



**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

December 2, 2016

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Vanessa Patrick  
Human Environment Unit  
NC Department of Transportation

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

**SUBJECT:** Historic Structures Survey Report for the Widening and Upgrading of SR 1309 (Bloomery Road)/SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) from US 264 Alt. to NC 58 (Nash Street), U-5794, Wilson County, ER 16-2095

Thank you for your November 2, 2016 submission of the Historic Structures Survey Report, prepared by Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. for the above referenced project. The report presents additional documentation, in-depth architectural analysis, and National Register of Historic Places evaluations for two individual properties, the White House (WL1655) and the Redmond H. White House (WL 2113). The properties were identified as part of the February 2016 survey of historic architectural properties located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed widening and upgrading of SR 1309 (Bloomery Road)/SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) from US 264 Alt. to NC 58 (Nash Street) in Wilson County.

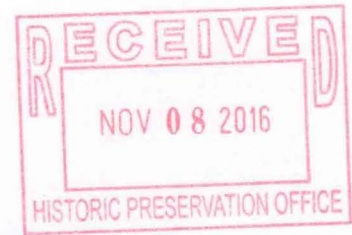
We concur that the Redmond H. White House (WL 2113) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to the loss of integrity, nature of the property type, and/or significance.

We do not concur that the White House (WL1655) is eligible for listing in the National Register under any criteria. This is due to the cumulative effect of the modern stuccoed perimeter foundation; loss of the engaged side porch and pantry room on the rear wing; vinyl replacement windows in the rear wing and addition; construction of the raised stone patio; removal of the partition-wall between the "strangers room" and the hall; removal of the partition wall that created the historically-enclosed stair; and the removal of all partition walls in the rear wing as well as the house's relocation to a new site. While not mentioned in the report, it appears that the window openings were enlarged in the mid-twentieth century. The exposed rafter-ends on the front elevation are unusual for a house of this period. Their presence may be indicative of a later change to the building's structural roofing system.

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.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, [mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1501

PAT MCCRORY  
GOVERNOR

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON  
SECRETARY

EP 16 2095

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO  
From: Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT  
Date: November 2, 2016  
Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report for T.I.P. No. U-5794, Wilson County, North Carolina. PA Tracking Nos. 15-08-0018.*

# To JW 11/11/16  
12/2/16  
Dw 12/6/16  
EP Letters 11/29/16

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Attached for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of historic architectural resources in the U-5794 project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). Photographs, shape files, and survey site forms may be found on the CD-ROM.

The report considers two individual resources – the White House (WL1655) and the Redmond H. White House (WL2113) – and recommends the former as eligible and the latter as not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As noted on pages i and 1 of the report, survey of the project area in February 2016 identified twenty-eight resources. NCDOT architectural historians and HPO environmental review staff discussed the resources in April 2016 and agreed that two warranted additional study.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the report. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [vepatrick@ncdot.gov](mailto:vepatrick@ncdot.gov) or 919-707-6082. Thank you.

  
V.E.P.

Attachments

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT  
WIDENING AND UPGRADING OF SR 1309 (BLOOMERY ROAD)/  
SR 1382 (PACKHOUSE ROAD)  
FROM US 264 ALT. TO NC 58 (NASH STREET)  
WILSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP Project U-5794  
WBS No. 44365.1.1**

**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-0732**

**OCTOBER 2016**



**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT  
WIDENING AND UPGRADING OF SR 1309 (BLOOMERY ROAD)/  
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*Architectural Historian***

**NCR-0732**

**OCTOBER 2016**

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**Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D., Principal Investigator** **10-27-2016**  
**Commonwealth Heritage Group** **Date**

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

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen and upgrade SR 1309 (Bloomery Road) and SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) between US 264 Alt. (Raleigh Road Parkway) and NC 58 (Nash Street), Wilson County. The study limits extend approximately 3.7 miles along SR 1309 (Bloomery Road) from the intersection with US 264 Alt. (Raleigh Road Parkway West) in the west to the intersection of SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) with NC 58 (Nash Street) in the east (Figure 1). This project is included in the North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) as Project Number U-5794 and is federally funded.

In response to a request for input from the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO), NCDOT hired an architectural historian from Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth), to identify and evaluate all structures over 50 years of age with the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Survey of the project area and individual evaluations of the resources were undertaken in February 2016. Twenty-eight (28) resources were identified and reviewed with NCDOT architectural historians and North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) environmental review staff in April 2016. Additional studies were requested for two individual properties, the White House (No. 10/WL1655) and the Redmond H. White House (No. 12/WL2113).

This report presents documentation of historic architectural properties located within the APE, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). The study area forming the basis of the APE is located along SR 1309 (Bloomery Road) and SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) between US 264 Alt. (Raleigh Road Parkway) and NC 58 (Nash Street), Wilson County.

For the preparation of this evaluation report, the Commonwealth architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluations of the requested properties in the study area. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Wilson County Public Library (Wilson) and the Wilson County Register of Deeds (Wilson), 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 White House (# 010) is eligible for listing in the NRHP, and the Redmond H. White House (# 012) is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

PROPERTY NAME	TEMPORARY SURVEY SITE NUMBER	HPO SSN	ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION	CRITERIA
White House	010	WL1655	Eligible	C & Consideration B
Redmond H. White House	012	WL2113	Not Eligible	None

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## INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen and upgrade SR 1309 (Bloomery Road) and SR 1382 (Packhouse Road) between US 264 Alt. (Raleigh Road Parkway) and NC 58 (Nash Street), Wilson County (Figure 1). This project is included in the North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) as Project Number U-5794 and is federally funded. In February 2016, the Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth) architectural historian surveyed the Area of Potential Effects (APE) in Wilson County and identified twenty-eight (28) properties greater than fifty years of age, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) (Figure 2). Additional evaluation studies were requested for two individual properties, the White House (No. 10/WL1655) and the Redmond H. White House (No. 12/WL2113). The remaining resources were determined not eligible for the National Register in consultation with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO).

### Methodology

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*<sup>1</sup> and NCDOT's *Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources*. This report meets NCDOT and National Park Service guidelines. Resources are evaluated according to National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria. The location of the project area and the two evaluated resources are 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
- D. have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.<sup>2</sup>

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

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<sup>1</sup> National Park Service, 2016. 48 CFR 44716; 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

