

North Carolina Department of Natural and 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

October 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Megan Privett

Human Environment Unit

NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley ledhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report for widening and upgrade NC 125/SR 1142

(Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1172 (East College Road), R-4705,

Martin County, ER 15-0346

Thank you for your letter of August 25, 2015, transmitting the above-referenced report, which we have reviewed and provide comments.

We concur that the following properties are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

- Bowen Farm (MT0626) under Criteria A and C
- Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) under Criterion A, Criteria Consideration A and B
- Wynn Home Place (MT0384) under Criteria A and C

The proposed boundaries appear appropriate.

We do not concur that the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) is not eligible for the National Register, Rather, based on information in our files about the house's interiors, which appeared relatively intact with Greek Revival elements, we believe it is eligible for listing under Criterion C. It appears to be one of a few mid 19th century Greek Revival plantation houses left in Martin County. Barring information that the interiors have been altered or removed, we ask that you concur in our finding of eligibility and develop boundaries for the property.

We also concur that the remaining eight (8) properties addressed in the report are not 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 environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT <u>mfurr@ncdot.gov</u>

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION

WIDEN AND UPGRADE NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP ROAD) FROM NC 903 TO SR 1182 (EAST COLLEGE ROAD), MARTIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

STATE PROJECT NUMBER: WBS# 38932.1.FD1
TIP Number: R-4705

by

Emily K. Anderson, Adriana T. Lesiuk, and Heather Dollins Staton

Prepared for

NCDOT Human Environment Section

Prepared by

DOVETAILCultural Resource Group

August 2015

Historic Architectural Eligibility Evaluation

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Prepared for

North Carolina Department of Transportation Human Environment Section

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> Dovetail Job #15-018 August 2015

Principal Investigator

August 20, 2015

Date

Dovetail Cultural Resource Group

Supervisor, Historic Architecture Group North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Dovetail Cultural Resource Group (Dovetail) conducted a historic architectural eligibility evaluation on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in preparation for a project to widen and upgrade NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1172 (East College Road) in Martin County, North Carolina. The NCDOT state project number is WBS# 38932.1.FD1 and the Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) number is R-4705. The R-4705 project is subject to review under the Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/ North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office [NC-HPO]/Federal Highway Administration 2007).

The scope of the current investigation included an eligibility evaluation of 12 properties (Table 1, p. ii) identified by NCDOT within the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE)—defined as the project footprint plus any areas where an alteration to a historic resource's setting and feeling could occur. Of the 12 properties, 10 are previously recorded with the NC-HPO. Three were previously included on the NC-HPO Study List: MT0372 (Roebuck-Roberson Farm), MT0375 (Church Cross Roads Christian Church), and MT0384 (Wynn Home Place). The remaining seven have not been evaluated (MT0032, MT0371, MT0374, MT0376, MT0385, MT0625, and MT0626). Two resources (MT1200 and MT1201) are newly recorded with the NC-HPO as part of this project.

The goals of this investigation were to: first, document the architectural and landscape features of the properties; second, to gather archival data on the properties; and third, to examine the physical and historical information collected within the appropriate context(s) to properly evaluate each property under established criteria for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The fourth goal of this investigation was to propose NRHP boundaries for any property should it be recommended eligible for listing. Work on this project was conducted in May and June 2015, in accordance with relevant state and federal regulations as part of the compliance process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800).

As a result of this investigation, Dovetail determined that three resources are eligible for the NRHP (Cross Roads Christian Church, MT0375; Wynn Home Place (MT0384); Bowen Farm, MT0626). Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay schoolhouse constructed around 1900. Cross Roads Christian Church is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A for it involvement in development of the community with Criteria Considerations A, as a religious property, and B, as a moved resource. Dovetail recommends that the Wynn Home Place (MT0384), a circa-1845, single-family dwelling with 11 associated domestic and agricultural outbuildings, and the Bowen Farm (MT0626), a farmhouse and 12 outbuildings that were likely constructed by John M. Bowen who purchased the land in 1908, are eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A for their association with Martin County Agriculture and Criterion C for a high level of surviving architectural integrity.

The remaining nine resources are recommended not eligible for the NRHP (MT0032, MT0371, MT0372, MT0374, MT0376, MT0384, MT0625, MT1200, and MT1201).

Table 1: Eligibility Recommendations. *Note:* This table is organized in a north-to-south order to match the order of the report

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
S & M Grocery	MT0625	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Bowen Farm	MT0626	Recommended Eligible	A and C
John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House	MT0032	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
H.A. Bowen Tenant House	MT1201	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Alexander Mobley House	MT0385	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Wynn Home Place (Study List)	MT0384	Recommended Eligible	A and C
Church Cross Roads School	MT0376	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Church Cross Roads (Study List)	MT0374	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Cross Roads Christian Church	MT0375	Recommended Eligible	A, Criteria Consideration A and B
Roebuck-Roberson Farm (Study List)	MT0372	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse	MT0371	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
C.M. Wynn House	MT1200	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A

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INTRODUCTION

Dovetail conducted a historic architectural eligibility evaluation on behalf of the NCDOT in preparation to widen and upgrade NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR1182 (East College Road) in Martin County, North Carolina (Figure 1–Figure 3, pp. 1–4). The project (WBS# 38932.1.FD1 and TIP# R-4705) is federally funded and will require a federal permit. The R-4705 project is subject to review under the Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NC-HPO/Federal Highway Administration 2007).

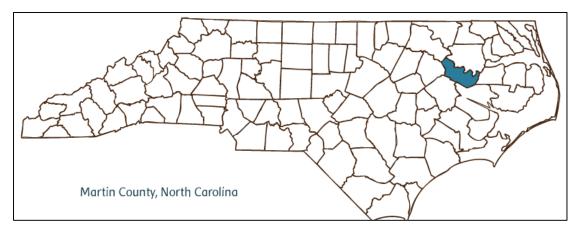


Figure 1: Map of Martin County within State of North Carolina (NCPedia 2015a).

Documentation and research for this project was conducted in accordance with relevant state and federal guidelines as part of the compliance process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800). NDOT architectural historians determined the current project APE and determined that 12 resources required additional evaluation: MT0032, MT0371, MT0372, MT0374, MT0375, MT0376, MT0384, MT0385, MT0625, MT0626, MT1200, MT1201. Dovetail Architectural Historians Heather Dollins Staton, Adriana Lesiuk, and Emily Anderson performed the work for this project with Dr. Kerri Barile serving as Project Manager. Both Dr. Barile and Ms. Staton meet or exceed the standards established for Architectural Historian and Historian by the Secretary of the Interior (SOI).

Following a review of NC-HPO records, Dovetail conducted fieldwork and archival research between May 11 and May 21, 2015. During this period, archives were consulted at the NC-HPO Survey and Planning Archives in Raleigh, North Carolina, Martin County Register of Deeds in Williamston, North Carolina, the Francis Manning Room at the Martin Community College in Williamston, North Carolina, and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (NC-DCR) Government and Heritage Library, Genealogical Collection, and Search Room in Raleigh, North Carolina. Oral history was contributed by local Martin County residents, including J. Melvin Bowen, Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, and Frank

Wynne Jackson. For clarity purposes, throughout this report, when referring to the township, it is written as "Crossroads Township;" when describing the community, place, and location situated at the intersection of Wynn, Prison Camp, and Leggett Mill roads, it is referenced as "Church Cross Roads."

This report includes an eligibility evaluation of 10 previously recorded and two newly recorded resources recommended for study by the NCDOT within the project APE (Figure 4–Figure 6, pp. 5–7): MT0032, MT0371, MT0372, MT0374, MT0375, MT0376, MT0384, MT0385, MT0625, MT0626, MT1200, and MT1201. This report meets the standards set forth by the NC-HPO's Architectural Survey Manual, *Practical Advice for Recording Historic Resources*, as well as those outlined by NCDOT in *Sections 106 Procedures and Report Guidelines*.

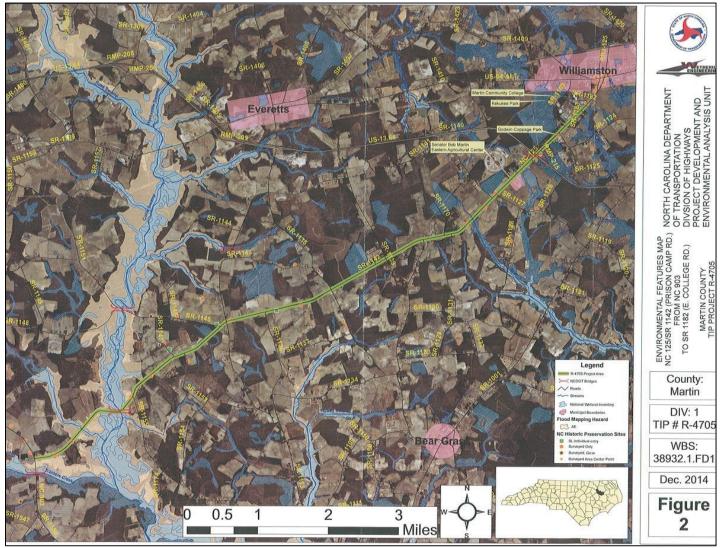


Figure 2: 2014 Aerial Map Showing the APE along Prison Camp Road (NCDOT 2015).

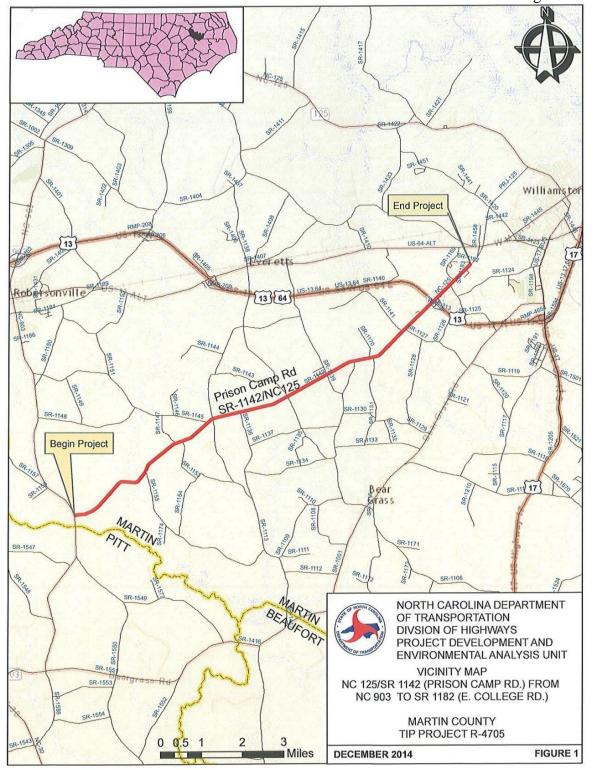


Figure 3: 2014 Map Showing the APE along Prison Camp Road (NCDOT 2015).

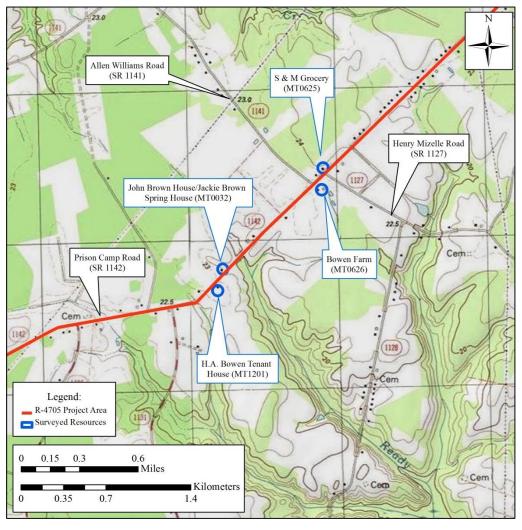


Figure 4: Northern Segment of the Surveyed Resources (Blue) as Shown on the 7.5-Minute Williamston, North Carolina, United States Geological Survey (USGS) Topographic Map (ESRI 2007).

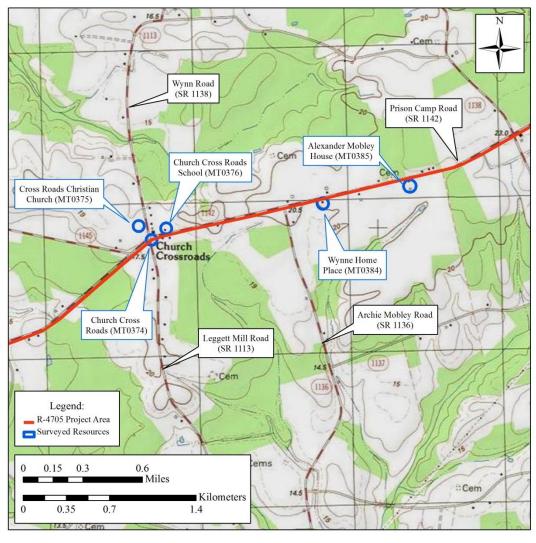


Figure 5: Middle Segment of the Surveyed Resources (Blue) as Shown on the 7.5-Minute Robersonville East, North Carolina, USGS Topographic Map (ESRI 2007).

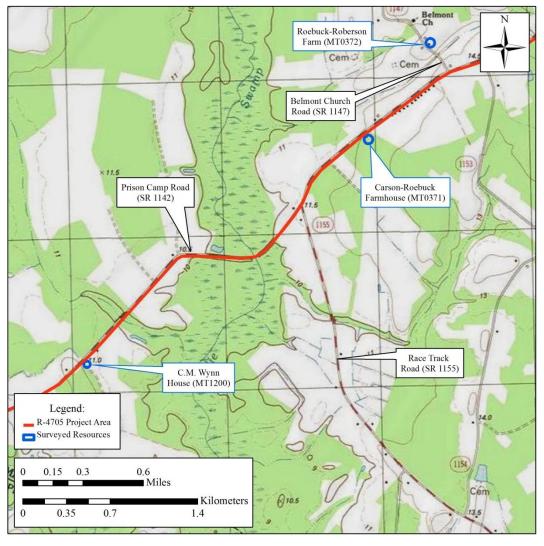


Figure 6: Southern Segment of the Surveyed Resources (Blue) as Shown on the 7.5-Minute Robersonville East, North Carolina, USGS Topographic Map (ESRI 2007).

ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION

MT0625: S & M Grocery

Date of Construction: Circa 1930s Modifications: Mid-twentieth century

3194 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina PIN: 5755-87-7462

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The S & M Grocery is located approximately 3 miles southwest of the Town of Williamston in Martin County, North Carolina. The resource sits on a rectangular parcel that measures about 1 acre which is located on the north side of Prison Camp Road, directly north of Henry Mizelle Road. A gravel and dirt driveway extends northwest from Prison Camp Road and circles around the resource and turns in a southeasterly direction to reconnect with Prison Camp Road. Directly to the south of the resource is a gravel and dirt parking area. The remainder of the lot is covered by a manicured grass lawn sparsely dotted with mature deciduous trees. A densely wooded area borders the parcel on the northwest and northeast while agricultural fields are situated on the northeast of the parcel. The façade faces southeast toward Prison Camp Road (Figure 7, p. 9).

The S & M Grocery is a one-story, three-bay commercial building constructed in the 1930s (Photo 1, p. 10). While interior access was not granted during the current survey, Donna Dodenhoff performed a survey in 1992 from which information pertaining to the interior is gained. In her survey, Dodenhoff describes the interior as being "sheathed with beaded boards" and lined with simple shelves on which goods are stocked. Additionally, the building is described as "typical of roadside stores built across North Carolina during the state's major highway improvement era" (NC-HPO 1992a).

The brick-pier foundation of the store supports the wood-frame structural system that is visible on the southwest elevation due to the removal of some of the siding. The exterior walls are clad in weatherboard siding. The grocery is capped by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafter tails on the northeast and southwest elevations. Directly abutting the southwest elevation is a concrete-block chimney.

A single-leaf board-and-batten door provides access to the store on the southeast elevation. Breaks in the weatherboard siding, as well as the discoloration of the exterior wall sheathing provide evidence of a secondary entrance on the southwest elevation. Other fenestration includes six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows with simple wood surrounds. They are covered by metal bars, a common feature on general stores to deter theft (Fearnbach 2012:78).

The primary entrance is sheltered under a one-story recessed porch on the façade (Photo 2, p. 10). This, too, is a common feature of rural, roadside general stores in North Carolina (Fearnbach 2012:72). Two small metal posts with brick bases rest on a poured-concrete slab. A front-gabled roof with weatherboard and a metal vent in the gable is sheathed in v-crimp metal. The ceiling is covered with beaded boards.

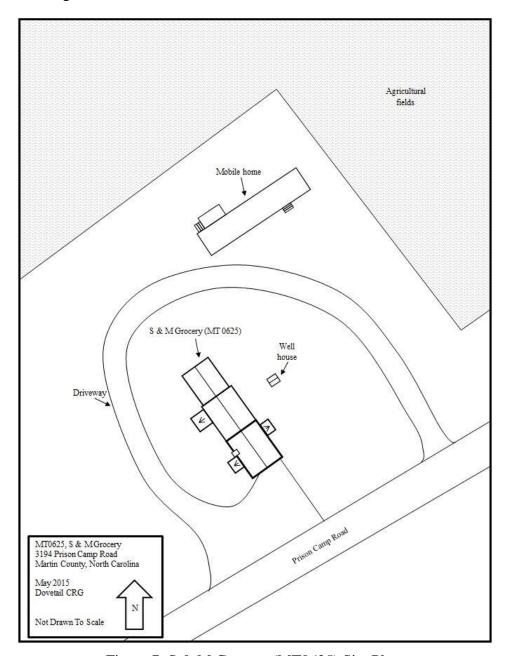


Figure 7: S & M Grocery (MT0625) Site Plan.



Photo 1: Store, East Oblique.



Photo 2: Store, Southeast Elevation.

One small shed-roof addition extends from the southwest elevation. The nonvisible foundation supports the wood-frame structural system and shed roof, both sheathed in v-crimp metal. Below the roof is an unadorned wooden box cornice. A single-leaf, board-and-batten door with metal strap hinges is situated on its southeast elevation. These small shed-roof additions were often used for fertilizer and feed storage (Fearnbach 2012:72). Situated on the northeast elevation is a concrete-block well house covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal.

The building is extended by an addition located on its north elevation (Photo 3). It is deduced that this addition was constructed in the mid 1950s and is accentuated by a change in the exterior wall sheathing. Aerial photography displays the building being transformed from a square building to a rectangular building (Figure 8) (USGS 1957, 1964). With the exception of one four-over-four, double-hung-sash wood window covered by a v-crimp metal awning, the addition features building materials concurrent with those of the original portion of the building.



Photo 3: Addition on the Store, Southwest Elevation.



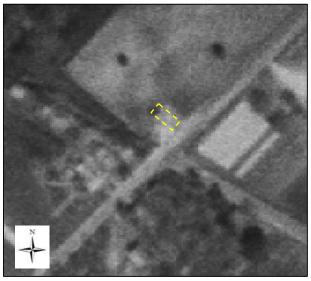


Figure 8: 1957 and 1964 Aerial Imagery Displaying the Northwest Addition Noted in Yellow (USGS 1956, 1964).

Another small shed-roofed addition extends from this addition's southwest elevation. It rests on a concrete-block foundation, and the exterior walls are clad in asbestos siding. The shed-roof with an unadorned wooden box cornice is sheathed in v-crimp metal. Fenestration includes four-over-four, wood sash windows covered by metal bars (Photo 4).

A one-story gabled addition extends from the rear (northwest) addition (Photo 5, p. 13). The addition sits on a continuous concrete-block foundation. The wood-frame structural system, which is visible due to the removal of wall sheathing on the southwest elevation, is clad in particle board siding. A front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt paper covers the addition. A metal flue projects from the southwest elevation. A single-leaf, three-light wood door situated on the addition's northeast elevation opens to a concrete-block stoop and staircase and is covered by a small shed extension of the roof. Other fenestration includes six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows.

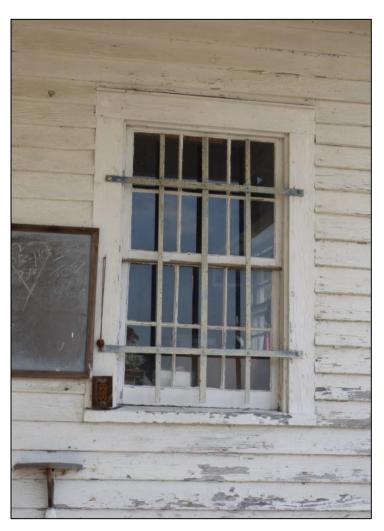


Photo 4: Window Detail on the Store, Looking Northwest.



Photo 5: Store and Additions, West Oblique.

Constructed in the mid-1990s is a one-story, three-bay mobile home (Photo 6) (Google Earth 1993, 1998). The dwelling is located approximately 25 feet north of the S & M Grocery. The resource's non-visible foundation is covered by aluminum sheeting. The metal frame structural system and arched roof are sheathed in corrugated metal. The main entry, filled by a single-leaf, wood door with a single diamond-shaped light, covered by a metal and glass storm door, is located on the southeast elevation. A secondary entrance, filled by an identical door, is located on the northwest elevation. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, aluminum sash windows flanked by fixed, aluminum, louvered shutters. Located directly in front of the primary entrance is a small wood staircase. A wood deck extends from the northwest elevation. It rests on square wood posts and is accessed by wooden stairs on the southwest elevation.



Photo 6: Mobile Home, Southeast Elevation.

Located approximately 10 feet northeast of the store is a one-story, circa-1990 well house (Photo 7). It is supported by square wood posts with up-bracing. The poured-concrete, circular well is clad in wood siding and covered by a gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal.



Photo 7: Well House, Looking South.

Historic Context

Little documentation is found to be extant pertaining to the S & M Grocery near Williamston in Martin County, North Carolina. Although the origins of its name cannot be ascertained, it is known that the store sits on a portion of what was once the "McG" or "Mack" Mobley estate composed of 146 acres lying on both sides of the "public road leading from Williamston to Cross Roads" (MCDB KKK:484). The estate was deeded to the Taylor family, a prominent farming family in Martin County, until 1909 when the land was conveyed to Herbert H. Cowan on December 6, 1909 when he pays \$1,700 worth of taxes on Mobley's land (MCDB KKK:484, OOO:408, YYY:121, MCTS 1914). Six years later, Wills S. McKeel obtained the property but only owned it for one year before conveying it to Tom M. Mills and his wife, Cherry (MCDB G-01:536, R-01:70). When the Mills family received the property, it contained 208 acres and was located on both sides of SR 1142 or Prison Camp Road (MCDB R-01:70).

In 1920, Tom M. Mills sold the property, referred to as the "Mack Mobley old homestead," to R.O. Harrison and the Harrison Brothers and Company (MCDB W-02:134). This company was a popular retailing company based out of Williamston in Martin County established in 1901 by Thaddeus Fernando Harrison, L.B. Harrison and R.E. Roberson (Martin County

Historical Society 1980:407). The Harrison Brothers owned the parcel until the sole surviving partner of the firm, Eva Harrison, conveyed the lot to Edna Earl Barnhill for the sum of \$12,300 on October 31, 1938. It is during this time that the store is thought to have been built (Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, personal communication 2015).

While no documentation exists, various verbal accounts from local residents and a previous survey conducted by Donna Dodenhoff in 1992 note that the store was built in the 1930s (Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, personal communication 2015; NC-HPO 1992a).

Road improvements and increased automobile usage starting in the 1920s encouraged the construction of roadside stores in rural parts of the state. During the Great Depression, these stores became more appealing to individuals than larger urban stores as they would often accept bartering as an alternative to cash payment. These stores were often located along major roads near major crossroads. Concurrent with local general store form and construction, the S & M Store was likely constructed in the 1930s as it maintains a nearly identical building form as other local examples (Photo 8) (Fearnbach 2012:72; NC-HPO 2011a, 2011b).





Photo 8: Mull Store, 1931 (BK0380) (Left), Perkins Store, 1930s (BK0394) (Right) (Fearnbach 2012:72).

In 1943, the property was sold to C.U. Rogers (1907–1988) (Ancestry.com 2015; MCDB D-04:330; MCBR 9:46). C.U. Rogers was the son of Javan Rogers (1878–1932), the owner of a general merchandising chain called "J. Rogers and Bro. General Merchandise" based out of Bear Grass in Martin County. After Javan's death, C.U. and his brother, J. Rossell Rogers, continued to own and operate the business with the new name "Rogers Supply Co." (Butchko 1998:544). While C.U. continued to live in Bear Grass, it is likely that he owned the store while someone else operated it (U.S. Census 1930). According to local lore, Staton Bailey was the first operator of the business in the 1930s (Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, personal communication 2015). Around 1940, William Herbert Taylor, who also owned a general store near the intersection of Prison Camp Road and Leggett Mill Road (SR 1113) approximately 4.2 miles southwest of S & M Grocery (then called Taylor's Grocery), is said to have operated the store (Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, personal communication 2015; MCEF 83-E-32; North Carolina Death Records 66:248; U.S. Census 1940).

On June 2, 1955, a Deed of Trust and Release and Conveyance were submitted in which the Federal Land Bank of Columbia acquired C.U. Rogers' 204.7 acres of land with the exception of 2.06 acres on which the store was situated (MCDB V-05:481, X-07:247). It is said that following the management of William Herbert Taylor, Samuel T. (Sammy) Holliday operated the store. Sammy and his wife Janice T. Holliday purchased land adjoining C.U. Rogers' corner across the street from the store (MCDB C-10:196). It is likely that while still under the ownership of C.U. Rogers, the store was operated by Sammy at this time (Jimmie R. and Shirley P. Council, personal communication 2015).

Two years prior to his death, C.U. Rogers conveyed the 2.06-acre parcel to Robin R. Rogers who sold it less than one year later in 1987 to Danny R. and Elaine W. Williams (Figure 9) (MCDB G-12:126, K-12:259). Danny Williams continued to operate "The Welcome Mat" as it was formerly known, until conveying the property to Edward Bell Warren in 1995 with the understanding that upon his death, the property should be passed to Shirley P. Council (MCDB H-15:351). The Councils acquired the parcel in 2012 (MCDB U-24:274). While the store is no longer in operation, the Council family continues to inhabit the parcel on a mobile home located to the rear (north) of the store.

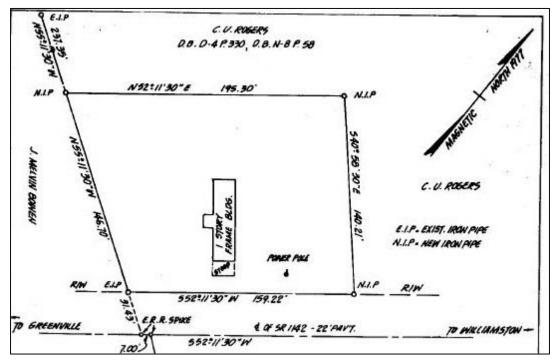


Figure 9: A 1989 Plat Noting the Presence of a One-Story Frame Building on C.U. Rogers' Land (MCDB G-12:128).

Evaluation

The S & M Grocery is a one-story, three-bay frame commercial building constructed in the 1930s in a form common throughout this region of Martin County and rural North Carolina as a whole. This form, often exhibiting a front-gabled roof, is one-room wide and multiple

rooms deep. The resource rests on a parcel that is covered by a manicured grass lawn and circled by a gravel driveway containing a well house and a mobile home.

The S & M Grocery retains integrity of location; the building has not been moved from its original location. Additionally, integrity of materials and workmanship are retained due to the preservation of original siding, foundation, and fenestration. Due to the construction of various additions altering the form, the store retains a mid to low level of integrity of design. The S & M Grocery appears to retain much of its original setting with the exception of the construction of a mobile home immediately north of the resource. While no longer in use, the store continues to display various commercial signs; additionally, it maintains its recognizable commercial façade. As such, the building retains a moderate level of integrity of feeling and association.

A historic context completed by Heather Fearnbach of Fearnbach History Services, Inc. in 2011, notes the presence of similar early- to mid-twentieth century stores in rural northwestern North Carolina. She states that these roadside stores not only acted as a convenient location to obtain goods, but also social gathering places which often sparked the establishment of crossroad communities. Often exhibiting a front-gabled deep canopy, these stores attracted conversation and congregation in addition to extending the interior space to create additional space for the sale of goods. Since they sold local produce, crops, merchandise, and grain—often stored in shed-roofed additions built onto the sides—these stores provided a means for economic sustainability among crossroad communities. As these buildings did not require habitable provisions, as their owners or managers often resided in nearby dwellings, their size could be moderately small (Fearnbach 2012:6).

While not in the immediate vicinity, several additional circa-1930, front-gabled, one-story frame groceries or general stores survive throughout the region, some of which are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C. These include the Mull Store (BK0380), built in 1931, and the Perkins Store (BK0394) built in the 1930s. The Mull Store better exemplifies this type of building as it retains much of its original building fabric including the chimney, it has not undergone the construction of any additions, and it remains under the ownership of a descendant of the original owners of the store. Furthermore, the Mull Store and the Perkins Store are located in areas in which surviving examples are infrequent.

In contrast, seven similar one-story frame general stores constructed in the early- to midtwentieth century were identified within southeastern Martin County alone (Figure 10, p. 18). Martin County's rural roads display numerous similar stores throughout the region. Their character-defining qualities include a multiple-room deep and one-room wide plan that is one-story in height, a front-gabled or hipped roof, frame construction, and an overhanging canopy. In most cases, these stores are located at or near a crossroads. Two of these examples include Ed's Grocery and the (Former) Fred McDaniels Store (MT0397).

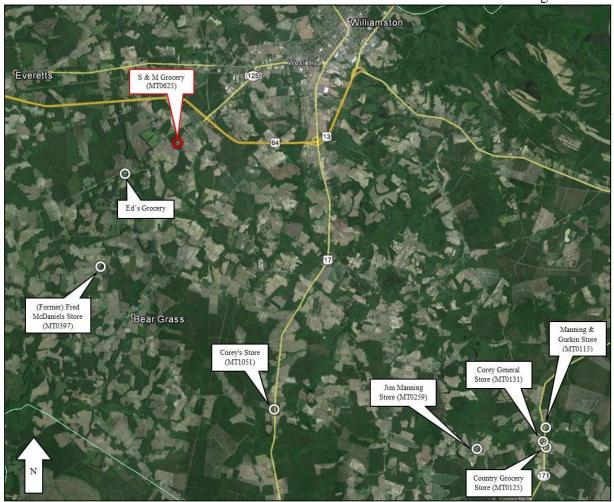


Figure 10: One-story, Frame, Early- to mid-twentieth Century General Stores in Southeastern Martin County (Google Maps 2015).

Ed's Grocery (Photo 9, p. 19) is located 1.25 miles southwest on Prison Camp Road (SR 1142) east of its intersection with Ed's Grocery Road (SR 1106). The store is a one-story, three-bay, frame general store which likely dates to the 1930s. While various improvements have been made to this store including exterior wall and roof sheathing replacement, the overall form has not been altered.

An additional similar resource, the early-twentieth century (former) Fred McDaniels Store (MT0397), is located approximately 7 miles southwest of S & M Grocery just east of the intersection of Ed's Grocery Road (SR1106) and Everetts Road (SR 1138) in Martin County (Photo 10, p. 19). The frame structural system of this one-story, four-bay commercial building is clad in weatherboard siding and covered by a hipped roof sheathed in standing seam metal. A deep canopy shelters the front entry and original wood-frame windows. Although the building has a shed-roof addition on its south elevation, it retains many of the

features common in these early- to mid-twentieth century commercial buildings including the original porch supports, exterior wall and roof sheathing, as well as the original fenestration.



Photo 9: Ed's Grocery East of the Intersection of Ed's Grocery Road (SR 1106) and Prison Camp Road (SR 1142).



Photo 10: (Former) Fred McDaniels Store (MT0397) at the Intersection of Ed's Grocery Road (SR1106) and Everetts Road (SR 1138).

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, "a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events:[...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic

trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation" (NPS 2015). However, NPS goes on to say that "mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well" (NPS 2015). As exhibited through the various local examples, the building form and style of the S & M Grocery are common throughout Martin County and rural North Carolina as a whole. Though several circa-1930 general stores are recommended eligible for listing on the NHRP, more well-preserved examples are extant in the county, as the S & M Grocery displays a total of five additions and has experienced some deterioration. Additionally, although the S & M Grocery acts as a means of relaying aspects of history pertaining to local economies and social practices, it does not individually portray these contributions enough to merit a listing in the NRHP. For these reasons, the S & M Grocery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known owners, managers, and merchants associated with the S & M Grocery did not gain notable importance, nor are they considered individually significant. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which is defined as needing to be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). As such, the S & M Grocery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that 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, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The S & M Grocery is typical of roadside stores constructed in the early- to mid-twentieth century and is not the work of a master nor does it possess high artistic values, nor does it represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may be, singly, undistinguished (NPS 2015). Furthermore, several additions have been added to the building and the store is no longer in operation, left vacant and in a deteriorating state. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). The S & M Grocery is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the S & M Grocery is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT0626: Bowen Farm

Date of Construction: Circa 1910 Modifications: Early-twentieth century, mid-twentieth century

3265 Prison Camp Road

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5755-85-5712

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible; Criteria A and C



Architectural Description

The Bowen Farm is located at 3265 Prison Camp Road within the Williamston Township in Martin County. The resource is located on the southwest corner of Prison Camp and Henry Mizelle roads and the farmhouse sits southeast of Allen Williams Road. Currently, the Bowen Farm sits on a parcel that is connected to a smaller parcel on the northwest side of Prison Camp Road where John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) is located (Figure 11, p.22). Total, the entire parcel measures 193.3 acres, but the portion that the Bowen Farm is situated on measures approximately 141.27 acres. An unpaved driveway that continues into a farm lane extends south from Prison Camp Road between the farmhouse, which sits on the southwest side, and packhouse, which sits on the northeast side. The property can also be accessed from Henry Mizelle Road by an unpaved driveway that extends southwest toward several outbuildings and connects to the main farm lane. The buildings are concentrated in the northeast corner of the lot and the rest of the land consists of agricultural fields and thick wooded areas (Figure 12, p. 23).

