

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 13, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

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

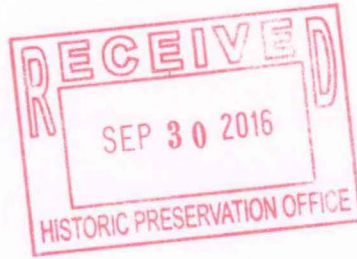
SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Widening of SR 1203 (Allen Road) from SR 1467 to US 13 to a Four-Lane Divided Facility with Raised Median, U-5875, Pitt County, ER 16-1806

Thank you for our letter of September 29, 2016, transmitting the report for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and concur that the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (PT0047) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C and Consideration B. The proposed boundaries appear appropriate.

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, mfurr@ncdot.gov



PAT McCRORY
Governor
NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON
Secretary

September 29, 2016

ER 16-1806

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

H

Dear Ms. Gledhill-Earley:

DUE 10/24/16

RE: **Historic Structures Report:** Pitt County, TIP # U-5875, Widen SR 1203 (Allen Rd) from SR 1467 (Stantonsburg Rd) to US 13 (Dickenson Ave Ext) to a Four-Lane Divided Facility with Raised Median.

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

Attachment



**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION REPORT
WIDEN SR 1203 (ALLEN RD.) FROM SR 1467 (STANTONSBURG RD.)
TO US 13 (DICKINSON AVE EXT.) TO A FOUR-LANE DIVIDED
FACILITY WITH RAISED MEDIAN, PITT COUNTY, NORTH
CAROLINA
FINAL IDENTIFICATION & EVALUATION**

**TIP Project U-5875
WBS No. 44677.1.1
PA No. 16-07-0001**

**Prepared for:
The North Carolina Department of Transportation
Project Development & Environmental Analysis Branch
Century Center
1020 Birch Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**Prepared by:
Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc.
(formerly Coastal Carolina Research/CCRG, Inc.)
P.O. BOX 1198
201 WEST WILSON STREET
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886**

**Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D.
*Architectural Historian***

NCR-0736

SEPTEMBER 2016

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES EVALUATION REPORT
WIDEN SR 1203 (ALLEN RD.) FROM SR 1467 (STANTONSBURG RD.) TO
US 13 (DICKINSON AVE EXT.) TO A FOUR-LANE DIVIDED FACILITY
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**Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D.
*Architectural Historian***

NCR-0736

SEPTEMBER 2016

Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D., Principal Investigator **9-22-2016**
Commonwealth Heritage Group **Date**

Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor **Date**
Historic Architecture Group, NCDOT

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen SR 1203 (Allen Road) from SR 1467 (Stantonsburg Road) to US 13 (Dickinson Avenue Ext.) to a four-lane divided facility with a raised median. The project is located in Pitt County along the western outskirts of Greenville. The U-5875 project is subject to review under the 2007 *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects* among the Federal Highway Administration, NCDOT, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project and conducted a preliminary investigation, identifying one resource warranting additional study and eligibility evaluation. This resource is included in the state architectural survey.

This report represents documentation of the ca. 1850 Noah Forbes, Sr. House (PT0047) within the APE for this project, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The project is included in the current North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as Project Number U-5875 and has state funds and federal permits. The APE is centered on SR 1203 (Allen Road), from the SR 1467 (Stantonsburg Road) intersection in the north to the US 13 (Dickinson Avenue Ext.) intersection in the south.

For the preparation of this evaluation report, the Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth), architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the identified property at 1740 Allen Road (SR 1203). The Commonwealth architectural historian inspected the resource in Pitt County in September 2015. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Pitt County Public Library (Greenville) and the Pitt County Register of Deeds (Greenville), both online and on site. Additional background research was conducted at the Commonwealth library in Tarboro, North Carolina, and using online sources. This report recommends that the resource is eligible for listing in the NRHP.

PROPERTY NAME	HPO SSN	ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION	CRITERIA
Noah Forbes, Sr. House	PT0047	Eligible	C & Consideration B

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INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen SR 1203 (Allen Road) from SR 1467 (Stantonsburg Road) to US 13 (Dickinson Avenue Ext.) to a four-lane divided facility with a raised median. The project is located in Pitt County along the western outskirts of Greenville (Figure 1). This project is included in the current North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as Project Number U-5875 and has state funds and federal permits. This report includes architectural analysis and in-depth evaluation of one historic property in the Area of Potential Effects (APE), the ca. 1850 Noah Forbes, Sr. House. The investigations comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP) and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the public.

The U-5875 project is subject to review under the 2007 *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects* among the Federal Highway Administration, NCDOT, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project and conducted a preliminary investigation, identifying one resource warranting additional study and eligibility evaluation. This resource is included in the state architectural survey. The APE is centered on SR 1203 (Allen Road), from the SR 1467 (Stantonsburg Road) intersection in the north to the US 13 (Dickinson Avenue Ext.) intersection in the south (Figure 2).

Methodology

Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth), prepared this historic architectural resources evaluation report in accordance with the provisions of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*¹ and NCDOT's *Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources*. This report meets NCDOT and National Park Service guidelines with evaluation according to NRHP criteria. The location of the project area and the evaluated resource is shown in Figure 2.

