile addition has two vertical panel doors, surrounds with plain cornerblocks, and a mantel with recessed panels. A few one-story dwellings incorporated some Greek Revival elements, most notably the charming (former) Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church parsonage (CH 307). In Gulf Township, the two-story gable-roof Goldston-Fields House (CH 382), probably constructed just before the outbreak of the Civil War, illustrates a thoroughgoing but crude application of Greek Revival motifs.

Before it passed its heyday, the mode was also used in other prominent county structures. Thought to have been built initially as an inn on the Graham and Gulf Plank Road, the Haughton-McIver House in Gulf (MRN, CH 375) has an impressive five-bay facade with trabeated double-leaf entry on both floors. The 1855 building of the Baptist Mt. Vernon Male and Female Academy in Mt. Vernon Springs (MRN, CH 431 to CH 446) with its separate but equally elegant accommodations for young men and women, influenced the adoption of Greek Revival features in that area. The substantial (former) Haywood Presbyterian Church (CH 143), built in 1859, features a pedimented temple-front, enlarged fenestration and a simple central-aisle interior plan, and is the county's only example of the Greek Revival ecclesiastical style.

Farm complexes in this era had a typical array of outbuildings, with those serving the family's domestic needs placed closest to the house. Surviving detached kitchens have massive stone and/or brick chimneys, are built either of log or frame to complement the dwelling, and placed either to the side or the rear of it and sometimes connected by a breezeway. A particularly complete group of log and later frame outbuildings is found on the early-through-mid-nineteenth century Clayborn Justice Farm (CH 352) and the ca. 1840 to 1850 Mark Bynum Burns site (CH 395), both of which are set on small hillocks and surrounded by trees. Small family cemeteries are often features of farm complexes. A good example is found on the McMath-Perry Farm (CH 393), with about fifteen markers beautifully set on a hill and surrounded by a sturdy wall of dry-laid stone.

Other remaining antebellum structures also illustrate Chatham residents' capabilities for constructing in log and heavy timber frame. The ca. 1850 three-story Hackney Mill on Rocky River (CH 473) is one of few surviving grist mills from this era when they once were plentiful. Its heavy hewn frame strengthened by cross bracing has enabled it to withstand a number of floods, and a good deal of its original wood and later cast-iron milling machinery is intact. Carney Bynum's covered bridge over the Haw River, which he sold to the county for \$5.00 in 1867, was probably typical of this now disappeared form. A documentary photograph shows it to be a long structure supported

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by five or six broad stone or brick piers and made of vertical boards vented just beneath the roof which protected it from weather.<sup>38</sup> The plank roads of this period and the lock, dam and canal fixtures of the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company made use of different kinds of lumber, all of which were unfortunately quickly subject to rot.

The time of the Civil War was not one for architectural experimentation. Although Sheriff R. B. Paschal was able to go about his business in the county and construct a blacksmith shop on his farm during the war, most farm families had a difficult time simply maintaining the structures they already had. The situation of plantation overseer Wyatt Jordan in 1862 was probably that of most of the farmers in the county: "I could work twelve or 15 hands to advantage besides children we cannot do more than half the work that ought to be done on the place this winter. . . ."39 It was not until after the war that serious rebuilding efforts were begun and new houses constructed, despite the throes of Reconstruction.

Post-Civil War Nineteenth Century Architecture

By the mid-1870s new stylistic trends and technological advances began to affect county architecture. Throughout this decade, vestiges of the Greek Revival mode lingered in some Chatham dwellings, and a very few purely vernacular houses were constructed as late as 1890, but designs from the nationally-popular Gothic Revival style generally supplanted the earlier approaches. The Gothic Revival was an exuberant, "picturesque," and often asymmetrical design, developed chiefly by architect Alexander Jackson Davis in the 1830s and popularized in books by his associate Andrew Jackson Downing beginning in the 1840s, which became nationally influential after the Civil War.<sup>40</sup> Chatham's builders were encouraged to use the style by a growing post-war awareness of national trends as well as Downing's pattern books. Certainly, Pittsboro provided visible inspiration with the thoroughly Gothic 1861 London Cottage (N.R.) and other less fanciful residences.<sup>41</sup> Rural builders were characteristically cautious about adopting the style wholesale, however, preferring to enhance traditional central-hall single-pile house types with more superficial decorative elements of the design.

In this they were aided by new technology. These standardized materials and processes soon spelled the demise of vernacular architecture in houses, although in Chatham this capability has never been entirely lost, particularly in the construction of outbuildings and some owner-built homes. A preference for the central-hall single-pile dwelling clung throughout the nineteenth century despite the changes in construction practices.

The advent of a vernacular Gothic Revival style coincided with a building boom in post-war Chatham County, and the result was a large number of one and two-story houses and frame churches built to reflect the style which still pervades the county's largely rural landscape today. Factors in this boom were the county's population surge in the 1880s, coupled with the arrival of the railroads and the building of new towns; improved farm equipment and methods which encouraged farm growth; and new technology which

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simplified the building process. The one or two-story triple-A house with its characteristic profile and decorative motifs quickly became a predominant and very easily spotted form throughout the county.

Some of the essential features of houses built following this mode were gable roofs, single-pile depth, and symmetrical three-bay facades with centrally-placed single-leaf door. A central gable, the hallmark of the vernacular Gothic Revival, was often added to these dwellings, resulting in the so-called "triple-A" form--a widespread adaptation from Downing's models. Exterior end chimneys were moved to the rear and then to the interior of the main block on the back of which a one-story kitchen/dining ell was added; new cooking stoves replaced the open fireplaces on the old detached kitchens which were then no longer needed. Exterior decoration proliferated with the work of jigsaws and lathes, and deep red or green paint was used on larger houses to highlight woodwork trim. With the production of larger sheets of glass, the number of lights in sashes dropped from 6/6 to 2/2 and 1/1; louvered shutters were still used but less commonly than in the antebellum period. Plain weatherboards, and occasionally board-and-batten siding, replaced the old wide hand-planed boards, and narrow beaded boards began to be used as exterior and interior decoration. Mantels and stairways also featured turned and sawn embellishments, and stairs became an important design element in the central-hall plans.

A good illustration of the two-story triple-A house is the ca. 1900 main dwelling on the Goodwin Farm Complex (MRN, CH 200), which features a hip-roof porch supported by turned posts and simple balustrade and central gable dressed with decorative shingle courses and a triangle-headed vent. The structure is complemented by a simpler one-story house and a full array of log and frame outbuildings related to tobacco farming. Other older houses might retain just one or two elements of the Greek Revival style in conjunction with the new, for example the 1880s Luther Bynum House (CH 323) which has no central gable, but features sidelights coupled with lacy porch brackets. Two-story triple-A houses show a variety of elements including two-tier or wraparound porches, chamfered bays, and a greater or lesser amount of detail work. Builders of one-story houses in this period also favored the Gothic gabled idiom, and a typical example is the ca. 1890 Artemus J. Seagroves House (CH 187) with its central gable, wraparound porch with turned posts and delicate brackets, and L-plan ell. Illustrating a different kind of one-story house built during this era, the ca. 1900 gable-roof Tucker House (CH 190) in Merry Oaks makes its decorative statement only on the porch with latticed balustrade and graceful posts with applied sawnwork capitals.

The Gothic Revival also provided inspiration for many frame country churches: lancet fenestration, dominant central towers, and simple basilica plans were the main elements of church architecture. The Ebenezer Methodist Church (MRN, CH 202) is very representative, with its single-stage entrance tower, and trefoil and quatrefoil designs. Close to the border with Durham County, the simpler ca. 1900 O'Kelly's Chapel (MRN, CH 247) has no tower, featuring only lancet fenestration with intersecting tracery on its gable-front form and wide flush sheathing on its intact interior. The tower, usually centrally but sometimes asymmetrically-placed, was a major design

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element on most churches; the New Elam Church (CH 175) with its three-stage tower embellished with varied shingle courses typifies this tendency.

This period before the turn of the century saw the last use of vernacular log construction for dwellings although outbuildings and lesser structures continued to be traditionally built past the turn of the century. Interesting surviving examples include the Sidney Dean House (CH 268), whose much-embellished triple-A exterior masks a rare example of a one-and-a-half-story log dogtrot dwelling. Newly freed blacks were constructing homes during this era, and one, Bob Milliken, reportedly built a two-story log structure served by a single brick and stone chimney; it has now been reduced to a one-story cabin and moved to the site of the Chatham Fairgrounds.<sup>42</sup> An unusual triple-pen saddle-notch barn is found on the Willis Durham Farm (CH 407) along with a substantial number of vernacular buildings. Perhaps the best collection of log structures spanning the period from the 1860s to about 1900 is a cluster of four small farms in Albright Township. Apparently constructed by members of the Thompson and Johnson families, these are one to one-and-a-half-story v-notched buildings variously used for dwellings, barns, animal pens, and related purposes including one which combined a crib and (reportedly) former blacksmith shop under its gable roof.

In some frame houses elements of the Greek Revival style lingered, but not much beyond the late 1870s. The ca. 1870 Dr. E. H. Ward House (MRN, CH 275) shows a Greek Revival influence in its transom-framed central-hall, post-and-lintel mantels, and delightful doctor's office which stands nearby. The James A. Thomas House (MRN, CH 215), built between 1880 and 1890, gives a subtle and late expression to the style with its long low four-bay facade, simple details, and interesting mantels with wedge and diamond-shaped motifs. An attractive grouping of well-made v- and square-notch log outbuildings lends further interest to the site. The Riggsbee-Howard House (CH 314), built in the 1870s, is a contrasting and more robust example of the late Greek Revival with its hipped roof, trabeated double-leaf entrance, and fluted columns and cornerposts. An early Victorian influence is clear, however, in its shallow depth, rear chimney placement, and broad eave overhangs.

In the 1880s, two unusually large and virtually identical Victorian houses were constructed, one for John Wissler in Moncure and the other for Carney Bynum in Bynum, both of whom were prosperous and important men in their communities. These are two-and-a-half-story cross-gable double-pile structures (CH 150 and 324, respectively) with restrained exterior trim, broad central halls with gracefully executed stairs, and Victorian sawn mantels. Where the inspiration for this house type came from is not known, nor was the pattern repeated elsewhere in the county.

Farm complexes grew and the range of outbuildings may have reached its peak during this period. The most notable additions were those relating to tobacco processing which became part of county agricultural practices after the Civil War. The new bright-leaf tobacco was flue-cured, and the tobacco barns which accommodated this first step in the process were log structures set on tall foundations, usually of stone, into which the flues were built. Although often crudely built, in size and construction techniques these barns ". . . are very similar to the log cabin homes of

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the early colonists."<sup>43</sup> In Chatham County the gable-roofed structures were commonly saddle or v-notched, with later barns joined with simple square notches; open frame sheds were generally added to only one side. Packhouses, used for the final step in the processing, were similarly built but larger in size than the tobacco barns. Sometimes these structures were set in a neat row, but more often were grouped together as space permitted and the number of outbuildings grew.

This organic growth was typical of farm complexes generally. A particularly good example is that of the vernacular Jack Fields Farm (CH 381) in which an array of thirteen dependencies and outbuildings is set around a very retardataire hall-parlor dwelling constructed about 1890. These structures show a great range of building uses, materials, and types constructed over a forty-year period.

It was during this era that commercial architecture began to come into its own, spurred on particularly by the 1884 coming of the railroads. Stores at country cross-roads were characteristically two-story gable-front structures; their shed-roof porches sheltered the three lower bays which included a central double-leaf entrance. In late-nineteenth century railroad towns like Goldston (Commercial District, MRN, CH 520 to 523) and Siler City, however, the gable roofs were hidden by parapeted false fronts, cornices supported by heavy Victorian brackets, and variously decorated interiors lit with oversize sashes. This exuberant "boom town" commercial architecture typified the entrepreneurial spirit of Chatham's new railroad towns. Between these two kinds of stores is a third type (CH 189) in Merry Oaks, another railroad village with a number of attractive late-nineteenth century structures (CH 191). This store features a two-tiered porch with posts like those on the nearby Tucker House, tall sashes protected by louvered shutters, and double-leaf four-panel doors at both levels which, like the plain frieze beneath the roof, bear traces of their original red paint. To the side is appended a smaller structure with high false front.

A few other structures indicate the contrasts prevalent during this era. The 1881 brick Chatham County Courthouse (N.R.) in Pittsboro, where the county's only brick structures were located at that time, was built along classic lines popular for government buildings in the state and nation,<sup>44</sup> while the many scattered post offices which also served the county's needs were simple one-room board-and-batten structures. The one-story (former) public Lawrence School near Corinth (CH 167), ca. 1885, features five bays crowded under a hip-roof porch supported by four smooth Tuscan columns and a decorative cupola with diamond-shaped vents straddling the gable roof. A different array of Victorian and Italianate flourishes was found on the 1887 private two-and-a-half-story Thompson School (now demolished) in Siler City. By the early 1880s, the Italianate style had arrived in Chatham County with the building of the important frame textile mill at Bynum. It echoed the form of other textile mills built in nearby Alamance County at this time but, perhaps for reasons of economy, did not emulate their brick materials.<sup>45</sup> An important brick grist mill was, however, constructed in Lockville in 1883. John Barringer's roller mill was a plain but substantial three-story, thirty by fifty-four-foot brick structure which was advertised for sale in 1895 and burned in 1915 as did the Bynum Mill a year later.<sup>46</sup>

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Twentieth Century Architecture

In the first two decades of the twentieth century, a general air of prosperity pervaded Chatham County which was cut short by the Great Depression and returned only very slowly to the county thereafter. Some building trends and patterns from the previous century continued, but increasingly, nationally popular styles and standardized forms, some of them inspired by modern technology, came to predominate over the earlier more locally-inspired approaches. The county's largest and most architecturally ambitious houses were all constructed prior to the Great Depression, and tended to reflect the new wealth of commercial and manufacturing enterprises rather than that based upon agriculture. Builders of the more numerous small houses continued to use less complex surface embellishments to adorn their dwellings and generally did not accept new designs in toto until the advent of the bungalow era made popular--and accessible--an architecture for the "common man." Outside the dwelling place, architecture was a bit more adventuresome, with various designs used in commercial, civic and a small number of church buildings into the 1930s.

The expansive pre-Depression era saw a greater variety of house types than had the previous one. Small vernacular frame dwellings continued to be built and sometimes showed slight variations from one area of the county to the next.<sup>47</sup> But the Gothic Revival was popular in one and two-story houses until about 1900, by which time Queen Anne and then modest Colonial Revival styles began to show their influence. The popularity of the Queen Anne style nationally dates from the British government exhibition at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, and is distinguished by complex massing with bays, projecting gables and wraparound porches, ornate turned and sawnwork detail and the use of ornate stained glass.<sup>48</sup> The mode arrived in Chatham County in about 1890 with the building of the elaborate architect-designed two-tiered porch on the Haughton-McIver House (MRN, CH 375), and it reached its zenith in the decade after the turn of the century. The Colonial Revival mode, which followed briefly before the arrival of the bungalow style, returned to a more restrained approach with its double-pile symmetry and more simplified exterior detail. In a number of houses a mixture of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and idiosyncratic elements is seen.

In the early part of the century, some rural one and two-story frame houses retained traditional symmetrical single-pile floor plans while adopting decorative Queen Anne features. A fine two-story example is the imposing Isaac Dunlap House in Bonlee (CH 451), whose expansive triple-A Queen Anne facade is matched by its large two-story L-plan rear section which features its own two-tier porch with lacy brackets and elaborate sawn balustrade. Multicolored sashes light the double-pile interior where heavy Tuscan columns grace the hall and a variety of Victorian mantels is found. In one-story houses, multiple gable interruptions and four or five-bay facades with the characteristic wraparound porches became popular. Two good illustrations of the type are in Cape Fear Township: the Richardson-Tew (CH 186) and Eb Wilson (CH 184) houses, both built between 1900 and 1910. The first structure features elaborate German siding and a matching wellhouse; the Eb Wilson House has Ionic porch posts and a particularly attractive mantel with Ionic colonettes and highly decorative

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ironwork grille. But the Queen Anne style in its one-story version culminates in the frame Jim Atwater House in Bynum (CH 327) and the elegant brick Gregson-Hadley House (MRN, CH 477) in Siler City. Each is built around an irregular plan with multiple gable interruptions on hip or gable roof, a pentagonal corner turret, and a variety of Eastlake details on its facade with wraparound porch. The Gregson-Hadley House, built in 1903 and designed by architect W. H. Tippett, is a significant contribution to Siler City's twentieth-century architecture.

Interestingly, this thorough adoption of Queen Anne massing is not found in Chatham's two-story houses. One exception, however, is the ca. 1910 J. B. Mills House (CH 210) near Wake County; despite its various projecting gables and expansive, irregular porch, however, its floor plan is essentially symmetrical, and the exterior like the interior shows only modest Victorian details. Elsewhere in the county, other larger houses embody an exuberant and individualistic spirit if not the specific elements of Queen Anne architecture. Commercial sawmillers and lumbermen like John Council, near Merry Oaks, and William Brooks Cheek, who lived in Bonlee and elsewhere in the county, had close access to various kinds of lumber and the means and interest with which to build their own houses. Council's is a rambling structure (CH 262), while Cheek's final house (CH 306) built in 1923, is more compact, but both boast a variety of embellishments, most notably imaginative patterns of narrow beaded boards. (The ceiling on the Bonlee Baptist Church, CH 453, is also Cheek's work and a marvel of patterned wood.) Rufus Brewer's house near Crutchfield's Crossroads (CH 415), built for him in 1912, reportedly by an unknown architect, shows a more academic approach in its rectangular plan, regular five-bay facade enhanced by a broad porch with second floor central tier and wide trabeated entrances at both levels, and unusual 8/2 sashes. Brewer, a postal carrier and sometime farmer, was another atypical individual who clearly wanted the finest.

At about the same time, a number of town and country houses began to show the transition to the Colonial Revival style. Built by those of middle income, both black and white, these houses were typically one to two-story blocklike structures topped by hip roofs and framed by porches with square-in-section posts, and were rather angular in comparison with the ornate Queen Anne styles. The ca. 1910 to 1915 one-story James Wicker, Sr. House in Goldston (CH 516) follows this form but retains fanciful Queen Anne details such as roof crockets, small gables and turned porch posts; the interior has features of both styles including a handsome spindle screen in its central hall. Other one-story houses also had four-room floor plans, but plainer exteriors and heavier appointments. Capping the Colonial Revival, and showing elements of the Classical Revival, the 1916 two-and-a-half-story Matthews-Wren House in Siler City (CH 478) is one of Chatham County's finest residences. The dominant feature of this double-pile structure is its two-story entrance portico, supported by four massive Ionic wooden columns, which is topped by a balustrade like that on the main roof of the house and shelters a glassed-in second floor porch resting on the hip roof of the main wraparound porch. Three-sided bay windows, 12/1 sashes, and various rear additions enliven the otherwise square form, which appears to be plainer on its interior than its exterior.