The primary resource of the Bowen Farm is a circa-1910, story-with-a-jump, three-bay farmhouse constructed in the triple-A form—a plan that is found elsewhere in Martin County (Photo 11, p. 22). General access to the property was granted by the current owner, J. Melvin Bowen, whose family has owned and farmed the property since the early-twentieth century. Due to severe overgrowth, some exterior features were undiscernible because of potentially unsafe plantings. Interior access was not obtained at this time; however, Donna Dodenhoff completed a survey in 1992 where she was able to document the exterior and interior of the building. During Dodenhoff's detailed investigation, she states that the interior "follows a one-room deep, center hall plan extended by two rear ell additions and a shed room" (NC-HPO 1992b). Bowen family tradition states that they lived in the house until they moved into the Town of Williamston during the 1930s when John M. Bowen began to work as a merchant. Since then, the farmhouse has been utilized by tenant farmers who worked with the Bowens until at least the early 1990s (NC-HPO 1992b). Currently, the house is uninhabited but the property is still being farmed.



Figure 11: Current Tax Parcel Containing Both the Bowen Farm (MT0626) and the John Brown House/Jackie Spring House (MT0032).



Photo 11: Dwelling, Northwest Elevation.

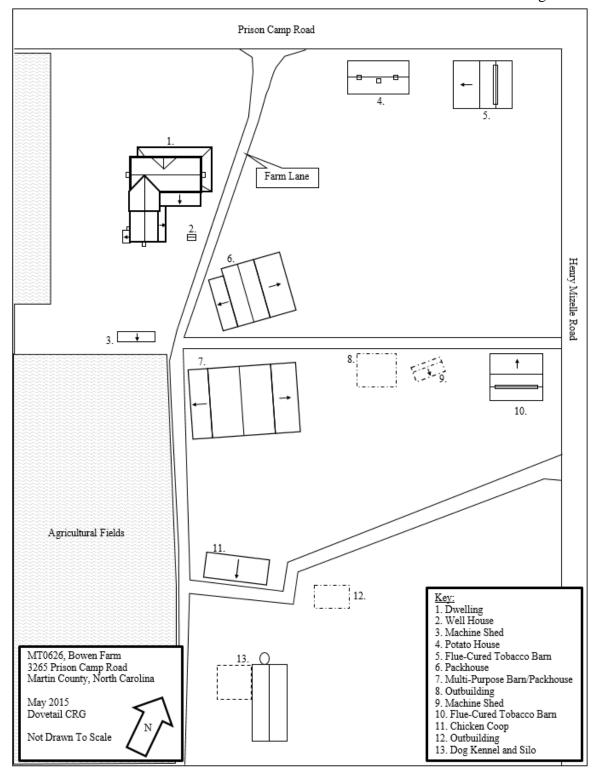


Figure 12: The Bowen Farm (MT0626) Site Plan.

The original core of the building foundation, labeled as No. 1 in Figure 13, was not visible during the time of survey due to overgrowth, but current online aerials show that it is a continuous, parged foundation (Figure 13) (Google Street View 2015). The timber-frame structural system is clad in the original weatherboard siding with wood cornerboards. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with a central, gabled peak on the primary (northwest) elevation. The roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal and features boxed eaves and a wide, shallow boxed, wood cornice with prominent returns on the gabled ends. Exterior-end, brick chimneys laid in an all-stretcher bond are centrally located on the southwest and northeast elevations. The chimney on the southwest elevation is parged (Photo 12, p. 25).

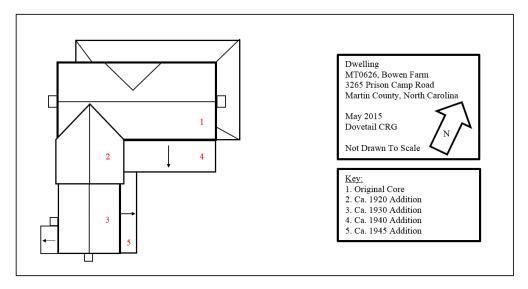


Figure 13: Detailed Map of Dwelling at Bowen Farm (MT0626).

The main entrance is centrally located on the northwest elevation and filled with a single-leaf, wood, paneled door with a single light and an exterior, metal, storm door (Photo 12, p. 25). The door is flanked by paneled, wood sidelights with two fixed lights. Other fenestration includes single, four-over-four and two-over-two, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows. The two-over-two windows feature vertical muntins.

A one-story, four-bay, wrap-around porch partially spans the primary elevation and covers the width of the northeast elevation (Photo 13, p. 25). The wood porch presently sits on a continuous, concrete-block foundation and is sheltered by a low-pitched, hipped roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The roof is supported by turned, wood posts and the porch is lined with a squared, wooden balustrade. Dondenhoff called these turned posts "a typical Victorian millwork element" in her 1992 survey (NC-HPO 1992b). The porch is accessible by a set of stairs located directly in front of the primary entrance that are constructed of an unknown material due to poor visibility. Another set of stairs, constructed of concrete-block, is located on the northeast elevation on the southeast end of the porch.



Photo 12: Detail of Chimney on Northeast Elevation (Left) and Detail of Primary Entrance on Northwest Elevation (Right).



Photo 13: Dwelling, North Oblique.

A circa-1920, story-with-a-jump, rear ell addition extends off of the southern portion of the southeast elevation (noted as No. 2 in Figure 13, p.24; Photo 14, p.26). The foundation of the

addition was not clearly visible during the time of survey, and lapped, weatherboard siding covers the timber-frame structural system. The addition is covered by a gabled roof clad in v-crimp metal with boxed eaves. Fenestration comprises single, two-over-two, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows with vertical muntins.

A circa-1940, one-story, addition extends off of the eastern half of the northeast elevation (noted as No. 4 in Figure 13, p.24). The addition sits on a continuous, concrete-block foundation which supports a timber-frame structural system clad in lapped, weatherboard siding. The addition is covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Fenestration includes single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows.

A circa-1930, one-story, gabled-roof addition extends off of the southeast elevation of the rear-ell addition (noted as No. 3 in Figure 13, p.24; Photo 15, p. 27). The addition sits on a brick-pier foundation with concrete-block infill, and lapped, weatherboard siding covers the timber-frame structural system. The gabled roof is clad in v-crimp metal with boxed eaves. An exterior-end, parged brick chimney is centrally located on the southeast elevation of the addition. Another exterior-end, concrete-block chimney is located on the southwest elevation. Fenestration includes single, two-over-two, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows with vertical and horizontal muntins. A secondary entrance is located on the southwest elevation and is filled with a single-leaf door with an exterior, metal and glass, storm door. A wooden porch raised on wooden posts is located in front of the entrance. It is covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal and it is supported by squared, wood posts.



Photo 14: Dwelling and Additions, West Oblique.

A circa-1945, one-story, shed roof addition spans the northeast elevation of the rear-ell and gabled-roof additions (noted as No. 5 in Figure 13, p.24). It currently sits on a continuous, concrete-block foundation and supports a timber-frame structural system clad in lapped, weatherboard siding with wood cornerboards. The shed roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal with boxed eaves. A secondary entrance is located on the northeast elevation, and it is filled with a single-leaf, wood door with an exterior, metal door. Other fenestration includes single, two-over-two, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows with horizontal muntins and a six-light, wood-frame, casement window. A ribbon of six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows are located on the northeast elevation.



Photo 15: Dwelling and Additions, East Oblique.

The Bowen Farm has approximately 12 secondary resources consisting mainly of agricultural outbuildings. Two of the historic agricultural outbuildings are completely deteriorated or have collapsed and are unidentifiable (Photo 16, p. 28). Dodenhoff mentions in her 1992 survey that there are three flue-cured tobacco barns of frame construction and only one was visible during the current survey (NC-HPO 1992b). These collapsed buildings may have been tobacco barns. Another collapsed building appears to have been a circa-1930 machine shed of timber-frame construction covered by a gabled or salt-box roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. One domestic outbuilding located east of the farmhouse, a well house, is a recent (circa-1980) construction of concrete-block and is covered by a gabled roof sheathed in asphalt paper.



Photo 16: Collapsed Machine Shed (Left) and a Collapsed Possible Tobacco Barn (Right).

Two extant flue-cured tobacco barns are very different examples of these types of barns. The barn in the northeast corner of the parcel, located 212.7 feet northeast from the farmhouse, is a circa-1935, two-story, one-bay, flue-cured tobacco barn (Photo 17, p. 29). It is constructed on texturized, red clay block and is covered by a gabled roof with exposed rafters and a ridge ventilator that is sheathed in standing-seam metal. The primary entrance is located on the southwest elevation, and is filled with a single-leaf, wood door. Another entrance located on the southeast elevation sits open. A one-story, full-width open shed, situated on the southwest elevation, is covered by a shed roof clad in standing-seam metal that is supported by squared, wood posts. The other flue-cured tobacco barn, located 311.5 feet east the farmhouse along Henry Mizelle Road, is a two-story, one-bay building constructed around 1910 (Photo 17, p. 29). It sits on a continuous, concrete-block foundation and the timber-frame structural system was originally clad in vertical wood siding but is presently covered by pressed metal siding. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafters and a ridge ventilator. A centrally located entrance on the northwest elevation is filled with a single-leaf, wood door. Another possible ventilator, a wooden sliding window, is located in the gabled end on the southwest elevation. A shed-roofed awning spans the northwest elevation, and is sheathed in v-crimp metal and is supported by wood brackets. The building has been covered to create a machine storage building which is signaled by a large, vehicular opening on the southwest elevation.

A circa-1900, multi-purpose barn that was once possibly a packhouse, is located 119.4 feet south from the farmhouse and is in poor condition (Photo 18, p. 30). This barn was mentioned as a mule or horse barn by Dodenhoff but recently has shifted into a multi-purpose barn (NC-HPO 1992b). The one-and-one-half-story barn is of timber-frame construction clad in lapped, weatherboard siding. The central-drive barn with flanking sheds is covered by a steeply pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafters. The central, bracketed open drive on the northwest foundation has a pedestrian

opening located immediately north which is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door. Other fenestration includes second story window and door openings that are boarded up on the primary (northwest) elevation. One visible opening is filled with a single, one-over-one, double-hung sash, wood-frame window. The northeast, open shed is currently used for machine storage. The shed roof is supported by rounded, wood posts. The southwest shed is enclosed in the west half and open in the southern half. The northern half is accessed by a single-leaf, board-and-batten door located on the northwest elevation.



Photo 17: Clay-Block, Flue-Cured Tobacco Barn, West Oblique (Left) and a Frame, Flue-Cured Tobacco Barn, North Oblique (Right).

Another notable outbuilding constructed for a specific commodity is a large, circa-1910, onestory, three-bay potato house that is located 162.1 feet northeast of the farmhouse and immediately southwest of the clay block tobacco barn (Photo 19, p. 30). The building's brick-pier supports a timber-frame structural system covered in weatherboard siding with cornerboards. The moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with exposed rafters is sheathed in vcrimp metal. Two gabled, wood air vents pierce the ridge of the roof. A central-interior, brick chimney pierces the roof on the northwest side of the ridge. The main entrance, filled with a single-leaf, wood panel door with triangular metal hinges, is centrally located on the southeast elevation. A secondary entrance is located on the northwest elevation and filled with a similar door. Other fenestration includes window openings are filled with single-leaf, wood panel covering supported by triangular, metal hinges. Once potatoes are harvested, they need to be stored and cured in a cool, dark place until it is time for them to be shipped or consumed. Because of the saturated soil in North Carolina, potato houses could not be built partially below ground as in some other states (Visser 1997). The potato houses of North Carolina were typically painted white with roof ventilators, as seen on the Bowen Farm, to help keep the produce cool during warmer months. In order to avoid freezing in winter months, a chimney is added to the building (Visser 1997).



Photo 18: Frame Multi-purpose Barn, North Oblique.



Photo 19: Potato House, West Oblique.

In the 1992 survey, Dodenhoff mentions a "two-story, side-gabled packhouse with a one-story rear shed used for egg storage" that is mapped southeast of the farmhouse (NC-HPO 1992b). Currently, the circa-1910 packhouse has been repurposed for storage of farm

equipment (Photo 20). The two-story, multi-bay packhouse sits on a brick pier foundation and the timber-frame structural system is mostly clad in weatherboard siding. The southwest elevation is clad in v-crimp metal. The building's moderately pitched, side-gabled roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal. The original entrance to the building has been removed and instead, three open bays span the width of the southwest elevation. In this area, the structural system is supported by log posts with wooden braces. Two of the bays are protected by a shed awning sheathed in v-crimp metal supported by wooden braces. A secondary entrance is located in the second story of the southeast elevation and is filled with a single-leaf, wood panel door. Other fenestration includes paired, four-over-four, double-hung sash, woodframe windows. Spanning the width of the northeast elevation is a one-story, shed roof addition that Dodenhoff asserts was used for egg storage (NC-HPO 1992b). The addition sits on a brick pier foundation, and the timber-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard siding. The shed roof with exposed rafters is covered in v-crimp metal. Several secondary entrances located in the addition are filled with single- and double-leaf, wood panel doors supported by triangular, metal hinges. Other fenestration includes single, four-over-four, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows.



Photo 20: Packhouse, South Oblique (Left) and North Oblique (Right).

A circa-1920, one-story, two-bay, machine shed is located 57.8 feet south of the farmhouse (Photo 21, p. 32). The reclaimed log structural system is sheathed in v-crimp metal on the southwest, southeast, and northeast elevation. The northwest elevation is left open where wood braces are visible. The building is covered by a shed roof with exposed rafters sheathed in v-crimp metal. A circa-1940, one-story, multi-bay, deteriorated chicken coop is situated amongst trees and overgrowth 155.2 feet southeast from the farmhouse (Photo 21, p. 32). The chicken coop is of wood-frame construction clad in a combination of chicken wire and v-crimp metal and covered by a flat roof. A single-leaf, wood door is located on the southwest elevation.



Photo 21: Machine Shed, North Oblique (Left) and Chicken Coop, West Oblique (Right).

A circa-1970 dog kennel is located 422.01 feet southeast of the farmhouse (Photo 22). This one-story, timber-frame building is clad in pressed metal and covered by a side-gabled roof. The southwest elevation is lined with dog pens enclosed by metal, chain-link fencing. A single-leaf, wood door is located on the northwest elevation. The northeast elevation is lined with pressed metal awnings. A small silo that sits on a wood pier foundation and is clad in corrugated metal and is located immediately next to the northwest foundation. The building does not appear on aerials until 1977 (USGS 1977). There is a possibility that a foundation was used from a previous building.



Photo 22: Dog Kennel and Silo, North Oblique.

Historic Context

The parcel that the Bowen Farm (MT0626) sits on is located within a 193.3-acre tract on Prison Camp Road that was originally owned by the Brown family in the late-nineteenth century. When the owner, John H. Brown, passed away in 1897, he willed all of his real and personal property between his daughters, Sarah F. Atkinson and Margaret R. Peel (1861–1938) (Ancestry.com 2015; MCWB 4:204).

In 1899, Margaret R. Peel deeded a portion of the land given to her by her father to John H. Mizell, which encompasses 50 acres situated along Williamston-Greenville Road (Prison Camp Road) (MCDB CCC:90). In this contract, Margaret Peel retains the right to remove the saved lumber on the property (MCDB CCC:90). However, just 10 days later, John H. Mizell and his wife sold the land back to Margaret and B.R. Jenkins for the consideration of \$1 (MCDB CCC:358).

In January 1901, Peel deeded a 200-acre tract to John T. Price that was "willed to the said [Margaret R. Peel] by her father John H. Brown, deceased, except [hereover] apart of said tract of land deeded to John Mizell Jr. at a prior date and one acre [north] of and including the family grave" (Ancestry.com 2015; MCDB FFF:102). This is further discussed in the H. A. Bowen Tenant House section of this report (p. 56).

Seven years later, John T. Price deeded "all of the said land [referenced in the deed from M.R. Peel to John T. Price], except about 20 acres lying on the [South] side of [Robert S. Price]'s path which has henceforth been conveyed to [Robert S. Price] to which deed reference is hereby made for full description of same, containing about 180 acres" to a farmer and merchant named John M. Bowen (1879–1931) (MCDB SSS:463,486; North Carolina, Deaths 1931). The area that was conveyed to Robert S. Price (MT0628) is located south of the Bowen Farm complex along Price Road (NC-HPO 1992b).

John M. Bowen and his wife, Minnie L. Peel Bowen (1881–1962), continued to own this property until their deaths; however, it is unclear if the family resided at this location after 1920 or in the Town of Williamston where they owned property as well (Figure 14, p. 34) (MCARB 2:277; U.S. Census 1910, 1920, 1930). No immediate relation was found between Minnie L. Peel Bowen and Margaret R. Peel. J. Melvin Bowen, the current owner of the land and Bowen family decedent, mentioned that the Bowens had moved from the farm to the Town of Williamston and continued to rent out the farm and associated buildings to tenant farmers (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015). Mr. Bowen mentioned that the Bowen family grew a number of different crops on their farm including tobacco, cotton, and potatoes (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015). At the time of Minnie L. Bowen's death in 1962, her estate was divided equally amongst her three children: Herman A. Bowen (1900–1976), James Darrell Bowen (1917–2010), and Frances Bowen Harrell (1915-1981) (MCARB 6:187; MCDR 59:24; North Carolina, Deaths 1976, 1981; Find a Grave 2015e). Frances and her husband, Miller W. Harrell (1913–1985) sold her one-third share of the Bowen Farm, to her brother, Herman (MCDB V-08:865; North Carolina Marriages 1940).



Figure 14: Obituary for John M. Bowen (The Enterprise 1931c).

Herman A. Bowen, a banker who became a successful farmer in retirement, resided and worked at the Bowen Farm for some of his lifetime (Photo 23, p. 35). During his time as a farmer, he obtained a notable amount of land in the Williamston Township that he farmed and rented (MCEF 76-E-74). In 1976, Herman's real estate was worth approximately \$598,850 at the time of his death and included ownership or interest in a total of 18 properties (MCEF 76-E-74). He willed his "2/3 interest" of the "J. M. Bowen" farm to his wife, Dell Wynne Bowen (1904–1982) and their son, John Melvin Bowen (born 1942) (MCEF 76-E-74; North Carolina, Deaths 1982; North Carolina Marriages 1979). At this time, James Darrell Bowen still held one-third interest in the property.

Dell Wynne Bowen conveyed her one-third interest of the Bowen Farm at the time of her death in 1982 to her son, J. Melvin Bowen (MCEF 83-E-09). In a final trust agreement, James Darrell Bowen, Jr. (born 1947), son of James Darrell Bowen and his wife, Louise Cochran Bowen (1920–2014), received one-third interest of the "all of the said land except twenty acres lying on the side of R.S. Price path which has henceforth been conveyed to R.S. Price, containing 180 acres..." (Find a Grave 2015d; MCDB O-25:575). Currently, the house of the Bowen Farm sits empty on the property and several agricultural outbuildings have deteriorated; however, the Bowen's continue to rent the land to be farmed and a few of the outbuildings continue to be used.



Photo 23: Farmhouse on the Bowen Farm taken in 1992 by Donna Dodenhoff (NC-HPO 1992b).

Evaluation

The farmhouse and associated outbuildings that comprise the Bowen Farm was likely constructed by John M. Bowen who purchased the land in 1908 (MCDB SSS:486). A one-story-with-jump, three-bay, central-hall building currently sits unoccupied but is in relatively good condition. The house and farm are associated with the Bowen family who continues to own the land and rent it to tenant farmers.

The Bowen Farm retains integrity of location as the house and surviving outbuildings appear to be in their original location. The additions to the house are historic and typical alterations of an early-twentieth century farmhouses and a majority of the outbuilding are extant so therefore, it does retain some integrity of design. The farm has a moderate level of integrity in workmanship and materials. The farmhouse and outbuildings retain their exterior, historic architectural materials but several outbuildings have been neglected over the last decade or so. The farm, which continues to function in an agricultural capacity, is located along a historic roadway that has not seen a lot of modern development. Several of the buildings seem to continue to be used for their original function; however, others that are not deteriorated, have been altered for another function or purpose over the years. The farm lanes, tree lines, and crop fields are appear to remain unchanged since the farm's beginning (USGS 1950). As a result, the complex retains a moderate level of setting, feeling, and association.

Due to the growth of the tobacco and other cash-crop culture in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, there was a change in the size, type, and placement of agricultural outbuildings in Martin County's rural landscape (Butchko 1998:78). Farm buildings became

more specialized. Tobacco required tall, square buildings for curing and packhouses to be located nearby fields as well as tenant farmers due to the labor-intensive farming of the crop (Martin County Society 1998:81). Farm complexes continued to have a "main" or "big" house with a concentration of domestic outbuildings located in close proximity of the main house while agricultural outbuildings were located a bit further away closer to cultivated fields (Butchko 1998:58–59). The Bowen Farm has a cluster of tobacco barns, which was a common practice of organization in the county (Butchko 1998:83). One flue-cured tobacco barn reflects a time of experimentation in tobacco barn construction in the first half of the twentieth century—using cement or clay tile block to reduce fire hazards (Figure 15, p. 36) (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1929:578). The current owner suggested that this type of construction did not seem to endure due to the cement or clay block drying out the tobacco too quickly (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015).

A comparable example of this type of flue-cured tobacco barn construction is located on Bailey Road in Williamston Township (Photo 24, p. 37). The farmhouse is a one-story, side-gabled, side-hall plan dwelling constructed in the early-twentieth century. Set further away from the farmhouse amongst agricultural fields is a tobacco barn that is very similar in exterior architectural materials and construction as the one located at Bowen Farm. The side-gabled roof with a ridge ventilator is supported by hollow, clay block walls. However, this building appears to be missing its shed roof overhang.



Figure 15: A Clay-Block, Flue-Cured Tobacco Barn at the Experiment Station, Oxford, North Carolina (USDA 1928).



Photo 24: Tobacco Barn at Bowen Farm, Southwest Elevation (left) and the Tobacco Barn on Bailey Road, South Elevation (right).

There was also a change in the traditional architectural methods and styles of construction. Heavy timber framing methods became rare in the late-nineteenth century as balloon framing came into wide acceptance and allowed freedom of building forms (Butchko 1998:63). The Bowen Farm farmhouse is an excellent example of this shift in construction methods. In the late-nineteenth century, "a modest version of the center-passage plan one-room deep house" was popular among the growing middle-class farmer families (Butchko 1998:65). These houses, called a "story-with-a-jump," is an abridged version of the two-story house (Butchko 1998:65–66). The Bowen Farm farmhouse is also a good example of this building form which is covered by a triple-A roof, popular in rural Martin County.

The Robert Price Farm (MT0628), located south of the Bowen Farm on Price Road in Williamston Township, is a circa-1900, one-story-with-jump dwelling covered by a triple-A roof (Photo 25, p. 38). The building, which is currently abandoned, sits on a brick pier foundation and retains its original weatherboard siding, wood-frame windows, and central hall plan. Some alterations have been made to the exterior architectural materials such as the secondary elevations clad in asbestos siding, the triple-A roof sheathed in asphalt shingles, and the hipped roof porch is missing. Although several additions have been added to the building, such as a rear ell possible for kitchen and dining purposes, they appear to be typical of a farmhouse from that period, similar to the Bowen Farm dwelling. Associated outbuildings seem to have been demolished when comparing historic and current aerials, but one circa-1930, two-story barn is extant and appears to still be in use (Google Earth 2015; USGS 1950).

The W. G. Peel Farm (MT0642), located in Williamston Township of Martin County on the west side of Green Acres Road, is a farm complex with a circa-1925, two-story, Craftsmanstyle, center-hall plan dwelling. Although a later example of a farmstead, the farmhouse is a good surviving example of the organization of outbuildings and an agricultural landscape. The Peel homeplace retains weatherboard siding, wood-frame windows, and Craftsman-style

elements such as post-over-pier supports. Situated near the farmhouse are a variety of domestic outbuildings such as a garage, two hen houses, tenant house, smokehouse, and an equipment shed. Set further away from the farmhouse are agricultural outbuildings including a packhouse, barn, flue-cured tobacco barn, and a log tobacco barn. The farmstead also holds integrity of its agricultural landscape that includes cultivated fields lined with wooded areas and farm lanes. Similar to the Bowen Farm, the W. G. Peel Farm complex is representative of the organization and planning of agricultural practices of the time it was constructed and therefore, was added to the study list.



Photo 25: Triple-A Dwelling at Robert Price Farm, Northeast Oblique (MT0628).

The W. W. Griffin Farm (MT0102) located on Wendell Griffin Road near Williamston in Martin County is discussed in the Roebuck-Roberson Farm (MT0372) section (see page 152) of this report and is a good example of a surviving farm with associated outbuildings, similar to the Bowen Farm. The primary resource, a circa-1902, two-story, three bay farmhouse, has a multitude of surviving domestic and agricultural outbuildings. These outbuildings are listed in the Roebuck-Roberson Farm section of this report. The W. W. Griffin Farm outbuildings are mostly concentrated near the farmhouse while another concentration sits away amongst cultivated fields. The contributing agricultural landscape of the farmstead includes a cultivated field with a wooded boarder, a dirt farm lane, and two vineyards. This resource was listed on the NHRP under Criterion A for agriculture and Criterion C for its representation of a vernacular farmhouse in Martin County (Keane 2001).

The Bowen Farm is one of several surviving early-twentieth century farm complexes in Williamston Township and Martin County. The complex, with all buildings seemingly in their original place, is an excellent example of a cash-crop farm of the early-twentieth century in this area. Although it has seen steady and continuous use since its construction, the surviving buildings are in good condition with scarcely any alterations. Any such alterations that were made give light to the changing agricultural patterns and practices in rural Martin County (Figure 16). This area of Williamston Township has avoided any major modern development along the historic Prison Camp Road and continues to be used for agriculture. For these reasons, it is recommended that the Bowen Farm is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.



Figure 16: The Fields and Tree Lines of the Bowen Farm Appear to be Unaltered (USGS 1957 [Left]; Google Earth 2015 [Right]).

For a resource to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B, it must be associated with an important individual within a specific historic context or they must be considered significant within their profession or group (McClelland et al. 1989). The Bowen family comprised successful farmers, they are not known to have made any significant contributions to area history or to agricultural practices in Martin County. Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible for the listing under Criterion B.

In order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, a rural resource must demonstrate an "organization of space, visible in the arrangement of fields or siting of farmsteads, may illustrate a pattern of land use significant for its representation of traditional practices unique to a community" (McClelland et al. 1999). The rural resource may also be eligible under Criterion C if the "buildings and outbuildings, whether high-style or vernacular, may be distinctive in design, style, or method of construction, and be representative of historic local or regional trends" (McClelland et al. 1999). The Bowen Farm farmhouse is a representative of a form that was popularized in the late-nineteenth to earlytwentieth centuries once balloon framing came into acceptance (Photo 26, p. 40). The additions are also typical of an early-twentieth century farmhouse, the primary core of the building is discernable, and the original plan has not been changed. The organization of the complex as a whole is also distinctive of regional agricultural practices of the time with a concentration of outbuildings with the domestic outbuilding being situated closer to the farmhouse and the agricultural outbuildings being set slightly further away and closer to fields (Figure 17, p.40). Historic aerials also indicate that farm lanes, cultivated fields, and tree lines have not been altered (USGS 1950, 1957). Consequently, it is recommended that this resource is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.



Photo 26: Dwelling at the Bowen Farm, Northwest Oblique.



Figure 17: Aerial Depicting the Organization of the Bowen Farm Complex (Google Earth 2015).

According to the NPS, a property must meet two requirements in order to be eligible under Criterion D. The property but likely to contribute historic or prehistoric information and the

information must be considered significant (McClelland et al. 1999). The Bowen Farm is not likely to yield new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology or agricultural technology and therefore, it is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Bowen Farm is **recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C.** The NRHP boundaries for the Bowen Farm as determined during the current investigations conform to the existing tax parcel. The boundary follows the existing right-of-way along Prison Camp Road and continues southeast down the right-of-way along Henry Mizelle Road and extends south to the southernmost point of the existing tax parcel (Figure 18, p. 41). The boundaries include the farmhouse, potato barn, several flue cured tobacco barns, packhouse, and several storage and machine sheds, all of which contribute to the property's eligibility. Also within the boundaries are two secondary resources that do not contribute to the building's eligibility: a dog kennel with attached silo and a well house.



Figure 18: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Bowen Farm (MT0626) as Shown in Red (Martin County GIS 2015).

MT0032: John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House

Date of Construction: Circa 1850 Modifications: Early-twentieth century,

mid-twentieth century

3606 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina PIN: 5755-85-5712

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The John Brown House (also referred to as the Jackie Brown Spring House) is located on the northwest side of Prison Camp Road, approximately 3 miles southwest of the Town of Williamston in rural Martin County, North Carolina. The current parcel, measuring 193.3 acres, is situated approximately 0.3 miles southwest of the intersection of Prison Camp Road and Allen Williams Road and 0.4 miles northeast of the Roberson Chapel Road and Prison Camp Road intersection. A gravel and dirt driveway extends northwest from the road to the southwest elevation of the dwelling. The large parcel is bisected by Prison Camp Road and contains various resources including the Bowen Farm (MT0626) and the H.M. Bowen Tenant House (MT1201), both located on the southeast side of the road. The lot is covered by a manicured grass lawn sparsely dotted with mature trees and contains a spring. In 1992, Donna Dodenhoff completed a large architectural survey effort of Martin County. While the precise location of the spring is unknown, she identified the spring as being "south of this vernacular Greek Revival farmhouse"; additionally, various streams surrounding the property indicate its presence (NC-HPO 1992e). The parcel is surrounded by agricultural fields on the northwest, southwest, and northeast sides and Prison Camp Road on the southeast. The façade faces southeast toward the road (Figure 19, p. 43).

The John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is a two-story, five-bay, I-house with elements of the Greek Revival style (Photo 27, p. 44). Interior access was not granted during the current survey; however, the 1992 survey notes various details. Dodenhoff states that "the interior follows a one-room deep, center hall plan extended by both a rear shed room and two-room ell" (NC-HPO 1992e). Additionally, Dodenhoff describes the various Greek Revival elements including paneled doors with two-part surrounds and mantels exhibiting friezes and tapered pilasters (Butchko 1998:462; NC-HPO 1992e).

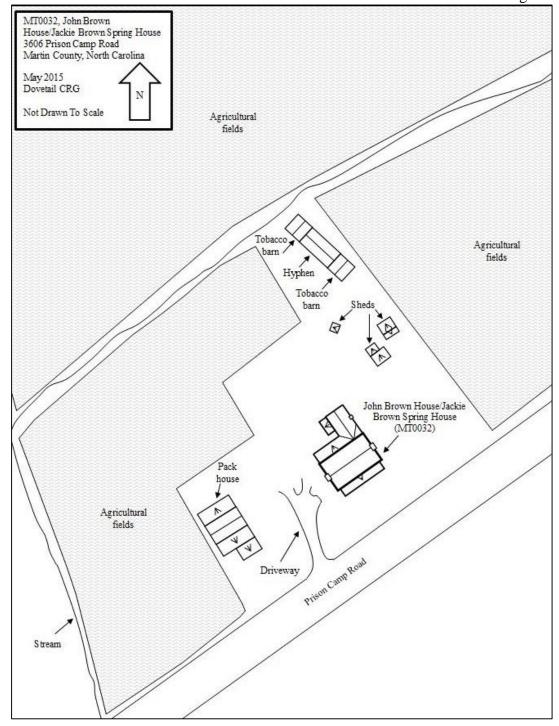


Figure 19: John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) Site Plan.



Photo 27: East Oblique of John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032).

The building's brick pier foundation has been infilled with concrete blocks and supports the "heavy timber framed" structural system as noted by Dodenhoff in her 1992 survey (NC-HPO 1992e). The original weatherboard is displayed under the porch on the southeast elevation. All other elevations are clad in asbestos siding (Photo 28). This was likely an improvement that took place in the early- to mid-twentieth century. Starting in the 1920s, the National Board of Fire Underwriters encouraged asbestos siding instead of wood exterior wall sheathing materials, which are susceptible to flame (Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC 2012). A low-pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal caps the building. Present on the eaves of the façade and rear (northwest) elevation is a wooden box cornice. Two double-shoulder chimneys flank the dwelling on the southwest and northeast elevations. They are composed of the original brick but have been parged with cement which is currently spalling.



Photo 28: Façade (Southeast Elevation) of the John Brown House/ Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032).

The dwelling's main entrance, centered on the symmetrical façade, features a single-leaf, half-light, wood door covered by a metal and glass storm door. Other fenestration includes four nine-over-six, double-hung-sash windows on the first story of the façade and six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood windows on the remainder of the original core of the dwelling. The rear extension contains four-over-four, double-hung-sash wood windows. All fenestration includes a two-part, wood surround.

A one-story, partial-width porch spans the southeast elevation. It rests on a concrete block pier foundation infilled with concrete blocks. Tapered Doric columns composed of rounded vertical wood boards held together by small metal belts support the shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The original weatherboard is featured within the gables of the porch.

