



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY J. TATA
SECRETARY

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley
From: Vanessa E. Patrick
Date: October 27, 2014
Subject: *B-4766, Iredell County. Bridge No. 69 Replacement, NC 115
(Wilkesboro Highway) over Rocky Creek. Tracking No. 11-12-0032.
ER 14-1925.*

Thank you for your memorandum of September 29, 2014 concerning the proposed eligibility of the **Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818)** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

We have reviewed your recommendation and, for the purposes of the B-4766 project, shall consider the resource as not eligible for historic architecture under Criteria B and C. We are pleased that the Redmond's Mill Complex will receive additional evaluation as archaeological data becomes available. The significance of a rural industrial/commercial site initially derives, of course, not only from its surviving buildings, but from all its discernible components, including man-made alterations of topography and other features of the natural environment. Investigation of the internal workings of such sites, as well as their relationships to their surroundings – an interpretation of a whole landscape rather than merely its elements – promises to greatly illuminate many aspects of North Carolina's past.

Should questions arise, please contact me at 919-707-6082 or vepatrick@ncdot.gov.

V. E. P.

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NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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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

September 29, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick
Human Environment Unit
NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley 
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Replace Bridge 69 on NC 115 over Rocky Creek, B-4766, PA 11-12-0032,
Iredell County, ER 14-1925

Thank you for transmitting the Historic Structure Survey Report for above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We do not concur with the report's evaluation that the Redmond's Mill Complex is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While the mill (ID0818) was included in the Iredell County survey during the 1980s and the entire complex, including the mill, house and store, was designated as a local landmark in 1993, much has changed since then. The mill has been demolished and a shed-roof section of the store is no longer standing.

Because, the key resource to the historic importance of the industrial complex was the mill, and it is no longer standing, the house and altered store do not appear to be eligible. Without the mill, and given the loss of integrity to the store, the two buildings do not retain enough integrity to portray the historic importance of the industrial complex.

While the buildings alone are not eligible for listing in the National Register, there may be reason to consider the complex eligible, if the archaeological remains of the mill are found to be significant. Thus, we will await the results of the archaeological survey and testing of the site before offering a final opinion on the complex's being able to qualify for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for industry.

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 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact me at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please site the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT
Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT

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HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION FORM

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It is not valid for Archaeological Resources. You must consult separately with the Archaeology Group.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No:	B-4766	County:	Iredell
WBS No.:	38538.1.2	Document Type:	
Fed. Aid No:	BRSTP-0115(7)	Funding:	<input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal
Federal Permit(s):	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Permit Type(s):	Not specified in review request
Project Description: Replace Bridge No. 69 on NC 115 (Wilkesboro Highway) over Rocky Creek (no off-site detour specified in review request)			

SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

- X There are no National Register-listed or Study Listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- X The following properties within the area of potential effects have been evaluated for eligibility in the attached documentation: Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818)

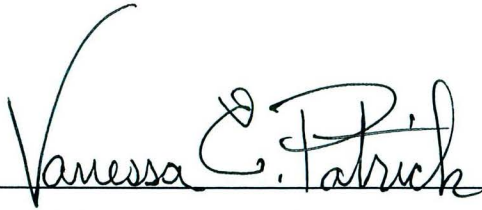
SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

X Map(s) Previous Survey Info. Photos X Correspondence X Report

EVALUATION BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Property Name:	Redmond's Mill Complex	Evaluation:	X Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible
Survey Site No.:	ID0818	Criterion:	A

See attached report. Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818) recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as a locally significant property in the areas of commerce and industry. One of the few surviving sites of its kind in the region, the complex illustrates essential commercial and industrial activities of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century North Carolina and the physical development of a typical rural workplace. HPO disagrees with eligibility for historic architecture, citing loss of the above-ground fabric of the grist mill and changes to the store, itself an increasingly rare building type, but promises additional evaluation when archaeological data becomes available (see attached correspondence). **For purposes of the B-4766 project NCDOT agrees to proceed with non-eligibility of the resource for historic architecture** (see attached correspondence). The project complies with both GS 121-12(A) and Section 106 for historic architecture.



NCDOT Architectural Historian



Date

REVIEW BY STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE



HPO Representative



Date

HPO Comments:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION

**Replace Bridge No. 69 on NC 115
(Wilkesboro Highway) over Rocky Creek**

**IREDELL COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

T.I.P. No. B-4766
WBS No. 38538.1.2
Federal Aid No. BRSTP-0115(7)
PA Tracking No. 11-12-0032



The
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Report Prepared By:
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August 2014

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Project Description and Preliminary Review

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 69 on NC 115 (Wilkesboro Highway) over Rocky Creek in northwestern Iredell County (Figure 1). The B-4766 project is federally funded and requires federal permits. It also qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) and accordingly can be reviewed for cultural resources under a *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects in North Carolina* (PA) established among NCDOT, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The B-4766 project is further identified as WBS No. 38538.1.2, Federal Aid No. BRSTP-0115(7), and PA Tracking No. 11-12-0032.

Preliminary investigation of the project area identified mostly woodland and cultivated fields, as well as several pre-1962 architectural resources in the Area of Potential Effects (APE) (Figure 2). The APE extends 1100 feet from each end of the existing bridge (N-S) and 200 feet to either side of the NC 115 (Wilkesboro Highway) centerline (E-W) to encompass proposed construction. Built in 1932, Bridge No. 69 is a five-span, 134-foot-long, steel, stringer/multi-beam bridge and is not eligible for the National Register according to the NCDOT Historic Bridge Survey as it is not historically, architecturally, or technologically significant. Available aerial photography and other imagery proved insufficient to accurately assess other resources in the APE. A field survey, conducted on January 29, 2013, revealed four parcels containing above-ground resources dating to the first half of the twentieth century. Unexceptional and altered examples of their types, the buildings and other features located on three of the four properties are also unlikely to be affected by the project. Components of the fourth property stand in much closer proximity to the existing bridge and appear to possess greater historical significance. Identified as "The Redman Mill Complex" and as "historic" in the current Iredell County tax records, the property is the subject of the following National Register eligibility evaluation.