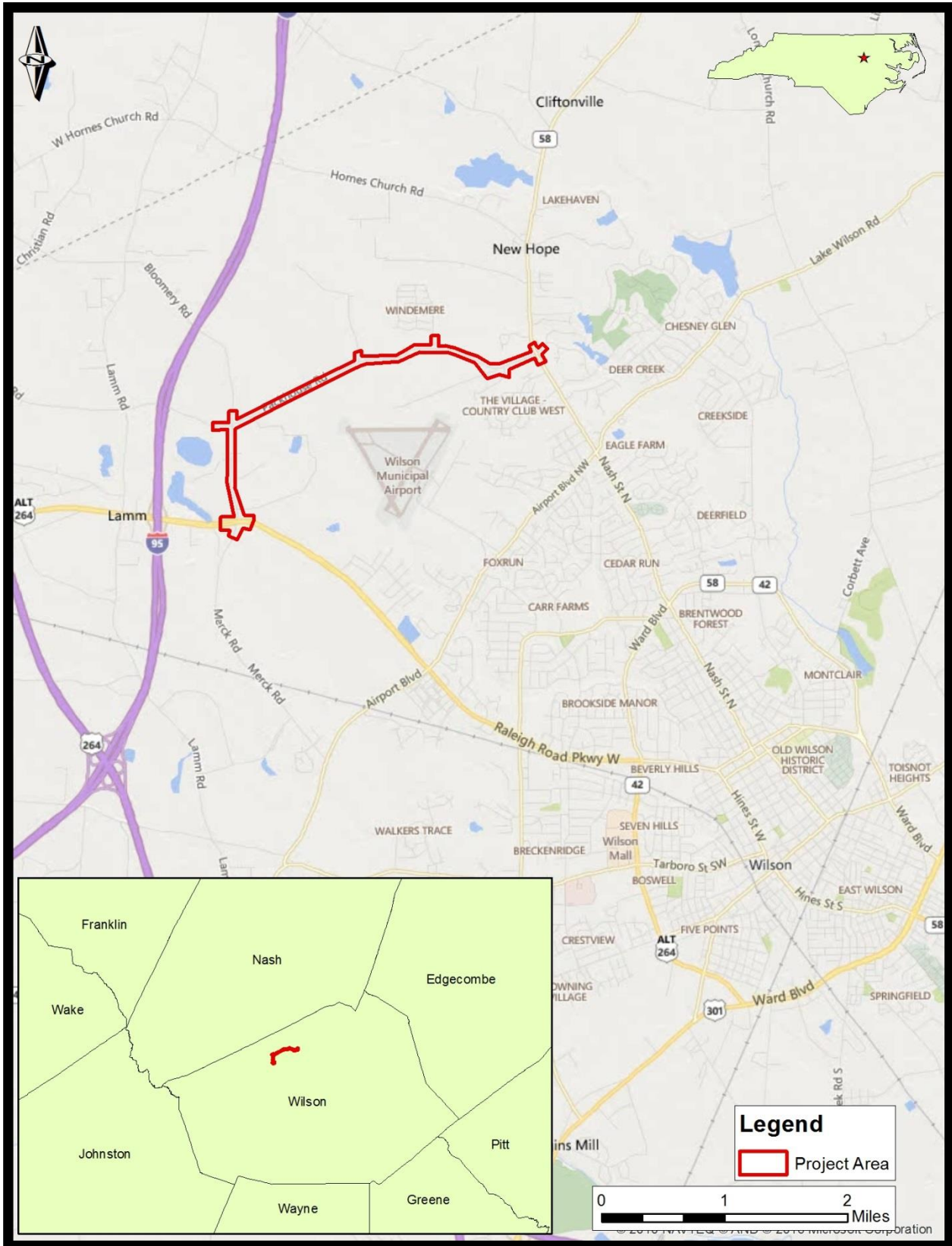


Figure 1: General Location of Area of Potential Effects for the Widening of SR 1309 and SR 1382 (U-5794).



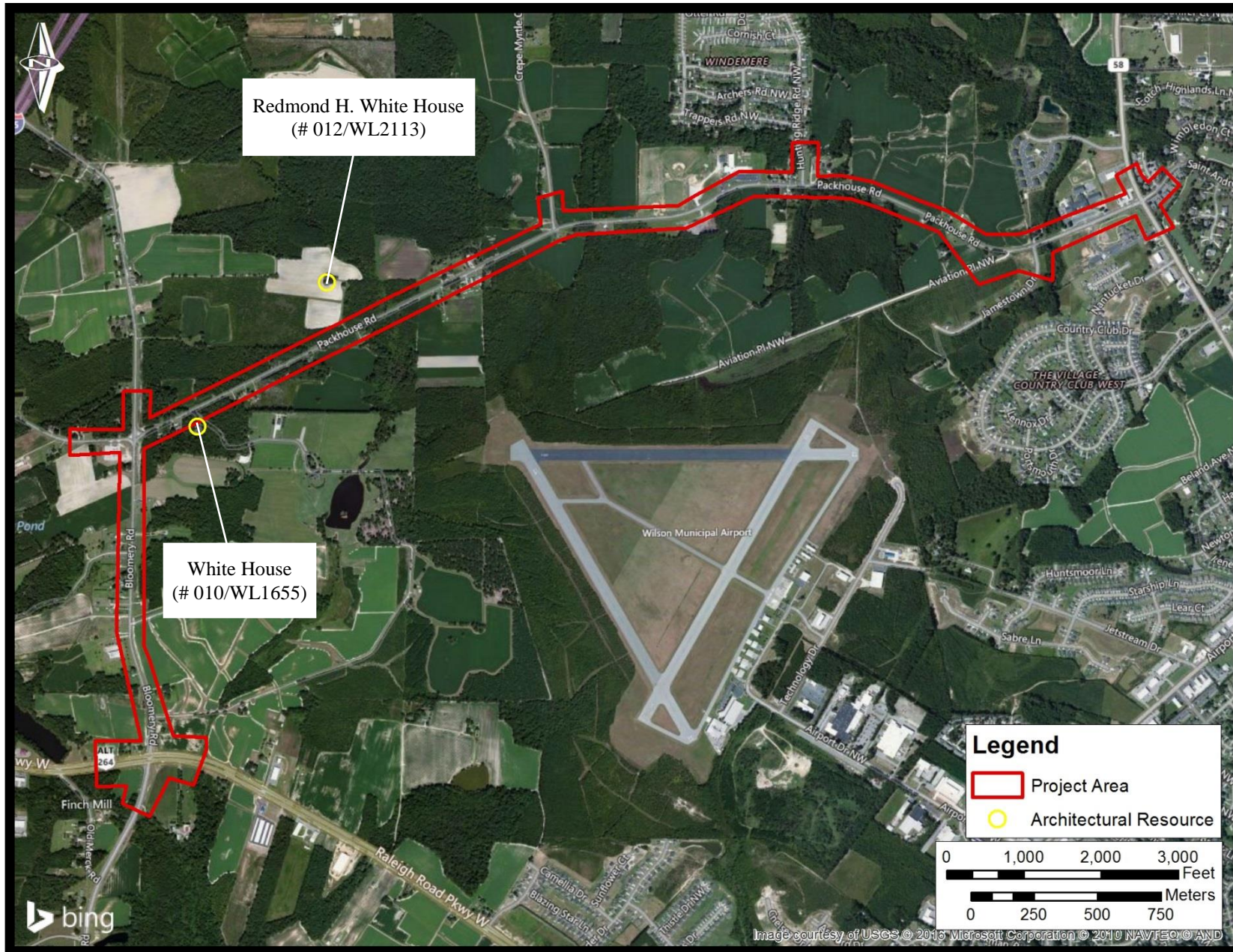


Figure 2: Historic Architectural Resources, Shown on Aerial (U-5794) (ArcGIS Image Service 2016)



**Summary of Results**

The two intensive-level investigations involved the White House (No. 10/WL1655) and the Redmond H. White House (No. 12/WL2113). Based on the information obtained during the evaluation only the White House (No. 10/WL1655) is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

**Physical Environment**

The study area is predominantly rural and includes large wooded areas interspersed with agricultural fields. The eastern end of the APE intersects with the modern northwestern suburbs of the City of Wilson. The individually evaluated properties retain a rural setting in an area that has seen little development other than the construction of individual houses.

## PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	White House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	010
HPO Survey Site Number:	WL1655
Location:	5547 Packhouse Road, Wilson County
Parcel ID:	3703-18-1271.000
Dates(s) of Construction:	ca. 1830
Recommendation:	Eligible for the NRHP



Figure 3: White House (# 010), Looking Southwest.

### Setting

The property, previously designated the White House after one of the nineteenth-century owners, is located on the south side of Packhouse Road (SR 1382), approximately 840 feet northeast of the intersection with Bloomery Road (SR 1309). The house sits approximately 180 feet back from the road in a small clearing in a wooded area and is surrounded by a landscaped yard. The building was moved to this location around 1996 (Figures 3 and 4).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Personal communication with Frank Batten, the current owner of the property, July 2016.

