

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory
Secretary Susan Kluttz

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

April 7, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Pope Furr
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Ramona M. Bartos

RMB for Ramona M. Bartos

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge 371 on SR 1394 over Willow Creek,
PA 13-08-0013, Buncombe County, ER 14-0623

Thank you for transmitting the above-referenced report to us on March 26, 2014. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We concur that the **John N. Well House (BN0749)** is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture and that the boundaries shown appear to be appropriate.

While we would have appreciated additional consideration of the relationship of the Wells House and Bridge 371 to the State Study-listed Sandy Mush Historic District, we understand the reasons for and definition of the Area of Potential Effects. In future reports, so that there is no confusion by our reviewers, we would ask that the author clearly indicate whether the subject bridge has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register.

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, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
Intensive Evaluation: John W. Wells House**

**Replace Bridge No. 371 on SR 1394 over Willow Creek
Buncombe County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 17BP.13.R.125**

**Prepared for:
Human Environment Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1583**

**Prepared by:
Acme Preservation Services, LLC
825C Merrimon Avenue, #345
Asheville, NC 28804
828-281-3852**

March 2014

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March 2014

Clay Griffith, Principal Investigator
Acme Preservation Services, LLC

Date

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

Date

Replace Bridge No. 371 on SR 1394 over Willow Creek, Buncombe County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 17BP.13.R.125

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 371 on SR 1394 (Willow Creek Road) over Willow Creek in Buncombe County. The project area is located in the Sandy Mush community in the northwestern part of the county. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as 300 feet from either end of the bridge and 75 feet to either side from the center line.

NCDOT contracted with Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) in October 2013 to complete an intensive historic resources evaluation of the John W. Wells House (BN 749). Architectural historian Clay Griffith conducted the fieldwork on December 5, 2013, photographing and mapping the property, and authored the report. Primary source investigation included research at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds and Pack Memorial Library in Asheville and through online resources. The HPO's Buncombe County survey files at the Western Office of Archives and History in Asheville were searched to provide some architectural context.

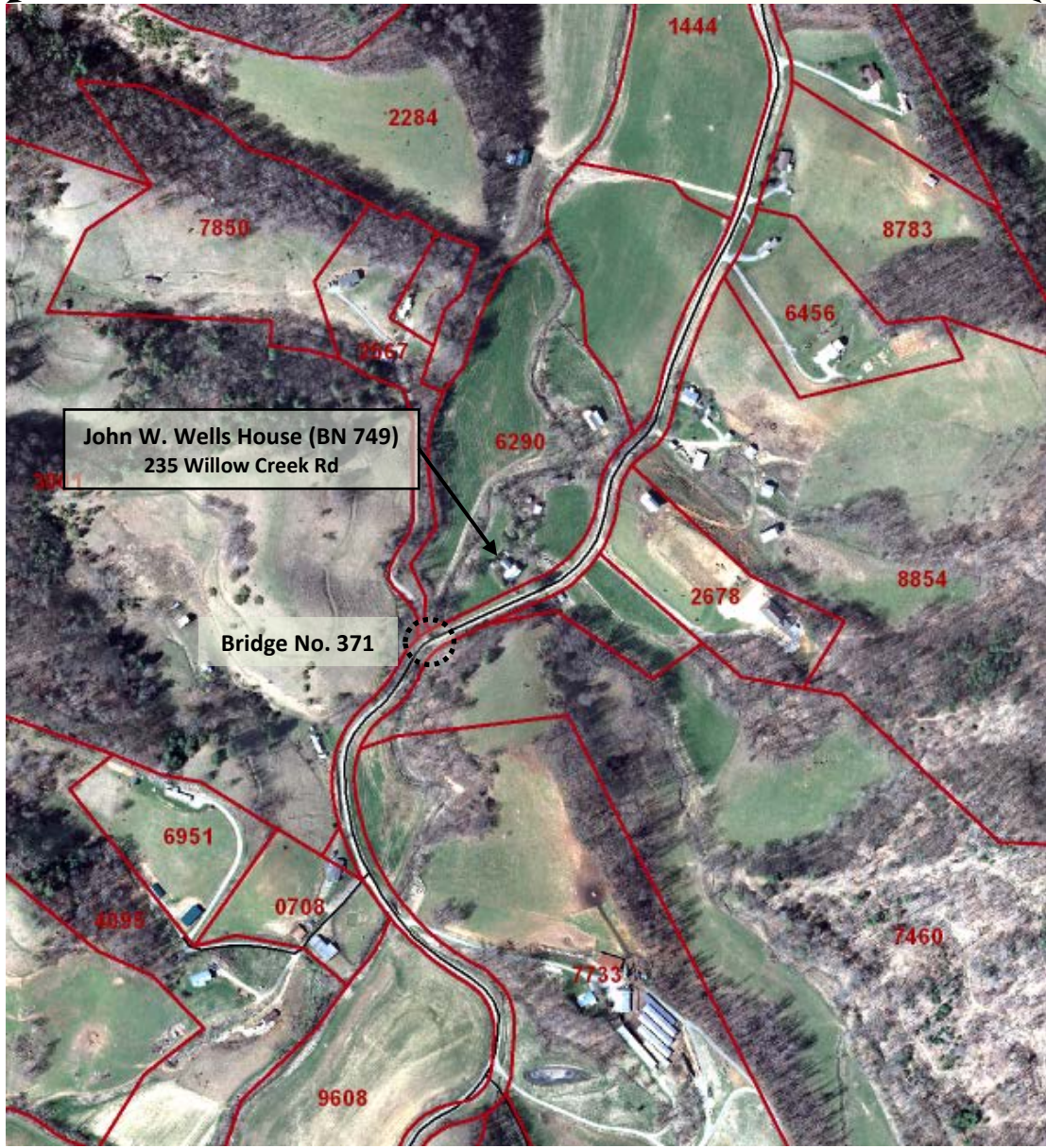
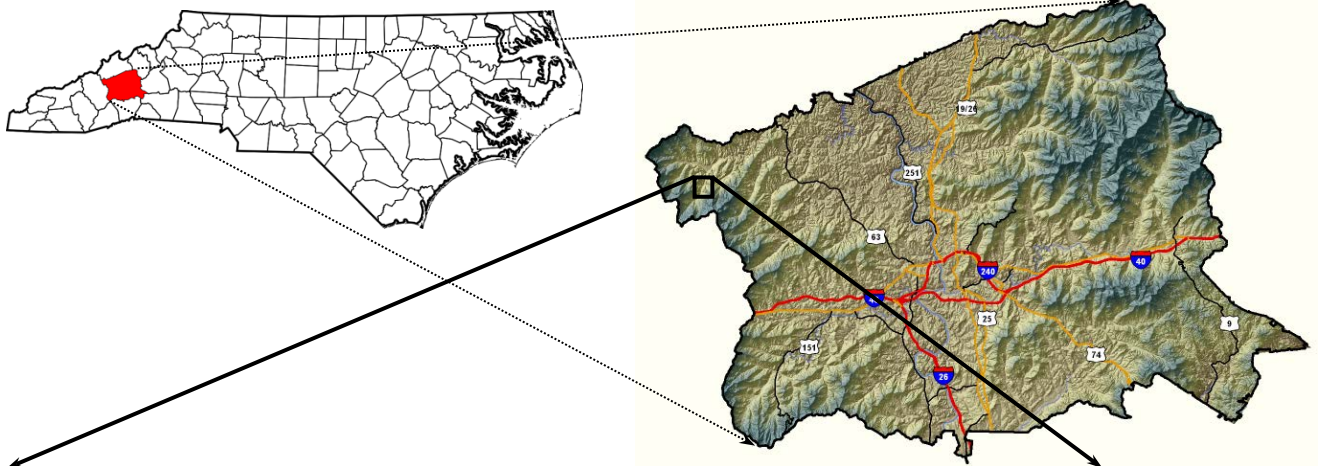
After an intensive evaluation following the National Register of Historic Places criteria for eligibility, the John W. Wells House was found to be eligible under Criterion C as a locally significant example of an antebellum frame dwelling in rural Buncombe County. Built in the late 1840s, the Wells House is a well-preserved two-story structure that retains a high degree of integrity along with its distinctive engaged two-story porch, which is notable for its form and enclosed porch rooms on both levels. Wells had an extensive farming operation and ran a small mill through the nineteenth century. A number of outbuildings and agricultural fields associated with the Wells House help to maintain and convey the historic character of this property.

