

# 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

September 1, 2016

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO: Shelby Reap

Office of Human Environment NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley lane Medhill-Earley

**Environmental Review Coordinator** 

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge 153 on SR 2081 over Hogan Creek,

PA 16-02-0090, Surry County, ER 16-1382

Thank you for your August 5, 2016, letter transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and **concur that the Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (SR0195) and Samuel Freeman Marker (SR0901) are not eligible** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, the sole remaining plantation-related two-room outbuilding no longer retains sufficient integrity from the dates of construction to meet the National Register criteria. The building exhibits fairly common building construction for Surry County, and while it is possible that relatively few kitchen buildings from the nineteenth century still stand in the county, the kitchen and dining room building has marginal integrity. Since the building was recorded in the 1981 county survey, all the windows have been replaced, and the fireplace mantel, some brick nogging, and at least one door have been removed. Additionally, the chimney and the deep overhang design of the roof appear to be later early 20<sup>th</sup> century changes. Given these changes to its defining characteristics the building does not appear to be eligible under Criterion C.

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 <a href="mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov">environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</a>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, mfurr@ncdot.gov





PAT McCRORY

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON

August 5, 2016

Renee Gledhill-Earley **Environmental Review Coordinator** North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources 4617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

EZ 16. 1382 H AVS 8/22/16

Dear Ms. Gledhill-Earley:

RE:

Historic Structures Report, PA# 16-02-0090, Replace Bridge No. 153 on SR 2081 (Hardy Rd) over Hogan Creek in Surry County

NE 8/29/16

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Please find attached one hard copy and one digital copy of the Historic Structure Report, as well as a Survey Site form, digital images, and GIS data. The report meets the guidelines for survey procedures for NCDOT and the National Park Service. If you have any questions regarding the accompanying information, please feel free to contact me at 919-707-6088 or slreap@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Shelby Reap

Historic Architecture Group

Shelson Reap

Attachment

# Historic Structure for Replace Bridge No. 153 (PA# 16-02-0090) on State Road 2081 (Hardy Road) over Hogan Creek Surry County, North Carolina

WBS# 17BP.11.R.132

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

Prepared by Cardno, Inc. 5400 Glenwood Avenue, Suite G-3 Raleigh, North Carolina 27612

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Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT Historic Architecture Supervisor

Lucy D. Jones, Cardno Principal Investigator

Valerie Robbins, RPA, Co-Author

August 1, 2016 – Final Report

# MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 153 on State Road 2081 (Hardy Road) over Hogan Creek in Surry County (WBS# 17BP.11.R.132). In May 2016, NCDOT requested Cardno, Inc., complete an assessment of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (SR0195) and provide this report.

As a result of this study, Cardno recommends that Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (SR0195) retains sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for the NRHP. It is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C as it embodies the characteristics of vernacular construction methods (log and timber frame with brick nogging), as well as demonstrating the transition of a single-pen house to detached kitchen. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room also is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding both the persistence and the discontinuation of use of brick nogging in North Carolina.

During this assessment, a marker placed adjacent to Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room by the Daughters of the American Revolution was identified and evaluated as a separate property. Cardno recommends that while the Samuel Freeman Marker (SR0901) does retain sufficient integrity to be considered for listing in the NRHP, it does not meet Criteria Consideration C for burial sites or Criteria Consideration F for commemorative properties. Therefore, the marker is not recommended as eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.

<b>Property Name</b>	NCHPO Survey Site	NRHP Eligibility	NRHP Criteria
	Number	Recommendation	
Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room	SR0195	Eligible	C and D
Samuel Freeman Marker	SR0901	Ineligible	-

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# I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 153 on State Road (SR) 2081 (Hardy Road) over Hogan Creek in Surry County (WBS# 17BP.11.R.132). The project location is approximately 0.2 miles east of the intersection with SR 1003 in the Siloam community (Figure 1). NCDOT defines this project's Area of Potential Effects (APE) as 75 feet on either side of Bridge No. 153 and 300 feet from each end of that structure (Figure 2). NCDOT Architectural Historians reviewed the properties within the APE and determined that one property greater than 50 years old warranted further evaluation: Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (SR0195). This project is subject to review under the *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects* (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA 2015). NCDOT architectural historians established an APE for each project and conducted a preliminary investigation, identifying resources warranting additional study and eligibility evaluation. Surry County Bridge No. 153 is not addressed in this report. Built in 1961, the structure does not exemplify any distinctive engineering or aesthetic type and is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

In May 2016, NCDOT requested that Cardno, Inc., complete an intensive-level survey and assess the NRHP eligibility of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room was originally surveyed in 1981 under survey site number SR0195 during the Surry County comprehensive architectural survey. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room has not been placed on the state study list of properties potentially eligible for the NRHP.

On May 25, 2016, Cardno senior architectural historian Lucy Jones and Cardno archaeologist Valerie Robbins visited Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room. The property was visually inspected, and the exterior, interior, and setting were documented through written notes and digital photographs. An on-site interview was conducted with the structure's owner, Marion Venable, who is a descendant of the Reeves and Freeman families. Mrs. Venable is a member of the Surry County Historical Society, and assisted in the completion of the 1981 countywide survey. She provided Cardno with copies of documents and photographs relevant to the history and condition of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room and Samuel Freeman Marker in addition to arranging for mowing around the resources to facilitate the survey. Site visits also were made to other historic structures within the Siloam community.

Basic research was conducted prior to the site visit including Surry County GIS and tax records and a search of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) historic structure records. Copies of NRHP nomination forms for nearby resources were obtained. The Mount Airy Museum of Regional History in Surry County was contacted to inquire whether they held any information concerning Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room. Amy Snyder, Curator of Collections, responded, referring us to Marion Venable. Additional research was conducted at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology (OSA) and the HPO, both in Raleigh, were visited in an attempt to identify nearby NRHP-listed properties. Genevieve Shishak, Historian in the Department of Archives & History at the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Washington, D.C., provided information about markers placed by that organization.