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Country folk and city folk during the 1920s who lived on a modest-to-comfortable scale found that the bungalow style then emanating from California offered a good house plan for their needs. An interpretation of English colonial houses in India popularized by California architects, the bungalow plan featured ". . . simple horizontal lines, wide projecting roofs, numerous windows, and one or two large porches, and the woodwork of the plainest kind."<sup>49</sup> In Chatham County, as throughout the piedmont, these houses came to be one or one-and-a-half-story structures with multiple-gable front roofs and deep porches supported by thick tapered posts. The more stylish of these structures were brick and usually found in or near Siler City or Pittsboro, while rural bungalows tended to be frame dwellings which often were simple one-story gable-front houses with bungalow porch posts, or larger (or older) structures fitted with some features of the style. Again, both blacks and whites chose these bungalow plans which were not difficult to construct and offered a freer flow of interior space than did the older dwelling types. The 1921 John Daniel Willetts House in Gulf Township (CH 374) with its straightforward one-story form and transitional Queen Anne details is a good rural example of the adaptations possible with this style. On US 15-501, the "Sete" Smith House with its complementary gas station (CH 303) is a one-and-a-half-story bungalow with German siding, port-cochere, and clipped gables with matching dormers reminiscent of the Colonial Revival. The bungalow style, or variations upon it, only really went out of fashion when replaced by the ranch houses of the post World War II era.

Commercial architecture showed a great blossoming of styles, many borrowed from domestic designs. By the early part of the century, brick had become the preferred material for stores and these structures often had high fronts, stepped sides, and corbel courses on their facades which hinted at the commercial Queen Anne style. In downtown Siler City, the 1908 Hotel Hadley (MRN, CH 493) displays a mix of Victorian and Italianate appointments, but the Queen Anne porch on the second floor with its arched spindle gallery is the focal point of the white painted exterior. Pressed tin became popular, and was chiefly used for coffered ceilings, but the Siler City Mills (CH 499) and the green colored Lisk Grocery in Merry Oaks used it to good effect on their structures' exteriors. Gas stations in the county quickly reflected architectural trends as they rose and fell, in part because they were inherently part of the most "modern" aspect of the 1920s and 1930s, and in part because no standard model for such structures yet existed. Some frame gasoline or filling stations of the country store variety still stand in rural spots, but others were built of either brick or concrete in bungalow to Mission styles.

Farmers during this era also showed a good deal of inventiveness in making a living following changing agricultural practices, and a few particularly complete farm complexes, built in stages during the twentieth century, reflect this fact. The Richard Johnson Farm in Hadley Township (CH 410) and the Poindexter Ferrell Farm in Williams Township (CH 259) each comprise about fifteen structures laid out in a long stretch on either side of an isolated county road. The industrious Ferrell and his sons built up their tobacco farm from 1901 to 1928, constructing and utilizing tobacco barns, sawmill and planing mill, blacksmith shop, "engine house" for machine repairs, a large frame

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barn, "lighthouse" with its own generator, and tenant house as well as the main dwelling. Johnson's ca. 1917 farm, on which he grew cotton and tobacco and ran a sawmill in winter, underwent similar developments culminating in the poultry business, complete with many chicken houses, of an inheriting relative.

Mill village architecture in the county's two textile mills showed a continuing conservatism in the approach to housing for mill workers. Beginning after Carney and Luther Bynum built their mill in 1872, a small village of fourteen houses was started on the hill just north of their mill. After the mill became the property of J. M. Odell in 1886, more houses were added for a total of about forty-three by the mid-twentieth century. In 1917 a new brick mill was built where the old had burned, and when in 1922 electricity came a new shift was added and fifteen more mill houses were built. The last addition to the village on "mill hill" was probably about 1928 when the mill was expanded. The earliest houses, closest to the mill, are one-and-a-half-story, hall-parlor dwellings. Most remaining structures are gable-roofed, one story in height, and have two main rooms plus an ell; their three and four-bay facades were sometimes given a modest triple-A appearance. These houses were laid out according to traditional hall-parlor, central-hall, and central-chimney plans which were well outdated by the time the structures were built. At the Hadley-Peoples' mill in Siler City, begun in 1895, the situation is very similar. Fifty-three mill houses had been constructed by 1944, of which thirty-six were four-room, L-plan houses, five had just three rooms, and the others had five and six rooms. Apparently there was just one seven-room house and two two-story dwellings,<sup>50</sup> the latter probably supervisors' homes as was the case in Bynum (CH 506). Such standardized structures minimized construction costs and time for the mill owners, since materials could be ordered in bulk and the houses could be built as units.<sup>51</sup> In Chatham County the more elaborate designs of mill village architect D. A. Tompkins had no influence, as it was clear that cheaply and quickly constructed structures using local forms were considered to be good enough for textile mill workers.

The county's churches were still predominantly Gothic Revival structures at the beginning of the twentieth century, and the style remained generally popular until a modern version of the Colonial Revival began to predominate. A comparison between the white frame Lystra Baptist Church built in 1901 (CH 231) and its companion black Mt. Zion Baptist Church constructed between 1910-1920 (CH 232) is interesting. Each is a gable front church with Gothic motifs, flanked on both sides by a two-stage tower, but Mt. Zion Church was given an exuberant brick veneer by brickmasons who were church members. This structure stands in contrast to the remarkably vernacular log Palmer's Chapel Unity Holiness Church (CH 461) presumably also constructed by its black members, who in 1927 used notched logs for the simple rectangular structure with a projecting bay at the chancel. A third contrast is formed by the fine First Baptist Church in Siler City (CH 502), built between 1928-1930 in a heavy Romanesque style made popular by architect Henry Hobson Richardson before the turn of the century. With its imposing size and gable front adorned with decorative brickwork, a large rose window and three-bay arcaded entrance, the church is easily the most ambitious in the county.

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A small group of civic structures were also influenced by nationally popular styles of the era. The public Paul Braxton School (CH 482) in Siler City is a three-story brick edifice designed by architect C. C. Wilson which is Moderne in its overall streamlined style but which seems to predate Art Deco with its decorative stucco bands clustered at the projecting entrance bay with its parapeted top. The 1939 City Hall (Siler City Municipal Building, CH 501), constructed by the Works Progress Administration shows, on the other hand, a civic conservatism in its Colonial Revival plan laid in courses of rusticated granite veneer.

After the Second World War, the fact that the modern machine age had arrived was evident in a small sample of county architecture that displayed smooth surfaces and sleek contours. Until its demolition in 1983, the Stop and Save gas station (CH 507) outside Siler City was a rare county example of the Moderne/International style with its low proportions balanced by a square tower, white brick surface enlivened with decorative red bands, and broad expanse of curing plate glass. In the late 1940s or early 1950s, three Lustron homes arrived in the county, two in Pittsboro and one in the small community of Bells. The small gable-roof dwellings with open interior plans ". . . owed some of their inspiration to Frank Lloyd Wright and much to the architectural professions' promotion of industrial design."<sup>52</sup> Formed on the exterior and interior of prefabricated interlocking porcelain-enameled steel panels, the houses were shipped from the Lustron plant in Columbus, Ohio and assembled on-site according to a standardized plan. These structures stand out in a landscape composed primarily of older traditional buildings and less dramatic recent architecture.

Over the nearly 200-year history of its built environment, Chatham County has lost a number of notable structures, but the interesting array of surviving buildings affords an understanding of the county's architectural development. This remaining architecture offers a valuable record of county history, and its preservation will provide a window onto the past as well as a unique "sense of place" for the future.

### C.2. Physical Relationships of Buildings

A generally low population density and many scattered farms have characterized Chatham County's rolling terrain during the 200-year history of its built environment. With a population density today of just 44 people per square mile, the largest town having under 5,000 residents, and few other smaller towns and crossroads communities, the county has a large amount of open space and many structures are visually separated from one another by heavily wooded areas.

In the first part of the nineteenth century, farms were settled near springs, waterways, and early transportation routes. Buildings used for domestic and agricultural purposes were clustered within a reasonable proximity to the main dwelling, and the growth of the farm complex was orderly although more organic than planned. Throughout the nineteenth and into the early part of the twentieth century, a network of small dirt lanes laced the county connecting farms to one another and to the very

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small crossroads communities which developed at larger intersections. With the coming of electricity and a better road system beginning in the late nineteenth century, farms were located with closer access to these roads; the farm lanes were then less used, and many older buildings are highly visible from Chatham County's many secondary roads, but a number of significant sites are set back from the main roads along meandering private lanes.

Unincorporated crossroads clusters developed in the nineteenth century either at simple intersections like Crutchfield Crossroads, or at the center of a juncture of five or six roads such as at Silk Hope or Harpers Crossroads. Basic services for residents in the surrounding rural areas were provided at these points. Commercial and a few civic structures operate today in a number of these communities which still are important gathering places for those nearby.

The late eighteenth century county seat of Pittsboro was laid out on a standard grid plan oriented around the central square which contained the courthouse. Here, structures were and are grouped close together, with most but not all of them oriented to the nearest street. Late-nineteenth century railroad towns like Bonlee, Goldston, and the more important Siler City, generally followed a gridwork scheme, minus the central square, and with the major axis formed by the road paralleling the railroad line with which other streets intersected. The central core containing the business district is closely packed in Siler City, but the smaller towns have shown a larger amount of open space and a freer interpretation of the gridwork scheme. Planned park space is found only in Siler City.

Twentieth century developments have brought about clustered residential areas in northern Chatham County, unprepossessing ranch houses set along many of the county roads, and at Siler City, suburban tracts and commercial strips--the latter located for the most part along US 64. Commercial developments along US 15-501 and around the newly-impounded Jordan Lake in eastern Chatham are still relatively slight, although more common than in the rest of the county and likely to become more prevalent with the growth of those areas. Large and relatively recent industrial plants are found along the railroad line between Moncure and Brickhaven, and a few scattered areas chiefly in the southern portion of the county. Still, the major characteristic of Chatham County is its predominantly rural and often unspoiled landscape.

C.3.

It is estimated that between 85 and 90 percent of the buildings in the county are used for residential and agricultural purposes, concomitant with Chatham's rural and agricultural base. The small percentage of remaining structures serve commercial, ecclesiastical, civic, and industrial functions. The 410 buildings included in the county inventory generally reflect this percentage of use.

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D. Archaeological Component

Archaeological properties were not included in the scope of the Multiple Resource Nomination. Artifacts in the form of shaped points have been found and reported in scattered areas of the county, supporting beliefs that Indians, probably members of the Siouan tribes known to be in this region hunted in the area. Prehistoric occupation is thought to have occurred along the New Hope and Haw Rivers and their tributaries. One of the most significant of these areas, known as the Haw River Site, was located on the Haw River east of Pittsboro and was thoroughly excavated by researchers both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as well as the North Carolina State Division of Archives and History prior to the areas impoundment by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Jordan Lake Dam; published reports are available.

E. Survey Methodology

In conjunction with the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section of the North Carolina State Division of Archives and History and the Chatham County Planning Department, a thirteen-month comprehensive architectural survey for the Multiple Resource Nomination was begun in July, 1982 by Rachel Osborn, folklorist and historic sites consultant. Approximately ten days were spent in each of the county's thirteen townships, as well as Siler City, with an emphasis placed on recording properties built prior to 1933. Using USGS and county road maps, 1,012 miles of county roads and all accessible farm lanes were inspected for possible sites with a total of 410 being recorded. Pittsboro and its one-mile planning radius were excluded. Photographs, interviews, and computerized forms provided by the state were used in documenting structures, and some of them were drawn to scale. In the recording process, priorities were established for rare or threatened buildings, as well as both outstanding and typical representatives of various types and usages; due to time constraints, repetitive house types were only identified on maps. Archaeological subsurface testing was not a component of the survey. Volunteer interns with the project were Frances Alexander, historian, and Nancy M. Griffin, former public school teacher and counselor.

In January, 1983, Ray Manieri, historic preservation consultant, was hired to complete seventeen individual nominations and two historic districts while Rachel Osborn researched and wrote the broad historical and architectural statements. Based on National Register criteria, selected properties illustrate important areas of the county's historic development and significant architectural styles, and include individual houses and one hotel, farm complexes, a small commercial district in Goldston, and a rural district in Mt. Vernon Springs. Other properties and districts with potential for nomination are listed in the North Carolina Survey and Planning Branch's study list.

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NOTES

1. Thomas Waterman makes this observation for colonial North Carolina, but it describes Chatham County up to a much later period. Frances B. Johnston and Thomas Tileston Waterman, The Early Architecture of North Carolina (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1947), p. 179.

2. Carl Lounsbury, "The Development of Domestic Architecture in the Albemarle Region," North Carolina Historical Review, Vol. VIV (January, 1977), p. 19, quotes a 1687 description of a Virginia farm complex which could well have pictured Chatham County's larger plantations and farms even through the nineteenth century. The Historical Review will hereinafter be cited as N.C.H.R..

3. Hackney's Mill on the Rocky River continued to grind grist and flour unto the 1940s.

4. Henry C. Mercer, Ancient Carpenters' Tools (New York: Horizon Press, fifth edition, 1975), p. 12; 168; 237; 259.

5. Fred Kniffen and Henry Glassie, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: a Time-Place Perspective," The Geographical Review, Vol LVI, No. 1 (January, 1966), p. 42.

6. Carl Lounsbury, Alamance County Architectural Heritage, (Graham, North Carolina: The Alamance County Historic Properties Commission, Alamance County Printing Department, 1980), pp. 46-47.

7. Francis Asbury in North Carolina (Volumes I and II of Clark Edition), with introductory notes by Grady L. Carroll (Nashville: Parthenon Press, [1964]), journal entry for July 24, 1780.

8. Carl Lounsbury, "The Development of Domestic Architecture in Albemarle Region," pp. 22-23, discusses the English preference for frame construction in the coastal areas of North Carolina.

9. Wade Hampton Hadley, Doris Goerch Horton and Nell Carig Strowd Chatham County 1771-1971 (Durham, North Carolina: Moore Publishing Co., 1976), p. 402, hereinafter cited as Hadley, Chatham County.

10. Frances B. Johnston and Thomas Tileston Waterman, The Early Architecture of North Carolina, p. 34.

11. John V. Allcott, Colonial Homes in North Carolina (Raleigh: Division of Cultural Resources, Department of Archives and History, 1975 reprint of 1963 edition), p. 52.

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12. Fred Kniffen and Henry Glassie, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: a Time-Place Perspective," p. 48.

13. Ibid., pp. 54-59.

14. Peter R. Kaplan, The Historic Architecture of Cabarrus County North Carolina (Charlotte, North Carolina: Historic Cabarrus, Inc.; Craftsman Printing Co., 1981), p. 6.

15. Carole Rifkind, A Field Guide to American Architecture (New York: A Plume Book, New American Library; Times Mirror, 1980), p. 18.

16. A tilted false plate is one in which the rafters fit into a diagonally-set plate which is placed exterior to the ceiling plate. Cf. Dru Gatewood Haley and Raymond A. Winslow, The Historic Architecture of Perquimans County, North Carolina (the Town of Hertford; Elizabeth City, North Carolina: Precision Printing, 1982), pp. 16-17 further describes this detail.

17. Survey and Planning Branch, "National Register Nomination for Ebenezer Log Church," unpublished. Raleigh: Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1974. Nominations hereinafter cited by author, title and date only.

18. Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, fifth printing 1979), p. 86 describes the Continental and Pennsylvania antecedents for a similar kind of small two-level structure ". . . found irregularly throughout the Southern Appalachian area, which is built into a bank with a masonry lower level and an upper level of wood."

19. Fred Kniffen and Henry Glassie, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: a Time-Place Perspective," p. 57, describe this as the joint used most commonly in Sweden, and in the United States found chiefly in the Upper Lakes States.

20. Carl Lounsbury, "The Development of Domestic Architecture in the Albemarle Region," p. 25.

21. Ibid., p. 18.

22. Eliza Robertson, "National Register Nomination for Joseph B. Stone House," 1982.

23. Inventory form for Alston-Dark House (CH 386); Catherine W. Cockshutt and John Baxton Flowers, III, "National Register Nomination

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for Alston-DeGraffenreid House," unpublished, 1974; Charlotte Brown and Jim Sumner, "National Register Nomination for Aspen Hall," unpublished, 1982.

24. "National Register Nomination for Aspen Hall."

25. "National Register Nomination for Alston-DeGraffenreid House."

26. For more information, see the Alston-Dark House (CH-386) inventory file; also Joseph A Groves, The Alstons and Allstons of North Carolina and South Carolina (Atlanta: Franklin Printing and Publishing Company, 1901), p. 177.

27. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Pittsboro National Register Multiple Resource Nomination," unpublished, 1982, Item 7, p. 2, hereinafter cited as "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination."

28. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," Item 7, p. 2.

29. Lawrence Wodehouse, "Architecture in North Carolina, 1700-1900," Part II, North Carolina Architect reprint from Vol. 16, Nos. 11 & 12 and Vol. 17, Nos. 1 & 2 (November December 1969-January February 1970), p. 14. He is probably quoting an unnamed source, since the term "mechanic" appears in quotation marks in his text.

30. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 422.

31. Raleigh Register, April, 1801, as quoted in a handwritten copy in Ruth Selden-Sturgill's files for "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," located in the Survey and Planning Branch.

32. This house, which appears eligible for National Register listing, was not nominated at this time because it was discovered too late in the inventory process to include in the Multiple Resource Nomination.

33. Carl Lounsbury, "The Development of Domestic Architecture in the Albemarle region," p. 26, discusses the eighteenth century and tidewater antecedents for the raised basement. In the same area of the county, the late 1840s Pierson House (CH-230) and the ca. 1870s Williams-Wade House (CH-305) both had cooking fireplaces in their full basements, indicating that this may have been a more prevalent feature in north-central Chatham than in other areas of the county.

34. Carl Lounsbury, Alamance County Architectural Heritage, pp. 31-32.



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35. A good description of the development of the Quaker plan in the piedmont is provided by Thomas Tileston Waterman in The Early Architecture of North Carolina, q.v. Quakers in and around Snow Camp in Alamance County, the point of Quaker dissemination in western Chatham County, may well have brought this form with them from Pennsylvania, although the earliest known Quaker plan houses there post-date the Bowen-Jordan House by twenty to thirty years.

36. A documentary photograph of the late-eighteenth century George Lucas house, a two-story five-bay Georgian/Federal structure now destroyed, shows similar paired single-shoulder end chimneys made of what appears to be brick.

37. The National Register form for the William Marcom House has been completed, but is not being submitted at this time due to owner objections to nomination.

38. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 59, and photograph in section following p. 168.

39. Wyatt G. Jordan to Jonathan Worth, December 13, 1862, as cited in Hadley, Chatham County p. 140.

40. Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780; a Guide to the Styles (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press), 1969, p. 56.

41. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," Item 7, pp. 6-10.

42. Author's interview with Annie Bell Dark, granddaughter of Bob Milliken, May 27, 1983. Interestingly, this rebuilt structure is now known as a "slave cabin," although as Ms. Dark correctly points out it is not.