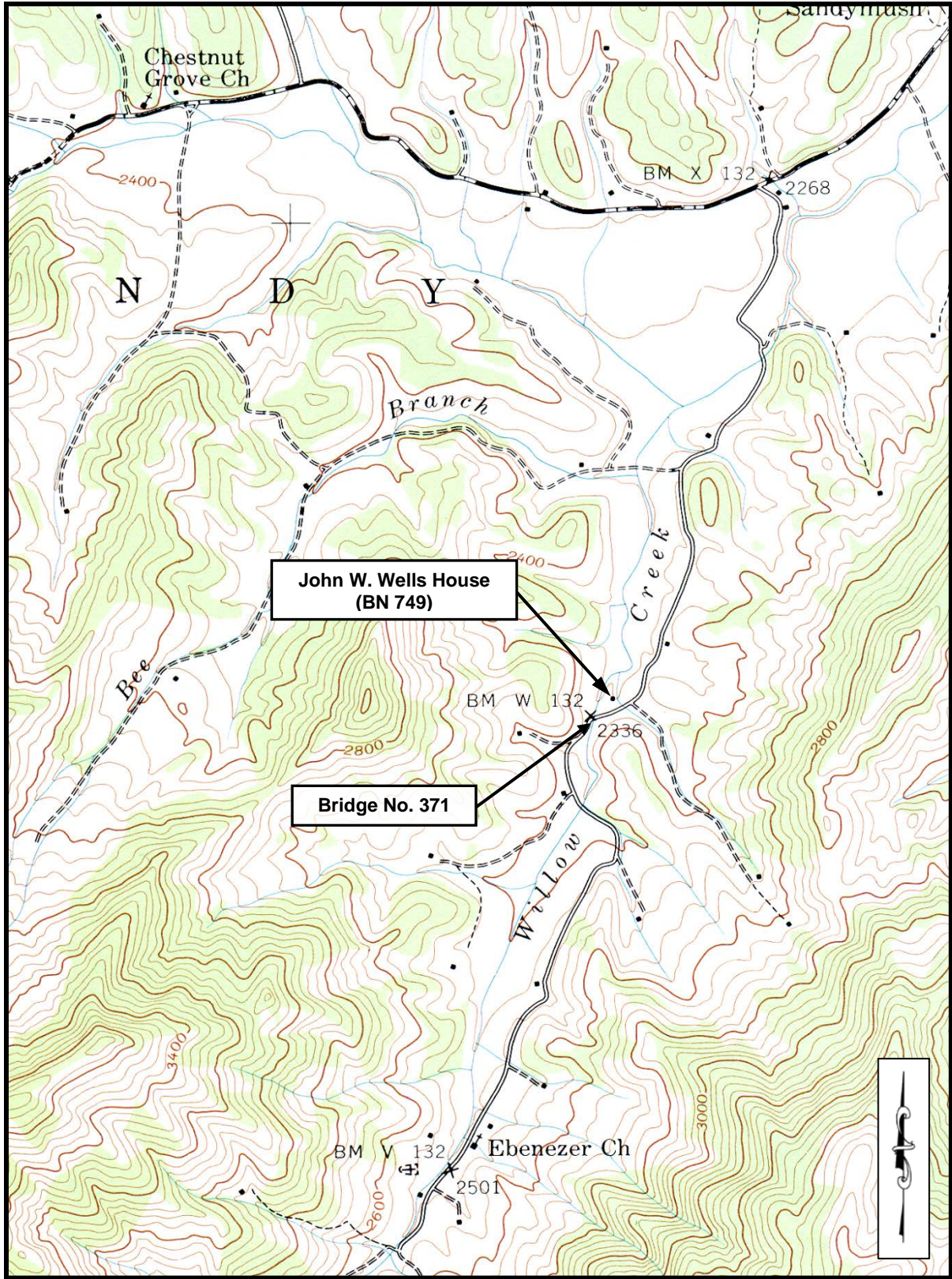
APS conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; and the NCDOT document entitled *Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines* (2003). This property evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

