



**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

March 24, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kate Husband  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

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

SUBJECT: Grade, Drain, Base, & Pave SR 1527, Helton Road from End of Existing Pavement  
to the Intersection of SR 1528, Little Helton Road, PA 15-04-0032, Ashe County,  
ER 16-0009

Thank you for your letter of February 15, 2016, addressing the questions raised in our memorandum of February 2, 2016 concerning the proposed boundary of the Poindexter Blevins House and the potential of a Helton Rural Historic District. Having reviewed the information provided, we concur that the proposed boundaries for the Poindexter Blevins House appear appropriate and understand your decision to limit the area of potential effect/study area to the Army Corps of Engineers permit area.

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](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.



PAT McCRORY  
*Governor*

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON  
*Secretary*

February 15, 2016

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Department of Cultural Resources  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

RE: PA No. 15-04-0032, Grade, Drain, Base and Pave SR 1527 (Helton Road) from End of Existing Pavement to the Intersection of SR 1528 (Little Helton Road), ER 16-0009

Dear Renee,

Thank you for your response to the findings of the Historic Structures Survey Report for the above-referenced project. We concur with your statements regarding the eligibility of the Poindexter Blevins House, and agree it is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. Attached is the proposed National Register boundary for the property, which is a portion of the 93 acre tax parcel that includes the main dwelling, associated outbuildings, and agricultural fields associated with the property. The boundary follows the tax parcel lines to the northwest, north, and northeast, a small stream to the southeast, and a delineated boundary that includes an agricultural field that lies southwest of the main house and outbuildings. Omitted from the boundary is a large expanse of wooded property that does not reflect the historic agricultural use of the property from which it derives its significance. We plan to discuss the effects of the undertaking on this property relatively soon.

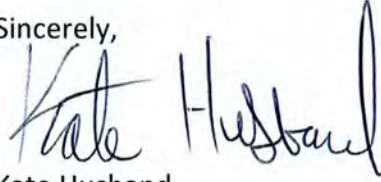
In your letter you propose an investigation to determine whether or not the Helton Rural Historic District should be expanded to include the Poindexter Blevins House and several other surveyed properties. While this may be an interesting study, it lies outside the scope of construction activities for this project. To clarify, the proposed improvements to Helton Road are state-funded and only extend from the end of existing pavement to SR 1528 as shown on the attached map. The Section 106 studies are only focused adjacent to any USACE permit areas, and this project does not extend to the Helton Rural Historic District. Therefore, we feel that NCDOT has



fulfilled its obligation to identify historic properties which may be affected by the proposed undertaking. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Historic Architecture Supervisor Mary Pope Furr at 919-707-6068. Thank you for your continued assistance.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Husband". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "K" and "H".

Kate Husband  
Historic Architecture Group



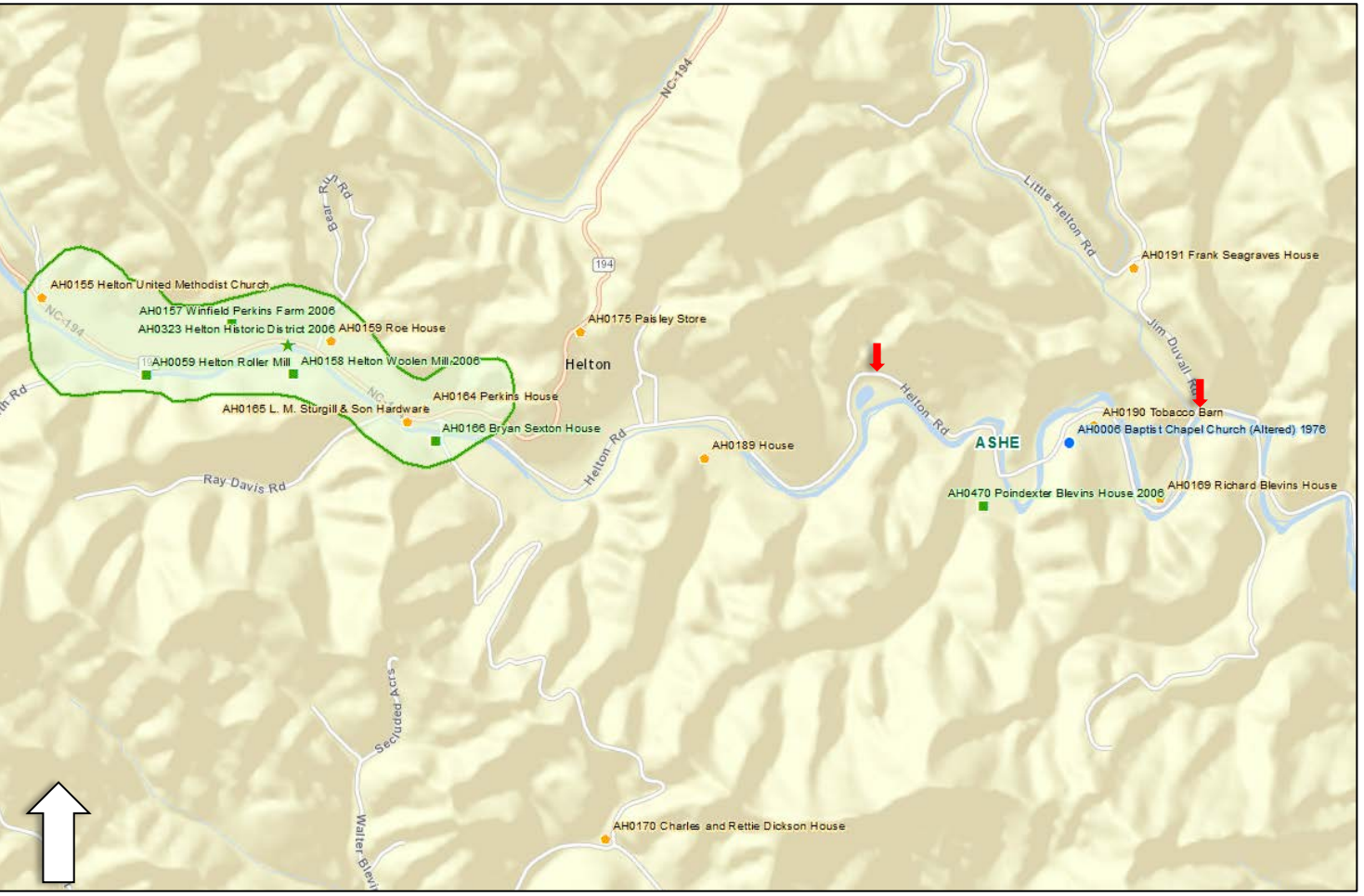
Original 93 acre parcel, Parcel ID 06251 117