43. Laura Scism, "Carolina Tobacco Barns: History and Function," in Carolina Dwelling: Towards Preservation of Place: In Celebration of the North Carolina Vernacular Landscape, ed. Doug Swaim (Raleigh: North Carolina State University School of Design, 1978), p. 121.

44. Ruth Selden Sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination" Item 7, p. 4. discusses the origins and dissemination of this trend from the designs of Asher Benjamin to the works of architectural firm Town and Davis which designed the State Capitol in Raleigh.

45. Carl Lounsbury, Alamance County Architectural Heritage, pp. 49-50, describes the 1880's textile mills in Alamance County as ". . . two or three-story brick buildings . . . [with] . . . stair tower, decorative corbelled cornice, and large arched windows." A photograph of the brick Sidney Mill on p. 50 is very similar to the Bynum Mill.

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46. The Millers' Review: Devoted to Milling, Millwrighting and Mill Furnish[ings?], Vol XIV, No. 2, March 15, 1895. Xerox of partially-torn periodical made available to the author by Paul Barringer of Sanford, N. C., grandson of John Barringer. Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

47. For example, in north-central Chatham, board-and-batten siding commonly appears on small vernacular structures; further to the east, all -stone rather than stone and brick chimneys seem to be preferred; in the area around Haywood are some very nice coursed sandstone chimneys, at least some of which are the work of black stonemason Allen Atkins of Haywood.

48. Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780: a Guide to the Styles, p. 117; Dru Gatewood Haley and Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., The Historic Architecture of Perquimans County, North Carolina, p. 64.

49. "What Is a Bungalow:", Arts and Decoration Vol. I, No. 12 (October, 1911), p. 487, as cited in Clay Lancaster, "The American Bungalow," Art Bulletin (September, 1958), p. 240.

50. Plat map of Hadley-Peoples' Manufacturing Corp., September, 1944, Plat Book 1, pp. 87-88 in Office of the Register of Deeds, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro.

51. Carl Lounsbury, Alamance County Architectural Heritage, pp. 50-51.

52. Ruth Seldon-Sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," Item 7, p. 12.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates      ca. 1790-1933      Builder/Architect      See essay and individual entries

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Established in 1771, Chatham County is a large, sparsely populated central piedmont North Carolina county characterized by a generally conservative, often vernacular, building tradition maintained throughout the 200-year history of its built environment. Major features on the landscape today are small-to-medium sized farms, three small towns, and a number of scattered villages and tiny crossroads communities. In the early antebellum period, the county was settled by a large yeoman farmer class and a smaller group of wealthy planters and entrepreneurs including the Alston family, George Lucas, Nathan Ramsey, and John Wilcox of Revolutionary War iron-making fame; milling, mining and transportation enterprises along the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers were important adjuncts to agricultural pursuits. Buildings remaining from this period often show fine craftsmanship and range from traditional log structures to vernacular Georgian and Federal frame buildings. The county seat of Pittsboro was the major commercial center well into the nineteenth century (see Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination). In the prosperous era from the 1830s to the eve of the Civil War, the county experienced agrarian growth and the beginning of optimistic development schemes. Men like the Haughtons, Peter Evans, and Brooks Harris involved themselves in the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company, and the building of plank roads in southwestern Chatham--chief among these the Graham and Gulf Plank Road--when promised greater access to larger markets for the back-country area. Local interpretations of the nationally popular Greek Revival style are seen in the structures of builders such as Martin Hanks, Dabney Cosby, and other unknown but skilled craftsmen. Important late-nineteenth century developments included the 1872 founding of the Bynum (later J. M. Odell) Manufacturing Company, a textile concern, and the 1884 opening of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad in southwest Chatham which brought about the development of towns like Siler City and Goldston. A building boom occurred, and vernacular Gothic Revival styles, inspired by the works of Davis and Downing, became the common idiom for farm houses; Victorian styles including Italianate and Queen Anne were popular in commercial structures and the developing towns. In the twentieth century, individuals who were lumbermen, builders, and/or businessmen such as Isaac and John Dunlap, J. C. Gregson, and Bennett Nooe were very influential in the development of these small towns. A small number of active architects included C. C. Wilson and W. H. Tippet, designers for the Paul Braxton School, and Gregson-Hadley House, respectively, in Siler City. Twentieth century architectural trends are reflected in a large number of bungalow-style structures, and a smaller number illustrating Colonial Revival, Mission, and Moderne styles, the latter two most often associated with commercial architecture. Having evolved but slowly over the years, Chatham County today typifies the development of an agrarian county in the upland south of North Carolina.

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Criteria Assessment

- A. The development of Chatham County is associated with several broad patterns. Its settlement in the eighteenth century and growth in the nineteenth reflect the trend of westward-moving development which established the state and nation; the county's formation in 1771 signalled the more permanent settlement of the North Carolina piedmont. Chatham's growth throughout the nineteenth century rested upon an agricultural economy which reached a peak of prosperity in the antebellum period; small but important commercial and manufacturing concerns, as well as developing transportation routes and outlets, also spurred growth as they occurred. The late-nineteenth century opening of the railroads was pivotal in the development of small towns in Chatham County and throughout the state. The county's architecture today reflects a slowly-changing way of life revolving around agricultural pursuits, a small number of businesses and industries, and the concerns of its town and village communities.
- B. Chatham County's history is associated with the lives of a number of local and statewide leaders prominent in the fields of agriculture, manufacturing, business, transportation, education, building, and religion; see individual entries and within.
- C. Chatham County's architecture illustrates a range of building styles, types, and techniques from the late-eighteenth through the first third of the twentieth century. It includes nineteenth century farmhouses which show a progression of styles from the unadorned traditional, to vernacular Federal, Greek Revival, and Gothic Revival modes, including a notable Quaker-plan structure; two simple Gothic Revival churches; and two significant Queen Anne buildings in Siler City, a house and a hotel.

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HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY

The history of Chatham County from the mid-eighteenth century through the first third of the twentieth century can be divided into three major periods of growth and expansion. The first period from the 1740s through mid-1830s was characterized by uneven spurts of settlement and development as a large body of yeoman farmers and a smaller class of elite planters migrated to and, in a number of instances, through the region. Industrial concerns, mainly milling operations located chiefly along the Deep River, rose and fell; commerce was established and the first small towns and settlements grew up at important junctions. The next period, from the mid-1830s through the 1870s, opened with an increase in agrarian prosperity and stability, improved economic and social conditions, and numerous efforts to better the county's transportation systems. Trends of out-migration continued, however, and the Civil War was a serious setback.<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, its aftermath saw a positive redirection of agricultural pursuits and the establishment of manufacturing in the county with the founding of the textile company in Bynum in 1872. In 1880, the county's final population boom ushered in the third period, which came to a close in the 1930s. The extension of railroads into the county had a significant impact, particularly in the southern and western section, where by 1915 a number of manufacturing concerns and seven towns, ranging in size from the tiny Corinth to the more substantial Siler City, were established in its wake. A solid agrarian base supported farmers as well as many of the county's manufacturing concerns, and the opportunities of both were enhanced by the expansion of an improved road network in the 1920s. Continuing agrarian decline accompanied these successful capitalist ventures, however, and the Great Depression put a damper on all modes of livelihood in Chatham. The lure of work and life in more urban areas outside the county led to the depopulation of its rural and small-town areas, a trend which has continued until very recently. The era of the 1930s brought the Work Projects Administration, which initiated a modest growth in businesses and homes in Siler City and in Pittsboro as well as certain portions of the countryside. Thus began a movement toward economic recovery for the county.

Settlement and Growth: 1740s to mid 1830s

Established in 1771 from the south-central portion of Orange County, Chatham County had been populated by members of the Siouan Indian family before the period of white settlement began in the 1740s.<sup>2</sup>

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The Occaneechie, Saponi and Keyauwee tribes were grouped around an intersection of trading paths through the region. Like the whites who followed them, these Indians settled along the many watercourses which flowed through the area. By 1752, the Moravian Bishop Spangenberg noted that many tribes had already left the piedmont, and today only scattered arrowheads, archaeological sites and legends recall the former presence of these Indians in the Chatham County area.<sup>3</sup>

By 1746, the eastern portion of what is now Chatham County was part of the Granville District, and by 1774 the western boundaries of the district had been extended so that all of Chatham was included in it. Early accounts of the areas at Chatham's northwest and southern borders indicate that hunters seeking the then-plentiful buffalo and deer traveled great distances for game, and brought back accounts which encouraged the first wave of permanent settlers. The availability of land was an important inducement as well. Although some came by different routes, there were two chief points of entry for the English, Scotch-Irish, German and Scotch Highlanders who began to flood the area in the mid-eighteenth century. Some settlers of English stock, and the later-arriving Highland Scots, navigated up the Cape Fear River initially from the port of Wilmington, and later from Cross Creek (the present Fayetteville). By the 1740s initial settlements had been made along the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers along the southern and eastern portions of the county. From there the settlers fanned out to the northern and western sections of the county. At the same time, an influx of Scotch-Irish, Germans, and Quakers (chiefly of English background) from Pennsylvania reached northwestern Chatham via the "Great Valley of Virginia." While the Quakers and the Germans tended to remain clustered in the northwest corner of Chatham, others moved southeastward in settling the rest of the county. The rich bottom lands along the creeks and rivers--chiefly the Cane Creek; Deep, Rocky, Cape Fear, Haw and New Hope Rivers--were the favored sites, and grants of 500 acres or more were not uncommon.<sup>5</sup> By 1760 settlers could be found over much of the area.

At this time distinctions between the various British Isles and Germanic building traditions were somewhat muted, in part due to the amalgamations which had already taken place between the Pennsylvania groups, and in part due to close contracts between the settlers shortly after their arrival.<sup>6</sup> Nevertheless, certain ethnic preferences did exist, some of which are still visible on the landscape. The first dwelling of the yeoman farmer in Chatham, as elsewhere in the back country, was ". . .<sup>7</sup> a one- or two-room cabin, sometimes with a loft and a 'lean-to.'" These one- or one-and-a-half story structures, typically constructed of hewn logs and served by single massive end chimneys persisted as a common form throughout the county well into

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the nineteenth century. While all groups made use of the abundant rock to build chimneys and, later, to line wells, stone was used more extensively by those who had had contact with German building traditions. When the Pennsylvania Quaker Simon Dixon returned to the Cane Creek area in 1751, after an initial visit in 1749, "he bought a large tract of land, built a stone house and mill, the first grist mill on Cane Creek."<sup>8</sup> About fifteen miles to the south, an outgrowth of the Cane Creek community reportedly had a meetinghouse and "a considerable number of Quaker homes...each with a walled spring and spring house."<sup>9</sup> Beyond the pioneer stage, Quaker houses were likely to follow the Continental or "Quaker" plan advocated by William Penn, and meetinghouses constructed in a simple bicameral style to separate men and women. The English who had arrived from the coastal areas exhibited a preference for planked log or frame dwellings over hewn log structures, and often constructed their houses in the one-room or hall-parlor plans. In 1755,<sup>10</sup> after navigating the Cape Fear River from Cross Creek to Gulf by canoe, John Brooks and his family constructed a one-and-a-half story gambrel -roof ". . . framed weatherboard and ceiled structure with glass window panes and paneled doors."<sup>11</sup> Believed to have contained the first glass windows in the county, it was destroyed in about 1940. On the south side of Deep River, Phillip Alston's house was described as offering ". . . no other security but the thin Shell of a frame House Two Story High."<sup>12</sup> Well-crafted brick chimneys were constructed for the finer of these frame buildings.

Throughout this period of settlement, transportation by any mode other than waterway was an arduous process, and the first substantial settlements were formed along the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers. In 1758 Richard Braswell established the county's first ferry, which crossed the Cape Fear River in the southeastern corner of the county.<sup>13</sup> By 1766 there were three other ferries with one crossing the Haw River to accommodate east-west traffic. In 1774 this road was extended west to virtually bisect the county, and ". . . the several Ordinary Keepers in this County . . ." attended the ferries.<sup>14</sup> By 1768 a road traveling through Chatham extended from Hillsborough to Cross Creek. Nevertheless, throughout the eighteenth and well into the nineteenth century the roads continued to be notoriously poor and few.

Certain itinerant ministers, along with large numbers of settlers, remained undaunted when facing the difficulties of travel. The Separatist Baptist minister Shubal Stearns, who founded the Sandy Creek Baptist Association in what is now Guilford County in 1758, had ushered the movement into Chatham County by 1765 when he held a six-day meeting attended by seven hundred people at the Haw River Church near the present town of Bynum.<sup>15</sup> Four years later, this church was described as ". . . a house of 32 feet by 24, built in 1769, on vacant land. . ." and had four constituent churches at Deep River, Rocky River, Tick

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Creek and Collin's Mount further up the Haw River. There were somewhat less than three hundred families attending.<sup>16</sup> Thus began what is now the largest denomination in Chatham County, with thirty-two churches scattered primarily to the south and the west of the Haw River.

It was about this time that serious sectional differences between the back country people of the western counties and the planter aristocracy of the east began to be felt. By 1768 the discontent of the westerners had culminated in the Regulator movement, led by Orange resident Herman Husband who lived near Snow Camp on the Cane Creek and owned a 1300-acre tract of land south of the present Siler City.<sup>17</sup> In 1770, the Colonial Assembly considered the establishment of Chatham County, ostensibly to reduce travel difficulties for public officials but possibly also to quell the Regulator activities. Chatham became a county in 1771 just before the War of the Regulation ended in defeat, when Husband and other leaders fled the state. Perhaps in part as an appeasement effort, the county was named for the first Earl of Chatham, who defended American rights in the British Parliament.

In a moderately wide swath of land on either side of the Deep River west of its confluence with the Haw River lay some of Chatham County's most fertile farmland and its only source of mineral and ore deposits. Here, some of the county's first large plantations and prosperous settlements developed, and early industrial enterprises were conducted. In the 1750s, an entrepreneurial Irishman, Connor O'Dowd, settled on the Deep River in the present area of Carbondon and acquired 500 acres of land through his wife. This became the "...nucleus of the fortune he amassed with grist, bolting and saw mills, a tanyard, distillery, store and lands extending from Gulf to Carbondon."<sup>18</sup> His success was unusual and early. When, as a Tory supporter, he left the country after<sup>19</sup> the Revolution, he valued his lost estate at 13,500 pounds sterling.

Until well into the nineteenth century, agriculture was the initial, but by no means the only, pursuit of the wealthy planter class which developed along the Deep River. Despite crude implements and wasteful land management practices, the natural fertility of the soil and the labor of slaves combined to make planters prosperous.<sup>20</sup> Corn and wheat were the principal crops, although cotton and tobacco may have been grown in lesser amounts.<sup>21</sup> By the Revolution, Colonel Ambrose Ramsey, an important local figure as well as member of the Provincial Congress, was operating a four-story frame grist mill on the Deep River just above its confluence with the Haw. His home, which was used as a tavern, and the mill (both now destroyed) attained significance in 1781 when



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General Cornwallis camped there on his retreat from the battle of Guilford Courthouse.<sup>22</sup> Ramsey's brother Matthew operated another mill on the Rocky River, which remained an important site until the late 1800s.

In 1792, Ambrose Ramsey and others became involved in one of the first schemes to "...render safe and easy the navigation of Cape-Fear River from the town of Fayetteville up to the confluens of Haw and Deep Rivers..."<sup>23</sup> Although this early effort came to naught, numerous later attempts were made to improve river transport to Chatham's trading centers at Fayetteville and Wilmington. This concern was certainly felt by planter George Lucas, who by 1790 had sixty-eight slaves and was the largest slaveholder in Chatham County.<sup>24</sup> In 1800, he made an experimental trip in a boat down the Cape Fear to Wilmington, carrying "...about 200 bushels of corn, which is about 10,000 weight,"<sup>25</sup> and returning with various supplies not available in the back country. By 1810, an observer noted "There is no serious obstacle to [the Deep River] being rendered navigable but the falls above Ramseys Mills ...where a considerable canal is already cut through most of the falls-."<sup>26</sup>

The planters also interested themselves in the mineral deposits of this area, where "by the end of 1770 two furnaces were in operation on branches of the Deep River in Orange County..."<sup>27</sup> These may have been run by Pennsylvania emigrant John Wilcox, who in 1776 contracted with the Provincial Congress to produce iron munitions for the Revolution. He utilized the coal, iron ore and limestone resources of the area to operate his bloomery and forge on the Deep River near the present town of Gulf and to set up a furnace near his rich iron mine on Tick Creek, ten miles northwest. Although the quality of the castings was good, for a variety of reasons Wilcox's enterprise did not prosper; in 1780 the operations had shut down, and by 1811 "The Works at both places are now gone to ruin..."<sup>28</sup> Wilcox's efforts to exploit the resources of the area were the first of a number of such attempts<sup>29</sup> which persisted through the first third of the twentieth century. The 1811 observer of these conditions also noted that

In addition to these Mines a Bed of Paint resembling Spanish Brown has lately been discovered on the N<sup>o</sup>. Side of Deep River .....One house in the neighbourhood has been painted with it & looks very well considering how little pains was used in preparing the Paint.<sup>30</sup>

The late eighteenth century saw the development of the towns of Haywood at the forks of the Deep and Haw Rivers, and Pittsboro, the

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county seat, about seven miles northwest.<sup>31</sup> Incorporated in 1787, Pittsboro's layout followed the Lancaster central-square plan. An 1800 map of Haywood shows that it, too, was to be laid out according to this plan, with a public academy occupying the central spot and numbered lots surrounding it.<sup>32</sup> Early hopes that this riverside location would be the site for the state capital and then for the state university were dashed before the community was incorporated. Nevertheless, as a commercial center and river stop, Haywood prospered until the 1870s. Early roads connected it to the western portion of the county; in 1818 the well-respected Haywood Academy was begun; and in the 1850s steamboats reached the town and a plank road connected it with Pittsboro.<sup>33</sup> It was here that distinguished black educator Simon Green Atkins was born in 1863. Further to the southwest on the Deep River, a small community known as "the Gulph" (later Gulf) developed, but did not reach its peak until midway through the nineteenth century.

Throughout this period, Pittsboro grew to be the social, cultural and political center of the county. Known for its healthful climes, the area attracted summer residents and upperclass planters from the malaria-ridden coasts around New Bern and Wilmington. The availability of cheap and fertile land encouraged settlement by these groups as well as the larger class of yeoman farmers. In addition, the growing road network in central Chatham hastened the development of that territory. By the early nineteenth century, the sole east-west road crossed the county completely, and slightly later it became the stage line which twice weekly connected Pittsboro with Raleigh<sup>34</sup> and Salisbury, in turn fostering a few small crossroads settlements. The current US 64 follows the route of this former stage line.