The NRHP criteria require that the quality of significance in American history, architecture, culture, and archaeology should be present in buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that the buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts:

- A. are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
 - B. are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
 - C. 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;
- or

¹ National Park Service, 2016. 48 CFR 44716; 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60

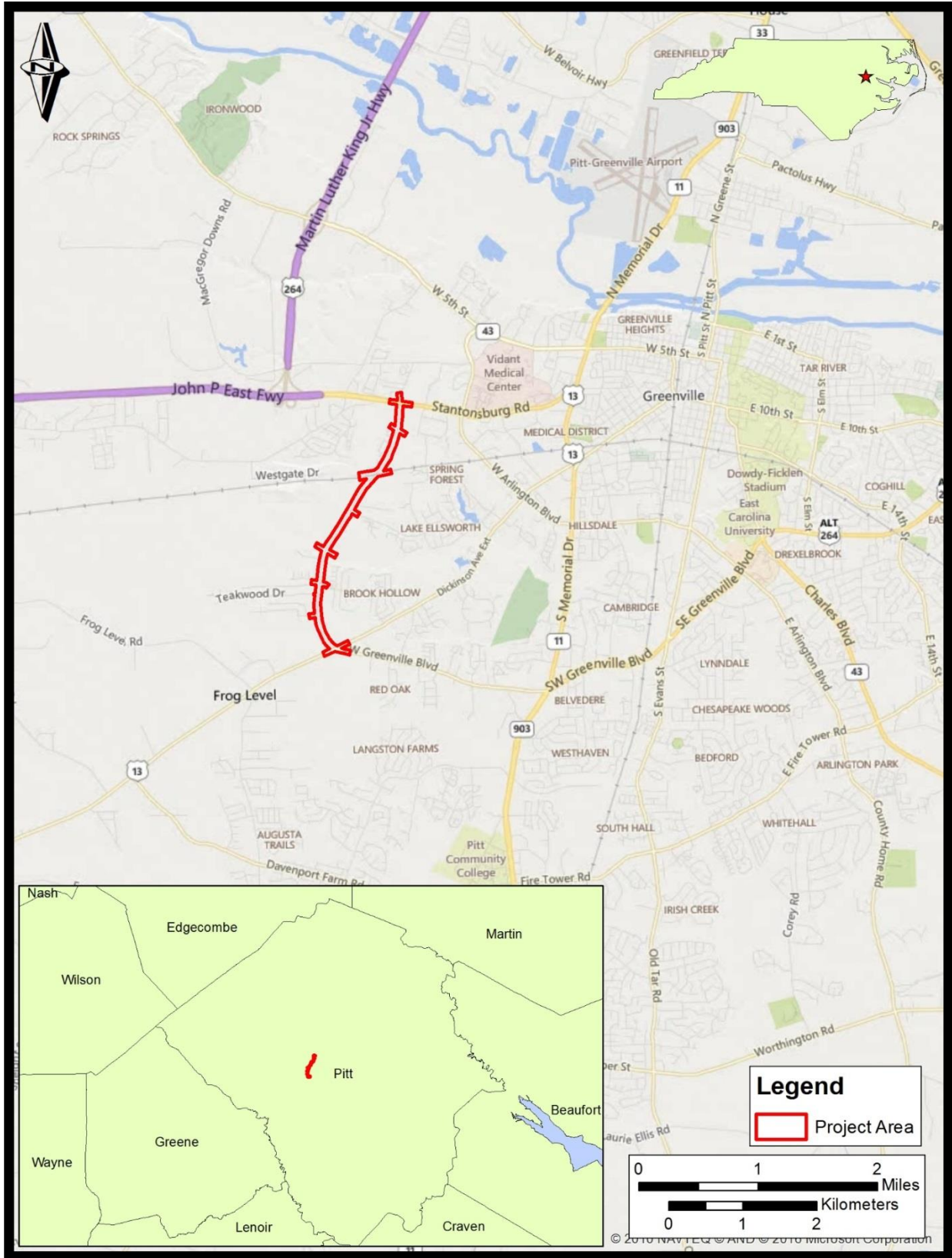


Figure 1: General Location of Area of Potential Effects for the Widening of SR 1203 (U-5875).