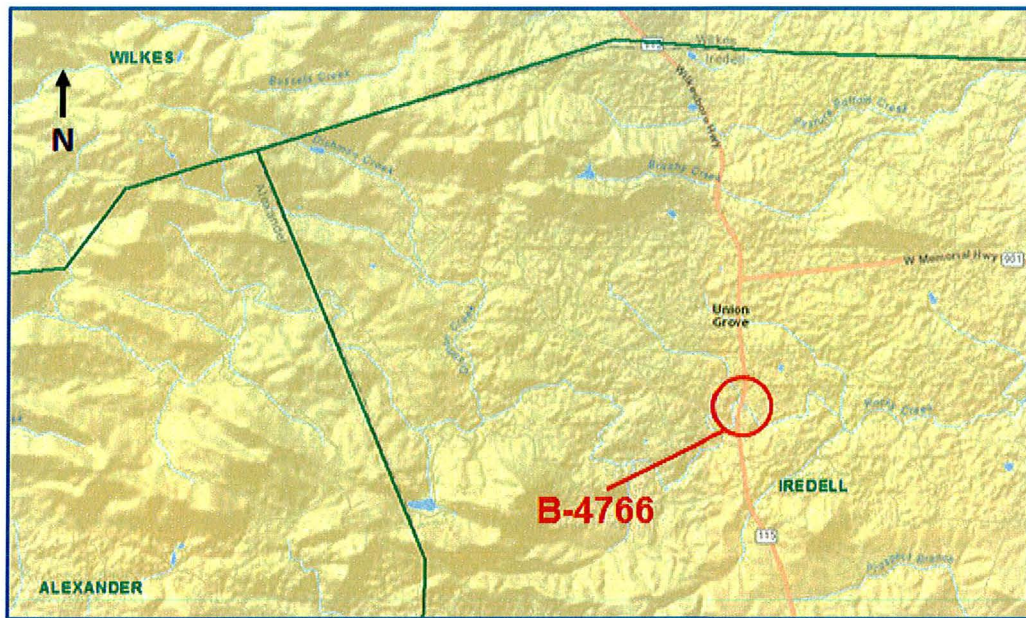
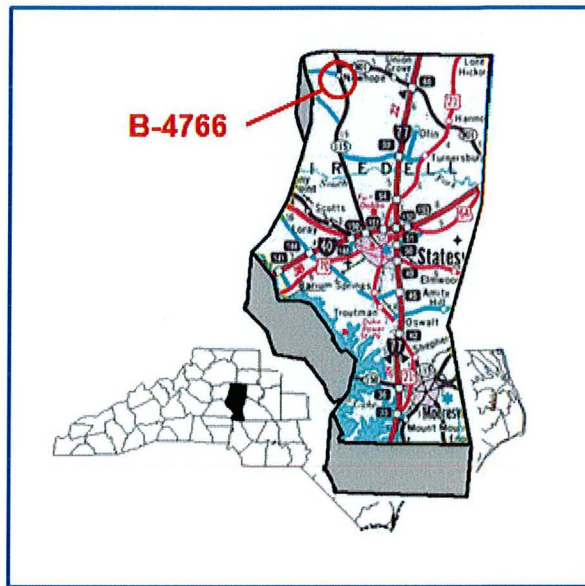


Figure 1. B-4766, Iredell County - Project Location.
Base map: [HPOWeb](#), [nts](#).