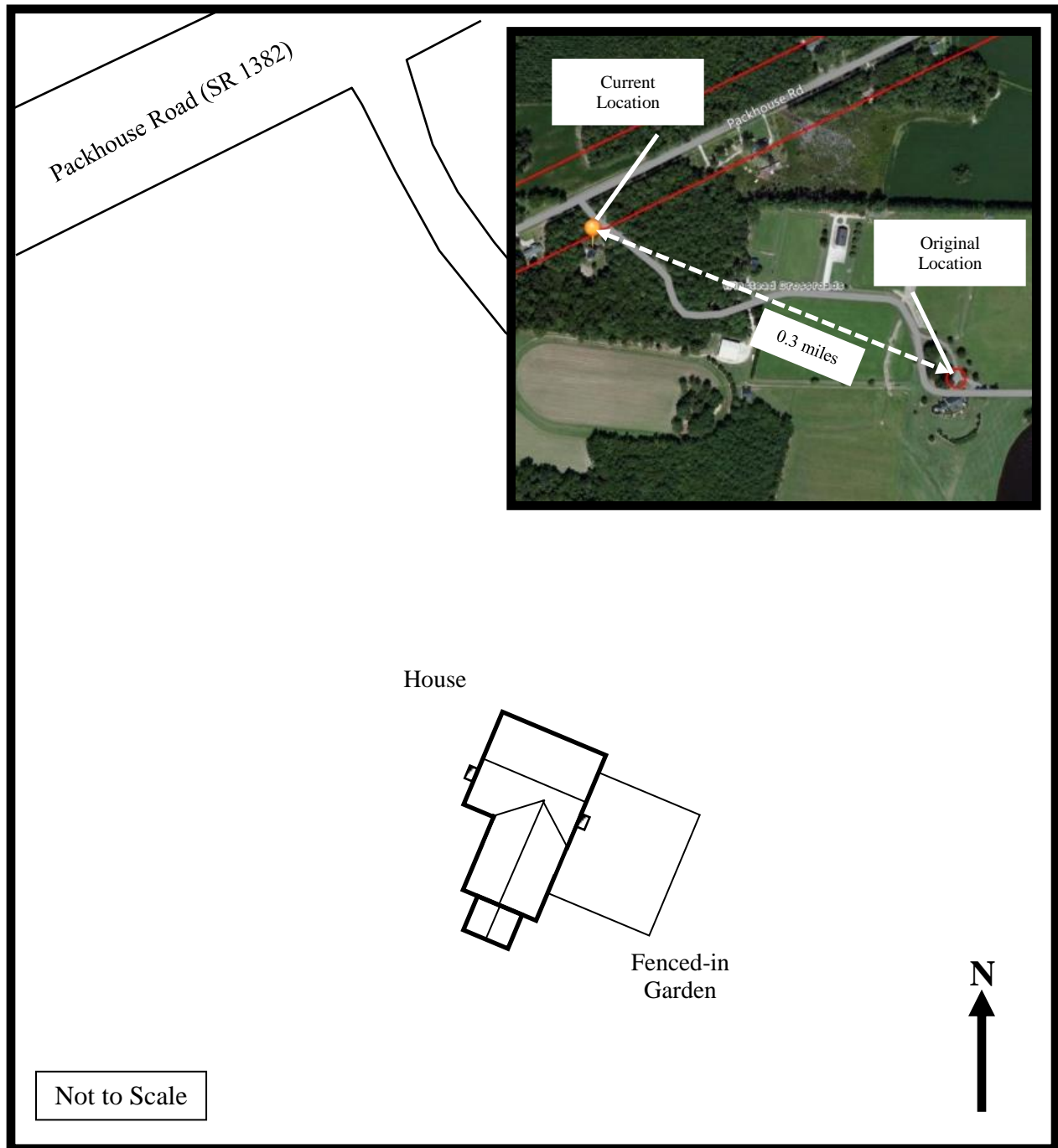


Figure 4: Sketch Map of Current Location of the White House (# 010).

### Property Description

#### *Exterior*

Built around 1830, according to a date stone on the southeast chimney, the White House is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled frame dwelling with small integral porch on the northeast (front)

elevation of the dwelling, supported by two battered box columns on stuccoed pedestals of an indeterminate material (probably concrete block). A one-story, gable-roofed wing extends off the southwest (rear) elevation of the main block and has a small addition off its southwest gable end. The dwelling sits on a raised stuccoed foundation of an indeterminate material (probably concrete block), is clad in plain weatherboard siding, and has eight-over-eight-light wooden sash windows on the front section of the dwelling and eight-over-eight-light vinyl sash replacement windows on the rear wing and the addition. The replacement windows have raised muntins. Off-center, single-shouldered fieldstone chimneys are located against the gable ends of the main block. The roof is clad with standing-seam metal and has exposed rafter tails on the front elevation (Figures 5 through 9).

### *Interior*

The interior of the dwelling was altered after it was moved from its original location. The front section of the dwelling originally probably had a two-room, or hall-parlor plan, with an enclosed stair accessed from the hall leading to the upper floor, and a “stranger room” sheltered by the engaged porch on the front elevation.<sup>4</sup> The front section of the dwelling now has a two-room plan, with a kitchen/dining room in the southeast part (the former parlor) of the house and the partition wall separating the “stranger room” having been removed, and a sitting room in the northwest part (the former hall). The stair has been opened up and is accessible from the northwest part. The original rear wing probably contained a kitchen and dining room with a porch running along its side elevation. All partition walls have been removed from the rear wing, as well as the porch. The rear wing currently contains the master bedroom, with a modern bathroom located in the addition on the gable end (Figures 10 and 11).

### *Original Setting and Outbuildings*

The dwelling was originally located approximately 0.3 miles southeast of its current location. It was moved in preparation of the construction of a new house on the parcel. It originally sat amidst agricultural fields and was surrounded by a few mature trees and several outbuildings, three of which had survived when it was surveyed in 1981 (Figures 12 through 14). There are currently no outbuildings associated with the dwelling, and they also no longer survive in their original location.

### *Cemetery*

A small family cemetery containing the graves of members of the White family is located approximately 750 feet to the south of the original site of the dwelling on a small rise (Figure 15). The cemetery is located well outside the APE. Approximately 0.4 miles east of Bloomery Road, and 0.35 miles southeast of Packhouse Road.

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<sup>4</sup> The contact prints on the 1981 Structure Data Sheet include a picture showing two doors on the front porch, a glazed one leading into the hall, and a six-panel door leading into the “stranger room.” “Stranger rooms” were small rooms, integrated into the front or rear porch (sometimes both), which would have an exterior door but would be partitioned off from the rest of the house. They usually functioned as a bedroom and were sometimes also called a “company,” “safety,” or “preacher” room, although most of the time they would house family members. See Margaret Ruth Little, *Carolina Cottage. A Personal History of the Piazza House*, Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2010, 82, and 84-87.





Figure 5: White House (# 010), Looking South.



Figure 6: White House (# 010), Looking Northeast.





Figure 7: White House (# 010), Looking North.



Figure 8: White House (# 010), View of Southeast Gable End Showing Location of Date Stone.





Figure 9: White House (# 010), Detail of Date Stone.



Figure 10: White House (# 010), Interior Sitting Room Looking South Towards Rear Wing.



Figure 11: White House (# 010), Interior Sitting Room Looking Southeast Towards Rear Kitchen.



Figure 12: White House (# 010), Original Location Looking Northeast (Ohno 1981b).





Figure 13: White House (# 010), View of Outbuildings in Original Location Looking North (Ohno 1981b).



Figure 14: White House (# 010), View of Outbuilding in Original Location Looking Northeast (Ohno 1981b).



Figure 15: White House (# 010), View of Family Cemetery Looking Southeast.