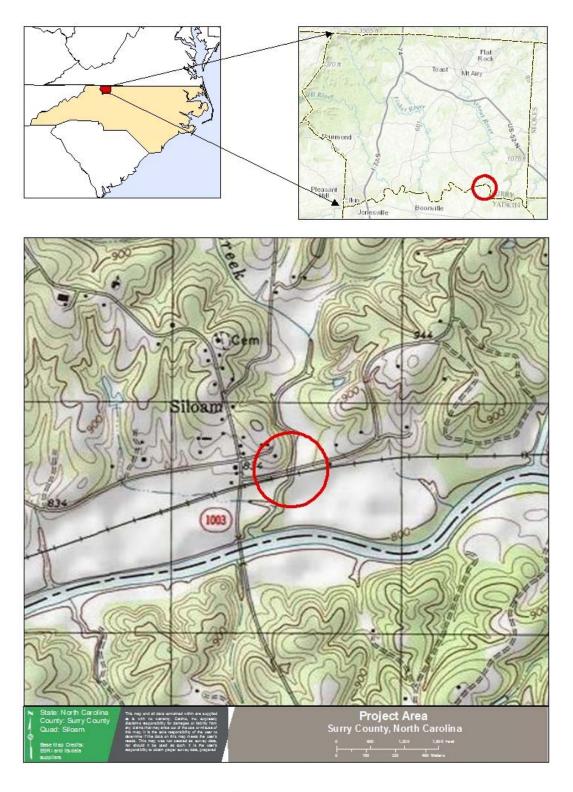


Figure 1. Project location map, Surry County, North Carolina.



Figure 2. Aerial photograph showing APE and location of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

# II. INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY EVALUATIONS

# **Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room**

Resource Name	Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (Figure 3)	
HPO Survey Site Number	SR0195	
Location	Within unaddressed parcel on south side of SR 2081 (Hardy Road)	
PIN	594200151905201	
Date of Construction	Mid-nineteenth century, possibly ca. 1835; addition in 1870s	
Recommendation	Eligible for NRHP under criteria C and D	



Figure 3. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, east and north elevations.

#### **SETTING**

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is located within Surry County parcel 594200151905, a 42-acre parcel between SR 2081 on the north and the Yadkin River on the south (Figure 4). While PIN 594200151905 is owned by Michael and Wanda Mitchell, the actual structure, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, is owned by Reeves Historical Park, C/O Marion Venable and has been assigned Surry County PIN 594200151905201. At this point, SR 2031 (Hardy Road) passes eastwest just to the north of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, roughly parallel to the Yadkin Valley Railroad, which is just to the south of the structure. Approximately 0.8 miles west of the structure, SR 2031 crosses Hogan Creek, and continues westward to an intersection with SR 1003 in the commercial district of the Siloam community.

The wedge-shaped portion of the parcel containing Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room located between SR 2031 and the railroad is for the most part level, but drops sharply to the south along the railroad cut. To the west of the structure, on the other side of a dirt farm road, the landform slopes downward, draining into Hogan Creek. The area immediately surrounding the structure has been cleared, and is currently used as a bee farm. There were approximately ten hives present at the time of this survey, with 20 to 30 hives having been removed the week prior. Some of the hives were resting on a rectangular concrete slab to the east of the structure. A short gravel driveway entrance provides vehicle access and parking space for the survey area. To the north of SR 2031 are fenced pastures, and to the south of the railroad, in the Yadkin River flats, are cultivated agricultural fields.

Approximately 32 feet to the northeast, between the structure and the road, is a sign identifying this as a point of interest in the North Carolina Civil War Trails project. Associated with the Civil War Trails project, an interpretive sign has been placed immediately adjacent to the north elevation of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (see Figure 3). Approximately 90 feet to the west, a simple bronze plaque on a metal pole declares that a nearby property has been listed on the NRHP; this sign refers to a prehistoric archaeological site south of the railroad tracks.



Figure 4. Aerial photograph showing the parcel boundaries.

#### DESCRIPTION

In *Simple Treasures* (Phillips 1987:245), a book based on the 1981 countywide survey, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is described as follows:

According to family tradition, the brothers Micajah Coke and Richard Elwell Reeves had separate houses on their joint property overlooking the Yadkin River but shared this kitchen/dining room building. It is a one-story weatherboarded structure with a broad gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, and one remaining gable-end chimney. The mid-nineteenth century building appears to have been erected at two different times. One-half is constructed of logs, while the other half is built of brick-nogged frame construction. Both two-panel and batten doors are found in this unusual building. In addition to their Siloam farm of over one thousand acres, the Reeves brothers operated a general store (SR 196), a mill, and a tobacco factory during the second half of the nineteenth century.

None of the structures on the farm (Reeves Homeplace) remain, and no site plan or map showing this unusual arrangement of two residences and a shared detached kitchen exists. The exact location of the houses remains unknown. One house may have been torn down to make way for construction of the North Wilkesboro to Mooresville line of the Richmond & Danville Railroad, finished in 1894 (Lewis 2016; Venable, personal communication 2016). Today this is the Yadkin Valley Railroad, which passes immediately to the south of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is a one-story structure with a rectangular plan (see Figure 3 and Figure 5). At times, it is also referred to as Reeves Office. The structure is currently vacant, although its owner, Marion Venable, is working toward a new use as Reeves Historical Park (personal communication, 2016).

