



**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

March 30, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: William Gilmore
Project Development & Environmental Analysis

FROM: David Brook 

RE: Phase II – Addendum for the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House, U-2913 A&B,
Guilford County

We have reviewed the "Phase II - Addendum: Intensive Evaluation of Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House," prepared by NCDOT and hand-delivered to us on March 12, 2001. The report includes an informative discussion of historic and architectural contexts for the project area, with evaluations of selected properties, and well-written architectural descriptions of twenty-nine rural houses and four hunting lodges in the county.

As we agreed in 1996 that the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House does not meet National Register Criteria A, B, or D, the current issue is eligibility under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The portion of Criterion C pertaining to an individual property states that "properties may be eligible for the National Register if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, *or* that represent the work of a master, *or* that possess high artistic values" (emphasis added). The report's evaluation of the house under Criterion C concludes that the building is not architecturally distinctive because it is one of numerous surviving examples of its type; that it lacks high artistic value because its decorative elements were typical of its period; and that a better example of the transformation of a dwelling from an I-house to a much grander building exists nearby.

After careful consideration and studying the properties presented in the addendum, we have determined that an argument can be made for the ineligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House, but not for the reasons outlined in the report. The report's evaluation seems to be based upon premises with which we do not agree: that "architectural distinction" is required for eligibility, that such distinction is dependent upon rarity; and that the existence of a more "high-style" example of a particular trend precludes the eligibility of a more modest vernacular or popular expression of the same general development.

In its overall form, roofline, and detailing, the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House (along with numerous other houses in the county) embodies the distinctive characteristics of the popular expression of transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival design. It also represents the trend of

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William Gilmore
March 30, 2001
Page 2

enlarging an I-house to create a more fully developed rendition of transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival design. Although classifying the house by this sub-group seems to be too particular. *How* the house achieved its design is interesting, but secondary to the design itself. Subdividing the design category of late Queen Anne and early Colonial Revival style houses into "high style" and "popular" is more appropriate. Fully realized examples of a style are not better or necessarily more eligible for the Register than simpler, popular interpretations; examples of each group could be eligible, if the group can be shown to be significant.

Comparing and contrasting the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House to other properties within its group or sub-group is necessary to present a compelling argument for eligibility or ineligibility. This analysis, which fills in between the context discussions and the list of individual examples, is essential to the property type development. One can attempt an evaluation by examining the individual examples presented in the report. Of the twenty-nine examples of rural domestic architecture, eight houses may be categorized as Queen Anne and/or Colonial Revival (both high style and popular) in their overall form of more than one room deep, hipped and gabled roofline, and decorative elements. These include the Cisero Addison Groome House, J. H. Joyner House, Jefferson Lamb House, Mackay-Armstrong-Thorton House, Josh Murrow House, Joseph Sinclair Ragsdale House, Henry Troxler House, and Dr. William Thorton Whitsett House. Five of these houses are intact on the exterior: H. J. Joyner House, Josh Murrow House, Joseph Sinclair Ragsdale House, Henry Troxler House, and Dr. William Thorton Whitsett House. Of these intact examples, only the Murrow and Troxler houses are in the "popular" stylistic category. Coincidentally, these two houses are among the only three examples with intact interiors that originated as I-houses, the third example being the Ragsdale House.

Considering that the county is large and rapidly developing, it is reasonable and appropriate that more than one representative example of a building type or sub-type be eligible for listing in the Register. It is also reasonable to expect that these types and sub-types appear in the northern half of the county as well, thus enlarging the number of examples within each group. For well-represented stylistic groups or property types, high integrity thresholds may be appropriate. In comparison to the Murrow and Troxler houses, which appear to be completely intact on the exterior, the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House exhibits some exterior alterations (the glass enclosure of the porch and a small addition to the rear) and a degree of deterioration. Given these alterations, we believe it is ineligible for the National Register within the larger context of popular versions of the Queen Anne and/or Colonial Revival style house throughout all of Guilford County.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact me at 733-4763.

cc: Jeffrey Crow
Doug Galion
Federal Highway Administration
Mary Pope Furr

bc: Brown/Montgomery DOT County RF

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

PHASE II - ADDENDUM

INTENSIVE EVALUATION OF
FUTRELL-MACKAY-ARMSTRONG HOUSE



ROADWAY ON NEW LOCATION FROM SR 4121 TO
SR 1546 (GUILFORD COLLEGE ROAD), AND
WIDEN SR 1546 FROM THE INTERSECTION
WITH NEW ROADWAY TO SR 1541
GUILFORD COUNTY, NC

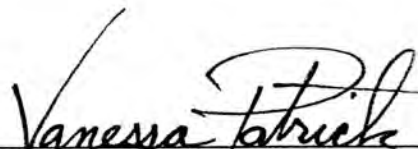
TIP # U-2913A&B
STATE PROJECT # 8.2492802
FEDERAL AID PROJECT # STP-1546(9)

North Carolina Department of Transportation
Report Prepared by Historic Architecture Section
March 2001

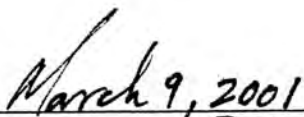
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HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
PHASE II - ADDENDUM


INTENSIVE EVALUATION OF
FUTRELL-MACKAY-ARMSTRONG HOUSE
GUILFORD COUNTY, NC



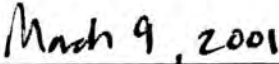
Vanessa Patrick
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation




Date



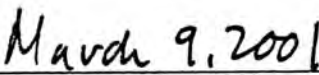
Heather Fearbach
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation



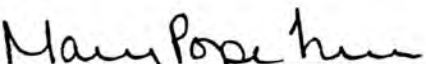
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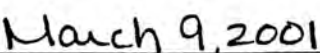
Richard Silverman
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation



Date



Mary Pope Hurr, Supervisor
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation



Date

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I. INTRODUCTION

In late 1995 and early 1996 the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) conducted a field survey and related research to identify and evaluate historic architectural resources located within the area of potential effects (APE) for T.I.P. No. U-2913 A&B in Guilford County. NCDOT presented its findings in a 1996 report, a technical addendum to an Environmental Assessment (EA), as part of the documentation of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).¹

Of the sixteen properties recorded in the APE, NCDOT found fourteen neither eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NR), nor worthy of further evaluation. The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NCHPO) concurred with NCDOT's determinations. The two remaining properties -- the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House and the Mackay-Armstrong-Thornton House -- warranted closer investigation and were treated in detail in the 1996 report. NCDOT concluded that neither property was eligible for listing on the NR. The NCHPO concurred with the assessment of the Mackay-Armstrong-Thornton House, but disagreed with the ineligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House (see Appendix, letter dated June 6, 1996).

At a meeting in August of 1996, NCDOT requested the NCHPO to reconsider its position on the eligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. Following a site visit, NCHPO reiterated its belief in the eligibility of the property and accordingly delineated NR boundaries (see Appendix, letter dated October 18, 1996). Prior to the completion of the EA for U-2913 A&B in August of 1999, NCDOT had formulated several widening options for the segment of Guilford College Road (SR 1546) facing the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. In consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NCHPO, and the property owner, NCDOT agreed to shift the widening entirely to the west side of the road, as well as to protect certain landscape features from damage during construction, thus avoiding any adverse effects to the property.²

By early 2000, owners of properties on the west side of Guilford College Road opposite the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House had begun to voice their objections to bearing the full impact of the road widening. NCDOT, NCHPO, FHWA, and the owners of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House tentatively agreed to a symmetrical widening of the road and began to investigate options for mitigating the adverse effects to the property. NCDOT and NCHPO prepared a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) calling for photographic