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I. Project Location Maps





Location Map – Sandymush, NC USGS topographic quadrangle map (1941)

II. Introduction

The project area is located in the far northwestern portion of Buncombe County, near Haywood and Madison Counties. Bridge No. 371 is situated on Willow Creek Road (SR 1394) approximately 1.2 miles south of its intersection with Sandy Mush Creek Road (SR 1394) and Bald Creek Road (SR 1392). The bridge is situated in a low gap between two ridges.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed bridge replacement project is delineated at 300 feet from either end of the bridge and 75 feet to either side of the center line of the road. The APE encompasses four large tax parcels containing few buildings. The 14.8-acre tract containing John W. Wells House (BN 749) and associated outbuildings lies to the north of the bridge and extends on both sides of Willow Creek Road. The Wells House stands just over 300 feet to the northeast of the bridge. The other primary resources on the parcels surrounding the Wells tract are all less than fifty years of age.

The general project area is characterized as gently rolling, wooded terrain and agricultural land. The creek valleys feeding into Sandy Mush Creek have supported agriculture since the nineteenth century, and the area retains much of its unspoiled agrarian character. The Sandy Mush community lies on the southeastern slopes of the Newfound Mountains, which forms the boundary with Haywood County to the west and Madison County to the north. The higher elevations to the north and west are part of Pisgah National Forest.

III. Methodology

The field survey was conducted on December 5, 2013, and the John W. Wells House property at 235 Willow Creek Road was photographed and recorded. Basic research on the project area was conducted by consulting with the online resources of the Buncombe County GIS and tax departments, Buncombe County Register of Deeds office, and at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. The project area is not covered by Sanborn maps, but USGS topographic quadrangle maps dating back to 1936 were reviewed.

Doug Swaim conducted a comprehensive county-wide survey of historic architectural resources in 1980, and following the survey published the results in *Cabins & Castles: The History and Architecture of Buncombe County, North Carolina* (1981). A search of the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) records revealed the Wells House to be in the project area, but no other resources were recorded in the immediate vicinity. The Wells House, however, is included as part of a proposed Sandy Mush Historic District (BN 647), which was placed on the state Study List at the conclusion of the county survey. Several draft documents were prepared that describe and document the history of the area, but a formal National Register nomination was not completed. Due to the limited scope of the bridge replacement project, however, the historic district was not evaluated as part of this report.



Bridge No. 371 on SR 1394 (Willow Creek Road) over Willow Creek, view to northeast



Bridge No. 371 on SR 1394 (Willow Creek Road) over Willow Creek, view to south



View to southwest along Willow Creek Road (SR 1394); John W. Wells House (BN 749) at right



View to southwest along Willow Creek Road (SR 1394); Bridge No. 371 at left

IV. John W. Wells House (BN 749)

235 Willow Creek Road, Leicester vic., Buncombe County

PIN 8761-45-6290-00000



John W. Wells House (BN 749), overall view to southwest

The stately two-story side-gable frame house is believed to have been built in the late 1840s for John W. Wells (1815-1891) and his second wife, Rachel Penland (1822-1911). Covered with weatherboards, the house has two exterior brick end chimneys with corbelled caps, cornice returns, a one-story rear ell, and an engaged full-width two-tiered porch. The porch is carried on boxed wooden posts and has a simple wood balustrade on the second story. The exterior wall sheltered by the porch is flush board sheathing. The windows are typically eight-over-eight double-hung sash that replaced original six-over-six sash. The roof is clad with pressed-tin shingles.

The main entrance is composed of a single-leaf four-panel wood door flanked by sidelights; a second front entrance is located to the north and consists of a single-leaf four-panel door. On the second-story, a four-panel door positioned above the main entrance opens onto the upper level the porch. The south bay of the porch is enclosed on both levels with exterior doors opening directly onto porch. The porch rooms, which were used to accommodate travelers, are not connected to the rest of the house on the interior.

The interior was not inspected, but the front door of the vacant dwelling was ajar and revealed a central stair hall and stair with its original railing and chamfered newel post. The room to the north of stair hall was the Wells' bedroom, which they shared with their small children. It has the second door opening onto the porch. Two large rooms on the second story housed the older children: one for the boys and the other for the girls. The room on the south side of the stair was reserved for guests. The kitchen and dining room are located in the rear ell, which was a secondary entrance on the north elevation.¹

¹ The interior of the Wells House was not inspected at the time of the county survey, which is noted in the HPO survey site file for the property. The layout of the interior and use of the rooms, however, is described in a family history included in Doris Cline Ward, ed., *The Heritage of Old Buncombe County*, Vol. 1 (Asheville, NC: The Old Buncombe Genealogical Society, 1981), 361-362.