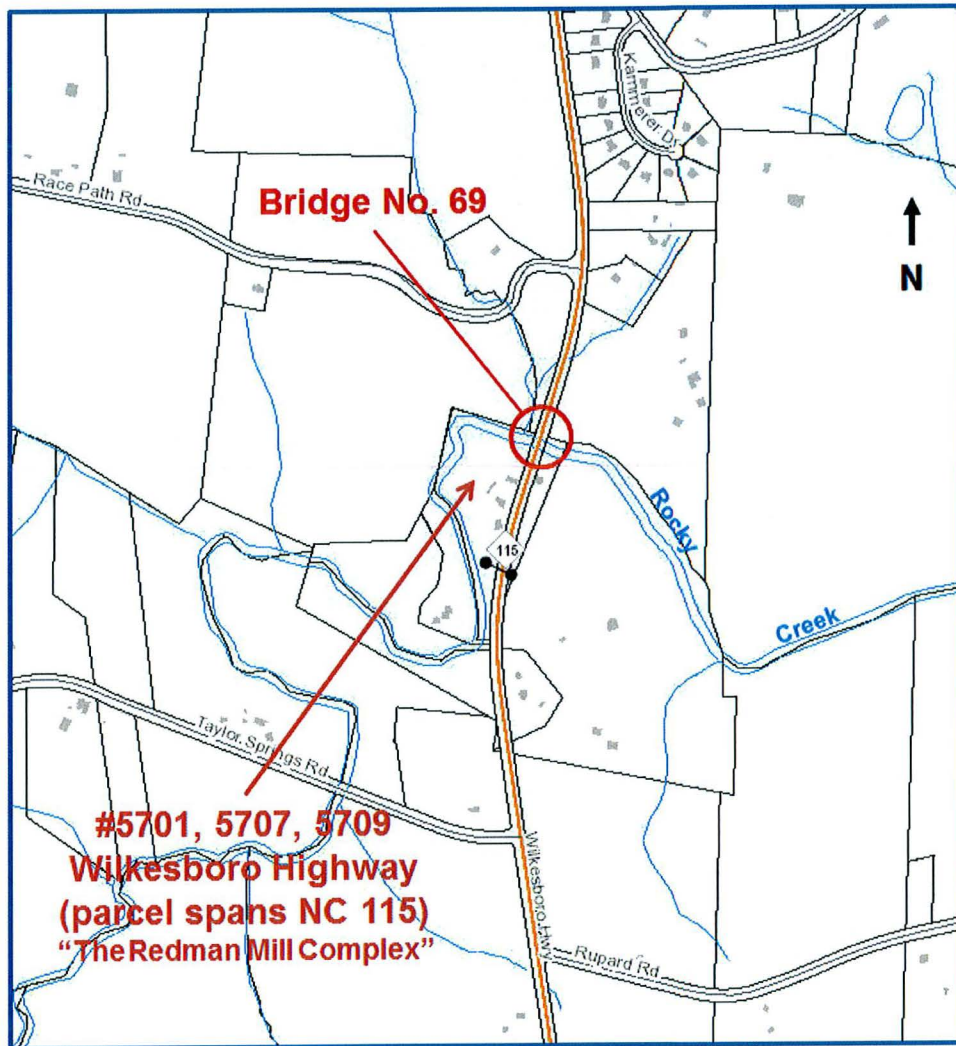


Figure 2. B-4766, Iredell County - Project Area.
Base map: current Iredell County GIS, nts.

Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818 – LD)¹

#s 5701, 5707, 5709 Wilkesboro Highway
Iredell County Parcel # 4822-19-2967



Figure 3. Looking southwest from NC 115 and Bridge No. 69 approach towards general store and dwelling house.

Description

Immediately southwest of the existing Bridge No. 69 and oriented to NC 115 are a general store and dwelling house, the only standing elements of a small grouping of late- nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century buildings devoted primarily to commercial and industrial purposes centered on the now absent Redmond's Mill (Figure 3).

¹ Though consistently spelled "Redmond" in land records of the property, the name is presented as "Redman" in other sources like early-twentieth-century maps and later local histories, as well as the current tax card. The former is used here to conform with the name assigned in the state architectural survey and in the designation of the property as a local historic site by the Iredell Historic Properties Commission.

General Store. Closest to the bridge is the store, a one-story, gable-roofed building of frame construction, resting on masonry-block and stone rubble piers (Figure 4). Sheathed with weatherboards and standing-seam-metal roofing, the store is approximately twice as long as it is wide. Plain corner boards and raking boards finish both gable ends, while the eaves remain unenclosed. The recessed main entry in the center of the gable-end façade is served by double wooden doors ornamented with rectangular panels of diagonally set matchboard (Figure 5). A three-over-one-light, double-hung-sash window appears in each return wall to either side of the entry doors, and two-over-two-light, double-hung sash windows complete the fenestration in the outermost bays of the façade. Window and entry surrounds are unadorned, but the aprons of the return wall windows are embellished with matchboard panels. A three-bay, shed-roofed porch supported by squared posts shelters the façade entry and windows. A single doorway appears in both long elevations towards the rear of the building, each secured with a wooden door composed of five horizontal panels. The rear elevation displays two, two-over-two-light, double-hung-sash windows. Doorway and window surrounds in the rear part of the building are, like those in the



Figure 4. General store. Looking north from NC 115.
East (main) and south elevations.



Figure 5. General store. East (main) and north elevations (above) and detail of entry door with historic site plaque (below).



façade, of plainly finished dimensioned lumber. A broad, rectangular sign identifying the building as the “Gale Redmond Store” is affixed to the upper gable-end façade. The building interior proved inaccessible, but a description written in 1992 suggests that fittings such as shelving, window shutters, and a post-office partition are still in place.² Poured concrete footers for now removed gasoline pumps and a metal sign stanchion with lights are positioned in front of the store. An unpaved driveway leading west into the property from NC 115 parallels the south long elevation. The building appears fairly well maintained, though no longer used for its original purpose.

Dwelling House. Approximately 90 feet south of the store, on the opposite side of an intervening, modern post-and-rail fence, is a one-and-one-half-story house of frame construction and traditional form (Figure 6). The gable-roofed, single-pile building is three-bays wide and augmented by a single-story, gable-roofed ell at the northern end of its rear elevation. A three-bay, shed-roofed porch with square posts extends across the façade. It is visually integrated with the house



Figure 6. Dwelling house. East (main) and north elevations.

² “Redmond’s Mill (ID0818).” Architectural Survey Files. State Historic Preservation Office, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh (hereafter cited as HPO Architectural Survey Files).