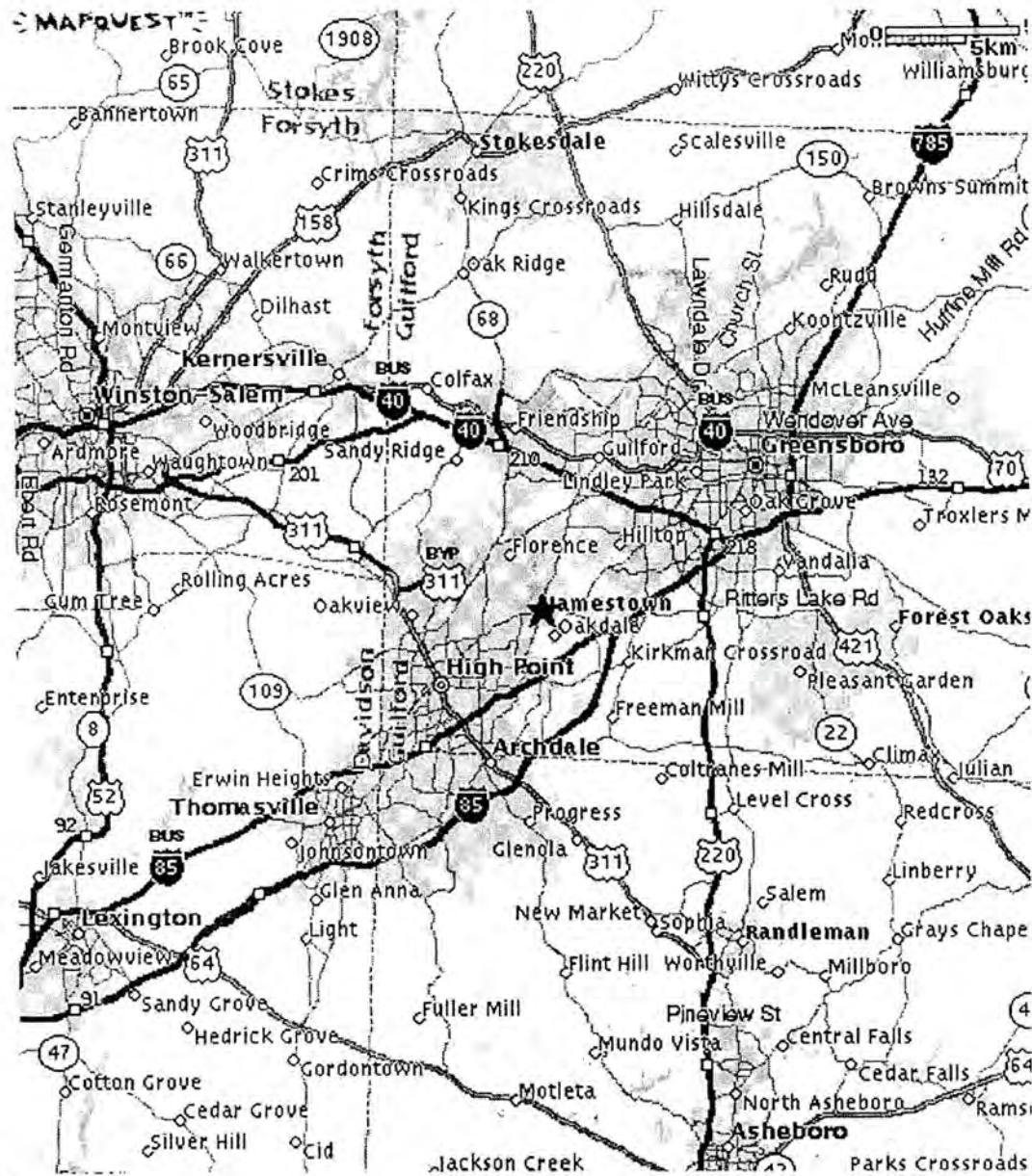
¹ Christine Trebellas, "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Roadway on New Location from SR 4121 to SR 1546 (Guilford College Road), and Widen SR 1546 from the Intersection with New Roadway to SR 1541, Guilford County, TIP #U-2913 A&B, State Project #s 8.2492801 and 8.2492802, Federal Aid # STP-1546 (9)" (Raleigh: Historic Architecture Section, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1996).

² Robert Andrew Joyner, "Environmental Assessment - Greensboro-High Point, SR 1546 (Guilford College Road) From SR 4121 (High Point Road) to South of SR 1541 (Wendover Avenue), Guilford County, F.A. Project No. STP-1546(9), State Project Nos. 8.2492802 and 8.2492801, T.I.P. Nos. U-2913A and U-2913B" (Raleigh: Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1999), p. 24.

recordation, a landscape plan, and the commitment of the owners to pursue preservation of the property. The owners expressed their concerns about the economic burden and other constraints inherent in preserving the property, and in December of 2000 the FHWA requested that NCDOT revisit the question of its eligibility for the NR.

This addendum to the 1996 historic architectural resources report presents a reconsideration of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House and both expands and confirms the original conclusion of NR ineligibility. NCHPO will review the new study and, if necessary, send it to the Keeper of the National Register for a final determination. If the Keeper deems the property eligible, FHWA and NCDOT will pursue avoidance alternatives. If the Keeper deems the property ineligible, an MOA will not be required. Nevertheless, FHWA and NCDOT will make every attempt to minimize the impacts of construction for all concerned.

II. PROJECT AND VICINITY MAPS



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Project

Phase II: Addendum

Sheet Title

PROJECT VICINITY MAP

Drawn By:
Silverman

Issue Date:
 03-09-01

File Name:
map_1.ppt

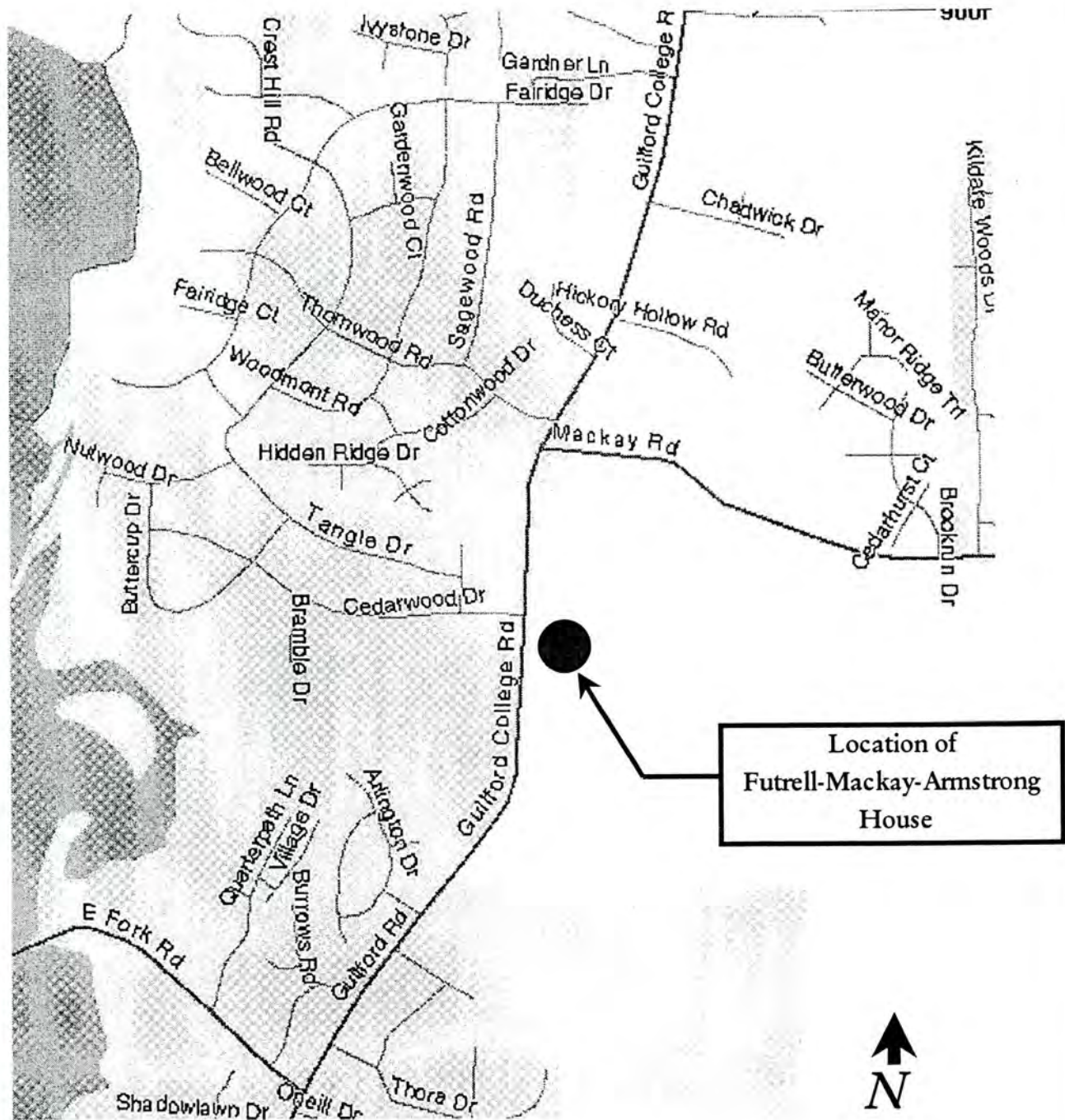
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U-2913A&B