John W. Wells House, facade, view to northwest



John W. Wells House, oblique front view to southwest



John W. Wells House, façade detail, view to west



John W. Wells House, entrance detail, view to northwest



John W. Wells House, porch detail, oblique view to north



John W. Wells House, façade detail, view to north

Once the seat of a large farm, the John W. Wells House has several associated outbuildings located on the residual home tract. All of the buildings, however, appear to post-date 1891, when John Wells died. His farm was divided among his children and portions of the land were sold. Wells' son Charlie and grandson, Richard, continued to farm the remaining portions of the property through the twentieth century. The fourteen-acre tract containing the house and outbuildings remains in the ownership of his descendants, although the house does not appear to have been occupied for a number of years.

Among the various outbuildings, a spring house and smokehouse stand to the rear (northwest) of the house. The spring house, which is located just north of the house, is a one-story front-gable structure that appears to have been covered with stucco. The metal-clad roof has a projecting front-gable that shelters the front elevation. A single-leaf entry door composed of three vertical lights over three panels is positioned at the center of this elevation; a small square window opening is located on the north side. The gable end of the roof is covered with weatherboards. The spring house was built over stone troughs where large containers of milk, butter, meat, and vegetables were stored in cold water drawn from the creek. The smokehouse stands to the west of rear ell. It is a one-story front-gable frame building with horizontal wood siding, corrugated metal roof, and exposed rafter tails.

Three other buildings are grouped around a cultivated field that lies on the northeast side of an unnamed branch that runs through the property and joins Willow Creek. A one-story side-gable frame shed stands on the west side of the field with a one-story front-gable frame corn crib located to the west of the shed, which is covered with horizontal wood siding on three sides and capped by a corrugated metal roof. The shed has open bays in the north and south ends and the gable ends are clad with wide, flush wood siding. The corn crib is also covered with horizontal wood siding and has a metal roof, exposed rafter tails, and a single-leaf entry door on the east elevation. A two-story four-bay frame barn is located on the north side of the field. Capped by a metal shed roof and constructed with log posts, the second story is enclosed with vertical wood sheathing and features exposed rafters and triangle eave brackets. The first-story bays are open on three sides and enclosed with vertical wood siding along the rear (north) elevation. Remnants of another outbuilding are located in the woods to the east of the barn, just off the west edge of Willow Creek Road. The poured concrete foundations with window and door openings are overgrown.

A large two-story gable-roof frame barn is located in the northeastern section of the property and is accessed by an unpaved driveway from Willow Creek Road. The driveway is approximately 450 feet north of the main house. Capped by a metal roof, the barn is covered with horizontal plank siding. An enclosed shed-roof extension projects to the northeast, and an open shed addition is attached to the rear (northwest) elevation.

A mid-twentieth-century building is located across Willow Creek Road from the main house on another part of the property. The one-story gable roof building is constructed of concrete block and is capped by a metal roof. It has exposed rafter tails and plywood sheathing in the gable ends. A single-leaf wood entry door is located at the north end of the northeast elevation. Windows throughout are two-light metal-frame sash. The building stands on the northeast side of the unnamed branch running through the property and alongside an unpaved farm road.