**Proposed National Register Boundary, Poindexter Blevins House.**

Portion of Helton Road to be paved, section around Baptist Chapel Church and Tobacco Barn excluded from paving project, no disturbance area.







**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

February 2, 2016

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Kate Husband  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

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

**SUBJECT:** Historic Structures Survey Report for Grade, Drain, Base and Pave SR 1527 from  
End of Existing Pavement to SR 1528, PA 15-04-0032, Ashe County, ER 16-0009

Thank you for your memorandum of January 4, 2016, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and do not concur that the Poindexter Blevins House (AH0470) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. Rather, we believe the property is eligible for listing due to the following.

Regarding the application of vinyl siding on the rear portion of the house (primarily on the rear ell), it is important to note that several years ago the Osborne-Greer Farm in Ashe County was added to the Study List (SL) with the full knowledge that all of the windows had been replaced and vinyl siding added to the exterior. The property was added to the SL under Criterion C because the house and outbuildings are an excellent illustration of rural agricultural buildings in the area around Lansing. Thus, to discount the Poindexter Blevins House because it has vinyl siding and replacement windows on the rear is unwarranted, particularly when it also has a good collection of outbuildings. Furthermore, the author notes that neighbors report that the interior is largely unchanged from the time it was Study Listed. In other words, the character-defining features of a domestic agricultural complex in the area of Helton appear to be largely intact.

We also do not agree with the author's statement that "The historic secondary resources associated with the farmstead—the granary, barn, and wood shed—are undistinguished examples of their respective types." That they are not distinguished does not necessarily make them not eligible.

Regarding the properties to which he compares the Blevins House, two of the comps he includes are actually in or more related to Lansing rather than Helton. While they aren't terribly far apart as the crow flies, the topography of Ashe County results in two distinctly different communities. Furthermore, for the four comps pictured, he only discusses the dwellings, and does not indicate if any extant outbuildings at these other three properties affect the assessment. The comp depicted in Figure 24 actually furthers the case that the Poindexter Blevins House should be DOE'd. This comp appears to be fully sided in vinyl

with all new replacement windows and a modern porch and indications of a potentially larger, more modern addition on the rear elevation. In evaluating the Blevins House against these four other buildings, he's focusing on the structure's center-hall form and ornament, rather than the characteristics of all the buildings as they combine to create a domestic agricultural complex. Finally, the comps are all just surveyed-only, which means that, at the time of the 2005 architectural survey, none of these properties were considered worthy of Study List designation.

Finally, the Poindexter Blevins House is just over a mile east of the Study Listed Helton Historic District, with other surveyed properties nearby. Does this warrant reexamining the potential (very very rough) boundaries of the rural Helton Historic District (as was done recently in Watauga County)?

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](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS OF  
THE POINDEXTER BLEVINS HOUSE (AH 470),  
ASHE COUNTY

Grade, Drain, Base and Pave SR 1527 (Helton Road) from  
End of Existing Pavement to the Intersection of  
SR 1528 (Little Helton Road)  
Ashe County, North Carolina  
WBS No. 11C.005079

Prepared for:

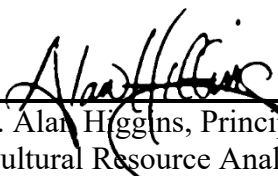
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Human Environment Unit  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1598

Prepared by:

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.  
P.O. Box 71220  
Richmond, Virginia 23255

S. Alan Higgins, M.S.  
Principal Investigator

November 2015

  
S. Alan Higgins, Principal Investigator  
Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

November 13, 2015

Date

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

Date



# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE POINDEXTER BLEVINS HOUSE (AH 470), ASHE COUNTY

## Grade, Drain, Base and Pave SR 1527 (Helton Road) from End of Existing Pavement to the Intersection of SR 1528 (Little Helton Road) Ashe County, North Carolina WBS No. 11C.005079

### I. INTRODUCTION

In October 2015, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA), conducted an intensive-level historic architectural analysis for the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in association with the project to Grade, Drain, Base and Pave SR 1527 (Helton Road) from the end of existing pavement to the intersection of SR 1528 (Little Helton Road) in Ashe County, North Carolina (WBS No.: 11C.005079). The goal of the historic architectural analysis was to evaluate the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of the property known as the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470), located on a 92.98 acre parcel at 1984 Helton Road in Ashe County (Figures 1 and 2). The property falls within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project, which extends 50 feet from the center of the existing road on each side from end to end of the project. CRA's investigation, completed between September 29 and October 2, 2015, included a combination of archival research, visual investigations, and photographic documentation of extant buildings and structures and their contextual setting.

CRA performed the historic architectural analysis in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974; Executive Order 11593; and Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 660-66 and 800 (as revised, 1999). The field research and report meet the requirements specified in the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation" (*Federal Register* 48: 190:44716-44742) (U.S. Department of the Interior 1983), as well NCDOT's *Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines* (2003) and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (NC HPO) *Architectural Survey Manual: Practical Advice for Recording Historic Resources and Digital Photography for Historic Property Surveys and National Register Nominations, Policy and Guidelines* (2012). Based on archival research and a detailed physical investigation, CRA recommends that the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470) is not individually eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, B, C, or D due to a loss of integrity.