It was along this road that members of the Alston family, important Halifax County planters who began to acquire large landholdings in Chatham in the 1770s, settled in the early 1790s, and built stylish plantation houses. Three of these sophisticated structures, built at various times between 1790 and 1840, stand on US 64 between Pittsboro and Siler City, in what was once part of the sizable Alston territory. Between 1790 and 1800, Joseph John Alston (known as "Chatham Jack" and "40-mile Jack") acquired or built the initial two-story Georgian section of what became Aspen Hall (N.R.) about five miles west of Pittsboro. At this time there were slightly over twelve hundred families in Chatham, of whom 25 percent owned slaves.<sup>35</sup> "In an area dominated by small farms Alston owned a plantation that in size and scope rivaled the larger of those more commonly located in the eastern part of the state."<sup>36</sup> By 1800 Chatham Jack had eighteen slaves, and by 1810 he was one of the largest slave-owners in the county, with 168 slaves; by

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1815 he owned just over 2,000 acres.<sup>37</sup> By 1822, Chatham Jack had constructed a more ambitious Georgian/Federal style plantation house for his son, John Jones Alston, on land about two miles east. Now known as the Alston-DeGraffenreid House (N.R.), this is a two-story double-pile high-hip roof structure, ". . . a vernacular local version of a rather sophisticated and ambitious house-type" and one of the finest of its era still standing in Chatham County.<sup>38</sup> It was about this time that another fine Federal two-story dwelling was constructed for Chatham Jack's second-youngest son Philip, more than five miles west of the original plantation (Alston-Dark House, CH 386). Chatham Jack's descendants intermarried with other prominent planter families, chiefly in southern Chatham and along the Deep River; a number of these remain prominent to this day. In the area of the Alston plantations, the descendants of his slaves are responsible for a large black community, the chief feature of which is the Alston Chapel Holiness Church.<sup>39</sup>

Although the yeoman farmers of the area tended to own larger acreages than many of their counterparts elsewhere in the state, the quality of their lives and the scale of their buildings were on a much different level than that of the planter class.<sup>40</sup> In 1780, Francis Asbury, pivotal figure in the early Methodist Church, made the first of his visits to Chatham County, and noted: "I crossed Rocky River about ten miles from Haw River. . . . I can see little else but cabins in these parts built with poles: and such as country as no man ever saw for a carriage."<sup>41</sup> It is likely that his stay at "brother Merritt's" in northeast Chatham was in a simple one-room log cabin.<sup>42</sup> By 1800 Asbury's efforts had encouraged the founding of at least two chapels in the county. About five miles to the south of Merritt's Chapel the Ebenezer Church congregation developed slightly later in the nineteenth century. It met in a log structure (former N.R.) which was typical of many in that territory except for its unusual wooden chimney. Apparently a hold-over from medieval European wooden chimney types and unique in Chatham County, it was constructed of a squared-log base and lathed stick stack.<sup>43</sup> (It became the property of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the early 1970s upon the impoundment of the Jordan Lake in east-central Chatham, and subsequently collapsed.) Not far away, the earliest house on the Beckwith-Goodwin Farm Complex (MRN, CH 214), was a one-room dwelling served by a massive stone chimney atypically large compared to most found on other log, plank and frame structures of this period. The agriculturalists who constructed these simple dwellings across the county practiced diversified farming, as did the planters, but much closer to a subsistence level and only rarely with the benefit of slave labor.<sup>44</sup>

By the opening of the nineteenth century, Chatham County had experienced a period of striking growth, particularly in the decade

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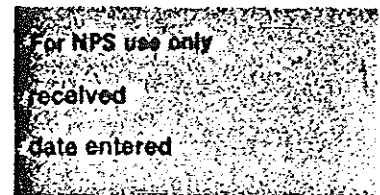
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between 1790 and 1800. The federal census of 1800 reveals that, in that period, the general population had expanded by 28 percent, the number of slaves had grown by 65 percent, and the number of free blacks had increased from nine to 102.<sup>45</sup> A continued tide of emigration flowed from east to west in North Carolina, spurred on by the post-Revolutionary availability of fertile land and laws favorable to its development.<sup>46</sup> Additionally, the 1792 invention of the cotton gin encouraged the acquisition of slaves by cotton-producing planters, and a high birth rate affected all classes in North Carolina. For twenty years after 1800, however, the county experienced decline and emigration, paralleling the lack of development in North Carolina generally in this time when it was known as the "Rip Van Winkle" state. Important factors for this decline, in Chatham as elsewhere, were the restricting policies of one-party domination of government; a continued lack of internal improvements; soil exhaustion brought on by uneducated agricultural practices; more profitable farming opportunities in the West and, for the anti-slavery Quakers, the lure of the "free states" north of the Ohio River.<sup>47</sup> The younger yeoman farmers rather than members of the better established planter classes were most likely to leave.

Although development in Chatham lagged during this period, certain trends were evident in rural and village life. Farmsteads continued to be settled in the northern and central portions of the county, particularly along the Rocky, Haw and New Hope rivers. By the early 1800s Luke Bynum and his sons farmed much of the land at the junction of Pokeberry Creek and Haw River,<sup>48</sup> forming the nucleus of a community that was later to bear their name. Further up the river, Baldwin's Mill had been established to grind corn and flour on Terrell's Creek. Perhaps the earliest pottery in the county was begun in the northwest corner by Palatine Jacob Fox (1775-1851): it was operated through the 1880s by his son and grandson and employed various apprentices from that area throughout the period.<sup>49</sup> About four miles east of the pottery, along the main east-west route, John Siler built an imposing two-story Georgian/Federal plantation house complete with front and rear shed porches, double-shouldered brick chimney, modillioned cornice, and reportedly, the second set of glass windows in the county. Perhaps constructed with the European half-timbered technique, Siler's house stood until about 1938 in the middle of Siler City.<sup>50</sup> East of the Rocky River, at one of Chatham's three major crossroads, Patrick St. Lawrence operated an ordinary for a few years before his 1787 move to Pittsboro, where his ambitious house is now the oldest in town (Patrick St. Lawrence House, N.R.)<sup>51</sup> The rural intersection continued to bear his name until the 1870s.

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Principal crops continued to be corn, wheat, cotton, and lesser amounts of tobacco; large numbers of swine and smaller numbers of cattle and sheep were also raised. Farmers continued to amass land, often up to 500 acres. Although by 1810 the general population had grown only about 9 percent, the slave population had grown by 34 per-<sup>52</sup>cent, indicating the continued successful enterprise of the planters. In 1814, most of the cloth was woven at home on the county's 1,100 looms, and one fulling mill was in existence. Excess grain and fruit was turned to liquor in eighty distilleries, and Chatham boasted one rope-walk to accomodate the production of hemp.<sup>53</sup> Free blacks, whose numbers had risen dramatically since the 1790s, acquired rural property and town lots in Pittsboro.<sup>54</sup> During the War of 1812, Captain Johnston Blakely, who had been raised on an estate near the Haw River, became a national hero before his loss at sea. After the war there was a brief period of prosperity, but its effects were soon nullified by the 1819 Panic. By 1820, North Carolina had the lowest per capita wealth and income in the nation, and Chatham lost population, particularly among its free blacks.<sup>55</sup> Of those that were left, the census shows that four were employed in commerce, 135 in manufacture, and 3,407 in agriculture. At this time there were only three post offices in the county, including Pittsboro. Although depressed conditions prevailed in the state through the 1830s, improvements and a second wave of migration to Chatham began to occur in the mid-1820s. Easterners and those with mercantile interests again saw the attractions of this central piedmont county, with its bustling county seat, abundant lands and exploitable natural resources.

Beginning in about 1826, Chatham County experienced a wave of immigration which carried over well into the next decade. People from the east again turned to the west. Pittsboro, which attracted statewide attention for the excellence of its academy and local attention as a trading center, particularly during court week, had to be resurveyed in 1826, and a number of fine homes and churches was built thereafter. In that year, four post offices were added throughout the county and a total of twenty-two were in existence by 1837.<sup>56</sup> North Carolina experienced two "firsts" in the state during the late 1820s. One was the Lindley Nursery, which was established in 1826 along the Cane Creek and helped to improve the quality of orchards across the state by selling only tested fruit tree stocks.<sup>57</sup> In 1828, the first mass meeting to propose the building of a state-wide railroad was held at the home of William Albright in northern Chatham. Aware that internal improvements in the piedmont were not keeping pace either with its growing population or developments elsewhere in the nation, the 200 delegates to the meeting suggested that the railroad connect ". . . some seaport to the capital of the state, and then by a middle course to its western extremity . . . ." <sup>59</sup> That the North

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Carolina Railroad (completed in 1856) was built through Orange and Alamance Counties instead of Chatham was a decided setback to the development of the county.

It was during this period of expansion that two of the county's most interesting and intact rural Federal-era houses were constructed in the areas of southern and western Chatham. The most impressive and unusual of these two-story frame dwellings is the house located on the Bowen-Jordan Farm west of Mt. Vernon Springs (MRN, CH 426). Its exterior features typical Federal elements found throughout the county, such as gable roof with boxed cornice, well-constructed brick end chimneys, tall sashes and shed porches. The unusual element is its plan, a central-hall version of the three-room Quaker plan, which is the only one of its type located in a recent survey of the county. Its impressive size and high-quality craftsmanship indicate the wealth of the original, unknown owner and the richness of the available building tradition in this Quaker-influenced portion of the county. William Bowen, who acquired the house before 1830, prospered through various pursuits: farming his large landholding, running a nearby store, and operating a health resort a few miles away in what is now Mt. Vernon Springs.<sup>80</sup> The William Alston Rives House (MRN, CH 371), part of a plantation located on Bear Creek north of Gulf, is a vernacular hall-parlor dwelling with Georgian and Federal interior features constructed in a less-than-common two-story plan. The retarditaire style of Rives' home (which may have been completed in sections) is an indication of the conservatism of rural traditions in Chatham County at this time although Rives, who owned twenty-five slaves before the Civil War and was part of the county's wealthy planter class, found it an acceptable dwelling for his needs.<sup>81</sup>

By 1830, the county's population had increased by about 21 percent while the population in North Carolina had grown just 2 percent.<sup>82</sup> The census counted 15,405 inhabitants including a substantially increased number of slaves and free blacks over the 1820 census, indicating that in many instances stability, if not prosperity, had returned to Chatham.<sup>83</sup> At this time, more than half the state's population lived west of Raleigh, and the rising tide of western concerns for democratic rule and internal improvements versus the entrenched policies of the eastern aristocracy could no longer be quelled. In these sectional differences, which culminated in the 1835 convention to amend the Constitution, Chatham aligned itself thoroughly, but by no means unanimously, with the West. In the 1824 presidential election, for example, Chatham and its neighboring "Quaker counties" to the west had voted for Crawford over Jackson, in part, perhaps, because Crawford

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had the support of the plantation class, while Jackson did not have the support of the pacifist Quakers.<sup>64</sup> Some of these same differences surfaced in 1835, when Chatham voted to amend the Constitution by a majority of 566 to 200.<sup>65</sup> The new Constitution provided for more democratic representation and paved the way for a system of improvements, while at the same time it disenfranchised free blacks. While the first two factors helped to spur development in Chatham County prior to the Civil War, the latter provision may have encouraged more Quakers and free blacks to leave the county. At the same time, the opening of an era of national prosperity had a positive effect in Chatham as elsewhere.<sup>66</sup>

In this decade before the late 1830s, a sense of movement and growth was apparent in the rural areas of the county as well as in Pittsboro. In 1830, Peter Evans began to mine coal just south of the Deep River on his plantation named "Egypt" because of the abundance of corn grown there.<sup>67</sup> By 1835, a fairly extensive road network connected most of the county, although intersections were fewer in the northeastern and southwestern sections. The Methodist, fourteen Baptist, and at least two Quaker congregations had founded rural churches. Scattered throughout Chatham at various settlement points, the congregations typically met in crude log structures as a prelude to constructing more commodious frame worship buildings. An interest in cotton mill construction began to form, particularly in the piedmont where water power was abundant. In 1836, one cotton mill began operations in Chatham, likely inspired by Edwin Holt's efforts just to the north of the county line and the even earlier mills in Fayetteville.<sup>68</sup> Pittsboro continued to draw in-county and out-of-county residents. In 1831, influential county resident and large landholder Edward Jones, who had been Johnston Blakeley's guardian, moved his wife's private girls' school to town from "Rock Rest," his isolated plantation about seven miles northwest of Pittsboro on the Haw River. There, in the community which still bears this name, he had built a substantial Georgian/Federal house which stood until the 1920s.<sup>69</sup> The arrival of Henry A. London in Pittsboro in 1836 and John H. Haughton a year later served to introduce two important families into the county. While London followed his mercantile business in Pittsboro, Haywood and Egypt, and Haughton practiced law, their concerns became intertwined through the marriage of their children and their partnership in various efforts to improve the county's transportation systems in the following two decades. Theirs was an optimistic and entrepreneurial spirit which was to lead Chatham County and to shape its varied pursuits in the era prior to the Civil War.

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Prosperity, War and Re-building: late 1830s through 1870s

As elsewhere in the state and nation, the antebellum period in Chatham County was one of economic growth, agrarian prosperity, Whig-influenced progress in politics, and improvements in education and social life. In 1839, the county exercised its legislated option to vote on the establishment of a public school system; the measure passed by 877 to 402, and the county was divided into thirty-five school districts of about five miles each.<sup>70</sup> The 1840 census showed six private academies educating 128<sup>71</sup> scholars, and eleven primary schools with a total of 237 pupils. By 1850, the public education system had expanded to thirty-eight, one-teacher schools; the number of private academies had remained the same although the quality of education was higher in them than in the public schools.<sup>72</sup> In 1851, the Sandy Creek Baptist Association decided to build a male academy in Pittsboro, but by 1855 it had been relocated to Mt. Vernon Springs and opened as the "Mount Vernon Male and Female Academy." Baptist historian George Washington Paschal, who attended the school in the 1870s, described it as the "best equipped" of all the Baptist academies in the state, and it continued to offer high-quality education into the early 1900s. The choice of location near the well known mineral springs resort was ideal. The male academy, ". . . a stately structure, large enough to accommodate 100 students" stood until the 1970s, and the female academy, separated from the male school by several hundred yards and equipped with ". . . pianos, and palettes and paints and brushes . . .," is still in use as a private residence.<sup>73</sup> The private schools were stylish and well-built structures, but the common schools were simple log and frame buildings erected by local labor throughout the nineteenth century. Masonic Lodges, which became increasingly popular throughout the county during this period, often met in the upper level of two-story school-houses, and individual lodges sometimes constructed buildings specifically to accommodate both purposes.

Backed by a buoyant economy, the increased openness of county residents to education, improvements in agriculture, and participation in new business schemes was evident in this period as in no previous one. A comparison of the 1840 census with that of 1820 indicates a population growing in sophistication and capability in the well-to-do farming and planting classes as well as in Pittsboro. In 1840, when the population was 16,242, the number of farmers had grown not quite two-fold over the previous two decades, but the number of those engaged in commerce had risen nine-fold, those in manufacture and trade had tripled, and there were seventy-one "learned professionals and engineers" where there had been none listed in 1820.<sup>74</sup> With the exception of a small



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leap between 1840 and 1850, the population grew very slowly but steadily in this antebellum period. A high level of agricultural productivity, which peaked between 1850 and 1860, formed the backbone for many new ventures: crops, including corn, cotton and the new bright-leaf tobacco, increased in quantity and price; land values doubled; and Chatham's wheat crop also more than doubled.<sup>75</sup> As the county's farms and small rural settlements grew, entrepreneurs in Pittsboro and along the Deep River embarked upon plans to get Chatham's agricultural produce and its coal to markets in Fayetteville and Wilmington.

Starting in the late 1840s, the county's two most important efforts to improve its transportation system to distant markets were the activity of Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company and the building of plank roads through western Chatham. Both concerns had the support of the legislature and the navigation company received a substantial subsidy from the state while also attracting investors primarily from Pittsboro and Wilmington. However, its successes were short-lived whereas the plank roads--the "farmers' railroads"-- had a more lasting effect on transportation routes.

Organized in 1849 by important county residents including John H. Haughton and Peter Evans, the navigation company planned to bring steamboat travel one hundred miles beyond Fayetteville by means of a slackwater navigation system of locks, dams and canals. By this time, there were already five mill dams in place on the Deep River, and John Haughton had previously interested himself in the village of Gulf (which stood to benefit from the plan) with the building of the diminutive St. Mark's Episcopal Church.<sup>76</sup> The chief concerns of the company are evident in the 1850 president's report:

The produce, the timber and lumber, the staves, the coals and iron, and the furnishings of this large back country with dry goods and groceries will be bound to make this stock good. And when our water courses are all improved, we will commence running plank roads from the river into the interior of the country, so as to concentrate the produce on the main line.<sup>77</sup>

In 1851, Brooks Harris and L. J. Haughton, John Haughton's son, had acquired Peter Evans' Egypt plantation, which was on the Deep River, easily accessible by road, and capable of producing coal as well as corn. By 1852 Harris sank a 460-foot shaft to the coal deposits, ". . . probably the most important single piece of development work ever undertaken in this coal field."<sup>78</sup>

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In that same year, the Graham and Gulf Plank Road was chartered, also with the younger Haughton's involvement; the Western Railroad was chartered to transport coal to Fayetteville from the Deep River coal fields, and a steam<sup>79</sup> carriage plank road company was also chartered to follow this route.

Despite the optimism of its investors, the navigation company's plans met with failure for a variety of reasons, and the system of nine-teen locks and dams which had been<sup>80</sup> constructed in part by slave labor was permanently closed in 1861. By this time, too, the plank road movement in the state had come to an end, succumbing to high maintenance costs and pressures from the developing railway system. Although in this period seven plank road companies had been chartered in Chatham County, only one road had been built, the twenty-two mile long Graham and Gulf Plank Road completed in 1853.<sup>81</sup> It was influential in allowing farmers better access to local and distant markets, in heightening social contacts among different groups, and providing a pathway for future roads. Toll houses were set up, typically one every<sup>82</sup> seven miles, and other activities were stimulated along its route.

The structure which best conveys the optimistic sense of these improvement schemes in Chatham is the Haughton-McIver House (MRN, CH 375), built in Gulf as an inn to serve the hoped-for traffic on the Deep River and the plank road. Initially owned by L.J. Haughton, master of a large plantation nearby, the substantial but somewhat austere two-and-a-half story Greek Revival structure was constructed in the early 1850s. In 1870, J. M. McIver acquired the property, and his elaborate Queen Anne facelift on the facade reflects both his individual wealth and the prosperity<sup>83</sup> of his community whose growth continued into the twentieth century.