Scale


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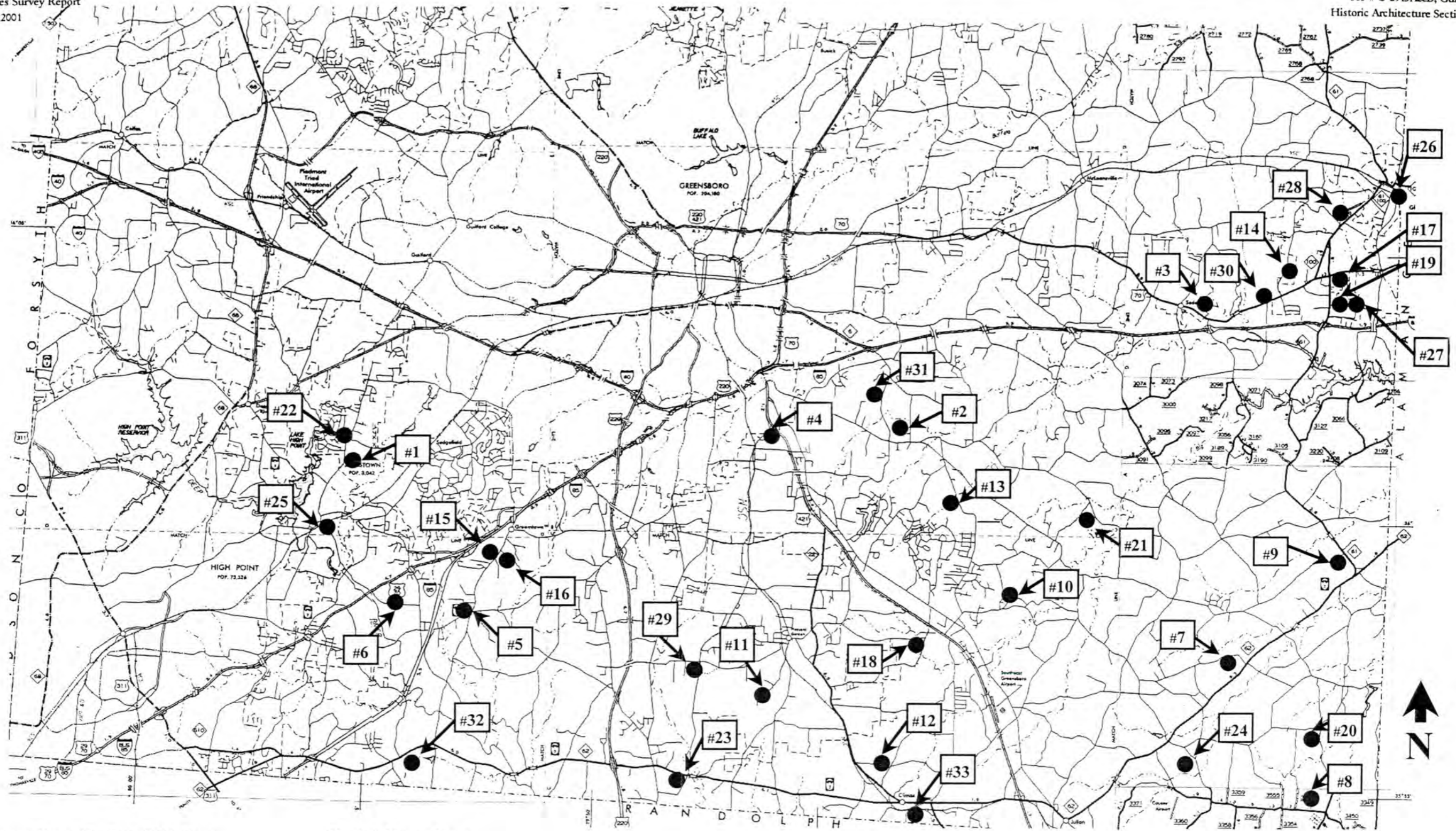
FIG-1



Location of
 Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong
 House




 <p>Historic Architecture NCDOT 1 South Wilmington Street P.O. Box 25201 Raleigh, NC 27611-5201</p> <p>T 919-733-7844 F 919-733-9794 www.dot.state.nc.us</p>	Project	Phase II: Addendum	Drawn By: Silverman	TIP No. U-2913A&B
	Sheet Title	LOCATION MAP Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House	Issue Date: 03-09-01	Scale NTS
			File Name: sp_1.ppt	Sheet No. FIG-2



Property Key

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House | 12. Percy Fields House | 23. Josh Murrow House |
| 2. Alson Allred House | 13. Riley Fogelman House | 24. Alba Neese House |
| 3. R.B. Andrew House | 14. D.P. Foust House | 25. J.S. Ragsdale House (Magnolia Farm) |
| 4. Logan Anthony House | 15. Cisero Addison Groome House | 26. Frances Marion Smith House |
| 5. Armfield House | 16. Marvin Groome House | 27. Dr. William Thornton Whitsett House (The Oaks) |
| 6. Jesse Lee Armfield House | 17. J.H. Joyner House (Holly Gate) | 28. Henry Troxler House |
| 7. John Bowman House | 18. Sydney Grover Joyner House | 29. Quate House |
| 8. L.W. Causey House | 19. Jefferson Lamb House | 30. O.W. Bright Lodge |
| 9. John A. Clapp House | 20. George Lednum Floyd Spoon House | 31. Dodge Hunting Lodge |
| 10. Coble-Murphy House | 21. Linch-Gush House | 32. Gould Lodge |
| 11. Thomas Fentress House | 22. Mackay-Armstrong-Thorton House | 33. Climax Hunting Lodge-Caretakers House |

Note: All properties surveyed in February, 2001 by staff Architectural Historians of the NCDOT Historic Architecture Section

 <p>Historic Architecture NCDOT 1 South Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27611-5201</p> <p>T 919-733-7844 F 919-733-9794 www.dot.state.nc.us</p>	Project	Phase II Addendum	Drawn By: Silverman	TIP No. U-2913A&B
	Sheet Title	Guilford County Property Survey	Issue Date: 03-09-01	Scale NTS
			File Name: map_2.ppt	Sheet No. FIG-3

III. PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY

As a consequence of the deliberations about T.I.P. No. U-2913A&B, described in the introduction to this report, FHWA asked NCDOT, specifically the Historic Architecture Section, to reassess the NR eligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. The findings of this supplementary study and their review by NCHPO will help to determine what steps remain for achieving full compliance for the project. This report stands as an addendum to the 1996 NCDOT survey and evaluation of historic architectural resources in the project area and presents the results of additional fieldwork, research, and analysis. Both reports are on file at NCDOT and are available for review by the general public.

A project team of three NCDOT architectural historians -- Heather Fearnbach, Vanessa Patrick, and Richard Silverman -- all previously unacquainted with the project and the property in question -- planned and conducted the requested study. They first reviewed the NCDOT architectural report and related project documentation, as well as examples of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century domestic buildings included in the 1996 inventory of historic architecture in Guilford County.³ The team then investigated and photographed the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong property on January 17, 2001. One of the property owners, Bebe Johnson, was present and opened the now uninhabited house for interior inspection.

Based on their initial lines of inquiry, the team members assembled a preliminary statement in which they began to expand the argument for the ineligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. This document served as a catalyst for discussion of the property at a January 26, 2001 meeting attended by representatives of FHWA, NCHPO, and NCDOT. In 1996, NCHPO had asserted that

... the property is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for design as a good, intact example of a vernacular, late-nineteenth century dwelling with Queen Anne detailing. However, because of deterioration of the barn and kennel and development of a portion of the acreage, we now concur [with NCDOT] that the property no longer conveys its associations with the hunting retreat era in Guilford County [Criterion A]. (see Appendix, letter dated October 18, 1996).

At the recent meeting, NCHPO clarified this position by suggesting that NCDOT focus on late nineteenth-century, rural, domestic building in Guilford County when further developing the context within which to assess the eligibility of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House.

The NCDOT team next consulted the NCHPO survey files for Guilford County and gathered all examples conforming to the proposed architectural context. The prevalence of

³ Graybeal, Kaye, *Historic Architecture Inventory - Guilford County, North Carolina - 1996* (Greensboro: Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission, 1996).

two-story, three-bay, single-pile, framed dwelling houses prompted another critical look at the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. Structural evidence clearly indicates that the house as originally built around 1885 conformed to the recognizable regional pattern, but underwent significant changes in massing, roof form, and ornamentation following a documented transfer of ownership around 1905. Members of the team met with Claudia Brown of NCHPO on February 20, 2001 to discuss these new observations and agreed to add examples of domestic buildings dating to the early twentieth century to their context study.

In addition to the analysis of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House, the team completed a field survey of rural domestic buildings constructed in Guilford County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The team traversed the southern half of the county -- closest to the property in question, historically cohesive, and containing the majority of surviving structures targeted for study -- on February 26 and 27, 2001. All examples were identified, evaluated, photographed, and recorded on NCDOT highway maps (see Figure 3). Site-specific and regional information was obtained from the 1996 NCDOT architectural report, survey and NR files at the NCHPO, published county surveys, and both primary and secondary sources held in the North Carolina State Library and Archives, the Hanye B. Lyons Design Library at North Carolina State University, and the Bryant Library in Rosslyn, New York.

IV. HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT FOR THE PROJECT AREA

Rural Domestic Architecture in Guilford County: Late Nineteenth to Early Twentieth Centuries

Transformations in the Rural Landscape

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, rural domestic architecture in Guilford County developed in a climate of dramatic change. The establishment of railroads and the associated growth of industry, the construction of improved roadways, and the advent of new activities like recreational hunting in the Piedmont region all called forth a variety of approaches to the forms and uses of both existing and newly created, rural, domestic properties.

The evolution of rural domestic architecture in Guilford County by the 1920s had followed two disparate paths. The first was characterized by the survival of the vernacular "triple-A" roof form associated with the influential Model Farm and local subsistence farming.⁴ Following this direction, houses with triple-A roofs in the county were stylistically updated and modified over time, an ongoing "organic" process common to this mode of conservative, rural, domestic architecture. Such alterations occurred with great regularity, as exemplified by the numerous examples still standing in Guilford County today.