### II. RESEARCH DESIGN

#### *Archival Research*

Prior to fieldwork, CRA conducted background research to gain understanding of the development of Ashe County. CRA consulted the NC HPO's online HPOWEB GIS Service to ascertain the level of existing documentation of the property or of others within the area that might share a similar context. Archival research also included an investigation at the NC HPO Western Office and an inspection of archival resources, published histories, historical aerial images, topographic quadrangle maps, and historical map collections available through facilities, such as the Ashe County Public Library, and resources such as the North Carolina Maps project.

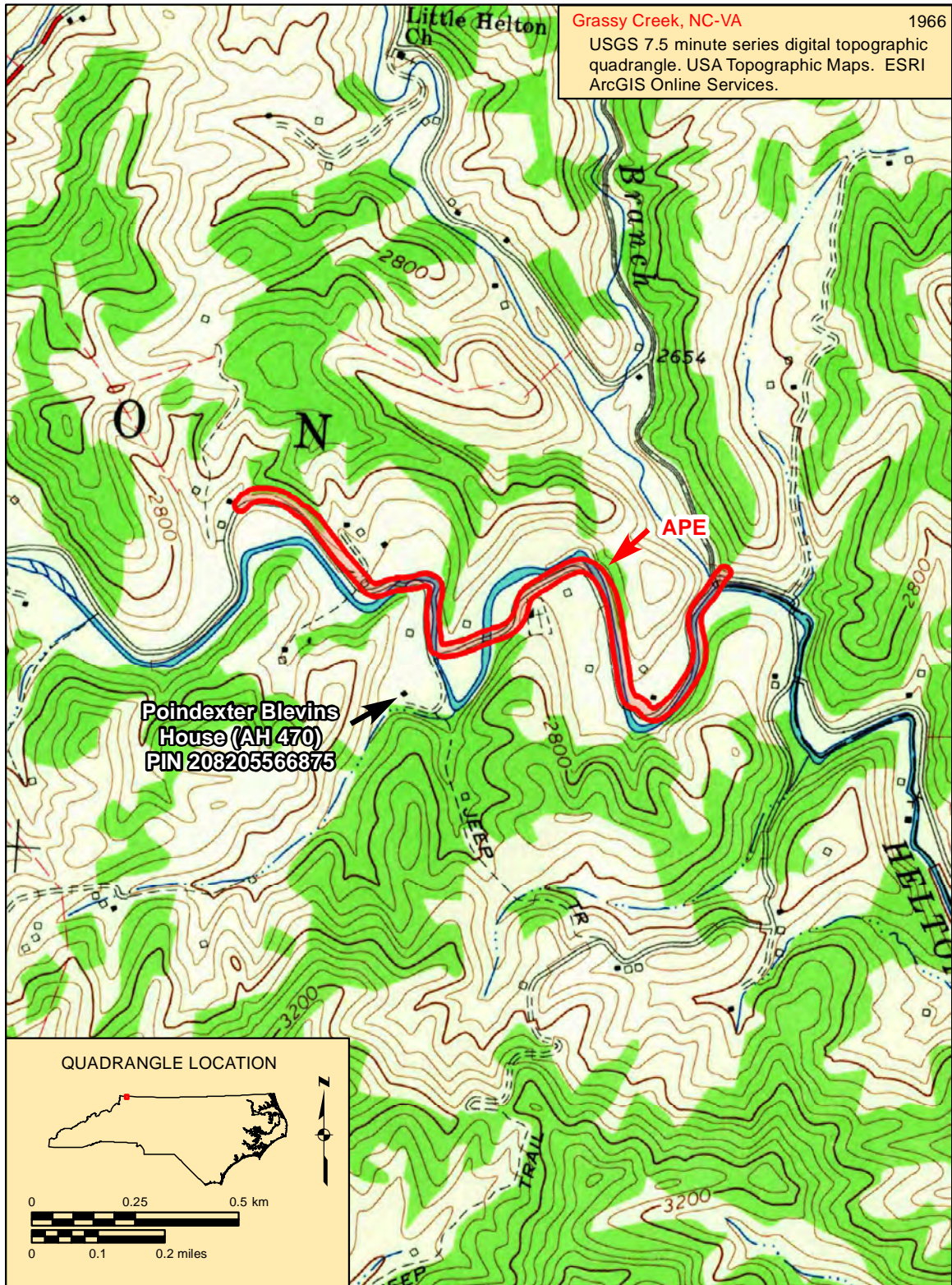


Figure 1. Portion of United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Grassy Creek, North Carolina, quadrangle showing the location of the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470).