As these activities were taking place in the southern section of the county, elsewhere farmers and planters were improving their agricultural practices and reaping rich harvests in this "...period of unprecedented agricultural expansion and prosperity in North Carolina."<sup>84</sup> The fact that between 1838 and 1861 seven new agricultural journals rose and fell (five published in Raleigh, which was accessible to Chatham County) indicates the interest in, as well as difficulty of, persuading farmers to use "book learning" in their agrarian pursuits.<sup>85</sup> Although "old fields" farming methods persisted until the Civil War, by the late 1840s Peruvian guano was in use as a fertilizer. In the decade that followed, many new farm implements were patented and used in North Carolina, and concerns specializing in farm implement production were established. In 1851, the legislature employed Ebenezer Emmons of New York State to carry out an extensive survey of the state's natural resources, and he commented favorably upon Chatham's grain production as well as its

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coal-mining capacity.<sup>86</sup> The newly-formed State Agricultural Society held the first state fair in Raleigh which ever since has attracted farmers and exhibitors from across North Carolina.<sup>87</sup>

In Chatham, diversified farming continued to be the rule, with Indian corn the most valuable subsistence crop for both planters and yeoman farmers. Census records from 1850 and 1860 show that corn and wheat continued to be the top crops, swine and sheep were raised in substantial numbers, and dairy products were high. In that decade cotton and tobacco production rose impressively, and the number of silk cocoons rose from five cocoons to fifty-five pounds. (There is no evidence that silk was ever produced, although Silk Hope, a tiny crossroads community in Quaker-dominated northwest Chatham, was the locus of this activity from which it takes its name.) There were 769 slaveowners and 1800 non-slaveowners in 1860, and farms were grouped fairly evenly in three size categories: under fifty acres, under 100 acres and under 500. L. J. Haughton was one of two planters who owned farms of more than 1,000 acres, and reportedly owned 100 or more slaves. Manufacturing continued to follow the agricultural produce and natural waterpower resources of the county: by 1841, there were twelve flouring mills, sixty-four grist mills and forty saw mills located along the county's water-courses. In 1850, Abner Brown had one of Chatham's three whiskey distilleries near his grist mill. By 1860 he had added a blacksmith shop and the county's only tobacco factory, which employed four men and was valued at \$11,000. This was the single most valuable enterprise in the county at that time. The others included a turpentine distillery, blacksmith shops, and small industries common to this era and place.<sup>88</sup>

The buildings which accomodated these activities continued, for the most part, to be vernacular structures. Builders were commonly the homeowners assisted by family and community members. Dwellings ranged from one or one-and-a-half story log cabins with single exterior chimneys to one-and-a-half story hall-parlor houses constructed with hewn framing members, and water-sawn sheathing, shed roof appendages, and either one or two end chimneys. Toward the end of this period, the Greek Revival style encouraged the use of symmetrical, three-bay facades, sidelights, and the center-hall plan for one and two-story dwellings. A few barns were commodious two-story frame structures, but most were single-pen log structures with lofts, which often would have shed additions on two or three sides to shelter animals and equipment. Log and later frame construction was used for the detached kitchens which were typical here as elsewhere in the South. Through the nineteenth century, and in some instances, into the twentieth century, log continued to be favored material for smokehouses, slave quarters where present, corn cribs,

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sweet potato houses and the other outbuildings necessary to farm life. Statistics from the 1840 census shows that no brick houses and 113 frame houses were constructed in the county that year.<sup>89</sup> By the late 1850s, portable sawmills were beginning to be available, and this made the construction process simpler.<sup>90</sup> Brickmasons were employed when brick chimneys were called for. Two masons known to be active during this period were James Riley Brown and Paschal McCoy. In 1850, McCoy employed six men, built fifteen chimneys and plastered six houses. He is known to have built two brick temple-front churches in Chapel Hill, one of which, a Methodist church, still stands.<sup>92</sup> Martin and Wesley Hanks were skilled house carpenters and wood workers in the vicinity of Pittsboro, and<sup>93</sup> both blacks and whites were commonly apprenticed to this trade.

It was during this period that four of the county's finest extant two-story Greek Revival country houses were built, indicating both the wealth and taste of their owners and the skills of two unknown craftsmen, each of whom, interestingly, built a pair of virtually identical houses. In the very northeastern corner of Chatham, substantial and nicely-detailed houses were built for John A. Mason (N.R.) and William Marcom (CH 251), both members of the antebellum middle planter class who owned twenty and ten slaves, respectively. Each house is a two-story three-bay frame structure with distinctively similar details such as the hip-roof porch with delicate arched brackets, French doors which open into the two rooms which flank the central hall,<sup>94</sup> and unusually-incised cornerblocks on the sash and transom surrounds. The second builder, working in central Chatham, interpreted the Greek Revival idiom according to his own precepts in the Hadley House (N.R.) and the DeGraffenreidt - Johnson House (MRN, CH 398). Of Quaker stock, William<sup>95</sup> Hadley was a farmer, miller, and later, owner of a toll bridge at Egypt. He owned only two slaves, whereas John Baker DeGraffenreidt, who had married Chatham Jack Alston's granddaughter, owned over 100 slaves and was clearly much wealthier. Nevertheless, their two-story hip-roof houses are obviously the work of the same builder, with their center-bay porches supported by heavy posts, wedge-shape modillions and details,<sup>96</sup> and similar although typically Greek Revival interior features. Pittsboro, with its stylish houses, was probably the point of dissemination for the Greek Revival mode, although, as is common in vernacular building traditions, a range of details is acceptable as each craftsman supplies individualistic elements.

Chatham's small settlements, located at important stream or river crossings and intersections along the Graham and Gulf Plank Road as well as other junctures, grew in this antebellum era. In 1842, William Matthews purchased John Siler's house, which then served as a stagecoach station; Matthew's Crossroads, as the area

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became known, assumed a more important position in west-central Chatham. Further east, the store at St. Lawrence did a lively business through the 1850s, indicating by the variety of available items the prosperity of middle class farmers, as well as plantation owner. The growth of Beaumont, five miles southwest of Pittsboro on the Rocky River where Matthew Ramsey had operated his mill, is typical. When Dr. Gaston Egbert Brown moved into the community in 1850, he inspired the building of the Pleasant Hill Methodist Church, and a post office soon followed. By 1854 a two-story Masonic Lodge had been built and shortly after 1859, when local farmer Robert N. Green purchased the Ramsey Mill, he built a cotton gin and two-story country store. The Beaumont Academy operated during and after the Civil War. A sorghum mill, blacksmith shop and furniture or cabinet maker shop completed this rural community.

The growth of churches throughout the county was commensurate with the development of these small communities and their position was pivotal within them. The 1850 census listed fifty-three churches, including twenty-six Methodist, sixteen Baptist, one Episcopalian and three Quaker. The Lystra Baptist Church was probably typical: a 20 x 30 foot frame gable-roof structure, it had an entrance in the gable end, two windows protected only by shutters, and was not sheathed inside until 1870. Most notable of the country churches built during this period was the commodious Haywood Presbyterian Church, constructed in 1859 along pure but simple Greek Revival temple-front lines at the behest of local plantation owners. Now an isolated gracious structure in the center of a tiny declining community, it stands as a testament to the expansive prosperity of the antebellum era in Chatham County.

In 1861, Chatham residents voted overwhelmingly against holding a state convention to consider the adoption of a secession ordinance, but after Fort Sumter was fired upon, the county like the state closed ranks with the Confederacy. Chatham, whose population stood at 19,101 in 1860, sent nearly 2,000 men into the conflict, of whom nearly one-fifth died. Although the county was spared any major invasion during the conflict, the general disruption, shortages of food, and loss of manpower to tend the farms and manufactures soon took their toll. The War stimulated some areas of agricultural production due to the sheer necessity of feeding troops and the general population, but also halted the trend toward reform and improvement which had been so noticeable before the war. The blockade made commercial fertilizers unavailable in the South. By 1870, the production of tobacco and other crops in Chatham County had dropped drastically, but cotton, wine and butter products increased. Of the 2,810 farms operating in that year, all but 248 were 100 acres or smaller; this was the beginning of a decline in farm size which was to continue steadily throughout

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the remainder of the nineteenth century. <sup>106</sup> Those who owned more than twenty slaves were exempted from service in the war, as were miners, grist mill operators, and others engaged in production work vital to the Confederate cause. Quakers who were willing to pay a \$500 fine could to some degree follow their pacifist consciences and stay home. But the disruptive effects of war, and the impressment of slaves into government-related service, meant that agricultural pursuits could be carried out in only a limited fashion.

Other areas of life were similarly curtailed. In 1863 the average school term in North Carolina was three months, but by 1864 most of the schools in Chatham County had closed and did not re-open until 1881. <sup>107</sup> During those two years, Methodist circuit minister Washington S. Chaffin served the Cape Fear Circuit, which included southeastern Chatham County. Beginning his labors there in January, 1863, he passed through Haywood and Lockville (site of Ambrose Ramsey's earlier mill and tavern) and noted, "In the latter place there is no good or fine looking [worship] house. Here I commenced my ministerial labors . . . , six persons present." In March of 1864 he commented succinctly, "There is great distress in this country occasioned by war." <sup>108</sup> The Methodist Church, like many other denominations, experienced loss in its congregations, and division and disruptions continued after the war.

While a potent influence, the war did not necessarily dominate all aspects of county life. Chatham County's sheriff during this time, Richard Bray Paschal who was father to George Washington Paschal, kept a journal from 1860 through 1864 in which he often noted the "great excitement about the war," but described in more detail his doings about the county. In 1860 when a secessionist mood was spreading in the South, James Riley Brown spent eleven days building a brick chimney onto the Greek Revival addition Paschal had made to his inherited log house and was paid \$16.00: later <sup>109</sup> that year a white and a black workman built new stables in nine days. During the war, Paschal worked throughout the county, attended meetings <sup>110</sup> of his Masonic Lodge, built a blacksmith shop and tended to his farm.

In some areas, the effects of the Civil War in Chatham were positive. The coal and iron deposits were, again, the object of development activities by the state which needed supplies to conduct the war. In 1861, the Chatham Rail Road was chartered to carry coal from the Deep River fields to Raleigh and thence to Confederate armament factories. Built through Haywood and Lockville, the line was abandoned in 1865 after \$100,000 in Confederate money had been spent on it. In an attempt to accommodate labor shortages during construction, the railroad advertised to hire slaves; the Lockville Mining and Manufacturing Company went one step further in trying to purchase "Thirty Good Negroes"

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to conduct its operations.<sup>112</sup> The Sapona Iron Company of Ore Hill operated a furnace at Wilcox's old site near the Tick Creek, producing about five tons of pig iron daily.<sup>113</sup> The Ocknock Iron Works on the Upper Cape Fear River at<sup>114</sup> Buckhorn Creek utilized coal from the Egypt Mines to produce iron.<sup>114</sup> Toward the end of the war, an arsenal and foundry was begun between Ore Hill and Gulf which was never completed although its massive stones remain.<sup>115</sup> Although the effects of these efforts were short-lived, Chatham's interest in manufacture and railroad development was spurred by these wartime developments which served an important function for the beleaguered Confederacy.

The dark days after the war were a time of political confusion and strife. While the "Black Code" of 1866 brought some improvements to the former slaves, they were also disenfranchised. After 1868, the Ku Klux Klan was active in terrorizing blacks and those who appeared liberal, particularly in North Carolina counties where Republicanism held some sway, such as Chatham and, notably, Alamance. As an aftermath to a Klan-related event, Governor Holden was impeached. Although the military occupation of the South did not end until 1877, by 1876 Reconstruction practices had come to a close in North Carolina with the election of Rutherford Hayes for president, and Democrat Zebulon Vance for governor. Vance and other proponents of the "New South" helped to usher in an era of regained prosperity for North Carolinians, although in many instances those poor, uneducated or black were left out.<sup>118</sup> It was during this period that whites and blacks, who had worshipped jointly before the war although blacks were relegated to slave galleries in the churches, formed separate congregations and new churches appeared upon the rural landscape. From 1877 to 1880, many blacks, concerned about high land rents and diminution of their social and legal rights, left the state, often for Indiana.<sup>117</sup> One Chatham resident, however, returned because she felt blacks in Indianapolis were "treated like dogs."<sup>118</sup>

The aftermath of the war had a direct impact on the South's agrarian and industrial landscape as well as its political configurations. The breakdown in the plantation system which had enriched a number of Chatham's citizens occasioned a dramatic rise in small farms and, particularly, in the system of farm tenancy. Farmers and sharecroppers alike were hit by the shortage of money and low prices for their produce, especially cotton; high taxes and decreasing land values plagued landowners.<sup>119</sup> Farming became an increasingly unremunerative occupation, although many remained tied to the land by habit, tradition, or preference. Farmers in the eastern section of the county particularly the northeastern corner, benefitted, however, from their soils which were well-suited to the production of bright-leaf tobacco and their

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proximity to the Duke tobacco manufacturing empire in Durham.<sup>120</sup>  
Comfortable and stylish late-nineteenth century houses on farms dotted  
with numerous log tobacco barns testify to the level of prosperity in  
this region.

It was industrial and commercial development, however, that  
spelled the greatest change for Chatham County and the state generally.  
In the 1870s, in part due to the outcry occasioned by its large and  
continued subsidy to railroads such as the Chatham Railroad, the govern-  
ment withdrew from the railroad business and left its development to  
private enterprise. It did, however, support development schemes.  
In 1869, North Carolina: A Guide to Capitalists and Emigrants was  
published with influential backing from state leaders. It widely  
misrepresented Chatham County's agricultural production, but did note  
an iron manufacturing company at Egypt, twenty-five grist mills  
throughout the county, and the Egypt mining company's foundry and  
machine shop at Lockville, as well as other data.<sup>121</sup> In 1871, the  
Raleigh and Augusta Air Line Rail Road Company took over what had been  
the Chatham Railroad, and the town of Moncure came to be built around  
the company's depot and switching yard on a site between Haywood and  
Lockville. The importance of this railroad line is evident in the 1877  
plat map of Moncure, which was named after an engineer on the railroad:  
streets and lots are laid out in a rectangular gridwork, and the depot  
and the railroad tracks, surrounded by lots for shops, occupy a dominating  
open rectangle in the lower part of the town.<sup>122</sup> The town, built around  
a modified version of the Lancaster plan, never grew to the extent  
envisioned, but it did come to eclipse earlier nearby communities.  
Lockville was platted along similar lines, with a "Market Square"  
occupying the central position. Although the community prospered through<sup>123</sup>  
out the nineteenth century, it never developed along the proposed lines.

By far the single most important manufacturing development during  
this time was the founding of the Bynum Manufacturing Company to produce cotta  
cloth. Luther and Carney Bynum, grandsons of original settler Luke  
Bynum, were impressed by growth of cotton mills elsewhere in the  
piedmont and decided to utilize a site on the Haw River near their  
family grist mill for this purpose. The promotional efforts of Governor  
Caldwell and many cotton mill enthusiasts were effective with the  
Bynums as with others throughout the state.<sup>124</sup> Later, the well-publicized  
works of engineer and mill village architect D.A. Tompkins became  
influential. Bynum's mill was a long, low two-story structure with a  
projecting three-story central tower which shows the clear influence of  
the Italianate style in its flat roof, heavily bracketed cornice, and  
the round-arched upper story windows. In front of it, and behind  
Luther Bynum's house, were built fourteen compact houses for mill  
workers, the earliest being one-and-a-half story hall-parlor



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structures which formed the nucleus of Chatham County's first and most prominent cotton mill and associated mill village. The Bynums also supported the construction of a Methodist church in their village and donated land for the parsonage. Although the brothers were successful builders, they were less capable mill managers. In 1886, they sold their company to John Milton Odell (1831-1910), an important cotton manufacturing industrialist in Concord, North Carolina; the mill was then renamed the J. M. Odell Manufacturing Company. In the early period, the mill produced 700 yards of sheeting and 600 pounds of yarn daily. <sup>125</sup>

The county as a whole continued to grow and develop during this post-war period. In 1868, the county's twelve (now thirteen) townships were laid out, and a variety of enterprises were thriving in the small communities of Haywood, Merry Oaks, Gulf, Mt. Vernon Springs and Ore Hill. Besides post offices, churches and, in some instances, academies, community structures also included inns, mills of various kinds, lumber stores, merchants and physicians offices, along with a sandstone mine in the vicinity of Gulf and iron works and a hat manufacturer in Ore Hill. <sup>126</sup> Schools were reopened in log and frame structures; plain and covered wooden bridges were built to replace ferries; and <sup>127</sup> by 1872 there were fifty-six white churches scattered across the county. Efforts to reactivate iron and steel production at the <sup>128</sup> old Buckhorn Creek site were made but proved, again, to be shortlived. In 1870, the State Board of Charities and Corrections visited Chatham's first poorhouse, finding it to be built of five weatherboarded log structures ranging in size from 12 x 12 to 54 x 16 feet in "very fair condition." <sup>129</sup> It was during this time that Dr. E. H. Ward moved an early log structure onto his property near Griffin's Crossroads and attached a delightful one-story Greek Revival addition to it (Dr. E.H. Ward House (MRN, CH 275). On his moderate-size farm there still stands one diminutive office out of which he practiced medicine until his death in 1896. <sup>130</sup> Nathan Ramsey's 1870 map of Chatham County missed this house, as it did other modest structures, but otherwise shows a well-settled county dotted with prosperous farms identified by their owners, four small towns, and many even smaller communities and important rural edifices. It also shows a good road network and the beginnings of a railway system. The chartering of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad in 1879 was an auspicious event for Chatham County, for it ushered in a third and significant phase of growth.

Villages, Industries and Farms: Modernization After 1880

By 1880, a sense of optimism and a desire for progress pervaded Chatham County and the South generally. Although a measure of agricultural stability had returned, particularly in the production of tobacco and cotton, it was on the rise of new industry that the

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proponents of the "New South" pinned their hopes for regional prosperity. Both newcomers and members of established families in Chatham shared this entrepreneurial spirit. One of these men was Henry Armand London, younger son of Henry A. London, who had been a courier to General Lee during the war. Returning to Pittsboro, he became an active Democrat and, in 1878, established the Chatham Record, the county's first newspaper which is still being published today.<sup>131</sup> There were other indications of rising prosperity in the county. The 1880 census shows that the population had risen between 17 and 19 percent over the previous decade, the last major leap Chatham County was to make. Typically, there were between two and seven carpenters or house carpenters, black and white, for each township. Although there were forty-three flour and grist mills and fifteen sawmills throughout the county, it was the cotton mill at Bynum that was the single most lucrative enterprise. The value of its products was \$38,400 in 1880, and it paid a total of \$5,201 in wages to the thirty-eight women, children and men whom it employed. By then, nearly one-third of Chatham's 3,554 farms were tenant operated, and continued agrarian difficulties were a decided factor in bringing many into the mills.<sup>132</sup> Elsewhere in Chatham in 1880, a post office was established in what was shortly to become Siler City, and mining efforts had begun anew near Cumnock.<sup>133</sup>

The premier event of this period, and one that had a long-lasting effect on the development of southwestern Chatham County, was the 1884 opening of Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway lines from Sanford, in what was then Moore (now Lee) County to Greensboro. Along its right-of-way four small towns including Goldston, Bear Creek, Bonlee and, most importantly, Siler City sprang up; older communities like Gulf, Ore Hill and Mt. Vernon Springs were stimulated to new growth. The attractions of this central piedmont region were painted in glowing terms for potential investors by the company's 1881 Descriptive Gazette, which announced numerous manufacturing industries, fine water-powers, lumber supplies for furniture-making and other purposes, coal and iron mines, and an area "not surpassed for the healthfulness and generous tone of its climate."<sup>134</sup> Stations were located along the route according to their "accessibility to traffic," and the company acquired lands around each one for developmental purposes. Four of Chatham's five stops were enthusiastically portrayed:

Egypt, the Gulf and Ore Hill must all assume importance as mining and manufacturing towns, and near Ore Hill are mineral springs that, on account of the curative properties of their waters, were quite celebrated in the old days.... At Egypt and the Gulf [are] several general stores, mills, coal and iron mines,

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and sandstone quarries. At Bear Creek and Ore Hill, new Stations; a number of general stores, merchant mills, saw mills, cotton gins, and iron works, iron mines, tanneries, etc.