The second developmental path was less common in the rural landscape. It was expressed in a rejection of the local triple-A roof form and the adoption of variants of more national architectural forms and styles. One way of accomplishing this was to radically remodel an existing vernacular form, so as to obscure the original building core, as is the case with the J.S. Ragsdale House in Jamestown. Beginning as a modest building of traditional plan in the countryside, the Ragsdale House became transformed into a turn-of-the-century, town-oriented, Colonial Revival-style estate.⁵

Another way of transforming a rural property was to impose a new architecture onto the existing rural landscape. Such is the case with the O.W. Bright Lodge, located near the rural community of Whitsett.⁶ Hunting lodge properties, serving as retreats for wealthy northern businessmen, transformed parts of the rural Piedmont during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Guilford County. The forms and styles of buildings constructed on hunting lodge properties sometimes referred to the tradition of domestic farmhouses and

⁴McKelden H. Smith, *Architectural Resources: An Inventory of Historic Architecture, High Point, Jamestown, Gibsonville, Guilford County* (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, 1979), pp. 21-22; see also National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Whitsett Historic District (1999), Survey Files, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh. "Triple-A" is a regional term applied to a three-bay, gable-roofed house of one or two stories, displaying a gabled dormer or cornice break above the central bay of its main elevation. This feature plus the two gable ends of the roof proper constitute the three A-shaped elements considered definitive of the building type.

⁵National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Ragsdale Farm (1991), Survey Files, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

⁶Smith, p. 93.

their agriculturally-related outbuildings, but the underlying financial support for these complexes derived from non-farm related activities.⁷

The Civil War and its Aftermath

While many of Guilford County's residents did not support secession from the Union, the Civil War and its aftermath nevertheless affected the county profoundly. Transportation routes greatly expanded under the Confederacy. In April of 1863, the Confederate Government began construction on the Piedmont Railroad, which ran from Greensboro to Danville, Virginia.⁸ After the Civil War, improvements in banking, agricultural practices, as well as education, industry, and transportation, slowly developed. With the development of the railroad, many new activities and industries emerged in Guilford County in the late nineteenth century. These improvements also benefited local farms. The production of tobacco and other cash crops increased since the railroad provided farmers with new markets outside of the county.

Increasing urbanization and industrialization also contributed to changes in agricultural practice. Census records for Guilford County provide the best picture of agriculture in the area during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1870, winter wheat, oats, and Irish potatoes were predominant crops, and the county had one of the highest populations of swine, sheep, cows, and horses in the state. By 1900, agricultural trends had shifted towards more but smaller farms. In 1900, eighty-one percent of the farms in Guilford County reported dairy products. In addition to livestock and poultry products, the largest crops included corn, oats, wheat, grasses, clover, and orchard products.⁹

The Architecture of Subsistence Farming: The "Triple-A" House

Although the Civil War caused minimal destruction in Guilford County, the economy recovered slowly, and few structures were built in the period immediately after the war. Even those farmers who had additional income from grist mills, general stores, and other operations, built only small, simple structures. One kind of structure built after the Civil War, however, greatly influenced the architecture of Guilford County and the rest of North Carolina. In 1868, the "Baltimore Association of Friends to Advise and Assist Friends of the Southern States" established the Model Farm to demonstrate improved methods of agriculture and animal husbandry to local farmers.¹⁰ The original farmhouse, a two-story, three-bay, single-pile house with a center hall plan and center gable on the façade, set a precedent for simple farm dwellings constructed during the next thirty to forty years. This type of house, known colloquially as the triple-A due to the visual effect of the two end and central gables, appeared throughout North Carolina and elsewhere as the standard house design of this period. Indeed, the building type became popular throughout Guilford

⁷ Thomas Gilbert Pearson, *Adventures in Bird Protection* (New York: D. Appleton Century Company, Inc., 1937), pp. 106-107; Trebellas, p. 11.

⁸ Trebellas, pp. 8-9.

⁹ Bureau of the Census, *The Census of the United States, Statistics of Agriculture, 1880, 1890* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Press, 1883, 1895).

¹⁰ Smith, p. 21; Laura A.W. Phillips, "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, TIP U-2413, Wendover Avenue from Penny Road to Greensboro City Limits, Guilford County, North Carolina" (Raleigh: Historic Architecture Section, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1989), p. 6.

County. Most of these houses, supported by small-scale subsistence farming, were not large or elaborate. Restrained stylistic details sometimes were applied to the basic form.¹¹

While the Model Farm is the most significant triple-A-roofed house in Guilford County, there are numerous surviving examples that testify to the popularity and stylistic versatility of this form. A good example in Guilford County is the R. B. Andrews House, located in the Sedalia community.¹² This well-maintained, two-story, three-bay house was built by R. B. Andrews, postmaster and owner of an adjacent general store, around 1910.¹³ In the central gable are wooden shingles and a single-light sash. A wrap-around porch with turned posts and scroll-sawn brackets are vernacular stylistic details appropriate to this conservative mode of rural architecture. The 1910 construction date exemplifies the persistence of the house form as a suitable model for a rural residence. Other good examples of farmhouses in Guilford county modeled on the triple-A-roof type are the Jesse Lee Armfield House, the Riley Fogelman House, and the Sidney Grove Joyner House.¹⁴

Rising Prosperity and National Architectural Styles

Between 1870 and 1920, parts of Guilford County saw their agrarian economy and rural society become more industrialized and urbanized. Indeed, in the late nineteenth century the first sign of modern industry in Guilford County appeared with the emergence of the furniture and textile industries. In the wake of such developments, the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, which were often intermixed, appeared in the late nineteenth century and continued into the early twentieth century in Guilford County. The best examples of these styles predominated in the urban centers of the county, but occasionally appeared in more rural communities like Whitsett.¹⁵ The J. Henry Joyner House (Holly Gate) is an impressive, two-and-one-half-story frame house built around 1910. It remains one of the best surviving transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival-style houses in the county. Professor Joyner, a brother-in-law of W.T. Whitsett, taught English, mathematics, and penmanship at the nearby Whitsett Institute.¹⁶ No architect for the building is known. The Joyner House was probably constructed by local builders, whose architectural ideas sometimes were taken from available and widely circulated pattern books and who, more significantly, utilized mass-produced millwork and other building materials.¹⁷ Both practices tended to standardize architectural styles during the period. Built in the environment of a rural community, the house is formally and stylistically more complex than the many triple-A-roofed houses of the period. The Joyner House illustrates the full treatment of builder-oriented design that was possible in this rural setting.

¹¹ National Register Nomination for Ragsdale Farm, Section 8, p. 7.

¹² Smith, pp. 22, 92.

¹³ Smith, p. 92.

¹⁴ Smith, multiple entries.

¹⁵ Smith, pp. 23-24.

¹⁶ Smith, p. 106; see also National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Holly Gate (1980), Survey Files, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

¹⁷ Catherine W. Bishir, Charlotte V. Brown, Carl R. Lounsbury, and Ernest H. Wood III, *Architects and Builders in North Carolina: A History of the Practice of Building* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1990), Chapters 4 and 5.

Stylish Conversions of Rural Houses

By the final quarter of the nineteenth century, many farms no longer existed solely as rural properties as traditionally understood. Many houses evolved in use from serving a typical, middling farm, primarily a means of support for the family, to the "gentleman's farm," a country estate retaining in many ways the appearance of a farm, but not its complete activities. Those houses that were located in or near established small towns and communities, such as Climax, Jamestown, or Whitsett for example, proved especially attractive to those in quest of a country home because the surrounding landscapes were still rural in appearance, yet in close proximity to roads or railways. Many of these transformed houses emulated newly-built Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses in urban settings like Greensboro and High Point, the centers of industrial production in the county. While some remodeled farmhouses are notable as examples of this transformation, such as the Ragsdale Farm in Jamestown, other properties were simply enlarged and not significantly transformed into new architectural expressions.¹⁸

While the trend to modify or enlarge rural, triple-A-roofed houses in Guilford County was not uncommon, the Ragsdale House best represents in one structure the evolution from an earlier nineteenth-century house to a more prosperous turn-of-the-century Queen Anne and Colonial Revival-style dwelling, which was again updated with Georgian Revival interiors during the 1940s.¹⁹ Located in Jamestown on the south side of Greensboro Road, Ragsdale's farm originally occupied 100 acres, which included the present tract and acreage on the opposite side of the road. The Ragsdale house was a triple-A-roofed house in the form of the Model Farm, built to replace or enlarge an earlier vernacular dwelling on the farm. It was constructed at a time in which Joseph Ragsdale, manager of Oakdale Cotton Mills, was beginning to become more prosperous. The house was enlivened with simple, Italianate-style detailing, specifically bracketed cornices and arched window heads.²⁰

The present appearance of the house dates from a 1900 enlargement and other remodeling efforts. The large, two-story, frame dwelling is primarily Colonial Revival in style, but has decorative shingled gables and other features which reflect some Queen Anne-style influence. In the 1940s, another generation of Ragsdales remodeled the major first floor rooms by adding sophisticated Georgian Revival paneling, representing a later phase of the stylish Colonial Revival.²¹ The Ragsdale farm also contains multiple outbuildings that range in date from the earliest period of the farm into the mid-twentieth century, demonstrating the full transformation of a vernacular house into a residence that has developed under a new usage.