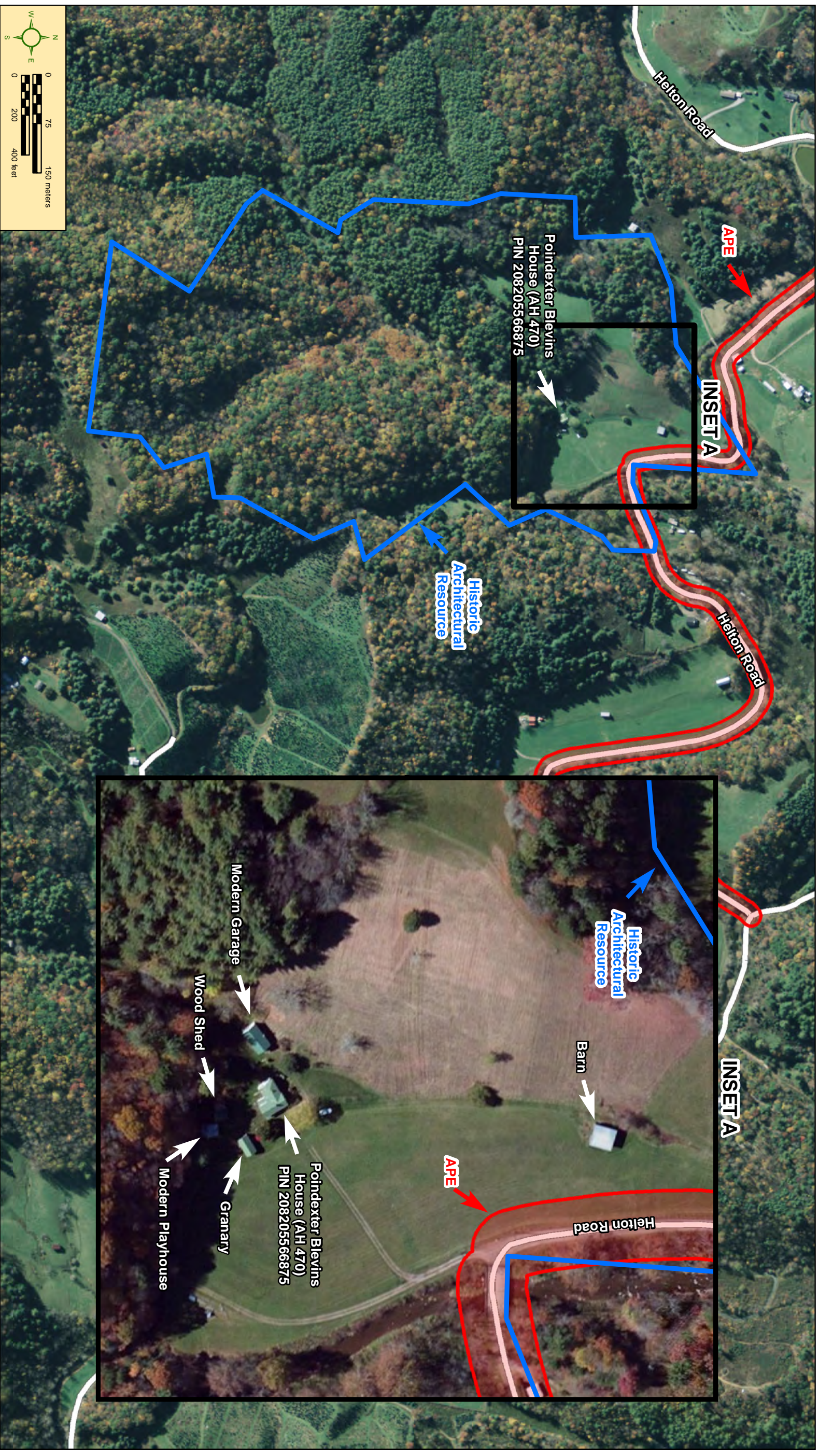


Figure 2. Aerial showing the site plan and location of the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470).





CRA then examined property tax records available at the Ashe County Tax Office and deed records at the Ashe County Register of Deeds. CRA also contacted the present property owner, Leroy C. Blevins. Mr. Blevins granted permission for CRA personnel to the exterior of the house and the outbuildings surrounding the structure via the main gate to the property. Access to the interior of any of the recorded structures was denied.

### *Field Investigation*

Following the archival research, CRA architectural historian Hallie Hearnes and architectural assistant Jesse Harris performed an intensive-level field investigation of the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470). Ms. Hearnes took detailed notes and made a sketch site plan of the property to facilitate an understanding of the property's contextual setting. Because the property owner only granted access to the exterior of the recorded resources, CRA was not able to access the interior of the house and no floor plans or interior photography could be completed. Recordation included documenting physical characteristics, dates of construction, character-defining features, and integrity. All buildings and structures were marked on a USGS topographic quadrangle map and aerial image.

CRA also completed extensive photographic documentation of all accessible portions of the property according to NC HPO standards and guidelines. Digital photographs were taken of the site and contextual setting and the exterior of all buildings and structures. Emphasis was placed on capturing building forms, character-defining features, and changes that have occurred throughout the property's history.

Based on the available historical information and field observations, CRA has provided a recommendation regarding the Poindexter Blevins House's (AH 470) eligibility for listing in the NRHP.

## III. DESCRIPTION

### *Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470)*

Address: 1984 Helton Road, Grassy Creek, NC 28631

Quad: Grassy Creek, NC

Map: see Figures 1 and 2

Deed Book/Page: 207/1701

PIN No.: 208205566875

Date(s) of construction: circa 1880; 1900



Poindexter Blevins House

**Setting:** Located approximately 0.65 miles east of the small community of Helton in north-central Ashe County, the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470) is situated on the south side of a bend of Helton Road, approximately 0.75 miles west of its intersection with Jim Duvall Road. The property lies to the south of Helton Road in a valley along Helton Creek in a rural, mountainous area surrounded by both pastureland and woodland (Figures 3–6). The property is accessed by a gravel driveway that is gated and locked (Figure 7). The gate to the 92.98 acre parcel is located immediately southwest of Bridge Number 288 over Helton Creek (Figure 8) and Helton Road (Figure 9). In addition to the residence, the property associated with the Poindexter Blevins House includes three pre-1966 buildings and structures, including the barn, granary, and wood shed; a non-historic garage and a modern playhouse/guesthouse are also located on the property. All buildings and structures are accessed from Helton Road.



Figure 3. Viewshed of the pasture and woodland surrounding the Poindexter Blevins House, facing north.



Figure 4. View of the grassy pasture and woodland surrounding the Poindexter Blevins House, facing east.





Figure 5. View of the pasture and woodland surrounding the Poindexter Blevins House, facing south.



Figure 6. View of the woodland behind the Poindexter Blevins House, facing west.





Figure 7. Gated and locked entrance to the Poindexter Blevins House, facing south-southeast.