The southern portion of the structure is of V-notched log construction, while the northern portion is timber framed with brick nogging. The exterior of the structure is covered with wooden clapboard siding painted white, and the gable roof is covered with 5V crimp metal sheets. The wide eaves are supported by tapered rafter tails, with a gap between the top plate and the roof. A brick chimney is centered on the exterior of the north elevation (Figure 6). Originally, there was a chimney on what is now the south elevation of the structure, but this chimney has been removed. While the opening in the wall has been boarded over, a gap in the eave at the peak of the gable remains, showing where the chimney once passed through, as with the chimney on the north elevation (Figure 7).

In 1981, the original recorders hypothesized that the southern (log) portion of the structure is the original building, a single pen log house. According to Marion Venable, the log house was built ca. 1835. The northern portion of the structure is believed to be a later (1870s), but still historic, addition that created a hall-and-parlor plan (Figure 8). The chimney on the southern elevation may have been removed and new door openings added to the east and west elevations when the frame room was added (Figure 9).

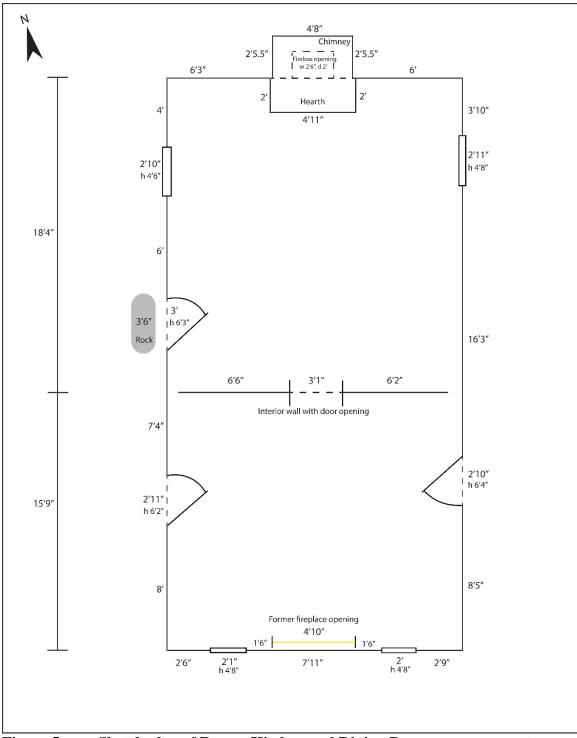


Figure 5. Sketch plan of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, measurements approximate.



Figure 6. Brick chimney on exterior of north elevation; also tapered rafter tails.



Figure 7. West and south elevations of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.



Figure 8. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, from frame addition toward original log single pen, with former chimney location visible on far wall.

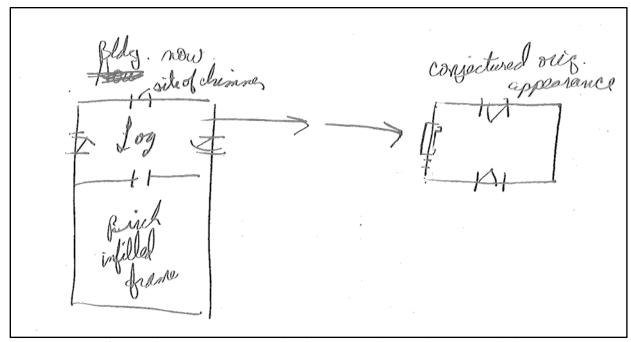


Figure 9. Sketch from 1981 survey site form showing conjectured original appearance.

There are three doors, each opening directly into the interior rooms. The four-panel doors on the west elevation are replacements; in 1981, these entrances had two-panel doors (Figure 10). The entrance on the east elevation has a batten door that is believed to be original (Figure 11). There are windows on the east, south, and west elevations. Each of the window openings is the same size, and although the windows themselves are wooden sash, they do appear to be replacements. The current windows are 1 over 1; in 1981, the windows were described as 6 over 6. The glass is not wavy and is modern. The structure rests on a stone pier foundation, with some field stone and concrete-block infill. There are no remaining original steps up to the doorways, but a boulder has been placed at the northern door on the west elevation to act as a step.

The addition to Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is timber-frame construction with brick nogging (variously spelled noggin, or referred to as infill). Advantages of timber-frame construction with brick nogging are its insulative properties, and that with the addition of a layer of lime or plaster parge, it suffices as the interior wall. Disadvantages include the scarcity or expense of brick, the weight of the walls, and the porous nature of brick (Laefer 2004). The 1981 photos of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room on file at the HPO show plaster parge remaining on the interior walls (Figure 12), but this has since been removed, and some of the brick nogs were recently replaced in kind (Figure 13). The structure's exterior is covered in clapboard; wood siding was commonly used with brick nogging to protect against rain and other elements. Log houses may also be clad with wooden siding. In this instance, the siding would have served to unify the appearance and cover any seams between the old and new portions of the structure.



Figure 10. West elevation of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, replacement doors.



Figure 11. South and east elevations, original batten door.



Figure 12. 1981 photographs of the interior of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.



Figure 13. Interior of timber frame addition: fireplace and brick nogging.

The logs on the original portion are hand hewn, with brick chinking covered by cement daub (Figure 14). The walls dividing the structure into two rooms are made from very roughly hewn logs, so unfinished that some bark remains (Figure 15). The entire interior has a plank floor, but only the log portion has a plank ceiling, which has been painted white. There is a loft space over the log room (Figure 16). The fireplace mantle and surround have been removed (see Figure 12 and Figure 13).



Figure 14. Interior of original room: wall construction and former chimney location.