The Hunting Lodge Phenomenon and Rural Domestic Architecture

Another trend that began around the turn-of-the-century was the development of vast tracts of Guilford county farmlands into large hunting estates controlled by northern businessmen.

¹⁸ National Register Nomination for Ragsdale Farm.

¹⁹ National Register Nomination for Ragsdale Farm, Section 8, p. 7.

²⁰ National Register Nomination for Ragsdale Farm, Section 8, p. 8.

²¹ Ibid.

In the late nineteenth century, hunting as a sport continued to be a popular pastime among wealthy individuals. For many sportsmen, hunting became an expression of social class as they sought to distinguish themselves from tenant farmers or factory workers. Many also wanted to escape industrialized cities for the relatively undeveloped American countryside.²² During this era, Piedmont North Carolina emerged as an ideal place for quail hunting. In 1894, J. P. Morgan and Company reorganized the Southern Railway and made North Carolina accessible by rail to northeastern cities. A trip from New York to Piedmont North Carolina now took only seventeen hours. Businessmen could leave New York on Friday evening, travel by private railroad car, and arrive in North Carolina the following morning ready to hunt.

The large tracts of woodlands and fields in Piedmont North Carolina created an ideal habitat for quail. Areas of Guilford, Randolph, and Davidson Counties contained plenty of inexpensive, readily available land, a necessity for establishing quail preserves. Obtainable land well-suited for game, as well as convenient transportation by rail, led many wealthy northern businessmen to establish hunting clubs or estates in Piedmont North Carolina. These magnates included men such as William Gould Brokaw, George J. Gould, Pierre Lorillard, J. P. Morgan, Jr., John B. Cobb, and Clarence Hungerford Mackay.²³

Existing buildings on local subsistence farms, often triple-A-roofed houses, were remodeled to serve their new use. More elaborate, stylish buildings also were constructed. The new buildings were often made to look like farmhouses, yet they were remarkably different from their modest neighbors. Such is the case with the O.W. Bright Lodge, located on a large rural tract in the vicinity of Whitsett. The Bright Lodge guest house, an early twentieth-century Colonial Revival-style house, is one of the best surviving examples of hunting lodge-era architecture in Guilford County.²⁴ It is also, according to a published inventory of historic architecture in Guilford County, "one of the largest domestic buildings in the county."²⁵

Early Twentieth Century

As the twentieth century progressed, Guilford County builders continued to draw more and more from a national pool of design and building information and became less dependent upon local tradition, materials, and experience. In the rural landscape, the familiar two-story, three-bay, frame, central hall farmhouses continued to be built, though more often than not incorporated modest applications of stylized detailing.

The Colonial Revival style had emerged in the closing years of the nineteenth as a reaction to the extravagant ornamentation of Queen Anne and other Victorian-era architecture. Sparked by the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia and the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the Colonial Revival marked a return to classically inspired elements,

²² Trebellas, pp. 10-12; see also Stuart A Marks, *Southern Hunting in Black and White* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991), pp. 40, 171.

²³ Trebellas, pp. 10-12.; see also Lawrence S. Earley. "Quail Paradise in the Piedmont," *Wildlife in North Carolina* 50, no. 12 (1986), pp. 18-23; and Don Follmer, "Gould Mackay Estates Were Fairly Private," *High Point Enterprise*, 15 August 1968, 5(D).

²⁴ According to Trebellas, the main lodge building burned sometime around 1920.

²⁵ Smith, p. 93.

such as columns and pediments. Such features were often grafted onto traditional or even Queen Anne-style house forms. An example in the domestic architectural landscape of Guilford County is the Dr. William Thornton Whitsett House.

In Guilford County traditional domestic architectural form persisted into the 1920s, as did the practice of treating new stylistic elements in a selective manner, such as adding Colonial Revival-style porches or using multi-divided-light sashes for new additions. As Colonial Revival-style architecture gained popularity through its appearance in expositions and magazines, designs for dwellings began to display a renewed emphasis on symmetry and central porticos.

Houses built in the early twentieth century with the profits of agricultural enterprises generally were not large or richly detailed. As a rule in Guilford County, the triple-A-roofed house persisted, though they sometimes were built with Craftsman-style porches. Soon thereafter, the long-favored house type was supplanted by the bungalow form brought to Guilford County by design books and popular magazines. Guilford County is notable for its continuity of vernacular form from the 1870s to the 1920s, but also for its handful of more consciously high-styled domestic structures built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.²⁶

²⁶Langdon E. Opperman, "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, I-2402, I-85, Greensboro Bypass, Guilford County, North Carolina" (Raleigh: Historic Architecture Section, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1991).

V. SURVEY OF LATE-NINETEENTH TO EARLY-TWENTIETH CENTURY RURAL DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE IN GUILFORD COUNTY

✓ The **Alson Allred House**, located at 1616 Wiley Lewis Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a two-story rear ell and porch and a one-story side addition. The house appears to contain at least four phases of construction encapsulating an early two-story, four-room plan, as evidenced by the asymmetrical placement of windows and doors on the façade and the locations of the one interior and other end chimneys. According to the survey file, some of the later modifications to the house occurred circa 1895 and circa 1923. The Allred House is clad with asbestos siding.

✓ The circa 1910 **R. B. Andrew House**, located at 6145 Burlington Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell attached to a one-story board-and-batten building by an extension of the rear porch roof. The house is characterized by a triple-A roof and a one-story, hip-roofed porch with turned posts and decorative brackets that wraps around two elevations. The R. B. Andrew House and outbuildings are listed on the National Register as part of the Palmer Memorial Institute Historic District.

✓ The circa 1890 **Logan Anthony House**, located on the east side of Pleasant Garden Road 0.15 mile north of the junction with Logandale Court, is a two-story, four-bay, single-pile frame house with a series of additions to the rear and side elevations. Italianate ornamentation is evident on the one-story, hip-roofed porch posts and freize. Central chimneys in the main block of the house and the additions are a departure from the end chimneys more common in the piedmont region of North Carolina.

The circa 1898 **Armfield House**, located at 2728 Kivett Drive, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell containing a stovepipe chimney. A standing-seam metal roof covers the main block of the house, the ell and the hip-roofed porch. The chimney(s) for the main block of the house are missing. The Armfield house has vinyl siding and replacement porch elements.

o-1610
✓ The **Jesse Lee Armfield House**, located at 5351 River Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a two-story ell and a rear shed addition. The house is characterized by a triple-A roof and Italianate ornamentation including paired brackets and elaborate millwork at the central gable and in the one-story, hip-roofed porch. The central chimney in the main block of the house appears to be original, while the central chimney in the rear addition has been replaced.

7
✓ The circa 1903 **John Bowman House**, located at 2909 N.C. 62, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell and a one-story, hip-roofed porch. The end chimneys are typical for the region, but the bungalow porch posts are a departure from the more common turned porch posts. The Bowman House is clad with vinyl siding.

✓ The circa 1880s **L. W. Causey House**, located at 6139 Smithwood Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with additions to every elevation. The main block of the house has a hip roof with a central shingled gable containing a decorative Queen Anne-style

window. A one-story hyphen connects the main block of the house to a one-story structure with a hip roof. Two rear chimneys with corbelled stacks serve the main block of the house, while a small hooded stovepipe chimney serves the one-story rear addition. The one-story front porch has been enclosed and a greenhouse window added to a projecting side addition to facilitate the current function of the house as "Fran's Front Porch Restaurant." Colonial-Revival additions to the house include the balustrade adorning the one-story, flat-roofed porch and a one-story side portico sheltering the restaurant entrance. The paint scheme (white field with dark green shutters) carries out the Colonial-Revival motif.

done
The **John A. Clapp House**, located on the west side of N.C. 61 0.1 mile south of the junction with McPherson Clay Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell. The end chimneys have corbelled stacks. The house is characterized by a projecting central gable with sawn millwork covering a second-story porch. The first-story porch continues across all three bays of the façade. An octagonal window has been added to one side of the end chimney. The Clapp House is clad with vinyl siding.

done
The circa 1883 **Coble-Murphy House**, located at 5004 Harmony Lane, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell. End chimneys with corbelled stacks serve the main block of the house and the ell. The Italianate paired doors on the façade are obscured by a modern aluminum screen door. Millwork brackets decorate posts of the one-story, hip-roofed porch. The Coble-Murphy House is clad with aluminum siding.

done
The **Thomas Fentress House**, located at 6430 Nazarene Church Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house built circa 1900 onto an original one-and-one-half-story, circa 1875, V-notched log structure. A one-story board-and-batten ell with turned porch posts projects from the side elevation of the rear ell. The frame section of the house has a triple-A roof with a shingled central gable containing a Queen Anne-style window. The one-story, hip-roofed porch includes distinctive millwork applied to the underside of the porch beam and bracketed porch posts. A standing-seam metal roof covers all sections of the house. One end chimney and an interior chimney with corbelled stacks serve the main block of the house, while a hooded stovepipe chimney serves the original log portion.

done
The circa 1895 **Percy Fields House**, located at 7212 Charnell Lane, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell and a side shed addition. The house is characterized by a triple-A roof and a one-story, hip-roofed front porch with millwork brackets and turned posts. The central gable contains a louvered vent. Other original elements include two-over-two sash and the front door. One end chimney survives.