On its route from Gulf to what was incorporated as Siler City in 1887, the railway line generally paralleled the old Graham and Gulf Plank Road, and these small communities grew up at points where major county roads emanating from Pittsboro intersected the track. It was around these axes that various enterprises were clustered, and the road paralleling the railroad track typically became the main street in each town, with other streets grouped in a more-or-less gridwork fashion around it. In 1884, Siler City was the first of these railroad towns to have its streets and lots laid out and, with its pivotal position on the county's major east-west route, grew more quickly and more substantially than the rest. By 1890 the Cape Fear and Yadkin Railway had connections to Fayetteville, Wilmington and Mount Airy, and these networks helped to strengthen Chatham's development. The Pittsboro Railroad Company, chartered in 1885 by local businessmen, considered connecting with this railway, but decided instead to construct the line from Pittsboro to Moncure where the Seaboard Air Line tracks led to Raleigh. In Pittsboro as elsewhere in the county, these events occasioned much celebration and a new wave of building enterprises.

These small towns depended upon the surrounding rural areas and their products for their existence but, in a number of instances, individual entrepreneurs strongly influenced the form and shape of town growth. In Moncure, John H. Wissler, a Northerner who had moved to the community to assist in building the railroad, came to have a large impact on the development of the community. He owned large tracts of land, some of which he donated for Moncure's first school. He also built bridges in the area and, for his home, an unusual two-and-a-half story substantial double pile house on the edge of town. In 1881, after John M. Foust had "taken the cure" with the Mt. Vernon Springs mineral waters, he purchased the lodge and the springs and "...carried out a program of enlargement and improvements which placed Mount Vernon among the major mineral springs resorts of the state." He added two extensive wings, each with a two-story piazza, to the hotel as well as a latticed pavilion at the springs. Later other structures were built before the springs passed its heyday in the 1920s. For a community which at that time had no more than fifteen scattered houses, this hotel with its attendant hustle and bustle had a major impact, social, commercial, and architectural. Other men also capitalized upon the lumber business as well as other sources of revenue in the still-forming small towns. One such man was Charles B. Fitts of Bear Creek, part owner of a large crosstie company in a village whose core consisted of less than ten structures.

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He was the dominant figure in Bear Creek into the twentieth century, building a bungalow home, the town's only store along the railroad tracks, and a family church and graveyard. Another house and a store were constructed nearby for his daughter at a slightly later period. The most significant of the lumbermen-cum-town builders, however, were John and Isaac Dunlap who founded the town of Bonlee by buying up most of the land on either side of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad in southwest Chatham for their extensive lumber business. They built two imposing residences on knolls at opposite ends of their community and initially constructed houses for workers in their planing mill. Later they laid out the town, established a company store, sold lots to desirable incomers, helped build a boarding school and the Bonlee Baptist Church and constructed their own small feeder railway to carry lumber. Isaac Dunlap served as the first mayor and president of the bank when it opened. <sup>140</sup> This was the era in which individual capitalists were glorified, and these men, in Chatham as elsewhere, made the most of their opportunities.

Siler City, the county's real "boom town," grew with the combined efforts of numerous individuals. By 1890, the town's population was 254, and it already had several small businesses, a school, two church congregations, a post office, the ancient John Siler house about which these structures were grouped and, of course, a bustling railway business. An agricultural fair had been held, and the first of several short-lived newspapers had been started. <sup>141</sup> Typical of that era and place, the first stores were one and, later, two-story frame structures with high false fronts. The Thompson School, which operated from 1887 to 1897, was a more ambitious structure. A large two-and-a-half story cross-gable building, it was embellished with heavy Italianate brackets and topped by a fanciful two-stage belltower. In 1889, it served 162 students, of whom only seventy came from the immediate area, and many of whom boarded with Siler City families. This large and well <sup>142</sup> respected institution was predominant in Siler City for ten years. An 1891 business directory lists twenty varied concerns and one physician in town; Branson's Business Directory for 1896 shows one black and <sup>143</sup> four white churches, nine boarding houses, and eight manufactories.

The agrarian roots of these small towns did not remain invisible, however. The most tangible signs of this connection were the activities of local branches of the National Farmers' Alliance which, after 1888, had cooperative stores in at least Siler City, Lockville and Bear Creek. At this time, business classes enjoyed prosperity and favoritism from the conservative Democratic party, but the farmers' economic position had worsened. In 1889, the Chatham County Alliance, which by then had forty-five sub-alliances, presented a memorial to the General Assembly:

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The failure of the crops in this county last year necessitates the buying of almost our entire supplies to make another crop.....Almost every farmer is depressed; many are disheartened; labor is unremunerative; the value of land is depreciating, and there is a growing disposition to abandon the farm and seek other employment.

Besides becoming active in the political process, another Alliance move was to build cooperative stores so that the farmers could "...have a place to buy, exchange, and barter for goods and necessities, without having to pay the merchants the high price they put on their goods." Although the frame Alliance store on South Chatham Avenue in Siler City was replaced by the current brick structure in 1907, it has the distinction of being the longest continuously run store in the town. In Goldston, the 1908 Farmers' Union Store was built on land acquired in 1894 by the Alliance whose activities, by then, had by and large been absorbed by the Farmers' Union. Although the store soon moved into a larger, adjacent structure, the Fields family acquired the original building, and L. W. Fields still runs it as a store today. Together with one brick business, these two stores are part of a small cluster of frame buildings variously embellished with false fronts, Italianate brackets and sawnwork details that nicely characterize the rural commercial architecture of that period (Goldston Commercial District, MRN, CH 520-523).

It was during this time that the portable circular saw became quite common in Chatham County, along with the popularity of balloon framing, and the availability of decorative sawn and turned work from locales such as Sanford and Burlington. The results of this building revolution are still abundantly scattered on the county's landscape, in many instances well-preserved structures which give tangible evidence of Chatham's recent past. By 1896, improved farm implements and machinery had come into use, commercial fertilizers were enriching the soil, and the first free rural delivery routes had been established. At this time, the paradigm of rural prosperity became the two-story, three-bay, central-hall house, served by a two-room kitchen ell, given a vaguely Gothic Revival central gable, and dressed by sawn and/or turned work on its porch and perhaps elsewhere on the facade. A farmer typically utilized lumber from his own property and the assistance of locally-known builders to construct his new dwelling, often incorporating an earlier log (or, less typically, frame) house into the enlarged building. The Goodwin Farm Complex (MRN, CH 200), continuously operated by members of the same family since the mid-nineteenth century, is a good example of this process. Nicely grouped around a pond, the main buildings of this tobacco farm in eastern Chatham are the two-story main house with log ell, and a one-story house first lived in by the current owner; barns, tobacco barns, and other outbuildings

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variously constructed of weatherboard, board-and-batten, log and clay block stand between the houses. The James A. Thomas Farm (MRN, CH 215), unusual for the paired entrance to its two-story main block and its well-preserved and nicely-crafted log outbuildings, was constructed slightly earlier than the two-story Goodwin house. During this late-nineteenth century period, modest houses in the country and small villages were often single-pile one-story triple-A's although, as time wore on, a multiplicity of gables, increased use of sawn turned work and an occasional double-pile plan were seen.

By 1890 there were sixty-six white churches in the county, one for every 260 people.<sup>148</sup> (The number of black churches is not known but would have been smaller.) Construction practices were similar to those of home-building; church members often donated lumber, sawmilling and their labor. The Gothic Revival style predominated in these white frame country churches, with a variety of details evident. Tastes ranged from the austere simple O'Kelly's Chapel (MRN, CH 247), with its plain temple front, lancet-arched windows and unembellished interior to the more exuberant Ebenezer Methodist Church (MRN, CH 202), with its projecting single-stage entrance steeple, quatrefoil designs and louvered vents, and multi-paneled doors. Chatham's many churches, attractively sited, well built and carefully maintained, testify to the importance of the church as a rural institution. Although schools, too, were important in rural as well as town life, the buildings were commonly given less attention. In 1899, there were sixty five white schools, of which sixteen were log, and the rest frame; of the thirty-two black schools, nine were log.<sup>149</sup> The extended family, the church, and the farm were the chief interests and occupations of the county's overwhelmingly rural population, although the lure of the growing towns within Chatham and that of the larger cities outside began to intensify. In each decade between 1890 and 1910, the county lost just over 5 percent of its population; trends of rural depopulation complemented by urban and industrial growth affected life in Chatham County as well as throughout the state and the nation.<sup>150</sup>

After the turn of the century, Chatham continued to build on the trends that had been established in the previous two decades, and prosperity that was modest in most quarters and ebullient in a few others continued until cut short by the Great Depression. In the 1890s, Chatham had lost a two and three-quarter mile wide strip of land on its northern boundary west of the Haw River to Alamance County, which had been formed in 1849. In 1907, the county again lost territory, this time to newly-formed Lee County that took the fertile and historic territory south of the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers as far west as Carabonton. With a resultant 707 square mile size, the county is still

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the seventeenth largest of the one hundred counties in the state. Its road network, while extensive, continued to be execrable at this opening of the era of the automobile and did not really improve until the advent of the "Good Roads State" movement in the early 1920s. Diversified farming remained the rule, with corn and wheat the largest crops. Tobacco continued to be grown in the eastern and some southern portions of the county, and cotton was produced at about a bale per acre.<sup>151</sup> In 1905, the Durham and South Carolina Railroad Company was chartered, passing through eighteen miles of eastern Chatham. It provided greater opportunities for the tobacco grown in the area to reach the markets in Durham, and at its juncture with US 64 arose the small community of Seaforth which was named after the Canadian hometown of its builders.<sup>152</sup> By 1910, the first telephones had reached the county, and cars began to be prevalent. In 1908, after many trials and reversals, the county's first electric power plant was constructed in southeast Chatham where the Buckhorn Creek joins the Cape Fear River: men, mules and equipment were transported over temporary log bridges to build the concrete dam and the small two-story concrete buildings. The Southern Power Company and its successor, the Carolina Power and Light Company, operated this facility until 1962, by which time the latter had built a second, larger facility.<sup>153</sup>

The concerns of the county residents continued to be both agrarian and political. In 1894, the farmer-supported Fusionist ticket had driven the Democrats from power, but they returned to office in the 1898 "white supremacy" campaign and remained entrenched thereafter. In 1900 this campaign was capped as blacks were effectively disenfranchised and Governor Aycock was elected on a pro-education and pro-white platform. This stance was also held by Chatham native Dr. Clarence Poe who at the age of eighteen became editor of The Progressive Farmer. Becoming its owner in 1903, he used the magazine to promote improved farming practices and better living and health conditions.<sup>154</sup> Two years later, in 1905, the Farmers' Union entered North Carolina, taking up many of the educational and social activities of the old Farmers' Alliance, and it reached its peak strength in the state in 1913.<sup>155</sup> In that same year, the state passed the compulsory school attendance law, thereby increasing the productivity of education and, slowly, decreasing the numbers of those, who, in Chatham as elsewhere, were illiterate. Meanwhile, an increased separation between blacks and whites took place, as Clarence Poe, the Farmers' Union, and others argued for community choice in excluding blacks.

It was in this climate that Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald began his fund to help educate black children in the South. Between 1917 and 1929, the Rosenwald Fund gave grants to help build black schools, with the stipulation that blacks, whites and government officials had to jointly support the enterprise which would then become part of the

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regular school system. North Carolina benefitted the most of all the southern states receiving this incentive, and, in Chatham County, six such schools were built, each about three rooms in size. Of the total \$21,833 value, the largest single contribution was \$9,233 in public monies; Chatham's whites are not recorded as having made any other financial contributions.<sup>156</sup> In 1918, members of the prominent black Lee family, some of whose children attended Rosenwald Schools, built the New Zion School in their small community of Gorgus on the Deep River. With a state-supported teacher, the school operated until about 1946. A swinging bridge, later replaced by a cable car, was also built across the Rocky River to accommodate children otherwise separated from the school.<sup>157</sup> Although blacks and whites were segregated in educational and other activities, their lives were not dissimilar. Blacks carried out many of the same farming and building traditions as whites, although generally at a more vernacular level. In 1910, the great majority of blacks were rural and, apparently, better off in the country than in the towns; of the 1,421 black-occupied homes that year, only 379 were nonrural and, among the farming group more than half owned their homes whereas less than a quarter of the non-farm group did.<sup>158</sup> Self-sufficiency and land ownership was a cherished value for blacks as well as whites in Chatham County then as now.

Meanwhile, the county's towns and industries had continued to develop along the railroad rights-of-way. By 1909, the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway had become the Southern Railroad, and the Raleigh and Augusta Air Line Rail Road Company became the Seaboard Airline, by which names these lines are still known today.<sup>159</sup> In its urban industrial and residential modes, Siler City continued to grow at a brisk rate. In 1895, black businessman Tod R. Edwards had opened his jewelry store, a leading enterprise in the city and the county for over forty years. In that same year, the Hadley-People's Manufacturing Company was founded, Chatham's second and last textile plant. Taking its cue from the Odell Manufacturing Plant and other cotton mills, the company built a cluster of mill houses to form a village in an area to the north and the southwest of the main plant which was located in the heart of Siler City. Similar to the Bynum mill village which, by the early part of the twentieth century had grown to a complex of more than forty houses on "Mill Hill," the Hadley-People's houses were plain, modest one-story, three and four-room structures showing only slight variations in plan.<sup>160</sup> Houses for superintendents tended to be two-story structures which set them apart. Other important industries which formed during this period were the Oval Oak Manufacturing Company, which became nationally known as a maker of washboards until the plant closed in 1946, and the Siler City Mills. Built around an earlier feed and grist mill, the Siler City Mills grew to include a six-floor structure with many appended structures, most of which are now covered



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in pressed tin and occupy an entire city block along the railroad.<sup>161</sup> Between 1904 and 1924, the Siler City Grit was published by, among others, Isaac S. London, a scion of the Londons of Pittsboro who were also secretary-treasurers to the Odell Manufacturing Company in Bynum. In 1910, the population of Siler City was 895, and by 1930 it had grown to 1,730 thus surpassing Pittsboro in size to become the county's largest town.

During this era, the influence of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles of architecture became noticeable in Chatham County and in Siler City particularly. While the city's earliest houses were two-story continuations of the country triple-A theme and located chiefly in the southwestern corner of town, by the first decades of the twentieth century a group of stylish houses was growing up east of the central business district. One of the earliest and finest of these structures is the Gregson-Hadley House (MRN, CH 477), a one-story Queen Anne with projecting round turret which was the first brick residence in the town. Built in about 1903 for Julius Gregson, one of Siler City's earliest and more important businessmen, in 1920 it was sold to Gregson's brother-in-law Wade H. Hadley, Sr. Franklin Minter Hadley, his father, a co-founder of the Hadley-Peoples' Manufacturing Company, was the owner and proprietor of the delightful Queen Anne Hadley Hotel (MRN, CH 493) which was built in 1908.<sup>162</sup> Located in the heart of Siler City's business district on North Chatham Street, the hotel is now surrounded by more recent two and three-story brick structures, but with a decorative white-painted facade it harkens back to Siler City's buoyant past. A year after the hotel was built, the High Point Bending and Chair Company, founded 1901 (now the Boling Chair Company), employed thirty people and had installed its first electric lights.<sup>163</sup> The era of progress was at its peak.

It was to Bonlee's Isaac and John Dunlap that Chatham's final and, in some ways, most optimistic railroad scheme came into being in 1908. In that year they chartered their own, entirely in-county railroad, the Bonlee and Western, which by 1910 was completed. It ran about ten miles in a southwest direction from Bonlee to the well-timbered land of that area, which the Dunlaps owned, and connected with the Southern Railway to carry passengers and freight. Inspired perhaps by the success of their railroad and other ventures, the Dunlaps in 1910 established the town of Bennett at the western end of their line, naming it after a Southern Railway engineer. By 1913, the town had been surveyed and platted, and it started to grow. The "town" section consisted of a grid of five by six streets, each eighty feet in width, bounded on the south by the railroad track. Northeast along the track was to be the "farm" section, twenty-acre plots which stretched halfway to Bonlee. The plat was obviously meant as a promotional device, for on it one of the Dunlaps described the settlement in enticing and specific terms, concluding that "There is not a thing the matter with Bennett and Lane's Avenue. It is sure to sell, there is not a doubt about it. It is the

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town and the suburbs without a fault: "The investment without a risk. To be sold to white people only....."<sup>164</sup> Their efforts were apparently successful, for by 1920 the town's population was 190, and it had thirty-nine dwellings and seventeen other establishments of the range and sort typical to Chatham's railroad communities.<sup>165</sup> By the early 1930s, however, the community began a period of slow but decided decline, brought on by the economic reversals of the Great Depression and, perhaps equally, by the newly-efficient system of hard surface roads which eclipsed the railway and brought an end to the way of life occasioned by it.

It was during this period after World War I that the bungalow style became a ubiquitous house form in Chatham's small towns and countryside. In the rural areas, these dwellings tended to be one or one-and-a-half story gable-front structures with recessed gable-roof porches and decorative glass windows. This was a simple style, easily and inexpensively constructed, which suited both the needs and the pocketbooks of country dwellers at that time. In Siler City, Pittsboro, and along major routes such as US 64 which connected them, and US 15-501 which joined Pittsboro to Chapel Hill, these houses tended to be more elaborate. German siding was common on frame structures in both city and country, but patterned brickwork, multiple overlapping gables and exaggerated brackets were most likely to be seen in the built-up areas. Stores at this point were nearly universally constructed of brick, in part due to the popularity of the material which was associated with greater wealth, but also as a measure of fire protection. Typically these were built with high fronts, stepped sides, and often coursed or patterned brickwork on the facades.