A one-story addition extends from the northwest elevation (Photo 29). The addition rests on a brick-pier foundation, and the non-visible structural system is clad in vinyl siding. An exterior concrete-block chimney is flush against the addition's northeast elevation. Two secondary entrances covered by metal and glass storm doors are located on the northeast and southwest elevations. An aluminum awning shelters the window on the northeast elevation. Limited access to the property prevented the recordation of additional details and fenestration. Extending from the southwest elevation of the rear addition is a one-story porch which rests on small wood posts and is covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The porch is circled by a simple wood banister and accessed by a small wood staircase. An additional one-story porch is located on the northeast elevation. It is supported by square wood posts covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Because access to the property was not permitted, not enough architectural data was collected to determine an approximate date of this addition.





Photo 29: Addition on John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032), Northeast Elevation (left) and Southwest Elevation (right).

Due to the aforementioned limited access, all information was gathered from the public right-of-way and modern aerial photography; therefore, detailed descriptions of outbuildings will be limited.

Situated across the driveway, southwest of the dwelling, sits a two-story, multi-bay pack house (Photo 30) likely constructed around the 1920s. The foundation and structural system, while not visible, are clad in weatherboard siding. A low-pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with open eaves and exposed rafters below covers the building. The building is flanked by shed-roof extensions on the northwest and southeast sides. Two large open bays pierce the northeast elevation. Other entrances are filled with single-leaf, board-and-batten doors with metal strap hinges. Featured on the northwest extension is a double-leaf, board-and-batten door accessed by concrete-block stairs covered by a ramp. A one-story addition extends from the southeast elevation. The shed roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal supported by round wood posts.



Photo 30: Pack House, East Oblique.

Located approximately 150 feet north of the dwelling is a pair of circa-1920 flue-cured tobacco barns connected by a central hyphen (Photo 31, p. 47). Due to the amount of underbrush and limited access to the property, little information can be ascertained pertaining to the resource. The foundation and structural system are not visible but are clad in vertical wood boards and covered by a moderately-pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Wood posts support the open-air central hyphen, covered by a gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal.



Photo 31: Tobacco Barns and Hyphen, Looking North.

Three mid-twentieth century sheds are situated directly northeast of the dwelling (Photo 32). The northernmost shed is clad in vinyl siding with vinyl cornerboards and covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Access is gained through a single-leaf louvered metal door with a wood surround on the southeast elevation. A shed-roof awning covers the entry and is clad in v-crimp metal and supported by wood up-bracing.

The southernmost shed is clad in corrugated metal and covered by a shed roof with a one-story, shed-roof extension on the southeast elevation. Directly northwest of the sheds is a small, one-story wood shed. No further details can be ascertained pertaining to these secondary resources.



Photo 32: Sheds, Looking North.

While only two agricultural buildings were visible during the current survey, the 1992 survey notes the presence of four within the John Brown/Jackie Brown Springhouse property. Limited information is known about the two non-visible or demolished buildings; however, Dodenhoff described them as a corn barn and a peanut drying shed (NC-HPO 1992e). She stated that the corn barn was the only outbuilding that appeared to date to the nineteenth century. During the current survey, the corn barn appeared to be demolished or heavily covered in vegetation. According to modern aerial imagery, the peanut drying shed was constructed in the mid- to late-twentieth century and demolished between 2009 and 2011 (Google Earth 2009, 2011; USGS 1977). Due to tobacco farming patterns and similar building typologies within the area, it is likely that the tobacco outbuildings, comprising a pair of flue cured tobacco barns and a pack house, were constructed around 1920 (Butchko 1998:84). Though not visible during the current survey, it is likely that a family cemetery is located within the parcel. Reference is made to the daughter of John H. Brown (for which the property is named) being buried "at Brown's Springs" (The Enterprise 1921).

Historic Context

The resource, "John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House," received its name from its original owner, John H. Brown (1810–1897) and its proximity to a spring (Martin County Will Book [MCWB] 4:204; United States Federal Census [U.S. Census] 1860). The earliest known owner of the parcel of land where the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is located was Mack Gilbert ("McG") Mobley (Martin County Deed Book [MCDB] N:304; Martin County Tax Scrolls [MCTS] 1885). The Mobleys were a prominent middle-tier farming family throughout Martin County (Gurganus 2015). The land was first conveyed in a deed dated January 21, 1845 when 50 acres was passed from William and McG Mobley to John H. Brown (1810–1897) (MCDB N:304; MCWB 4:204; U.S. Census 1850). While it is unknown how the remainder of the property was acquired, John H. Brown's 460-acre property was worth an estimated sum of \$3,000 and his personal estate was estimated at \$16,570 (U.S. Census 1860). At this time, it is likely that he maintained a large agricultural complex as he owned his entire \$16,570 estate that included 17 slaves (Butchko 1998:462; U.S. Census 1860).

It is likely that John H. Brown built the current house around 1850 after he obtained the property. Additionally, an 1864 map titled "Part of Eastern North Carolina Between the Roanoke and Tar Rivers 1864" noted the presence of a building belonging to "Brown" on the parcel where the current house sits (Figure 20, p. 49) (Gilmer 1864).

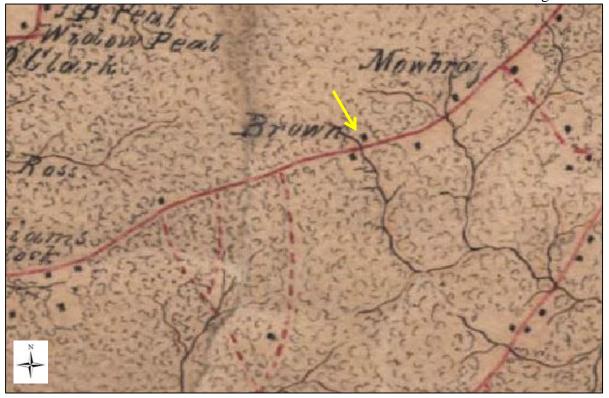


Figure 20: An 1864 Map of Eastern North Carolina Noting the Presence of a Building Belonging to "Brown" at the Current Location (Gilmer 1864).

John H. Brown and his wife Margret Saunders Brown reared six children while inhabiting the property: Sarah, John Thomas, Martha, Annie, and Margaret (The Enterprise 1921; U.S. Census 1850). They continued to operate a farm and raise their children, some of which were born on the property (Ancestry.com 2012). Reference to the spring for which the property is named was made in Margaret Brown Peel's (1862–1938) obituary entitled "Beloved Citizen Dies at her Home Here Wednesday" where it states: "The daughter of the late John H. Brown and Margaret Brown, she was born at Brown's Springs, Williamston, and spent her early life there" (Figure 21, p. 50) (Ancestry.com 2012; Find a Grave 2015a; North Carolina, Deaths n.d).

It is known that both Margaret Brown Peel and her husband, Lafayette Lecurges Peel (1856–1894), a coach maker, commonly referred to as "Fate," resided at the Brown farm with Margaret's parents, her sister Annie, and their two children, Billie and John in 1880 (U.S. Census 1880). John continued to pay the \$2,500 tax on 460 acres of "McG Mobley Land" (MCTS 1885, 1888).

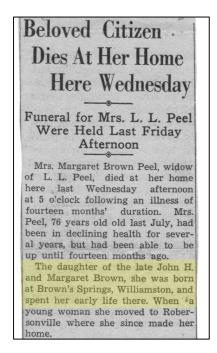


Figure 21: Obituary for Margaret Brown Peel (Ancestry.com 2012).

Shortly thereafter, in 1897, John H. Brown died leaving his daughters Sarah F. Atkinson and Margaret R. or "M.R." Peel as the heirs of his estate with an estimated value of \$3,000 (MCWB 4:204).

In 1899, Margaret R. Peel deeded a portion of the land she received from her father to John H. Mizell, which encompassed 50 acres situated along Williamston-Greenville Road (MCDB CCC:90). In this contract, Margaret Peel retained the right to remove the saved lumber on the property (MCDB CCC:90). However, just 10 days later, John H. Mizell and his wife sold the land back to Margaret Peel and B.R. Jenkins for the consideration of \$1 (MCDB CCC:358). It is unclear why the property was sold back to Margaret R. Peel in only 10 days.

One year later, tax records indicate that [Margaret R. Peel] is paying \$500 in taxes on 200 acres of a tract known as the "J.H. Brown Land in 1900 (MCTS 1900). In a deed dated January 10, 1901, Margaret Peel deeds the said 200 acres to John T. Price for the sum of \$1,500 (MCDB FFF:102). In 1908, John T. Price deeded his land, with the exception of 20 acres, to John M. Bowen (1879–1931) (MCDB SSS:463, 486). This conveyance is discussed further in the Bowen Farm section of the report (see p. 33).

The land subsequently passed through several generations of Bowens who used the John Brown/Jackie Brown Spring House as a tenant house for tobacco farming. While tobacco is no longer grown or cured on the property, it remained a tenant house under the ownership of a descendant of the Bowen family.

Evaluation

The John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is a circa-1850, two-story I-house typical of Tidewater South dwellings constructed during this time period (Butchko 1998:63–65; McAlester 2009). The dwelling was likely constructed by John H. Brown who used it as a farmhouse during his ownership. After his death in 1897 he bequeathed the property to his two daughters, Sarah F. Atkinson and Margaret R. or "M.R." Peel, and it has since been used as a tenant house. The dwelling received its name from its original owner and the inclusion of a spring on the property.

The I-house was common throughout Martin County. This type of two-story, one-room deep housing dominated the rural landscape among prosperous planters prior to the Civil War and by the late-nineteenth century had become synonymous with middle-class farmers (Butchko 1998:63–65). Other representative examples of this housing type are extant in the region which maintain more of their original building fabric and are in better condition. One is the two-story, five-bay, single-pile Sherrod Farm (MT0099) constructed in 1843 (Photo 33) (Little and Sumner 1984). The Sherrod Farm and the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House exhibit differences including the size of the porch; however, the overall massing and period of construction are the same. The exterior walls are clad in weatherboard siding, and it is covered by a side-gabled roof. Double-shoulder brick chimneys flank the dwelling.



Photo 33: Sherrod Farm, Façade of House (Little and Sumner 1984).

An additional similar dwelling is located on the 2000 block of Bailey Road. Although the scale is smaller than that of the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House, its overall form is nearly identical (Photo 34). The two-story, three-bay dwelling sits atop a brick-pier foundation, which has been filled in with concrete blocks. The original weatherboard siding is preserved in this example, and the building is covered by a low-pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. A pair of parged, brick, exterior-end, double-hipped chimneys with thick, sloped bases flank the dwelling. Although the fenestration is covered, it is likely that the original windows are situated under the plywood covers. A full-width porch spans the façade. A one-story ell, likely a later addition and similar to the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House addition, extends from the dwelling's rear elevation. All original outbuildings associated with this dwelling have been demolished.



Photo 34: House on the 2000 Block of Bailey Road.

Another example of the pre-Civil War I-house in Martin County is located on the northeast side of Spring Green Road. The Jesse Fuller Jones House (MT0037) is a two-story, four-bay, single-pile dwelling that rests on brick piers which have been infilled with brick (Photo 35, p. 53) (Bullock 1980). The house is clad in weatherboard siding and covered by a side-gabled roof. A full-width porch supported by wood posts spans the façade. The dwelling is flanked by hipped, brick chimneys.



Photo 35: The Jesse Fuller Jones House (Bullock 1980).

The John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House has integrity of location as it remains in its original location. While the building retains much of its original building fabric, some integrity of workmanship and materials has been lost due to the replacement of its weatherboard siding, the parging of the brick chimneys which has resulted in the deterioration of the original brick, and the construction of a rear addition. Despite the twentieth-century rear addition, the dwelling retains a moderate-level of integrity of design. The agricultural setting of the building has not changed significantly as it is still surrounded by agricultural fields; however, it appears that the complex is no longer a working farm and all associated original outbuildings have been demolished, therefore rendering a low level of setting, feeling, and association.

The National Park Service (NPS) outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: "To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity" (NPS 2015). Additionally, in a National Register Bulletin titled "Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes," the NPS further defines what might be eligible for a listing in the NRHP specifically for

agricultural complexes. In order for a rural property to attain significance in agriculture, they must "have served or resulted from an important event, activity, or theme in agricultural development as recognized by the historic contexts for the area... have had a direct involvement in the significant events or activities by contributing to the area's economy, productivity, or identity as an agricultural community," and "cogently reflect the period of time in which the important events took place" (McClelland et al. 1999).

The John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House does not reflect an event, activity, or theme in agricultural development as it has suffered the loss of its original dependencies. While still located on a farm, the agricultural elements no longer appears to be in use. Upon inspection during the current survey, it was noted that the existing agricultural outbuildings are in poor condition and are overgrown with vegetation. In a survey conducted in 1992, a corn barn located southwest of the dwelling was the only outbuilding that dated to the nineteenth century. This outbuilding was not visible during the current survey. The dwelling is no longer able to reflect its period of significance, in part, due to the loss of original and historic secondary resource. For these reasons, the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring house is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). The people that owned or resided in the house are not known to have made significant contributions to area history and, as a result, the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to "properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork." For a resource to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C, it must "Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction" (NPS 2015). The John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House was likely constructed by John Brown in the 1850s. This two-story, one-pile deep farmhouse was ubiquitous throughout the rural parts of the county in the mid-nineteenth century (Butchko 1998:65). Some of the original building materials have been altered or replaced including the weatherboard siding and the foundation. Additionally, the chimney suffers from deterioration and general upkeep has not been consistent. The aforementioned Jesse Fuller Jones House (MT0037) and the Sherrod Farm (MT0099) share many of the same architectural characteristics; however, general upkeep of these properties has been maintained therefore rendering them in excellent condition as opposed to the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House which has undergone some deterioration and replacement of original materials.

While the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House embodies characteristics of a type and period of construction, it does not represent the work of a master or poses a high artistic value. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT1201: H.A. Bowen Tenant House

Date of Construction: Circa 1920 Modifications: Early-twentieth century,

mid-twentieth century

3845 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5755-62-5806

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The H.A. Bowen Tenant House is a newly identified resource located on the southeast side of Prison Camp Road within the Williamston Township of Martin County. The resource is situated approximately 1,109.96 feet northeast of Roberson Chapel Road and 3,352.51 feet southwest of Henry Mizelle Road and the previously recorded Bowen Farm (MT0626). The complex consists of a house, several outbuildings, and a family cemetery and currently sits on a parcel that measures a total of 185.7 acres, which links to a parcel on the west side of Roberson Chapel Road that measures approximately 15.85 acres on its own. All of the extant buildings have been neglected, resulting in their deteriorated state and obscurement by vegetation. Historic online aerials show that the buildings were still in use until around 1998 and however, and deterioration is visible in the next aerial taken in 2005 (Google Earth 1998, 2005). A gravel driveway extends in a southeasterly direction from Prison Camp Road on the northeast side of the house and continues into an unpaved, farm lane that extends southeast passing outbuildings and terminating in several large fields full of crops and a family cemetery. Another unpaved farm lane extends from Prison Camp Road on the southwest side of the farmhouse and continues to connect to the primary farm lane. The Mizell family cemetery is at the center of the parcel, surrounded by matured trees and overgrowth. The cemetery is accessed by the northernmost, unpaved, dirt farm road (Figure 22, p. 57).

The primary resource of the H.A. Bowen Tenant House is a one-story, multi-bay farmhouse constructed around 1920 that has been uninhabited for over a decade (Photo 36, p. 58) (Google Earth 2005). The foundation of the primary core of the building was not visible due to major overgrowth during the time of survey. The timber-framed structural system is clad in lapped, weatherboard siding. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Two exterior-end, brick chimneys are centered on the northeast and southwest elevations. Both chimneys were barely visible during the time of survey due to overgrowth and details were not obtained. Although the building is barely visible, some similar buildings were found throughout Martin County that resemble the form of the house.

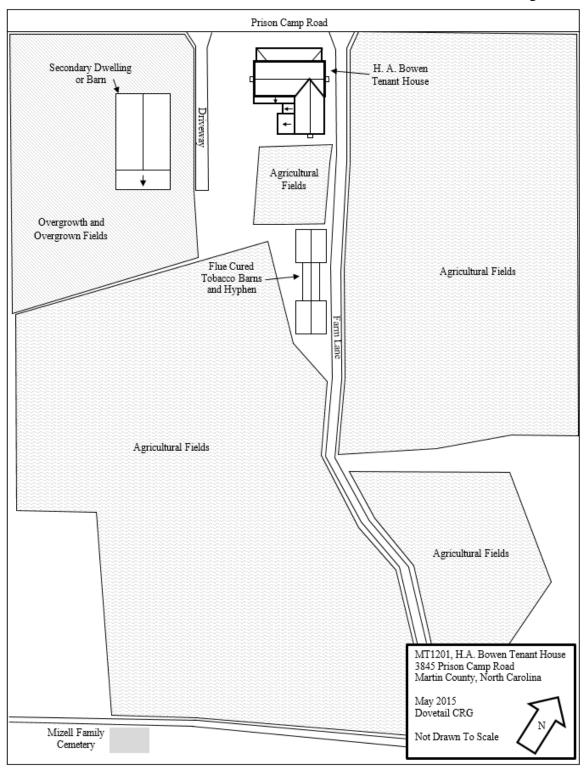


Figure 22: The H. A. Bowen Tenant House (MT1201) Site Plan.

The main entrance is situated on the northwest elevation of the building and is filled with a single-leaf door of an unknown material due to poor visibility (Photo 37). Other fenestration on the primary core of the building includes single, two-over-two, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows with vertical muntins. A one-story, four-bay porch spans the entirety of the northwest elevation. The foundation of the porch is non-visible, and it is sheltered by a hipped roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The roof is supported by squared, wood posts.



Photo 36: Tenant House, North Oblique.



Photo 37: Tenant House, Northeast Elevation.

A one-and-one-half-story, rear-ell addition was constructed in the early-twentieth century (Photo 38). It extends off of the east half of the southeast elevation. The brick pier foundation with poured-concrete infill supports a timber-framed structural system clad in weatherboard siding. The addition is covered by a gabled roof clad in v-crimp metal. An exterior-end, parged brick chimney is centered on the southeast elevation. Fenestration includes single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows.



Photo 38: Tenant House Rear Ell Addition, Southeast Elevation (Left) and Detail of Wood-Frame Window on Rear-Ell Addition (Right).

An early-twentieth century, one-story, shed-roof addition extends off of the south half of the southeast elevation of the ell addition and was also constructed in the early-twentieth century (Photo 39, p. 60). This addition sits atop a brick pier foundation with concrete infill, and the wood-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard siding. The shed roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafters in the southwest eave. Fenestration includes single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows.

An estimated mid-twentieth century, one-story addition was constructed on the south half of the southwest elevation or the rear ell (Photo 39, p. 60). It is situated on brick piers with concrete-block infill. The wood-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard siding, and the shed roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafters. Fenestration includes single, six-and-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows. A metal pipe pierces the wall on the southwest elevation of this addition indicating that a kitchen or laundry is located in this area of the building. Another one-story, enclosed porch addition extends off of the rear ell addition. It is situated in the west half of the southwest elevation of ell addition and connects the shed roof addition and the primary core of the house. The addition also sits on brick piers with concrete infill and the wood-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard siding. The shed roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal and exposed, wood rafters are located in the southwest eave. A secondary entrance is located on the southwest elevation and is missing a door. The door is flanked by single, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows. The door is accessed by a set of concrete-block stairs. This addition may have been constructed to be an enclosed porch or sunroom.



Photo 39: Multiple Shed-Roof Additions Extend Off of the Rear-Ell Addition of the H. A. Bowen Tenant House.

Several secondary resources appear to be associated with the H.A. Bowen tenant farmhouse including two agricultural buildings and a cemetery. Immediately south of the primary resource is a possible secondary dwelling or barn that is completely encased by overgrowth (Photo 40, p. 61). Due to the attention to detail in the construction of the building, such as cornerboards and window framing, as well as its close location to the tenant house, it is reasonable to suggest that this building was originally meant for domestic use or at least partially so. Its estimate date of construction is around 1910 due to the types of windows that are still extant. However, it appears that since the time of its construction, its use has been converted into agricultural storage. When this change occurred is not clear.

The two-story building sits atop brick piers, and the timber-frame structural system is clad in lapped, weatherboard siding with wood cornerboards. The building is covered by a frontgabled roof with exposed rafter tails that is sheathed in v-crimp pressed metal. A chimney was not observed during the time of survey due to overgrowth; however, a possible chimney flue is visible on current online aerials on the southeast elevation. A primary entrance was visible on the northwest elevation. It is located in the north half of the elevation and is currently filled with a single-leaf, vertical wood board door with triangular, metal, strap hinges. A possible second entrance is located directly above the primary entrance in the second story. Other fenestration includes single and paired, three-over-one, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows with vertical muntins, although most of the windows have been broken or are boarded up with pressed metal. A paired window on the secondary (northeast) elevation has a small metal awning to possibly divert rain water. A one-story, shed roof addition extends off of the southeast elevation. The addition has a timber-frame structural system that is clad in v-crimp pressed metal. The shed roof has exposed rafters in the eaves. A large, full-width, open bay is located on the northeast elevation of the addition. This portion of the building is currently being used for hay storage.



Photo 40: Possible Secondary Dwelling or Barn; Northeast Elevation.

A pair of circa-1920 flue-cured tobacco barns connected by a gabled hyphen are located approximately 180 feet southeast of the farmhouse down the primary farm lane (Photo 41, p. 62). Both barns are of timber-frame construction raised on a continuous concrete-block foundation that looks to be a replacement. The northernmost barn is clad in vertical wood board, and the southernmost barn is clad in v-crimp metal. Both barns are sheltered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with exposed rafters and a ridge ventilator and are sheathed in v-crimp metal. The northernmost barn has an entrance centered on the northeast elevation but details were not visible due to overgrowth. It also has an entrance centrally located on the southeast elevation, which is covered by the gabled-roof hyphen, and is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door. On the southernmost barn, an entrance is visible on the northwest elevation, also sheltered by the hyphen, and is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door. Another entrance opening is centered on the southwest elevation and is not filled.





Photo 41: A Pair of Flue Cured Tobacco Barns Connected by a Hyphen; North Oblique (Left); Detail of Flue Cured Tobacco Barn; South Oblique (Right).

The open-air hyphen, which is approximately 22.6 feet in length, connects the two tobacco barns (Photo 42). The hyphen is sheltered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with exposed rafter tails that is sheathed in v-crimp metal. The roof, constructed of a timber-frame truss system, is supported by squared, wood posts that sit on concrete-block piers. A small section in the middle of the hyphen is protected by v-crimp metal sheeting on the northeast and southwest elevations. The hyphen currently shelters modern farm equipment.



Photo 42: Detail of Hyphen Connecting Tobacco Barns, Southeast Elevation.

Located approximately 1,472.4 feet south of the farmhouse is a small family cemetery that is situated in a thick patch of trees and overgrowth (Photo 43, p. 63). It is rectangular in shape and measures about 0.5 acres. It is situated amongst cultivated fields to the north, east, and

south and a wooded area to the west. The cemetery is accessed through a break in the tree line on the south side of the patch. It is not fenced off or marked by any signage but the boundary seem to be delineated by squared, sawn, wood posts that stand in the northeast and southwest corners. There are about 19 known interments that are marked with headstones or grave markers. The headstones and grave markers are composed of marbled, stone, and brick. Some headstones are inscribed with death dates ranging from 1892–1938. The Mizell/Meizell name is on a majority of the engraved headstones, while some other surnames include Barren, Wynn, and Lealand (Photo 44).



Photo 43: Overview of Mizell Family Cemetery, Looking Northwest.



Photo 44: Detail of Headstones Located Within the Mizell Family Cemetery, Looking Northeast.

Historic Context

The farmhouse and related outbuildings, being referred to as the H.A. Bowen Tenant House, are located on the south side of Prison Camp Road between Roberson Chapel Road and Henry Mizelle Road in Williamston Township of Martin County. The parcel, which measures approximately 185.7 acres, is immediately southwest of the parcel of land that is occupied by the Bowen Farm (MT0626). Although there is little evidence, it is believed that a portion of this current tract of land was purchased by John M. Bowen from John T. Price in 1901 (MCDB SSS:486). As previously detailed in the Bowen Farm section of this report (p. 33), John T. Price purchased this land from Margaret R. Peel, who was conveyed this land by her father, John H. Brown (MCWB 4:204). In the land description from the deed related to this transaction, it is mentioned that the 200-acre tract of land being sold is the total land willed to Margaret by her father except for a portion that was deeded to John H. Mizelle, Jr. at a prior date and with a 1-acre family cemetery (MCDB FFF:102). This cemetery is still extant on the H.A. Bowen Tenant House property and is cared for by decedents of the Mizelle family (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015).

During his ownership, John M. Bowen constructed a farmhouse and several associated agricultural outbuildings at the northeast corner of the property known as the Bowen Farm (MT0626). During the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, there was a need for more hands on a farm due to the labor intensity of farming tobacco (University of North Carolina School of Education [UNC School of Education] 2008). This brought about the sharecropping and tenant system where wealthier farmers with a large amount of land would divide their lands into smaller plots and provide housing and equipment to lower- to middle-class farmers (UNC School of Education 2008). It is likely that towards the end of his ownership or the beginning of Herman A. Bowen's ownership that a possible tenant house, the H. A. Bowen Tenant House, and several associated outbuildings were added to the property along Prison Camp Road, southwest of the main complex. This arrangement is typical of most tenant houses constructed during this time where tenant house complexes were situated along a public or farm road within the view of the owner's dwelling and at the same time, near fields and agricultural buildings where tenants worked (Butchko 1998: 81).

After the deaths of John M. Bowen and his wife, Minnie L. Peel Bowen, the land was passed along to their three children (Figure 23 and Figure 24, p. 65) (MCARB 2:277, 6:187, 59:24). One child, Frances H. Harrell, sold her one-third share to her brother, Herman (MCDB V-08:865), who was a successful farmer and banker in Williamston. He continued to farm and rent the land throughout his lifetime all the while purchasing more land.

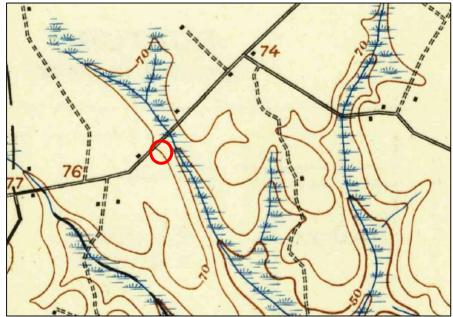


Figure 23: 1902 Topographic Map Showing the Price Land (Later Bowen Land) Along Prison Camp Road with No Tenant House (Indicated in Red) (USGS 1902).

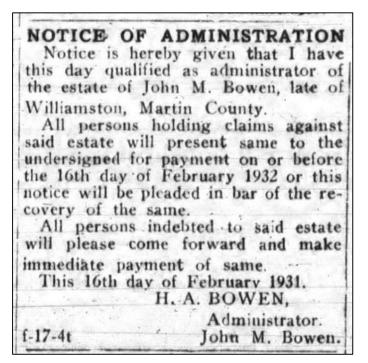


Figure 24: Administration of Estate Announcement for John M. Bowen from *The Enterprise* (The Enterprise 1931d).

At the time of his death in 1976, Herman's real estate was worth approximately \$598,850 and included ownership or interest in a total of 18 properties (MCEF 76-E-74). Among these

18 properties, the "J.M. Bowen" property is mentioned to encompass a total of 262 acres and is worth approximately \$82,000 at the time of his death (MCEF 76-E-74). It is evident that at some point during Herman's ownership, the tract of land, known as the Bowen Farm, was added to, but it is unclear what other tracts were involved. After the death of Herman's wife in 1982, Delle Wynn Bowen, their son, J. Melvin Bowen, took ownership in their shares of all of their real estate (MCEF 83-E-09). Today, the multiple farm properties owned by the Bowen family through the twentieth century, including the Bowen Farm and H. A. Bowen Farm lands, have been sub-divided and is still farmed today by hired farmhands (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015). The farmhouse and related agricultural outbuildings now referred to as the H. A. Bowen Tenant House currently sits unoccupied and is engulfed by overgrowth.

Evaluation

The H. A. Bowen Tenant House dates to circa 1920 and was likely constructed by either John M. Bowen or Herman A. Bowen. At this time, the one-story, multiple-bay, central-hall building has been neglected for over a decade and is overgrown. The house and the farm are associated with the Bowen family, originally purchased by John M. Bowen in the first quarter of the twentieth century, and passed it onto his descendants. Herman A. Bowen, John M. Bowen's son, ran the farm and rented it until his death in the mid-1970s. The farm continues to be owned by a member of the Bowen family today.

Due to the growth of the tobacco culture in the early-twentieth century, there was a change in the size, type, and placement of agricultural outbuildings in Martin County's rural landscape (Butchko 1998:78). Tobacco required tall, square buildings for curing and packhouses to be located nearby fields. An increased need for workers due to the labor-intensive work of farming tobacco occurred in the early-twentieth century (Butchko 1998:81). Tenant houses became progressively common through Martin County and typically consisted of a house often situated along a public or farm road within view of the owner's dwelling and in close proximity to fields and agricultural outbuildings (Butchko 1998:81).

The H. A. Bowen Tenant House retains integrity of location as the house and surviving outbuildings seem to be in their original location (Figure 25, p. 67). The additions to the house are historic and typical alterations of an early-twentieth century farmhouses but are atypical of most tenant houses in Martin County; therefore, it does retain some integrity of design. The farm has a low level of workmanship and materials; although the building retains a majority of exterior, historic architectural fabric such as original siding, fenestration, and porch, it has been neglected for over a decade and is in very poor condition. The complex continues to function as a farm that is located along a historic roadway that has seen little modern development; however, the buildings are no longer in use except for the tobacco barns, which are now used for machine storage. As a result, the complex retains a moderate-to low-level of integrity of setting, feeling and association.



Figure 25: A Historic Aerial Indicating the H. A. Bowen Tenant House Complex, Farm Lands, and Cemetery In Use (Left) Compared to a Current Aerial Showing Neglect (Right) (USGS 1957; Google Earth 2015). *Note*: Buildings and Cemetery Circled in Red.

The Edmonson Tenant House Complex (MT1023) located in Oak City, Martin County is an excellent example of not only surviving tenant house architecture but also of the tenancy system that grew to popularity in Martin County in the late-nineteenth to early-twentieth centuries. In a survey conducted by Donna Dodenhoff in 1992, she stated that this complex is composed of four "tenant houses" constructed in a standard form, three of which date to the early-nineteenth century and one to the early-twentieth century (NC-HPO 1992c). One noteworthy example of the common tenant house found within this complex is known as the Edmonson Homeplace/Tenant House No. 4 (MT0466). The house is a "one-story, sidegabled farmhouse that had become synonymous with a type of modestly scaled, middle class farm dwelling in Martin County by the late-nineteenth century" (Photo 45, p. 68) (NC-HPO 1992d). Some notable original characteristics the building retained in 1992 were a sidegabled roof sheathed in standing-seam metal, paired brick chimneys on the gabled ends of the building, wood-frame windows, symmetrical façade, and full-width hipped porch. The tenant house is also complimented by a number of agricultural outbuildings such as a privy, packhouse, bulk tobacco barn, and several other small barns and equipment sheds. Because of its exceptional condition and representation of the tenancy system in Martin County, the Edmondson Tenant House Complex was placed on the North Carolina Study List.

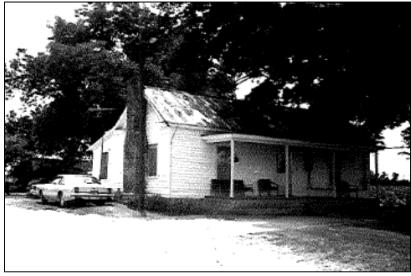


Photo 45: Edmonson Homeplace/Tenant House No. 4 (MT0466) During a Survey in 1992 (NC-HPO 1992d).

A good example of a possible tenant house in the Williamston Township is located nearby on Henry Mizelle Road, southeast from the Bowen Farm (Photo 46) (MT0626). This circa-1920 house, which currently sits on a continuous concrete-block foundation, abuts the public road and is within view of the Bowen Farm (MT0626). The one-story, wood-frame building retains its original weatherboard siding, wood-frame windows, full-width porch, and brick exterior-end chimney. Unlike the H. A. Bowen Tenant House, the building appears to stand alone along the road at the beginning of a field.



Photo 46: A Tenant House Located on Henry Mizelle Road, Williamston, North Oblique.

Along the railroad tracks on the southeast side of the Town of Williamston is another good example of a possible tenant house (Photo 47). Located along Reddicks Grove Church Road, north of the intersection with Holly Springs Church Road, is a one-story, wood-frame dwelling that almost abuts the road with crop fields immediately to the north. The house retains its original weatherboard siding, side-gabled roof sheathed in standing-seam metal, exterior-end brick chimney on the gabled end, wood-frame windows, and full-width porch with a hipped roof. Although some characteristics do differ from the H. A. Bowen Tenant House such as one gabled-end chimney rather than two and decorative, wood columns the support the porch roof rather than modest, squared posts. The house, which is currently still occupied, has several complimentary historic outbuildings.



Photo 47: A Tenant House Located Along Reddicks Grove Church Road, Williamston, Northwest Oblique.