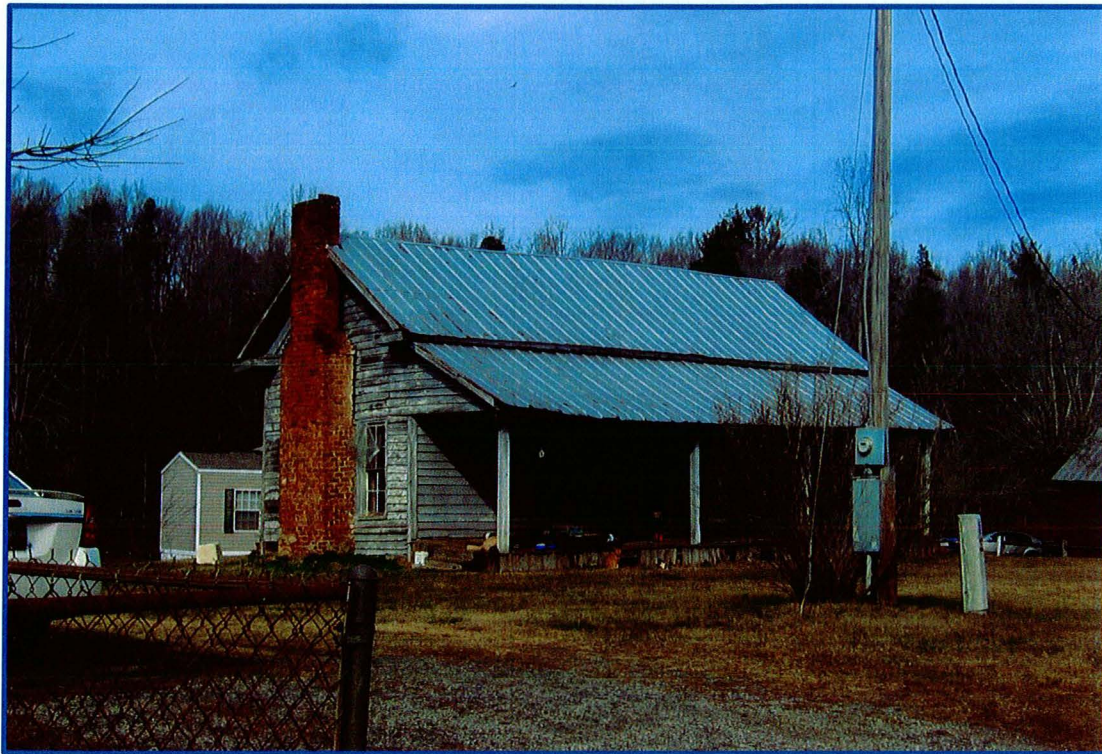


Figure 7. Dwelling house. East (main) and south elevations.
Rear of general store visible at far right.

by the continuation of weatherboarding on the side elevations and a nearly parallel roof pitch. An enclosed, shed-roofed porch occupies the interior angle between the ell and the house. The walls of the main house and rear ell are clad in weatherboards and their roofs, as well as those of the porches, in standing-seam metal. The cornice of the main house is boxed; the rafter tails of the façade porch are capped with a fascia board, and those of the ell remain exposed. Both gable ends of the main house are enhanced by the returns of the boxed cornice and deep, enclosed eaves (Figure 7). Four-over-four-light, double-hung-sash windows flank the central entry in the façade and also appear in the side elevations of both the main house and ell. The long elevations of the ell contain central, aligned doorways. All window and door surrounds, corner boards, raking and fascia boards, and cornice are plainly finished. Small brick flues are located near the rear ridge of the ell, and at the northern rear of the main house. A shouldered brick chimney, laid in five-course American bond, is centered on the south elevation of the main house. The ell stands on a continuous stone foundation and the main house on stone rubble piers. Interior access was not obtained; the 1992 description referenced above notes that it is

“greatly altered,” though the center-hall plan remains in place. Minimal ornamental planting is evident on the north and west sides of the house. The building appears in fair condition and unoccupied.

Other Features. Current Iredell County GIS mapping indicates three additional buildings on the parcel containing the store and house discussed above (Figure 8). One is a late-twentieth-century trailer positioned northwest of the house, and another is a “manufactured home” dating to the mid-1980s approximately 55 feet to the south. Unlike the other four buildings on the parcel, the fifth is sited on the small section of the property located on the opposite, eastern side of NC 115, and it is also no longer standing. That its demise is relatively recent is illustrated by the field notes compiled for the recording and evaluation of Bridge No. 69 during the NCDOT historic bridge study in 2002. The surveyor observed a one-story, frame, possibly relocated commercial building with a failing masonry block foundation just southeast of the bridge. It may be the “1 Bldg Fallen in” noted in the tax record, and the mapping is not yet updated. Alternatively, the notation may refer to another building of greater consequence that once stood towards the southernmost end of the parcel and is no longer depicted on the map, namely, Redmond’s Mill. Three fieldstone piers, a scatter of (presumably) foundation stones, and a road trace descending the slope between NC 115 and Rocky Creek mark the site of the mill building that collapsed around 1999 (Figure 9).³

Developmental History

Industrial and commercial activities on the property eventually occupied by the Redmond Mill Complex began during the first two decades of the nineteenth century. By 1807 Joseph and Azel Sharpe’s Fair Hope Ironworks was in operation near the site of the future mill building, the only such facility in Iredell County and one of eighteen bloomeries known to exist in North Carolina in the early 1800s. The manufacturing schedule for the 1820 federal census indicates

³ Iredell County GIS and Tax Records for parcel no. 4822-19-2967, viewed online at <http://iredell.connectgis.com>; Liechtenstein Consulting Engineers, Inc., Iredell Bridge No. 480069 report, *North Carolina Department of Transportation Historic Bridge Inventory* (Raleigh: for the NCDOT, 2001-2003); The Genealogical Society of Iredell County, *The Heritage of Iredell County, North Carolina* (Statesville, NC: 2000), vol. II, p. 127 (hereafter cited as *Heritage of Iredell County*).