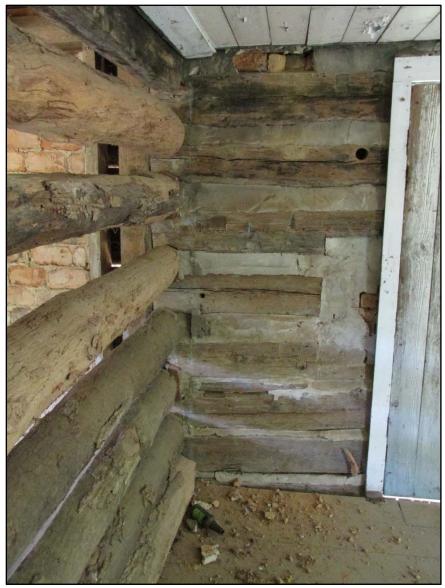


Figure 15. Interior of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room: dividing wall where the addition meets the original structure, interior of log construction, floor and ceiling finishes in the log room, and the batten door.



Figure 16. Loft in log room and open doorway between rooms, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

Just to the east of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is a rectangular concrete slab measuring approximately 30-x-16 feet. Exact measurements of this slab were not possible due to the bee hives on it at the time of our site visit. In the mid to late twentieth century, a hay barn was built at this location. The barn was destroyed by fire in the 1990s, but did not damage Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room (Venable, personal communication 2016).

"Reeves Homeplace" is featured on the North Carolina Civil War Trails map and as part of the Stoneman's Raid Driving Tour (Civil War Traveler 2016). Civil War Trails is a multi-state heritage tourism program that provides maps, driving tours, and interpretive signage (Figure 17 and Figure 18). The North Carolina Civil War Trails program began in March 2005, funded in part by a federal Transportation Enhancements grant, implemented by the NCDOT and the North Carolina Department of Commerce (No Author 2005).



Figure 17. North Carolina Civil War Trails sign on SR 2031 in front of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.



Figure 18. "Reeves Homeplace" interpretative sign placed at northwest corner of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room by the North Carolina Civil War Trails program.

Wake Forest University conducted a series of archaeological investigations in the Great Bend area of the Yadkin River valley in the mid to late 1980s (Woodall and Weaver 1990). A large, significant prehistoric site (the Hardy Site, 31 SR 50) was discovered south of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room. Excavations continued through 1987, culminating in a nomination to the NRHP. According to records at OSA, the site was placed on the Study List in 1990. The Surry County Historical Society indicates that the site was placed on the NRHP, and on June 15, 1990, they held a dedication ceremony and erected a bronze plaque in recognition of this designation (Figure 19). Cardno could find no records at OSA, HPO, or in the National Park Service's NRHP database confirming that the Hardy Site, or any other property on this parcel, was actually listed in the NRHP.



Figure 19. NRHP marker for archaeological site, to the southwest of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

#### **HISTORY**

Richard Elwell Reeves was born in Surry County on June 1, 1825. He was the fourth child (of eight) of Micajah and Elizabeth Early Reeves. Elizabeth was the daughter of Jeremiah and Rachel Early, Rachel being the daughter of Samuel Freeman. Richard E. Reeves was elected to the state legislature in 1858-1859 (Wyatt 1956). His younger brother Micajah Coke Reeves was born June 10, 1832, and they grew up together on what had been their great grandfather's plantation on the Yadkin River. When their father died in 1848, Richard and Micajah took over running the family farm, which at the time encompassed more than 1,000 acres. The brothers founded R.E. & M.C. Reeves Company, and after the Civil War operated a general store, post office, mill, and tobacco factory a half mile north of their home and a second store in Elk Cross Roads, Watuaga County (Phillips 1987; Wyatt 1956). A late-nineteenth-century guide book describing northwestern North Carolina identifies the Reeves tobacco company as Siloam's main business (No Author 1878).

Richard and Micajah Reeves also owned a ferry that allowed wagons to cross the Yadkin River south of Siloam (Phillips 2012). These wagons were the means by which local farmers were able to send their products to regional markets, and the means by which the Reeves brothers could bring in goods to sell in their stores. Until the arrival of the railroad in Siloam in 1890, wagon roads were the primary transportation links between the community and the rest of the state. The early river crossing on the Reeves' property may have been more of a ford than a ferry; Carter and Carter (1976) credit J.R. and R.N. Marion with building a ferry at Siloam. Even after the railroad was completed, the ferry was used until a bridge was built carrying SR 1003 over the river in the 1930s. The 1891 Yadkinville USGS 1:250,000 topographic quadrangle map labels the river crossing at Siloam as Marion Ferry, and shows Poindexter Ferry to the west near Rockford and Martin Ferry to the east near Shoals in what is today Pilot Mountain State Park. Marion Ferry was approximately 0.3 miles southwest of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

While Micajah was unable to serve in the Civil War for health reasons (Wyatt 1956), Richard was commissioned as the Captain of Company A, 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment, on May 4, 1861, and was promoted to Major on September 21, 1861 (Hollingsworth 1935). He returned home in the summer of 1865 after the war ended (Wyatt 1956).

Micajah married Mary Catherine Mercer in December 1874, and Richard married Louise Smith Galloway in March 1876. Mary and Louise had been childhood friends, and were still close as were the brothers. The brothers and their families lived together, although in two separate houses, on Reeves Homeplace (Wyatt 1956).

By the 1880s, large-scale tobacco manufacturers dominated the North Carolina market, pushing smaller family or farm-based factories out of business. In 1885, due in part to the changing market and in part to an incapacitating stroke suffered by Richard, the R.E. & M.C. Reeves Company closed. In 1888 the Reeves brothers sold 419 acres on the north side of the Yadkin River to Samuel Josiah Atkinson and Aaron Whitaker. In 1892, Atkinson and Whitaker further split this property (Phillips 2010; Wyatt 1956). Micajah and his family moved to a farm near Mount Airy, and in 1890, Richard died. In the early 1890s, Atkinson bought the Reeves store and roller mill in Siloam (Phillips 1987). In 1917, Micajah moved to Sanford, North Carolina, where he lived with his son until his death in 1921 (Wyatt 1956).