Mentioned in the Roebuck-Roberson Farm (MT0372) evaluation, there are three factors in which a rural historic landscape should be evaluated for eligibility (p. 151). A rural property must exude significance in historic agricultural development of the area, direct involvement in a significant event or activity that contributed to the development, or the historic landscape characteristics reflect a historically significant time period (McClelland et al. 1989). The H. A. Bowen Tenant House complex is one of multiple tenant complexes surviving in Williamston Township and Martin County. Although the area surrounding the resource continued to be used for agricultural purposes since its construction, it does not project historically significant local agricultural patterns or practices and the deteriorated state of the farmhouse and outbuildings do not merit eligibility for the NRHP under Criterion A. For these reasons, the H. A. Bowen Tenant House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

In order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B, the resource must be associated with a noteworthy individual within a specific historic context or they must be considered significant within their profession or group (McClelland et al. 1999). Although

the Bowen family produced successful farmers throughout their ownership of the property, they are not know to have made significant contributions to area history. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Historic online aerials show that the buildings of the H. A. Bowen Tenant House complex were still in use at least until 1998. Overgrowth and neglect is visible in the next aerial taken in 2005 (Google Earth 1998, 2005). During a recent visit as a part of this survey effort, the farmhouse and outbuildings were found to be completely engulfed in overgrowth and in a deteriorated state. The family cemetery, however, seems to be in better condition due to continued care of the small plot by Mizelle family descendants (J. Melvin Bowen, personal communication 2015). From what was visible of the farmhouse, it did not appear to exemplify a particular architectural style and due to the neglect, it is a poor example of a tenant farmhouse. The agricultural outbuildings that are associated with the farmhouse are also in extremely poor condition. This resource has a significant loss of architectural integrity and because of this, it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

According to the NPS, a property must meet two requirements in order to be eligible under Criterion D. The property but likely to contribute historic or prehistoric information and the information must be considered significant (McClelland et al. 1999). The H. A. Bowen Tenant House is not likely to yield new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology or agricultural technology and therefore, it is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the H. A. Bowen Farm is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT0385: Alexander Mobley House

Date of Construction: Circa 1850

Modifications: Circa 1930

6611 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5755-38-4845

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

Located on the south side of Prison Camp Road just outside the Crossroads Township, Martin County, North Carolina is the Alexander Mobley House. The 1.48-acre parcel, derived from a much larger tract of land, is situated approximately 0.8 miles east of the Leggett Mill Road and Prison Camp Road intersection and 0.3 miles from Archie Mobley Road. A gravel and dirt driveway extends south from Prison Camp Road and terminates just south of the dwelling at the edge of the parcel. Agricultural fields surround the parcel—covered by a grass lawn—on all sides (Figure 26, p. 72).

The Alexander Mobley House is a one-story, four-bay single-family dwelling (Photo 48, p. 73). During the current survey, interior access was not granted; however, a 1992 survey completed by Donna Dodenhoff included information pertaining to the dwelling's interior. In the aforementioned survey, the dwelling is described as a "Pre-Civil War, hall-and-parlor plan, costal cottage" (Butchko 1998:149–150; NC-HPO 1992f). This folk style of housing was common throughout the southeastern United States and remained the primary housing form for middling farmers into the twentieth century. Commonly, hall-and-parlor houses were added onto in a variety of ways including the addition of porches, rear additions, and differing chimney placement; however, they remain relatively unchanged (McAlester 2013:140–141). Dodenhoff notes the dwelling's heavy timber framing and the sleeping loft which was previously accessed by an enclosed stair. Additionally, she notes that the building was moved east of its original location in 1970; however, it is unknown how far east the building was moved (NC-HPO 1992f).

The foundation, composed of contemporary concrete-block piers, supports the wood-frame structural system sheathed in weatherboard siding. A side-gabled, double-kick roofline sheathed in v-crimp metal covers the dwelling. While the original brick chimneys are no longer extant, two replacement chimneys flank the dwelling (NC-HPO 1992f). The western chimney is constructed of brick, and the eastern chimney is constructed of concrete blocks.

Two entrances are situated on the north elevation and provide separate entrances to the interior. The easternmost door is filled with a single-leaf, half-light, three-paneled wood door. The glass has been replaced with particle board. The westernmost entrance features a single-leaf, wood paneled door. A secondary entrance is located on the dwelling's rear shed extension. Other fenestration includes six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows with

wide wood surrounds on a majority of the dwelling and a four-over-four, double-hung-sash, wood window in the west gable, providing light to the sleeping loft (NC-HPO 1992f).

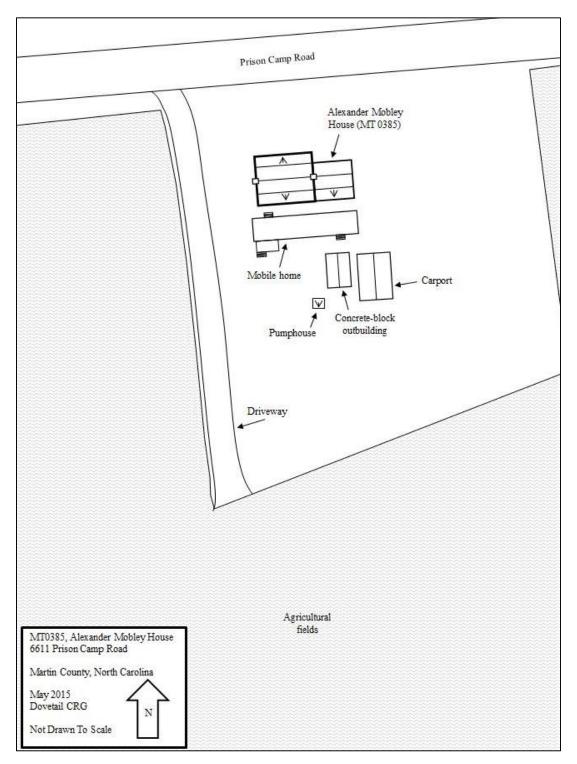


Figure 26: The Alexander Mobley House (MT0385) Site Plan.



Photo 48: Alexander Mobley House, Northwest Oblique.

A semi-engaged porch spans the north elevation (Photo 49). In recent years, the foundation and floor of the porch were removed to provide shelter to farm equipment. Small, square, wood posts support the shed-roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The removal of the central post has resulted in significant sagging of the porch roof.



Photo 49: Façade (North Elevation) of the Alexander Mobley House.

Concurrent with local construction trends around this time period, a member of the Mobley family "added a side ell kitchen [to the east elevation] in the early twentieth century" (Photo 50) (Bryant 1922:54; NC-HPO 1992f). The addition rests on concrete block piers. The wood-frame structural system, which is visible due to portions of removed or deteriorated exterior wall sheathing, is clad in German siding. Access is gained through a five-paneled wood door on the south elevation. Six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows are featured on the addition. Present on the addition's south elevation is a semi-engaged porch which rests on concrete-block piers and is supported by square, wood posts and German siding in the gables.



Photo 50: Addition on the Alexander Mobley House, East Elevation.

At the time of Donna Dodenhoff's survey, the resource had five associated outbuildings. Currently, only two of these buildings are extant (NC-HPO 1992f). Starting with the demolition of a tobacco barn, equipment shed, and a pack house in the mid 1990s (Google Earth 1993, 1998, 2011), the property has undergone a number of changes. The two remaining outbuildings include a concrete-block outbuilding and a brick pumphouse.

A one-story, two-bay, concrete-block outbuilding sits south of the dwelling (Photo 51, p. 75). With the aid of historic aerial imagery, it can be deduced that this outbuilding was constructed between 1957 and 1977 (Figure 27, p. 75) (USGS 1964, 1977). The outbuilding's concrete-block foundation and structural system are capped by a side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with weatherboard in the gables. Access is gained through

two non-filled openings on the west elevation. Other fenestration includes double-hung sash, wood windows on the east elevation.



Photo 51: Concrete-Block Outbuilding, West Elevation.

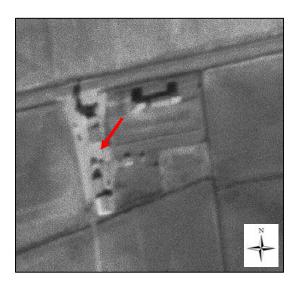




Figure 27: 1957 Aerial Photograph of the Alexander Mobley House and Associated Outbuildings Noting the Absence of the Concrete-block Outbuilding (Left), 1977 Aerial Photograph of the Alexander Mobley House and Associated Outbuildings Noting the Presence of the Concrete-block Outbuilding in Red (Right) (USGS 1964, 1977).

Located approximately 25 feet south of the dwelling is a one-story pumphouse (Photo 52). It was constructed prior to 1957 (USGS 1957). The brick foundation and structural system

support the shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with an unadorned wood box cornice. A single-leaf plywood door with strap hinges is centered on the south elevation.



Photo 52: Pumphouse, South Elevation.

A one-story carport (Photo 53), constructed in 2011, rests southeast of the dwelling (Google Earth 2011). This open-air carport is supported by small metal posts and covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal.



Photo 53: Pumphouse, Concrete-Block Outbuilding, and Carport, Looking Northeast.

Directly south of the dwelling sits a mobile home (Photo 54). This building was placed on the property in 2012 (Google Earth 2012). The secondary dwelling rests on a non-visible foundation covered by plywood. The structural system, likely wood frame, is clad in metal

siding and covered by an arched roof sheathed in metal. Three entrances provide access to the secondary dwelling. The primary entrance is located on the south elevation and features a single-leaf door with a fixed, diamond-shaped light. Two secondary entrances are filled with single-leaf doors and are located on the easternmost bay of the south elevation and the westernmost bay of the north elevation. Other fenestration includes single and paired one-over-one, double-hung-sash aluminum windows. The windows on the north and west elevations are flanked by louvered, aluminum shutters.



Photo 54: Mobile Home, Southwest Oblique.

Historic Context

The Alexander Mobley House is a one-story coastal cottage located in the Crossroads Township just south of Prison Camp Road (Williamston-Greenville Road). Constructed by the Mobley family in the mid-nineteenth century, the dwelling remained under their ownership until 2011. The Mobleys were a middle-tier farming family who inhabited rural Martin County around 1790 (Gurganus 2015). The earliest known written document pertaining to the current property is a deed dated December 11, 1797 in which John Mobley granted his son, William Mobley (1740–1822) a 70-acre parcel bounded by the lands of the aforementioned William Mobley as well as the lands of Price, and Wynn and stopping at "the first services station" (MCDB C:485; MCWB 2:82; U.S. Census 1810).

William Mobley continued to reside here with his wife, Sarah, and their children until his death in 1822. In his will, William left his land to be divided among his three sons, William, Middleton, and Alexander, Sr., and his daughter Patsy Wynn (MCWB 2:82). Alexander, Sr. resided on his portion of the inherited lot with his wife Christina Taylor Mobley often referred to as "Chrisey," and their children (U.S. Census 1840). Twenty-one years later, Alexander, Sr. bought his brother's, William Mobley, Jr.'s, portion of the inherited land,

which was bounded by the lands of Brown and John Wynn and stoped at "the first service station," likely the same service station referenced in the first existing deed, for the sum of \$200 (MCDB M:375).

Nearly one year later, Alexander Mobley died prematurely, and left his 150-acre estate to be divided and willed to his sons William, James, and Alexander, Jr. in 1842 (MCWB 2:91). This land became known as the "Alexander Mobley Lands" and was composed of parcels on both the north and south sides of the Williamston-Greenville Road, or "main road" (now Prison Camp Road). When these lands were divided, Alexander, Jr. received the portion of land on the north side of the Williamston-Greenville Road, James received a portion of land purchased from William Williams on September 18, 1832 (on the south side of the road), and William received a portion of land on the south side adjoining James' land (MCWB 2:281). Their widowed mother, Chrisey, remained on the land adjacent to Alexander Mobley, Jr. and his wife Milley Frances who inhabited and farmed this land, worth \$575 (U.S. Census 1860). While it was William Mobley who owned the parcel on which the resource sits, U.S. Census records indicate that he did not live on the land. Furthermore, a map dated 1864 indicated the presence of a cluster of buildings located on the "Alexander Mobley Lands" on both the north and south sides of the road (Figure 28) (Gilmer 1864). It is likely that during this time, Alexander Mobley, Jr. built the current cottage.



Figure 28: An 1864 Map of Eastern North Carolina Noting the Presence of Various Buildings on the Mobley Land in Yellow (Gilmer 1864).

In 1887, James deeded his portion of the inheritance, which at the time was composed of 30 acres, to his brother Alexander, Jr. (MCDB HH:507). Shortly thereafter James, his wife

Christine, and a majority of their children relocated to Jamesville where James dies three short years later (U.S. Census 1900).

Though no legal record of the transaction is known to exist, David A. Mobley (a child of James and Christine Mobley) likely purchased or inherited this land from Alexander Jr., his uncle. Here, David and his wife, Elzerna Jane Clark Mobley, reared eight children: Jane, Emma, Ella, William Archie Sr. (often called "Bud"), Luinda, Glindora, Duard, and Ida, while David farmed the land (U.S. Census 1880).

Due to the early death of David A. Mobley, it is likely a will was not filed but that the land was bequeathed to his wife Elzerna. She continued to live on the farm, composed of 85 acres, with her son William Archie Mobley Sr., and his wife Addie "Mavey" Mobley and their children Ella May, Mamie, Gussie, Omma, Selma, and William "Archie" Archie, Jr. (U.S. Census 1920). Augustus Clark acquired the "Alexander Mobley Home Place" for \$250 in 1909. However, the land is conveyed again in a Deed of Trust dated January 13, 1914, this time for \$1,000 (MCDB WWW:302, M-01:157). Despite the attempts at conveyance, Archie owned the property until his death in 1961 (MCWB 9:308). The property was then willed to his wife Mavey, and after her death, it was ordered that the land be given to their son, Archie, whereupon the land was subdivided into three tracts (MCWB 9:308; MCDB G-16:301). When the land was divided, the dwelling was situated on the second tract which is described as follows:

Second Tract: Lying and being in Cross Roads Township, Martin County, North Carolina, and being bounded on the North by the hard surface road from Williamston to Greenville; on the East by Glendora Whitehurst; on the South by Bertha Taylor; and on the West by the first tract described above, containing 50 acres, more or less, and being commonly known and designated as the W.A. "Bud" Mobley "Ayers Place" (MCDB G-16:301).

On September 12, 2011, Troy L. Bowen purchased an "Outlot" composed of 1.45 acres which contained a one-story house, a block building, and a pump house (Figure 29, p. 80) (MCDB G-24:769; MCPB C:131-H). Currently, the dwelling remains under the ownership of Troy L. Bowen and while the dwelling is no longer in use, the surrounding parcels continue to be used for farming.

Evaluation

The massing and architectural features, such as the plan of the Alexander Mobley House, suggest that it was built around 1850. Research indicates that this resource was likely constructed as a farmhouse for the Mobley family and its original parcel was much larger and surrounded by farmland and associated outbuildings. The style and form of the single-family dwelling were common throughout the county; similar one-story, extended hall-and-parlor farmhouses that date to the turn of the twentieth century are present on the rural landscapes today. Surrounding examples of one-story hall-and-parlor houses include the aforementioned Carson-Roebuck House (MT0371b), and the Peel-Taylor House (MT0638).

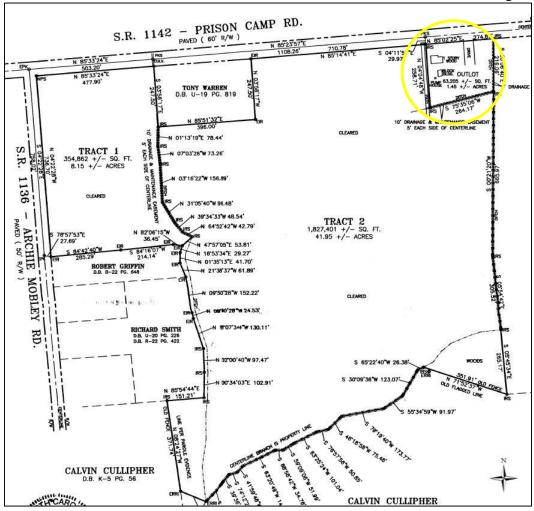


Figure 29: Plat Showing the "Outlot" Purchased by Troy L. Bowen on September 12, 2011 Noted in Yellow (MCPB C:131-H).

The Peel-Taylor House was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. The one-story extended hall-and-parlor house is covered with asphalt paper (Photo 55). A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal covers the dwelling. Like the Alexander Mobley House, the Peel-Taylor House contains a semi-engaged porch which spans the façade and a full-width lean-to on the rear elevation. An exterior-end chimney is located on the southwest elevation. While the dwelling contains modifications and alterations, its building form remains concurrent with that of the Alexander Mobley House.



Photo 55: Peel-Taylor House (Google Street View 2015).

The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse (MT0371) (discussed in further detail on page 156) is located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Alexander Mobley House on the south side of Prison Camp Road. It is a one-story, timber-framed, side-gabled farmhouse. Like the Alexander Mobley House, it is a coastal cottage constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. While the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is in good condition, it has lost many of its original building materials including the chimney and original porch.



Photo 56: Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, West Oblique.

According to a survey conducted by Donna Doddenhoff in 1992, the Alexander Mobley House was moved east from its original location in the 1970s, though archival research did not validate this conjecture or determine the distance it was moved (NC-HPO 1992f). As a result, the dwelling retains a low level of integrity of location. The dwelling continues to be surrounded solely by agricultural fields. However, the demolition of associated agricultural buildings including tobacco barn and a house in the mid-1990s in addition to the construction of a 2012 mobile home and a 2011 carport directly to the rear of the dwelling have resulted in a moderate to low level of integrity of feeling, association, and setting. While much of the original architectural fabric of the dwelling remains extant, the overall condition of the building is poor. Additionally, the resource has been extended by a circa-1920 kitchen on its east elevation and the flanking chimneys have been replaced. For these reasons, the resource has moderate to low integrity of workmanship, design, and materials.

The Mobley family and residents of the house are not known to have made any significant contributions to local or regional history and the building has no known association with an important event; therefore, it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A or B. This resource has been moved from its original location, extensively renovated and has lost a significant amount of integrity; therefore, it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C or Criterion Consideration B, which pertains to moved properties.

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 significant (NPS 2015). The Alexander Mobley House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Alexander Mobley House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT0384: Wynn Home Place

Date of Construction: Circa 1845 Modifications: Late-nineteenth century, early-twentieth century, mid-twentieth century

7203 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5744-07-7772

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible, Criteria A and C



Architectural Description

The Wynn Home Place (also known as the Wynne-Wynn Home Place) at 7203 Prison Camp Road is situated on the south side of the road within Martin County, North Carolina. It is located approximately 0.25 miles east of the intersection of Wynn Road, Leggett Mill Road, and Prison Camp Road—also known as Church Cross Roads. The home place lot comprises 62.65 acres of land, including a small, rectangular manicured lawn, densely wooded areas, and medium-sized agricultural fields. A wooden fence lines the northern edge of the lot where the parcel meets the road. This resource is composed of the dwelling and 11 secondary resources. The primary resource faces north toward Prison Camp Road (Figure 30, p. 84).

The primary resource at the Wynn Home Place is a circa-1845 farmhouse. The original core is known as a "story-with-a-jump"—built to be between a one-story and a one-and-a-half-story building—three-bay, single-family dwelling. It is raised on a brick-pier foundation with brick infill laid in a stretcher-bond configuration (Photo 57, p. 85). The southwestern pier was replaced, possibly in the mid-twentieth century, with a poured-concrete pier. Below the house is a crawl space accessed by an opening just south of the chimney on the east elevation. The wood-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard with wooden cornerboards and is capped by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in replacement v-crimp metal. The eaves of the roof are lined with a wooden rake on the gable (east and west) elevations and a wide fascia board on the rear (south) elevation. There are two exterior-end, parged, brick chimneys with stepped shoulders and metal coping. They flank the house on the east and west elevations (Photo 58, p. 85).

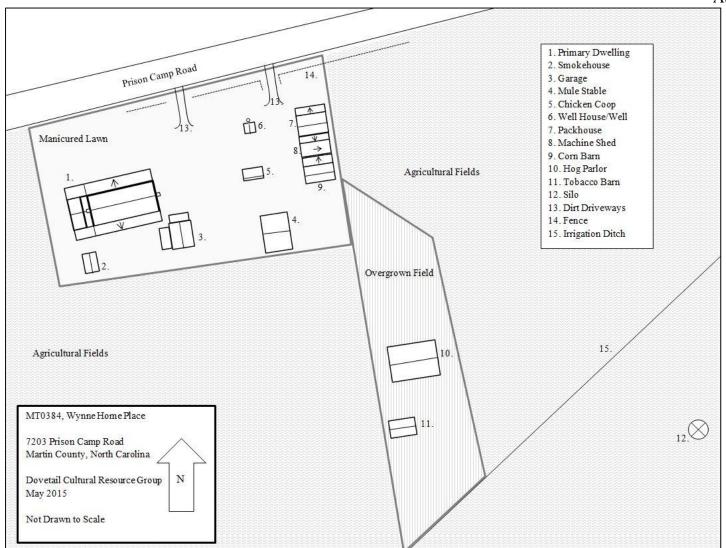


Figure 30: Wynn Home Place (MT0384) Site Plan.



Photo 57: Dwelling, Northwest Oblique.



Photo 58: Dwelling, West Elevation Chimney Detail.

The main entry is centered on the original core of the north elevation. It is filled by a wooden door, comprising rectangular panels on the bottom and a fixed light at the top, and a metal storm door. The entry is flanked by two two-light side lights. Additional fenestration includes wood-frame, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows on the north elevation and wood-frame, four-over-four, double-hung sash windows on the east elevation (Photo 59). The visible windows on the west elevation are boarded over with wood. According to a 1992 survey of this building, three narrow windows are located on the half story of the primary (north) elevation; however, they are covered over in weatherboard siding (NC-HPO 1992g).

A one-story, five-bay porch spans the full width of the north elevation. The type of brick used for the foundation and the turned, wood posts suggest that it was added around the late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century. The porch is raised on a brick foundation laid in a stretcher-bond configuration and is covered by a hipped roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The porch's deck clad in narrow, wooden boards and accessed by a set of poured-concrete steps. A one-story, early-twentieth-century addition extends the full with of the house's south elevation. It is set on a concrete-block foundation width a brick veneer on the east elevation. The shed-roofed addition is clad in weatherboard and features four-over-four, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows.



Photo 59: Dwelling, North Elevation Window Detail.

An early-twentieth-century kitchen/dining room addition is located west of the original core (Photo 60, p. 87). This one-story, two-bay building is attached to the main core of the house by a one-story hyphen. Both the addition and the hyphen have a wood-frame structural system clad in weatherboard. The addition is covered by a side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal; an exterior-end, brick chimney is located at the west elevation. Off-centered on the north elevation is a secondary entry, filled by a wooden, paneled door with three fixed

lights at the top and a metal storm door. Paired four-over-one, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows are located east of the entry. A one-story, three-bay porch covered by a shed roof and supported by a wooden turned posts connects to the porch that lines the original core. It is raised on a brick foundation and accessed by poured-concrete steps. A one-story, shed-roofed addition extends from the south elevation (Photo 61). A rear entry is located on this elevation. Access to the interior was not permitted at this time; furthermore, Donna Doddenhoff was unable to survey the interior during her 1992 survey. As such, there is no information about the interior.



Photo 60: Kitchen/Dining Room Addition, North Elevation.



Photo 61: Southeast Oblique, Showing the Rear Shed-Roof Addition.

A circa-1900 smokehouse is located south of the primary resource. Full access to the property was not granted for this survey, so the notes on architectural details of the outbuildings are limited. The wood-frame structural system is clad in weatherboard and covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal (Photo 62). A single-leaf entry covered by a wooden door is centered on the north elevation. The door is attached with metal strap hinges. At the time of the survey, no evidence of a chimney or vent was visible.

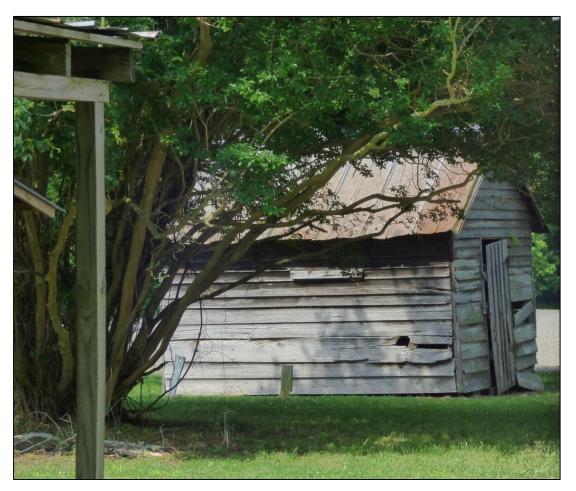


Photo 62: Smokehouse, Northeast Oblique

Southeast of the dwelling is a circa-1940 garage. This one-story, single-bay outbuilding with a lean-to addition on the west elevation has a frame, post-in-ground structural system clad in horizontal, wooden boards covered by corrugated metal (Photo 63, p. 89). The garage is capped by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed wooden rafters on the east and west elevations. The vehicular opening with clipped corners is located on the north elevation. There is one single-leaf opening secured by a metal door on the north elevation of the addition.



Photo 63: Garage, Northeast Oblique.

A one-story chicken coop is located east of the primary resource. This circa-1920 outbuilding has a frame structural system clad in weatherboard on the south (main) elevation and board-and-batten siding on the secondary elevations (Photo 64). Built-in vents in the form of gaps in the siding are located on the top half of the south elevation. A saltbox roof sheathed in v-crimp metal covers the building. There is one opening filled by a single-leaf, wooden door on the south elevation.



Photo 64: Chicken Coop, Southwest Oblique

A one-story well house is located east of the primary resource. It likely dates to the midtwentieth century (Photo 65). This concrete-block structure is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal and features an opening on the south elevation. Immediately adjacent to the well house is a circular, early-twentieth-century well. The poured-concrete, circular well is covered by a poured-concrete, circular cap.





Photo 65: Well (Left) Looking Southeast and Well House, Southeast Oblique.

A one-and-a-half-story packhouse is located northeast of the house and just south of Prison Camp Road (NC-HPO 1992g). This circa-1900 structure is raised on brick piers and the structural system, likely frame, is clad in corrugated metal (Photo 66). The building is covered by a moderately pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. There are two shed-roofed wings attached to the building, one on the east north elevation and one on the south elevation, that have the same foundation and siding as the main (central) core. The main entry was recently remodeled and now features a centered single-leaf, plywood door attached with four metal hinges: two T-hinges and two strap hinges. There are three additional entrances on the primary (west) elevation: two on the first story and one centered within the gable. Each is a single-leaf door clad in corrugated metal attached with metal strap hinges.



Photo 66: Packhouse, West Elevation.

A one-story structure identified during the 1992 survey as a corn barn is located east of the dwelling resource and south of the packhouse (NC-HPO 1992g). The building was likely constructed around 1900 and is raised on brick piers and the frame structural system is clad in board-and-batten siding (Photo 67). The side-gabled roof is sheathed in standing-seam metal. A shed-roofed lean-to addition clad in v-crimp metal extends from the north elevation. Originally a double-leaf, wooden door attached by metal strap hinges was centered on the south elevation. Today, overgrown vegetation from inside the building has ripped off one door. Acting as a hyphen between the packhouse and corn barn is a one-story machine shed. Likely building around 1920, the saltbox roof is supported by wooden posts (Photo 68).



Photo 67: Corn Barn, South Elevation.



Photo 68: Packhouse (Left), Machine Shed (Middle), and Corn Barn (Right), Looking Southeast.

A one-story, circa-1900 tobacco barn is located southeast of the primary resource (NC-HPO 1992g). It is clad vertical wood boards and the roof has collapsed (Photo 69). Access to this outbuilding was not permitted and the building is covered in overgrown vegetation; as such, few details could be obtained.



Photo 69: Tobacco Barn, North Elevation.

A two-story, circa-1910, mule stable is located southeast of the house (NC-HPO 1992g). The frame structural system is set on brick piers and clad in v-crimp metal (Photo 70). This structure is covered by a moderately pitched, gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed wooden rafters on the north and south elevations. The building features a through passage at the central bay of the east and west elevations. A secondary entry is located at the hay loft; it is filled with a single-leaf door attached with metal strap hinges and covered with sheets of metal.



Photo 70: Mule Stable, Northeast Oblique.

A one-story, circa-1940 barn that once functioned as a hog parlor is located southeast of the primary resource (NC-HPO 1992g). The through-passage structure has a frame structural system clad in weatherboard and is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in corrugated metal (Photo 71). The window openings are covered with sheets of metal. Access to this outbuilding was not permitted during the current survey.



Photo 71: Hog Parlor, Northwest Oblique.

Situated southeast of the main cluster of buildings associated with the Wynn Home Place is a mid-twentieth-century silo (Photo 72). It is circular in shape and sheets of metal cover the structural system (likely metal). It is capped by a conical roof and a metal ladder on the north side provides access to the roof.



Photo 72: Silo, Looking Southeast.

Historic Context

The Wynn Home Place was constructed around 1845, likely during the ownership of Martin County native, Bryant Wynn (1823–1888) (*Note:* the surname Wynne/Wynn varies from family to family, person to person, and even among legal documents for one person. For the purpose of this report, Dovetail used the spelling that is most-frequently associated with an individual in legal documents) (U.S. Census 1870, 1880). Bryant worked as a farmer and, in 1845, married Elizabeth Clark (1825–1902). It is possible that the primary dwelling, later referred to as the Wynn Home Place, was constructed around this time when Bryant and Elizabeth started their own family, which eventually included eight children (U.S. Census 1850). Bryant continued to work on this farm for the duration of his life and, for a short time, owned a small tract of land at Church Cross Roads that contained a gin house and gin; he died in 1888 (MCDB AA:625; U.S. Census 1870, 1880).

During the late-nineteenth century, the land transferred to Bryant and Elizabeth's fourth child and third oldest son, John Wayne Wynn, born in April 1852. On March 13, 1873, John Wynn, aged 21, married 24-year-old Martha Biggs (Martin County Marriage Register 1873; U.S. Census 1900). Together they lived at the Wynn Home Place with their seven children where John worked as a farmer (U.S. Census 1880).

On August 12, 1902, John Wynn died at the age of 49 (Martin County Historical Society 1980:654). Following his death, a portion of John's estate was divided among his four youngest children: Sylvester, Frances "Fannie," Gray, and Hester "Hessie" (MCLDB 1:201). This estate division included three lots (lots 1–3) situated on the south side of the Greenville-Williamston Road east of Leggetts Mill Road (present-day Archie Mobley Road) and west of a branch called Pine Thick Branch and one lot (lot 4) situated northwest of intersection of the Greenville-Williamston Road and the Bear Grass-Everetts Road (present-day Everetts Road) (Figure 31, p. 95). Lot 1 (containing 37 acres and the Wynn Home Place) went to Gray Wynn, lot 2 (containing 37 acres) went to Hessie Wynn, lot 3 (containing 37 acres) went to Sylvester Wynn, and lot 4 (containing 51 acres) went to Fannie Wynn (MCLDB 1:201). Gray owned lot 1 and the home place for 11 years until he and his older sister, Fannie, switched farms (MCDB E-01:321).

Fannie was born on April 9, 1885 as the sixth child to John and Martha Wynn. Fannie married James (J.) Arthur Wynn—born January 17, 1884 to George and Margaret Peele Wynn—on January 31, 1906 (Martin County Historical Society 1980:652). As previously mentioned, Fannie received lot 4 of her father's estate following his death. On May 28, 1913, Gray and Fannie switched lands, leaving Fannie with the Wynn Home Place on lot 1 (MCDB E-01:321). According to family records, the first place the couple lived was with Louvenia and Lon Mizelle until she switched farms with Gray, at which time they "moved to a house on the back part of the farm of Fannie's parents" (Martin County Historical Society 1980:652).

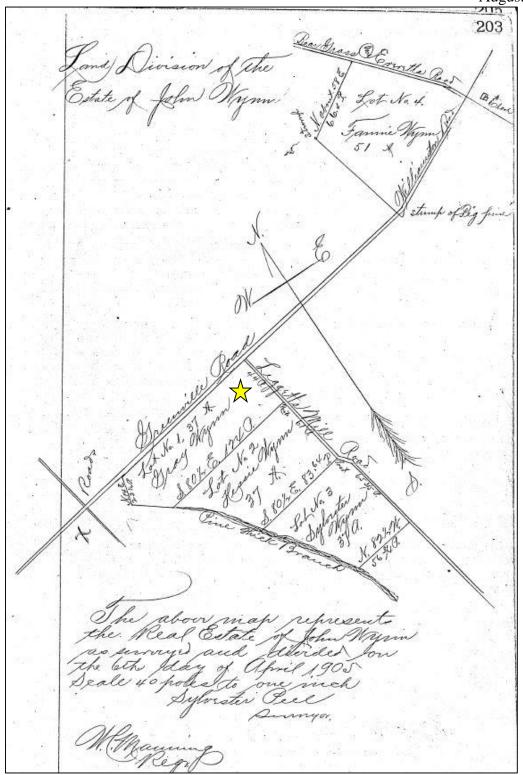


Figure 31: Division of John Wynn's Estate (MCLDB 1:201). The lot containing the home place is noted by a yellow star.

Eventually, Fannie and J. Arthur moved into the main dwelling at the Wynn Home Place where they continued to expand their family, which eventually totaled 14 children (Martin County Historical Society 1980:447). J. Arthur owned and operated his own 75-acre farm, where, among other crops, he grew cotton. On August 27, 1913, he wrote to the local newspaper, *The Enterprise*, to report the boll weevil damage he found on his cotton crops; his letter to the editor was published in the September 5, 1913 issue (Figure 32). Although he is credited with being the first to report the appearance of boll weevils in Martin County, archival research could not confirm this. It is likely, however, that he was one of the earliest to report arrival of the destructive insect in the county (The Enterprise 1913:1).