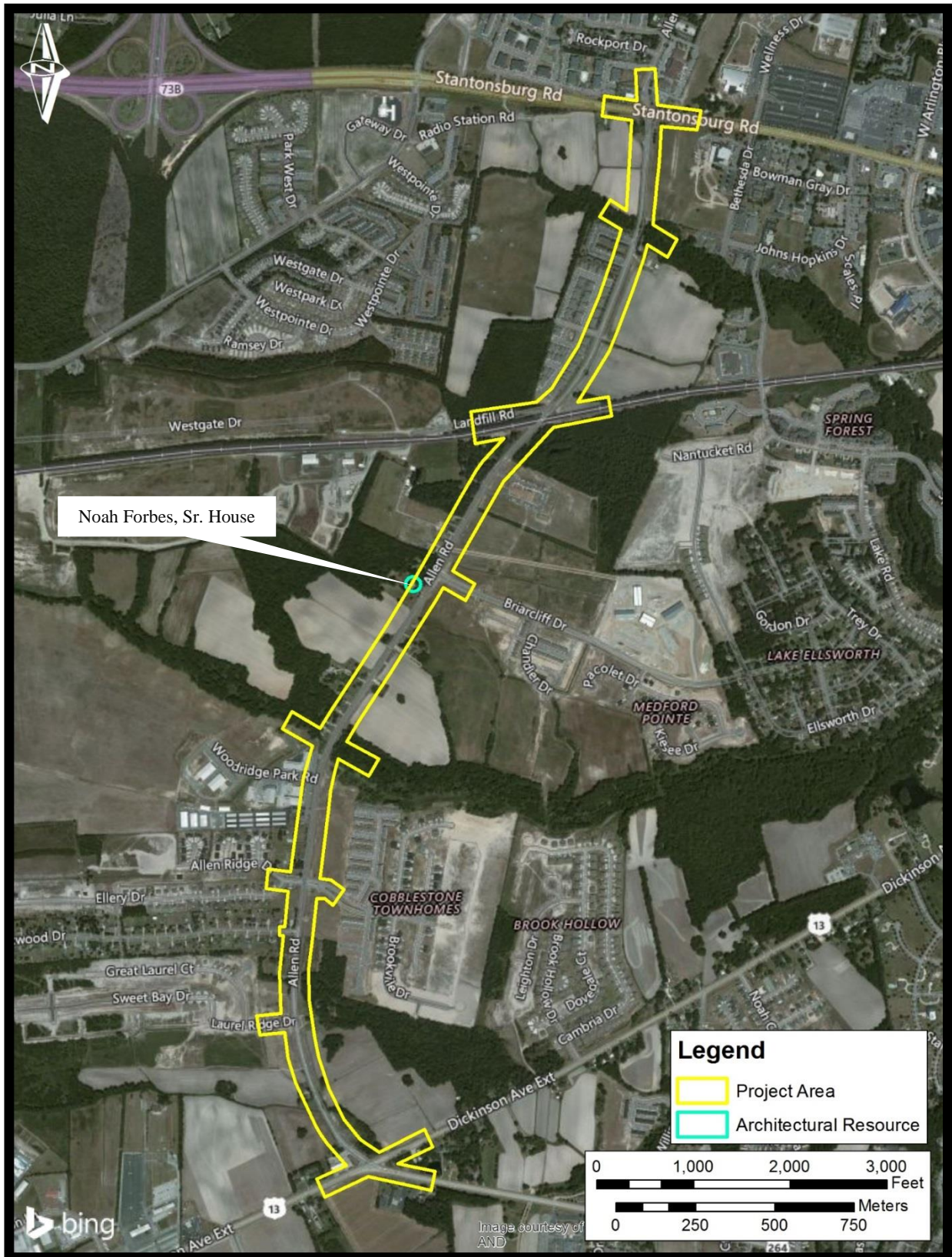


Figure 2: Historic Architectural Resource, Shown on Aerial (U-5875) (ArcGIS Image Service 2016).

D. have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.²

For the in-depth evaluation of the requested resource, the Commonwealth architectural historian conducted fieldwork in September 2016. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Pitt County Public Library (Greenville), and the Pitt County Register of Deeds (Greenville), both online and on site. Additional background research was conducted at the Commonwealth library in Tarboro, North Carolina, and using online sources.

Summary of Results

The intensive-level investigation involved the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (No. 1/PT0047). Based on the information obtained during the evaluation the resource is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Physical Environment

The immediate area surrounding the resource is predominantly rural and includes large wooded areas interspersed with agricultural fields. However, the northern and southern end of the APE intersects with the modern suburbs of the City of Greenville. The individually evaluated property has a rural setting in an area that has seen little development other than the construction of individual houses. The building itself was moved to the location around 1979.

² Ibid.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Noah Forbes, Sr. House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	1
HPO Survey Site Number:	PT0047
Location:	1740 Allen Road (SR 1203), Pitt County
Parcel ID:	35131
Dates(s) of Construction:	ca. 1850
Recommendation:	Eligible for the NRHP



Figure 3: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Looking Southwest.

Setting

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House (also known as the Noah Forbes, Jr. House) is located on the west side of Allen Road (SR 1203).³ It faces southeast and is located approximately 110 feet back from the road. The building is surrounded by grass with several mature trees and a wooded area to the northwest. Located behind the dwelling is a small number of outbuildings. The building was moved to its current location around 1979 (Figures 3 and 4).

³ The house was originally recorded as the Noah Forbes, Sr. House, rather than the Noah Forbes, Jr. House, as part of a survey of Pitt County. Scott Power, Editor, *The Historic Architecture of Pitt County, North Carolina*, Pitt County Historical Society, 1991, p. 370.