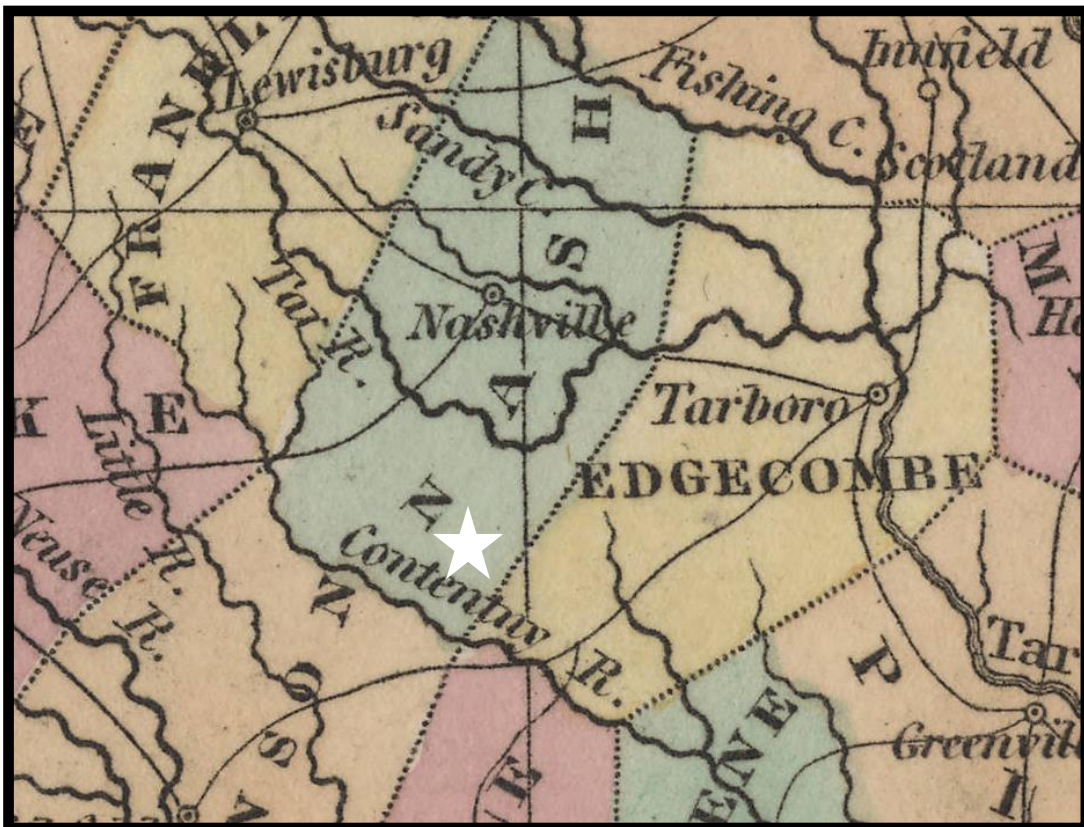


Figure 16: Detail of 1830 Map of North Carolina Showing the Approximate Location of the White House (Finley 1830).



## Historical Background

The section of Wilson County in which the house was built was part of Nash County until the formation of Wilson County in 1855 (see Figure 16). According to the 1981 HPO research file, the tract of land on which the house sits can be traced back to 1843, when it was part of a 296-acre tract of land conveyed to Alfred Thompson by Dempsey Taylor and Kingsbury Taylor (Table 1).<sup>5</sup> It is not clear when Dempsey and Kingsbury Taylor obtained the property. A Dempsey Taylor shows up in the Nash County Grantee Index as early as 1799, but it is not certain that this is the same person and if these transactions relate to the property on which the White House sits.

Table 1: Chain of Title Based on Current Research and the 1981 NC Historic Structure Data Sheet (Ohno 1981a).

Grantor	Grantee	Date	Deed Book / Page	Source
Dempsey Taylor & Kingsbury Taylor	Alfred Thompson	1843	17/364	Nash County Register of Deeds
Alfred Thompson	Enos Rose	1844	19/344	Nash County Register of Deeds
Enos Rose	Abraham Lamm	1849	19/358	Nash County Register of Deeds
Abraham Lamm	John K. White	1858	Record not Found	Historic Structure Data Sheet
John K. White	John Farmer	1860	Record not Found	Historic Structure Data Sheet
John Farmer	James Davis	1866	Record not Found	Historic Structure Data Sheet
James Davis	W. W. Farmer	1868	Record not Found	Historic Structure Data Sheet
W. W. Farmer & John K. White	W. H. White	1868	Record not Found	Historic Structure Data Sheet
W. W. Farmer & John C. White	W. H. White	1908	86/584	Wilson County Register of Deeds

In 1858 the property was conveyed to John K. White. According to the 1850 census John White was a farmer living in the Dunn District (Township) of Franklin County, with his wife and six children<sup>6</sup> The 1860 census lists John K. White living in the Oldfield District (Township) of Wilson County, which is just south of Taylors Township where the house is located (Figure 17). White's profession was then listed as "M. B. Clergyman."<sup>7</sup> In 1868, the land was conveyed to the heirs of John K. White; however, the deed was not recorded until 1908 when W. W. Farmer and John C. White of Franklin County conveyed the land to William Henry White of Wilson County. Based on the census records John C. White was John K. White's oldest son who

<sup>5</sup> Kate Ohno, HPO North Carolina Historic Structure Data Sheet, White House, March 1981 (1981a). The early Nash County deeds were found online during the current project, but Commonwealth could not find the early deeds from Wilson County at the Register of Deeds office in Wilson.

<sup>6</sup> Ancestry.com 2016a.

<sup>7</sup> Ancestry.com 2016b.

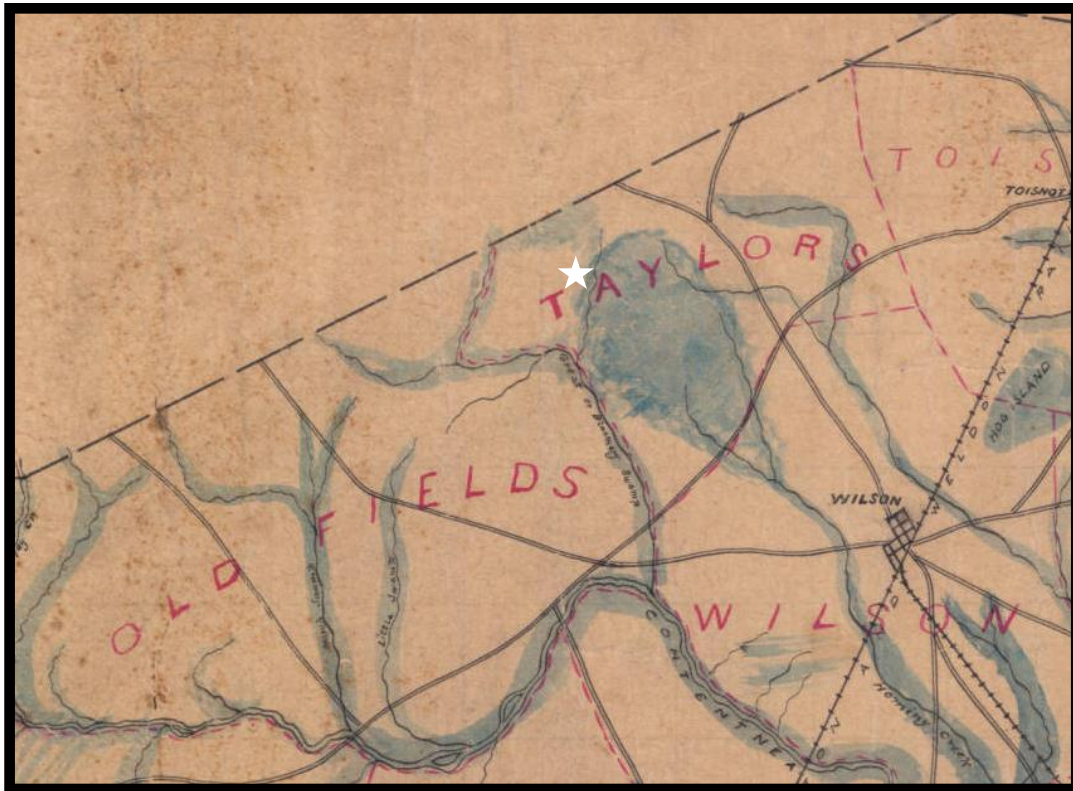


Figure 17: Detail of 1879 Map of Wilson County Showing Old Fields and Taylors Townships and the Approximate Location of the White House (Tucker 1879).