The bungalow style was chosen by the Carolina Power and Light Company when, in 1923, it constructed its new Phoenix Plant southeast of Moncure and planned a worker's village to accompany it. The generating plant itself was an impressive large three-story brick structure enhanced with flat pilasters which projected above the flat roofline, and flanked by two large concrete towers. The village, laid out around a loop road northeast of the plant, encompassed a village green. While the superintendent's house, a boarding house and the more substantial of the one-story houses were built inside the green, the smaller houses were located at the far end where the road narrowed. Tennis courts and a store also served the community, none of which is in existence today. After World War II, the company sold off the village, and the structures that were not moved away were torn down.<sup>166</sup> It was also during the 1920s that the final attempts were made to mine the coal at Cumnock (formerly Egypt and now in Lee County) and in the small Chatham community of Farmville just across the Deep River. These efforts were laid to rest by a series of hard blows: in 1925, a mine explosion at Farmville, which killed fifty-three miners, many of them out-of-staters who had settled their families in the little community; the effects of the Great Depression; and, in 1929 and 1930, two floods which ruined the mines.<sup>167</sup>

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Developments continued in Siler City, which between World War I and the 1930s experienced substantial growth. Suburbs of bungalows formed south, east and west of the central business district which still contained all the important stores and industries; a black community grew up on the north side of town, particularly north of US 64. By 1927, many of the town's streets were paved as were the major thoroughfares in the county. In 1922, the Paul Braxton School, designed by architect C.C. Wilson, had been constructed at the corner of Third Avenue and Beaver Street. An attractive three-story brick structure, it boasts bands of decorative stucco accenting its floor divisions and framing the double-leaf entrance. Signaling the importance of the automobile, the Elder Motor Company was built between 1923 and 1925 with large picture windows, arched doorways, and decorative brickwork. <sup>168</sup>

Life in the county during this period carried on at a slower pace and the home, farm, and church remained the traditional nexus of concern. By 1926, Chatham County had fourteen religious groups, and 125 black and white churches serving 16,029 members. When compared with other counties from 1925 to 1929 for property values, manufacturing values, the worth of automobiles and so on, Chatham ranked about midway. A 1922 survey of farm tenants in Baldwin and Williams townships revealed that the accumulated wealth per county inhabitant was just \$567, compared with \$684 in the state and \$1,836 as an average throughout the nation. Much of the farm owners' land in the two surveyed townships lay idle because laborers had left the area or county to work in the cotton mills; a number of owners were "land poor" because of holdings which they could not work and refused to sell. The appearance of the boll weevil also cut back on cotton productivity. The survey also showed that the houses in which the rural renter class lived were generally frame and some log structures, more than thirty years old, often in poor condition; none had running water and little more than one-fourth had outhouses. The roads and the school system were considered poor by many, although they were to improve thereafter. <sup>169</sup>

While conditions in the Baldwin and Williams areas of the county were poor, in other areas there was room for optimism. Tobacco continued to be successfully grown in the eastern sections and, in the northwestern and north-central sections, dairying assumed importance particularly after 1926. The success of this enterprise is evident in the pleasant two-story houses and good-sized gambrel-roof barns which are abundant in this territory still dominated by Quaker descendants. In the Hickory Mountain area of central Chatham landowners discovered a comfortable living could be made by providing housing and guidance for the many Northern hunters who came to Chatham for its rabbits, quail and other game. One of these was Lacy Alston of Aspen Hall, great-grandson of Chatham Jack. From 1922 to 1939, Alex and Rosser Cockman <sup>170</sup>

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ran a hunting club out of their home, eventually having an architect-designed lodge built next to it. <sup>175</sup> Industries, notably brick works, also began to operate in southern Chatham.

Recovery after the Great Depression was slow in the county and, in the case of many of the smaller communities not located on major roads, almost nonexistent. The expansion of the pre-depression era had been checked, and governmental assistance appeared necessary to return the county and the rest of the nation to health. About 1933, as part of the Works Project Administration, an exhaustive soil survey of the county was carried out that produced a map detailing the network of small county roads and accompanying structures, thus giving a good idea of the settlement patterns of that time. In Siler City, both the mural inside the post office (which replaced the John Siler house) and the massive stone Municipal Building (constructed on the site of the old Thompson School) were products of the Works Projects Administration. Architecturally, the bungalow style continued to be popular until after World War II when modest ranch-style houses became the next step. By the early 1950s two Lustron homes, constructed of baked-enamel steel panels, were assembled in Pittsboro, and a third was built in the Bells community of eastern Chatham by civil engineer Patrick Barnes for use chiefly as a weekend home. (CH 224). More than thirty years later, it is inhabited by his son's family, and its prefabricated interior and exterior are in excellent condition. It stands as a striking anomaly in a rural landscape composed largely of turn-of-the century farmhouses and bungalow-era structures set along Chatham's winding roads and hilly terrain. During the post-war era, a substantial amount of land in New Hope, Williams and three other townships began to be condemned for the future impoundment of the B. Everett Jordan Lake which, after a lengthy process of construction, was completed in 1982. A number of Chatham's small communities, rich farmsteads and historic structures were literally swallowed up by the impoundment. Many others are now threatened by new developmental pressures, as well as the more long-standing problems of neglect, abandonment and general loss of a rural economic base. Protective measures and wise planning are necessary for Chatham County to preserve a representative number of structures from the two-hundred year history of its built environment.

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NOTES

1. A comparison of the population schedules of the census records for Chatham County indicate that the population grew by only 3.5 percent from 1850 to 1860, and by 3.2 percent between 1860 and 1870. This is far below the 15 percent natural replacement rate.

2. Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1963), p. 25, hereinafter cited as Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina.

3. Douglass L. Rights, "Traces of the Indian in Piedmont North Carolina," North Carolina Historical Review, Vol. VI (July, 1929), p. 278, hereinafter abbreviated as N.C.H.R.

4. "Moore County," author unknown, as cited in "Twelve North Carolina Counties in 1810-1811," A. R. Newsome, N.C.H.R., Vol. VI (July, 1929), p. 282.

5. Wade Hampton Hadley, Doris Goerch Horton and Nell Craig Strowd, Chatham County 1771-1971 (Durham, North Carolina: Moore Publishing Co., 1976), pp. 5, 393-416, hereinafter cited as Hadley, Chatham County; Chatham County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro; Chatham County Ejectment Proceedings from 1794, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh. Orange County tax lists from 1790 show that land holding varied from 200 to 500 acres, with a few owning as many as 10,000 to 12,000 acres.

6. Regarding cultural traditions in general, Jerry Cross, researcher at the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, points out: "Initially cultural elements were very strong and caused settlements in pockets along ethno-cultural lines. From the second generation on, there was an increasing blend of cultural backgrounds into a society with its own distinctive characteristics." Dr. Jerry Cross, private correspondence, June 22, 1983.

7. Julia Cherry Pruill, "Virginia and Carolina Homes before the Revolution," N.C.H.R., Vol. XII (October, 1935), p. 338.

8. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 395.

9. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 5.

10. Wade H. Hadley, Jr., The Story of the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company 1849-1873 (Siler City: The Chatham County

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Historical Society, 1980), p. 1, hereinafter cited as Hadley, The Story of the C.F. & D.R. Navigation Company.

11. "John Brooks Home (1775)," Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

12. "Moore County," N.C.H.R., p. 283.

13. In 1779, John Avent took over this ferry and it became known as Avent's Ferry, by which name the road leading to this area is still known. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 150.

14. Chatham County Court Minutes of August 1774, as cited in Hadley, Chatham County, p. 13.

15. George Washington Paschal, History of North Carolina Baptists (Raleigh: North Carolina Baptist State Convention, 1930), p. 297.

16. Morgan Edwards, Tour of Morgan Edwards of Pennsylvania to the American Baptists in North Carolina in 1772-1773, as cited in Paschal, History of North Carolina Baptists, p. 230.

17. Hadley, Chatham County p. 209. In 1758, Husband was issued a Granville land grant for 640 acres and in 1762 he was granted an additional 660 acres. It is probable that at some point he lived on his land, although this is not known for certain.

18. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 402.

19. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 402.

20. Cornelius O. Cathey, Agricultural Implements in North Carolina 1783-1860, undated pamphlet in North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, p. 128; Cathey, Agriculture in North Carolina Before the Civil War (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, Second Printing, 1974).

21. Hadley, Chatham County p. 151. Chatham County Court Minutes of 1775 indicate there was a charge for "rolling hogshead" of Francis Drake's ferry at Haywood. A caption under a photograph of the Ramsey Mill states that it ground corn and wheat.

22. "Millstones Recall Story," Chatham Record, April 4, 1963: "Ruins of Ramsey's Tavern Recall Revolution Period," Greensboro Daily News, September 18, 1938; photograph and description of mill in Hadley, Chatham County.

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23. Laws of North Carolina, 1792, as cited by Hadley, Chatham County, p. 153.

24. Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790; North Carolina (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1908), 125.

25. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 155.

26. "Moore County," N.C.H.R., p. 284.

27. Lester J. Cappon, "Iron-Making--a Forgotten Industry of North Carolina," N.C.H.R., Vol. IX (October, 1932), p. 332.

28. "Chatham County Mines and Quarries," M. McKenzie, July 1811, as cited in N.C.H.R., Vol. VI (October, 1929), p. 401.

29. "Chatham County Mines and Quarries;" "Iron-Making--A Forgotten Industry of North Carolina;" and Wade Hadley, "Ore Hill: Source of Munitions for American Revolution (Located in Chatham County, North Carolina)," (Siler City, North Carolina: privately printed, 1976). The Provincial Congress provided Wilcox with slave labor to assist in building the furnace on Tick Creek.

30. "Chatham County Mines and Quarries:" N.C.H.R., p. 403.

31. Founded as "Pittsborough," the town was known by its more informal spelling throughout the nineteenth century, and it was officially altered to "Pittsboro" in 1893. Similarly, Haywood achieved its name in 1800, having initially been known as "Haywoodsborough;" maps well into the nineteenth century continued to use the older spelling. Cf. "State Capitol and UNC: Haywood Came So Close," Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

32. Ca. 1800 plat of Haywood, Chatham County Deed Book 1, p. 24. Office of the Register of Deeds, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro, North Carolina; and copy of map, May, 1800 in Martha Harrington Yesterday: Southeastern Chatham County (Moncure, privately printed, 1982), p. 209, hereinafter cited as Chatham County Deed Books.

33. "State Capitol and UNC: Haywood Came So Close," Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

34. Price-Strother "Map of the State of North Carolina, 1808.

35. Calculated from the 1790 census of heads of families for Hillsboro District, Chatham County, North Carolina.

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36. Charlotte Brown and Jim Sumner, "National Register Nomination for Aspen Hall," unpublished. Raleigh: Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1982, hereinafter cited by title of nomination only.

37. Catherine W. Cockshutt and John Baxton Flowers, III, "National Register Nomination for Alston-DeGraffenreid House," unpublished; and "Aspen Hall."

38. "National Register Nomination for Alston-DeGraffenreid House." The nomination notes that the two-story structure may have been built around an earlier, smaller, hall-parlor dwelling with a simpler interior finish than the later, Federal addition.

39. Joseph A. Groves, The Alstons and Allstons of North Carolina and South Carolina (Atlanta: Franklin Printing and Publishing Company 1901) pp. 176-184; and Hadley, Chatham County, p. 333.

40. Blackwell P. Robinson (ed.), The North Carolina Guide (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1955), p. 65 of "History" section by Hugh T. Lefler. Whereas yeoman farmers in the state generally owned not more than 200 acres, those in Chatham County owned farms between 100 and 500 acres although much of this land was in pasture or unimproved.

41. Francis Asbury in North Carolina (Volumes I and II of Clark Edition), with introductory notes by Grady L. Carroll (Nashville: Parthenon Press, [1964]), journal entry for July 24, 1780.

42. Mrs. Evelyn Strowd, owner of the Merritt-Strowd Log House (CH 302) which has been recently constructed of several older log houses states that one of these was built by a Mr. Merritt prior to 1779; that it was "registered" at Methodist Church headquarters in Richmond Virginia; and that Asbury is believed to have preached there. Interview with Evelyn Strowd, August, 1982.

43. Survey and Planning Branch, "National Register Nomination for Ebenezer Log Church," 1974, unpublished.

44. Calculations from the 1790 census of heads of families for Hillsborough District, Chatham County show that just over 86 percent of slaveowners had less than ten slaves, and just under 55 percent had three or fewer slaves.



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45. A comparison of the First Census of the United States, 1790: Chatham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule and the Second Census, 1800, Population Schedule.

46. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 252; 254-55.

47. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 304-305: Cathey, Agriculture in North Carolina Before the Civil War, p. 17-18.

48. Douglas DeNatale, "Traditional Culture and Community in a Piedmont Textile Mill Village" (unpublished master's thesis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1980), p. 1.

49. Dr. Charles G. Zug to the author, April 16, 1983. Dr. Zug is completing a book on North Carolina folk pottery. Fox Family file Rees Collection, Wrenn Memorial Library, Siler City, N. C.

50. Hadley, Chatham County, photograph of John Siler house in section after p. 168. On p. 210, he states: "The Siler house is reported to have had the space between its outer and inner walls filled with brick bats, rock and gravel..." These could have been the remnants of infill used in half-timbering, or of nogging used between the structural members.

51. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination, Individual Property Form for Patrick St. Lawrence House, unpublished, 1982; Wade Hadley, "The McCarroll family and Patrick Saint Lawrence in Chatham County; N.C. from 1773 to 1827" (Siler City, n.p., n.d.) courtesy of Wade Hadley. The Price-Strother Map shows McCarroll, Pittsboro, and an intersection east of Pittsboro now known as Griffin's Crossroads to be the major intersections in the county at that time. Selden-Sturgill's work will be hereinafter cited by title of the nomination only.

52. A comparison of the Third Census, 1810, Population Schedule, with that of 1800.

53. Statistics for Chatham County from Tench Cox, A Statement of the Arts and Manufactures of the U.S.A. for the Year 1810, (Philadelphia: A. Cornman, 1814).

54. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Lewis Freeman House," unpublished nomination, 1982.

55. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 299. A comparison of the Fourth Census, 1820, Population Schedule with that of 1810 reveals that

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Chatham lost 2.4% of its general population, including a 25% loss of free blacks. Slavery grew by about 4.7% during this time.

56. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 255.

57. Cathey, Agriculture in North Carolina Before the Civil War, p. 39.

58. Hugh Talmadge Lefler (ed.), North Carolina History Told By Contemporaries (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, Fourth Edition, 1956), p. 236, hereinafter cited as Lefler, Contemporaries.

59. Joseph Caldwell, The Numbers of Carlton, addressed to the people of North Carolina, on A Central Railroad through the State (New York, 1828), as cited in Lefler, Contemporaries, p. 239.

60. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 197.

61. Seventh Census of the United States: 1850, Chatham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule and Eighth Census, 1860, same.

62. A comparison of the Fifth Census of the United States, 1830, Chatham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule and the Fourth Census, 1820, Population Schedule; and Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 305.

63. A comparison of the Fifth Census, 1850, Population Schedule with that of 1840 indicates that the slave population had risen 32.7% and that the free black population had risen 50%.

64. Max R. Williams, "The Foundation of the Whig Party in North Carolina: A Synthesis and a Modest Proposal," N.C.H. R., Vol. XVII (Spring, 1970), p. 116.

65. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 89.

66. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 369.

67. Marius R. Cambell and Kent W. Kimball, The Deep River Coal Field of North Carolina ([Washington]: United States Geological Survey and North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey, Bulletin No. 33, [1923]), p. 14, hereinafter cited as Deep River Coal Field.

68. Richard W. Griffin and Diffie W. Standard, "The Cotton Textile Industry in Ante-bellum North Carolina, Part II: an Era of Boom and

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Consolidation, 1830-1860," N.C.H.R., Vol. XXXIV (April, 1957), pp. 137, 143.

69. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Kelvin," unpublished nomination, 1982. Extant photographs indicate this was a two-story, possibly five-bay structure; on the site still stands a tall, narrow planked-log smokehouse which may have been contemporary with the house.

70. "Here is History of Chatham County Schools," Perry W. Harrison, Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

71. Sixth Census of the United States: 1840, Chatham County North Carolina, Population Schedule.

72. Seventh Census on the United States, 1850, Chatham County, Population Schedule. See also Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Pittsboro, N.C. Multiple Resource Nomination," unpublished, 1982 for description of the Pittsboro Academy.

73. Description by George Washington Paschal, N.C.H.R., Vol. XVIII (No. 1, 1951), as cited by Hadley, Chatham County, pp. 277-279; Also note Branson's Business Directories for Mt. Vernon Springs and Ore Hill for this era.

74. A comparison of the Sixth Census of the United States: 1840, Chatham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule with that of 1820.

75. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, pp. 369-370.

76. Hadley, The Story of the C.F. & D.R. Navigation Company; Durham Morning Herald, February 20, 1953. St. Marks is now part of a historic area in Raleigh, N.C., after having first been deconsecrated and moved to Siler City in the 1950s where it was briefly re-consecrated.

77. By Spence McClenahan, president of the company 1849-50, as cited in Hadley, The Story of the C.F. and D.R. Navigation Company, p. 12-13.

78. Campbell and Kimball, Deep River Coal Field, p. 14.

79. Roland B. Eutsler, "The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway," N.C.H.R., Vol. II (October, 1925), p. 430; and Robert B. Starling, "The Plank Road Movement in North Carolina," Part I, N.C.H.R., Vol. XVI (January, 1939), p. 13.

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80. Hadley, The Story of the C.F. & D.R. Navigation Company, p. 38. The company owned forty slaves by 1856 and paid six people for the hire of their slaves. John H. Haughton received \$1438 and L. J. Haughton \$1163, the largest such sums paid out to slave owners.

81. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 147.; and Starling, "The Plank Road Movement in North Carolina," Part I., p. 7.

82. "Two Old Houses Tell of Bygone Day in North Carolina," Greensboro Record, March 26, 1962. Located along this road north of what was to become Siler City, the Teague House (CH 422) which was an early nineteenth, century structure became the site of a blacksmith shop and post office when the plank road ran through just to the west of the property.

83. Chatham County Tax List, 1880, Tax Supervisor's Office, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro, N. C.

84. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 371.

85. Cathey, Agriculture in North Carolina Before the Civil War, p. 22.

86. Cathey, Agriculture in North Carolina Before the Civil War, p. 30; Rosser H. Taylor, "Fertilizers and Farming in the Southeast: 1840 -1950, Part I: 1840-1900, Introduction of Guano." N.C.H.R., Vol XXX (July, 1953), p. 307.

87. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 371.

88. Seventh Census of the United States: 1850, Chatham County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Lower Regimen, Chatham County, Products of Industry. Compendium of the Sixth Census by Counties and Principal Towns exhibiting the Population, Wealth and Resources of the Country (Washington: Blair and Rives, 1841). Eighth Census: 1860, Population Schedule; Products of Industry in Eastern District; Agriculture Schedule; Manufacturers Schedule.

89. Compendium of the Sixth Census by Counties and Principal Towns exhibiting the Population, Wealth and Resources of the Country, statistics for Chatham County.

90. Cathey, Agricultural Implements in North Carolina, 1783-1860 p. 134.

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91. Seventh Census of the United States: 1850, Chatham County, North Carolina, Manufactures Schedule.

92. Interview with Marshall Bullock, Division of Archives and History, interviewed May 27, 1983.

93. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 330, in the chapter on "The Negro" notes that in the year 1860 there were four free blacks employed as carpenters, earning \$403 per annum, and one cabinetmaker earning \$323 per annum.

94. Eighth Census of the United States: 1860, Chatham County North Carolina, Slave Schedule, p. 860; and Survey and Planning Branch, "John A. Mason House," unpublished, 1974.

95. Eliza Robertson, "Hadley House and Grist Mill," unpublished National Register nomination, 1980. The mill site of the property dates to 1838 or before, although the current mill was built in 1885.