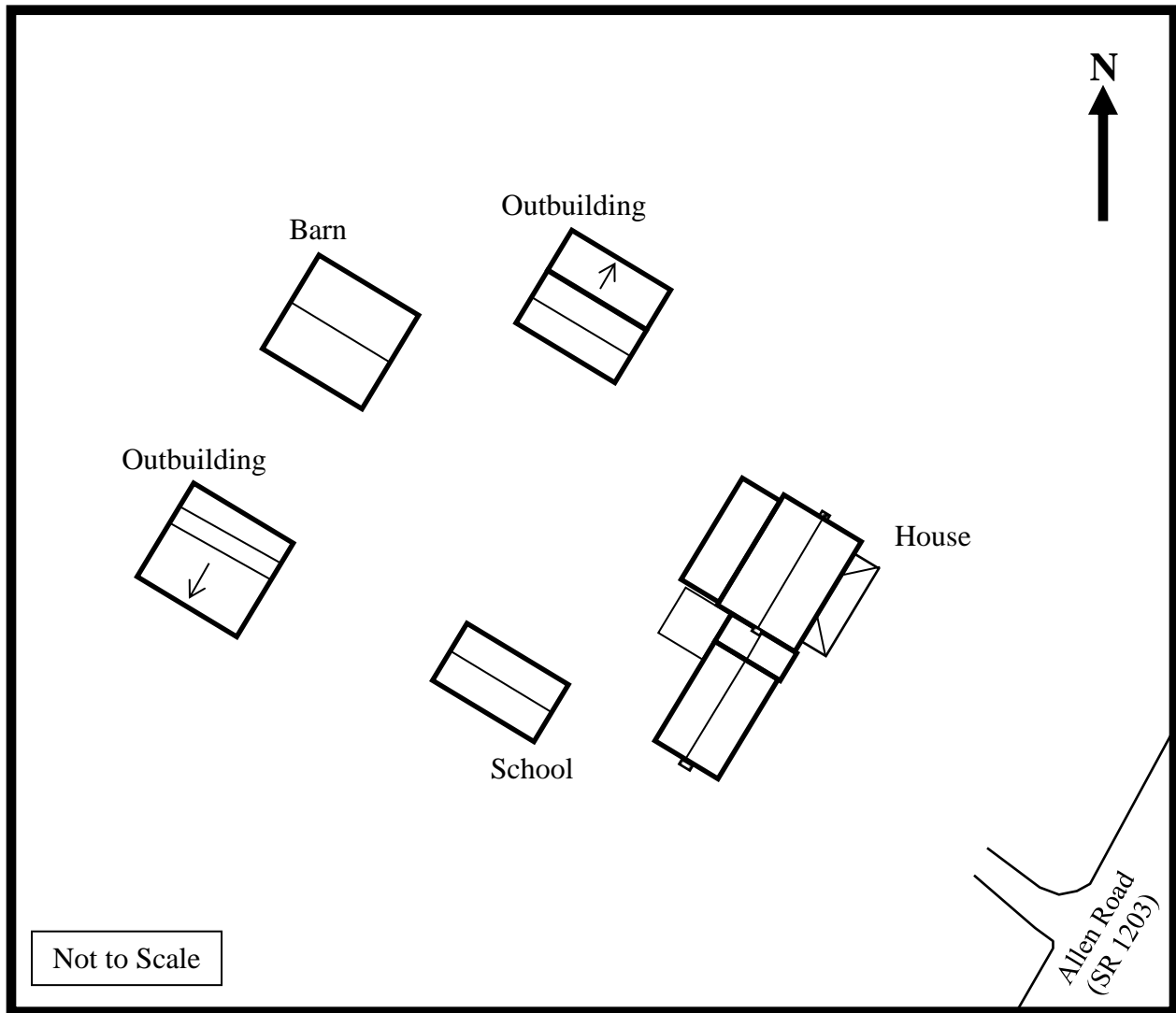


Figure 4: Sketch Map the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1).

Property Description

Exterior

Built around the middle of the nineteenth century the Noah Forbes, Sr. House is a one-story, side-gabled dwelling with a hip-roofed porch, supported by paired slender posts, which shelters the three bays on the southeast (front) elevation of the building. An engaged shed extends across the northwest (rear) elevation of the dwelling, and single-shouldered brick chimneys are located against the gable ends. An enclosed hyphen against the southwest gable end of the main block connects with a one-story, three-bay, side-gabled structure with a single-shouldered brick chimney against its southwest gable end. The building sits on a continuous brick foundation, is clad in plain weatherboard siding, has plain corner boards topped by simple capitals, and a blank entablature and a modest box cornice with returns, and has a standing-seam metal roof. It has nine-over-six wooden sash windows on the front elevation and the northeast gable end and six-

over-six on the remaining elevations. The engaged shed is clad in vinyl German, or drop, siding (Figures 5 through 8).

Interior

The surveyor did not obtain access to the interior of the property at the time of the survey, but did talk to the occupant of the dwelling who mentioned that the original doors and mantelpieces survive. Interior bathrooms were added after the building was moved to its current location.

Outbuildings

Located behind the house are four ancillary structures, three of which may be original to the site, and one which was moved to this location around the same time the dwelling was. Northwest of the dwelling sits a one-story, front-gabled, rectangular outbuilding with an open shed addition along its northeast (side) elevation. The building sits on concrete block piers, is clad in plain weatherboard siding, and has six-over-six wooden sash windows. Located to the west of this outbuilding is a two-story, front-gabled, drive-through barn. The barn sits on concrete block piers and was recently clad in T1-11 siding. To the south of the barn sits a two-story, front-gabled, rectangular outbuilding with an engaged shed along its southwest (side) elevation. The building sits on concrete block piers, is clad in plain weatherboard siding, and has storm windows over the window openings to the left of the entry. Located closest to the dwelling is a one-story side-gabled structure that according to the county survey was the Forbes schoolhouse, and was moved to this location.⁴ Doors are located in the northeast and southwest elevations and single windows are located in the elevations, and gable ends. The building sits on a brick pier foundation, is clad in plain weatherboard siding, and has one-over-one vinyl sash replacement windows (Figures 9 through 14).

⁴ Ibid.



Figure 5: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Looking Northwest.



Figure 6: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Looking South.



Figure 7: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Looking Northeast.



Figure 8: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Looking Northwest.



Figure 9: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Outbuilding Looking Northwest.



Figure 10: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Barn Looking Northwest.