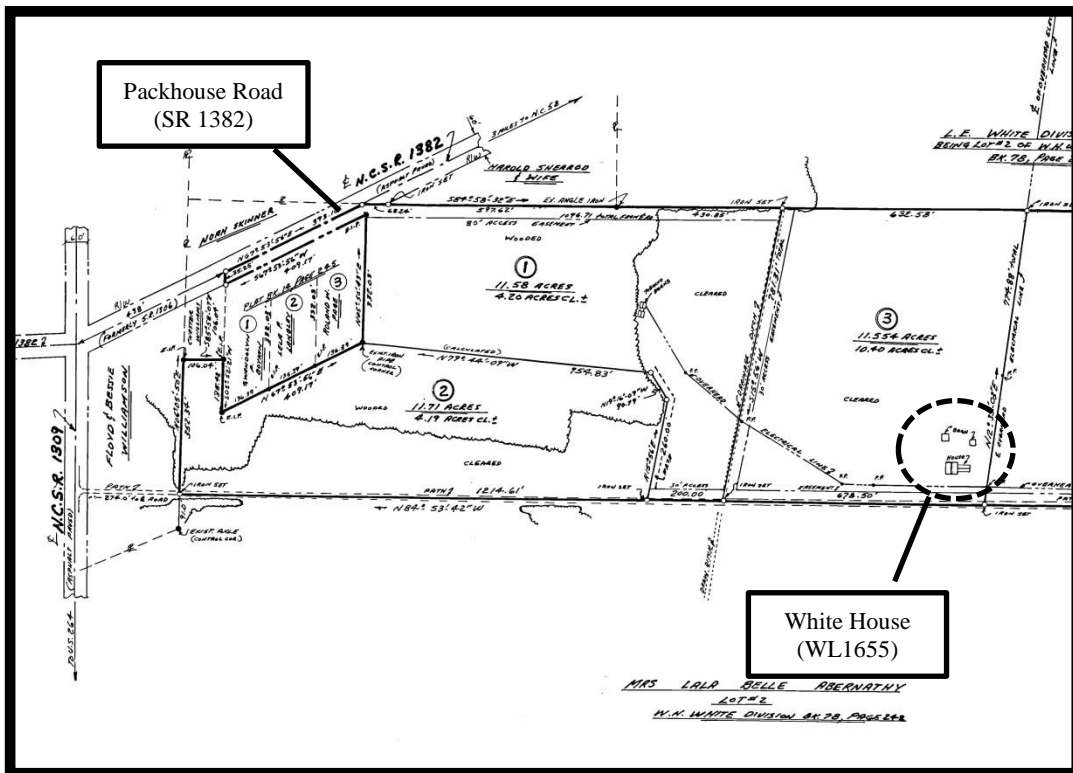


Figure 18: Detail of Plat Showing the Division of Land of Katie P. Page (Wilson County Register of Deeds, Plat Book 15, p. 71, 1979). Note original location of White House (WL1655).



remained in Franklin County, after the family moved to Wilson County. William H. White (1840-1915) was listed as John and Elizabeth White's oldest son in the 1860 census. In 1917, William H. White's property, which by then had grown to 375 acres, was divided into six lots, amongst his heirs.<sup>8</sup> The 59-acre lot (# 3) on which the house originally sat went to Offie Page in 1917, William H. White's grandson, from his oldest daughter Elizabeth.<sup>9</sup> In 1951, this parcel was conveyed to Katie Person Page as part of a divorce settlement (see Figure 18).<sup>10</sup> Katie Page sold the property in 1979, and the current owners obtained it in 1983.<sup>11</sup>

The first white settlers in the area arrived around 1730. They settled along the Contentnea Creek, and its tributaries, which was the only navigable waterway in the area.<sup>12</sup> Survival of buildings from the eighteenth century is rare, and one of the oldest surviving houses was the Webb-Barron-Wells House, which was built between 1793 and 1820, and was a classic example of a coastal cottage.<sup>13</sup> The town of Wilson was incorporated in 1849 around the settlements at the Toisnot Depot and Hickory Grove. According to the 1925 Soil Survey report for Wilson County the early crops consisted of corn, cotton, rice, wheat and fruits. Settlers also raised hogs, sheep, and cattle. The tar and turpentine industry also formed a significant source of income until around 1880. According to the 1860 census, there were 526 farms in Wilson County, and 61,366 acres of improved land.<sup>14</sup> The largest number of farms (199) contained between 100 and 499 acres, which is the range in which the White farm fell. Corn was an important subsistence crop and cotton became an important cash crop after 1865. After the Civil War, the number of acres of improved land had gone down to 55,412, and the largest number of farms was now between 20 and 49 acres making the white farm among the larger holdings.<sup>15</sup> In 1879, only 17 acres were dedicated to tobacco yielding 8,745 pounds. By 1899, this had increased to 9,465 acres producing 7,336,450 pounds of tobacco. By the turn of the twentieth century the number of farms had grown to 2,565, with an average size of 82.9 acres, making the White farm one of the larger farms in the county.<sup>16</sup> By 1919, the acreage assigned to tobacco had more than double to 20,563 acres, which produced 15,480,583 pounds. Farmers also grow apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, and even grapes. In 1920, 77.5 percent of the county was farmland, with farms averaging 41.7 acres in size. Farmhouses were "as a rule, substantial and nicely painted," and tenant houses are small. The barns are large enough to house work animals and feed, and most farms had a number of small outbuildings to shelter machinery and crops. By 1920 there were 4,439 farms and tenancies in Wilson County, and 1,794 of these farms reported an annual labor expense averaging \$114.66. Both white and African American laborers are employed, making \$20 a month with board, and \$35 without. By 1920, 24.6 percent of the farms was operated by

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<sup>8</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 78 page 248.

<sup>9</sup> Elizabeth was born in 1876, she was married to George Page (1874-1959) and their son Offie was born around 1906.

<sup>10</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 447 page 106, and Plat Book, 15 page 71.

<sup>11</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 1180, page 825, and 1247, page 863.

<sup>12</sup> Kate Ohno, *Wilson County's Architectural Heritage*. Wilson County (N.C.): North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, and the United States Department of the Interior, 1981, pp. 3-6 (1981b).

<sup>13</sup> Ohno, page 5 and 75. Webb-Barron-Wells House (WL0688) was initially surveyed in 1981 as part of the Wilson County survey. The building was listed in the National Register in 1986, and appears to have been demolished at some point after 2003.

<sup>14</sup> Historical Census Browser.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

owners, 75.2 percent by tenants, and 0.2 percent by managers. From 1880 to 1920, tenancy increased from 45.8 to 75.2 percent.<sup>17</sup>

### **NRHP Criteria Evaluation**

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

#### *Integrity*

The White House was moved from its original location and it has lost its agricultural setting, which consisted of a typical small farmyard with several outbuildings amidst cultivated fields (Figure 19). Whereas the design is typical of nineteenth century architectural styles and practices, and reminiscent of a coastal, or Carolina cottage, it has lost some integrity due to the changes to the rear wing (loss of the side porch and alteration of windows) and the rehabilitation of the interior of both the main section of the dwelling and rear wing. Despite the loss of integrity of materials and workmanship, and lack of ancillary structures, the building maintains its original form and massing and 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, but due to the removal from its original location can no longer convey the feeling of agricultural life during this period.

#### *Criterion A*

The White 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 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 White House was associated with the types of agricultural practices in Wilson County that are discussed above, for the period from the nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Due to the loss of its original setting and outbuildings the house can no longer convey the farming association and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

#### *Criterion B*

The White 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.

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<sup>17</sup> Robert C. Jurney and W. A. Davis, *Soil Survey of Wilson County, North Carolina*, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1925, pp. 4-8.