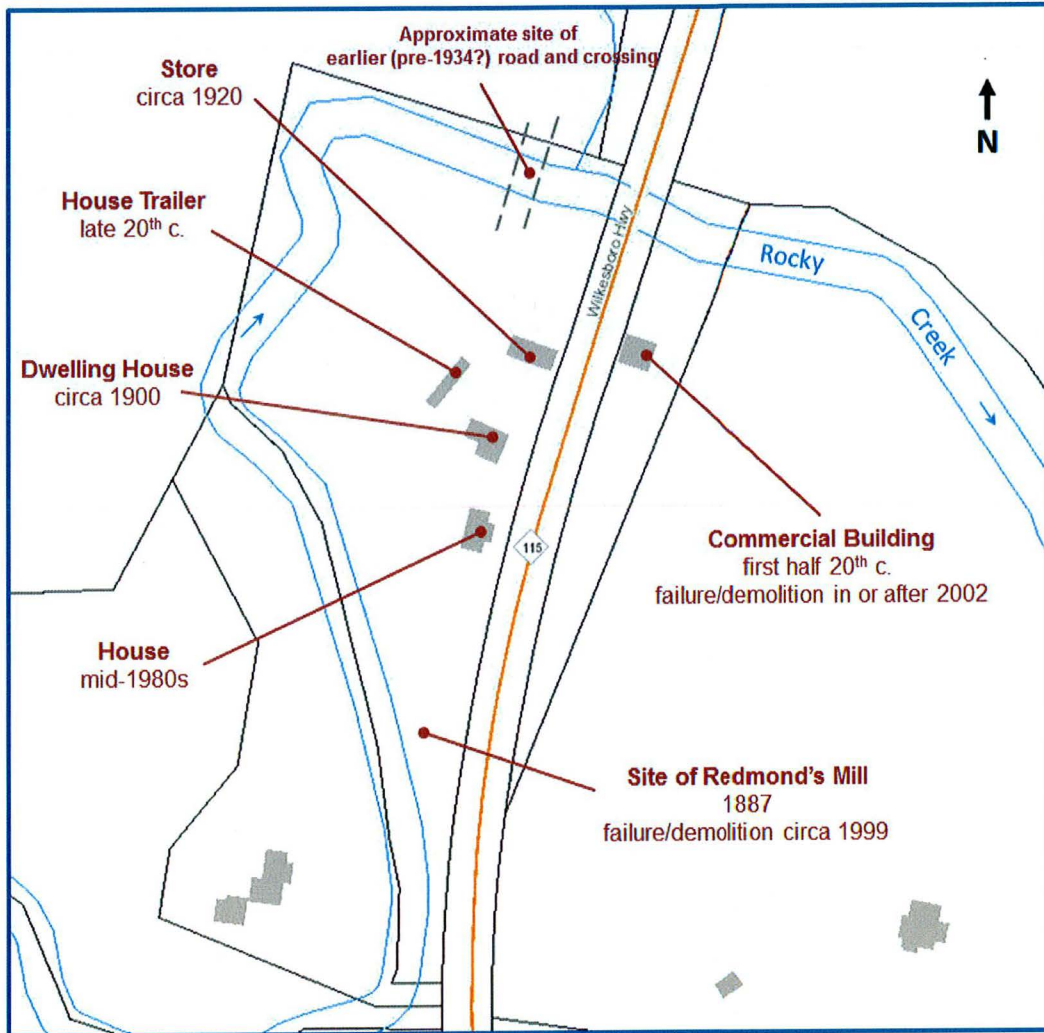


Figure 8. Redmond's Mill Complex.
 Base map: current Iredell County GIS, [nts.](#)



Figure 9. Redmond's Mill. One of three, free-standing stone piers that may have supported the flume or other appendage of the mill building (above). Road trace leading to mill site, looking north – general store visible in distant right background (below).



that the ironworks had recently fallen out of repair, and it subsequently ceased production. The property next appears in the historical record in the early 1840s, when ownership passed from the Sharpes to Theophilus Falls, who quickly sold the land to Theophilus Williams in 1842. Williams died intestate in 1846, and the property remained in his estate until 1915. Theophilus' son James Wright Williams (1818-1907) served as administrator of the estate and established the milling and mercantile businesses represented by the resources surviving on the land today.⁴

In December of 1886 the Statesville, North Carolina newspaper *The Landmark* reported that "... Mr. J. W. Williams is contemplating building a cor[n] and flouring mill on Rocky Creek, in New Hope township, at the old forge place, in a country where mills of that quality will pay and also be a convenience." The September 22, 1887 issue of the paper announced that "... Mr. J. W. William's mill on Rocky creek will soon be completed." In a region of abundant water power, grain and saw mills proliferated. As the newspaper item suggests, "convenience" -- an ease of access where bad roads and cumbersome vehicles made transport difficult -- also encouraged the development of the many rural mills like the one built by the prosperous farmer and formally called "J. W. Williams and Son." The new business figures among the thirty-five Iredell County grain mills listed in the 1890 edition of *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory*; it seems likely that the two-and-one-half-story, frame, gable-roofed building sitting on a tall fieldstone foundation was constructed by one of the five millwrights then working in the county. By the 1896 edition of *Branson's*, two of Williams' sons appear as the owners of a nearby sawmill. Also nearby is the general store of O. G. Williams & Co. It is not certain whether O. G. is J. W. Williams' father Theophilus, known as "Offie," or another member of the family, but the pairing of mill and store, so characteristic of such rural commercial sites, is clearly in evidence.⁵

⁴ This overview of the development of the Redmond's Mill Complex property is informed by an entry in the *Heritage of Iredell County*, vol. II, pp. 126-127 and materials in the HPO Architectural Survey Files documenting the 1978 county survey and later investigation for the Iredell County Historic Properties Commission. Additional sources are cited in the relevant footnotes. James W. Williams entries in the 1870, 1880, and 1900 Federal Census Population Schedules (New Hope Township, Iredell County, North Carolina) viewed at www.ancestry.com and in www.findagrave.com database; Homer M. Keever, *Iredell – Piedmont County* (Statesville: 1976), p. 10.

⁵ "Letter from Alexander," *The Landmark* [Statesville] 16 December 1886, p. 1, col. 5 and 22 September 1887, p. 1, col. 4; Keever, pp. 147-152; *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory* (Raleigh) 1890, pp. 380-382 and 1896, pp. 352-353 – the Williams' properties are associated with the small (population less than 25) community of Evalin.