After the railroad was built through Siloam, the town's commercial center moved from the Reeves' store closer to the Marion family's store on the north side of the tracks and nearer the ferry (Phillips 2012). The store operated by the Reeves brothers is still standing on Atkinson Road approximately 0.5 mile to the north of their Kitchen and Dining Room. During the 1981 survey, this structure was recorded as (Former) Reeves Store and Post Office (SR0196). Reportedly built in the 1860s, the one-story store is now a residence with a two-story addition larger than the original building (Phillips 1987:246). What was the store can still be seen to the rear of the enlarged house, but due to substantial alterations, it no longer conveys a sense of its historical association with the the R.E. & M.C. Reeves Company (Figure 28). This structure and the Kitchen and Dining Room are believed to be the only remaining structures in Siloam directly associated with Richard and Micajah Reeves (Phillips 1987; Venable, personal communication 2016).



Figure 20. (Former) Reeves Store and Post Office.

# The "Battle of Siloam"

Surry County remained relatively untouched by military action until Major General George Stoneman led an extensive cavalry raid from Tennessee into North Carolina in the last months of the war (Hollingsworth 1935). While not recorded in the official records of the Civil War, a skirmish or encounter between Confederate officers and Union troops that occurred during Stoneman's Raid at Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room has taken on the importance of a battle in local lore. Written accounts date to the decades following the war, and are from those who knew the men involved or had been told the story, not firsthand accounts.

W. Milton Cundiff of Siloam published the most-often cited account of the encounter at Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room in the *Mount Airy News* on November 11, 1897. The writing style displayed in the article is that of the time, and was certainly exaggerated to complement the local

heroes, but perhaps still holds clues to the role of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room and the surrounding landscape. As the story begins, Lt. Col. William Luffman of the 11<sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry was in Surry County recovering from battle wounds sustained in Virginia, and he had spent a night at Reeves Homeplace in April 1865.

Very early in the morning Col. Luffman was up bathing, when he heard the heavy tramp of horses. Looking out at the front door of the "office" in which he and Maj. Reeves had slept, he beheld, to his great amazement, quite a number of the Blue Coats dashing towards the house. He called to Maj. Reeves, who was still in bed, saying: 'Great heavens, Major, the Yankees are upon us!' (Wyatt 1956:89).

Luffman then grabbed a gun, and confronted a Union soldier who was taking his horse, shooting and killing the other man. Reeves also grabbed a gun, and he and Luffman began firing at the Union soldiers advancing on their location. Cundiff's account has the two Confederate officers holding back 500 Union troops under the command of Major Masten. Ammunition running short, Luffman and Reeves escaped to the Yadkin River bottoms, hiding in the water until they were able to continue on to Salem. In the meantime, the Union soldiers returned to Reeves' mother's house, and attempted to burn it down. She and a "colored servant" fought back, and put out the fire. Finally, his mother (Elizabeth Early Reeves) reached an agreement with the Union officers that if they would spare the house, she would give the dead soldier a Christian burial on the Reeves property (Wyatt 1956).

Details of this story – how the fire was set, the number of Union soldiers dead and alive, inclusion of secondary characters – vary between accounts, but the consensus is that Luffman and Reeves were resting at Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room when they were surprised by Union soldiers and were forced to hide in the river bottoms before continuing away from Siloam to Salem.

# ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

#### Detached Kitchen

Reasons commonly given for the practice of having a residential kitchen in a separate outbuilding include concerns of fires spreading to the main house, or a desire to keep heat and odors away from living spaces (Phillips 1987). Some historians theorize that on plantations, detached kitchens located near, yet apart from, the main house served to put distance between the enslaved African Americans working in the kitchen and the white family living in the house. This separation of space and function helped define different roles based on race and gender (Adams 2010).

At the time that the original log single-pen portion of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room was built, the Reeves Homeplace was functioning as a plantation, and the Reeves family were slave holders. Wyatt (1956) includes a romanticized sketch written by Sallie Louise Reeves McKinney, Richard E. Reeves' eldest daughter. She and her younger sister, Adele Galloway Reeves, were born at Reeves Homeplace, in 1878 and 1883, respectively. McKinney writes of Eliza Reeves Bethel, who was brought to the Reeves plantation ca. 1850 along with her daughter. Eliza remained on the farm after the Civil War, and worked for the family as their cook. After dinner, she would tell ghost stories to the children:

We would help clear the table, one would dry the dishes, another sweep the dining room and the kitchen, another would grind the coffee for breakfast next morning. ... We would sit on the steps in the summer time or around the fireside in winter, while 'Aunt Lize' told her stores. ...[B]y the end of the story...so frightened were we that she would have to take the children of both families to their homes, tho they were only a short distance away (Wyatt 1956:86).

According to McKinney, Eliza married Sam Bethel and had a family. Around 1885, the Bethels moved to Dobson, North Carolina, and Eliza no longer worked for the Reeves (Wyatt 1956).

While summarizing the results of the 1981 survey, Phillips (1987) noted that only a dozen houses in the area still featured detached kitchens, and that most of these were in the southeastern corner of Surry County. Some previously detached kitchens have been subsumed by additions to the primary residence, and others simply are no longer standing. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is unusual as it is a surviving detached kitchen that has lost not just one, but two, associated residences.

The John Zeb Vaughn House (SR0094) in Pilot Township is perhaps the best surviving example of a nineteenth-century log house with a detached log kitchen in Surry County (Figure 21) (Phillips 1987). The detached kitchen is rectangular in plan, with a gable-end exterior chimney. Window and/or door openings are found on each of the elevations, and the windows are two-over-two wood sash, although they may be replacements. Unlike the Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, the structure's exterior is unclad.



Figure 21. John Zeb Vaughn House with detached kitchen.