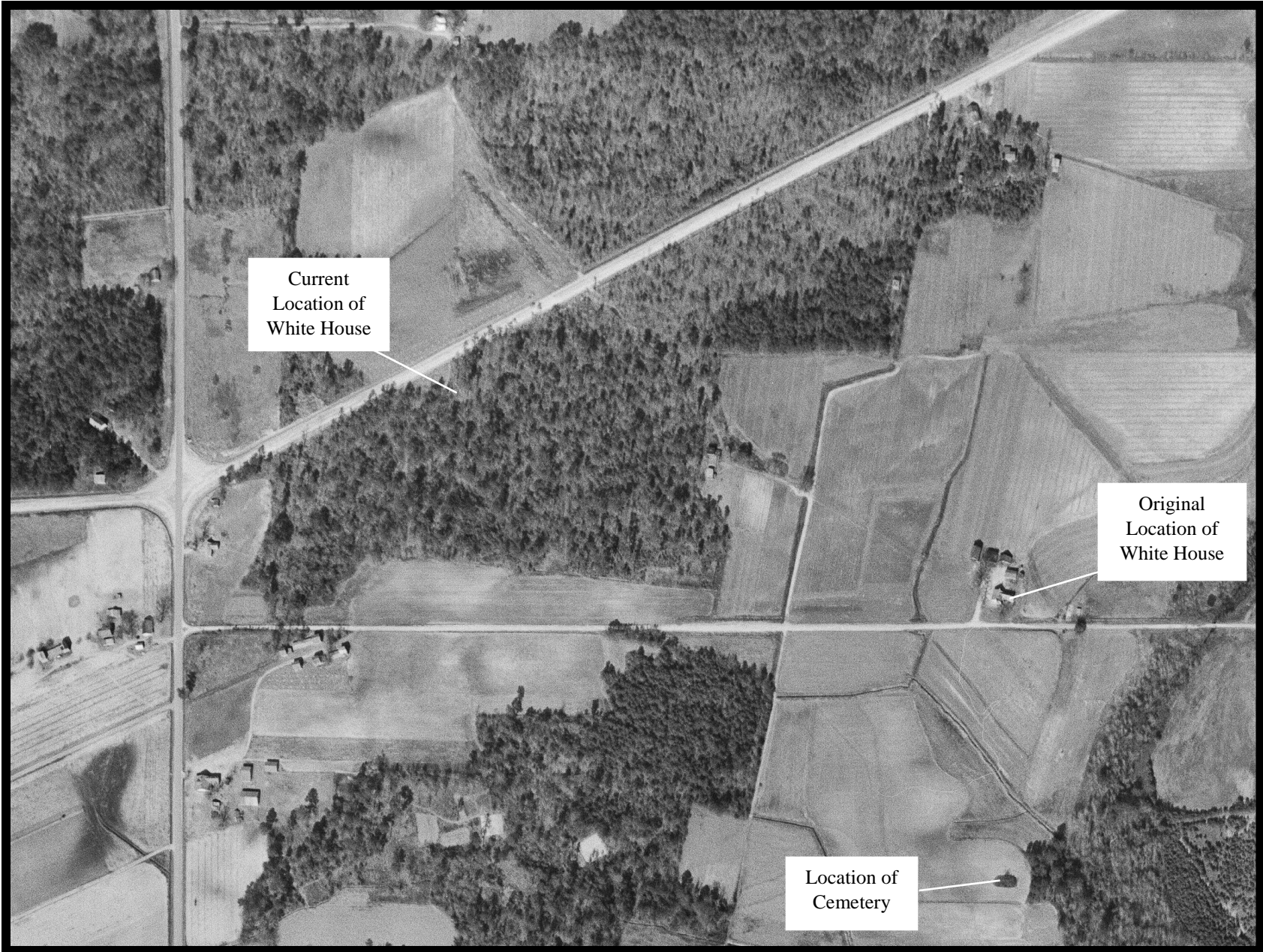


Figure 19: Detail of 1957 Aerial Showing the Original Location of the White House and Cemetery and the Current Location (EarthExplorer 2016).

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 White 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 White House is an example of an increasingly rare type of small one-and-a-half-story dwelling with an engaged porch, mainly seen in eastern North Carolina and referred to as a coastal, or Carolina, cottage.<sup>18</sup> A review of the HPOWEB database revealed that fifty-four properties have been surveyed in North Carolina that have been described as a coastal cottage, most of which have received some determination of eligibility.<sup>19</sup> Three of these were located in Wilson County.<sup>20</sup> The Webb-Barron-Wells House (WL0688) was built between 1793 and 1820, and was listed in the NRHP in 1986 (Figure 20). Despite some minor alterations on both the interior and the exterior, and the addition of a modern kitchen wing around 1949, the building retained a high level of integrity of setting, materials, and workmanship when it was listed.<sup>21</sup> It no longer survives. A more modest and surviving example is the John Woodard House (WL0717), which dates to around 1800 and was placed on the Study List in 1981 (Figure 21). Regardless of being neglected and currently heavily overgrown, it also retains a high level of integrity of workmanship and materials on both the exterior and the interior, as well as its setting a large number of outbuildings survive near the dwelling. The White House appears to be one of two known surviving examples of an early nineteenth-century coastal, or Carolina, cottage in Wilson County, and despite having been moved, it retains a high level of integrity of its massing and form, which could indicate the survival of much of its original structural elements. The original siding and windows and the front-porch configuration have survived on the dwelling section, and the weatherboard siding and replacement windows on the rear wing are sympathetic in style and design to the original house. Combined with the careful restoration of the stone chimneys, which are unusual for the area, the house retains much of its original appearance. Even with the alterations on the interior, because of the minor exterior changes the White House still embodies the distinctive characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction and therefore is recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

### *Criterion D*

The White 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

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<sup>18</sup> Little.

<sup>19</sup> Three were determined eligible (DOE), ten are listed in the National Register, thirty-three are on the study list, and five are both on the study list and determined eligible. Thirteen of these have since been lost.

<sup>20</sup> The Webb-Barron-Wells House (WL0688) (NR 1986, gone), the John Woodard House (WL0717) (SL 1981), and the Dr. Robert Cox House (WL1407) (DOE 1991, gone).

<sup>21</sup> Kate Ohno, Webb-Barron-Wells House, National Register Nomination Form, 1982.





Figure 20: Webb-Barron-Wells House (WL0688) (Ohno 1982).



Figure 21: View of John Woodard House (WL0717), Looking Northeast.

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.

#### Criteria Consideration B

The White 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.

#### **NRHP Boundary Justification**

The NRHP boundary for the White 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 part of the surrounding landscape to provide it with a natural setting (Figure 22). The boundary contains approximately 0.95 acres. The NRHP boundary is identified as a part of parcel 3703-18-1271.000 (Wilson County PIN).