Figure 11: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Barn Interior Looking Southwest.



Figure 12: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Outbuilding Looking Northwest.



Figure 13: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Forbes Schoolhouse Looking Southwest.



Figure 14: Noah Forbes, Sr. House (# 1), Forbes Schoolhouse Looking Northeast.

Historical Background

The house was originally located on the west side of South Memorial Drive (NC 11), approximately 0.2 miles southwest of the intersection with Southwest Greenville Boulevard (US 264 Alternate), which is approximately 3.2 miles southeast from its current location (Figure 15). The dwelling was surrounded by farmlands and a small number of outbuildings. A 1957 aerial suggests that a number of tobacco barns were located on the east side of NC 11, that may have been associated with the property. The chain of title of the property can be traced back to the early nineteenth century, when Robert Forbes (1789-1845) obtained a 250-acre tract of land from members of the Tison family.⁵ Robert had married Gracy Tison (Tyson) (1796-1875) in 1811.⁶ In 1815, Robert obtained another tract of land from one of Gracy's brothers, Moses Tison, on which were located a gristmill and a sawmill.⁷ The associated pond became known as Forbes Mill Pond and was located to the north of the property (Figure 16). In 1838, Robert Forbes conveyed 131 acres to his oldest son, Noah Forbes (1812-1891). Noah Forbes married Artemisa Evans that same year, and the house may have been built shortly after these events. Noah Forbes expanded his holdings, and in 1875, he conveyed two tracts of land to his youngest son, Noah Forbes, Jr. (1849-1908).⁸ Branson's North Carolina Business Directory lists both Noah Forbes, Sr. and Jr. as farmers and furthermore lists a Noah Forbes as operating a saloon in Greenville as well as a corn and flourmill.⁹ Noah Forbes, Jr. may have added the engaged shed to the dwelling after his father's death in 1891.¹⁰ Noah Forbes, Jr. continued to farm the property and operate the grist and flourmill.¹¹ According to family history Noah Forbes, Jr. grew corn, cotton, and tobacco, as well as apples, grapes, peaches, and plums, and even produced brandy and wine that was shipped as far north as Philadelphia.¹² The account of the sales of his personal property in 1908 confirms much of this as it listed 10½ gallons of wine, 5 bales of cotton, 31½ bushels of cotton seed, about 1,000 pounds of tobacco, and 33½ bushels of grapes, among other things.¹³ Noah Forbes, Jr.'s heirs sold a 240-acre tract of land to B. E. Moye in 1909.¹⁴ In 1913, the land was conveyed to J. S. James, and in 1919, a section of the land was conveyed to Charles Heber Forbes (1880-1970), one of Noah Forbes, Jr.'s children (Figure 17).¹⁵ C. Heber Forbes died childless in 1970, and the land passed on to one of his nephews, John Frederick Moye. John F. Moye and his wife sold a 73.73-acre tract of land to Ernest W. Hahn, Inc., in 1977.¹⁶ In 1979, this land would ultimately become the site for the Carolina East Mall and Carolina East Convenience Center. Also in 1979, John F. Moye purchased a tract of land on the west side of Allen Road (SR 1203), and moved his great-grand- father's house to its current location.¹⁷ The

⁵ Pitt County Deed Book V, page 95, 1811.

⁶ Pitt County Families, Robert Forbes.

⁷ Pitt County Deed Book DD, page 209, 1815.

⁸ Pitt County Deed Book B3, pages 438 and 440, 1875.

⁹ Levi Branson, Branson's North Carolina Business Directory 1890, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1889.

¹⁰ Power, 370.

¹¹ Levi Branson, Branson's North Carolina Business Directory 1896, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1896.

¹² John F. Moye, "Noah Forbes Jr. Family," in *Chronicles of Pitt County, North Carolina, 1982*. Pitt County Historical Society, Greenville, 310.

¹³ Ancestry.com 2016.

¹⁴ Pitt County Deed Book M09, page 29, 1909.

¹⁵ Pitt County Deed Book U10, page 159, 1913. Eleven months earlier B. E. Moye had conveyed the property to Dr. E. A. Moye. Deed Book I10, page 519, 1913. Deed Book L13, page 113, 1919. James conveyed three tracts: 1, 2A, and 2C, containing approximately 93.4 acres.

¹⁶ Pitt County Deed Book P45, page 698, 1977.

¹⁷ Pitt County Deed Book X47, page 731, 1979.



Figure 15: Detail of 1957 Aerial Showing the Original Location of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (EarthExplorer 2016).