The circa 1906 **Riley Fogelman House**, located at 4108 Presbyterian Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a two-story rear ell. End chimneys with corbelled stacks serve the main block of the house. The house is characterized by a triple-A roof with a shingled central gable containing a decorative Queen Anne-style window and a hip-roofed front porch with millwork brackets and turned posts. An asphalt-shingle roof, vinyl siding and storm windows have been added to the Fogelman House.

done
The **D. P. Foust House**, located in the Whitsett vicinity, is a two-story, three-bay, double-pile frame house with a two-story rear ell. The house is embellished with Italianate details including paired brackets at the cornice and eaves, a projecting central gable covering a

second-story porch with a millwork balustrade and paired posts, and first-story porch with a flat roof, paired posts, and a paired-bracket cornice. A portico with the same decorative elements shelters the side entry to the rear ell. End chimneys with corbelled stacks serve the main block and the rear ell. The yellow field and green trim with red accents follows a classic Italianate paint scheme.

The circa 1893 **Cisero Addison Groome House**, located at 4620 Groometown Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, frame house that has been incorporated into a rambling structure under a pyramidal roof with high interior chimneys. In an interesting departure for the region, the center gable contains a fanlight. The front porch wraps around two elevations. A one-bay wide and one-bay deep side gable projection merges into a one-story hip-roof rear addition. Aluminum siding and replacement aluminum columns have been installed. The Cisero Groome House has a Colonial-Revival color scheme (creamy-yellow field with dark red shutters and white trim).

The circa 1900 **Marvin Groome House**, located at 4790 Groometown Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single pile, frame house that has been incorporated into a larger structure under a hip roof with interior chimneys. The front porch wraps around two elevations, and the rear section of the side porch has been enclosed. A two-story ell projects from the rear elevation. Aluminum siding and replacement aluminum columns have been installed. The Marvin Groome House now functions as the "Windy Hill Bed & Breakfast." The Marvin Groome House has a Colonial Revival color scheme (white field with dark green shutters).

The 1908-1910 **J. H. Joyner House (Holly Gate)**, located in Whitsett, is an imposing two-and-one-half story, transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival house with asymmetrical massing, a pyramidal roof, three high chimneys with corbelled stacks, and a porch with paired Doric colonettes on brick plinths connected by a turned blastrade that wraps around two elevations of the house. The central shingled gable with paired windows on the façade is repeated on the façade of the recently added one-and-one-half story building attached to the main house by a covered breezeway off a side elevation. A Victorian paint scheme (cream field with red sash and grey-green accents) adds to the house. "Holly Gate" is listed on the National Register.

The circa 1893 **Sidney Grover Joyner House**, located at 5730 Hagan-Stone Park Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one-story rear ell. The house is characterized by end chimneys, a triple-A roof, and Italianate eave brackets. The one-story hip-roofed porch has turned posts. The Joyner House has been clad with asbestos shingles.

The circa 1896 **Jefferson Lamb House**, located at 7206 Whitsett Park Road, is a two-story, three bay, double-pile, frame house with a steep hip roof and two tall interior chimneys. Central gables containing diamond-shaped vents project from the front and rear elevations. The porch wraps around two elevations and features bracketed turned posts with a turned balustrade. The Lamb House has been clad in blue vinyl siding.

The circa 1920 **George Lednum/Floyd Spoon House**, located at 6692 Kimesville Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, frame house with a one-story rear addition. Two end chimneys with corbelled stacks serve the main block of the house, while a later chimney

serves the ell. The one-story, hip-roofed porch is devoid of embellishment. The central gable contains a diamond-shaped vent. The house has been clad in aluminum siding.

The circa 1910 **Linch-Gush House**, located at 158B Linch Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single pile, frame house with a series of additions to the side and rear elevations. A central chimney serves the main block of the house, while a hooded stovepipe chimney serves a rear addition. The central gable crowns a small projection at the second-story. The triple-A roof is further emphasized by returned cornices. The one-story, hip-roofed porch follows the projection at the second-floor level, and is embellished with millwork brackets.

The **Mackay-Armstrong-Thorton House**, located on the west side of Guilford College Road at the intersection of Mackay Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, frame house that has been incorporated into a larger structure under a hip roof. One interior and one exterior chimney serve the house. Both chimneys were rebuilt when the house was moved approximately 500 feet closer to Guilford College Road. The house is characterized by a wide central gable containing a square window, and a hip-roofed porch with turned posts, a turned balustrade and millwork brackets.

The circa 1885 **Josh Murrow House**, located at 320 NC 62, began life as a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house. The house subsequently received a unusual change of orientation, with the addition of a second bay to the original section of the house, and a two-story, two-bay structure to the north (formerly front) elevation. The double-gable end of the house now includes a recessed porch with square posts that functions as the new primary entrance. Bay windows were added to the south and west elevations. A two-story stair hall on the east elevation of the two-bay addition and a one-story shed porch on the east elevation of the original section of the house complete the form. One end chimney survives on the east elevation of the original house. The Murrow House has a Colonial-Revival paint scheme (white field with black shutters).

The circa 1897 **Alba Neese House**, located at 6824 Bowman Dairy Road, is a two-story frame house with the massing of a three-bay structure. It appears that in 1939, when the house became a tenant property, the fenestration of the façade was altered to the current appearance of two small, square, four-light windows on the second floor above the two doors on the front elevation. Each door has a four-over-four sash window immediately to the left. A diminutive central chimney serves the house. The one-story, hip-roofed porch is currently being replaced.

The 1910 **Quate House**, located at 5800 Davis Mill Road, is a two-story, three bay, single-pile frame house with exterior chimneys. A one-story, hip-roofed porch with turned posts and simple millwork brackets extends across the façade.

The circa 1866 **Joseph Sinclair Ragsdale House (Magnolia Farm)**, located in the Jamestown vicinity, was a small one-and-one-half-story, hall-parlor plan with a shed addition. According to family history, the Ragsdales enlarged the original house in 1880, converting it to a two-story, three-bay, single-pile house characterized by a triple-A roof, end chimneys, and Italianate embellishment. In 1900 the house was again enlarged under a steep pyramidal roof with high corbelled interior chimneys, front and side gables, hipped dormers, and a porch that wraps around three elevations. The projecting central bay and Tuscan columns

of the Colonial-Revival porch are dominant features of the house. The house has a Colonial-Revival paint scheme (white field with black shutters). The Ragsdale House is listed on the National Register.

The 1898 **Frances Marion Smith House**, located at 204 Railroad Avenue, is an impressive two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, single-pile, gable-roofed frame house with a one-and-one-half-story rear ell connecting to a one-story ell. The asymmetrical massing of the building includes a projecting gable on the western end of the façade, a second-floor balcony with double doors and a fanlight above the first-floor door, and an unusual projecting window bay under a gabled dormer at the second-floor level on the eastern end of the façade. A one-story, hip-roofed porch with colonettes on brick plinths joined by a turned balustrade wraps around all three elevations of the original section of the house. The paint schedule includes a yellow field, red shutters and doors, and white trim. The Frances Marion Smith House is listed on the National Register.

The **Henry Troxler House**, located at 220 N.C. 61, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house that has been incorporated into a much larger structure under a hip roof. The central bay of the façade projects under the central gable, lending dimension to the elevation. High interior chimneys serve the main block of the house, while a stovepipe chimney serves the rear ell. Turned porch posts with simple millwork brackets support the one-story, shed-roofed porch that wraps around two elevations of the house.

The 1897 **Dr. William Thorton Whitsett House (The Oaks)**, located at 7222 Whitsett Park Road, is a two-and-one-half story, frame house with a rear ell. The house is characterized by asymmetrical massing, a hip roof with cross gables and gable-roof dormers containing rectangular divided light windows surmounted by semicircular arched windows, high interior chimneys, and a one-story porch that wraps around two elevations with Ionic columns, a turned balustrade, and a corner turret.

SURVEY OF SURVIVING HUNTING LODGE COMPLEXES IN GUILFORD COUNTY

The **O. W. Bright Lodge Guesthouse**, located at 6515 N.C. 70, is a two-story, three-bay, double-pile frame house with a hip roof, interior chimneys, and a series of rear additions. A two-story double-pile ell with an enclosed side porch extends from the rear of the house, followed by a two-story, two-bay, single-pile addition. The one-story, hip-roof porch is emphasized by a central gable, paired posts, and a decorative balustrade. Many outbuildings survive, including kennels, barns, and sheds associated with the hunting lodge era. The main lodge burned around 1920.

The **Climax Hunting Lodge Caretaker's House**, located at 3544 Old Climax Road, is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, frame house that has been incorporated into a much larger structure under a hip roof. Three exterior chimneys serve the main block of the house. A one-story, hip-roofed porch extends across the façade. A one-story shed addition and a large screened-in porch extend from the rear of the building. Outbuildings including a tenant house, barn, wash house, and garage survive. The lodge, kennels, stables, and other outbuildings associated with the complex are no longer extant.