The Bowen House (SR0117) in the Shoals Township of Surry County is an example of a oncedetached kitchen incorporated into a larger main house (Figure 22). The house and kitchen were built ca. 1873, and substantially altered in 1928 with a four-room addition that became the front elevation of the frame house. Like Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, this log kitchen structure has exterior clapboard cladding (Phillips 1987).



Figure 22. Bowen House.

Detached kitchens in Surry County continue to be a vanishing resource type, with some that were previously identified no longer existing. A ca. 1881 one-story hall-and-parlor house repurposed as a detached kitchen and dining room was recorded in the 1981 survey as part of the Pate Owen House (SR0118) in Shoals Township (Phillips 1987). Like Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, this hewn log structure had been clad with clabboard (Figure 23). A re-visit as part of this survey found that the kitchen is no longer standing (Figure 24). Using Google Earth to look at older aerial photographs, it appears that the kitchen was removed sometime between 1998 and 2005. The materials may have been repurposed as the detached garage now to the side of the house.



Figure 23. Previous appearance of Pate Owen House (Phillips 1987:233).



Figure 24. Current appearance of Pate Owen House.

# Construction Techniques and Materials

Log construction is a significant part of Surry County's historic built environment, as demonstrated by the many log houses, barns, and agricultural outbuildings built through the late nineteenth century. "Oral tradition gathered during the course of the inventory revealed that in many cases, well into the nineteenth century, settlers would erect a single-room log structure that would initially serve all housing needs. After the construction of the main house, the original single-room building would become either a detached kitchen or part of a rear ell to the house" Phillips (1987:7). Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room illustrates this transition from a single pen log house to a detached kitchen.

Log construction persisted in Surry County from the 1700s into the 1920s, becoming less common beginning in the mid nineteenth century due to the availability of commercially sawn lumber. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room exhibits many of the characteristics typical of log houses built in Surry County, with a single-pen plan extended into a hall-and parlor plan and a loft over the one-story log portion of the building (Phillips 1987). Despite its hall-and-parlor form, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room was not used as a residence.

Considering historic methods of wood construction in the eastern United States, Kniffen and Glassie (1966:42) found "[h]alf-timbering – a heavy framing of squared timbers with a filling, or nogging, between them – was part of the cultural heritage of most Europeans in America at the time of the Revolution." Over time, the increased use of clapboard siding over half-timbered structures and the decreased use of nogging resulted from the abundance of wood available in eastern states. Eighteenth-century Moravian settlers in Bethabara (1750s), Bethania (1750s), and Salem (1760s) in Rowan County, which included what later became Surry County, continued the practice of traditional European building methods. Timber frame construction with brick nogging was used in Salem in the late eighteenth century and persisted through the nineteenth century (City-County Planning Department 2012; Fearnbach 2007). Preeminent nineteenth-century examples of brick-nogged timber construction in central North Carolina include the kitchen at Fairntosh Plantation and the slave dwellings at Horton Grove, both near Durham (Vernacular Architecture Forum 2016).

Two examples of houses built using brick nogging have been recorded in Surry County. The Holder-Shore House (SR0180) was a two-story farmhouse dating to the 1870s or 1880s (Phillips 1987:243), and may be contemporaneous with the addition to Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room. Over the past 35 years, the condition of this house has deteriorated to the point that it is now a ruin (Figure 25 and Figure 26). The Smith House in the Stewarts Creek Township of northern Surry County could not be relocated at its mapped location. This was a mid-nineteenth-century two-story house with a decorative smoked interior ceiling (Figure 27; Phillips 1987:260).



Figure 25. Current condition of Holder-Shore House.



Figure 26. Former appearance of Holder-Shore House (Phillips 1987:243).



Figure 27. Former appearance of Smith House (Phillips 1987:260).

#### **SIGNIFICANCE**

# Integrity

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room retains sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for the NRHP. The structure is in its original location, and retains the elements that reflect its nineteenth-century design. The structure's setting, feeling, and association have been diminished through the loss of the other structures once part of the Reeves Homeplace, the construction of the railroad, and the paving of SR 2013. Despite these changes, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is still within a rural landscape. Although there has been some loss of original materials, repairs and replacements have been made in kind and in keeping with the historic appearance. The removal of a chimney and the addition of a second room to the original single pen log house occurred during the period of significance (ca. 1835-1890). Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room exhibits the workmanship required for hewn log construction, timber framing, and brick nogging.

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room was once part of a 1,000-acre parcel with multiple houses, barns, and other agricultural outbuildings collectively known as Reeves Homeplace. All other structures once part of the Homeplace are now gone; as the sole survivor, the property no longer conveys the feeling, or sense, of a nineteenth-century farm. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is directly associated with brothers Richard and Micajah Reeves, their joint home lives and business endeavors, and Richard's military experience.

#### **Evaluation Criteria**

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with events that have made a contribution to the broad patterns of our history. While the structure retains the character and appearance it featured during its use by brothers Richard and Micajah Reeves, on its own, it does not clearly illustrate the social forces contributing to development of Siloam in the post-bellum era prior to the arrival of the railroad. Additionally, since it is unclear whether the encounter between Reeves, Luffman, and Union forces at this location in April 1865 was a significant part of Stoneman's Raid, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is not recommended as eligible under Criterion A for events related to the Civil War.

Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is the most intact surviving structure associated with the productive years of Richard and Micajah Reeves. The Kitchen and Dining Room illustrates the extent to which the brothers collaborated in both business and personal matters, with this structure shared by their households. Although part of the general trend of local history, the Reeves brothers were not innovators in business or politics and were not significant within their profession. Therefore, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B for its association with individuals significant in history.