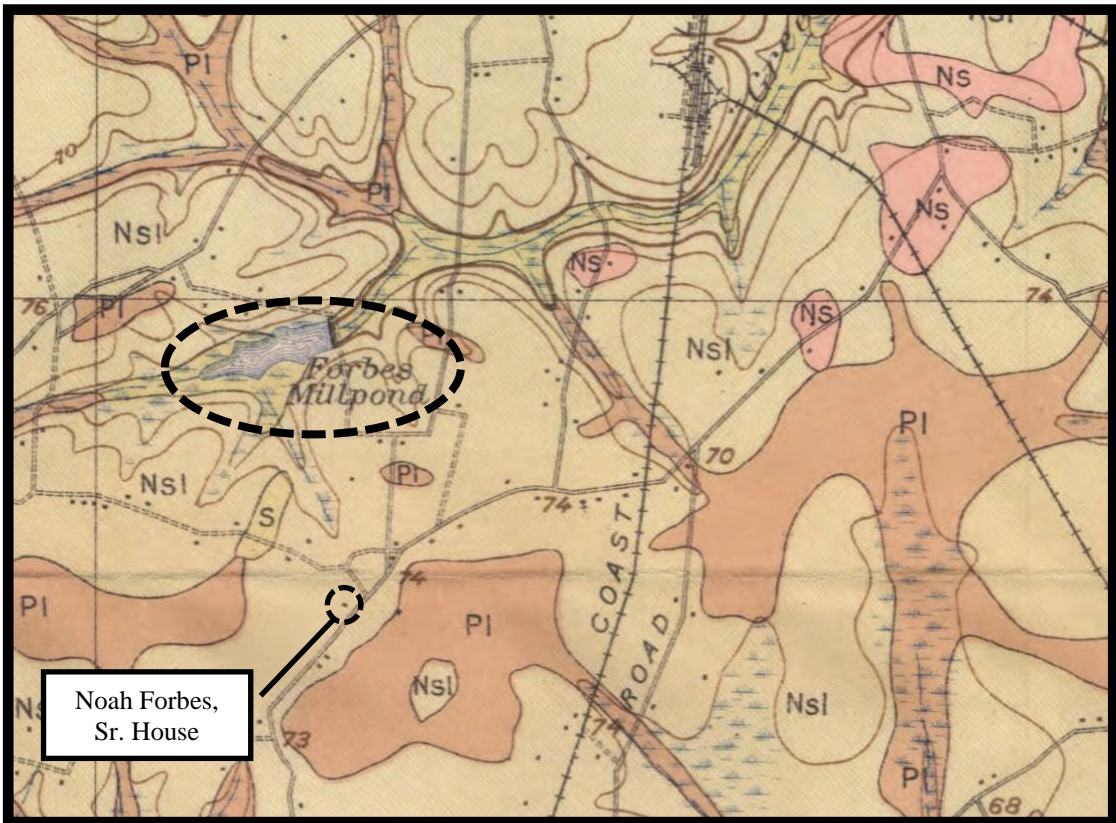


Figure 16: Detail of 1910 Soil Map of Pitt County, Showing the Location of Forbes Millpond and the Approximate Location of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (Hearn 1910).

Forbes School was also moved to this new location. Little is known about the Forbes School other than that it was located near the southeast corner of the intersection of South Memorial Drive (NC 11) and Southwest Greenville Boulevard (US 264 Alternate) (Figure 18). One of the conveyances between Noah Forbes, Sr. and Noah Forbes, Jr. in 1875 mentioned the school house field.¹⁸ The school itself is mentioned in the *Eastern Reflector* in 1897, and referred to as a public school. It lists the teacher as Miss Bessie Tyson, and mentions eleven girls and seven boys on the role of honor.¹⁹