The dwelling house may have been moved as well – the pier foundation of the main house and the relatively more permanent continuous foundation of the ell are consistent with such a repositioning of an existing building the construction of an addition. Cicero Redmond died in 1962, and the *Statesville Record and Landmark* observed that “he was one of the pioneer general store operators in Iredell County and operated Redmond’s Store on highway 115 at Rocky Creek Ridge, a landmark in this area, for 52 years.”⁶

Cicero Redmond’s son Gale (1917-1976) assumed the running of the mill around 1940 and ultimately inherited the property. The changing economy of the post-World War II era, as well as improvements in transportation and the availability of mass-produced commodities caused milling activities to end in 1959. The store remained in business until around 1970, still fulfilling at least some needs of the rural community. A photograph of the store, undated but probably taken in the 1950s or 1960s, reveals that it once boasted a stepped false parapet (Figure 11). The 1992 description of the property mentions the parapet, thus dating its removal, the replacement of the porch, and relocation of the “Gale Redmond Store” sign to sometime thereafter. The photograph also confirms the recessed central entry, pier foundation, exposed rafter tails, sign stanchion, concrete gas pump pads, and building placement still existing on site, and also documents a nearby structure now absent. The broad central opening and gable-end façade suggest that this building may have housed the Redmond Feed Mill; it may also be the building that eventually stood on the opposite side of NC 115 of which only fragments now remain. Architectural survey of Iredell County in 1977-1978 added Redmond’s Mill to the state record. The Iredell Historic Properties Commission designated the complex of mill, store, and house as a local historic site in 1994. Continued ownership of the property by the Redmond family has

⁶ Decree of Iredell County Superior Court, March 12, 1915 referenced in Deed Book 58, pp. 345-347 (April 6, 1915) recording the sale of the twenty-two-acre “Williams Mill Tract” (Lot 4 in the division of Offie Williams’ lands) to C. C. and Vertie Redmond; Cicero C. Redman/Redmond entries in the 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940 Federal Census Population Schedules (New Hope Township, Iredell County, North Carolina) viewed at www.ancestry.com and in the www.findagrave.com database; Rufus Guy entry in the 1920 Federal Census Population Schedule (New Hope Township, Iredell County, North Carolina) viewed at www.ancestry.com and in www.findagrave.com database; Record of Appointments of U. S. Postmasters, 1832-1971, Records of Post Office Department, National Archives Record Group 28, viewed at www.ancestry.com; Keever, pp. 179 and 181; fragments of a concrete abutment and traces of the abandoned road are discernible just west of the existing bridge, in line with the modern trailer behind the store and road trace visible at the southern end of the property – this is likely the site of the covered bridge over Rocky Creek built in 1908 (*Heritage of Iredell County*, vol. II, pp. 108-109); “C. C. Redmond Taken in Death,” *Statesville Record and Landmark* 28 December 1962, p. 2, col. 1.

insured some attention to the vacant buildings, but flooding and lack of use undermined the mill and it collapsed and was removed around 1999. Today the newer buildings on the property are occupied, while the older store and house document an earlier time.⁷

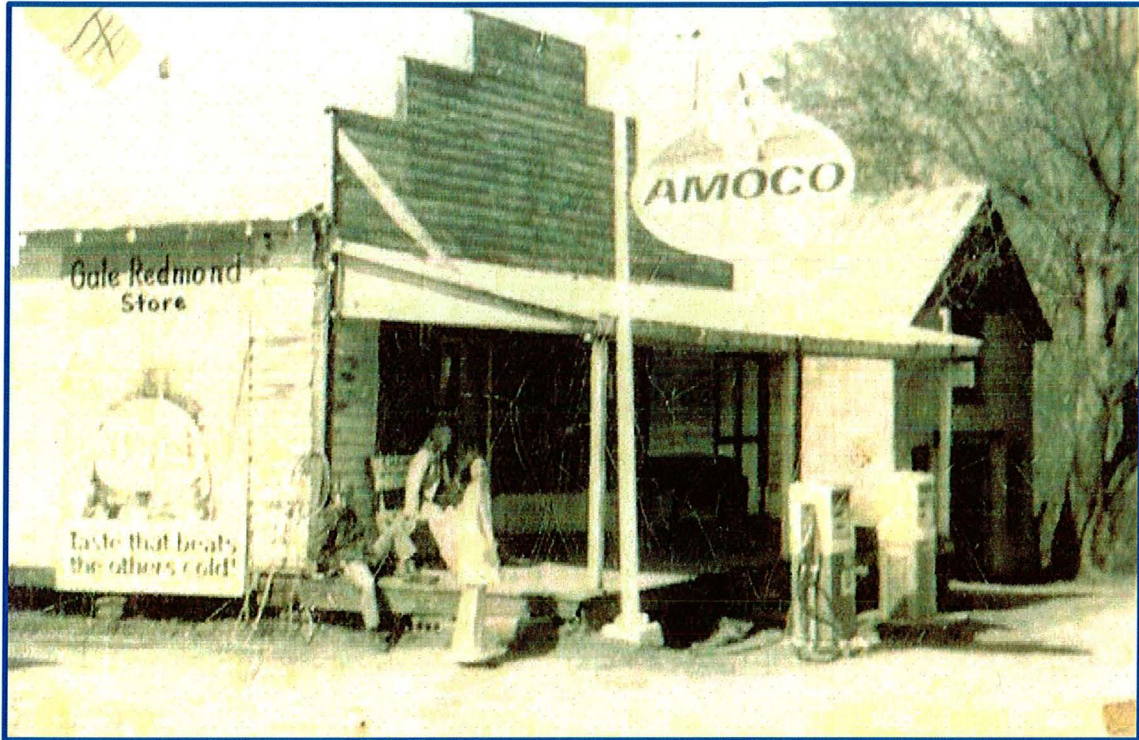


Figure 11. Gale Redmond Store. Undated photograph showing the general store and associated commercial building, looking north. Viewed at www.findagrave.com, entry for Gale Redmond.