Once found countywide, surviving examples of detached kitchens are now found primarily in the southeastern corner of Surry County. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room retains the massing, proportions, placement of doors and windows, materials, and ornamentation that it featured during its use as a detached kitchen and dining room. The loss of the associated houses is notable, but the intact survival of a detached kitchen is rare, especially one with few non-sympathetic alterations of material. Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is also a rare late example of brick nogging in a timber-framed structure; it may be the only surviving example of this construction method in Surry County. Therefore, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for its physical design and construction.

As a rare example of brick nogging, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room may be able to provide information about the techniques and materials used in this type of half-timbered construction. This is a late example of the type and may be useful in understanding both the persistence and the discontinuation of use of brick nogging in North Carolina. Therefore, Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield information important in the history of the state.

#### NRHP BOUNDARIES

The proposed NRHP boundaries are drawn to include the Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room but exclude the Samuel Freeman Marker (Figure 28). The entire parent parcel and adjoining parcels were historically associated with the Reeves brothers, but the Kitchen and Dining Room is the only remaining standing structure associated with their Homeplace. The northern boundary follows the parcel boundary along SR 2013, and the southern boundary follows the cut for the Yadkin Valley Railroad. The western boundary is drawn arbitrarily, including part of the yard but excluding the Hardy Site NRHP marker. The eastern boundary is also drawn arbitrarily, excluding the non-contributing concrete slab and the Samuel Freeman Marker.

These boundaries have been drawn based on above-ground resources only. The research conducted to compile a historic context for the Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room suggests that Richard Elwell Reeves and Micajah Coke Reeves each had a house nearby and to either side of the Kitchen and Dining Room. One or the other of these houses may have been built originally by Samuel Freeman (Wyatt 1956). No structural remains of these houses remains above ground, and no archaeological survey was completed as part of this project.

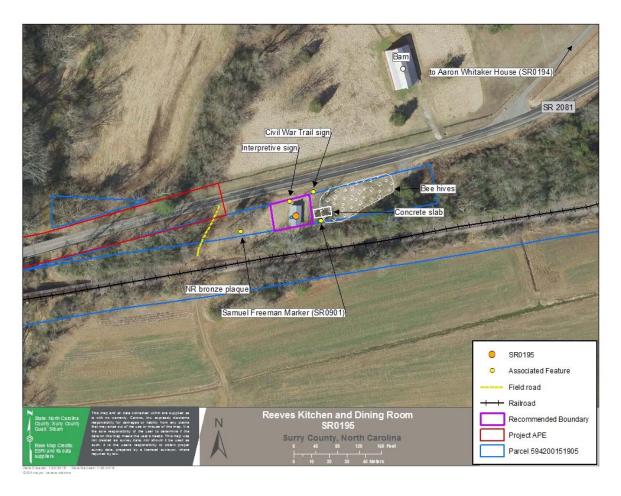


Figure 28. Map showing proposed NRHP boundaries for Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room.

# Samuel Freeman Marker

Resource Name	Samuel Freeman Marker (Figure 29)	
HPO Survey Site Number	SR0901	
Location	Within unaddressed parcel on south side of SR 2081 (Hardy Road)	
PIN	594200151905	
Date of Construction	1937	
Recommendation	Ineligible for NRHP	



Figure 29. Samuel Freeman Marker.

# **SETTING**

Approximately 35 feet to the east of Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room adjacent to the concrete slab is a stone marker commemorating Samuel Freeman, placed by the DAR (Figure 30). A transcription of a speech made by Robert Freeman, Samuel's great-great grandson, at the September 1937 dedication of the marker mentions that the former home of Micajah Reeves (possibly built by Samuel Freeman) is nearby (Wyatt 1956:13), but today this house is no longer standing.

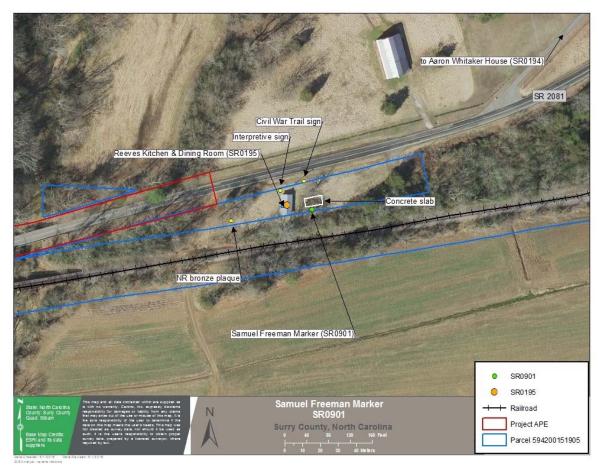


Figure 30. Samuel Freeman Marker site plan.

# **DESCRIPTION**

The marker is generally rectangular in form, with a slightly rounded top, made from cement-mortared quartzite rock (Figure 31). The marker measures 44 inches wide, 24 inches deep, 44 inches high, with a 9-x-6 ½ inch bronze plaque on the west face. The plaque reads: REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER / SAMUEL FREEMAN / 1715 – 1796. The dash between the dates is represented by the DAR seal (Figure 32). Photographs taken during the 1937 ceremony show this to be the marker's original appearance (Figure 33 and Figure 34).



Figure 31. Samuel Freeman Marker.



Figure 32. Close-up of Samuel Freeman marker, showing plaque and materials.



Figure 33. 1937 dedication of the Samuel Freeman Marker (courtesy Marion Venable).



Figure 34. 1937 dedication of the Samuel Freeman Marker (courtesy Marion Venable).

#### **HISTORY**

In 1771, Samuel Freeman received a grant of 450 acres at the Yadkin River and Hogan Creek within the Granville District. In 1767 he moved to Rowan County, and three years later this part of Rowan County became Surry County; thus, Freeman was one of the county's earliest settlers (Wyatt 1956).