Spring house, facade, view to northwest



Wells House ell (r) and smokehouse (l), view to northeast



Smokehouse, oblique view to north



Shed (l) and barn (r), overall view to northwest



Shed (l) and corn crib (r), view to west



Barn, oblique front view to northwest



Outbuilding foundation (remnant), view to northwest



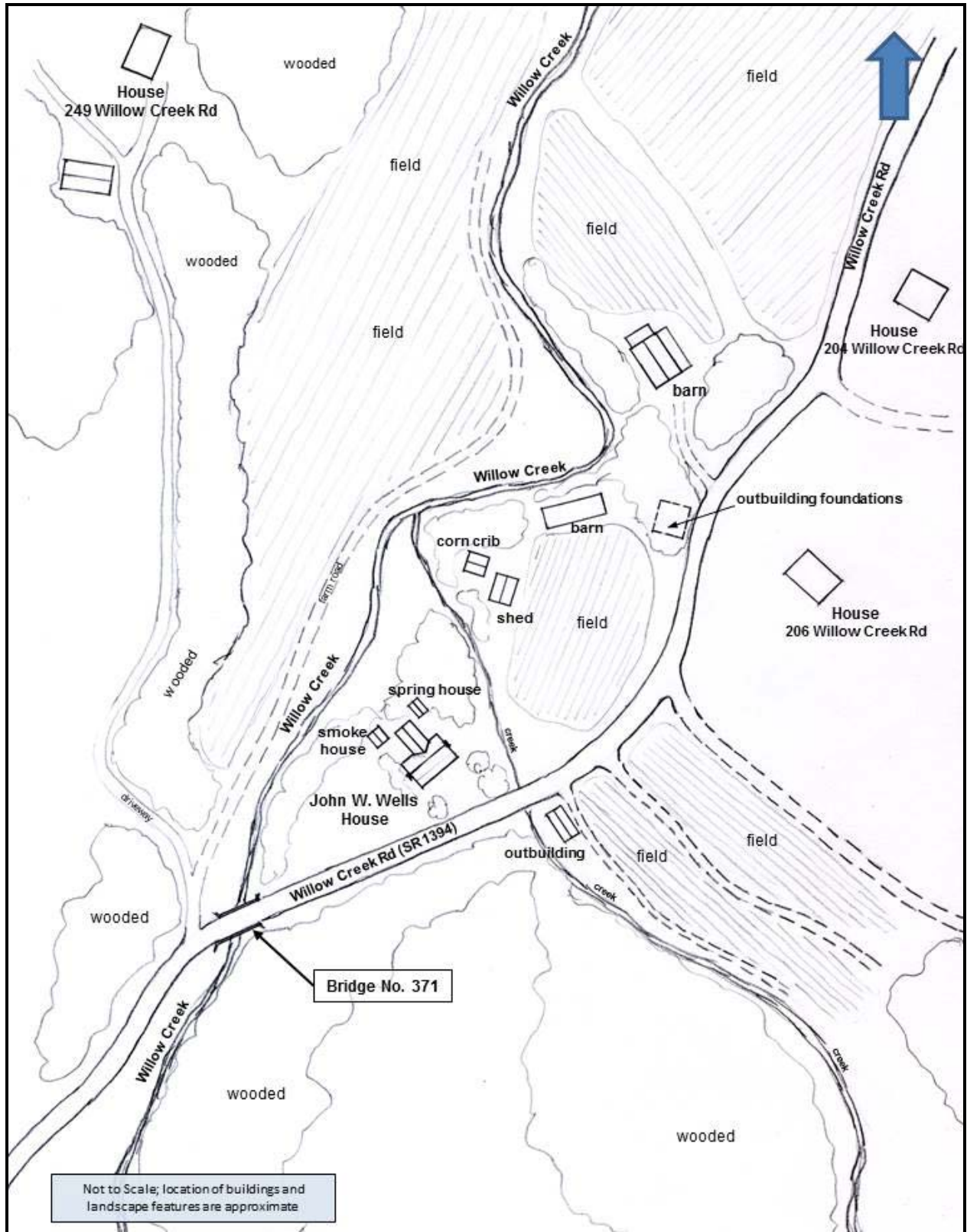
Large barn, façade, view to northwest



Large barn, side elevation, view to southwest



Outbuilding (east side of Willow Creek Road), oblique view to south



Site plan – John W. Wells House (BN 749), 235 Willow Creek Road

V. Historical Background

John W. Wells (1815-1891), the oldest child of James “Jimmy” Wells and Nancy Palmer, was born and raised in the Sandy Mush section of Buncombe County. A rural, agricultural area located eighteen miles northwest of Asheville, Sandy Mush encompasses the fertile valley of Sandy Mush Creek and the numerous creeks and hollows that feed into it. Livestock raising and tobacco growing were the chief activities, with a small scattering of stores, mills, and smithies.²

Born in 1815, Wells stayed in the area and continued in the family tradition as a farmer. He married Priscilla Blackstock of Madison County and together they had two children—Harriett and Robert. Priscilla Wells died in 1846, at the age of 27, soon after the birth of the couple’s son. John Wells amassed a considerable amount of land for his farm, which was said to extend all the way from Waldrop’s Store at the intersection of present-day Willow Creek Road and Sandy Mush Road. The Wells farm grew corn, wheat, potatoes, and tobacco. They also produced vegetables, fruit, and pumpkins. Wells built and operated a small grist mill. He owned two slaves in 1850, and by 1860, he had ten slaves. His father, however, owned a considerably larger farm and more slaves.³

John Wells remarried soon after the death of his first wife, making Rachel Emeline Penland (1822-1911) his second wife sometime between 1846 and 1850, when their first child, Horace, was born. Wells built the house on Willow Creek Road as a wedding present for Rachel. The Wells’ had eight children, and he continued to farm more than 200 acres along Willow Creek. Following the Civil War, the farm operations continued without the assistance of slave labor. As he grew older, Wells divided the land among his children and large portions of it were sold. The majority of John and Rachel’s children moved away as they grew older. Horace Wells became a physician and practiced medicine in Waynesville; daughter Jane also lived in Haywood County after getting married. Sons Arthur Bascom Wells and Victor Wells both married and moved to Cherokee County, where they farmed. Alexander, known as “Weet,” had a mental disability and died tragically at age 27 in Asheville. Another son, Henry, died in infancy.⁴

The Wells’ son Charlie (1861-1910) stayed at home with his parents and helped his father on the farm. John Wells turned the mill operation over to Charlie, who married Anna Reynolds (1861-1917) in 1886. After their wedding, Charlie and Anna Wells lived in the old homeplace with his elderly parents and the young couple’s own growing family, which included seven children. In 1930, the property, which had been reduced to twenty-two acres, passed from Charlie and Anna Wells’ eldest daughter, Gertrude, to their second-youngest child, Richard. Richard Wells (1900-

² Ward, 361-362. Mashburn, J. L., *Asheville & Buncombe County...Once Upon A Time* (Enka, NC: Colonial House Publishers, 2012), 37.

³ Ward, 361-362. Additional genealogical and census information accessed from Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>; retrieved February 2014). Douglas Swaim, ed., *Cabins & Castles: The History and Architecture of Buncombe County, North Carolina* (Asheville, NC: Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County, 1981), 133.

⁴ Ward, 361-262.

1983) married Lillie Williams (1913-2008) and continued to live in the family house and farm the land. Their daughter, Patricia Wells Young, currently owns the house.⁵

VI. Architectural Context

Created in 1792, Buncombe County once encompassed the whole western end of North Carolina, with sparse population, rugged terrain, and abundant natural resources and scenic beauty. The formidable Blue Ridge Mountain range kept Buncombe isolated from the eastern part of the state for many years. The creation of the Buncombe Turnpike in 1827 helped to open the region to a greater influx of settlers and established trade with outside communities, especially in South Carolina. The Buncombe Turnpike connected Greeneville, Tennessee to Greenville, South Carolina, and brought new sources of ideas and income into the area.⁶

The Sandy Mush area of Buncombe County is a rural mountain farming valley that retains much of its nineteenth and early-twentieth century character. Following the Revolutionary War, land grants were made to speculators beginning in the 1790s, and the first settlers appear to have arrived in the opening decades of the nineteenth century. Jesse Palmer recorded one of the earliest deeds in the area for fifty acres of fertile bottomland that he purchased in 1815, and in 1837, he gave one acre of land for the Methodist church. The early farming families claimed the best farm land and grew corn and raised livestock, with the nearby Buncombe Turnpike providing an outlet for their farm products.⁷

As was common across western North Carolina, the earliest dwellings were typically constructed of log, a material that was abundant in the forested mountains. Log was later superseded by vernacular frame construction as the availability of sawn lumber began to increase. The Boyd-Garrett House (BN 267), located at the intersection of Bald Creek Road and Boyd Cove Road, is a two-story log dwelling that was constructed around 1830. James Boyd built the log house after he purchased the property in 1826, but Will Garrett later added rooms on the east end and weatherboarded the structure to create a common central-hallway I-house.