⁷ Gale Redmond entry in the 1940 Federal Census Population Schedule (New Hope Township, Iredell County, North Carolina) viewed at www.ancestry.com and in the www.findagrave.com database – the latter is the source of the photograph in Figure 11; the Redmond Feed Mill is mentioned in the *Statesville Record and Landmark* obituary for C. C. Redmond cited above; Ruth Little-Stokes, *An Inventory of Historic Architecture – Iredell County, North Carolina* (Statesville: 1978), p. 69.

Evaluation

The Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818) is recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a locally significant property in the areas of commerce and industry. The historical development of the property deserves a greater depth of research than is possible within the usual parameters of environmental review. Nevertheless, the current findings suggest that a consensus on eligibility for purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended is appropriate.

While it has experienced a number of changes – some quite profound - in recent years, the Redmond's Mill Complex displays sufficient historical integrity to physically express its significance. Nearly all of its component resources occupy their historic locations. The general store, while moved, remains near its earlier site and retains its established visual and functional orientation to NC 115. The materials and workmanship of the standing buildings and other features appear essentially unaltered, though the design of the general store is compromised by the removal of its stepped-parapet façade. The same rural setting, bound by a creek and public road, exists today as when the property was developed starting in the 1880s, and the relationships between its resources and those resources and the topography conform to their intended uses. The addition of several late-twentieth-century buildings has somewhat diminished the feeling of the property. In spite of such intrusions, the proximity of the house and general store, as well as of the mill site features, continue to convey the appearance of and association with an early-twentieth-century, rural commercial and industrial environment.

The property is **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 pre-history or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or the nation. 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.*⁸ The Redmond's Mill Complex illustrates the essential

⁸ United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: 1998), p. 12. All subsequent definitions of the criteria are drawn from this source.

commercial and industrial activities of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century rural North Carolina: the processing of grain and the distribution of commodities, agricultural and otherwise, not readily obtained through farming or from more distant sources.⁹ Initial historical description and recording of the property understandably focused on the mill as the prominent resource to which the surrounding buildings owe their existence. The Iredell Historic Properties Commission recognized the general store and dwelling house as important elements of a *mise en scène* for economic and social life in the surrounding area of Iredell County. Despite the loss of the mill, the property figures as one of the few surviving sites of its kind in the region. The state architectural survey includes several houses with associated mill sites, such as the Cowden-Tomlin House and Mill Site (ID0406) and the National Register-listed Henry Turner House and Caldwell-Turner Mill Site (ID0038), as well as stores with companion houses and other buildings like the Jennings House and Store (ID0768) and the Amity Hill Cotton Gin and Store (ID0524). The latter two appear to no longer stand, underscoring the particularly severe attrition rate of store buildings, not only in Iredell County, but throughout the state. Individually and, especially, collectively, the component resources of the Redmond's Mill Complex represent an historically characteristic aspect of the North Carolina landscape that is fast disappearing from view.

The property 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.*

⁹ This evaluation is informed by several sources worthy of citation. Heather Fearnbach, "Historic Store Context – Mitigation for the Widening of Enola Road (SR 1922/1924) in Morganton, Burke County ... TIP No. U-2551" (Raleigh: Fearnbach History Services for NCDOT, 2012); Richard W. Stoffle, "Whither the Country Store," *Ethnohistory* 19 (Winter 1972), pp. 63-72; Edgar T. Thompson, "Country Stores" in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, Charles Reagan Wilson, gen. ed., vol. 11 (Agriculture and Industry, Melissa Walker and James C. Cobb, vol. eds.) (Chapel Hill: 2008); and J. W. Joseph and Bradford Y. Botwick, "Rural Industries of the Sand Hills – Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina" (Stone Mountain, Ga.: New South Associates for the Department of Defense, 2009).

No individual presently known to be associated with the Redmond's Mill Complex demonstrates an identity beyond that imparted by a social or occupational group.

The property is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). *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.* While its components include several good examples of specific building types, the Redmond's Mill Complex does not derive its historical significance from architectural singularity. The dwelling house, though virtually intact on the exterior, conforms to a traditional design well represented in the region. The store displays many of the characteristics of such buildings, but the loss of its false front and reworking of its façade diminish its integrity. The eligibility of the property is based on the collective rather than the individual significance of the buildings and other features, a significance derived from historical function and current rarity, not material distinctiveness.

The property 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 pre-history, and 2) the information must be considered important.* The above-ground resources of the Redmond's Mill Complex are not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of mercantile activities or building design and technology. Archaeological considerations will be addressed in a separate study.

Boundary. The proposed National Register boundary for the Redmond's Mill Complex is illustrated in Figure 12. Included within the boundary is that part of the current tax parcel that contains the above-ground resources conveying the historical significance of the property, as presently defined, and their immediate surrounds. The eastern boundary line conforms to the western or back limit of the existing right-of-way along NC 115. The area proposed as eligible for the National Register contains approximately 3.4 acres.