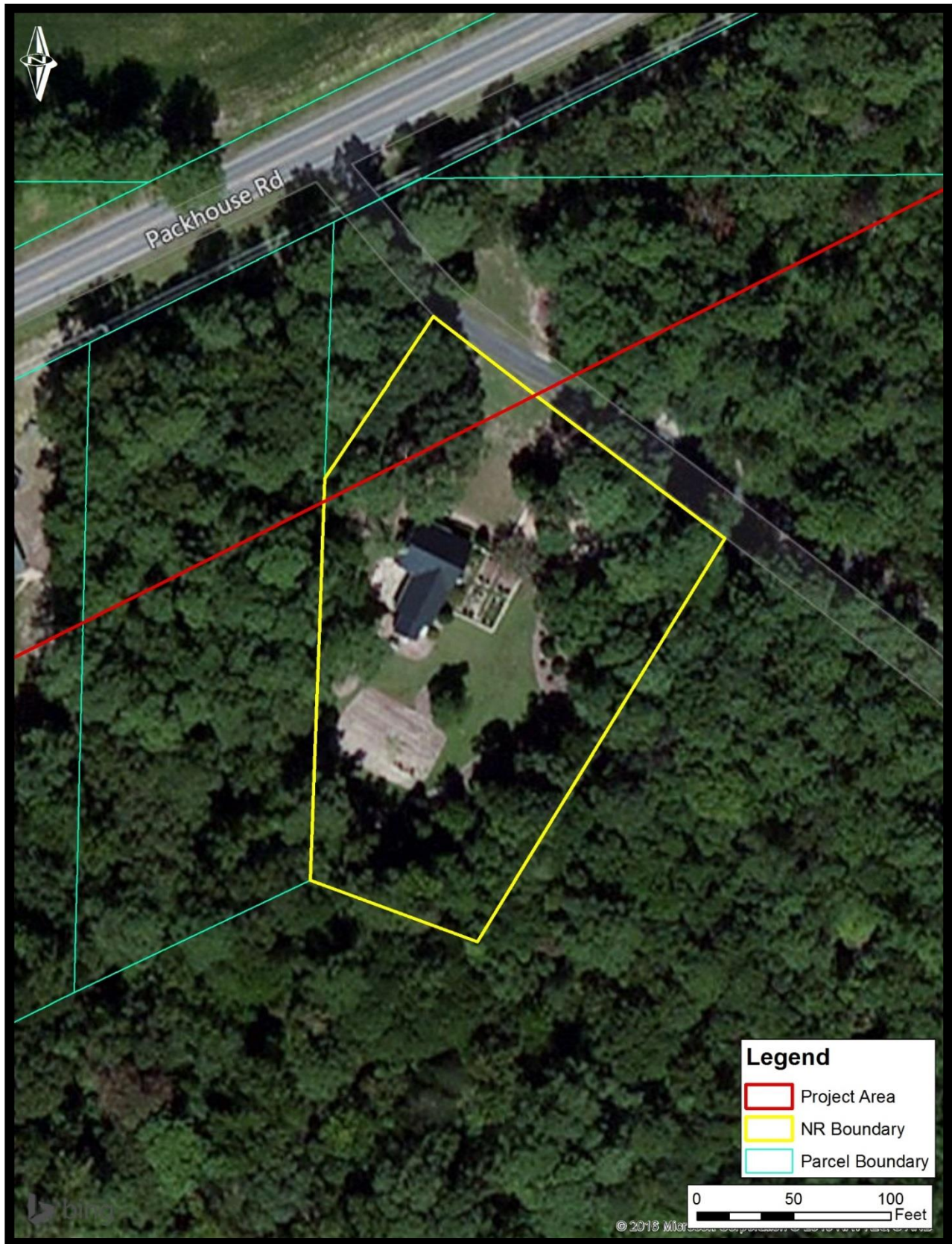


Figure 22: Aerial Map of White House (#10), Showing the NRHP Boundary.



Resource Name:	Redmond H. White House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	012
HPO Survey Site Number:	WL2113
Location:	5438 Packhouse Road, Wilson County
Parcel ID:	3703-09-8796.000
Dates(s) of Construction:	ca. 1905
Recommendation:	Not Eligible for the NRHP



Figure 23: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Looking Northwest.

### Setting

The Redmond H. White House is located on the north side of Packhouse Road (SR 1382) approximately 0.6 miles northeast of the intersection with Bloomery Road (SR 1309). The building sits approximately 670 feet back from the road at the end of an unpaved farm lane and is surrounded by agricultural fields and woodlands. Located around the dwelling are several outbuildings or the remnants thereof (Figures 23 and 24).

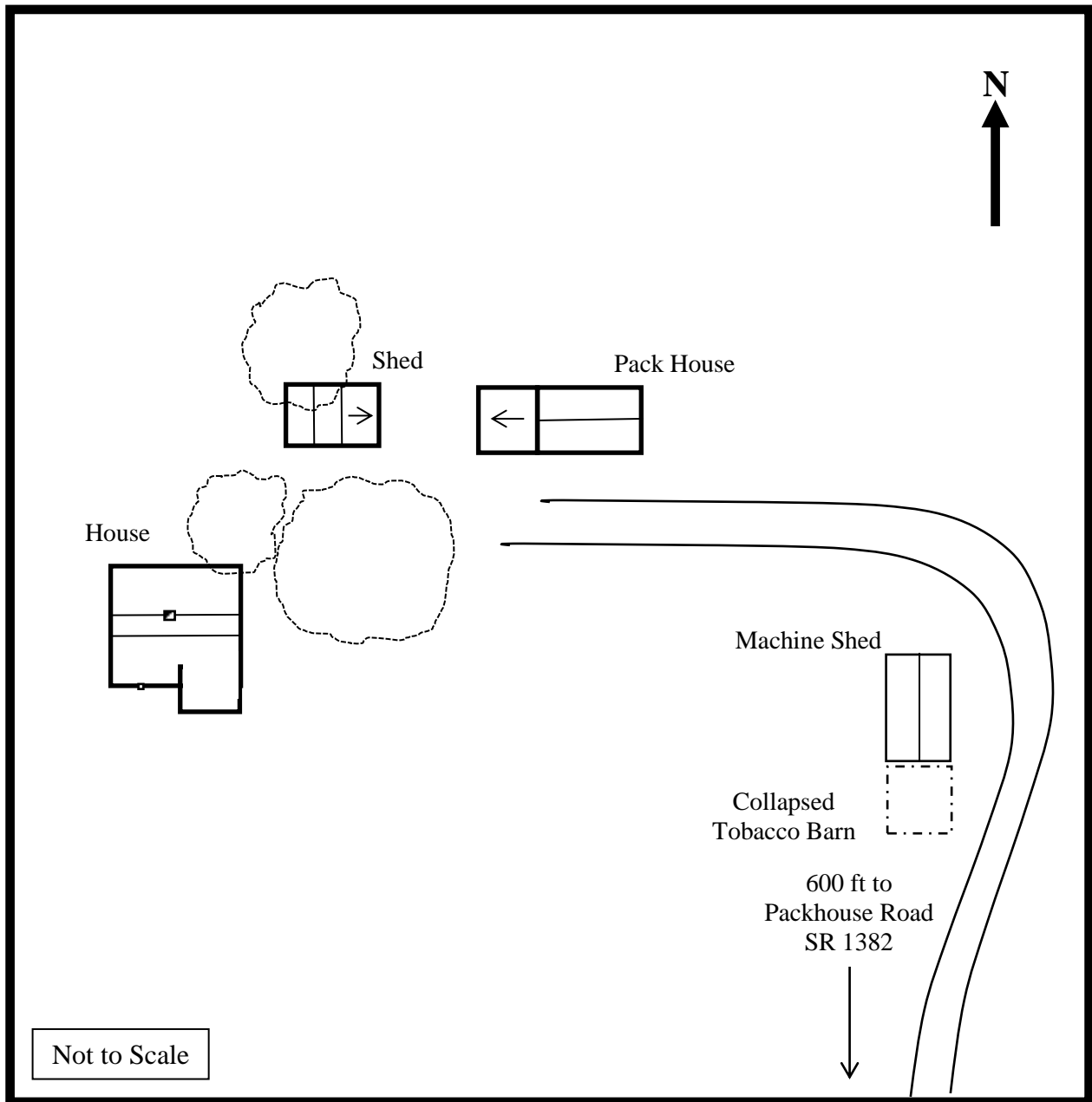


Figure 24: Sketch Map of the Redmond H. White House (# 012).

### Property Description

#### *Exterior*

Built around 1905, this one-story, side-gabled dwelling has an engaged shed-roofed porch on the north (front) elevation with an enclosed section at the west end, and an engaged shed on the south (rear) elevation with a small shed-roofed wing. The building sits on a brick pier foundation, is clad in plain weatherboard siding, and had six-over-six-light wooden sash windows. The roof is clad with metal, and a stuccoed brick chimney pierces the ridge of the main block to the left of the center of the dwelling. Located against the rear elevation of the engaged shed is a concrete-block flue (Figures 25 through 28).





Figure 25: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Looking Southwest.



Figure 26: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Looking South.





Figure 27: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Looking Northwest.



Figure 28: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Detail of East Gable End Showing Brick Pier Foundation.