Bool Weevil

Mr. Editor:-

Will you publish this in your paper? I was in my cotton field Saturday last and found that there was boll weevil in my cotton that are doing some damage. There are three kinds of worms that are at work in the boll. First, light brown, second, brown and black streaked and third, green. I find eggs in the blooms from which I suppose the worms are hatched. 1 find some in every field in which I go. We have heard of the disease long before. and are sorry to say that it has reached here. This is bad news for this county as the cotton crop is the standard money crop. Please print this as it is a true state of conditions.

J. Arthur Wynn, Everetts, N. C., Aug. 27th. 1913.

Figure 32: Letter to the Editor Written by J. Arthur Wynn (The Enterprise 1913:1).

J. Arthur was very involved in the Cross Roads community. Both he and Fannie were members of the Cross Roads Christian Church and J. Arthur was "superintendent of the Sunday School for 25 to 30 years, taught a Sunday School class, and was faithful in ringing the church bell each Sunday. He became an Elder in the church in 1913 and served until his death" (Martin County Historical Society 1980:652). In addition he was one of the leaders in "the Co-operative Marketing Association, organized to unite farmers together to help get better prices for their tobacco" and "served on the school board at the Cross Roads School [...] [and] on the board of Planters and Merchants bank in Everetts in the late 1920's or early

1930's" (Martin County Historical Society 1980:652). James Arthur Wynn died on March 17, 1934 at the age of 49 (Find a Grave 2015d).

Fourteen years after her husband's death, Fannie Wynn deeded the 75-acre J. Arthur Wynn farm to her daughter and son-in-law, Margaret Wynn Clark and Hubert Clark in 1948 (MCDB R-04:447). Margaret was born on June 9, 1909 and married Hubert Clark, also of Martin County (born August 25, 1910) on May 9, 1931 in Suffolk, Virginia (Ancestry.com 2014; Martin County Birth Records 9:470; North Carolina, Deaths 1966). Although they owned the J. Arthur Wynn farm land, the couple, and eventually their five children, lived in the Town of Everetts (Martin County Historical Society 1980:130–131).

On October 5, 1966, Hubert died at the age of 53, leaving Margaret a widow. She continued to own the land in Cross Roads but lived in Everetts until her death in 2008 (Martin County Estate File [MCEF] 08-E-204). That same year, Celia Clark Ward, daughter of Margaret and Hubert, obtained the 64.2-acre tract of land known as the "Wynne Farm" as part of a family settlement agreement (MCEF 08-E-204). Celia Ward lives in Everetts and continues to own the land and house built by her great-grandfather.

Evaluation

The Wynn Home Place is a circa-1845 farmhouse, possibly built for Bryant Wynn around the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Clark. The building is representative of a vernacular form in this region of North Carolina called "story-with-a-jump." The house, its associated outbuildings, and surrounding farmland passed through four generations of Bryant Wynn's descendants.

The Wynn Home Place and its surviving outbuildings have not been moved; as such the property retains integrity of location. Although the dwelling has undergone some changes, including the small second-story windows that have been covered on the north elevation and possibly some early-twentieth-century window replacement, the house retains much of its original architectural elements, historic fabric, and design. Therefore, the Wynn Home Place retains a moderate to high level of integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The dwelling is currently vacant; however, it continues to be in a rural setting surrounded by agricultural fields and domestic and agricultural outbuildings. As such, it retains integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

Like the Wynn Home Place, the W. W. Griffin Farm (MT0102) off of Wendell Griffin Farm Road has several secondary resources. The W.W. Griffin Farm contains five contributing buildings, one contributing structure, one contributing site, and two non-contributing buildings. Furthermore, the landscape "includes vineyards, cultivated fields, pastures, and wooded areas" (Keane 2001). This farm was listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for agriculture because it is representative of an early-twentieth century farmstead in North Carolina. According to the nomination form, "the W.W. Griffin Farm and its full complement of outbuildings date from c. 1902 to the present continue to reflect the evolving farm practices of this family-owned Martin County farm" (Keane 2001:8.15). When

compared with the W. W. Griffin Farm, the Wynn Home Place appears to retain similar levels integrity and agricultural significance.

As previously discussed, to be eligible for the NRHP as a rural historic landscape, the resource must have three qualities: 1) the characteristics must have served or resulted from an important event, activity, or theme in agricultural development as recognized by the historic contexts for the area, 2) the property must have had a direct involvement in the significant events or activities by contributing to the area's economy, productivity, or identity as an agricultural community, and 3) through historic landscape characteristics, the property must cogently reflect the period of time in which the important events took place (McClelland et al. 1999).

The Wynn Home Place is significant within the region as it was one of the first reported cases of the boll weevil in Martin County. The boll weevil was first noticed in Texas in 1894; by the early-twentieth century, the insect was the cause of major cotton crop damage across the United States. J. Arthur Wynn first reported an infestation in his Martin County cotton crops in 1913, nearly a decade before "severe boll weevil destruction [occurred] in North Carolina [...], when the pest claimed 13 percent of the state's cotton crop. In 1929, 21 percent of the crop was lost" (Helms 2006). In addition, the farm retains several secondary resources that fall under the two types of outbuildings associated with farmsteads: domestic (smokehouse, chicken coop, garage, well house, and shed) and agricultural (packhouse, tobacco barn, and silo). The Wynn Home Place resource appears to retain historic property boundary lines, tree clusters and lines, irrigation ditches, and agricultural fields (Photo 73). For these reasons, the Wynn Home Place is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

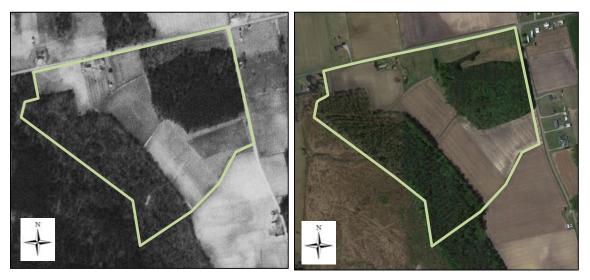


Photo 73: 1950 Aerial (Left) and 2015 Aerial (Right) Showing the Surviving Historic Landscape Elements of the Wynn Home Place, Noted in Green (Google Maps 2015; USGS 1950).

For a resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). The people that owned or resided in the house are not known to have made significant contributions to area history and as a result this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The primary resource at the Wynn Home Place retains much of its historic integrity. The form, size, and design of the original antebellum farmhouse remains relatively intact. As previous owners expanded the house over time, the additions were completed in a way that respected, and did not overpower, the circa-1845 dwelling. This resource embodies "distinctive characters of a type, period or method of construction" found in Martin County (NPS 2015). It is an excellent surviving example of a rural mid-nineteenth-century farmhouse with many associated outbuildings. Unlike other mid-nineteenth-century farmhouses in the area (see Roebuck-Roberson Farm, MT0372, p. 140), this resource retains many of its historic, exterior charactering defining features, such as the stepped, brick chimneys, weatherboard siding, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows, and story-with-a-jump form.

The Wynn Home Place is an excellent example of a rural historic landscape; this resource retains a wide variety of vernacular outbuildings that are associated with, and representative of, the daily functions and needs of a farm that continued to be in operation throughout most of the twentieth century. The individual buildings that make up the complex are representative of a vernacular style and form within the area. For these reasons, the Wynn Home Place is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). The Wynn Home Place is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Wynn Home Place is **recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C.** The NRHP boundaries for the Wynn Home Place as determined during the current investigations conform to the existing tax parcel except at the northwestern most corner. A circa-1980 trailer is located on this lot and does not appear to have any historic association with this property. This boundary follows the existing right-of-way along Prison Camp Road and Archie Mobley Road and extends southwest from the intersection of those two roads (Figure 33). The boundaries include the primary dwelling, smokehouse, garage, mule stable, chicken coop, well/well house, packhouse, machine shed, corn barn, hog parlor, tobacco barn, and silo, all of which contribute to the property's eligibility.

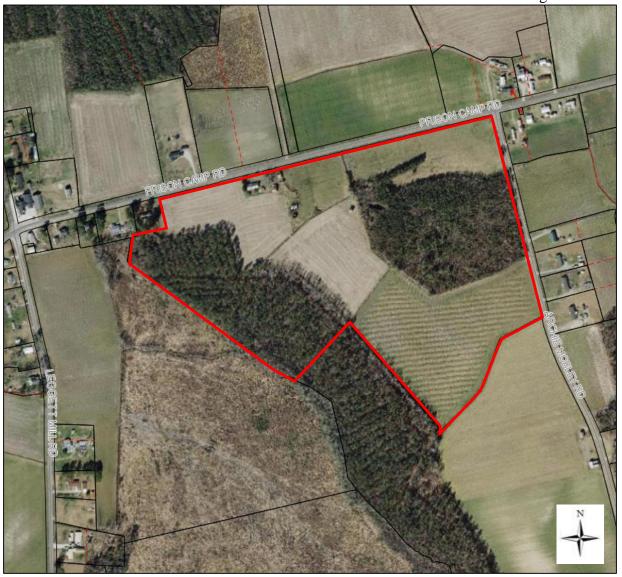


Figure 33: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Wynne-Wynn Home Place (MT0384) as Shown in Red (Martin County GIS 2015).

MT0376: Church Cross Roads School

Date of Construction: Circa-1900 Modifications: Early-twentieth century, mid-twentieth century, late-twentieth century

7465 Prison Camp Road Crossroads, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5734-87-9918

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The Church Cross Roads School is located within the Church Cross Roads community within the Crossroads Township of Martin County. The building is situated on a tract of land that measures about 0.65 acres on the northeast corner of the intersection of Prison Camp, Wynn, and Leggett Mill roads. The resource, which was moved approximately 159.9 feet east from its original location, was once located where a fellowship hall for the Christian Chapel Church of Christ now stands. The school building now is situated about 100 feet north from Prison Camp Road. A gravel driveway extends northerly from Prison Camp Road towards the west side of the building near a carport, which is northwest of the school. The parcel is covered in manicured grass in this eastern portion and it not lined with a fence. The Christian Chapel Church of Christ circa-1950 brick church and associated buildings are located in the western portion of the lot. The primary elevation of the schoolhouse faces south towards Prison Camp Road (Figure 34, p. 102).

The primary resource, the Church Cross Roads School, is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay schoolhouse constructed around 1900 (Photo 74, p. 103) (Butchko 1998:148). Although access to the property was granted during this current effort, interior access was not obtained. Interior documentation was also not conducted in the previous survey conducted by Donna Dodenhoff in 1992 (NC-HPO 1992h). Dodenhoff determined that "this typical early twentieth century schoolhouse" is a form "typical of Martin County's one- and two-room rural schools of the pre-consolidation period" (Butcho 1998:88; NC-HPO 1992h). After consolidation with two other schools in 1931, the school was converted into a six-room parsonage for the pastors at the Christian Chapel Church (Honican 2013; Manning and Booker 1974:6, 231; Butchko 1998:148). Today, the schoolhouse has been moved a short distance east of the circa-1950 church and is used for youth services (Honican 2013).

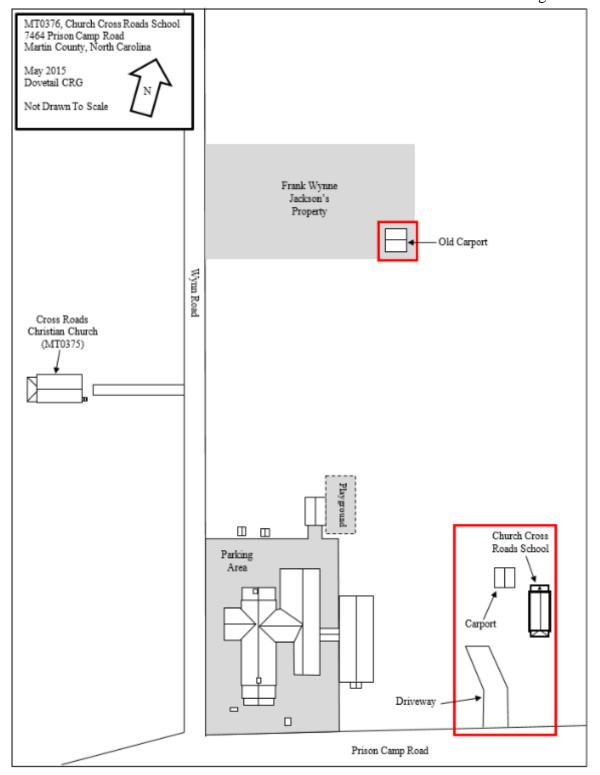


Figure 34: The Church Cross Roads School (MT0376) Site Plan. Note: the red boxes indicate the location of buildings associated with this resource.



Photo 74: Primary Resource, Southeast Oblique.

The building currently sits on a replacement, continuous, brick foundation laid in an all-stretcher bond. The timber-frame structural system is clad in vinyl siding that covers the original weatherboard siding documented by Dodenhoff in 1992 (Photo 75, p. 104). The front-gabled roof is sheathed in replacement asphalt shingles. The roof is complete with a boxed, wood cornice with prominent returns. A window vent used to be present in the gabled end of the primary elevation, but is now covered by vinyl siding (Butchko 1998:148). A chimney was not visible during the time of survey or in the photos taken by Dodenhoff in 1992 (NC-HPO 1992h).

The primary entrance is centrally located on the south elevation, and is filled with a singleleaf, three-paneled, wood door with six lights with a metal, storm door. It is accessed by a set of poured-concrete stairs that is lined with an iron rail. Other fenestration consists of single and paired, six-over-six, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows. A secondary entrance is located in the west corner of the north elevation and it is filled with a single-leaf, fivepaneled, wood door with a metal storm door. A one-story, three-bay porch spans the façade. The concrete slab foundation is sheltered by a hipped roof with boxed eaves sheathed in asphalt shingles. The roof is supported by metal posts. A one-story, two-bay porch spans the rear (south) elevation which shelters the poured-concrete steps that access the secondary entrance. The porch is covered by a shed roof sheathed in asphalt shingles and is supported by squared, metal posts (Photo 75, p. 104). Both of these porches are visible in the photos taken by Dodenhoff in 1992; however, she does mention that they have been altered since the buildings original construction (NC-HPO 1992h). Apparent post-1992 alterations to the porches include replacement posts and roof shingles. Interior renovations to the school were noted by Thomas Butchko in 1998 but were not visible during the time of survey (Butchko 1998:148). Resources state that the school was converted into a six-room parsonage around 1940 (Honicon 2013).





Photo 75: Primary Resource, West Elevation (Left) and North Elevation (Light).

During the current survey, Frank Wynne Jackson, owner of the land on which the old, wood-framed church (MT0375) currently sits, informed surveyors that an old carport north of the school was once used by the Church Cross Roads School for vehicles and storage (Photo 76, p. 104). The circa-1935, one-story, two-bay, carport is now situated 374.8 feet northwest of the school in the southeast corner of Jackson's property on the east side of Wynn Road. The carport is elevated on brick piers and the timber-framed structural system is clad in a combination of wood siding and v-crimp metal siding. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with exposed rafters sheathed in v-crimp metal. Two open bays are located on the south elevation. Currently, Jackson uses the building for fire-wood storage (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015).



Photo 76: Old School Carport Now Located on Frank Wynne Jackson's Property, Southwest Oblique.

A circa-2010 carport is situated immediately northwest of the school building (Photo 77, p. 105). The one-story, one-bay carport sits on a poured-concrete slab and sheltered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles with slight, boxed eaves and a short return. The roof is supported by squared wood posts. The north and south elevations have bracketed open bays with vinyl siding beneath the roofline. Vinyl siding is also located on the east and west elevations beneath the roofline.



Photo 77: Carport, Southwest Oblique.

Historic Context

The Cross Roads Christian School is located on a parcel that belongs to the Christian Chapel Church of Christ on the northeast corner of Prison Camp Road (Williamston-Greenville Road) and Wynn Road (Washington-Everetts Road) in Crossroads Township of Martin County. This piece of land was conveyed to the church by several of its members from the Mobley family in 1869 (MCDB T:508). The church members, acting as "partners in legislation to Christian Chapel," included J. B. Leggett, Henry Wynn, Alexander Mobley and Frances Mobley (wife of Alexander), all of Martin County, who conveyed a tract of land to the Public School Committee of District No. 16 in 1888 (MCDB NN:150). Both of these deeds are further detailed in the Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) section of this report (p. 131). In the early-twentieth century, a one-room, wood-frame school house for whites was constructed on the property and was a typical example of a one-room rural school house constructed in the county during this period (Honican 2013). This school was one of 51 white schools/districts that were in use in this rural county in 1900 (Butchko 1980:29). At this time, there were 32 colored schools/districts.

The schoolhouse was utilized as such for white members of the Crossroads community as the Robersonville Public School District No. 16 until 1931 when a progressive state commission was formed and given the power to enforce consolidation of smaller school units (Manning

and Booker 1974:283). This commission's goal was to adjoin smaller school districts into large, three- or four-room buildings and eventually one- and two-story brick buildings to improve the educational experience for "country boys and girls [to] keep them in love with rural life" (Butchko 1998:29, 88). However, this only applied to white schools at this time, and the African American schools failed to maintain the quality that this provided the white school (Butchko 1980:29). The school was consolidated with Spring Green white school and Everetts school in that year (Manning and Booker 1974:283). The same source mentions that Church Cross Roads School was consolidated with Leggets School (Manning and Booker 1974:231). The Church Cross Roads community was not supportive of the closure and petitioned the state school system to maintain the Cross Roads School and to rescind the consolidation; however, they were denied (Figure 35) (The Enterprise 1931a). After consolidation, the school was "utilized by the county for welfare purposes" (Butchko 1998:148).

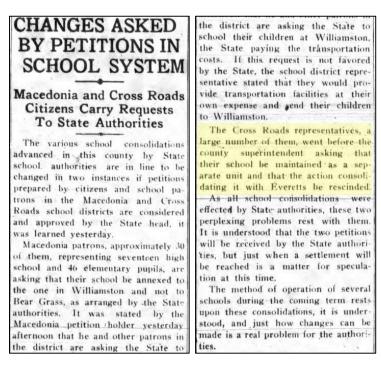


Figure 35: Citizens of Crossroads Township Attempt to Appeal to State School Board from *The Enterprise* (The Enterprise 1931a).

The original deed between the school district and the church indicated that the lot would revert to the church when it was no longer used as a school (Butchko 1998:148; MCDB NN:150). In 1939, the parcel of land that the school sat on, containing "one-and-one-tenth acres, more or less" was sold by the Martin County Board of Education back to the Christian Chapel Christian Church (formerly Cross Roads Christian Church), who were the "the last and highest bidders for said land at the price of \$100.00" (Figure 36, p. 107) (MCDB W-03:543). The church converted the building to a six-room, "good and serviceable" parsonage (Manning and Booker 1974:231; Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). The pastoral unity minister first occupied it with his family in November 1936 (Martin County Historical

Society 1980:6). However, another source states the converted school house was initially occupied as a parsonage in 1941 by preacher Dennis W. Davis and his family (Honican 2013). This is more plausible since the school was still owned by the county in 1936.

bones, feed them liver, cod-liver oil, and egg yolk.	Poplar Run (Poplar Chapel) School no land.
To prevent decay of teeth, get plenty of sunshine. To prevent the skin disease called pellagra, use plenty of fresh or evaporated milk, liver, green vegetables, bananas and yeast.	Smithwick (Fairview) School, and land. Smith School, 1 acre land. James School (colored) and land. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject all bids
NOTICE OF SALE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY In accordance with the Public School Law of North Carolina, Article 4, Sec-	
tion 62, the Board of Education of Martin County will offer for sale at the courthouse door, on Monday, October 5, 1931, at 12 o'clock noon, the following school properties:	Notice of sale to be placed in three public places in the County of Martin, Signed:
Ange school, 1 acre land.	Martin County. s15 3tw

Figure 36: Announcement for School Property Sale after Consolidation from *The Enterprise* (The Enterprise 1931b).

In 1950, the Christian Chapel Church of Christ planned for a new brick church building to be constructed on the parcel, immediately west of the school building (Manning and Booker 1974:127). The old, timber-framed church building was moved "across the street", being Everetts-Washington Road (Wynn Road), where it presently stands (Manning and Booker 1974:127). The Christian Chapel Church proceeded to have a plat drawn of their property in 1965 (MCMB 6:95). The plat indicates that an additional 0.5-acre tract of land was added to the Christian Chapel Church Property (MCMB 6:95). This tract is located north of the property and is bounded by Wynn Road to the west and [Linwood] Cleo Jackson, [Sr.] to the north and east (MCMB 6:95). Frank Wynn Jackson (1949–present), son of Linwood Cleo Jackson, Sr. (1912–1984), stated that his father donated land to the church for the construction of a proper parsonage, garden, and education building (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015).

A plat dated September 9, 1970 drawn for [Linwood] Cleo Jackson and L. Wilson Wynn, shows that the church property measured approximately 2.25 acres (MCMB 7:61). The trustees of the Christian Chapel Church engaged in a deed of trust with Wachovia Bank and Trust Company for a \$35,000loan (MCDB X-09:178). Around this time, the school house building was moved approximately 150 feet east of its original location to construct a new brick fellowship hall and breezeway (Figure 37) (Honican 2013). In 1987, another deed of trust was entered into by the trustees of the church and Wachovia Bank and Trust Company for a \$65,000 loan (MCDB K-12:626). Also during this period of change and alterations to the property and building, a circa-1935, wood-frame carport was moved to Frank Wynne

Jackson's property which is approximately 400 feet north up Wynn Road. Jackson states that the carport was utilized by the school and church (Frank Wynn Jackson, personal communication 2015).



Figure 37: Original Location of Church Cross Roads School (Left) and Current Location of School (Right) (USGS 1957; Martin County GIS 2015).

Although the school was moved and the interior had been altered due to changing building uses, the building still features its original weatherboard siding and fenestration (Butchko 1998;148; NC-HPO 1992h). In the early-twenty-first century, the building was further remodeled and renovated to house youth services such as Bible studies (Honican 2013). During the current survey, it is visible that the building has undergone further exterior changes since the last survey such as new vinyl siding and roofing material.

Evaluation

The Cross Roads Church School is an original one-room, frame school house constructed during the first quarter of the twentieth century before school consolidation in North Carolina. The school house was utilized for the white children in the Church Cross Roads community until its consolidation in 1931. At that time, the land and building were sold to the Christian Chapel Church of Christ, formally the Cross Roads Christian Church, and converted into a parsonage. The building is utilized as a member gathering space for church activities.

The school house does not retain integrity of location as the building was moved east of its original location to make room for a brick fellowship hall addition to the church. The school house has low level of workmanship and materials due to the many interior and exterior alterations it has undergone, although the building's original siding still exists beneath vinyl siding. Nevertheless, after the building was moved, its foundation was replaced, new porches were added, and a chimney was removed. The interior of the school house has been

renovated and divided into multiple rooms from its original one-room plan and therefore, does not retain any integrity of design (NC-HPO 1992h). The Cross Roads Church School retains a medium level of setting, feeling, and association integrity as it is still a part of the church complex with historic associated buildings and is surrounded by agricultural fields and historic roadways of Church Cross Roads that have seen little modern development.

One excellent example of a surviving one-room school in Martin County that is listed in the NRHP is the Bear Grass School (MT0417) (Photo 78). The Bear Grass School, constructed in 1925, was originally a one-story, brick school located in Bear Grass, Martin County, but has been remodeled and has had multiple additions. The building is listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for its educational significance in Martin County and as a representative of the school consolidation movement of North Carolina. It is also listed under Criterion C for its representation of the Colonial Revival style during a period of focus on North Carolina educational buildings and its association with a noted school architect, Eric Flanagan (Keane 2004). The Bear Grass School represents a style of schoolhouse construction that reflected the changing views of education in rural communities in North Carolina.

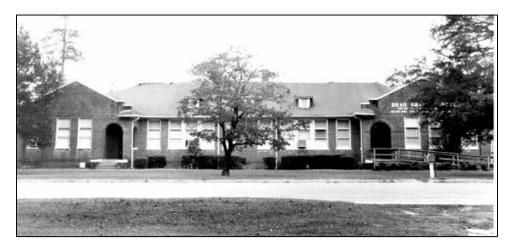


Photo 78: Bear Grass School (MT0417), Southeast Elevation (Keane 2004).

Constructed around the same period as the Cross Roads Church School is the Getsinger School (MT0106), which is a good example of a surviving one-room frame school house in Martin County (Photo 79, p. 110). The school house is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay school house constructed around 1890. In a survey conducted in 1992, Donna Dodenhoff, states that the frame building was clad in weatherboard siding but currently it is covered pressed metal siding (NC-HPO 1992i). The building still retains its original brick pier foundation and front-gabled roof with boxed eaves and prominent returns but the foundation has been reinforced with concrete block. Although all fenestration has been covered by pressed metal siding, their location is still visible, and the building still retains a triangular-shaped, wooden vent situated in the gabled end. An exterior-end brick chimney is still extant; however, it does not look original to the building. The building still retains its integrity of location and setting, being located on the side of a historic road (E. H. Williams Road) across from the Piney Grove Baptist Church (MT0105) in the Farm Life vicinity.



Photo 79: Getsinger School (MT0106), West Oblique.

Another good example of a "well-preserved, turn-of-the-century school" is the Peele/Turkey's Swamp Schoolhouse (MT0393) located in Bear Grass community (Photo 80, p. 111) (NC-HPO 1992j). This typical, two-room, frame schoolhouse retains its original weatherboard siding, central-interior brick chimney, and v-crimp metal covering the front-gabled roof. In a 1992 survey, it was noted that "the interior is sheathed with both beaded boards and flush planks" (NC-HPO 1992j). Some additions were also noted during this survey such as a shed roof porch and a small rear ell. Although the building was considered well-preserved in 1992, it is currently in danger of loss of integrity due to neglect.

The Cross Roads Church School is one of more than six surviving one- to two-room school houses in Martin County; furthermore, it has been renovated and moved from its original location. This resource does not have a significant association with Martin County's architectural trends and practices for educational buildings. There are also better examples that exemplify the region's educational trends and practices. The extant landscape surrounding the farm reflects the continuous growth of the associated church congregation, but the entire property does not retain a concentration of historically significant buildings to merit eligibility under Criterion A. Also, as a religiously-affiliated resource, the resource is not considered eligible under Criteria Consideration A. For these reasons, the Cross Roads Church School is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.



Photo 80: Peele's/Turkey Swamp School (MT0393), Northeast Oblique.

The school house has no known association with an individual who is "significant within a historic context" or has "gained importance within his or her group or profession" which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B (McClelland et al. 1999). Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Although it is noteworthy that an early-twentieth century, frame school house is still extant, the Cross Roads Church School has been heavily altered since its closure in 1931 and has been moved from its original location. During the 1992 survey, notable architectural elements included: weatherboard, wood-frame windows, prominent returns, and a peaked gabled vent. Since that time, a majority of these elements have been covered in vinyl siding or removed (NC-HPO 1992h). This resource has a loss of architectural integrity as a result of major changes to the exterior and the movement of the building. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (McClelland et al. 1999). The Cross Roads Church School is not likely to yield to any new information pertaining to the history of architectural design or technology for education facilities. Therefore, this is resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Church Cross Roads School is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT0374: Church Cross Roads

Date of Construction: Mid-Nineteenth Century Modifications: Mid- to Late-Twentieth Century

Wynn Road, Prison Camp Road, Leggett Mill Road Crossroads Township, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: Multiple

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

Church Cross Roads is a mid-nineteenth century crossroads community located at the intersection of present-day Wynn Road, Leggett Mill Road, and Prison Camp Road. It is composed of approximately 18 resources, including two churches, a store, garage, and houses. In addition, many of these buildings have associated outbuildings, such as garages, wells, prefabricated sheds, and machine sheds. The land surrounding the buildings is covered by a grass lawn, often manicured, and surrounded by working agricultural fields (Figure 38, p. 113). The roads are currently paved in asphalt.

Church Cross Roads was formed where two county roads intersect: Prison Camp Road and present-day Wynn Road and Leggett Mill Road (formerly identified as one road). It is named for the early church congregation that worshiped at this crossroads area in a log building; around 1890, a larger, more permanent building was constructed at the northeast corner of the intersection called Cross Roads Christian Church. This one-and-a-half story, frame building is still extant, although moved from its original location around 1950 to the west side of Wynn Road, and is the oldest surviving above-ground resource within the Church Cross Roads community (MT0374) (noted as resource 2 on Figure 38, p. 113). The frame building is clad in weatherboard and covered by a moderately pitched, front-gabled roof (Photo 81, p. 114). For an in-depth discussion and individual eligibility of this resource, see page 136.

The second oldest extant building within Church Cross Roads is the turn-of-the-twentieth century school building (noted as resource 11 on Figure 38, p. 113). This one-story, frame school building was moved slightly west of its original location to make room for a new church in the 1950s. As such, a replacement, brick foundation supports the vinyl-clad frame structural system (Photo 82, p. 114). The school is covered by a front-gabled roof and features return eaves on the south (primary) and rear (north) elevations. A detailed discussion and NRHP eligibility elevation of the Church Cross Roads School (MT0376) as an individual resource is found on page 108.

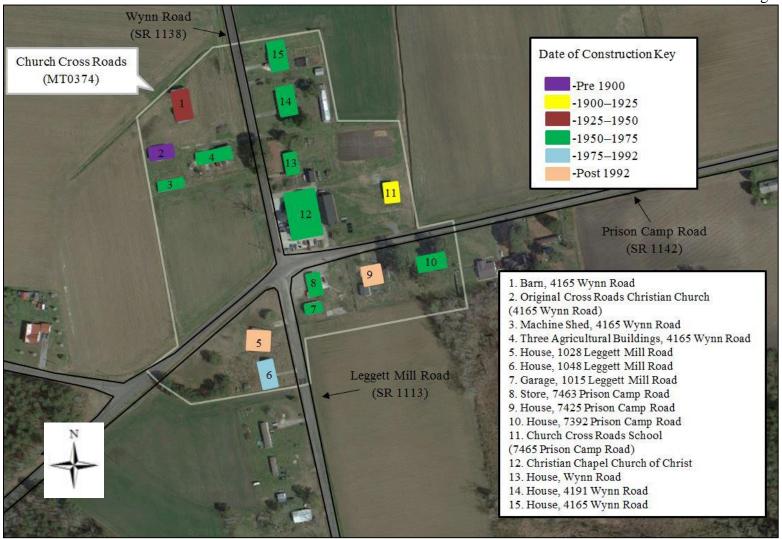


Figure 38: Church Cross Roads Site Plan Showing Approximate Dates of Construction (Google Maps 2015).



Photo 81: Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375), Northeast Oblique.



Photo 82: Church Cross Roads School (MT0376), Southeast Oblique.

One surviving building within this community was likely constructed during the second quarter of the twentieth century (USGS 1950) (noted as resource 1 on Figure 38, p. 113). The original core of this building likely originally functioned as a tobacco barn. The frame structural system is clad in sheets of metal and is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal (Photo 83, p. 115). The building was heavily altered when the façade (east elevation) was removed to become a large machine entry. A one-story, shed-roofed wing

supported by wooden posts extends from the south elevation. A large, partially collapsed building is situated immediately north of the tobacco barn. It had a frame structural system clad in vertical wooden boards and is connected to the barn by a one-story, side-gabled hyphen. This building is currently used as machine storage.



Photo 83: Tobacco Barn and Additions, Looking Northwest.

A majority of the buildings currently located at Church Cross Roads were constructed between 1950 and 1975, including four residential buildings, two agricultural buildings, one church, one garage, and one store. The four residential buildings are representative of the Ranch style and are clad in a brick, stretcher-bond veneer and covered by a side-gabled roof (noted as resources 10, 13, 14, and 15 on Figure 38, p. 113) (Photo 84). They appear to retain their original wood-frame windows and brick interior chimneys. The houses exhibit an attached, shed-roofed carport. Each has at least one associated outbuilding, such as a shed or workshop. Three of the buildings are clustered on the east side of Wynn Road and the fourth is situated south of the Prison Camp Road across from the Church Cross Roads School.



Photo 84: Three Ranch Dwellings on Wynn Road (Google Street View 2015).

A circa-1950 church is located immediately northeast of the Church Cross Roads intersection (noted as resource 12 on Figure 38, p. 113). The one-story, one-bay church constructed in a cross-shaped form sits on a continuous foundation. Both the foundation and the structural system are clad in a brick, stretcher-bond veneer. The moderately pitched, front-gabled roof with boxed eaves is sheathed in asphalt shingles. A metal steeple with vents and an octagonal spire pierces the ridge of the roof in the southern portion of the building. This steeple was added to the church in 2001. The primary entrance is centered on a one-story, front-gabled projection clad in a brick veneer laid in an all-stretcher bond from the primary (south) elevation. It is filled with double-leaf, eight-paneled, wood doors with a fixed, single-light, transom decorated by a denticulated cornice. Fluted, wood, pilasters flank the entrance. Other fenestration includes single, eight-over-seven, wood-framed, double-hung sash windows filled with an opaque glass. The lower sash is a unique configuration with a row of four lights over a row of three lights with the central light measuring the width of two smaller lights. The windows are complete with a brick sill and flat, brick lentil. A one-story, three-bay portico spans the primary elevation. There are several additions that extend from the building included a circa-1965 baptistery addition, a 1962 education building, and a 1977 fellowship hall. Associated with this building is a shed, well house, and two signs.