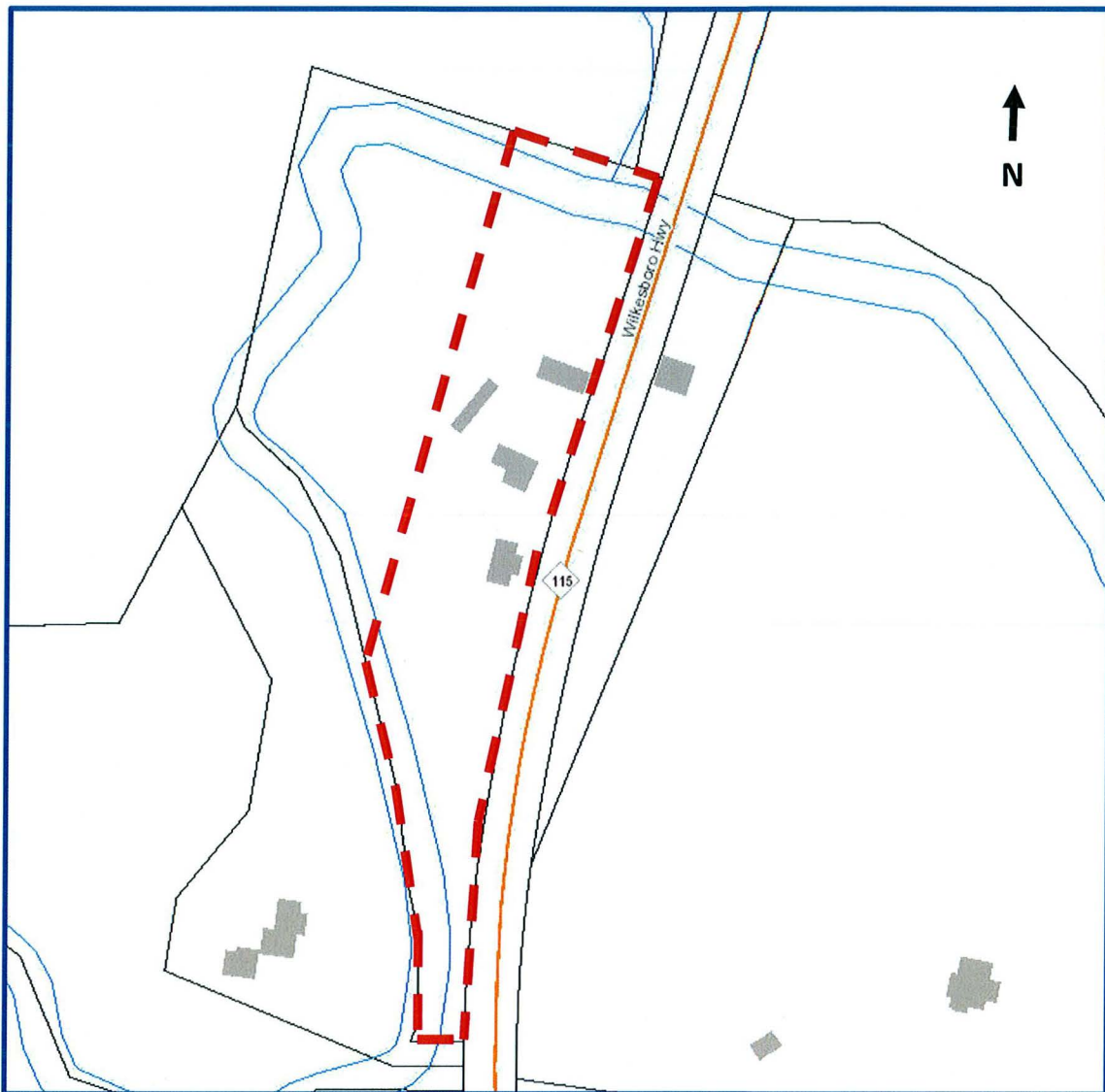


Figure 12. Proposed National Register Boundary for the Redmond's Mill Complex (IR0818).

Base map: current Iredell County GIS, nts.



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

September 29, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick
Human Environment Unit
NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Replace Bridge 69 on NC 115 over Rocky Creek, B-4766, PA 11-12-0032,
Iredell County, ER 14-1925

Thank you for transmitting the Historic Structure Survey Report for above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We do not concur with the report's evaluation that the Redmond's Mill Complex is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While the mill (ID0818) was included in the Iredell County survey during the 1980s and the entire complex, including the mill, house and store, was designated as a local landmark in 1993, much has changed since then. The mill has been demolished and a shed-roof section of the store is no longer standing.

Because, the key resource to the historic importance of the industrial complex was the mill, and it is no longer standing, the house and altered store do not appear to be eligible. Without the mill, and given the loss of integrity to the store, the two buildings do not retain enough integrity to portray the historic importance of the industrial complex.

While the buildings alone are not eligible for listing in the National Register, there may be reason to consider the complex eligible, if the archaeological remains of the mill are found to be significant. Thus, we will await the results of the archaeological survey and testing of the site before offering a final opinion on the complex's being able to qualify for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for industry.

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 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact me at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please site the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT
Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY J. TATA
SECRETARY

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley

From: Vanessa E. Patrick

Date: October 27, 2014

Subject: *B-4766, Iredell County. Bridge No. 69 Replacement, NC 115
(Wilkesboro Highway) over Rocky Creek. Tracking No. 11-12-0032.
ER 14-1925.*

Thank you for your memorandum of September 29, 2014 concerning the proposed eligibility of the **Redmond's Mill Complex (ID0818)** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

We have reviewed your recommendation and, for the purposes of the B-4766 project, shall consider the resource as not eligible for historic architecture under Criteria B and C. We are pleased that the Redmond's Mill Complex will receive additional evaluation as archaeological data becomes available. The significance of a rural industrial/commercial site initially derives, of course, not only from its surviving buildings, but from all its discernible components, including man-made alterations of topography and other features of the natural environment. Investigation of the internal workings of such sites, as well as their relationships to their surroundings – an interpretation of a whole landscape rather than merely its elements – promises to greatly illuminate many aspects of North Carolina's past.

Should questions arise, please contact me at 919-707-6082 or vepatrick@ncdot.gov.

V. E. P.