The circa 1925 **Dodge Hunting Lodge**, located at 3109 Rustic House Lane, is a two-story, three-bay, double-pile log structure. The second-story projection of the central gable shelters the entry, and is flanked by casement windows. Bracketed eaves, wide Craftsman-style architraves, and round, dark brown logs accented with bright white cement mortar contribute to "rustic" nature of the lodge. One central chimney serves the main block of the structure. A two-story, two-car garage is located adjacent to the lodge. A one-story frame structure with a hip roof located on the west side of Wiley-Lewis Road, 0.7 miles south of the junction with East Lee Street, also survives from the Dodge Lodge complex. The structure has been heavily altered, most obviously with the addition of a large room to the façade.

The circa 1912 **Gould Hunting Lodge**, located at 1250 N.C. 62 is a one-story, hip-roofed building with a large hip-roofed porch that was incorporated into a rambling one story, U-shaped structure in the 1920s. Two exterior chimneys with chimney pots serve the original portion of the house, while interior chimneys serve the additions. The exterior of the house has been sheathed with narrow horizontal siding divided into short sections with vertical boards. A new barn is located adjacent to the house. Recent development appears to have claimed many of the auxiliary structures from the hunting lodge era.

VI. EVALUATION OF FUTRELL-MACKAY-ARMSTRONG HOUSE UNDER NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). *To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American History or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.*²⁷ Although the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House was a component of one of Guilford County's expansive hunting lodge complexes (the Deep River Lodge), the building is not the best example of a structure associated with the hunting lodge era. The kennels, barn, and other outbuildings on the property are in ruinous condition. The lodge burned in the 1950s.²⁸ Other hunting lodge complexes in Guilford County display a greater degree of integrity. Two main lodge buildings survive: Dodge Lodge and Gould Lodge. The O.W. Bright Lodge and the Climax Lodge properties both include more intact examples of auxiliary buildings such as guest houses, caretakers houses, barns, and other outbuildings. In addition, both the NCHPO and NCDOT concurred in 1996 that the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House was **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A.

The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person). *For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.*²⁹ Marion E. Futrell, who built the core of the house circa 1885, was a typical Guilford County farmer. Clarence H. Mackay, New York industrialist and president of the Postal Telegraph Company, purchased the property to establish a hunting lodge for wealthy Northerners. Mackay hired Edward Armstrong to manage the hunting lodge estate around 1910, and Armstrong lived in the house as the property caretaker. Armstrong purchased the house and 1200 acres from Mackay during the Depression. Marion E. Futrell and Edward Armstrong are not "demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context." Although Clarence H. Mackay was an important historical figure, the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is not the most significant surviving building associated with his productive life.

²⁷ National Park Service. *National Register Bulletin 15* (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), p. 12.

²⁸ The circa 1905 Deep River Lodge was designed by Stanford White [see Leland M. Roth, *The Architecture of McKim, Mead, and White 1870-1920: A Building List* (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1978), p. 90, entry 481 and John W. Mackay, *Mark!* (New York: Coward-McCann, Inc., 1956), 23.] There is no evidence that Stanford White designed any other structures in the Deep River Lodge complex.

²⁹ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 15.

The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction) for its architectural significance. *For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.*³⁰ The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is not architecturally distinctive. Like many other examples of late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century architecture in Guilford County, the house is a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, triple-A-roofed frame structure that has been incorporated into a larger building under a hip roof. The original chimneys were replaced with interior chimneys with corbelled stacks. The central shingled gable with its Queen Anne-style multi-light window and the paired brackets and turned posts of the one-story, hip-roofed porch follow the norm of other buildings from the period in Guilford County. As such, the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House does not possess high artistic value. The Ragsdale House, located approximately 1.5 miles away on the outskirts of Jamestown, is a much better example of the evolution of a house from a two-story, three-bay, single-pile form into a much grander building.

The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). *For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.*³¹ The Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House is not likely to yield any new information regarding the history of building technology.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15*, p. 15.



Figure 4 - Alson Allred House



Figure 5 - R. B. Andrew House



Figure 6 - Logan Anthony House



Figure 7 - Armfield House



Figure 8 - Jesse Lee Armfield House



Figure 9 - John Bowman House



Figure 10 - L. W. Causey House



Figure 11 - John A. Clapp House



Figure 12 - Coble-Murphy House



Figure 13 - Thomas Fentress House



Figure 14 - Percy Fields House



Figure 15 - Riley Fogelman House



Figure 16 - D. P. Foust House



Figure 17 - Cisero Addison Groome House



Figure 18 - Marvin Groome House



Figure 19 - J. H. Joyner House (Holly Gate)



Figure 20 - Sidney Grover Joyner House



Figure 21 - Jefferson Lamb House



Figure 22 - George Lednum/Floyd Spoon House



Figure 23 - Linch-Gush House



Figure 24 - Mackay-Armstrong-Thorton House



Figure 25 - Josh Murrow House



Figure 26 - Alba Neese House

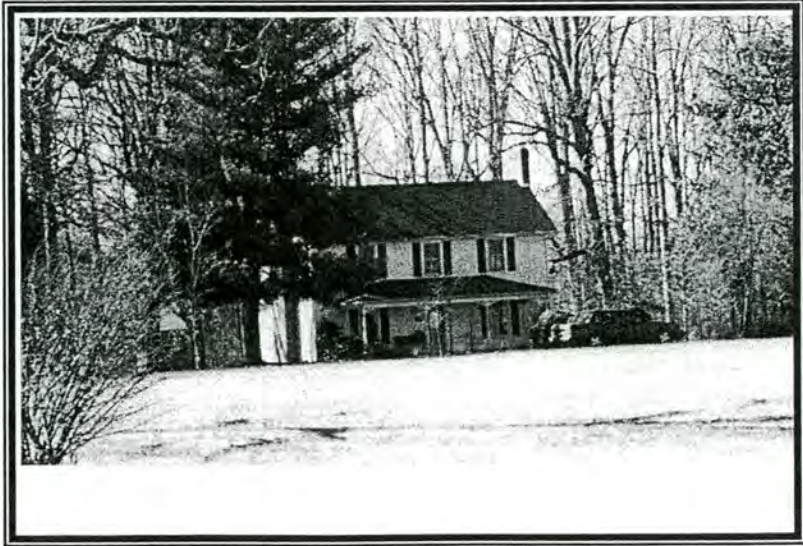


Figure 27 - Quate House



Figure 28 - Joseph Sinclair Ragsdale House (Magnolia Farm)



Figure 29 - Frances Marion Smith House



Figure 30 - Henry Troxler House



Figure 31 - Dr. William Thorton Whitsett House (The Oaks)



Figure 32 - O. W. Bright Guesthouse (front elevation)



Figure 33 - O. W. Bright Guesthouse (side elevation)



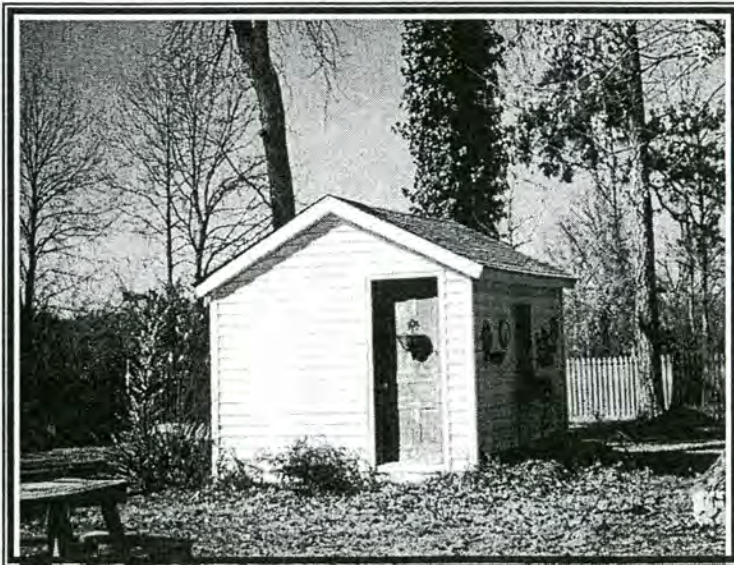
Figure 34 - O. W. Bright Lodge Outbuildings



Figure 35 - Climax Lodge Caretaker's House (front elevation)



Figure 36 - Climax Lodge Caretaker's House (side and rear elevations)



Figures 37-40 - Climax Lodge Outbuildings



Figure 41 - Dodge Hunting Lodge



Figure 42 - Dodge Hunting Lodge Auxiliary Building



Figure 43 - Gould Hunting Lodge



Figure 44 - Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House (front elevation)



Figure 45 - Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House (rear elevation)



Figure 46 -
Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House
(side elevation)