Photo 85: Circa-1950 Church and Education Building Addition, Southeast Oblique.

The store, formerly called Earl's Store, was constructed in the mid 1970s (noted as resource 8 on Figure 38, p. 113) in the site of an older store (USGS 1974, 1977). It is a one-story commercial building with a concrete-block structural system that is covered by a low-pitched front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles (Photo 86). A concrete-block chimney pierces the eastern slope of the roof near the rear (south) elevation. The primary entrance is off-centered on the north elevation and is filled by a replacement, metal door. There is a secondary, single-leaf entry on the east elevation. Other fenestration includes commercial, plate glass windows on the north elevation and filled-in fixed windows on the secondary elevations. A one-story awning extends from the façade (north elevation). It is supported by square, wooden posts and was formerly used as covered eating space. A one-story, lean-to was added to the west elevation.



Photo 86: Store at Church Cross Roads, Northeast Oblique.

A mid-twentieth century garage is located immediately south of the store and was likely constructed around the same time (noted as resource 7 on Figure 38, p. 113) (USGS 1974, 1977). The one-story concrete-block building faces west toward Leggett Mill Road and is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in corrugated metal (Photo 87, p. 118). A stepped parapet with metal coping is located on the west elevation and exposed rafters are visible on the north and south elevations. There are two entrances on the west elevation: a single-leaf, pedestrian door and a metal garage door. A secondary entry is situated on the north elevation. Other fenestration includes a double-hung-sash windows and a fixed window.



Photo 87: Garage on Leggett Mill Road, Northwest Oblique.

The remaining third-quarter of the twentieth-century buildings within Church Cross Roads are located on the west side of Wynn Road south and southeast of the Cross Roads Christian Church (USGS 1977). One of these is a one-story, multi-bay building constructed for machine storage (noted as resource 3 on Figure 38, p. 113) (Photo 88, p. 119). It faces south toward Prison Camp Road and has a frame structural system clad in sheets of metal on the eastern side and left open-air on the western half. It is covered by a shed roof sheathed in vcrimp metal. Southeast of the church is a cluster of outbuildings comprises three individual buildings constructed around the same time (noted as resource 4 on Figure 38, p. 113) (Photo 88) (USGS 1977). The westernmost building has a frame structural system originally clad in weatherboard and covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in metal. It features an open bay for machine entry on the north elevation and a single-leaf pedestrian entrance on the east elevation. This building has two shed-roofed wings clad in metal: one that extends from the west elevation and one that extends from the east elevation. The central building has a rounded log framing system that predominately open-air, with the exception of the metal siding within the gable ends. The structure is covered by front-gabled roof. The easternmost building is the largest of the machinery sheds. It is a one-story, two-bay structure with a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal that is supported by round logs and simple bracing.



Photo 88: Machine Shed (Left) and Cluster of Outbuildings (Right) within Church Cross Roads.

Three buildings, all residential, date to the fourth quarter of the twentieth century (Photo 89, p. 119). They are all one-story in height and are clad in vinyl siding. The dwellings are covered by side-gabled or hipped roofs sheathed in asphalt shingles. Each has vinyl windows and pressed wood doors and, on a whole, are not adorned with elements of great decorative detail. These are noted as resources 5, 6, and 9 on Figure 38, p. 113.



Photo 89: 1028 Leggett Mill Road, an Example of a Late-Twentieth Century House in Church Cross Roads, Looking Southwest.

Historic Context

Until the late-nineteenth century, the area now known as Church Cross Roads was a primarily residential community (Gilmer 1864). It is located at the intersection of Greenville-Williamston Road (present-day Prison Camp Road) and the Everetts-Washington Road, sometimes called Hamilton-Washington Road (present-day Wynn Road and Leggett Mill Road). The Greenville-Williamston Road extended east from Greenville, the county seat of Pitt County incorporated in 1774, to Williamston, the county seat of Martin County established in 1779 (Case 2010; NCPedia 2015b). The Everetts-Washington Road extended south from the Town of Everetts, settled in the 1870s and incorporated in 1891, to Washington, the county seat of Beaufort County, established in 1782 (NCPedia 2015c, 2015d).

The anchor of this community for over a century has been the Cross Roads Church. The congregation was formed in 1857 and worshiped out of a small log building. In 1890, the members built a larger building northeast of the Cross Roads intersection. It was moved in the mid-twentieth century to allow for the construction of larger religious facility on the same lot. The church continues to serve the residents in and around this community. For a detailed description and history of the Cross Roads Church, see the full write up on page 127.

According to a Civil-War era map, this rural region of Martin County was heavily wooded with country roads extending from one town or city to another, which were dotted with residences surrounded by a small cleared area (Figure 39, p. 122) (Gilmer 1964). Although the southern part of Martin County likely served as a thoroughfare between eighteenth-century towns such as Williamston, Greenville, and Washington, traffic likely increased following the construction the Williamston & Tarboro Railroad (renamed Albemarle & Raleigh Railroad) just 4 miles north of Church Cross Roads (Carolana 2015). Soon after the railroad opened in 1882, small towns developed along its route, likely resulting in additional roads and traffic between the new communities and the older towns (Carolana 2015). It is possible this increase in traffic played a role in the future development of Church Cross Roads.

Another key part of the early Church Cross Roads community was constructed around this time: the Church Cross Roads School. It is located on the north side of the Williamston-Greenville Road, just east of the church. This school building was used for approximately 30 years. For a detailed description and history of the Church Cross Roads School, see page 101.

Around the turn of the twentieth century, with the exception of the church and school, the land surrounding Church Cross Roads was almost entirely owned by descendants of John "Jack" and Patsy W. Wynn of Martin County; they represented such a large percentage of the population that some documents refer to this as Wynn Cross Roads (North Carolina, Deaths 1928; U.S. Census 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900). One of the descendants was James Henry "Henry" Wynn, who owned land southeast of the Church Cross Roads intersection. He was born in 1855 to James B. and Louisa Wynn and, as an adult, primarily worked as a farmer (North Carolina, Deaths 1928). He lived in a two-story, frame, side-gabled house with his wife, Sara "Sallie" Mobley Wynn and their 10 children (NC-HPO 1992k; U.S. Census 1900).

Likely attempting to capitalize on the increased traffic, Henry Wynn started and operated a small store on his lot adjacent to the southeast corner of the crossroads (NC-HPO 1992k). On February 3, 1921, just seven years before his death, Henry sold the 1.5-acre lot, which included the house and store, to his daughter Leona F. Wynne (MCDB E-02:40; North Carolina, Deaths 1928). Leona was born on December 12, 1886 and married Julius T. James for a short time between 1900 and 1910; together they had one child, Gaston James (North Carolina, Deaths 1951, 1968). Leona continued to live with her parents until the death of her father in 1928, at which time she lived with her son, Gaston (1908–1968) (North Carolina, Deaths 1968; U.S. Census 1910, 1920, 1930). It is unknown if Gaston and his family lived in the old Henry Wynn house; however, he did own the land until 1963, when he sold the 1.5acre lot, house, and store to J. Leamon Mobley and his wife, Beulah (MCDB N-07:515). The two-story house stood next to the store until the late-1990s—it is no longer extant (Google Earth 2015; NC-HPO 1992k; USGS 1977). Around the time they acquired the property, the Mobleys tore down the original frame store and constructed the store that currently stands at the southeast corner of the intersection, as well as the concrete-block garage immediately to the south. The store functioned as a variety of things including "Earl's Store" in the early 1990s and a restaurant in the early 2000s (NC-HPO 1992k).

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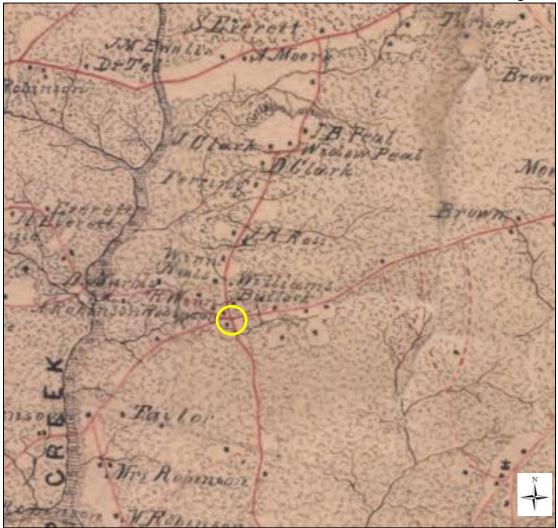


Figure 39: 1864 Map Showing the Church Cross Roads Area in Yellow (Gilmer 1864).

In the early-twentieth century, William Fernando Wynn owned the tract of land northwest of the Church Cross Roads intersection. After his marriage to Nancy Jane Roebuck (1855–1965) in 1906, the couple settled in the Crossroads Township where they were life-long and active members of the Christian Chapel Church (Martin County Historical Society 1980; Martin County Marriage Record 2:279). It is on this tract of land that a saw mill, grist mill, and cotton gin were located (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015; Martin County Historical Society 1980:658). Little is known about this mill, including construction date; however, it was no longer extant by the mid-twentieth century (USGS 1950). One building possibly associated with this grist mill was a tenant house also located on this lot northwest of the crossroads, known as the Cleo L. Jackson Tenant House. This one-story, frame dwelling dated the early-twentieth century and was standing at the time of a 1992 survey (NC-HPO 1992k). Since that survey, the building was demolished (NC-HPO 1992, Google Earth 1993, 1998.

Southwest of the Cross Roads intersection is a triangular-shaped, 1.5-acre tract of land. In the early-twentieth century, Thomas H. Wynn, son of Henry Wynn and wife Lillie Wynn, acquired the land and built a small store (the second commercial building in Church Cross Roads) that sat facing the intersection. It served the community throughout the mid-twentieth century (MCDB E-13:414). This store was demolished in the early 1990s and replaced with the northernmost of two dwellings on the 1-acre lot (Google Earth 1993, 1998; USGS 1977).

In sum, by the mid-twentieth century, Church Cross Roads was composed of the original Cross Roads Christian Church (moved to the west side of Wynn Road), the newly built church northeast of the intersection, Church Cross Roads School, Henry Wynn's house, Henry Wynn's store, a store owned by Thomas and Lillie Wynn, the Cleo T. Jackson Tenant House, and a tobacco barn located north of the Cross Roads Christian Church on Wynn Road (Figure 40).

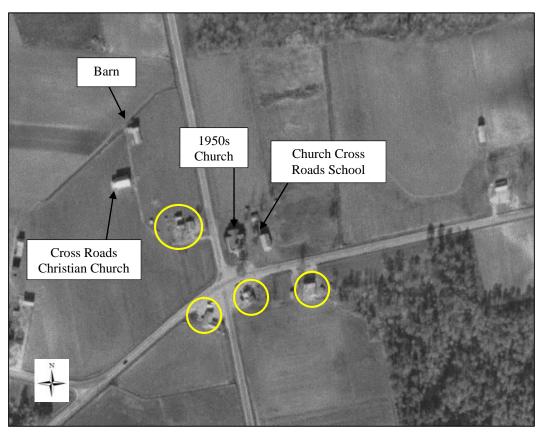


Figure 40: 1957 Aerial Showing Church Cross Roads (USGS 1957). Yellow circles denote buildings no longer extant.

A wave of residential development occurred during the 1960s and 1970s along present-day Wynn Road, Leggett Mill Road, and Prison Camp Road to the east of the Church Cross Roads intersection. This appears to be a result of landowners dividing their parcel and selling/giving land to relatives, upon which those family members often built their own residence. This was a common practice in rural areas throughout Martin County.

Today, Cross Roads Church continues to be a central focus within the community and is one of the few non-residential buildings still in use. The Church Cross Roads School is now owned and operated by church as a youth building. The mid-twentieth-century store currently sits vacant and the garage appears to be used for storage.

Evaluation

Church Cross Roads is formed by the intersection of two historic roadways: Prison Camp Road (formerly Williamston-Greenville Road) and Wynn and Leggett Mill roads (Everetts-Washington Road). According to a Civil War era map, the area was predominately residential in the 1860s, as it was dotted with dwellings. In 1857, the Cross Roads Christian Church was established following its recognition at the Disciples' of Christ State Convention. Although its congregation originally worshiped out of a small log building, the membership grew at a rate that required a larger church, which resulted in the construction of the frame building then located on the northeast corner of the intersection. This circa-1890 building became the cornerstone of the community (Manning and Booker 1974:125). Over the course of a century, Church Cross Roads was the location of a school for local white children, a grist/saw mill, farm and tenant houses, a garage, and several commercial buildings (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015; USGS 1957, 1975). Today, this rural crossroads is composed of approximately 18 buildings.

Church Cross Roads has a moderate level of location integrity, because two of its oldest surviving buildings have been slightly moved from their original site: Cross Roads Christian Church and Church Cross Roads School. The resource has a low to moderate level of integrity of setting, association, and feeling, as it continues to be a rural crossroads community surrounded by agricultural fields and a variety of small-scale buildings oriented toward the intersection. The resource has a low level of integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. Nearly all of the historic resources that once populated Church Cross Roads are no longer standing. Only two buildings from the turn-of-the-twentieth-century are extant.

A good comparison of a rural, Martin County crossroads community is Corey's Crossroads (MT0287), located at the intersection of NC 17 and Smithwick Creek Church Road (SR 1106). This resource dates to the early-twentieth century—later than Church Cross Roads; however, it retains many of its original buildings including Corey's Store, Rogerson's Store, Rogerson House, Beecham House, and four circa-1915–1956 houses. On a whole, this community appears to retain a higher level of architectural integrity than Church Cross Roads. In 2011, Corey's Crossroads was determined not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A–C (NC-HPO 19921).





Photo 90: Corey's Store (Left) and Rogerson's Store (Right) Within Corey's Crossroads (MT0287).

In order to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, a resource "must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context;" the associated can be one (or both) of two types of events: 1) a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history and 2) a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, of the nation (NPS 2015). Church Cross Roads did not make a significant contribution to any specific event or a historic trend. As such, Church Cross Roads is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). The people that resided or worked within Church Cross Roads are not known to have made significant contributions to area history and as a result it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

In recent decades, Church Cross Roads has lost much of its original fabric. Only two buildings from the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century survive, Cross Roads Christian Church and the Church Cross Roads School. Examples of some original buildings that are no longer extant include the Henry Wynn House, Cleo L. Jackson Tenant House, and the two historic stores, one located southwest and one located southeast of the intersection. Beginning in the late 1960s and early-1970s, residential infill development occurred, predominately along Wynn Road, Leggett Mill Road, and east of the intersection along Prison Camp Road. In addition to the loss of a majority of its original architectural fabric, the buildings that make up Church Cross Roads do not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor are they the work of a master or possess high artistic value. Furthermore, they are not representative of a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction (NPS 2105). For these reasons, Church Cross Roads is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). Church Cross Roads is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, Church Cross Roads is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT0375: Cross Roads Christian Church

Date of Construction: Circa 1890 Modifications: Early-twentieth century, mid-twentieth century

4165 Wynn Road Crossroads, Martin County, North Carolina PIN: 5734-78-8636

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible; Criterion A with

Criteria Considerations A and B



Architectural Description

The former Cross Roads Christian Church is located within the Church Cross Roads community in the Crossroads Township of Martin County. Two buildings are located on the within the resource boundaries: a circa 1890 church and a circa 1950 church. The circa-1890 church is currently located on a parcel of land measuring approximately 30 acres on the west side of Wynn Road and approximately 500 feet north of Prison Camp Road. Also associated with this property is a circa-1950 church located immediately southeast of the circa-1890 church. It is situated on a parcel on the northeast corner of the intersection of Prison Camp, Wynn, and Leggett Mill roads. In 1950, the circa-1890 church was moved this parcel current location to make way for the circa-1950 church. The circa-1890, frame church building is now surrounded by grass, and crop fields are located to the west and north. Several agricultural outbuildings that are not associated with the church are located northeast and east of the building. The frame church is accessed by a gravel driveway that extends westward from Wynn Road.

The primary resource is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay church built circa 1890. Access to the property was granted by the current owner, Frank Wynne Jackson, and it was previously documented by Donna Dodenhoff during a survey conducted in 1992 (NC-HPO 1992m). During that investigation, Dodenhoff determined that the "austerely plain, tall-gable-front church is among a handful of Martin County rural churches that date to the third quarter of the nineteenth century" (NC-HPO 1992m). The church was organized in 1857 by Stanley Ayers and, at the time, services were held in a log building, constructed in 1869 located in Crossroads Township (Manning and Booker 1974:125). According to Jackson, a 20-foot long log from the log building was utilized in the construction of the foundation of the wood-framed church building. There is also a rectangular piece of flat pressed metal that is embossed with "1869" located on the primary (east) elevation of the building that is also said to have come from the log building (Photo 91) (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015).

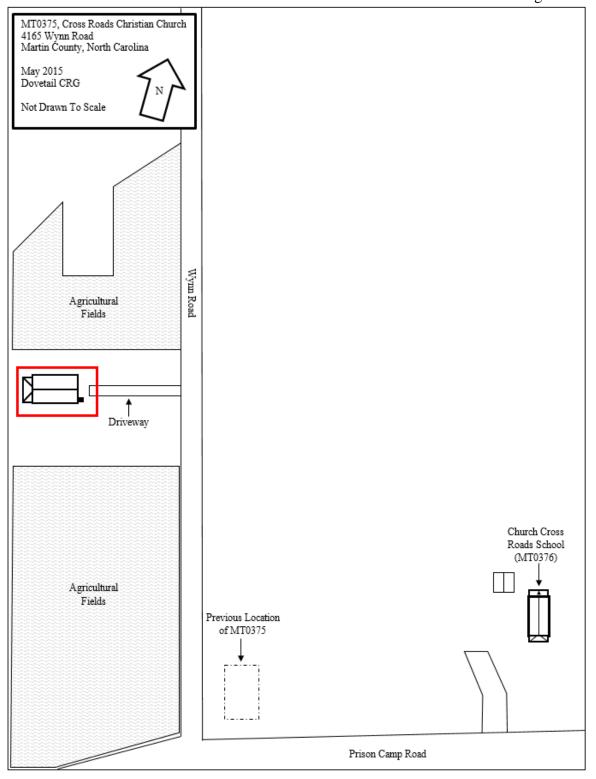


Figure 41: The Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) Site Plan. Note: the red box indicates the location of the resource.





Photo 91: Primary Resource, Southeast Oblique (Left); Detail on Façade of Primary Resource (Right).

The resource is raised on a concrete-block pier foundation that is a replacement, most likely from when the building was moved in 1950. The log utilized from the old log building is used as a sill plate that is connected by squared notching to other timber sill plates. The timber-frame structural system is clad in lapped, weatherboard siding with wood cornerboards. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, front-gabled roof that features boxed eaves, a wooden boxed cornice, and prominent gable returns. The roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal which is a replacement of the original wood shingles (Photo 92, p. 129). In 1936, it was recorded that significant building improvements were made which included "a new roof, new ceiling, new mats on the floor, and new shades" (Honican 2013; Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). Although it is no longer visible from the exterior of the building, at one time a central-interior, brick chimney pierced the ridge of the roof. The brick chimney flue was visible from the interior of the building and it was connected to a metal stove in the middle of the church (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015).





Photo 92: Primary Resource Detail of Foundation (Left); Detail of Roof Eave (Right).

There are two primary entrances located on the east elevation. The southern entrance is filled with a single-leaf, five-paneled, wood door framed by an unadorned, wood surround and is accessed by a set of parged brick steps. The northern entrance is also filled with a single-leaf door; however, this single-leaf door is currently covered with pressed metal and has no access. A secondary entrance is situated in the west half of the south elevation and it is filled with a single-leaf, wood door that is covered by corrugated metal. Another secondary entrance was added after the relocation in 1950. It is situated above the northernmost primary entrance and it is filled with a single-leaf door covered in pressed metal. This door was most likely for agricultural use. Other fenestration is covered with plywood board and is not visible. From the interior, it was visible that the window openings are filled with single, possibly nine-over-nine, wood-frame, double-hung sash windows. The windows are surrounded by a simple wood frames. A "corn window" was added by the Jackson family when the building was moved onto their property (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015). This window is situated above the southern primary entrance and covered by a v-crimp metal hopper covering.

Possibly during the 1936 renovation, a one-story, pulpit addition spans the rear (west) elevation of the church (Photo 93, p. 130). The addition is also raised on concrete-block piers, and the timber-frame structural system is clad in lapped, weatherboard siding with wood cornerboards. The addition is covered by a hipped roof with boxed eaves sheathed in v-crimp metal. A secondary entrance is located on the west elevation and is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door. The door was added into what was previously a window opening; this is affirmed by wood siding filling in the open space above the door. Other fenestration is covered by plywood board.



Photo 93: Pulpit Addition on Primary Resource, Southwest Oblique.

As previously mentioned, the interior of the building went through some modifications in 1936 (Honican 2013; Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). It has been further altered since it was moved in the 1950s. Frank Jackson explained that his father, Linwood Cleo

Jackson, Sr., attempted to keep a majority of the interior components untouched such as the original plaster walls, wainscoting, and flooring (Photo 94). However, Linwood Jackson, Sr. added a second-story floor and converted the building into general storage and multipurpose, agricultural use. Currently, the interior walls are in fair condition. Lathing is exposed in a majority of the building where the plaster is falling off of the walls. Wood boards have also been nailed beneath the added second-story floor to hang tobacco (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015). The original floor boards are partially protected by plywood boards and the pulpit is still extant in the western portion of the building.





Photo 94: Exposed Lathing and Boarded Window (Left); Pulpit Addition (Right).

Historic Context

During a period of an improved economy and growth in formation of new religious congregations, the Cross Roads Christian Church was among the many front-gabled frame church buildings constructed in Martin County during the mid- to late-nineteenth century (Butchko 1998:85). While religious denominations in Martin County were mainly Baptist and Methodist, the Cross Roads Christian Church was one of two Disciples of Christ congregations at the time of its establishment in the mid-nineteenth century (Manning and Booker 1974:126; Butchko 1998:13). The Cross Roads Christian Church, now known as the Christian Chapel Church of Christ, was founded by Stanley Ayers (1831–1910) in 1857 when it was recognized by The Disciples' of Christ State Convention (Figure 42, p. 132) (Manning and Booker 1974:126; Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). Church services were held in a log building located in Crossroads Township southwest of the current location of the church (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015; Manning and Booker 1974:126). In 1869, several members of the church donated a tract of land to the Disciples of Christ "for the love and good will they have for the Lord Jesus Christ" (MCDB T:508). The members donated this land specifically so "one church, the church to be for the Inclusive benefit of the Disciples of Christ" should be built (MCDB T:508). They included Alexander Mobley (1836–1904), his wife, Frances Mobley (1835–1907), and his mother, Christina Mobley (1805–1871) of Martin County (U.S. Census 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880).

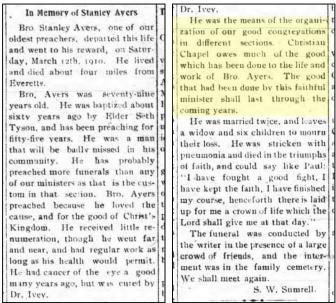


Figure 42: Obituary for Stanley Ayers printed in *The Enterprise* (The Enterprise 1910).

The deed also states that "the school house near John A. Ausborn's [is] to be moved on the same parcel of land by the members of the church and put in order for school as it is now the said school part and members of the Church above mentioned and their successors to have and to hold the said land as long as the said building is used for the purposes the land given" (MCDB T:508). Although it is not mentioned in other publications, it is possible that the "the school house near John A. Ausborn's" is the school house known as the Church Cross Roads School (MT0376) presently located on the property (Figure 43, p. 133) (MCDB T:508). Jackson does mention that a log used in the foundation of the frame church building now located on his property came from the log building that was used for church services pre-1885 (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015).

In 1888, the members of the church acting as "partners in legislation to Christian Chapel," sold and conveyed a tract of land "adjoining the lands of Alexander Mobley, James Wynn, and others" located on the "north side of the Williamston and Greenville road... containing one half acre more or less, being site for School House in Dist. #16 [in] White Cross Township at Cross Roads" (MCDB NN:150). A new church building was constructed on this lot in 1890. A school house (MT0376) was added to the church property around this time and is still extant today. It has served in many different capacities over the years such as a parsonage and a community center.

The Cross Roads Christian Church congregation steadily grew from the original 20 members in 1857 (Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). Several church revivals occurred through the first half of the twentieth century which added 20–50 members at a time (Martin County Historical Society 1980:6). Eventually, building improvements were made to the church in 1936 which included "a new roof, new ceiling, new mats on the floor, and new shades" (Honican 2013; Manning and Booker 1974:127). A member at the time stated that "the

audience room is much more attractive" after the improvements were made (Honican 2013; Manning and Booker 1974: 127). During the 1940s, the church came to be known simply as Christian Chapel Church of Christ as a result of the split between the Independent Church of Christ/Christian Church and the Disciples of Christ Christian Churches (Honican 2013).

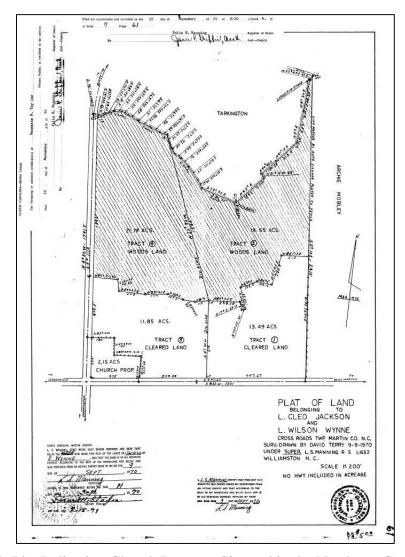


Figure 43: Plat Indicating Church Property Situated in the Northeast Corner of the Intersection of Prison Camp and Wynn roads (MCMB 7:16).

Over the years, the church building was utilized for other community purposes that were non-religious in nature. In 1932, the democratic party of Martin County held a promotional meeting at the church (Figure 44, p. 134) (The Enterprise 1932). The church was also involved in supporting extracurricular activities particularly associated with the Cross Roads School (Figure 44, p. 134). In 1927, "under the auspice of the church", the Cross Roads School presented a play called "A Daughter of the Desert" which was performed throughout the county (The Enterprise 1927).

Much Interest Displayed in Democratic County Canvass

According to reports coming from those centers where the Democratic canvassers have been during the past few days, there is a marked interest in the success of the entire Democratic ticket at the polls next Tuesday.

Friday night, October 28, meetings were held in Jamesville and Oak City. Rev. A. Corey was in charge of the program at Jamesville, and Mr. R. J. Peel and Attorney A. R. Dunning discussed the issues of the campaign before a very enthusiastic audience. The Messrs. Hugh Horton and J. L. Hassell made speeches at Oak City. About 75 or 80 were in attendance at Jamesville and about 50 or 60 in attendance at Oak City.

On Saturday night, October 29,

two very good meetings were held at Has⁸ell and Fairview. Messra. R. J. Peel and R. L. Coburn spoke at Fairview to a small but enthusiastic crowd, and Messrs. J. L. Hassell and Hugh Horton spoke at Hassells to a very enthusiastic audience.

On Tuesday night, November 1, at 7:30 p. m., a meeting will be held at the school building in Hamilton and on Wednesday night, November 2, at the same hour speakers will be at Farm Life.

On Thursday night, November 3, there will be two more Democratic meetings, one at Cross Roads church and one in the school house at Macedonia. Every one is cordially invited to attend these meetings.

To Present Play at Jamesville Saturday

Under the auspices of the Christian Chapel church, the Cross Roads school will present "A Daughter of the Desert" at the Jamesville school auditorium next Saturday night, May 21. The play has been presented in several auditoriums in the county, and at each showing it has met with hearty approval. It is understood the play will be shown in other places of the county during the next few weeks.

Figure 44: Articles from *The Enterprise* Exemplifying Church Involvement in the Cross Roads Community (The Enterprise 1932, 1927).

In 1950, the Christian Chapel Church planned for a new church building to be constructed on the parcel (Manning and Booker 1974:127). The old, timber-framed church building was moved to the other side (west) of Wynn Road (Everetts-Washington Road) where it presently stands (Figure 45, p. 135) (Manning and Booker 1974:127). This effort was funded by Linwood Cleo Jackson, Sr., the father of the current owner, Frank Wynne Jackson (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015). This was reaffirmed by the current pastor asserting that the original church was moved around 1950 to make way for a new brick church building (Honican 2013). Its current location is on a parcel previously owned by a farmer named William Fernando Wynn (1878–1919), a prominent figure in the Crossroads Township community (Martin County Historical Society 1980:658; North Carolina Death Records 6:366). After his marriage to Nancy Jane Roebuck (1855–1965) in 1906, the couple settled in the Church Cross Roads where they were life-long and active members of the Christian Chapel Church (Martin County Historical Society 1980:658; MCMR 2:279). Over the years, William continued to acquire farm land in the Cross Roads community and helped operate a saw mill, grist mill, and cotton gin that was once located on the northwest corner of Wynn and Prison Camp roads (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015; Martin County Historical Society 1980:658).



Figure 45: 1950 Aerial Showing Original Location of Frame Church (Left) and 1957 Aerial Showing New Brick Church and New Location of Original Church (Right) (USGS 1950; 1957).

William passed unexpectedly from a pneumonia and influenza epidemic in 1919 (Martin County Historical Society 1980:658; NCDR 6:366). Of the four children he had with Nancy, the eldest son and daughter, Shelton T. Wynn (1907–1996) and Mearl Deen Wynn Coburn (1910–1988), respectively, were charged with dividing the 207 acres into four lots amongst themselves and their younger siblings, Mildred Wynn Jackson (1915–2002) and Leon Wynne (1918–1999) in 1929 (Martin County Land Division Book [MCLDB] B:131; NC Deaths 1988, 1996, 1999, 2002; NC Marriages 1934). Mildred was devised a tract containing 29.5 acres at the northwest corner of the "intersection at Williamston-Greenville [Prison Camp] and Everetts-Washington [Wynn] road at Christian Chapel" (MCLDB B:131).

In 1934, Mildred married Linwood Cleo Jackson, Sr. (1912–1984) and together they lived on this parcel of land until her death (North Carolina, Deaths 1984). The Jackson's were active members of the Christian Chapel Church and Linwood Cleo, Sr. paid \$200 to move the old wood church building to their property around 1950 (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015; Honican 2013). The building was moved among several agricultural buildings on a property that was mainly farmland. At this time, Linwood Cleo, Sr. utilized the building as a packhouse and storage building (Frank Wynn Jackson, personal communication 2015). He also attempted to protect certain aspects of the building such as putting plywood on the floors, boarding up the windows, and replacing the wood shingles of the roof (Frank Wynn Jackson, personal communication 2015).

Together, Mildred and Linwood had four children: Mary F. Jackson (1936–present), Peggy Jackson Ayers (1937–present), Frank Wynne Jackson (1949–present), and Linwood Cleo Jackson, Jr. (1941–2005) (NC Births 1936, 1937, 1949; NC Marriages 1959; U.S. Social Security Death Index 2005). Linwood Cleo, Jr. purchased this certain tract of land that the church building now sits on from his mother, Mildred, for \$10 in 1995 (MCDB A-15:138). In 2005, Linwood Cleo, Jr. made his sister, Peggy, and his brother, Frank, powers of attorney

(MCDB Q-20:428). In a codicil to his original last will and testament dated March 3, 2003, Linwood Cleo, Jr. conveyed two parcels of land to his sister (Peggy Anne), his brother (Frank), and his aunt (Thelma Joyce) (MCEF 05-E-262). Thelma Joyce, sister of Linwood Cleo, Sr., and her husband, James Ervin Bullard, officially deeded the entire tract of land that the church currently resides in May 2006 to her brother, Frank (MCDB K-21:624). Frank continues to farm this land and also rents it to other farmers. He and his family also continue to use the church building for agricultural and storage purposes (Frank Wynne Jackson, personal communication 2015). Details on the actual church property on the corner of Wynn and Prison Camp roads is further detailed in the Church Cross Roads School section (p.).

Evaluation

The Cross Roads Christian Church dates to circa 1890 and was constructed at the corner of Wynn and Prison Camp roads by the Cross Roads Disciples of Christ congregation. During the late-nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries, the one-and-one-half-story, frame church building and adjacent school became the epicenter of the community. The church building went through some alterations in 1936 that included interior updates. In 1950, a new church was slated to be built, and the frame church was moved by an active member, Linwood Cleo Jackson, Sr., to his farm land on the west side of Wynn Road. At this time, the interior of the building was slightly altered to accommodate tobacco packing. The farm and church building continue to be owned and used by the Jackson family today. At the original site of the frame church now sits a circa-1950 brick church with multiple additions and a fellowship hall built in 1977. These buildings are further detailed in the Church Cross Roads section of this report (p. 112).

The Cross Roads Christian Church has a low level of integrity of location as the building was moved from its original location. However, the building was moved a relatively short distance, about 401.4 feet northwest from its original location. The church has a moderate level of workmanship and materials; although the building retains its original weatherboard siding, wood-frame windows, and wood floors and several interior architectural materials and characteristics from a 1936 renovation, the roofing materials have been replaced, chimney has been partially removed, and the building's interior has been moderately altered to accommodate tobacco preparation practices. Although an addition was added and interior renovations occurred in 1936, they are historic in nature and have not been heavily altered since; therefore, the building has a moderate level of design. The church is no longer being used for its original function and because of this, has a low level of association. Though the church was moved from its original location, it is still located with the Church Cross Roads community along one of the historic roadways on which it originally sat. Even though it currently sits in an agricultural field, it is still in clear view of the original location where a new church stands. Consequently, it has a moderate to high level of setting and feeling.