Figure 8. Overview of Bridge No. 288 over Helton Creek, facing west-northwest.





Figure 9. Overview of Helton Road looking from the gated entrance to Poindexter Blevins House, facing north-northwest.

**House, overview:** The primary house associated with the property, the Poindexter Blevins House, is comprised of two portions: a circa 1900 two-story, three-bay (w/d/w), side-gable frame I-house section, and a circa 1880 two-story, rear ell (Figure 10). Previous survey records indicate that the rear ell features a combination of frame and log construction and pre-dates the I-house portion of the structure (Wyatt and Jones 2005). The I-house section of the house is sheltered by a side-gable roof, while the rear ell is sheltered by a hip roof; both portions of the roof are clad in standing-seam metal.

Access to the interior was not available because CRA was not granted access by the property owners, who live primarily in Stuart, Florida. As such, details regarding the framing of the house are unknown; however, given the building's age and the notes on two previous surveys, the I-house portion is presumed to be a balloon frame. Previous survey records indicate that the rear ell was originally a log structure; however, given the limited access, this could not be confirmed during fieldwork. The façade, northwest, and southeast elevations of the I-house portion are clad in weatherboard; the northwest and southeast (side) elevations feature decorative shingles and cornice returns in the gable ends. The rear ell and the southwest elevation of the I-house portion of the house are clad in vinyl siding. The foundation of the I-house section is obscured by lattice panels; at the rear ell, a continuous poured concrete foundation is visible.

**House, exterior:** The circa 1900 side-gabled portion of the Poindexter Blevins House features a typical three-bay I-house form. The ridgeline of the roof of this portion of the house is pierced by a small interior brick chimney and a large interior brick flue that is capped by a large metal flue cap. The I-house portion of the house features windows with one-over-one-light and two-over-two-light, double-hung wood sashes. The windows on the I-house portion of the house feature simple wood surrounds topped by a coved wood trim.



Figure 10. View of the façade of the Poindexter Blevins House (circa 1880–1900), facing southwest.

The primary façade entry is centered on the façade and is comprised of a wood paneled door set behind a wood screen door topped with a glass transom and flanked by glass sidelights set over wooden panels (Figure 11). The transom and sidelights feature pierced wood trim with an open circle motif simulating circular lights. Flat wood trim surrounds the entire entry. The entry opens onto a full-width wood porch. The porch features a hip roof clad in standing-seam metal that is supported by scrolled posts that feature intricate designs above the balustrade and just below the roofline of the porch roof. A balustrade with turned wood balusters and a cove-molded railing runs between the posts. Three wood steps with a simple wood rail connect the porch to the front yard; a solid wood plank gate limits access to the porch. The upper portion of the walls of the façade beneath the porch feature horizontal tongue-and-groove wood siding; the lower portion, which is set beneath a chair rail molding, features vertical tongue-and-groove siding. A thick wood trim runs along the base of the lower portion of the wall under the porch. The porch also features a beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling and a tongue-and-groove wood floor.

The northwest and southeast elevations of the I-house each feature single windows with two-over-two-light, double-hung wood sashes centered on each floor (Figures 12 and 13). Each of the side elevations of the I-house portion are clad in weatherboard siding. The gable ends feature cornice returns and are clad in decorative wood shingles. The rear elevation of this portion of the house is void of windows and features an enclosed one-story porch sheltered by a shed roof.





Figure 11. Entry detail.



Figure 12. Northwest (side) elevation, facing southeast.



Figure 13. Southeast (side) elevation, facing northwest.

The rear ell, which extends from the northwest portion of the I-house portion, forms an open L-shape on the southwest portion of the I-house. The rear ell of the house features one-over-one-light, two-over-two-light, and six-over-six-light double-hung wood sashes, as well as one-over-one-light vinyl replacement sashes with muntins affixed to simulate one-over-one-light and six-over-six-light arrangement. The windows on the rear ell of the house feature simple flat wood surrounds clad in metal (Figure 14). The two-story rear ell and the only exposed portion of the rear elevation of the I-house portion of the house are clad in vinyl siding. A one-story porch sheltered by a hipped roof with a front-gable section formerly extended from the rear ell and the rear of the I-house. All of these porch segments have been enclosed and are now clad in vinyl siding (Figure 15). Two single-leaf rear entries open from the now-enclosed rear porches. A three-sided bay is centered above the enclosed porches on the second story, at the connection of the rear ell and the I-house portions of the house. This projection is sheltered by a three-part standing-seam metal roof and features a small centered single window (Figure 16).





Figure 14. Rear elevation of the rear ell, facing northeast.



Figure 15. Rear ell and enclosed rear porches, facing northeast.





Figure 16. Rear projection above porch detail, facing northeast.

**House, interior:** As noted, access to the interior of the Poindexter Blevins House could not be secured during the survey. The only details available for the interior were discerned from previous survey records for the house. According to the previous survey record, the I-house portion of the house featured a central passage plan, typical for its form. At the time of the last survey in 2005, single rooms, located on either side of the central passage on both floors, featured drywall-clad walls. The rooms on the first floor retained wide wood floors; the rooms on the second floor were carpeted. The rear ell featured a dining room, kitchen and several small rooms on the first floor and a large open room on the second floor. The portion of the rear ell that connects to the front I-house portion of the house featured plank walls and ceilings on both floors. The previous survey noted that the interior of the house retained some original features including decorative molding along the stairway, and an unusual silhouette newel post on the staircase (Wyatt and Jones 2005). At the time of the current survey, Rita Porter, who lives across Helton Creek from the Poindexter Blevins House, confirmed that the interior of the I-house portion of the house has changed very little since its construction.