Samuel Freeman was born in Chowan County ca. 1725, the son of William Freeman and Elizabeth Alexander. At the age of 56, he moved to Surry County with his wife Elizabeth Alexander. He became involved in the establishment of local government, and served on the Committee of Safety during the Revolutionary War. In 1777, at the age of 62, he enlisted to fight in that war. Later, he was elected as a member of the General Assembly for Surry County, and in 1783 served in the House of Commons. Freeman died in 1796 (Wyatt 1956).

In 1937, the local chapter of the DAR placed a marker commemorating Samuel Freeman's service as a Revolutionary War soldier. Although located near Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room, the Samuel Freeman Marker was placed more than 50 years after the Reeves brothers moved away from Siloam. The only connection between the two properties is that Samuel Freeman was Richard and Micajah Reeves' great-grandfather, and that Micajah Reeves lived in a house that may have been built by Samuel Freeman; Reeves Kitchen and Dining Room is estimated to have been built ca. 1835, at least three decades after Freeman's death.

#### ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The DAR's Office of the Historian General provided some context in which the Samuel Freeman Marker can be evaluated (Genevieve Shishak, personal communication 2016).

From the beginning of the DAR's history (in 1890), a central aim of the organization has been historic preservation and the commemoration of people, events and places of historical interest and import, particularly as pertains to the American Revolutionary War. On page 19 of *The First Report of Daughters of the American Revolution*, 1890 to 1897 the first object of the society is listed as: "To perpetuate the memory of the spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence by the acquisition and protection of historical spots and the erection of monuments..."

Though the aim in placing markers has remained the same since the DAR's founding, the process by which DAR markers are placed has changed and evolved through the years. The first report mentioned above (of the DAR's activities during the years 1890-1897) shows photographs of markers placed by various chapters at gravesites of individual soldiers, at battlefields to commemorate the sacrifices of numerous individuals, at sites where other events took place during the Revolutionary War and so on. There was no uniformity to these early markers—they appear in varying formats.

In the 1906, the idea of adopting a standard design for DAR Revolutionary War soldier/patriot markers was introduced at the society's 16<sup>th</sup> annual Continental Congress. In the mid-1920s resolutions were passed to adopt official designs to be used to mark the graves of Revolutionary War soldiers/patriots and their daughters. These designs have evolved over the years, along with the procedures by which they are placed.

While it is made from stone, a material commonly used for DAR markers in North Carolina (Barefoot 1998), the Samuel Freeman Marker does not follow a standard design. The plaque does not offer information beyond Freeman's name, birth and death dates, and that he was a soldier in the American Revolution. The property on which the marker stands does not belong to the DAR, nor is it a public tract or designated cemetery. It is a possibility that this is Freeman's burial location, as it was the DAR's goal to mark gravesites and this was part of his landholdings and likely near his home.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE**

# Integrity

The Samuel Freeman Marker retains sufficient integrity to be considered for listing in the NRHP. It is in its original location, and maintains its original design and materials. The workmanship of its rough cut and mortared stones is clearly evident. The setting in an agricultural area under a tree is similar to that of late 1930s, although the house is no longer standing nearby. The adjacent concrete slab, bee hives, and overgrown vegetation overwhelm any feeling of commemorating an important person. The marker's historic association with the DAR is evident through the identifying plaque on its west face.

# Evaluation Criteria

Graves are not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP unless they meet the requirements specified in Criteria Consideration C (NRHP 1997; Potter and Boland 1992). The NRHP gives preference to properties associated with a significant person's life or productive work rather than their final resting place. For a grave to be considered for listing in the NRHP, it must be of an individual of outstanding importance in local, state, or national history. According to guidance provided by the NRHP regarding evaluation of graves, the "grave of an individual who was one of several people active in some aspect of the history or a community, a state, or the Nation would not be eligible" (NRHP 1997:32). While Samuel Freeman did play a role in the early settlement of the local area, served during the Revolutionary War, and held public office at the state level, he was one of several men who filled these roles at the same time. Freeman is not a person of outstanding historic significance, and his grave site does not meet Criteria Consideration C.

Graves can be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP for reasons other than association with the particular person buried (NRHP 1997; Potter and Boland 1992). If the grave is associated with an important event, it might be eligible under Criterion A. A grave linked to the life of another

historically significant person might be eligible under Criterion B. Distinctive markers displaying artistic qualities or high levels of craftsmanship can be eligible under Criterion C. If a grave has potential to yield significant data for social or biological research, it could be eligible under Criterion D. Assuming that this location is in fact Samuel Freeman's grave, it did not play a role in important events, either locally or on a regional level. It is not associated with the life of another historically significant person. The marker does not display artistic merit in its design or workmanship, and there is no indication that Freeman's burial would have significance for research purposes.

Commemorative properties, such as a DAR marker, are not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP unless they meet the requirements specified in Criteria Consideration F. Commemorative properties built after an important event or after the death of an important person reflect the views of the builder rather than the views of the person or persons being honored. The property's significance is not derived from the implied association with the remembered person or event, but rather from its association with the person or group who created the commemorative property or from traditions that have become historically associated with the memorial (NRHP 1997).

The Samuel Freeman Marker does not meet Criteria Consideration F. It does represent the interest the DAR had in the early twentieth century in placing commemorative markers for Revolutionary War veterans, but the marker's design does not clearly express those goals and lacks artistic quality. The national DAR Historian's office does not have a record of this marker (Shishak, personal communication 2016). It is not known to be part of a series or larger grouping of related DAR markers in Surry County or North Carolina. The marker is on private property currently in use for agricultural purposes, and there are no local recurring events or traditions associated with its location. Although the marker is placed on land owned by Samuel Freeman in the eighteenth century, the lack of surviving properties associated with his life or career does not contribute to this commemorative object's eligibility for listing in the NRHP (NRHP 1997).

For these reasons, the Samuel Freeman Marker is not recommended as eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.

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