The Jamesville Primitive Baptist Church (MT0098), a one-and-one-half-story, frame, church located in Jamesville, was constructed between 1850 and 1870 and is a prime example of a rural church building in Martin County (Photo 95) (Little and Cross 1984). The building originally rested on a brick-pier foundation and features many original characteristics of the

construction such as weatherboard siding, a large box cornice with returns, wood-frame windows, and two entrances on the façade. The land that the building sits on was donated by a wealthy landowner and minister of the church, Clayton Moore (1814–1881). The frame church was constructed because the original church located on Moore's plantation was burned during the Civil War. The property was given to the Jamesville Women's Club in 1953, who continue to utilize it as their headquarters. The Jamesville Primitive Baptist Church is listed in the NRHP under Criterion C as the building "embodies the distinctive characteristics of churches [...] popular during the last half of the nineteenth century throughout North Carolina and is distinguished by double entrances and boxed cornices with returns" (Little and Cross 1984).



Photo 95: Jamesville Primitive Baptist Church, West Oblique (MT0098).

Another good example of a one-and-one-half-story, frame church is the Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist Church (MT0267) located in rural Farm Life, Martin County (Photo 96, p. 138) (Sandbeck 2004). The church, constructed in 1897, still retains its original weatherboard siding, central brick chimney, wood-frame windows, boxed eaves, and two entrances on the façade. Associated with the church is a circa-1892, frame, baptismal house that was moved about a mile east to the current location. The resource is listed on the NRHP under Criterion C for its intact structural system and high-level of historic integrity and is an exemplary example of a "traditional front-gable frame meeting house format" (Sandbeck 2004). As a religious property, the church meets Criteria Consideration A for "its intact design and construction" (Sandbeck 2004).



Photo 96: Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Southwest Oblique (MT0267).

The Cross Roads Christian Church is one of only a handful of surviving, nineteenth century, rural churches in Martin County. This church played an important role in the development of the Cross Roads community since its inception in 1857 and the construction of the existing frame church around 1890. The church likely drew people together for various events that were held on the site such as funerals, weddings, community meetings, and other extracurricular activities. The church congregation also supported local school events. Due to a continuously growing congregation and rural cross roads community, there was a need for a larger gathering and meeting space for the community. Although the circa 1890 church was moved, it was moved immediately across the road (west of Wynn Road) and still in sight of the new church building erected in 1950. For a property to be eligible under Criterion A, it must be associated with an important event, pattern of events, or historic trend of an area. It is recommended that the resource is eligible under Criterion A because of the church's involvement with the growth and development of the Church Cross Roads community and its use as a community social gathering space. The building meets Criterion A and Criteria Consideration A for its involvement in the growth of a rural crossroads community as well as Criteria Consideration B for being moved after its period of significance and still being located within the Church Cross Roads community in which it was established.

The church has no known association with an individual who is "significant within a historic context" or has "gained importance within his or her group or profession" which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B (McClelland et al. 1999). Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The Cross Roads Christian Church building is an undecorated frame church constructed in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The building still retains a majority of the original exterior materials such as weatherboard, wood-frame windows, doors, and prominent returns of the roof; however, alterations were made such as a new foundation and new roofing material after it was moved in 1950. The building's interior also has had some modifications that occurred in 1936 as part of a church renovation which are historic in nature and common of a growing church. Since the move, the church's interior has been further transformed to

adapt to a new purpose and function: tobacco farming. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (McClelland et al. 1999). The Cross Roads Christian Church is not likely to yield to any new information pertaining to the history of architectural design or technology for education facilities. Therefore, this is resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Cross Roads Christian Church is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A with Criteria Considerations A and B. The NRHP boundary for the Cross Roads Christian Church as determined during the current investigations does not conform to any existing tax parcel since the original building was moved. The boundary encircles the building itself, located on Wynn Road and set back from the right-of-way (Figure 46, p. 139). The boundaries include the frame church which contributes to the property's eligibility. There are no other resources included in the boundary that contribute to the property's eligibility.



Figure 46: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) as Shown in Red (Martin County GIS 2015).

MT0372: Roebuck-Roberson Farm

Date of Construction: Circa 1840

Modifications: Circa 1850, late-nineteenth century, early-twentieth century, late-twentieth century

1583 Belmont Church Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5734-45-3587

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The Roebuck-Roberson Farm is located near Church Cross Roads within the Crossroads Township in Martin County, North Carolina. The resource is immediately east of Belmont Church Road and approximately 430 feet northwest of the intersection of Belmont Church Road and Prison Camp Road. Although it was originally on a large tract of land, the lot on which the farmhouse and associated outbuildings are situated measures 2.465 acres. A gravel driveway extends in a northwestwardly direction from Belmont Church Road toward the northwest corner of the house and continues around the north elevation to the eastern side of the lot. The northern edge of the lot is lined with a metal fence. In addition to the main core of the resource, which contains the primary dwelling and eight outbuildings, there is a family cemetery surrounded by agricultural fields west of the house across Belmont Church (Figure 47, p. 141).

The primary resource of the Roebuck-Roberson Farm is a two-story, three-bay dwelling (Photo 97, p. 142). Although access to this property was not granted during the current undertaking, Donna Dodenhoff completed a survey in 1992, at which time access to the farm and interior of the house was permitted. During the detailed investigation of the building's exterior and interior, Dodenhoff determined that the "original section of the heavy-timber framed house, probably built in the 1835–1845 period, was a one-room deep, side hall plan dwelling with an enclosed winder stair rising to the upstairs room from a rear corner of the downstairs room" (Butchko 1998:150–151; NC-HPO 1992n). She also notes that "in the 1850s this house was expanded to a center-hall plan residence by the construction of the block to the left of the hall" (Butchko 1998:150–151; NC-HPO 1992n).

The building's foundation was not visible during the current survey but the timber-frame structural system is clad in vinyl siding (added between 1992 and 2015), which likely covers the weatherboard siding (NC-HPO 1992n). A moderately pitched, side gabled roof sheathed in standing-seam metal caps the house. A wooden box cornice lines the eaves on the south (primary) and north (rear) elevations. According to the 1992 survey, the gable ends were once adorned with wooden saw tooth trim; however, this is no longer present or visible. Two exterior-end, brick chimneys are located at the east and west elevations. The eastern chimney (likely original to the circa-1840 house) is larger than the one on the west elevation and

features a wide foot at the base made up of unknown material. Both exterior-end chimneys feature similar decorative brick work including reverse and dog-tooth corbelling.

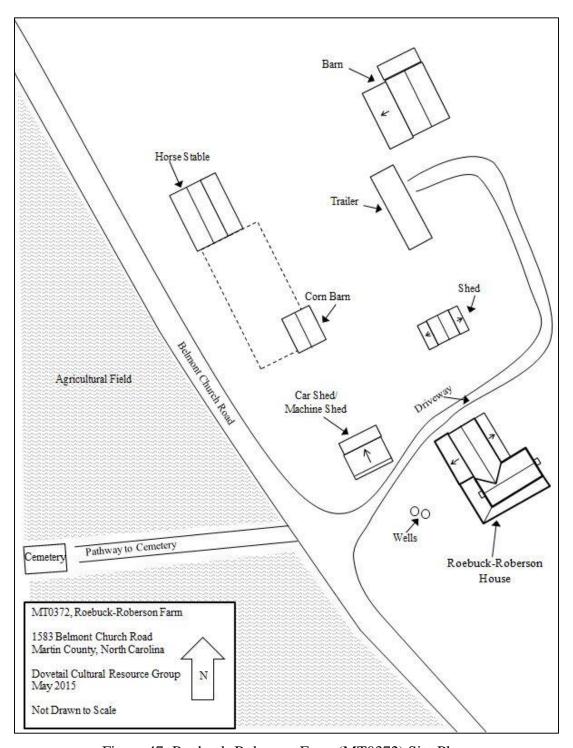


Figure 47: Roebuck-Roberson Farm (MT0372) Site Plan.



Photo 97: Southwest Oblique of the Primary Dwelling at the Roebuck-Roberson Farm.

The main entrance is centered on the south elevation. According to Donna Dodenhoff's 1992 survey, the original entrance, a single-leaf door, was replaced with the wooden, double-leaf door around 1850 when the western half of the building was constructed (NC-HPO 1992n). Since 1992, the double-leaf door has been replaced with a modern single-leaf, pressed-wood door with a fixed, oval light on the top half and a metal and glass storm door flanked by two modern sidelights. As late as November 1992, other fenestrations on the main core of the house included six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows (NC-HPO 1992n). Since then, one-over-one, double-hung sash, vinyl windows replaced the wood-frame sashes.

A one-story, wraparound porch extends from the south and west elevations (Photo 98, p. 143). The hipped roof is sheathed in standing-seam metal and supported by wooden, tapered posts set on square, brick plinths; these Craftsman-style posts suggest that the porch was constructed in the early-twentieth century (Butchko 1998:150–151; McAlester 2013:568–572). A continuous brick foundation supports the porch, which is accessed by a set of poured-concrete steps on the south elevation and another set on the west elevation.

A one-story, rear-ell addition was built onto the northeast elevation in the early-twentieth century (Photo 99, p. 143) (NC-HPO 1992n). It is set on a continuous brick foundation, and the structural system is clad in vinyl siding, which was likely placed on top of older siding. A gabled roof sheathed in standing-seam metal covers the addition; the eastern slope of the ell's roof is pierced by an interior, brick chimney. A single-leaf, wood-paneled door with three fixed lights at the top is located on the west elevation. Other fenestration on the ell includes paired, replacement one-over-one, vinyl windows. As a continuation of the wrap-around porch along the main core of the house, a one-story porch lined with a wooden balustrade is located on the west elevation of the ell. It is covered by a shed roof sheathed in standing-seam metal and supported by square posts. Since 1992, the owners added a wooden ramp to

the porch's west elevation. A one-story, one-bay, shed-roof addition extends from the northernmost bay of the ell's west elevation. It is set on a continuous, brick foundation and is clad in vinyl siding. It features a one-over-one, vinyl window on the west elevation. On the west elevation of the ell is a one-story, full-width addition. Similar to the other portions of the house, it is clad in vinyl siding and is covered by a shed roof sheathed in standing-seam metal. A brick, interior chimney pierces the slope of the roof. Because access to the property was not permitted, not enough architectural data was collected to determine an approximate date of this addition.



Photo 98: South Elevation of the Primary Dwelling.



Photo 99: West Elevation of the Rear Ell.

Historically, the Roebuck-Roberson Farm possessed many secondary resources including both domestic and agricultural outbuildings and a small family cemetery. Although a 1957

aerial shows approximately 15 outbuildings north, east, and west of the house. While the agricultural outbuildings west of the Belmont Church Road are no longer extant, currently nine (eight historic) secondary resources survive, including the cemetery (Figure 48) (USGS 1957). Access to the property was not obtained and a majority of the survey was conducted from the public right-of-way; as such, little information was obtained on these resources. On a 1918 map showing the property, three outbuildings are visible behind (north of) the primary dwelling: a stable and two barns (MCDB W-01:456). It is possible that the stable on the map is a circa-1900, two-story, one-bay horse stable currently located north of the farmhouse (Photo 100, p. 145). According to the Dodenhoff's 1992 survey notes, this is a heavy-timbered outbuilding that was associated with, or operated as, a cotton gin and saw mill (NC-HPO 1992n). This building is set on brick piers and the structural system is clad in v-crimp metal. It is covered by a front-gabled roof that is also sheathed in v-crimp metal. There are two doors centered on the south elevation: one on the first story and one on the second story. The pictures from the 1992 survey show shed-roofed wings extending from the east and west elevation (NC-HPO 1992n). Today, only the eastern wing survives, although the patched siding on the west elevation is likely where the demolished wing was once attached.

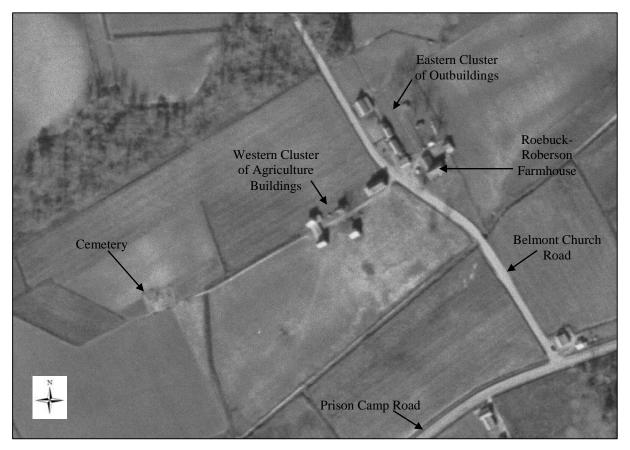


Figure 48: 1957 Aerial Showing the Roebuck-Roberson Farm (USGS 1957).



Photo 100: Southwest Oblique of the Horse Stable.

A barn is located east of the horse stable and north of the dwelling. Its form and massing are similar to the horse stable, which suggests that it was constructed around the same time (circa 1900) (Photo 101). This outbuilding was moved to its current site between 1993 and 1998 (Google Earth 1993, 1998; NC-HPO 1992n; USGS 1957). The 1957 aerial shows a cluster of medium- to large-sized agricultural outbuildings located immediately west of the farmhouse across Belmont Church Road (see Figure 48, p. 144). These structures are no longer extant; however, it is possible that this barn was moved from that location sometime after 1992 (NC-HPO 1992n; USGS 1957). The structural system, possibly heavy-timbered like the stable, retains some original weatherboard siding (north, south, and east elevations) and has replacement metal siding on the west elevation. It is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in metal with exposed, wooden rafters below along the eaves. There are two, single-leaf, wood doors on the primary (south) elevation: one on the first story and one on the second story. A secondary entrance is located on the north elevation. A one-story, one-bay, shedroofed wing extends from the west elevation. It is clad in metal and features a sliding metal door on the south elevation. Another one-story, shed-roofed wing is located on the north elevation.





Photo 101: Northwest (Left) and Southeast (Right) Obliques of the Barn.

Immediately south of the horse stable is a structure that was noted during the 1992 survey as a corn barn. In 1992, there were two corn barns; however, today only one, the southernmost, survives (NC-HPO 1992n). This one-story, circa-1900 structure is raised on brick piers and rough weatherboard siding covers the frame structural system on the north, south, and east elevations and metal sheets are affixed on the west elevation (Photo 102). The corn barn is capped by a side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafters on the east and west elevations. Fenestration comprises an off-centered, wooden, double-leaf door attached to the west elevation with metal strap hinges.



Photo 102: Southwest Oblique of the Corn Barn.

Situated just north of the driveway that extends from Belmont Church Road is a one-story, three-bay outbuilding that originally functioned as a garage; however, it is currently used as a machine shed. This circa-1950 structure is visible on a 1957 aerial photograph of the area (NC-HPO 1992n; USGS 1957). The post-in-ground frame system is set directly into the ground and is clad in v-crimp metal (Photo 103). A salt-box roof, also sheathed in v-crimp metal, covers the building; exposed wooden rafters are visible on the north elevation. Three rounded logs support the roof on the primary (north) elevation and create three open bays.



Photo 103: Southwest Oblique of the Garage/Machine Shed.

A circa-1980 mobile home is located north of the house and east of the corn barn. It is one-story in height and clad in metal (Photo 104). A low-pitched, arched roof sheathed in metal covers the structure. The main entrance is off-centered on the west elevation and is filled by a pressed wood door. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, metal, double-hung sash windows.



Photo 104: Southwest Oblique of the Trailer.

There are two wells located west of the farmhouse and south of the driveway (Photo 105). One was covered by a rock-shaped cover; as such no information could be obtained about this object. The second well likely dates to the mid-twentieth century. It is circular in shape and made of poured concrete and is covered by a poured-concrete cap. During the 1992 survey, Donna Dodenhoff noted a well house; it is unknown around which well the house was situated (NC-HPO 1992n).



Photo 105: Two Wells, Looking East.

North of the house and south of the trailer is a circa-1940, one-story, two-bay shed (Photo 106). It is clad in v-crimp metal and is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in the same material. The primary entrance is off-centered on the south elevation. It is filled by a single-leaf, wooden door. A window, also on the south elevation, is covered by a sheet of metal. A one-story, shed-roofed wing extends from the west elevation.



Photo 106: Shed, Southwest Oblique.

On the west side of Belmont Church Road is the Roebuck family cemetery (Photo 107). Access to the cemetery was not permitted during the current survey; however, aerial imagery shows that it square in shape and contains several marked interments. A brick wall is visible from the public right-of-way. It likely dates to the mid- to late-nineteenth century.



Photo 107: Cemetery Brick Wall Beyond the Sage, Looking West.

Historic Context

The earliest confirmed owner of the Roebuck-Roberson House is James Albert Roebuck of Martin County; however, it is likely that the land was previously owned by his father, Thomas Holliday Roebuck (1814–1884) and Sally "Sarah" Ann Roberson (1815–1880) (North Carolina, Deaths 1884; U.S. Census 1840). Thomas H. Roebuck, a farmer and reverend, married Sally "Sarah" Ann Roberson (1815–1880) in April 1839 and settled permanently in Martin County (U.S. Census 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880). It is likely that

the Roebuck-Roberson house was built around the time of their marriage. Together they had 10 children, the youngest of which was James Albert Roebuck, born December 29, 1859 (North Carolina, Deaths 1931; U.S. Census 1880). In 1880, James and four older siblings resided with Thomas and Sarah in their Crossroads Township home (U.S. Census 1880). Between 1881 and 1883 just a few years before his death in 1884, Thomas sold two tracts of land to James, one that contained 60 acres and one that contained approximately 2 acres along the Greenville Road (MCDB DD:487). After James married in 1882, he and his wife, Elizabeth, had six children. In 1895, Elizabeth died at the age of 33; shortly thereafter, James married Amanda Magnolia Leggett (1876–1944), with whom he had nine more children (Find a Grave 2015b; U.S. Census 1900, 1910, 1920; York 2008:14). During the latenineteenth century, James acquired many tracts of land west of Church Cross Roads on the north and south sides of present-day prison Camp Road; however, he and Amanda continued to live on the family farm in the home place until around 1913 when they bought a house in Robersonville on Outterbridge Street (MCDB E-01:251; U.S. Census 1910, 1920).

As previously mentioned, James Albert Roebuck subdivided approximately 500 acres of his farmland into 11 parcels in 1918 (Martin County Plat Book 1:437). He grouped together a majority of the land—lots 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 10—and sold them to his cousin, J. Alexander Roebuck, and first cousins once removed, H. I. Roebuck and W.K. Roebuck (MCDB W-01:456).

J. Alexander Roebuck was born on February 28, 1852 to Raleigh A. Roebuck, brother to Thomas Holliday Roebuck, and Elizabeth Jane Taylor. He was a farmer and owned approximately 225 acres located 8 miles from Robersonville (MCPB 2:37). In 1875, at the age of 23, J. Alexander married Millie Frances Roebuck (U.S. Census 1880, 1900). Together they lived in the Robersonville Township near Church Cross Roads with their eight children, two of which were H.I. Roebuck and William Kenneth (W.K.) Roebuck (U.S. Census 1900, 1910). After James Albert sold the seven lots of land along the Williamston-Greenville Road to his cousins, it is likely that they operated the farmland and even lived in the Roebuck home place (MCPB 1:437). On July 10, 1926, J. Alexander Roebuck and H I. Roebuck sold their interest in the James Albert Roebuck farm to W.K. Roebuck, with the understanding that J. Alexander and Millie retained the right to life estate on the lot (MCDB E-02:23); however, by 1930, J. Alexander was widowed and owned a lot on 3rd Street in Robersonville and resided there with his daughter Millie J. Roberson (U.S. Census 1930).

Before he acquired the land from his father, W.K. Roebuck (born April 21, 1883) and his wife, Ida Bell Roebuck, rented a house in Pitt County, North Carolina and subsequently another house in the Crossroads Township of Martin County (U.S. Census 1900, 1910). After J. Alexander and H.I. Roebuck sold him the land, it is possible that W.K. and his family moved into the Roebuck home place and had tenant farmers living in the several secondary dwellings located elsewhere on the seven lots (approximately 300 acres) of James A. Roebuck land he owned. (Figure 49–Figure 50, p. 150).

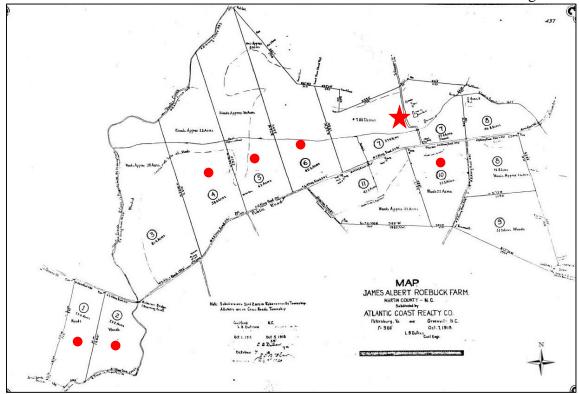


Figure 49: Map Showing the Division of the James Albert Roebuck Farm (MCDB W-01:456). The lots sold to J. Alexander, W.K., and H.I. Roebuck are noted with a red circle. The lot (lot 7) on which the home place is situated is noted by the red star.

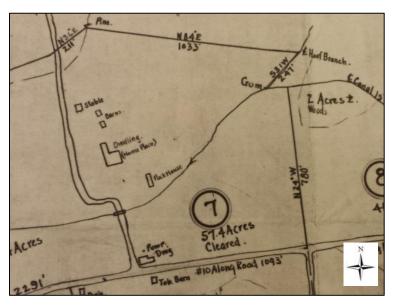


Figure 50: Detail of the Roebuck Dwelling on Lot 7 of the 1918 James Albert Roebuck Farm Division (MCDB W-01:456)

W.K. Roebuck owned and worked these tracts until November 22, 1963, when he sold lots 7 and 10 of the James A. Roebuck farm to his daughter, Emma Viola Roberson (MCDB O-07:83). Lot 7 spanned both sides of what is now known as Belmont Church Road and included the home place, tenant house, and a family cemetery and likely included a pump, two barns, a stable, and a packhouse; lot 10 measures 27.5 acres and contained a tenant house and a tobacco barn (MCPB 1:437).

Emma Viola was born on December 18, 1911 and married David Roberson, a farmer born on July 22, 1911 to John Henry and Virginia Warren Roberson (North Carolina Death Records 80:153). As early as 1988, David and Emma decided to subdivide lot 7 and had a plat drawn. They divided the portion of lot 7 located immediately northeast of the intersection of Belmont Church Road and Prison Camp Road into two lots. Lot 1 contained 14.3 acres and Lot 2 contained 2.5 acres as well as the Roebuck-Roberson home place and associated outbuildings. Nearly two years after David's death in 1997, Emma Viola sold lot 2, including the home place, to her son, Ricky Lee Roberson (MCDB T-16:530; North Carolina Death Records 80:153). Emma died on September 29, 2009 (North Carolina Death Records 92:148). Ricky Lee Roberson continues to own, operate, and live on the lot today.

Evaluation

The Roebuck-Roberson Farm dates to circa 1840 and was likely constructed by Thomas Holliday Roebuck. At this time, it was a two-story, side-hall building later expanded to become a central-hall plan. The house and farm came to be associated with Thomas's son, James Albert Roebuck, who owned the land until the 1910s . At that time, James sold the his farm to his cousin, J. Alexander Roebuck, and first cousins once removed, W. K. and H.I. Roebuck. The farm got its "Roberson" connection when the land was sold to J. Alexander Roebuck's granddaughter, Emma Viola Roberson. The farm continues to be owned by a member of the Roberson family.

The Roebuck-Roberson Farm retains integrity of location as the house and surviving outbuildings appear to be in their original location, with the exception of one barn that was moved to its current location in the mid 1990s. The farm has a moderate- to low-level of workmanship and materials; although the buildings retains pieces of exterior, historic architectural fabric, such as the decorative chimneys and the early-1920s, Craftsman-style influenced porch, much was removed, replaced, or covered with vinyl since 1992. The complex retains some integrity of design, as all of additions to the house are historic and are typical alterations to an antebellum farmhouse. The Roebuck-Roberson Farm has a high level of setting, feeling, and association integrity; it continues to function as a farm and is surrounded by agricultural fields and historic roadways with relatively little modern development.

Although it was constructed later than the Roebuck-Roberson house, a good example of a surviving farm with associated outbuildings is the W. W. Griffin Farm (MT0102) on Wendell Griffin Farm near Williamston in Martin County. The primary resource is a two-story, three-bay farmhouse constructed around 1902. The building, clad in weatherboard

siding, retains its original six-over-six, wood-frame windows, paneled door, sidelights with frosted glass, and wooden, carved, architrave trim (Photo 108). This building has a one-story porch on the façade and an ell on the rear elevation. In addition, the farm has a storage shed (circa 1920), machinery shed (circa 1970), corn crib (circa 1900) and attached garage (circa 1940) and machinery shed (circa 1960), cotton barn (circa 1910), hay barn (circa 1940), secondary dwelling (1994), and a well (circa 1930). Furthermore, the W. W. Griffin Farm retains a contributing agricultural landscape—including a cultivated field with a wooded border, a dirt farm lane, and two vineyards—which also contributes to the integrity of the farmstead. In 2001, the farm was listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for agriculture and Criterion C for its notable architectural style (Keane 2001).





Photo 108: Dwelling (Left) and Outbuildings (Right) of the W. W. Griffin Farm (MT0102)

Another great example of a surviving farmstead is the Bowen Farm (MT0626) (discussed in further detail on page 21). This nearby farm, located northwest of the Roebuck-Roberson Farm on Prison Camp Road, retains many historic outbuildings including a potato barn, tobacco barns (one clay and the remaining wood frame), several barns and stables, a chicken coop, machine shed, and a well and well house (Photo 109, p. 153). The Bowen Farm is a comprehensive early-twentieth century farm complex that represents many facets of Martin County farming.





Photo 109: Dwelling (Left) and Associated Outbuildings (Right) of the Bowen Farm (MT0626)

There are two types of outbuildings associated with antebellum farmsteads: domestic and agricultural. Domestic outbuildings tended to be in close proximity to the house and included outbuildings such as a kitchen, smoke house, potato house, wash house, wood shed, and privy. The agricultural outbuildings were often farther away from the main house and included crop or farm specific outbuildings such as barns, corn cribs/barns, stables, slave/tenant housing (Butchko 1998:58–59).

On a 1918 map of the property, there are several outbuildings associated with the Roebuck-Roberson Farm including a stable, two barns, and a packhouse (MCDB W-01:456). By 1957, the complex extended to both sides of Belmont Church Road and comprised approximately 15 outbuildings, both domestic and agricultural. As of 1992–1993, many of the agricultural buildings located west of Belmont Church Road were no longer extant (NC-HPO 1992n). Those remaining included a horse stable, two corn barns, pump house, machine shed, cemetery, garage, and smokehouse/carbide house survived. Today, the farm is made up of two wells (no pump house), one corn barn, garage, cemetery, horse stable, one relocated barn and a trailer.

According to the National Register Bulletin, "Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes":

Many rural properties contain landscape characteristics related to agricultural land uses and practices. Eligibility for significance in agriculture on a local level depends on several factors. First, the characteristics must have served or resulted from an important event, activity, or theme in agricultural development as recognized by the historic contexts for the area. Second, the property must have had a direct involvement in the significant events or activities by contributing to the area's economy, productivity, or identity as an agricultural community. Third, through historic landscape characteristics, the property must cogently reflect the period of time in which the important events took place (McClelland et al. 1999).

The Roebuck-Roberson Farm is one of many surviving farmsteads within the Crossroads Township; furthermore, within the last 30 years, the farm has lost many of its historic associated outbuildings. This resource does not have an important association with Martin County agriculture. Within this region, there are surviving farm complexes that better exemplify the area's agricultural trends and practices. The extant landscape surrounding the farmhouse reflects continued agricultural use over time, but does not retain a concentration of historically significant agricultural patterns or farm buildings to merit eligibility for the NRHP under Criterion A. For these reasons, the Roebuck-Roberson Farm is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). The people that owned or resided in the house are not known to have made significant contributions to area history and as a result this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

There are several excellent examples of antebellum farms in Martin County that are architectural similar to the Roebuck-Roberson Farm. For example, the dwelling at the NRHP-listed Sherrod Farm (MT0099) is an antebellum farmhouse that was adapted throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The two-story, five-bay, single-pile house was constructed in the early-nineteenth century in the Federal style and after 1843, a one-story, Greek Revival-style portico was constructed to the façade. At the end of the nineteenth century, the owners expanded the one-story, rear ell to be two stories in height (Little and Sumner 1984).

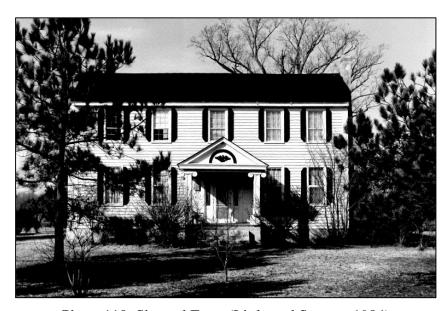


Photo 110: Sherrod Farm (Little and Sumner 1984)

A nearby example of an antebellum farmhouse that has good integrity is the Wynn Home Place (MT0384) (for an at-length discussion, see page 83). This story-with-a-jump, single-

family dwelling was constructed around 1845 and is set on a continuous brick foundation. The frame structural system is clad in weatherboard. The house retains much of its historic architectural fabric including: six-over-six and four-over four (on the second story), woodframe, double-hung sash windows, wooden window surrounds, a wooden, paneled door with sidelights, and wooden corner boards. Furthermore, it retains many examples of both domestic and agricultural outbuildings including a smokehouse, chicken coop, tobacco barn, corn barn, and mule barn.



Photo 111: Dwelling of the Wynn Home Place.

Since 1992, the house at the Roebuck-Roberson Farm has experienced a recent loss of original and historic exterior original and historic features. During the 1992 survey, notable historic architectural elements included: weatherboard, wood-frame windows, side lights, wooden, double leaf door, and bored saw tooth cornice on the gable ends (NC-HPO 1992n). Since that time, all of these elements have either been covered in vinyl siding or completely removed and replaced with new. This resource has a loss of architectural integrity as a result of the major changes to the exterior; therefore, it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). The Roebuck-Roberson Farm is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, as it is not eligible under any criteria or criteria considerations, the Roebuck-Roberson Farm is **recommended not eligible for the NRHP**.

MT0371: Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse

Date of Construction: Circa 1840 Modifications: Circa 1920

8709 Prison Camp Road Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5734-44-4180

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is located approximately 1.2 miles southwest of Church Cross Roads in the Crossroads Township vicinity in Martin County, North Carolina. The resource is situated directly southeast of Prison Camp Road about 0.3 miles southwest of the intersection of Prison Camp Road and Belmont Church Road. While the resource rests on a parcel that was formerly much larger, the current parcel measures approximately 48 acres. A circa-1980 dwelling unrelated to the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse sits on the 48 acres (Figure 51, p. 157). A manicured grass lawn, sparsely dotted with mature deciduous and coniferous trees, covers the parcel which can only be accessed by foot as no driveway associated with the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is extant. However, a gravel driveway extends southeast toward the late-twentieth century dwelling south of the primary dwelling. The façade faces northwest toward the road.

The Carson-Roebuck farmhouse is a one-story, three-bay dwelling (Photo 112, p. 158). During the current survey, interior access was not granted; therefore, no details can be ascertained. However, a survey completed by Donna Dodenhoff in 1992 provides information pertaining to the interior of the dwelling. In her notes, Dodenhoff describes the dwelling as having "the hall-parlor plan characteristic of modestly scaled vernacular dwellings through the antebellum period. An enclosed winder stair rises from the parlor. The house is extended by both rear shed room and enclosed porch and breezeway that provide access to a one-room kitchen building" (NC-HPO 1992o). Dodenhoff also notes the Greek Revival features in the dwelling including mantels and doors (NC-HPO 1992o).

A brick-pier foundation with concrete-block infill supports what is likely a wood-frame structural system clad in vinyl siding. The house is capped by a side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. Results from the 1992 survey state that rake boards adorned the flush gable ends (NC-HPO 1992o). These have since been replaced by a three-part vinyl cornice. An exterior-end brick chimney is flush against the northeast elevation.

The primary entrance—a single-leaf wood door covered by a metal and glass storm door—is centered on the façade. Located on the southwest and northwest elevations are six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood windows with unadorned surrounds. Other fenestration includes four-over-four, double-hung-sash, wood windows with vinyl surrounds and wood sills on the

northeast elevation and the gable of the southwest elevation. A secondary entrance pierces the southeast elevation. It is filled with a single-leaf door covered in vinyl siding.

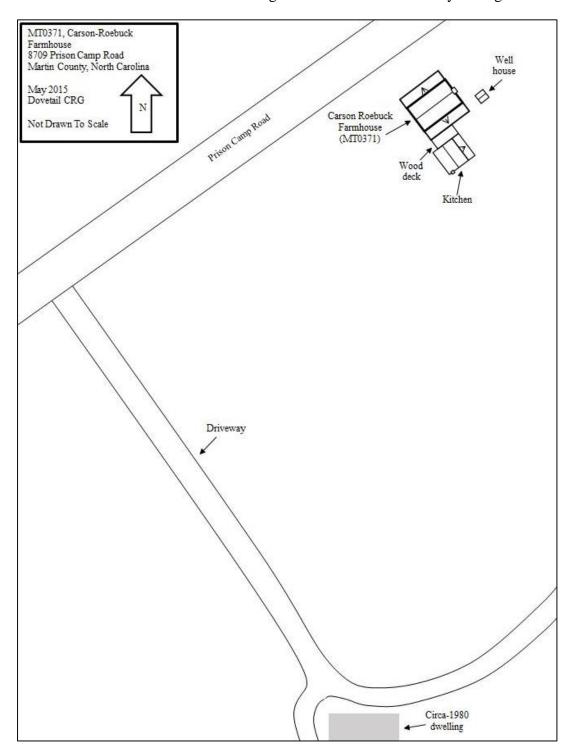


Figure 51: Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse (MT0371) Site Plan.