**Barn:** The circa 1900–1956 barn is located approximately 450 feet north of the Poindexter Blevins House, within a field on the west side of Helton Creek and Helton Road (Figure 17). The two-story structure is set upon a poured concrete foundation, features frame construction clad in vertical board wood siding, and is sheltered by a shed roof clad in metal panels. The first floor of the barn features a central passage that extends between the north and south elevations of the structure. On the south elevation, the door to the loft has been enclosed with vertical-board siding. The first floor of the barn's east elevation features widely-spaced boards to create a crib.



Figure 17. Barn, facing northwest.

**Granary:** The granary is located approximately 45 feet west-northwest of the Poindexter Blevins House (Figure 18). The one-story structure is set upon a concrete pier foundation, features frame construction clad in weatherboard and thin strips of wood siding, and is sheltered by a side-gabled roof clad in metal panels. The façade of the structure faces northwest toward the house. It features a single-leaf entry with a wood plank door that is flanked by smaller window openings that feature widely-spaced boards instead of sashes. This weatherboard-clad section is flanked by crib sections clad in thin strips of wood spaced to allow for ventilation. The crib sections of the structure comprise the northeast and southwest elevations. Each elevation features a central square vent with thin strips of wood siding that form a V-design around the vent. The gable ends of the structure are clad in weatherboard; a diamond-shaped vent is centered just under the eave and the ridgeline of the roof.

**Wood Shed:** The wood shed is located approximately 50 feet south of the Poindexter Blevins House (Figure 19). The two-story wood shed is situated upon a poured concrete foundation, features frame construction clad in vertical-board siding, and a front-gable roof clad in metal. Oriented to the north, the tall, narrow wood shed features an open passage and an off-center single-leaf entry with a vertical plank door. A single window is centered in the gable end and a one-story open shed addition extends from the west elevation of the wood shed.

**Modern Playhouse/Guesthouse:** A modern playhouse/guesthouse is located approximately 65 feet southeast of the Poindexter Blevins House (Figure 20), just east of the wood shed. This recently constructed building is set upon a concrete pier foundation, features frame construction clad in vertical-board siding of old wood, and a metal-clad side-gable roof. The façade features a single-leaf entry flanked by windows and a full-width porch sheltered by a shed roof.





Figure 18. Granary, facing south.



Figure 19. Wood Shed, facing south-southeast.



**Modern Garage:** A modern garage is located approximately 45 feet west-southwest of the rear of the Poindexter Blevins House (Figure 21). The two-story structure is set upon a continuous poured concrete foundation, features frame construction clad in vinyl siding, and is sheltered by a metal-clad front-gable roof. Oriented to the northeast, toward the rear of the house, the façade of the garage features a single garage bay with a paneled overhead door on the first floor; a double-leaf entry with metal doors flanked by small windows with vinyl replacement sashes occupies the second floor. The northwest and southeast elevations each feature several windows bays on the first and second floors; all windows feature replacement vinyl sashes with muntins affixed to simulate multi-pane windows.



Figure 20. Modern Playhouse/Guesthouse, facing southwest.



Figure 21. Modern Garage, facing west.



## IV. HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Poindexter Blevins House (AH470) is situated to the east of the community of Helton in north-central Ashe County, within Helton Township. Members of the Blevins family were early settlers of the township. Like the majority of early settlers, the Blevins family originally emigrated from the British Isles. By the mid-eighteenth century, the early settlers to the area began to construct homes and cultivate farms in the Helton Creek, Grassy Creek, and Old Fields areas of the county. Ashe County was formally established in 1799 from portions of Wilkes County, though it was much larger than its current size with portions of Allegheny, Watauga, Avery, and Burke Counties included within its boundaries. It was also a part of the State of Franklin, a region formed from several counties in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. The majority of early settlers to the area and their descendants occupied small self-sufficient subsistence farms throughout the rugged mountainous terrain of Ashe County (Houck et al. 2000:7-8).

While the Blevins family originally immigrated from Fromby Wales, William Blevins did not settle in the area to become Ashe County until the mid-eighteenth-century. Wells Blevins, a descendant of William Blevins, was the first Blevins to occupy the property associated with the Poindexter Blevins House. In the nineteenth century, Wells constructed a log home on the property for his wife, Nancy Strunk, and their children, behind where the Poindexter Blevins House now stands (Ashe County Historical Society 1994:7-8).

The property remained in the Blevins family through the nineteenth century. James Blevins, the son of Wells and Nancy Strunk Blevins, was born on the property in 1795. James and his wife Sarah Stilt Blevins inherited the property and continued to occupy it following the death of his parents (Ashe County Historical Society 1994:8). James and Sarah's son, Poindexter Blevins, later inherited the property. A Confederate Captain in the Civil War, Poindexter and his wife, Lydia, constructed a second log house on the property around 1880 that is now a portion of the rear ell of the Poindexter Blevins House. Poindexter farmed the Blevins property, but also researched mining sciences (Wyatt and Jones 2005).

Dulcie Blevins, the daughter of Poindexter and Lydia Blevins, married Daniel Blevins. Daniel attended the University of North Carolina and served as a preacher, blacksmith, county clerk, teacher, and country doctor. By 1900, the Daniel Blevins family constructed the front portion of the house. Previous survey records indicated that furnishings within the house were created by Daniel Blevins. Daniel and Dulcie had a son, Theodore (Ted) Blevins, who was born in the house in 1902. Ted was a coal miner and later a carpenter (Wyatt and Jones 2005).

The property remains in the Blevins family today and is currently owned by Leroy Blevins, the son of Ted Blevins, and his wife, Lenna [Ashe County DB207:1701-1704]. Leroy and Lenna currently live in Stuart, Florida, though they still spend time at the Poindexter Blevins house seasonally. Deed research indicates that the property has been divided and combined multiple times within the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, but it has always been owned by Blevins descendants [Ashe County DB 181:2458-2461; DB181:2454-2457; and DB 147:1900].

The Poindexter Blevins House first appears on the 1912 Ashe County Soils Map (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1912) (Figure 22). The house later appears along Helton Road on the 1938 Ashe County North Carolina Highway Map (North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission 1938) (Figure 23).