The Boyd-Garrett House is the oldest surviving log house in the Sandy Mush community, but the John W. Wells House is the oldest and most intact antebellum frame house in the area. The large two-story frame house features brick end chimneys, cornice returns, side-gable roof, and a center-passage plan. An engaged two-story porch is enclosed at one end with exterior porch rooms. The two-tiered porch, while not uncommon in the region, likely reflects influences from South Carolina's low country. The Buncombe Turnpike not only provided a trade route into South Carolina, but also opened the region to wealthy low country families seeking to escape the brutal

⁵ Ward, 361. Buncombe County Register of Deeds Office, Asheville, NC.

⁶ Swaim, 10-12 and 14-17.

⁷ Catherine W. Bishir, Michael T. Southern, and Jennifer F. Martin, *A Guide To The Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1999), 297-299.

summer heat. The beginnings of tourism in western North Carolina were facilitated by the turnpike and the early resorts established at Flat Rock, Asheville, and Hot Springs.⁸

Few other antebellum residences remain in the Sandy Mush community, with the vast majority of its resources built following the Civil War. The ca. 1860 James Adolphus Gillespie House (BN 397) is located on North Turkey Creek, across the ridge to the east of the Wells House. The locally rare two-story brick dwelling was supposedly never completed due to effects of the Civil War. The Gillespie House was placed on the state Study List in 1980.

Many of the prominent buildings in Sandy Mush were built by local carpenter Will Waldrop, who built two stores and a L-plan house for himself (BN 733) in the 1890s at the community crossroads—intersection of Sandy Mush Road, Bald Creek Road, and Willow Creek Road. Around 1878, Waldrop erected a one-and-a-half-story frame house Malinda Payne (BN 582) on Sandy Mush Creek Road. Waldrop gave the house a vibrant multiple gable roofline and liberally applied sawn and turned decoration. Payne gave land for a church (Payne’s Chapel, BN 583) a short distance to the south, on the banks of Sandy Mush Creek, where Waldrop built a picturesque white frame structure in 1889. The simple form and proportions, refined details, and open belfry make Payne’s Chapel a visual landmark in the community.

Located at 209 Big Sandy Mush Road, the Philete Ferguson House (BN 379) is a typical late-nineteenth century frame I-house—two stories tall, three bays wide, and one room deep. The Ferguson House is a relatively plain example of its type but displays a side gable roof with cornice returns, exterior brick end chimneys, weatherboard siding, and six-over-six double-hung sash. An attached one-story hip-roof porch carried on square wood posts shelters the single-leaf entrance and transom, which denote the center hallway. A gable-roof rear ell has an interior brick chimney.

The ca. 1900 Nolen House (BN 565) is the center of a expansive and picturesque farm complex located just east of the Waldrop Stores at 432 Big Sandy Mush Road. Sited with the rolling hillside as its backdrop, the house faces north across Sandy Mush Creek and cultivated bottomland. The structure is a frame I-house with weatherboards, triple-A roof, two-story rear ell, and an attached one-story hip-roof porch. The porch is supported by wood posts with sawn brackets and a patterned balustrade. The house features an interior brick chimney, cornice returns, and four-over-four double-hung sash. The front gable is embellished with elaborate sawn bargeboards and an ornamental king-post truss and collar beam.

In addition to being a distinctive, early resource in the Sandy Mush community, the John W. Wells House is also distinguished among the few surviving antebellum houses and buildings in Buncombe County as a whole. Of the extant resources that predate the Civil War, there are a small number of log houses that remain. Several early resources are located in Asheville, including Ravenscroft School (NR, BN 12) and the Smith-McDowell House (NR, BN 17), which are both brick buildings dating from the 1840s. The ca. 1846 Rankin House in the Montford neighborhood is a Greek Revival frame house with Italianate elements. The Reynolds House (NR, BN 176), also ca. 1846, is a two-story brick house in the Woodfin community just north of Asheville that was substantially remodeled in the early twentieth century. The Carter-Swain House (NR, BN 192) in the rural community of Democrat was begun around 1826 as a log house and later expanded into

⁸ *Ibid.*, 26-27. The Swaim, 73-74.

a center-passage I-house. The house is notable for its two-tiered porch with an enclosed porch room on the second-story. In the southern part of the county near Hickory Nut Gap, Sherrill's Inn has a long, notable history and served as a stagecoach stop between Asheville and Rutherfordton. The house was built in stages and primarily dates from the first half of the nineteenth century. Like the Wells House, Sherrill's Inn serves as a prominent landmark in its community and played a vital role in its history through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



View to east along Sandy Mush Creek Road (SR 1394)

VII. Evaluation

The John W. Wells House (BN 749) is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as rare surviving example of an antebellum frame dwelling in Buncombe County. Built in the late 1840s, the two-story side-gable house is well-preserved with weatherboard siding, cornice returns, exterior brick end chimneys, and an engaged two-story porch. The porch is carried on boxed wood posts and features enclosed exterior porch rooms on both levels at the south end. Two-story porches in western North Carolina generally reflect the influence of coastal areas, which was reinforced following the completion of the Buncombe Turnpike in 1827 and increased trade connections with the low-country of South Carolina. The Wells House is one of only a small number of mid-nineteenth century frame houses that survive in Buncombe County. It retains good integrity of location, setting, design, materials, feeling, and association.