Photo 112: Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, West Oblique.

A one-story porch spans the northwest elevation (Photo 113, p. 158). It rests on a brick-pier foundation filled with concrete blocks and the v-crimp metal sheathed shed roof rests on squared wood posts. As noted by the findings in the 1992 survey, the porch was likely added in the 1920s. The porch roof exhibits exposed rafter tails with birdsmouth notching on the northwest elevation and a small concrete-block staircase provides access.



Photo 113: Façade (Northwest Elevation) of the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse.

Featured on the southeast elevation is a one-story extension (Photo 114). According to Dodenhoff's 1992 survey, a breezeway connected the main portion of the dwelling to a single-room kitchen just southeast of the dwelling (NC-HPO 1992o). The breezeway has since been removed, and a wood deck supported by square wood posts, covered by asphalt paper has been added.



Photo 114: Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, Southwest Elevation

Prior to the 1960s, the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse had numerous dependencies (USGS 1964). A 1957 aerial shows the farm contained approximately seven outbuildings. Although limited information is available regarding the buildings, it is likely that some were agriculture outbuildings, as the farmhouse was historically surrounded solely by agricultural fields (USGS 1957). One is known to have been a smokehouse. As late as 1992, a heavy timber-framed smokehouse was located southeast of the dwelling. It has since been demolished (NC-HPO 1992).

The kitchen, located directly south of the dwelling, is a one-story, one-bay building (Photo 115). Typical of tenant houses throughout the region, kitchens were often added later (Bryant 1922:54). According to the 1992 survey, this kitchen was likely added in the 1920s (NC-HPO 1992o). The building rests on a brick pier foundation with concrete block infill. The exterior walls are clad in vinyl siding and covered by a low-pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. The original brick chimney remains flush against the southeast elevation. The primary entry, a single-leaf door covered in vinyl siding, is located on the northeast elevation. Off-centered on the southeast elevation is a double-leaf door covered by vinyl siding. A one-story porch extends from the kitchen's northeast elevation. It rests on concrete blocks and is supported by square, wood posts. A shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with exposed rafter tails covers the porch. Since the porch exhibits similar construction methods and building materials as the porch on the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, it can be deducted that the porch on the kitchen was added in the 1920s (NC-HPO 1992o).



Photo 115: Detached Kitchen, Northeast Elevation.

A one-story circa-1920 pumphouse sits directly east of the dwelling (Photo 116). The non-visible foundation and structural are covered by vinyl-siding cladding. The pumphouse is covered by a gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal.



Photo 116: Pumphouse, South Oblique.

Historic Context

The earliest confirmed owner of the Carson-Roebuck House is James Albert Roebuck, son of Thomas Holliday Roebuck (1814–1884) and Sally "Sarah" Ann Roberson (1815–1880) (North Carolina, Deaths 1880, 1884; U.S. Census 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880). Thomas H. Roebuck, a farmer, married Sarah in April 1839 and settled permanently in Martin County, North Carolina. Together they had 10 children, the youngest of which was James Albert Roebuck, born December 29, 1859 (North Carolina, Deaths 1859; U.S. Census 1880). In 1880, James and four older siblings resided with Thomas and Sarah in their Crossroads Township house (U.S. Census 1880). After James married in 1882, he and his wife Elizabeth had six children; over several decades he acquired many tracts of land around Church Cross Roads. In 1895, Elizabeth died at the age of 33. Shortly thereafter James married Amanda Magnolia Leggett (1876–1944) with whom he had nine more children (Find a Grave 2015b; U.S. Census 1900, 1910, 1920; York 2008:14). James and Amanda lived on the family farm near Church Cross Roads until around 1913, at which time they bought a house in Robersonville on Outterbridge Street next to his brother, Edwin B. Roebuck (MCDB E-01:251; U.S. Census 1910, 1920).

In 1918, three years after he purchased the lot in Robersonville, James Albert Roebuck subdivided approximately 500 acres of his farmland into 11 parcels (Figure 52, p. 162) (Martin County Plat Book [MCPB] 1:437). Lot number 11 (Figure 53, p. 162), which contained about 42.2 acres and a dwelling, pack house, barn, and the footprint of two other buildings, was deeded to Ferdinanda or "Nander" Little (MCDB Y-01:26). Although the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse was constructed as a circa-1840 farmhouse with the hall-and-parlor plan—a typical dwelling form in county at the time—it was likely used as a tenant house beginning in the early-twentieth century.

Tenant farm systems were set up post-Civil War in lieu of the slave system. While originally created for freed slaves, the tenant system boomed among the white population in the latenineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Land owners with large amounts of land and crops including cotton and tobacco would lease portions of their land to be lived on and worked by tenants. By the 1920s, approximately half of North Carolina farms were running on the tenant system (Bailey 1922:110–111). The buildings constructed for these tenants were typically a "two-room cabin, with perhaps a kitchen built on as an after-thought [...] in some cases there are one or two unfinished attic rooms making a story and a half in all" (Bryant 1922:54).

Due to Ferdinanda's outstanding debt, the property was conveyed to J.C. Smith, trustee the same year she purchased the lot—1918 (MCDB O-01:494). On December 8, 1921, R.H. Hargrove, Earnest Carson (1885–1960), and the Atlantic Coast Realty Company, a corporation of the state of North Carolina, placed the highest bid on the property, winning it for the price of \$3,100 (Find a Grave 2015c). The property's interest was divided among the three parties with R.H. Hargrove and Ernest Carson equally received 15.8 percent undivided interest and the Atlantic Coast Realty Company received an undivided interest of 66.4 percent (MCDB F-02:446).

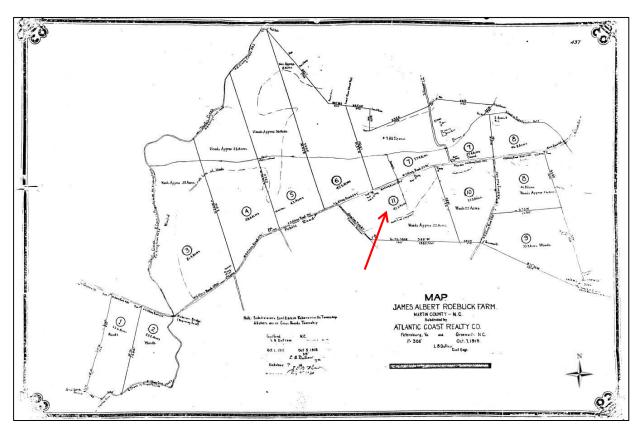


Figure 52: Map Showing the Division of the James Albert Roebuck Farm (MCDB W-01:456). The lot sold to Ferdinanda (Nander) Little is noted with a red arrow.

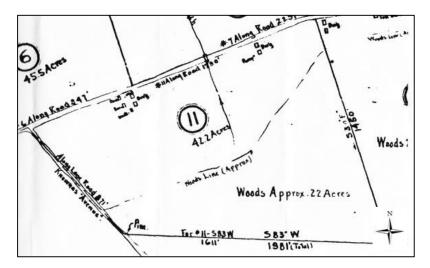


Figure 53: Detail of the Carson-Roebuck House on Lot 11 of the 1918 James Albert Roebuck Farm Division (MCDB W-01:456).

While Ernest and his wife, Pearl G. Carson, owned at least a portion of the property from 1921 to 1939, census records show that the couple lived in neighboring Pitt County possibly indicating that the property was still being used as a tenant farm (U.S. Census 1920, 1930, 1940).

On December 22, 1938, the Atlantic Coast Realty Company deeded its portion of the property's interest to the Virginia Carolina Land company, a Virginia corporation based out of Petersburg, Virginia (MCDB W-02:429). Mae Krider Hargrove, daughter of R.H. Hargrove, conveyed her father's interest to Ernest Carson for the sum of \$425 (MCDB W-03:502). After Earnest Carson obtained the entirety of the undivided interest, he and his wife Pearl G. Carson, who continued to reside in Pitt County, deeded lot 11 to David L. Roberson and his wife Viola Roberson, for \$2,000 on November 11, 1939 (MCDB U-03:365). The Robersons only owned the property for four years before they sold it back to a descendant of the original Roebuck owners, W.K. Roebuck (born April 21, 1883) and his wife, Ida Bell Roebuck for the sum of \$500 (MCDB G-04:347; U.S. Census 1900, 1910).

It is likely that the property continued to be used as a tenant farm as W.K. Roebuck and his wife owned all of the surrounding property. However, it is possible that they resided at the more improved Roebuck Home Place (MT0372) north of the Carson-Roebuck House while they acted as overseers to the various tenant houses on their land (MCDB G-04:347).

After owning the property for an extensive period of time, Ida Bell Roebuck passed away and W.K. Roebuck conveyed lot 11 to his daughter, Larue Roebuck Crandell in 1963. She owned the property until 1980 (MCDB O-07:81, R-10:211). It is unknown whether Larue and her husband, J.R. Crandell, resided on the property during this time. During their ownership, the Crandells sold a portion of their land to H.T. Highsmith and his wife, Brownie R. Highsmith, H.M. Fulcher and his wife Gertrude M. Fulcher, R.B. Wilson and his wife, Elva W. Wilson, and F.H. & W. Construction Company, who subdivided the land to create a development with the understanding that the land would be used solely for residential purposes (Figure 54). This development, "Green Acres Estate," is composed of 11 small rectangular parcels of land directly south of Prison Camp Road (MCDB B-09:299, C-09:127). On these tracts, Ranch-style and Minimal Traditional-style, single-family dwellings were constructed. They continue to be inhabited today. This portion of land was deeded to Elisha Crandell and his wife Melinda H. Crandell six years later (MCDB F-10:569).

In 1980, the remainder of lot 11 was conveyed from Larue Crandell to Worley M. Warren, Tyler B. Warren, and his wife Susan T. Warren (MCDB R-10:211). The property underwent little to no change during the 1980s and was conveyed to the current owners, Thomas C. and Lillie E. Volk, on December 19, 1989. At the time of the conveyance, Thomas and Lillie resided in Poway, California, indicating the continued use of the property as a rental farm (MCDB E-13:208). Currently, the property is under the same ownership but does not appear to be inhabited.

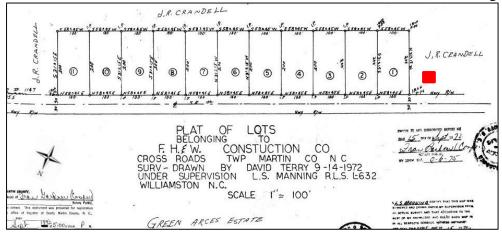


Figure 54: Plat Showing the Portion of Land Sold to the F.H. & W Construction Company with the footprint of the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse Noted in Red (MCPB 8:31).

Evaluation

The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse was built under the ownership of James Albert Roebuck in the mid-nineteenth century as a farm dwelling with an extended hall-and-parlor plan. It was likely converted into a tenant house after the Civil War. The building has not been moved and remains in its original location therefore rendering it with a high-level of integrity of location. The dwelling has received moderate alterations including the addition of a front porch, construction of a detached kitchen, and completion of a nearby well house in the 1920s, as well as concrete-block infill at a later date. Additionally, the original siding has been replaced by vinyl siding. The form of the building continue to express a sense of its history; however, modifications to the house and landscape somewhat alter this aspect. As a result, its historic integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling have diminished. The landscape and agricultural setting of the house have also been modified. This resource once functioned as a farmstead, complete with several outbuildings. Those buildings are no longer extant. Instead, mid- and late-twentieth century single-family dwellings have been constructed on the once-large agricultural parcel. Therefore, there is a loss of integrity of setting and association.

The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse was constructed with a hall-and-parlor plan, a form that is common throughout rural Martin County. Other examples of this form are located throughout the county and include the Alexander Mobley House (MT0385), a dwelling located at 1430 Reddicks Grove Church Road, and a house on Bailey Road.

The Alexander Mobley House (MT0385) exhibits a similar extended hall-and-parlor plan (Photo 117, p. 165). The one-story, side-gabled coastal cottage was built around 1840. The dwelling is situated on the south side of Prison Camp Road approximately 2 miles northeast of the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse. The Alexander Mobley House has experienced deterioration and alterations including the removal of the porch floor, the sagging of the porch roof, the construction of various additions, and the construction of numerous non-

contributing outbuildings immediately surrounding the building. For further discussion, see the detailed write-up on page 71.



Photo 117: Façade (North Elevation) of the Alexander Mobley House.

The dwelling at 1430 Reddicks Grove Church Road is a one-story, extended hall-and-parlor plan likely constructed in the mid-nineteenth century (Photo 118, p. 165). The dwelling rests on brick piers and is clad in weatherboard siding. A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal covers the dwelling. An exterior-end brick chimney is flush against the north elevation. Fenestration includes six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood-framed windows. A porch supported by rounded wood posts and covered by a hipped roof spans the façade. While a later addition extends from the rear, the dwelling contains many similar features to the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse.



Photo 118: House, 1430 Reddicks Grove Church Road.

Another example of an extended hall-and-parlor dwelling in Martin County is located on Bailey Road (Photo 119, p. 166). This resource, a one-story, seven-bay, single-family dwelling, was likely constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. It contains numerous modifications and additions; however the overall form of the dwelling remains intact. The resource rests on a concrete-block foundation, and its structural system, likely wood frame, is clad in vinyl siding. A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof covers the dwelling. All original windows have been replaced. Similar to the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, a window is featured in the gable end. A one-story porch spans the non-symmetrical façade.



Photo 119: House, Bailey Road.

On the evaluation of a resource under Criterion A, the NPS states that "mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well" (NPS 2015). While there are no coastal cottages listed in the NRHP within Martin County, there are two known examples in nearby counties which were listed on the NRHP under Criterion A: the Cullen and Elizabeth Jones House (CO0258) and the Futral Family Farm (ON0944). The Futral Family Farm is eligible for the NRHP as it exemplifies of one of the only surviving farms associated with naval stores production and agricultural economies of the area (Pezzoni 1989). The Cullen and Elizabeth Jones House retains two contributing outbuildings which aided in the farm's agricultural production (Van Dolsen 2006).

The Carson Roebuck Farmhouse is one of many antebellum farmhouses in rural Martin County. Although it continues to be surrounded by some farmland, the original outbuildings are no longer extant and late-twentieth century dwellings have been constructed on the parcel. Little physical evidence remains that exemplifies the connection between the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse and its association with historic agriculture. This resource has no known important association with a significant historic event, therefore it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). Roebucks and Carsons are not known to

have made significant contributions to area history and as a result this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse was constructed as an extended hall-and-parlor farmhouse—a form that was commonly built in Martin County during the mid-nineteenth century and continues to dot the landscape. On the evaluation of a resource under Criterion C, the NPS 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, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (NPS 2015).

Although not in Martin County, four notable hall-and-parlor, coastal cottage are listed on the NRHP under Criterion C: the Barker House (VN0381), the House on Wagstaff Farm (PR0295), the Mag Blue House (SC0014), and the Dickson House (DP0022). Some of these hall-and-parlor, coastal cottages are listed on the NRHP under Criterion C and in some cases, Criterion A for agriculture.

The Barker House (VN0381) was listed on the NRHP in 2014 (Photo 120, p. 168). While constructed earlier than the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse, in 1764, the Barker House exhibits a similar hall-and-parlor plan. The building retains many of its original features including a stone, exterior-end chimney and portions of the original dry-laid stone foundation (Fearnbach 2014).

The house on Wagstaff Farm (PR0295) is another example of a hall-and-parlor coastal cottage (Photo 120, p. 168). The dwelling was listed on the NRHP in December 2004. The house retains some of its original weatherboard siding, original fieldstone foundation, and large, flanking stone chimneys. While the building has lost all contributing outbuildings, it maintains its original agricultural setting (Phillips 2004).

Listed on the NRHP in 1982, the Mag Blue House (SC0014) is an excellent example of a coastal cottage (Photo 120, p. 168). Not only does the Mag Blue House remain in its original agricultural setting, the building retains several contributing outbuildings. Additionally, the dwelling features its original front porch and porch supports, flanking chimneys, and the façade's original sheathing (Butchko et al. 1982).

In 1987 the Dickson House (DP0022) was listed on the NRHP (Photo 120, p. 168). The house contains an addition; however, the carpenter used sympathetic construction and similar building materials. Although the Dickson House has lost its chimney, a notable component to the integrity of the dwelling, it retains various characteristics which compensate for this loss including the original porch with its chamfered, tapered posts, interior and exterior unpainted pine sheathing, and main timbers. Furthermore, existing farm outbuildings including an 1850 corn crib and the unchanged agricultural landscape contribute to the building's significance. Lastly, the Dickson House remains exceedingly well kept and in continued ownership of the Dickson family (Dickinson 1987).

These examples portray more integral original features including large, elaborate chimneys, porch supports, and unaltered foundations (Photo 120, p. 168). In contrast, the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse has lost its original chimney and porch, defining features of these coastal cottages. Additionally, the house has undergone exterior alterations including foundation and siding replacement. Although the building's size, shape, and form remain intact, the exterior modifications have resulted in a loss of historic integrity. Because the house is not an outstanding example of the hall-and-parlor-plan in Martin County, the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.









Photo 120: Barker House (VN0381) (Top Left) House on Wagstaff Farm (PR0295) (Top Right) Mag Blue House (SC0014) (Bottom Left) Dickson House (DP0022) (Bottom Right) (Butchko et al. 1982; Dickinson 1987; Fearnbach 2014; Phillips 2004).

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 significant (NPS 2015). The Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Carson-Roebuck Farmhouse is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

MT1200: C.M. Wynn House

Date of Construction: Circa 1920 Modifications: Mid-twentieth century

10369 Prison Camp Road Robersonville, Martin County, North Carolina

PIN: 5723-87-8727

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



Architectural Description

The C.M. Wynn House, newly recorded as part of the current survey, is located on the south side of Prison Camp Road approximately 0.6 miles northeast of the intersection of Prison Camp Road and NC 903 within the Robersonville Township of Martin County, North Carolina. The lot on which the complex is situated comprises 188.42 acres. The buildings that make up this resource are situated on a small, manicured grass lawn surrounded on the east and south by agricultural fields (currently not in use) and on the west by a wooded area. A dirt driveway extends southeast from Prison Camp Road on the west side of the complex. Associated with this resource are six secondary resources, including a cistern, machine shed, shed, barn, and two agricultural outbuildings (Figure 55, p. 170). The primary resource faces north toward the road.

C.M. Wynn House is a one-and-a-half story, three-bay single-family dwelling constructed around 1920. A one-and-a-half story and a story-and-a-jump dwelling both have a usable living space within the slopping roof; however, a story-and-a-jump house features a slightly extended half-story wall above the top plate. The style and form of this house is common among early-twentieth-century residences throughout the rural regions of Martin County (Photo 121, p. 171). The building sits upon a brick foundation laid in a stretcher-bond configuration; built-in, metal vents are visible on the east and west elevations. It is of frame construction and clad by nailed weatherboard with wooden corner boards located at each corner. A moderately pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles covers the building. The eaves of the roof are lined with a wooden rake board on the north (primary) and south (rear) elevations and exposed rafters are visible on the east and west elevations. A hole in the roof is located on the east elevation. There are two, interior-slope, brick chimneys laid in a stretcher-bond configuration: one on the east elevation and one on the west elevation.

The main entry is centered on the north elevation and filled by a wooden, paneled door with five fixed lights at the top and an exterior metal storm door (Photo 122, p. 171). Other fenestration include single and paired, wood-frame, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. Visual evidence suggests that a full-size window was once located on the west elevation; however, it was replaced with a smaller, six-over-six, wood-frame double-hung sash window (Photo 123, p. 172). One side of the original wooden window frame remains.

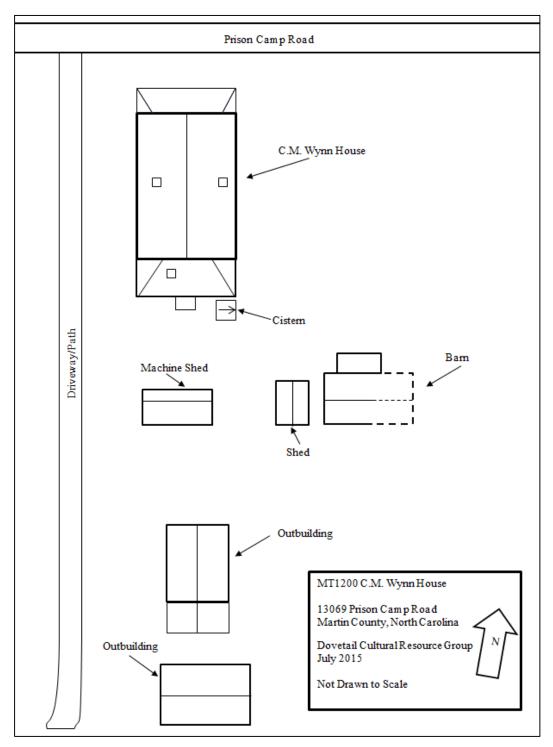


Figure 55: Site Plan of the C.M. Wynn House.



Photo 121: C.M. Wynn House, Northeast Oblique.

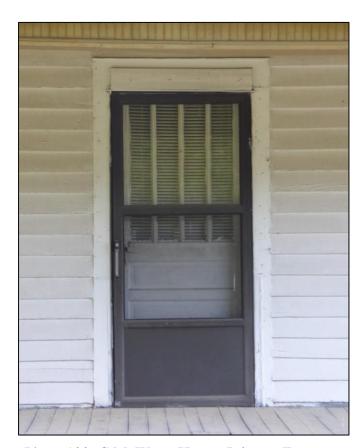


Photo 122: C.M. Wynn House, Primary Entrance.



Photo 123: C.M. Wynn House, West Elevation.

A one-story, three-bay porch extends from the north elevation (Photo 124). It is likely that this was constructed at the time the main building was erected or shortly thereafter. The porch has a brick-pier foundation with brick, stretcher-bond infill. Originally, access to the deck of the porch was gained by set of steps centered on the north elevation; however, they have been removed. A hipped roof sheathed in asphalt shingles and supported by square, wooden, tapered columns that extend to the base of the wooden fascia board covers the porch.



Photo 124: C.M. Wynn House, North Elevation.

A circa-1940, one-story addition extends from the south elevation. It is raised on a concrete-block foundation and frame structural system is clad in weatherboard (Photo 125). A hipped roof with exposed, wooden rafters on the south, east, and west elevations covers the additions. A tall, interior, brick chimney pierces the roof. A secondary entry, filed with a five-panel, wooden door, is located on the addition's south elevation. Additional fenestration include six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood-frame windows. Access to this entrance is a poured-concrete stoop and a step. Access to the house was not granted at this time.



Photo 125: C.M. Wynn House, Southwest Oblique.

Located immediately adjacent to the easternmost bay of the addition's south elevation is a circa-1930 cistern (Photo 126). The concrete-block structural system is covered by a shed roof sheathed in v-crimp metal. There is one opening secured by a wooden door on the west elevation.



Photo 126: Cistern, Southwest Oblique.

South of the dwelling is a one-story, two-bay, circa-1950 machine shed (Photo 127). The eastern half of the structure is open to act as a space to cover equipment. This framed portion is clad in widely spaced wooden boards and the northern elevation functions as a full-width entry with clipped corners. The western half is enclosed to function as a shed. This section is raised on a concrete-block foundation and is clad in weatherboard. A single-leaf, wooden door attached with metal strap hinges is situated on the north elevation. This machine shed is covered by a partially collapsed saltbox roof sheathed in asphalt shingles.



Photo 127: Machine Shed, Northwest Oblique.

Southeast of the house is a circa-1930 shed (Photo 128). The one-story, two-bay structure rests on concrete-block piers and the frame structural system is clad in weatherboard with patches of metal, wire, and asphalt paper to replace missing boards. A moderately pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal covers the building; wide, wooden boards cover the gable ends. An open entry is off-centered on the north elevation. Other fenestration includes a window void of sashes just east of the entry on the north elevation.



Photo 128: Shed, Northwest Oblique.

A circa-1920, partially collapsed barn is located southeast of the C.M. Wynn House resource (Photo 129). This two-story agricultural outbuilding rests on a concrete-block foundation and it features a frame structural system clad in sheets of corrugated metal. A side-gabled roof, sheathed in v-crimp metal, covers the building. The only surviving fenestration is a wood-frame window opening on the second story of the north (primary) elevation. A one-story, one-bay, shed-roofed awning sheathed in metal extends from the north elevation. The eastern half of the building is collapsed.



Photo 129: Barn, Northwest Oblique.

South of the C.M. Wynn house is a circa-1920 agricultural outbuilding accessed by a dirt path (Photo 130). This building has been heavily modified since its construction. The frame structural system, clad in weatherboard and sheets of metal, rests on a concrete-block foundation. There is one single-leaf, wooden door on the south elevation and a partially covered-over, single-leaf entry off-centered on the north elevation. A large, machine-entry is cut into the west elevation. A one-story, side-gabled machine cover supported by squared pieces of timber and the roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal extends from the south elevation.



Photo 130: Outbuilding, Northwest Oblique.

A circa-1920 outbuilding is located south of the house. During the current survey it was almost entirely covered over in thick vegetation. It has a frame structural system clad in metal. The building is covered by a gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal (Photo 131).



Photo 131: Outbuilding Overgrown with Vegetation, North Elevation (Left) and Northwest Oblique (Right).

Historic Context

The earliest known owner of the land on which the C.M. Wynn House is situated was Horace M. Pearcy, who obtained two tracts of land in the area: one he purchased from William A. Roberson that contained 4 acres and one from Irvin Keel that measured 150 acres (MCDB X:242–245).

Horace M. Pearcy was born December 21, 1847 in Pitt County to John and Margaret Pearcy; he married Susan Talitha Keel (1853–1912) on February 21, 1875 (Find a Grave 2015f; Pitt County Marriage Register 1873). The two lived most of their adult lives in the Robersonville Township of Martin County. It is possible that Horace and Susan lived in a building noted on a 1938 plat as "old Building," which was set back from the public road along a path (Figure 56, p. 177) (MCPB 3B:258). Two years after the death of his wife in 1912, Horace sold 150 acres of land for \$1,600 to his daughter, Lela (sometimes referred to as Leila), and her husband, C.M. Wynn (MCDB E-01:580). This deed was subject to the life estate of Horace; he reserved the right to use, occupy, and enjoy the land as long as he lived (MCDB E-01:580). He continued to live on the land with his daughter's family until his death on May 22, 1922 (North Carolina Death Records 9:294).

Columbus Mack Wynn was the son of John Wynn and Alvania Davenport of Pitt County. He married Lela Pearcy, born December 19, 1888 (North Carolina Death Records 4:201, 25:142). Columbus worked as a farmer on his land and it is likely that the current dwelling, now known as the C.M. Wynn House, was constructed during his ownership; he and Lela lived at the house on the Greenville-Williamston Road with their six children (U.S. Census 1910, 1920). Their 196-acre lot was mostly composed of wooded areas and only 50 acres of cleared area. In addition to the dwelling, the family had several other structures on the lot,

including a stable, an "old building," and three buildings noted in a 1939 map as "TH," which likely stood for tenant house (MCPB 3B:258). Lela died of pneumonia at the age of 28 on January 24, 1917 and C.M. died on February 28, 1938 (North Carolina, Deaths 1917, 1938).

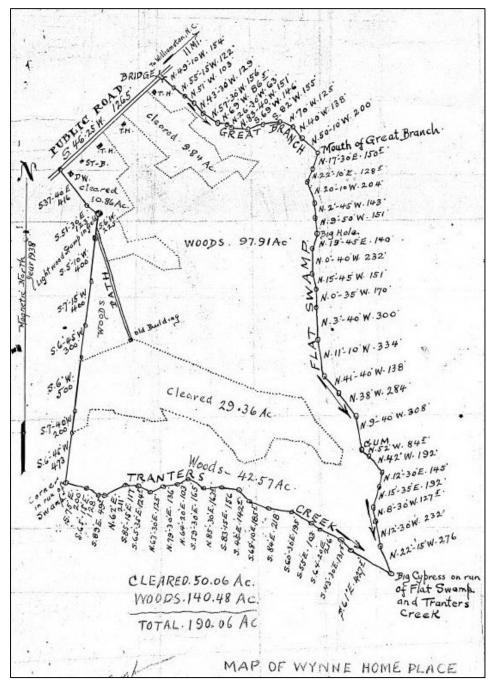


Figure 56: 1938 Map of the C.M. Wynn Home Place (MCDB 3B:258).

Following the death of Columbus, the 196-acre estate—made up of two smaller tracts—went to his children. On December 7, 1938, two of Columbus's children and their spouses, Mottis L. Wynn and wife Audrey Wynn, and Clero Taylor (nee Wynn) and husband, J.H. Taylor, sold their interest two tracts of land to their sisters, Mrs. Susie Hardy, Selma Wynn, Dallas Wynn, and Leon Wynn (North Carolina Death Records 4:201, 25:143; MCDB U-03:265). After what appears to be a court case, the house and land was sold at public auction. Dallas Wynn Peel, second oldest daughter of Columbus and Lela, was the highest bidder and purchased parcel for \$4,250 (MCDB U-03:265, Z-03:231). She and her husband, R.A. Peel only owned the land for three years. On October 17, 1942, they sold the 196-acre tract to W.C. and Mary W. House for \$100, who in turn sold the property four years later to Irvin Gold Keel (MCDB C-4:541).

Irvin G. Keel was born on April 25, 1907 (United States Social Security Death Index 1976). Before Irvin purchased the land and house, the he and his wife, Janie Peel Roberson (1910–1996) rented a dwelling in the Robersonville Township. Irvin and Janie owned the C.M. Wynn House and associated land for 34 years; on September 2, 1997, the Keels sold it to William Thomas Brown, Sr. and his son, William Thomas Brown, Jr. (MCDB V-008:92). The Brown family continues to own the land today.

Evaluation

The C.M. Wynn House is a one-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling constructed around 1920 in a form that is common for this region of Martin County. This resource is situated on a small manicured lawn surrounded by agricultural fields (currently not in use) and comprises the house and six secondary resources, which include a cistern, machine shed, shed, barn, and two agricultural outbuildings.

The C.M. Wynn House retains integrity of location; the house has not been moved, and the outbuildings constructed around the time of the house also appear to be in their original locations. In addition, integrity of materials and workmanship survives to a degree on the house's exterior as the building appears to retain many of its original materials. The complex has retained some integrity of design; although there is an addition to the rear of the primary building, it was constructed in a sympathetic way that does not negatively impact dwelling's original core. Furthermore, the house has experienced some deterioration, such as a hole in the roof. The C.M. Wynn House is surrounded by agricultural fields and wooded areas, as such, it retains integrity of setting. Although the building is currently vacant, the complex is surrounded by fields and historic, agricultural outbuildings, although several have been modified or are in a deteriorated state. As such, the resource retains some integrity of feeling and association.

Martin County's rural roads are dotted with similar early-twentieth century, small- to medium-scale farms. One comparable property is located approximately 5 miles southeast of the C.M. Wynn House on the 3000 block of Leggett Mill Road. This one-story, front-gabled single-family dwelling likely dates to the early-twentieth century (Photo 132, p. 179). This

resource appears to retain many of its original materials and one outbuilding, a historic shed, located east of the dwelling.



Photo 132: House at 3000 block of Leggett Mill Road (Google Street View 2015).

Another nearby house that is similar to the C.M. Wynn resource is located on the 2500 block of Archie Mobley Road, just north of its intersection with Leggett Mill Road. This building is a one-story, three-bay dwelling that is set on a brick foundation and covered by a front-gabled roof (Photo 133). The front-porch's hipped roof is supported by Craftsman-inspired square, tapered posts set on brick plinths. Surviving historic elements include the form/design, wood-frame, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows, and interior chimney. This early-twentieth-century house retains some associated resources including a machine shed, well, cistern, and agricultural outbuilding. Unlike the C.M. Wynn House complex, all of the secondary resources appear to be in good condition. This house on the 2500 block of Archie Mobley Road also differs from the C.M. Wynn House because it does not appear to show signs of neglect and deterioration.



Photo 133: House (Left) and Outbuilding (Right) at the 2500 block of Archie Mobley Road (Google Street View 2015).

Although the C.M. Wynn house is a farm and is representative of agricultural practices within Martin County, the complex itself did not play a significant role in early- to midtwentieth-century agriculture in the region. In addition, the house has lost some of its original agricultural outbuildings that are shown on a 1936 map. Since 1977, at least three secondary resources have been lost (USGS 1977). As such, the C.M. Wynn House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a historic resource to be considered eligible under Criterion B, it must be associated with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and who has "gained importance within his or her profession or group" (NPS 2015). The known owners and people that resided here are not considered individually significant and did not gain notable importance as farmers. For these reasons, the C.M. Wynn House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that 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, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The farmstead is composed of buildings constructed from circa 1920 to circa 1950, none of which represents the work of a master nor possesses high artistic values, nor represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may be, singly, undistinguished (NPS 2015). Furthermore, the building shows signs of deterioration, such as a hole in the roof. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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 significant (NPS 2015). The C.M. Wynn House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the C.M. Wynn House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

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