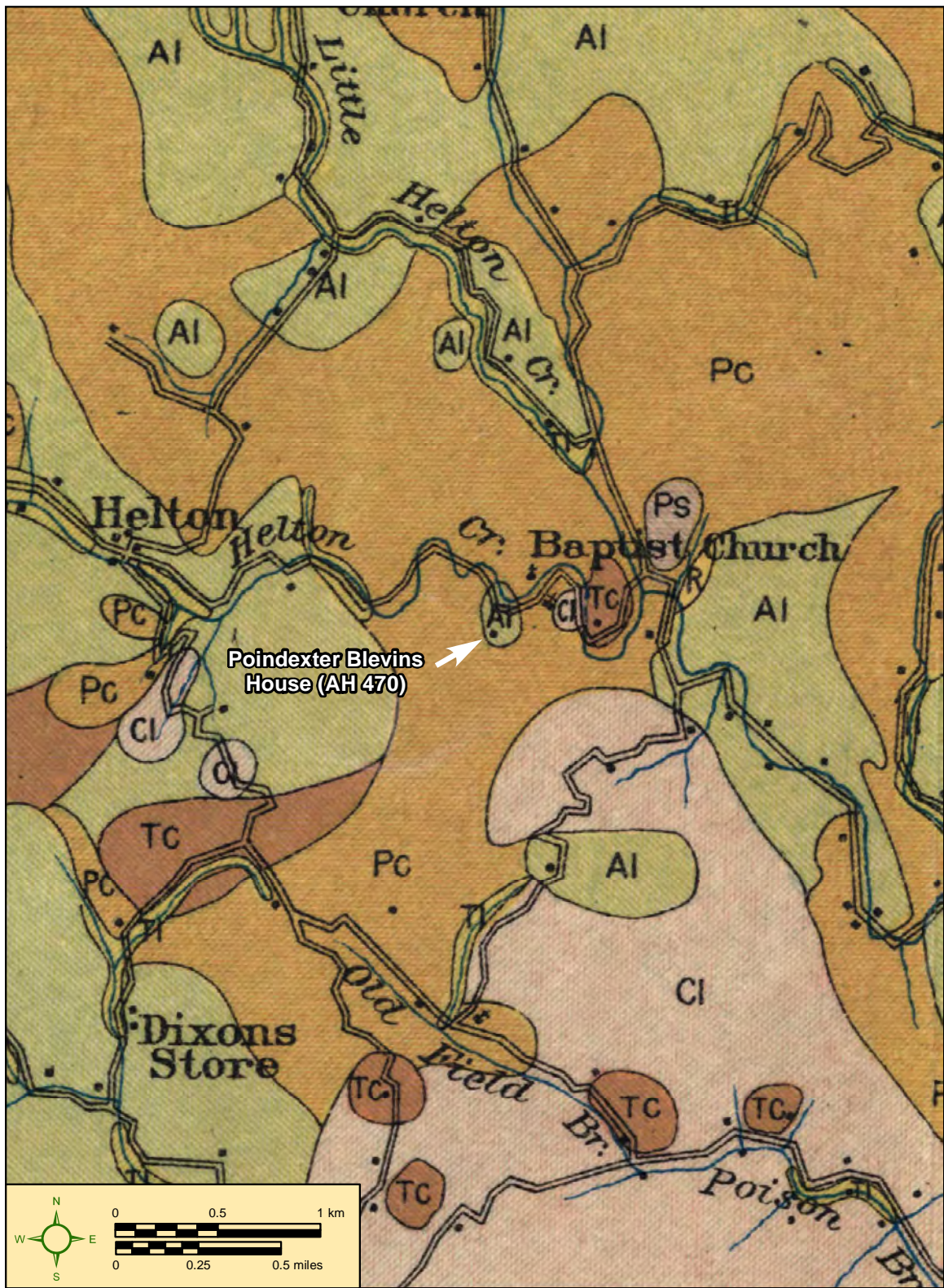


Figure 22. 1912 Soil Map of Ashe County, North Carolina.