The John W. Wells House also contributes to the Sandy Mush Historic District, a property that appears to be eligible for the National Register. The rural historic district was placed on the state Study List in 1979. Due to the limited scope of the bridge replacement project, however, the historic district was not evaluated as part of this report. Regardless of the potential eligibility of the proposed historic district, the Wells House possesses sufficient architectural significance and integrity to be individually eligible for the National Register.

The John W. Wells House is not recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the area of agriculture. John W. Wells oversaw a significant farming operation, as well as running a small grist mill, through much of the mid-nineteenth century. In the decade preceding the Civil War, he owned ten slaves and had slave houses on his property. Following his death in 1891, however, the Wells farm was divided among his children and much of the property was sold, and by 1930, the original 350-acre farm had been reduced to 22 acres surrounding the home site. The majority of domestic and agricultural outbuildings associated with the house appear to post-date the death of John Wells, and the mill, millrace, and slave houses have been demolished over time. While the surviving outbuildings and agricultural fields greatly contribute to the setting and feeling of the property, the Wells House and its associated land do not appear to retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a large nineteenth century, and ongoing, farming operation.

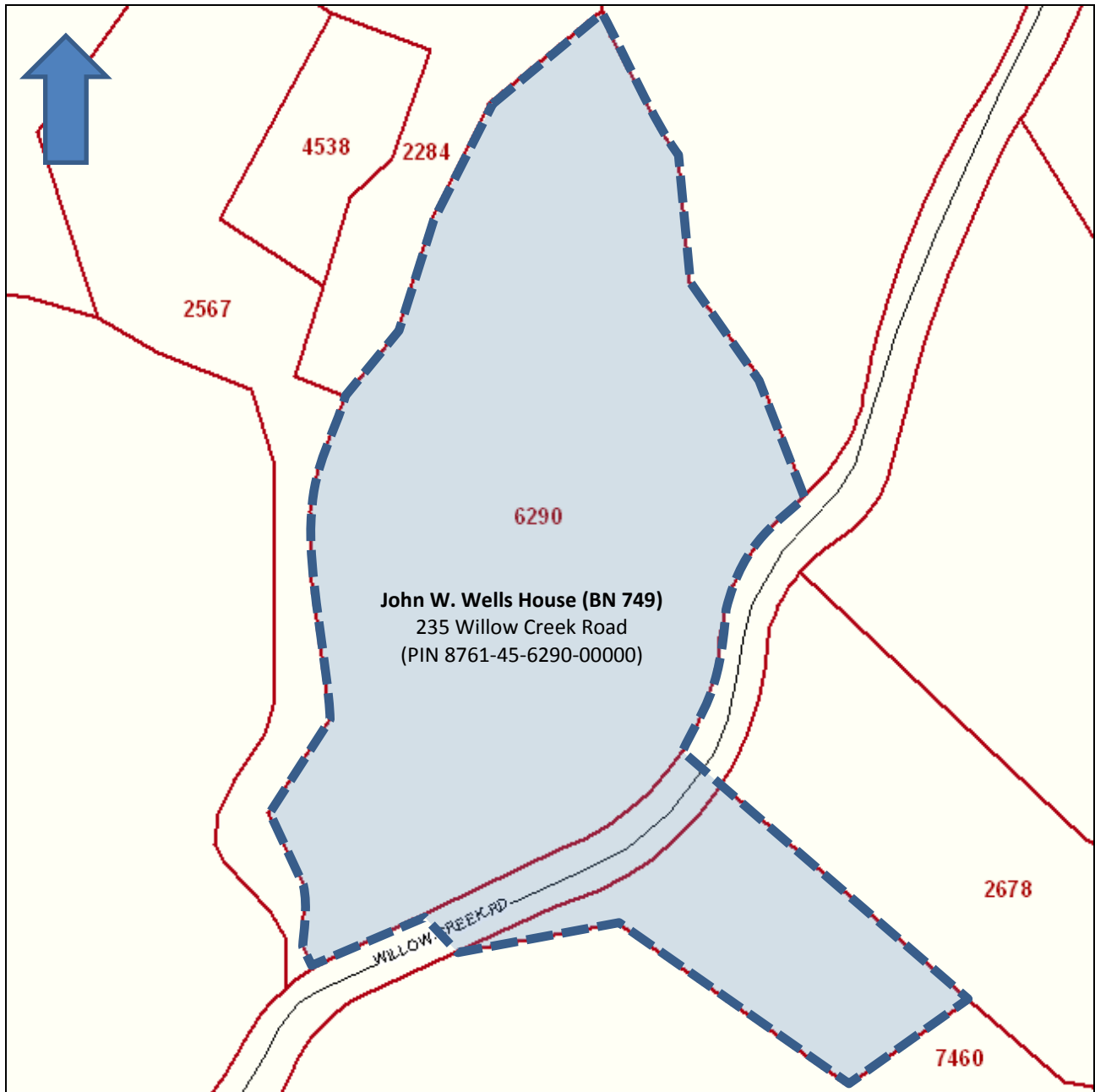
The John W. Wells House is not recommended as eligible under any other National Register criteria. John W. Wells was a member of an early family that settled in the Sandy Mush section of Buncombe and a number of his descendants continued to live in the community through the twentieth century. The Wells' were one of several extended families residing in this section of the county, but they did not attain the level of prominence and significance required for National Register listing under Criterion B. The property is unlikely to yield information about our past not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records, making it ineligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

VIII. Boundary Description and Justification

The proposed boundary of the John W. Wells House encompasses the full 14.8-acre tract currently associated with the property. Once the seat of a large farm covering several hundred acres, the residual tract contains the house and all of the surviving domestic and agricultural outbuildings associated with the farm. A substantial amount of Wells' farm was divided among his children and portions of the land were sold. The home tract appears to have been reduced to 22 acres by 1930. The proposed boundary not only includes all of the surviving structures on the property but also wooded areas, creeks, and agricultural fields that contribute to the overall setting and character of the John W. Wells House. The boundary follows the existing right-of-way along Willow Creek Road.