96. Eighth Census of the United States: 1860, Chatham County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule; Robertson, "Hadley House and Grist Mill."

97. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 210.

98. Wade H. Hadley, "A General Store at St. Lawrence Post Office in Western Chatham County, N.C., 1851-1852 and Notes on the History on the Community" (Siler City, N.C.: privately printed, 1974). One of the most regular customers at the store was Philip K. Alston, who in 1850 had sixty-four slaves and 400 acres of improved land (p. 5-6)

99. O. Neal and others, "History of Pleasant Hill Methodist Church (privately printed, [1968]), copy courtesy of Doris G. Horton. Only one or two older dwellings near the bridge give evidence of what had once been a thriving community.

100. Seventh Census of the United States: 1850, Chatham County North Carolina, Population Schedule. The census records only one Episcopal Church at this time in the county, although St. Bartholomews in Pittsboro and St. Marks in Gulf were functioning.

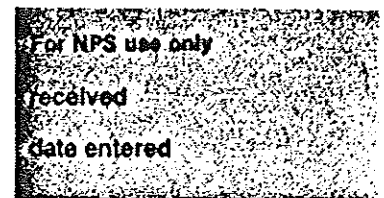
101. Gerald Oldham, "History of Lystra Baptist Church," (privately printed, n.d.) copy courtesy of Gerald Oldham, Chapel Hill.

102. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 254.

103. Hadley, Chatham County, 94.

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104. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 122.

105. Cornelius O. Cathey, "The Impact of the Civil War on Agriculture in North Carolina," in History and Political Science, Vol. 39 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1957), ed. by J. Carlyle Sitterson; pp. 97-110.

106. Ninth Census of the United States: 1870, Chatham County, North Carolina, Products of Wealth and Industry.

107. "Report of the Superintendent of Common Schools for the Year 1863," Calvin H. Wiley, Superintendent (Document No. 9, Sess. 1863) as cited in Lefler, Contemporaries, p. 305; and "Here is History of Chatham County Schools," Perry W. Harrison, Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

108. George Washington Chaffin, Journal, entries for January 3, 1863 and March 14, 1864, as cited in C. Franklin Grill, Methodism in the Upper Cape Fear Valley (Nashville: Parthenon Press, 1966), pp. 60-61.

109. R. B. Paschal Diary, typed manuscript in Chatham County Historical Society vertical file, Pittsboro Memorial Library, N.C.; entries for April 9 and 27, 1860; October 2 and 11, 1860.

110. R. B. Paschal Diary, general entries and also that for January 20, 1863.

111. B. H. Nelson, "Some Aspects of Negro Life in North Carolina During the Civil War," N.C.H.R., Vol. XXV (April 1948), p. 161; and Peter S. McGuire, "The Seaboard Airline" N.C.H.R., Vol. XI (April, 1934), p. 103.

112. (Raleigh) Daily Confederate, August 9, 1964, as cited in Logan, "Some Aspects of Negro Life During the Civil War," pp. 161-164.

113. Wade Hadley, "Ore Hill..." p. 2.

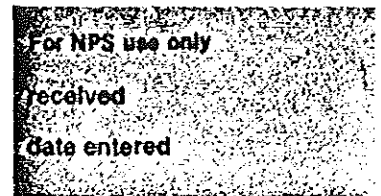
114. Grill, Methodism in the Upper Cape Fear Valley, p. 82.

115. (Raleigh) Daily Confederate, August 9, 1864, as cited in "Some Aspects of Negro Life During The Civil War." p. 163; and Wade Hadley, "An Unfinished Arsenal and Foundry of the Confederate States Located in Chatham County" (Siler City, N.C.: privately printed, 1978).

116. Richard L. Zuber, North Carolina During Reconstruction (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1969), p.p. 50-51.

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117. Frenise A. Logan, "The Movement of Negroes from North Carolina, N.C.H.R., Vol. XXXIII (January, 1956), p. 46.
118. Chatham Record, January 29, 1880, as cited in Logan, "The Movement of Negroes from North Carolina," p. 56.
119. Zuber, North Carolina During Reconstruction, p. 52.
120. R. C. Journey, J. T. Miller and S. Rankin Bacon, Soil Survey Of Chatham County, North Carolina (Washington: United States Department of Agriculture, Series 1933, NO. 7; 1937.)
121. North Carolina Land Company, North Carolina: A Guide to Capitalists and Emigrants (Raleigh, 1869), p. 2. Figures cited herein were compared with those from the 1870 Census of Wealth and Industry, which is assumed to be more accurate. The census shows 2,820 farms whereas the Guide shows only 1635, for example.
122. Chatham County Plat Book 2, p. 89, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro, N.C.; and Hadley, Chatham County, p. 196; Chatham County Deed Book 4, p. 45.
123. Chatham County Plat Book 31, p. 83; Branson's Business Directories for the years 1867 through 1896.(incomplete).
124. Herbert Collins, "Idea of Cotton Textile Industry in the South, 1870-1900," N.C.H.R., Vol XXXIV (July, 1957), pp. 358-392.
125. DeNatale, "Traditional Culture and Community in a Piedmont Textile Mill Village:" and Hadley, Chatham County, p. 190; and "Cotton Mill has been Survival of Bynum Area", Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.
126. Branson's Business Directories for the years 1867 through 1878 for Haywood, Gulf, Merry Oaks, Mt. Vernon Springs and Ore Hill.
127. Jesse Marvin Ormond, The Country Church in North Carolina (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1931), p. 90.
128. Hadley, Chatham County, pp. 373-374; and Grill, Methodism in the Upper Cape Fear Valley, p. 47.
129. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 67.
130. Ray Manieri's interview with Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Brown, February 9, 1983.

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131. Ruth Selden-Sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," unpublished, 1982.

132. Tenth Census of the United States: 1880, Chatham County North Carolina, Population Schedule and Manufactures Schedule: statistics for 1880 from Report of Farms and Homes: Proprietorship and Indebtedness in the United States at the Eleventh Census: 1890 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1896) p. 310. See also DeNatale's thesis 'Traditional Culture and Community...' on Bynum. At this time, Chatham's rate of farm tenancy was comparable to the statewide rate.

133. News & Observer (Raleigh), February 21, 1943.

134. Descriptive Gazette of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway ...for the information of investors in its securities and property along the Line (Raleigh: Edwards, Broughton, & Co., 1884.) p. 29.

135. Descriptive Gazette of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway . . ., pp. 29-30.

136. Roland B. Eutsler, "The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway," N.C.H.R., Vol II (October, 1925), p. 35.

137. Ruth Selden-sturgill, "Pittsboro Multiple Resource Nomination," unpublished statement of Significance, 1982; Hadley, Chatham County, p. 209-218; and Branson's Business Directories, particularly from 1872 onward for Mt. Vernon Springs, Ore Hill, Goldston, Gulf and Merry Oaks.

138. Map of Moncure and Vicinity, Chatham County Plat Book 1, p. 1, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro, N.C.: also John H. Wissler House (CH 150).

139. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 197; and "A Chapter in our History and Heritage is Fading Away But . . . Nature's Clear Mineral Springs continue to Flow," Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

140. Dunlap Family File, Rees Collection, Wren Memorial Library, Siler City, N.C.; Hadley, Chatham County, p. 190.

141. Hadley, Chatham County, pp. 211-213.

142. Wade Hadley, "Thompson School at Siler City, North Carolina: 1887-1897" (Siler City, N.C.: privately printed, 1979).

143. Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway Business Directory of 1891, as cited in Hadley, Chatham County, p. 213, Branson's Business Directory, Siler City, 1896.



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144. Memorial of the Farmers' Alliance of Chatham County to the General Assembly of North Carolina, 1889 (Document No. 25, Session 1889), as cited in Lefler, Contemporaries, p. 379.

145. Written by a correspondent to The Progressive Farmer from the Aurora Sub-Alliance of Chatham County, as cited in Hadley, Chatham County., p. 367.

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147. Ray Manieri interview with L.W. Fields, Goldston, May 18, 1983; and Charles P. Loomis, "Activities of the North Carolina Farmers' Union," N.C.H.R., Vol. VIII (October, 1930) p. 443.

148. Ormond, The Country Church in North Carolina, p. 90.

149. Biennial Report of the Superintendent [of] Public Instruction for the Scholastic Years, 1898-99 and 1899-1900, by C. H. Mebane, Superintendent of Public Instruction (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1900), pp. 282-283.

150. Comparisons between the Eleventh (1890), Twelfth (1900) and Thirteenth (1910) Censuses of the United States, Chatham County North Carolina, Population Schedules.

151. Twelfth Census of the United States: 1900, Chatham County North Carolina, Agriculture Schedule Part II: Crops and Irrigation.

152. Hadley, Chatham County, pp. 166-167.

153. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 381.

154. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 400.

155. Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 547.

156. Jerry L. Cross, "Julius Rosenwald: His Fund and his Schools; a Brief Historical Sketch of the Rosenwald Fund and Black Education in the South 1917-1948," Division of Archives and History (Raleigh, 1980), list appended to article, n. p.

157. Author's interviews with Wilbur Bryant, member of the Lee family, June 4, 1983, and Margaret Bryant Pollard, July 13, 1983.

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158. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Negro Population 1790-1915 (Washington Government Printing Office, 1918). Of the 1,421 total number of black-occupied homes, there were 1,042 farms of which 396 were owned and 646 rented; of the 397 non-farming homes, sixty-nine were owned and 301 rented.

159. Scarborough's Map of North Carolina and South Carolina Showing Railroads, Highways, Counties, published by the Scarborough Company, Indianapolis, Copyright 1906, 1907, and 1909.

160. Plan of Hadley-Peoples' Manufacturing Corporation, Chatham County Plat Book 1, pp. 87-88 shows three and four-room L-plan structures. For Bynum, see Helen Bresler, "The Bynum Mill Village: Unplanned Perfection," 1978, and "Industrial Vernacular Architecture," 1979: both copies of papers available at the Southern Oral History Program, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The architectural firm of Alley, Williams, Carmen and King, Inc. of Burlington, N.C. in 1976 completed measured drawings for the five basic floor plans of the mill village houses in Bynum.

161. Information from recent inventory of buildings as well as Hadley, Chatham County, pp. 25-28.

162. Ray Manieri interview with Wade Hadley, May 2, 1983.

163. "[Siler City] Grit Editor Recalls Siler City of 41 Years Ago," by Isaac S. London, Chatham News, 1950 issue, reprinted in Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

164. Map of Bennett, Chatham County Plat Book E-N, p. 36-601; it is unsigned, but most likely written by John or Isaac Dunlap.

165. Hadley, Chatham County, p. 189.

166. Much of this information including a sketched plan of the village, was provided by Mrs. Peggy Dixon, Moncure, N.C. Also "A Big Thing for Chatham Rambler says Phoenix Plant Below Moncure Something to See," Chatham Record, August 9, 1923.

167. "Last Yield made by Old Coal Mine," News and Observer (Raleigh), February 21, 1943; "M. B. Hudson Talks Calmly About his Sons Lost in Mine," Greensboro Daily News, May 30, 1925.

168. Anne Edmondson and others, Siler City Design Development Plan (Raleigh: Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Design, North Carolina State University, 1980 ), p. 16.

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169. Author's interview with Wade Hadley, May 23, 1983.

170. Ormond, The Country Church in North Carolina, p. 90.

171. J. A. Dickey and E. C. Branson, How Farm Tenants Live (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Extension Bulletin, University of North Carolina Press, [1923]), p. 12. Dickey and Branson were appointed to carry out this study in three counties, of which Chatham was one, by the Farm Tenancy Commission on which Chatham native Dr. Clarence C. Poe was part.

172. Dickey and Branson, How Farm Tenants Live, pp. 13-26.

173. Journey, Miller and Bacon, Soil Survey Sample of Chatham County, N. C., p. 39.

174. Members of the Lindley family, descendents of some of the earliest and most prominent Quaker families in Chatham and Alamance counties, are centered around this territory near Silk Hope, where dairying appears to be the strongest. Harvey Newlin (deceased) and his sons, another prominent Alamance County Quaker family, were noted builders of gambrel-roof barns in the dairy sections of both counties.

175. "Many Hunters Sought Rabbits in Hickory Mountain Hills," Chatham Record, August 5, 1976.

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8. D. Architecture

The buildings included in Chatham County's Multiple Resource Nomination represent an array of house types, period styles, and construction techniques from the early nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. With building forms ranging from vernacular to standardized nationally popular types, these buildings represent Chatham County's development from a pioneering back country area to a rural piedmont county more closely attuned to national trends. An excellent illustration of this transition is the comparison of the very simple vernacular Beckwith Goodwin Farm (CH-214), constructed between 1819 and 1839 and using mostly log walling techniques, and the 1903 brick Queen Anne Gregson-Hadley House (CH-477) in Siler City, which was architect-designed. The retardataire nature of most Chatham County dwellings is reflected in the William Alston Rives House (CH-371) which was built with Georgian features in the 1820s, and the Dr. E. H. Ward House (CH-275) constructed in the 1870s following a vernacular Greek Revival style.

Agriculture

Farm complexes lie at the heart of Chatham County's two hundred year old built environment. Most have been medium sized although there has been a range from small yeoman farms to large antebellum plantations. A number of structures included in the Multiple Resource Nomination reflect these variations, the earliest being the Beckwith-Goodwin Farm mentioned above. The Bowen-Jordan House (CH-426), built in the 1820s, illustrates a variation of the three-room Quaker plan with complementary dependencies; the Teague House (CH-422) and the Whitehead-Fogleman Farm Complex (CH-421) have dwellings with vernacular Federal/Greek Revival features and an array of mostly log outbuildings common to the 1830 to 1840 era. The late nineteenth century with its greater display farm buildings and construction methods and materials is represented by the James A. Thomas Farm (CH-215) and the Goodwin Farm Complex (CH-200) with its characteristic triple-A farmhouse.

Commerce

Although small crossroads stores and commercial ventures in small towns like Pittsboro have been an important factor in Chatham County's history since the late eighteenth century, it was in the late nineteenth century with the coming of the railroad that a more exuberant commercial style developed. The small Goldston Commercial Cluster (CH-520-523), developed between 1895 and about 1910, illustrates the transition from the parapeted front and Victorian details of the earlier frame stores to the later brick commercial style which became prevalent throughout the county. The 1908 Hotel Hadley (CH-493) in Siler City is a fine example of Queen Anne Commercial architecture rare in the county.

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Industry

Of the many grist and saw mills which provided basic services to rural county residents throughout the nineteenth century, the two best surviving examples are the early nineteenth century Hadley Mill (N.R. "Study list") and the mid-nineteenth Hackney Mill (CH-473) near Siler City.

Religion

Chatham County's religious history dates to its settlement in the mid-eighteenth century, although only a few congregations can trace their history to this period. The great majority of the county's churches are vernacular Gothic Revival structures exhibiting a small range of important features. O'Kelly's Chapel (CH-247) is associated with James O'Kelly's late eighteenth century founding of the Christian Church movement while the current building is a simple but intact Gothic Revival structure. The Ebenezer Methodist Church (CH-202) is a slightly more embellished version of the style, complete with the characteristic central entrance tower; its congregation met as early as the 1820s in the unusual Ebenezer Log Church (former N.R., now destroyed).

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E. Archeological investigations were not a component of the Multiple Resource Nomination.

F. Preservation/Restoration Activities

While a number of important historic properties in the Multiple Resource Area have been maintained in a good state of preservation, a larger number unfortunately have not; most Chatham County residents do not have access to the resources necessary to conduct preservation activities. Throughout the county, however, a few individual citizens and families are restoring old, often abandoned, homes at their own expense and generally with their own labor. A more widespread interest in historic architectural sites was aroused during the course of the surveys both for this Multiple Resource Nomination and the preceding Pittsboro one; a number of inquiries were received concerning methods of restoring old structures and/or placement on the National Register and, in a few instances, owners are following through. As a result of the survey, a slide presentation on Chatham County's historic architecture will be made by Rachel Osborn to the Chatham County Historical Society, public schools, and other interested groups. Currently the National Register is the only preservation tool in the county, but the possibility of setting up either a Historic Properties Commission or Historic District Commission--both regulated by North Carolina laws--is being considered. It is the hope of a number of individuals and groups that a publication based on the Chatham County and Pittsboro inventories will ensue in the near future.

G. Selection of Nominated Properties

Fourteen individual properties and two historic districts were chosen for inclusion in the Multiple Resource Nomination because, individually and collectively, they meet the National Register criteria and represent the development of county architecture from the early nineteenth through the first three decades of the twentieth centuries. A priority system emphasizing architectural rarity, integrity and historic significance was utilized. The nineteenth century individual properties demonstrate the agrarian life of the county as it existed in various periods, styles and geographic sections. The Mt. Vernon Springs Historic District is a virtually intact example of a small Chatham County rural community, as it developed around a significant mineral spring, from the mid-nineteenth century to the early part of the twentieth. The Goldston Commercial District exemplifies the architectural character of the county's late nineteenth century railroad "boom towns". Two twentieth century properties in Siler City, one residential and the other commercial, represent the flowering of the Queen Anne style in Chatham County.

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H. Although O'Kelly's Chapel and Ebenezer Methodist Church are religious properties, and as such generally exempt from listing on the National Register, they are included in Chatham County's Multiple Resource Nomination because, in addition to their significance in Chatham County religious and social history, they embody distinct forms of Gothic Revival architecture typically found only in ecclesiastical structures in the county. (The former meeting place of Ebenezer Church, the Ebenezer Log Church, was listed in the National Register but was subsequently destroyed, in part due to the Jordan Lake impoundment, and removed from the list.)

I. Use of Survey Findings

The survey for the Multiple Resource Nomination was initiated by the Chatham County Director of Planning, Keith Megginson, and partially funded by the Chatham County Board of County Commissioners. Information on the 410 recorded properties, including those eligible for or nominated to the National Register, will be used by the Planning Department for general educational purposes, taken into account when drafting zoning ordinances and considered when reviewing zoning change requests, particularly for commercial and industrial zones. No comprehensive plan currently exists for the entire Multiple Resource Area, although a plan exists for portions of it. A copy of the Chatham County Multiple Resource Nomination form, some photographs and slides, and a computer printout for each of the inventoried properties will be kept in the county seat in Pittsboro to be utilized by authorized individuals and groups.

On the state level, the information gathered on the inventory computer forms will form the data base of the architectural portion of the Cultural Resources Evaluation Programs (CREP). CREP will allow a full range of data management capabilities including the sorting, selecting, reporting, analyzing and graphic mapping of these resources so that they can be easily considered in statewide planning processes of various types.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property See individual properties

Quadrangle name See individual properties

Quadrangle scale See individual properties

UTM References See individual properties

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## Verbal boundary description and justification

County limits of Chatham County excluding Pittsboro and its one-mile planning radius.  
See individual National Register forms.

## List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state		code	county		code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rachel B. Osborn, Historic Sites Consultant

organization Chatham County Planning Department date July, 1982 through September, 1983

street & number P. O. Box 54 telephone 919/542-4873

city or town Pittsboro state N.C.

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature William S. Pin, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date April 11, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



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