### *Interior*

Much of the interior of the dwelling has been destroyed. The front part of the house is divided into two rooms, each with an exterior door and a hearth. In the majority of the rooms the original lath and plaster walls and narrowed beaded-board ceilings were replaced with drywall, and only the east room retains some of its original fabric (Figure 29). The two-room division is continued in the rear shed, and a modern bathroom was added to the enclosed section on the front porch.

### *Outbuildings*

Located to the northeast and east of the dwelling are four outbuildings, or the remnants thereof. Closest to the dwelling sits a small dilapidated front-gabled shed with two open shed wing additions, one of which has collapsed. The shed is clad in plain weatherboard siding. To the east of the shed is a two-story, side-gabled pack house on a poured concrete foundation, with a metal-clad shed addition off its west gable end. The pack house is clad in flush horizontal boards, which at some point were covered with brick-patterned asphalt siding. Located southeast of the pack house, along the driveway leading down to Packhouse Road (SR 1382) are a small gable-roofed machine shed, or pole barn, and the remains of a frame tobacco barn (Figures 30 through 33).



Figure 29: Redmond H. White House (# 012), Interior of East Room Looking West.





Figure 30: Redmond H. White House (# 012), View of Shed Looking Northeast.



Figure 31: Redmond H. White House (# 012), View of Pack House Looking Northeast.





Figure 32: Redmond H. White House (# 012), View of Tobacco Barn Looking Southwest.



Figure 33: Redmond H. White House (# 012), View of Machine Shed Looking Southeast.

## Historical Background

The tax parcel (56.49 acres) on which the Redmond H. White House sits was part of a 68.89-acre and a 27.43-acre tract of land that were part of the estate of Bessie White Williamson. The property was surveyed in 1979 and conveyed to a trust in 1993 together with two other parcels.<sup>22</sup> The land had come to Bessie White Williamson through the estate of her father Redmond H. White, around 1947. Redmond White had obtained the larger of the two parcels, on which the actual house sits, in 1917, when it was part of the division of land of his father, William Henry White.<sup>23</sup> William H. White had gained ownership of the land in 1868 through the estate of his father John K. White, although the deed was not recorded until 1908.<sup>24</sup> Stephen H. Morris had conveyed the smaller of the two tracts to Redmond White in 1902.<sup>25</sup> Morris in turn had obtained the tract from Edward Barnes Jr. in 1880.<sup>26</sup> Redmond White (1871-1947) was the oldest son of William and Eliza White, and according to the 1900 census was still living at home with his parents.<sup>27</sup> In 1905, he married Elvina Deans around which time he may have built himself a house to start a new family, on a section of his father's land that he would ultimately inherit in 1917.<sup>28</sup> This information forms the basis to attribute a specific name and date to the property.

The first white settlers in the area arrived around 1730. They settled along the Contentnea Creek, and its tributaries, which was the only navigable waterway in the area.<sup>29</sup> Survival of buildings from the eighteenth century is rare, and one of the oldest surviving houses was the Webb-Barron-Wells House, which was built between 1793 and 1820, and was a classic example of a coastal cottage.<sup>30</sup> The town of Wilson was incorporated in 1849 around the settlements at the Toisnot Depot and Hickory Grove. According to the 1925 Soil Survey report for Wilson County the early crops consisted of corn, cotton, rice, wheat and fruits. Settlers also raised hogs, sheep, and cattle. The tar and turpentine industry also formed a significant source of income until around 1880. Corn was an important subsistence crop and cotton became an important cash crop after 1865. In 1879, only 17 acres were dedicated to tobacco yielding 8,745 pounds. By 1899, this had increased to 9,465 acres producing 7,336,450 pounds of tobacco. By 1919, the acreage assigned to tobacco had more than double to 20,563 acres, which produced 15,480,583 pounds. Farmers also grow apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, and even grapes. In 1920, 77.5 percent of the county was farmland, with farms averaging 41.7 acres in size. Farmhouses were "as a rule, substantial and nicely painted," and tenant houses are small. The barns are large enough to house work animals and feed, and most farms had a number of small outbuildings to shelter machinery and crops. The number of farms had steadily grown in Wilson County since its formation in 1855. According to the 1860 census, there were 526 farms in the county.<sup>31</sup> A decade later this number had gone up to 616. A real jump came by 1880 when the number of

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<sup>22</sup> Wilson County Plat Book, 15 page 127, and Deed Book, 1507 page 129.

<sup>23</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 78 page 248, Lot 5.

<sup>24</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 86 page 584

<sup>25</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 65 page 241.

<sup>26</sup> Wilson County Deed Book, 16, page 636.

<sup>27</sup> Ancestry.com 2016c.

<sup>28</sup> Ancestry.com 2016d.

<sup>29</sup> Ohno, 1981b.

<sup>30</sup> Ohno, 1981b, page 5 and 75. Webb-Barron-Wells House (WL0688) was initially surveyed in 1981 as part of the Wilson County survey. The building was listed in the National Register in 1986, and appears to have been demolished at some point after 2003.

<sup>31</sup> Historical Census Browser.



farms had gone up to 1,672. By the turn of the twentieth century there were 2,565 farms in Wilson County, and 99,762 acres of improved land, and the average farm size was 82.9 acres.<sup>32</sup> By 1920 there were 4,439 farms and tenancies in Wilson County, and 1,794 of these farms reported an annual labor expense averaging \$114.66. According to the 1920 census, the largest number of farms (2005) in Wilson County was between 20 and 49 acres, making the Redmond White farm one of the larger farms in the county, although not the largest. Both white and African American laborers are employed, making \$20 a month with board, and \$35 without. By 1920, 24.6 percent of the farms was operated by owners, 75.2 percent by tenants, and 0.2 percent by managers. From 1880 to 1920, tenancy increased from 45.8 to 75.2 percent.<sup>33</sup>

### **NRHP Criteria Evaluation**

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Redmond H. White House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP.

#### *Integrity*

The Redmond H. White House remains in its original location and retains much of its setting as it is surrounded by agricultural fields and woodlands, and a few of the agricultural outbuildings survive. The design of the dwelling is typical of a modest farmhouse built from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth century, and it retains a low to medium level of integrity of materials and workmanship. A few of the historic outbuildings survive, giving an indication of the occupational setting and the feeling of agricultural life in the late nineteenth an early twentieth centuries. However, due to a loss of integrity of materials of the dwelling and the outbuildings the property can no longer convey its historic character and feeling. The property is associated with farming practices in the region during the turn of the late nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

#### *Criterion A*

The Redmond H. White 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 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 Redmond H. White House is associated with the types of agricultural practices in Wilson County that are discussed above. The complex is an example of a general farming operation and exemplifies Wilson County's agrarian economy from the mid-nineteenth through to the mid-twentieth century, when farm families and farm laborers made up the majority of the population. However, the buildings have lost integrity of materials and the property is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

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<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Robert C. Jurney and W. A. Davis, *Soil Survey of Wilson County, North Carolina*, Washington, D.C., U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1925, pp. 4-8.

### *Criterion B*

The Redmond H. White 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 Redmond H. White House is not 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 Redmond H. White House represents a common type built across much of North Carolina during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As part of the initial survey for this project two similar houses were identified along Packhouse Road (SR 1382) that date to the first half of the twentieth century (Figures 34 and 35). Both are examples of modest one-story, side-gabled dwelling houses that at some point were probably part of a farming operation, either as an owner-occupied house or a tenant house, and both retain one or more outbuildings. Like many of these vernacular houses, they have been modified over the decades to accommodate changing needs; however, unlike the Redmond H. White House they are both still occupied and retain a fair to modest level of integrity. The Redmond H. White House, on the other hand, is abandoned and deteriorated, as are the remaining outbuildings, and does not retain the integrity to embody the distinctive characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

### *Criterion D*

The Redmond H. White 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.



Figure 34: View of House at 4943 Packhouse Road, Looking West.



Figure 35: View of House at 4926 Packhouse Road, Looking Northeast



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