Boundary Map – John W. Wells House (BN 749) [PIN 8761-45-6290-00000]
(Source: Buncombe County GIS)



Boundary Map – John W. Wells House (BN 749) [PIN 8761-45-6290-00000]
(Source: Buncombe County GIS)

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Appendix A

Professional Qualifications

CLAY GRIFFITH

President/Architectural Historian

ACME PRESERVATION SERVICES, LLC

825C Merrimon Ave, #345

Asheville, NC 28804

Tel 828 281 3852

cgriffith.acme@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Master of Architectural History (1993)
University of Virginia
- Bachelor of Science, Architecture (1990)
Georgia Institute of Technology
- Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law (1994)

EXPERIENCE

- **Acme Preservation Services, LLC, Asheville, NC**
November 2007 – present

Formed independent firm to provide historic preservation consulting services. Services provided include preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., Asheville, NC**
January 2002 – October 2007

Served as Senior Architectural Historian in Asheville office of private consulting firm. Responsibilities included preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Western Office, Asheville, NC**
July 1998 – January 2002

Preservation Specialist serving the 25-county western region of North Carolina. Administered State Historic Preservation Office programs including statewide inventory of historic properties, survey and planning grant supervision, National Register of Historic Places nominations, environmental review, technical assistance, and public education.

- **North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, NC**
June 1993 – June 1998

Preservation Specialist with Historic Architectural Resources Section. Responsible for conducting and preparing documentation in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and other state and federal environmental laws and regulations. Duties included conducting field work, identifying and documenting historic resources, evaluating National Register eligibility, and assessing effects to minimize impacts of NCDOT undertakings.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- *Phillips & Son Texaco Station Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 293 on SR 1411 over Bald Mountain Creek, (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report , Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 11 on NC 143B over Long Creek (for NCDOT), Graham County, North Carolina*
- *Boxed House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 121 on SR 1103 over Silvermine Creek, (for NCDOT), Swain County, North Carolina*
- *Murrell House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 23 on SR 1152 over Burlingame Creek, (for NCDOT), Transylvania County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Widening NC 294 from SR 1130 to SR 1312-A, TIP No. R-3622B (for NCDOT), Cherokee County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Survey for Replace Bridge No. 112 on SR 1124 over Indian Creek (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report , Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 217 on SR 1358 over Guilders Creek (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Francis Grist Mill National Register Nomination (co-author), Waymesville vic., Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Improve Intersection NC 225/SR 1164/SR 1779, TIP No. U-5105 (for NCDOT), Henderson County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Survey for Replace Bridge No. 244 on SR 1137 over Clarks Creek (for NCDOT), Watauga County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 14 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, and Polk Counties, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 13 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties, North Carolina*
- *Tryon Country Club National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Dr. Samuel Stringfield House and Dr. Thomas Stringfield House Local Landmark Designation Reports, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation for SR 1419 (Old Fanning Bridge Road) Improvements and new access road, TIP No. 5524 (for NCDOT), Buncombe and Henderson Counties, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Chapman House Intensive Evaluation Report, US 64 Improvements, TIP No. R-2409D (for NCDOT), Transylvania County, North Carolina*

- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 115 on SR 1908 over Dan River (for NCDOT), Stokes County, North Carolina*
- *Johnson House and Store Intensive Evaluation Report (for NCDOT), Wilkes County, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Newton Historic District National Register Nomination, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *Adams-Millis Corporation Plant No. 8 National Register Nomination and Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 11 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Wilkes Counties, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 14 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Graham, Henderson, Swain and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Asheville Historic District Boundary Increase III, Boundary Decrease and Additional Documentation, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Sunnydale National Register Nomination and Tax Credit Application Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Supply & Foundry Company Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Survey Update, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Spread Out Historic District National Register Nomination, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Dougherty Heights Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation (for USDA Forest Service), Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina*
- *Lynncote National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *South Montreat Road Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Pink Beds Picnic Shelters and Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service), Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina*
- *Biltmore High School National Register Nomination, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Claremont High School Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation National Register Nomination, Hickory, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *East Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina*
- *Mill Farm Inn National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*

- *Richard Sharp Smith House Local Designation Report and National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Broyhill Conover Plant Redevelopment Determination of Eligibility and Recordation (for City of Conover)*, Conover, Catawba County, North Carolina
- *Tryon Downtown Survey and Trade Street Commercial Historic District Study List Application*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Monte Vista Hotel National Register Nomination and Local Landmark Designation Report*, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Bank of Tryon National Register Nomination*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Wilson Lick Ranger Station Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina (co-authored with Lynn Marie Pietak, Ph.D., Archaeologist)
- *Graham County Courthouse National Register Nomination*, Robbinsville, Graham County, North Carolina
- *Historic Workcenters Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina
- *Charles E. Orr House National Register Nomination*, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina
- *Franklin-Penland House National Register Nomination*, Linville Falls, Burke County, North Carolina
- *West Asheville End of Car Line Historic District National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *West Asheville-Aycock School Historic District National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Lookout Towers Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, North Carolina
- *South Carolina Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Survey Report, US 21 Bridge over Catawba River (for Ralph Whitehead Associates)*, York County, South Carolina
- *Biltmore Hospital National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

PUBLICATIONS

- Contributing author, "North Carolina Architects & Builders: A Biographical Dictionary" (Website: <http://ncarchitects.lib.ncsu.edu>)
- "Henry Bacon," "Douglas Ellington" and "Grove Arcade" in *The Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. University of Tennessee Press, 2006.
- "An Inventory of Douglas Ellington's Architectural Work in Western North Carolina," in *May We All Remember Well, Vol. 2*. Robert S. Brunk Auction Services, Inc., 2001