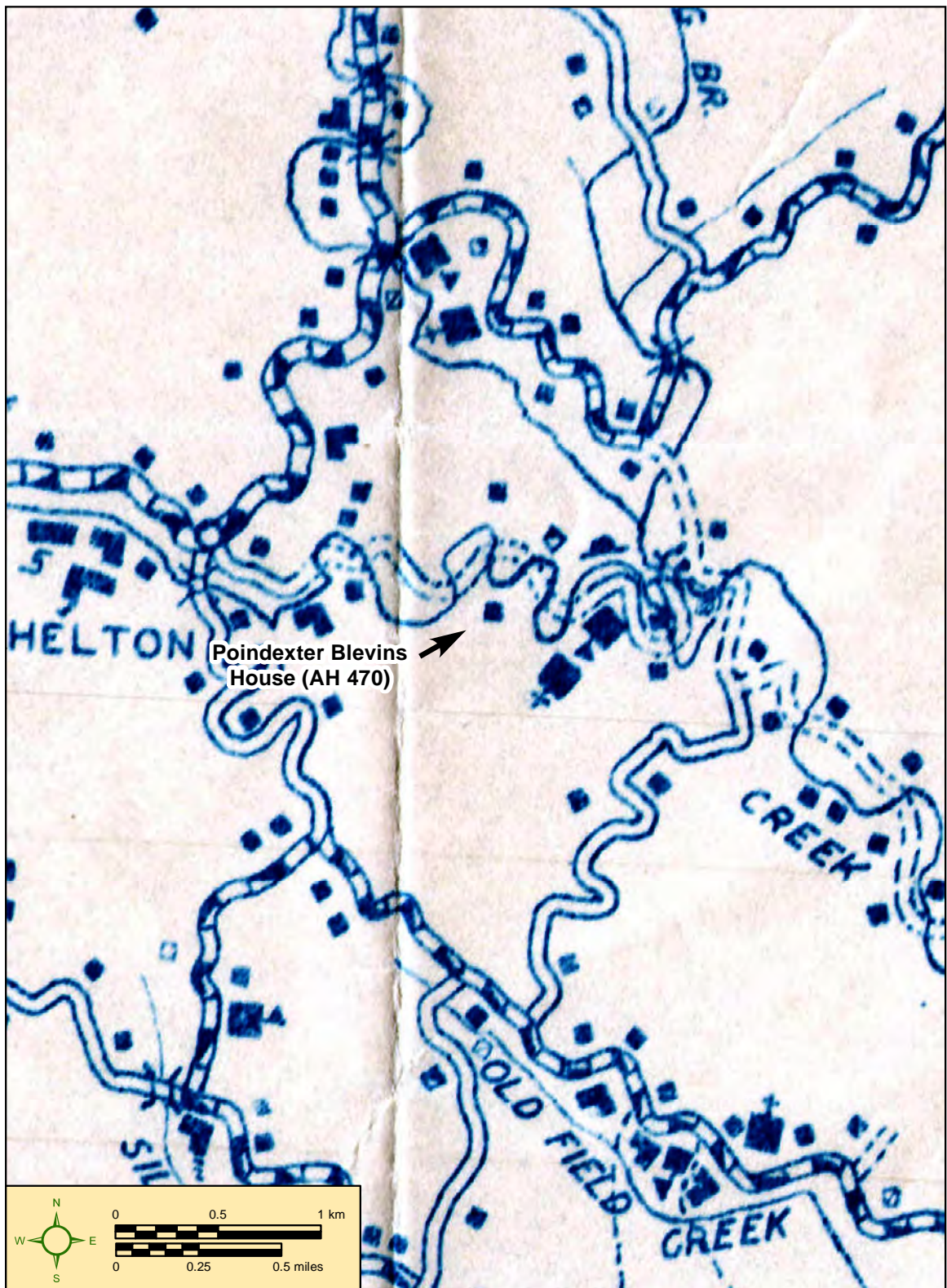


Figure 23. 1938 Highway Map of Ashe County, North Carolina.

## V. EVALUATION

According to the previous survey form for the Poindexter Blevins House (AH 470), in 2006 the resource was added to the Study List for the state of North Carolina and recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a representative example of the I-house form found throughout Ashe County. CRA recommends that the house and its associated outbuildings are not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A, B, C, or D. While the house reflects the late nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century occupation of the Blevins property, research has not demonstrated that the house is associated with a particular event or explicit pattern of events that would warrant eligibility under Criterion A. Moreover, it is one resource of several within the area that can reflect such generic agricultural and settlement patterns in the Helton area.

Additionally, neither Poindexter Blevins nor his family and later occupants of the property have been documented as playing a significant role within the local or regional community. Therefore, the Poindexter Blevins House is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B.

The Poindexter Blevins house is a vernacular housing form constructed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The house utilizes a central passage plan and an I-house form and demonstrates broad Appalachian influences in its inclusion of a full front porch that retains scrollwork trim. However, the house is one of several within the immediate vicinity exhibiting this general form, including houses located on Helton Road to the west of the Poindexter Blevins House (Figure 24), the Frank Seagraves House (AH 191) at 1538 Little Helton Road (Figure 25), and the George T. Eller House (AH 397) on Highway 194 (Figure 26), characterized by the same general massing, scale, and configuration. Two comparable houses also feature similar trim work and exterior details. The Frank Seagraves House (AH 191) at 1538 Little Helton Road features a similar trim on the sidelights and transom at the entry (Figure 27). While the Jackson Howell House (AH 402) on Silas Creek Road has a different porch configuration, it features similar scroll work on the porch supports as well as trim on the sidelights and transom at the entry (Figure 28). Because there are other houses that feature similar form and trim within the vicinity of the Poindexter Blevins House in Ashe County, the Poindexter Blevins House cannot be considered a particularly unique property type within its local setting.

Additionally, the house has been changed since the last survey in 2005. Pre-2005 alterations include the enclosure of an early log structure within the rear ell, and the enclosure of the rear porches. Alterations since the 2005 survey include the installation of vinyl siding on the rear ell and rear elevation of the I-house portion of the house, and the installation of vinyl windows on the first floor of the rear ell (Wyatt and Jones 2005). Thus, while the house retains integrity of location and a moderate degree of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, it cannot be demonstrated to be a particularly noteworthy or early example of its type and, as a result of physical changes to the house, the house exhibits compromised integrity. The historic secondary resources associated with the farmstead—the granary, barn, and wood shed—are undistinguished examples of their respective types; furthermore, the addition of the post-1959 garage and playhouse/guesthouse has also diminished the site's integrity of setting, feeling, and association with its original period of development as a farmstead. Thus, the Poindexter Blevins House is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Late-nineteenth-century to early-twentieth-century domestic constructions are common to the region (and country as a whole), and neither the house nor outbuildings are likely to yield any important historical information regarding building technology of the period not readily available from other sources. The Poindexter Blevins House is, therefore, ineligible, for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.





Figure 24. Comparative example located on Helton Road to the west of the Poindexter Blevins House, facing north.



Figure 25. Comparative example, the Frank Seagraves House (AH 191), located at 1538 Little Helton Road, facing south.



Figure 26. Comparative example, the George T. Eller House (AH 397), located on Highway 194 outside of Lansing, facing north.



Figure 27. Detail of entry of the Frank Seagraves House (AH 191), at 1538 Little Helton Road with similar trim on sidelights and transom, facing south.





Figure 28. View of façade and porch of the Jackson Howell House (AH 402) on Silas Creek Road, with similar scroll work on the porch and similar trim at the entry, facing south.

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