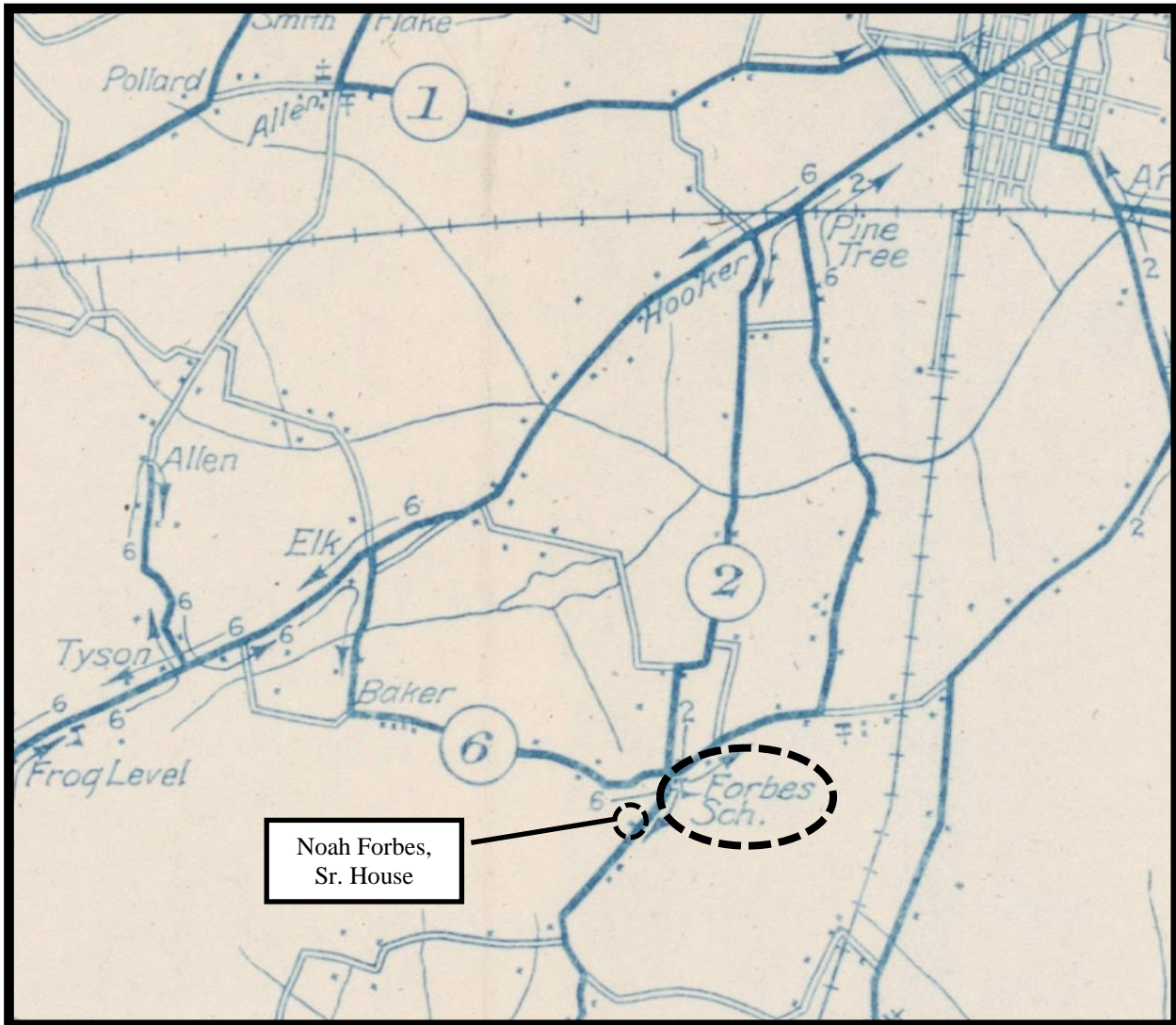


Figure 18: Detail of 1910-1919 Rural Delivery Routes in Pitt County, Showing the Location of Forbes School and the Approximate Location of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House (United States Post Office Department 1919).

¹⁸ Pitt County Deed Book B3, page 438, 1875.

¹⁹ *Eastern Reflector*, "Forbes' School House Roll of Honor, 1897," reprinted in Pitt County Genealogical Quarterly, Volume XVI, No. 1, February 2009.

The earliest settlers to what is now Pitt County arrived in 1714, and the county itself was formed in 1761 after a split from Beaufort County.²⁰ The presence of navigable rivers led to the county's population growth and economic development. During the eighteenth century naval stores were an important export for Pitt County, like they were for other counties in eastern North Carolina. Farming mainly consisted of small-scale subsistence crops, and only large landowners could produce cash crops. Early crops were corn, wheat, and oats, and by 1850, cotton had become an important crop.²¹ According to the 1850 census, there were 816 farms in Pitt County, and 86,382 acres of improved land.²² By 1860, the number of farms had increased to 956, and the acres of improved land to 106,164. The largest number of farms (358) contained between 100 and 499 acres, which is generally the range in which the Forbes farm fell.²³ After the Civil War the number of acres of improved land had gone down to 97,342, and the largest number of farms was now between 20 and 49 acres making the Forbes farm among the more rare larger holdings.²⁴ In 1886, bright tobacco was introduced, and by 1890, its production had increased greatly.²⁵ The sale of timber added considerably to the income of landowners. By the turn of the twentieth century the number of farms had grown to 4,022, with an average size of 88.3 acres.²⁶ By the beginning of the twentieth century the principal crops in Pitt County were cotton and tobacco, with approximately 20,000 to 27,000 bales of cotton being produced and 10,000,000 pounds of tobacco annually. This is generally consistent with information regarding the Forbes farm's products. Farmers practiced crop rotation, and those that plow deeper (12 to 15 inches instead of 8 inches) were being rewarded by increased yields. The majority of the hired hands were African American and the monthly wages for men are between \$10 and \$12 and included "rations, house, wood, and garden patch."²⁷ Day laborers made 60 cents for men and 50 cents for women. During tobacco season the day wages went up to 75 cents. The tenant system is common throughout the county and many large landowners live in the towns. The farms range in size with smaller farms containing between 80 to 300 acres and large farms between 500 and 3,000 acres. Pitt County was the largest tobacco-producing county in the state in the first decade of the twentieth century.²⁸

National Register Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Noah Forbes, Sr. House is recommended eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House was moved from its original location, but maintains an appropriate setting as it is surrounded by agricultural fields and woodlands as well as a small number of agricultural outbuildings representative of its historic function as a farmhouse. The massing of the house is typical of nineteenth century small farmhouses, and the design is a modest example

²⁰ Power, 5-8.

²¹ W. Edward Hearn, R. B. Hardison, and J. W. Nelson, *Soil Survey of Pitt County, North Carolina*, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1910, pp. 5-17.

²² Historical Census Browser.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Hearn, et al., p. 10.

²⁶ Historical Census Browser.

²⁷ Hearn, et al., p. 12.

²⁸ Ibid., p. 14.

of the Greek Revival style, which was popular in Pitt County from around 1840 to 1860.²⁹ It maintains a high level of integrity despite the enclosure of the breezeway connecting the main block to the kitchen wing and the use of vinyl German, or drop, siding on the engaged shed on the rear of the main block. The original siding survives on the main section of the dwelling, as well as on the kitchen wing, and both sections retain their wooden sash windows. The modest classically inspired corner boards survive on the main block, and the interior retains its original doors and mantelpieces.³⁰ A minor change to the front elevation of the main block came from the removal of the central porch support (Figure 19). Because of the high level of integrity of materials and workmanship, and the presence of ancillary structures, albeit not the original, the property still conveys its historic character and feeling. The property was associated with farming practices in the region during the turn of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century and still conveys the feeling of agricultural life during this period.