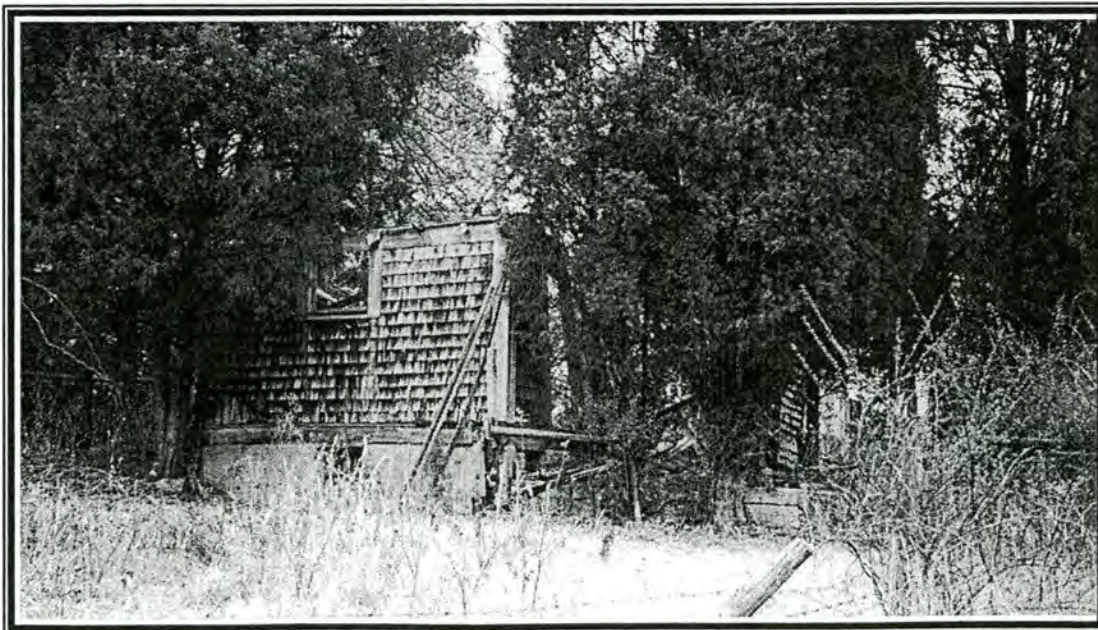


Figure 47 - Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House - Ruinous Kennels



Figure 48 - Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House - Barn and Stables



Figure 49 - Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House - Barn and Stables



Figure 50 - Deep River Lodge - Designed by Stanford White
for Clarence H. Mackay (no longer extant)

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For Further Reading See Also

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APPENDIX:
INTER-AGENCY PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

✓ 6/10/96
CC: Privat/Struc



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

June 6, 1996

Nicholas L. Graf
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Department of Transportation
310 New Bern Avenue
Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1442

Re: Historic Structures Survey Report for Guilford
College Road from High Point Road to Wendover
Avenue, Guilford County, U-2913 A & B, Federal
Aid Project STP-1546(9), State Project
8.2492802, ER 96-8943



Dear Mr. Graf:

Thank you for your letter of May 9, 1996, transmitting the historic structures survey report by Christine Trebellas concerning the above project.

We concur that the following property is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

Mackay-Thornton-Armstrong House. This house has been moved, undergone several alterations, and does not retain sufficient integrity to represent its associations with the hunting retreat era in Guilford County

We do not concur with the report's finding that the following property is not eligible for listing in the National Register:

Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. We believe this property is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for recreation because of its associations with the hunting retreat era in Guilford County and Criterion C for design as a good, intact example of a vernacular, late nineteenth-century dwelling with Queen Anne detailing. We believe the changes to the house have been minimal, and that important landscape characteristics and outbuildings remain that reflect the property's use as a hunting retreat.

Please provide us with additional information about the property so boundaries can be established for it.

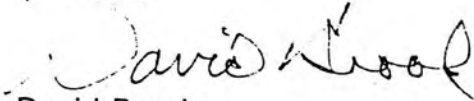
The report in general meets our office's guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior.



The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

Sincerely,



David Brook
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DB:slw

cc: H. F. Vick
B. Church
Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

October 18, 1996

Nicholas L. Graf
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Department of Transportation
310 New Bern Avenue
Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1442

Re: Roadway on new location from SR 4121 to SR 1546 (Guilford College Road), and widen SR 1546 from the intersection with new roadway to SR 1541, Guilford County, U-2913 A & B, State Project No. 8.2492802, Federal Aid Project STP-1546(9)

Dear Mr. Graf:

On August 6, 1996, Debbie Bevin, Claudia Brown, and Linda Harris Edmisten of our staff met with Charles Bruton and Mohammed Mustafa of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) regarding the above project. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the National Register eligibility and boundaries of the Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House. Based on a report prepared by Christine Trebellas of NCDOT, the Federal Highway Administration determined that the property is not eligible for the National Register. In our June 6, 1996 letter to you, we disagreed with that finding.

Because NCDOT raised additional questions about the significance of the property, members of our staff made a site visit on September 26, 1996. Based on that visit, we maintain our belief that the property is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for design as a good, intact example of a vernacular, late-nineteenth century dwelling with Queen Anne detailing. However, because of deterioration of the barn and kennel and development of a portion of the acreage, we now concur that the property no longer conveys its associations with the hunting retreat era in Guilford County.

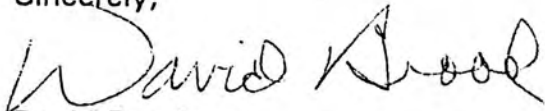
The enclosed sketch map delineates what we believe the boundaries for this property should be. The boundaries include the house and standing outbuildings, and their formal, landscaped setting of boxwoods, cedars, and maples.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.



Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

Sincerely,

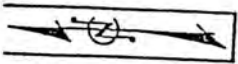


David Brook
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DB:slw

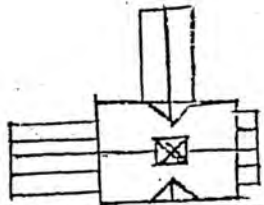
Enclosure

cc: H. F. Vick
✓ B. Church
Mohammed Mustafa
Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission

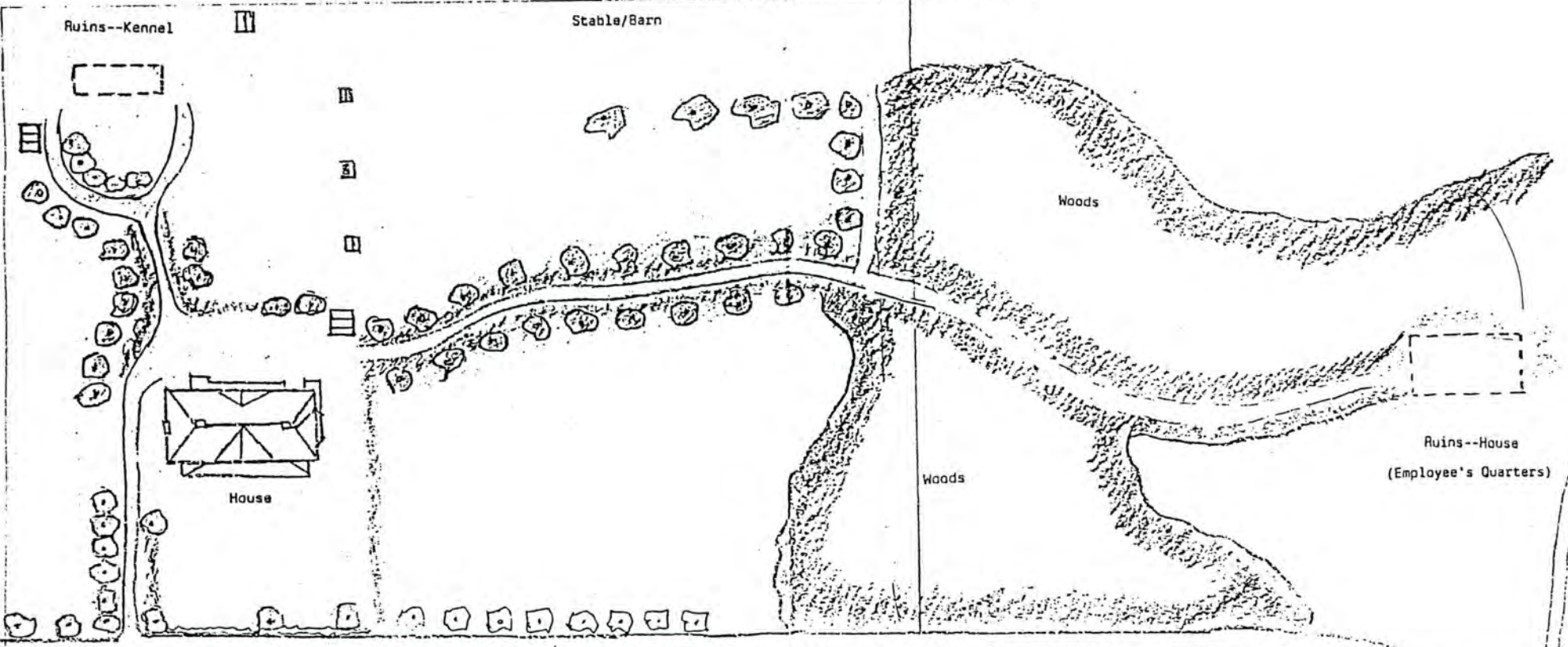


	NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL BRANCH
	SITE PLAN Futrell-Mackay-Armstrong House
	NOT TO SCALE

Foundation of Structure
(Wagon House)



Foundation of Structure
(Furniture Storage)



SR 1546 (Guilford College Rd.)