Figure 19: Historic Photograph of Noah Forbes, Jr. and His Family in Front of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House Around 1900 (Moye 1982).

Criterion A

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a

²⁹ Power, 47-76.

³⁰ Personal communication with the current occupant of the dwelling, September 2016.

community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House was associated with the types of agricultural practices in Pitt County that are discussed above, for the period from the nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. However, since the house was moved and the historic outbuildings and the agricultural setting are not its own it can no longer convey its original farming association and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

The property is not associated with the life or lives of persons significant to our past and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is a well-preserved example of a modest Greek Revival-style dwelling. An increase in population of Pitt County before the Civil War led to an increase in houses being built, many of which were stylistically influenced by the Greek Revival style. The style arrived relatively late in the South and was more restrained than the more high-style pattern book examples seen elsewhere. Most houses were built by local builders and carpenters, and some may have been constructed by the owners. Square and massive proportions, the use of full-width hip-roofed porches, and simple but bold ornaments characterized the Greek Revival style in Pitt County.³¹ The porch was a symbol of wealth and prosperity. Few were fully developed academic examples and the majority were supported by either chamfered or paired square posts.³² According to HPOWEB twenty-four dwelling houses have been surveyed in Pitt County that have been labeled Greek Revival, and all except one were determined eligible.³³ The Robert J. Lang House (PT0321) dates to ca. 1870 and is a late example of the Greek Revival style. It

³¹ Power, 49.

³² Power, 50.

³³ Seven are listed in the National Register and sixteen were determined eligible for the Study List.

was listed in the National Register in 1990. It is similar to the Noah Forbes, Sr. House in that it is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled dwelling with a full-width hip-roofed porch and modest exterior Greek Revival detailing (Figure 20). It does remain in its original location and retains several historic outbuildings. An example of a transitional Federal-Greek Revival style dwelling is the Caleb Smith House (PT0186), which dates to around 1824 and which was placed on the North Carolina Study List in 1989 (Figure 21). The dwelling was expanded during the middle of the nineteenth century, and its massing, with the formerly semi-detached kitchen/dining wing, is very similar to the Noah Forbes, Sr. House. At some point in the twentieth century the Smith House received a concrete porch, and the siding on the oldest section may have been replaced. The dwelling does not appear to be occupied at the moment and is showing signs of deterioration. The Henry John Mills House (PT0321) also dates to the middle of the nineteenth century (Figure 22). An interesting feature of the Mills House is the scalloped and pierced bargeboards and front frieze board. The Mills House has been described as a coastal cottage, but its massing is also similar to the Noah Forbes, Sr. House. The massing of the Mills House, with its formerly semi-detached kitchen/dining wing, shows that different styles could be applied to similar functional floorplans during this period. A more high-style example of the Greek Revival style is the Thomas Adrian Savage House (PT0316a), which dates to ca. 1856 (Figure 23). The dwelling was placed in the Study List in 1989, and moved to its current location in 1990.³⁴ The three-bay side-gabled shape of the dwelling is similar to that of the main block of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House, and it also has nine-over-six wooden sash windows on the front elevation.³⁵ The Greek Revival molded window surrounds and the stylized fluted pilasters on the corner boards suggest that the builder may have been inspired by pattern books (Figure 24). The modest use of the Greek Revival style on the Noah Forbes, Sr. House is representative of the vernacular adaptation of a high-style architectural trend in rural areas across Pitt County, but also seen elsewhere in North Carolina and the United States. The one-and-a-half-story massing of the Noah Forbes, Sr. House, with the semi-detached kitchen/dining wing is also typical of the period and place and illustrative of nineteenth-century domestic sensibilities. Due to the rapid urban development of the area around Greenville where the building is located, and changing domestic needs, buildings such as the Noah Forbes, Sr. House, and their agricultural setting, are quickly disappearing or are being overbuilt. Because the Noah Forbes, Sr. House retains a high level of integrity and embodies the distinctive characteristic of a type, period, and method of construction the dwelling is recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

³⁴ The house was moved approximately one mile south of its original location and is now part of the Eastern Carolina Village & Farm Museum.

³⁵ The gable end chimneys have not yet been and the full-width hip-roofed porch was altered after the move.



Figure 20: View of the Robert J. Lang, Jr. House (Power 1991).



Figure 21: View of the Caleb Smith House (PT0186), Looking North.



Figure 22: View of the Henry John Mills House (PT0321), Looking North.



Figure 23: View of the Thomas Adrian Savage House (PT0316a), Looking Southwest.



Figure 24: Detail of the Thomas Adrian Savage House (PT0316a), Showing the Window Surround and the Corner Board.

Criteria Consideration B

The Noah Forbes, Sr. House is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria Consideration B (moved properties). For a property to be eligible under Criteria Consideration B, it must meet two requirements: 1) it must be significant primarily for architectural value, or 2) it is the surviving property most importantly associated with a historic person or event.

The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be considered for its architectural value and is therefore recommended eligible under Criteria Consideration B.

National Register Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Noah Forbes, Sr. House has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, *Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties*. The boundary is drawn to include the dwelling and the outbuildings, as well as part of the surrounding landscape that provide it with a historic setting (Figure 25). The boundary contains approximately 2.57 acres. The National Register boundary is identified as a part of parcel 4667646578 (Pitt County PIN).



Figure 25: Aerial Map of Noah Forbes, Sr. House (#1), Showing the NRHP Boundary.

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